



Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council

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POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

March 28, 2017

9:00 a.m.

*126 North Salina Street, 100 Clinton Square
Lower Level Conference Room*

Brian Schultz, Chairperson, Presiding

AGENDA

- 1. Introductions, Additions and Changes to the Agenda**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - December 15, 2016
- 3. Communications and Reports**
 - A. 2016-2017 UPWP Status Report
 - B. Update on I-81 Opportunities from the NYSDOT
- 4. Old Business**

None
- 5. New Business**
 - A. TIP Amendments
 - B. Bridge and Pavement Condition Management – Draft Final Report
 - C. Election of a Vice Chairperson
- 6. Public Comment**
- 7. Adjourn**

The Metropolitan Planning Organization

Office of the Mayor • Syracuse Common Council • Syracuse Planning Commission • CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity • New York State Department of Transportation • New York State Department of Environmental Conservation • New York State Department of Economic Development • New York State Thruway Authority • Office of the County Executive • Onondaga County Legislature • Onondaga County Planning Board • Central New York Regional Transportation Authority • Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board • Federal Transit Administration • Federal Highway Administration

SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MARCH 28, 2017 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Voting Members

Brian Schultz, Chair
Jason Chiesa
Don Jordan
Heather Lamendola
Andrew Maxwell
Chris Rauber
Van Robinson
David Smith
Sue Stanczyk

Organization

CNY Regional Transportation Authority
Empire State Development
Onondaga County Planning Board
City Planning Commission
City of Syracuse
Onondaga County
City of Syracuse Common Council
NYS Department of Transportation
Onondaga County Legislature

Also Attending

Mark Frechette, NYSDOT; and Rick Lee, CNYRTA

SMTC Staff

James D'Agostino, Mario Colone, Jason Deshaies, Andrew Frasier, Elizabeth Hassett, Kevin Kosakowski, Aaron McKeon, and Patricia Wortley

BUSINESS MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Schultz called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. in the Lower Level Conference Room of the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council. Following introductions, the meeting proceeded.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Chairperson inquired if there were any changes to the December 15, 2016 minutes. One correction, Item F should state election of a chairperson.

Mr. Maxwell moved and Mr. Smith seconded approval of the minutes with the correction. Motion carried.

3. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

A. UPWP STATUS REPORT

Mr. D'Agostino highlighted the following items: Relative to Public Participation, the Winter edition of newsletter was mailed out and staff is working on updating our web site. Federal Legislation, FAST Act policies, are on hold with new administration. Regarding GIS, staff presented our Functional Classification process at the Highway Data Workshop. WE competed online GIS mapping for stormwater features for CNY RPDB. Under Bike/ Ped, we are assisting again with mapping for Cycle in the City. Bridge and Pavement is on today's agenda. We are developing PSAs under Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Outreach. Spectrum (TWC) will be helping with broadcasting. The cost is under \$5,000. Relative to the Work Link study, the project is coming along well. SMART 1 stakeholder meetings were held in February. The final public meeting will be

held in the fall. It is looking like BRT will be recommended for both corridors. We are working on three Centro Surveys. We will be riding buses to survey riders. We are hiring two interns for the summer to ride the buses to conduct the surveys. We also sent a 10,000 piece mailing to non-riders. We have received a few hundred replies. Our goal is to figure out how to get those not using the services to use the services. We held an Erie Blvd public meeting. We had a small turnout, but a good meeting. The project is developing short term recommendations. The DeWitt and Camillus studies are coming along well and will be completed this program year. The Fayetteville project was on a temporary hold. We are working on the Traffic Count project for the City and County. The City process is developed and counts will begin once the weather improves. The Jamesville work will be presented at our next meeting. Route 57 build out analyses is progressing. The Skaneateles project is also progressing. There are several TIP Amendments on today's agenda.

B. UPDATE ON I-81 OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE NYSDOT

Mr. D'Agostino stated that at every meeting we have the NYSDOT provide an update on their I-81 efforts. Mr. Frechette stated that the NYSDOT was completing their neighborhood meetings when this committee met in December. Held meetings locally and in the suburbs. At that point in time the Department was recommending three alternatives: No Build, Viaduct, and Community Grid. They were trying to discard the three new tunnel studies. The meetings with the public were very educational. People talked about their concerns and those concerns are being taken into consideration: the removal of the missing links. Ramps were included in everyone of the alternatives considered. People said Bear Street serves the community and the impacts were too severe. People also concerned with freight traffic. A lot of information came out on travel times. Little difference between Community Grid and Viaduct. They provided real estate information.

The CNY elected officials wanted the Department to restudy underground solutions. They went to the Governor. He announced a new independent study for the underground options. They hired WSP|PB for an independent study. They have developed a new northside committee, a group of 6-10 individuals to look at the northside. Looking to understand the concerns and work through the issues. Presentation on April 6 on the southside. Doing a number of one-on-one type meetings with different groups. Looking at opportunities to expand the current park and ride system. Meeting with the Centro, City and OGS on parking impacts for those that park under the viaduct. They have looked at Wilson Park. The County, City, State, and DEC are getting together on stormwater mitigation. One-on-one meetings will continue.

