

Meeting Summary
Planning Committee Meeting
December 18, 2018, 9:00AM
255 Main Street, Goshen, NY
Legislative Statutory Committee Room

Meeting Participants

<i>Name:</i>	<i>Organization:</i>
Julie Richmond	Orange County Planning
Rob Parrington	Orange County Planning
Ashlee Long	Orange County Planning
Lauren Burns	Orange County Planning
Ryan McGuire	Orange County Department of Public Works
Mike Sweeton	Town of Warwick
Jack Farr	City of Port Jervis
Jason Morris	City of Newburgh
Sandra Jobson	NYSDOT, Region 8
Nicole Farmer	NYSDOT, Region 8
Gary Spears	Town of Deerpark
Lou Venech	Port Authority of New York & New Jersey

On the Phone:

Lizy Philip	New York State Thruway Authority
Jacob Tawil	City of Middletown
Steve Moreau	Town of New Windsor
John Revella	Village of Walden

Call to Order and Introductions

Ms. Richmond called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Ms. Richmond asked if there was any public comment; there was none.

Approve October 16, 2018 Meeting Summary

The meeting summary was accepted as drafted.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2017-2021

TIP Amendment OCTC17-09

Ms. Long introduced TIP Amendment OCTC17-09 to the Committee. PIN 876212 (Bridge NY Project) is an Orange County sponsored project in the Village of Otisville. This project is being added to the TIP with its own funding and does not count against regional planning targets. Mr. McGuire said the project is set to begin sometime in March 2019.

TIP Administrative Modification OCTC17-U

Ms. Long introduced TIP Administrative Modification OCTC17-U to the Committee. PIN 881290 (Bridge Rehabilitation) is a NYSDOT sponsored project that is looking to increase

funding. The NYSDOT PIN comes with its own source of funding and includes four structures in Orange County. Those bridges are all along the Interstate 84 corridor, including the bridges that carry I-84 over the Monhagen Creek northbound and southbound and over McVeigh Road northbound and southbound in the Town of Wawayanda.

TIP Questionnaire

Ms. Long informed the Committee that all sponsors using main funding targets responded to the TIP Questionnaire, though four project sponsors using HPP and Safe Routes to School funding have not replied to the extended deadline. These sponsors include the Village of Goshen, the Village of Highland Falls, the Village of Warwick, and the Town of Crawford. Mr. Sweeton added that the Village of Warwick project is a joint project with the Town of Warwick and requires Right-of-Way access. The Village is ready to walk away from the project because too many parcels are required, though staff should reach out to the Mayor directly for more project updates. The Town is able to complete its portion of the project either way.

Ms. Richmond emphasized the importance of the TIP Questionnaires for the TIP update process. She added that discussions will begin sometime early next year in January 2019. MPO staff will reach out to NYSDOT Region 8 and the Local Project Unit (LPU) staff to coordinate with project sponsors. The January or February project sponsor meetings with LPU will be set up in time slots after the Planning Committee Meeting.

Local Project Sponsor Updates

PIN 875664 – Route 6 Bridge Replacement over the Neversink River. Mr. Farr updated the Committee saying the work will be continuing through the winter. The temporary bridge will be operational in March/April with the new bridge expected to be up and operational by the end of next year.

PIN 876002 - Mr. Sweeton updated the Committee on the Warwick bicycle/ pedestrian trail project. The project is still on track, but it does not have enough funds to complete it. The Town is still looking for additional funding. Ms. Long said MPO staff is still working on a solution, though the main office of NYSDOT said the project would not be eligible for CMAQ because it is a recreational trail.

Mr. Morris gave an update on the City of Newburgh's projects:

PIN 876140 – Walsh Road Bridge is in the Preliminary Design phase.

PIN 876157 – Lake Street / Route 32 Bridge is using Bridge NY funding and the City is looking to go out to bid soon.

PIN 876139 – Lake Drive Bridge is in the Right-of-Way Acquisition and Final Design phases.

PIN 875875 – Traffic signal upgrades includes two lights on Broadway and the City is looking to move the project forward in 2019.

PIN 876120 – Liberty Street Rehabilitation project from Clinton Street to North Street is going over final comments from NYSDOT and the City is looking to go out to bid for construction in 2019.

Mr. Tawil gave an update on the City of Middletown's projects:

PIN 875664 – James P. Kelly Way roundabout project may need additional funding. The City is working with the LPU to resolve any funding issues.

PIN 876149 – ADA Accessible Sidewalks project uses HPP funding and is currently in the design phases, as well evaluating intersections to progress the project along.

Mr. Revella updated the Committee on PIN 848743 (Route 208 sidewalk project in the Village of Walden) and stated that the contractor has an anticipated start date sometime in spring 2019.

Mr. McGuire informed the Committee that PIN 875986 (Grove Drive Bridge Replacement) is out to bid until January 11th, 2019. Once the contractor is selected, the project is anticipated to start in early 2019.

Old Business

Voting Membership

Ms. Long asked if any progress had been made regarding the OCTC Voting Membership, and asked that any final decisions be emailed to her for the record. Mr. Sweeton said the consensus from the Southern Area for the 2019-2020 term includes representation from himself and Tony Cardone from the Town of Monroe.

