

Meeting Summary
Planning Committee Meeting
June 18, 2019 at 1:00PM
OC Emergency Services
22 Wells Farm Rd, Goshen
Classroom 2

Meeting Participants

<i>Name:</i>	<i>Organization:</i>
Harry Porr	Orange County, Deputy County Executive
Julie Richmond	Orange County Planning
Rob Parrington	Orange County Planning
Ashlee Long	Orange County Planning
Lauren Burns	Orange County Planning
Sandra Jobson	NYSDOT, Region 8
Nicole Farmer	NYSDOT, Region 8
Lance MacMillan	NYSDOT, Region 8
Oluseye Folarin	MTA
Lizy Philip	NYSTA
Travis Ewald	OCDPW
Erik Denega	OCDPW
Jacob Tawil	City of Middletown
Jason Morris	City of Newburgh
Michael Sweeton	Town of Warwick
Gary Spears	Town of Deerpark
Scott Manley	Town of Newburgh
Doug Bloomfield	Town of Goshen
John Revella	Village of Walden
Katie Craig	WSP/ City of Middletown
Al Fusco	Fusco Engineering, Town of Chester
Frank Filiciotto	Creighton Manning

Call to Order and Introductions

Mr. Porr called the meeting to order. The meeting began with introductions.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Mr. Porr asked if there was any public comment; there was none.

Approve May 21, 2019 Meeting Summary

The meeting summary was accepted as drafted

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2017-2021

TIP Administrative Modification OCTC17-BB

Ms. Long introduced TIP Administrative OCTC17-BB to the Committee. This action was at the request of MTA as part of a biennial contract with NYSDOT and combines FFY 2018 and FFY 2019 NHPP funds. The NHPP funds will transfer to FTA 5307 funds as seen in FFY 2019.

Members did not have any questions.

FFY 2020-2024 TIP Update

Ms. Long introduced the next discussion item of the FFY 2020-2024 TIP update by giving a brief summary of the City of Middletown Funding requests from the May 21, 2019 Planning Committee Meeting. The Committee asked Mr. Tawil to give a presentation on the combined \$7.8 million funding request, including the scope of work for both PIN 8757.07 – (Traffic Operations Stage 1) and PIN 8760.98 – (Traffic Operations Stage 2) and how the change in scope caused the City’s large funding deficit for both stages of the project.

Ms. Long explained that the Draft 2020-2024 TIP is going out for a 30-day public comment period starting on Monday, July 24, 2019. Currently the OCTC TIP programmed unallocated STBG Lg Urban and CMAQ funding in the outer years of the TIP into two block PINs. Any action on the Draft TIP needs to occur in early July due to ESTIP closing.

City of Middletown Funding Request (PINs 8757.07 and 8760.98 – Middletown Traffic Operations Stages 1 and 2)

Mr. Tawil of the City of Middletown, Mr. Fusco of Fusco Engineering, and Ms. Craig of WSP gave a joint presentation on the Middletown Town Operations projects. Mr. Tawil introduced the presentation by giving a brief background of the project and restating the City’s request for a combined \$8.0 million in additional funds. The Traffic Operations project is one of four projects occurring in the central business district, as well as two streetscape and green infrastructure projects being completed with Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) funding and the ADA sidewalk project using reallocated HPP funding (PIN 8761.49).

The Traffic Operations projects will account for 28 intersection upgrades, 24 of which were included in the previous scope, two unsignalized intersections, and two intersections that were added to the scope. The project will address the deteriorated conditions along three main streets in the City, a lack of pedestrian crossings and little to no curb ramps that will be brought up to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards, address geometric deficiencies, and improve traffic flow along the congested roadways.

The committee discussed the funding request by the City of Middletown. Mr. Tawil clarified that the City’s request for additional funding was for the unallocated STBG Lg Urban and CMAQ in the outer TIP years and not from funds allocated to projects already. Mr. Porr reiterated that the Committee has expressed interest in weighing the regional needs for the County with a call for projects before allocating half of the unallocated 2020-2024 TIP funding to the City for the Traffic Operations Projects. Mr. Tawil objected to the idea for a call for new projects when the City of Middletown has two projects programmed on the TIP that need additional funding to be completed.