The DEIS has been tabled until the independent study is done. Trying to have independent study done by the end of the summer.

Mr. Robinson stated that there has been a lot of opposition from the suburban neighbors about truck traffic and if there is a weight limitation on state highways. Mr. Frechette stated there is a weight limit. At times special permits are needed to use the roadways. He stated that traditional trucks do not exceed the limit. Mr. D'Agostino stated that all public roadways are open to trucks unless it is a safety issue. Mr. Robinson stated that they are subject to scrutiny if they exceed the weight limit. Mr. Frechette stated weight or size limitations. Mr. Robinson inquired if there has been studies to see if there are trucks that exceed the limits. Mr. Frechette stated that the Department works with the State Police to inspect trucks. Mr. Robinson stated he was inquiring about trucks that leave the Interstate and travel roadways in Skaneateles and Spafford. Mr. Smith stated that the inspections are moved around accordingly to inspect vehicles. He stated the fine is scaled depending on the violation. Mr. Frechette stated the DOT needs to do a better job to show where the trucks are going.

Mr. D'Agostino stated that as a community if we find excessive fault with every option put forward the likely outcome will be spending the equivalent amount of money on what is currently there. This is the worst possible outcome of this. Mr. Frechette agreed. Stating that the build solutions are all much better than the No Build solutions. Mr. Jordan stated that Mr. Frechette presented at the Planning Federation earlier in the month. He thanked him for the well attended session.

4. OLD BUSINESS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS
A. TIP AMENDMENTS

Mr. D'Agostino stated that following amendments are needed to the 2017-2021 TIP and Statewide TIP:

Deletion of project

PIN 393276 (Grade Crossing Improvement Program, FGLK, Auburn SEC Solvay, Onondaga County). Total cost \$292,000. Sponsor: New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). Sponsor requests removal of project as work will be funded with non-federal funds and completed under an Onondaga County project.

Addition of projects

As part of Gov. Cuomo's Pedestrian Safety Action Plan announced in June 2016, the following 2 projects will be added to the TIP and STIP.

PIN 30PS01 (Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, Phase 1, Contract 1). Total cost \$1,876,000. Sponsor: NYSDOT. Project utilizing 100% HSIP funds in FFY 16/17 for improvements to pedestrian facilities at uncontrolled crosswalks and signalized intersections at several locations in the SMTC area. Mr. D'Agostino stated that an additional handout was provided today relative to this.

PIN 30PS02 (Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, Phase 1, Contract 2). Total cost \$1,154,000. Sponsor: NYSDOT. Project utilizing 100% HSIP funds in FFY 18/19.

As part of Gov. Cuomo's Bridge NY program administered by NYSDOT, the State is making funds available to rehabilitate and replace bridges and culverts statewide. The following bridge projects were selected by NYSDOT in January 2017 and will be added to the TIP and STIP.

PIN 3BNY02 (NYSDOT Bridge NY Rehabilitation and Replacement). Total Cost \$4,141,000.

Tallman St Bridge over Onondaga Creek, Deck Replacement. Total cost \$800,000;

West Onondaga St Bridge over Onondaga Creek, Bridge Rehabilitation. Total cost \$1,841,500;

Rt. 174 Bridge over Nine Mile Creek, Bridge Rehabilitation. Total cost \$1,500,000.

PIN 360342 (VPP Rt. 91, Rt. 20 to N of Coleman Hill Rd). Total cost \$1,100,000. Sponsor:

NYS DOT. Offset from outside the SMTC area.

PIN 360373 (VPP Rt. 370, Raina Dr to Liverpool north Village Line). Total cost \$700,000. Sponsor: NYS DOT. Offset from outside the SMTC area.

Mr. Robinson moved and Mr. Rauber seconded a motion to approve the TIP Amendments. Motion carried.

B. BRIDGE AND PAVEMENT CONDITION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM – DRAFT FINAL REPORT

Mr. D’Agostino stated that this is an annual work product for the last seventeen years. Ms. Hassett gave an overview of the report.

Mr. D’Agostino stated that while our pavement ratings are getting a little bit better or bridges are not. Our bridges are in worse shape than other areas of the state. We do not have the money to fix them all. Mr. Frechette stated that the last transportation bill took away dedicated bridge funding. Mr. Maxwell inquired if this report is transmitted to our local state and federal representatives. Mr. D’Agostino stated that we generally do not send it out to the elected representatives, but it is on our web site. Mr. Maxwell stated it should go to our state Senators and Congressman. Mr. Lee stated that this is a way to show there is a local need. Mr. Robinson stated he concurred with Mr. Maxwell. We can no longer tolerate our infrastructure being in such deplorable condition.

Mr. Maxwell moved and Ms. Lamendola seconded a motion acknowledging the completion of the Bridge and Pavement Condition Management System report. Motion carried.

C. ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRPERSON

Mr. D’Agostino stated that we need to elect a new Vice Chairperson. He asked for someone to volunteer for the position and he will be in contact with the members.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:41 a.m.