SFY 2019-2020 Unified Planning Work Program

Ms. Long informed members that MPO Staff is currently working with NYSDOT Main Office on the draft UPWP tables. OCTC will not be issuing a call for projects this year due to the undertaking of several large studies, including the TMA Regional Transit Study, the Mid-Western Gateway Land Use and Transportation Study, the update to the Congestion Management Process, the update to the Long Range Transportation Plan, and the update to the TIP.

Mid-Western Gateway Study

Ms. Richmond informed the Committee that the Gateway Study is currently in contract negotiations and is set to begin in January 2019. MPO Staff have been discussing the needs of the Travel Model for the Mid-Western Gateway Study as well as other upcoming studies and updates. The Model inputs need to be updated and validated and the model overall is being calibrated for improved sensitivity. The estimated cost to update the Model is approximately \$90,000. Staff proposes that this additional funding come from the Travel Modeling UPWP budget line, as this work will be fulfilling some of those task items. Mr. Farr asked if updating the traffic flows with current construction occurring on the Route 6/Neversink Bridge would sway the results. Mr. Parrington noted that traffic counts are collected by Orange County DPW and NYSDOT on a rotating schedule of every two or three years, depending on the agency and road type. The calibration of the model with Location Based Service (LBS) data would improve the origin-destination data for the travel model. Ms. Long added that the proposed updates are short term maintenance, and MPO Staff are looking at future Travel Model improvements as a long-range goal.

New Business

Meeting Time & Date

The Committee members expressed distress over the inability to enter the building before 9am with the meeting having been expressly moved to 9am at the request of the County Executive's office. Members were not permitted to wait inside the building and were forced to stand outside in the cold. Ms. Richmond said she would follow up with the County Executive's office to resolve this issue and apologized to members for the inconvenience.

Transit Subcommittee

Ms. Richmond introduced the idea of a Transit Subcommittee to the Committee. Due to the converging of many issues, Ms. Richmond suggested that it may be an appropriate time to

establish a small working group to focus on advancing transit initiatives in the County. Emerging points of interest include: new political leadership, specifically Representative James Skoufis, calling for more expanded service of the Newburgh-Beacon Ferry and better coordination between the multiple service providers in Orange County; Concern from large employers (both existing and new) regarding getting employees to work in Orange County; The Orange County Comprehensive Plan update included the addition of a Transportation Chapter, which identified policy recommendations specific to Transit; and the Regional Transit Study “Connect Mid-Hudson” is underway at the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area (TMA) level. The Transit Subcommittee would bring better transparency representing riders at the OCTC level. The subcommittee will be open to all OCTC Committee members, including representatives from the agencies: NYSDOT, NYSTA, MTA and Port Authority, community representatives and transit riders. Ms. Richmond will circulate an email for all those interested in the subcommittee, which will likely meet quarterly, and asks any interested parties respond to the email.

Mr. Parrington added that the Planning department met with Legoland in September about a possible public/private partnership for transit. The question is where to go next? There are multiple employers along the Neelytown Road Corridor, the Woodbury Common Premium Outlet, and the medical offices in Middletown might also be interested in a public/private transit partnership. OC Planning is looking to update a task change within their current contract to include developing a Trip Planner, much like Google transit, which will include fixed routes and dial-a-bus services, and the purchase of Location Based Service (LBS) data for suggested routes proposal.

Mr. Parrington also reminded the Committee that the Connect Mid-Hudson Survey was open until the end of 2018.

Reports

Other Member Reports

Mr. Venech updated the Committee on the Port Authority’s Trans Hudson project. Many commuters to New York City living west of the Hudson River have concerns such as full bus terminals and New Jersey rail issues. The Port Authority Capital Program will look to ease these concerns by buying new cars for the PATH and investing \$100 million towards the Port Authority bus terminal, as well as expanding ferry services, and will start the full NEPA process for the new bus terminal. The demand for bus service west of the Hudson is forecasted to grow beyond the maximum capacity of current facilities. The Port Authority is engaging stakeholders and other agencies for the distant future looking beyond 2040 with a Long Range Planning Study, including possible rapid transit connections. Mr. Venech offered to provide more information to anyone interested.

Mr. Farr inquired about federal regulations for selling land that used state or federal dollars to construct, specifically part of the Jersey Avenue pedestrian promenade in the City of Port Jervis, to a developer looking to use part of the promenade for outdoor seating as part of a 5-6 floor mixed use project. Mr. Sweeton suggested the area be leased; saying any funds used for construction may be required to pay back to the state.

Ms. Richmond requested Scott Geiger, Project Manager at NYSDOT, give a presentation at the next Policy Committee Meeting and update members on the Exit 131 project and the status of the Route 17 Corridor Study. Ms. Jobson said she would be sure to facilitate that request. She added that the Route 17 Corridor Study is an engineering study with a focus on recommendations from the original corridor study to look at capacity, safety, and operation.

Ms. Long reminded the Committee that the next Policy Committee Meeting will be in February, with a final date not yet confirmed, though members requested it be moved from the regular 3rd Tuesday of the Month due to a conflict.

The committee adjourned at 10:10 am