The Committee did not come to a consensus on approving the City of Middletown’s funding request but did agree with the City combining funding for both stages into Stage 1 (PIN 8757.07). Ms. Long stated that the City can begin Stage 1 as the discussion for Stage 2 continues. Stage 2 (PIN 8760.98) will be placed on the TIP as a place holder in the outer years, but with no additional funding. Mr. Fusco suggested the City meet with NYSDOT Region 8 staff, including Ms. Jobson, to talk about ideas for moving the projects forward. Ms. Jobson suggested adjusting scope to right-size the projects and looking at imminent projects to connect the stages geographically, avoiding the “swiss cheese” effect as much as possible.

The Committee will evaluate the regional needs of the county and the City’s intersection update needs once the City provides more details on staging the project. This includes which intersections will be included in each stage and how the project stages will show fiscal constraint. Mr. Tawil requested this topic be revisited at the next Planning Committee Meeting on Tuesday, July 9th, 2019 and that OCTC staff provide the latest TIP Questionnaire results for the purpose of reviewing the status and anticipated needs for current projects.

Due to the Orange County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) revoking \$1.000 million of its previously promised grant funding to the Heritage Trail Segment 2 project (PIN 8755.98), the County is now looking for an additional \$1.000 million as soon as possible since the project is slated to start construction soon and has already gone out to bid. Ms. Long stated that there are \$1.000 million in FFY 2020 of unallocated STBG Lg Urban funds that could be obligated in the new federal fiscal year which begins in October 2019. The Council unanimously agreed to the motion for the funding request as long the project was eligible for STBG LG Urban funding.

Local Project Sponsor Updates

Mr. Farr informed the Committee that the bridge (PIN 8756.64 – Route 6 Bridge Replacement over the Neversink River) and the sidewalk project (PIN 8757.08 – East Main Street Realignment work and improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities) are moving and will start Saturdays off-site. The project is four weeks behind due to weather.

Mr. Morris informed the Committee that the Lake Drive Bridge replacement project (PIN 8761.39) was undergoing final right of way acquisition and will be going out to bid soon and that the Walsh Road Bridge (PIN 8761.40) is currently in preliminary design.

Mr. Ewald updated the Committee on Orange County projects. PIN 8759.86 (Grove Drive Bridge Replacement) construction is underway, with the temporary bridge in place, and PIN 8757.05 (Heritage Trail Segment 3) is currently under design. He also reported that consultants have been selected for the Orange County Pedestrian Safety Improvements project (PIN 8760.04) and the Highland Ave over Wallace Street Bridge Replacement project (PIN 8762.12).

Mr. Porr said that the Heritage Trail Phase 2 (PIN 8755.98) was still on schedule. He reiterated that the IDA retracted \$1 million from the project.

Mr. Sweeton said approval is still needed for PIN 8760.02 (Town of Warwick Trail and Bicycle Facilities project).

Mr. Revella stated the Village of Walden hopes to get shovels in the ground soon after issues with NYSDOT permits were resolved for PIN 8487.43 (Route 52 to Most Precious Blood School Sidewalk project).

Mr. Tawil informed the Committee that the City of Middletown is closing out the James P Kelly roundabout project. The final report for PIN 8761.49 (ADA sidewalks and ramps construction and upgrades) will be completed and submitted by the end of June to meet the September 2019 construction obligation deadline. The City submitted the IPP Design Report to NYSDOT, Region 8 for PIN 8757.07 (Traffic Operations Stage 1) last week and are moving into final design.

Reports

Staff Reports

Ms. Long reminded the Committee that there will be a Policy Committee Meeting immediately following the adjournment of the Planning Committee meeting and a LRTP update meeting directly after the Policy Committee Meeting.

Ms. Long also reminded the Committee of multiple upcoming OCTC meetings, including:

- Planning Committee Meeting on July 9th at 10am at the orange County Government Center in the Community Room
- Policy Committee Meeting on August 20th at 1pm at the Emergency Services Center.

The committee adjourned at 2:13 pm