

# SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

## MINUTES of the JULY 26, 2017 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

### Voting Members

Brian Schultz, Chair  
James Fayle  
Michael Jauch  
Don Jordan  
Neil Milcarek-Burke  
Ben Sio  
David Smith  
Sue Stanczyk  
Marty Voss  
Stephanie Webb

### Organization

CNY Regional Transportation Authority  
Empire State Development  
NYS Thruway Authority  
Onondaga County Planning Board  
City of Syracuse  
CenterState CEO  
NYS Department of Transportation  
Onondaga County Legislature  
Onondaga County  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

### Also Attending

Patricia Cooper, CDTA; Mark Frechette, NYSDOT; and Rick Lee, CNYRTA

### SMTC Staff

James D'Agostino, Mike Alexander, Kevan Busa, Jason Deshaies, Andrew Frasier, Elizabeth Hassett, Kevin Kosakowski, Danielle Krol, Aaron McKeon, Meghan Vitale, and Patricia Wortley

### BUSINESS MEETING

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Schultz called the meeting to order at 10:03 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 March 28, 2017 minutes. Hearing none, the Chairperson called for a motion.

Ms. Stanczyk moved and Mr. Smith seconded approval of the minutes. Motion carried.

#### 3. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

##### A. UPWP STATUS REPORT

Mr. D'Agostino highlighted the following items: Staff coordinated and hosted a statewide event for the MPO Association. The event was held at the Marriott Syracuse Downtown and was very well attended. We are updating our website and will be seeking price quotes. If quotes are under \$10,000 we will not need to issue a RFP. Federal Legislation continues to trickle out. The SMTC will go with what the State does. Relative to Data Collection, we had temporary help this summer that worked completing turning movement counts, pedestrian counts and Centro Rider Surveys. The Rider Survey was very successful. For GIS, the NYSDOT requested we update our Functional Classification. This appears later on today's agenda. Staff continues to oversee the CNY RPDB's stormwater project. Staff presented with Alta Planning on the Erie Canal Trail

expansion, closing the gaps in the state. This plan will bring this to conclusion in the near future. The Trail will be connected to Creekwalk and Loop the Lake Trail. Bridge and Pavement rating is underway. We met with the NYSDOT about bridge data. The Bicycle and Pedestrian PSA's are on today's agenda. We are looking to schedule the SMART 1 final public meeting this fall. Our first Freight Profile report is completed and will be presented today. The Work Link study is on the agenda today. A lot of Centro surveying is going on. We mailed out a Non Rider survey and received over 1,000 responses - off the charts successful. However, the Employer survey had very few respondents. Our DeWitt and Camillus projects are very similar - on opposite sides of the county. The DeWitt study is being presented today. The Camillus project will be presented at the next meeting. The Jamesville Comprehensive Plan Assistance is on the agenda today. Route 57 is coming along. The Skaneateles project is moving along

**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 last fall the DOT came out with two viable solutions: replace viaduct in-kind and the Community Grid. The DOT continued to engage people. Numerous meetings with Centro, Syracuse Housing Authority (SHA), Destiny, etc. They met with regulatory agencies as well. Very important meetings to get at the heart of the issues in the community. A Northside Group was developed and met with them six times and looked at alternatives for the Northside, basically I-690 to Hiawatha Blvd. They have developed some new concepts. The Department is in the process of going forward. They plan to hold a stakeholder meeting in August to share with the public the changes since last October. He encouraged those that were not stakeholders to become stakeholders. There are concerns, primarily from the suburbs, related to trucks and truck diversions.

He stated that the other big thing going on is the independent study for tunnels and depressed highways was underway. That information is being drafted and needs to come to the public. More is expected this fall.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRPERSON**

Mr. D'Agostino stated that the election of a vice chairperson was tabled at the March meeting. We are actively looking for a vice chairperson. Mr. Voss, Onondaga County, was nominated.

A motion was approved to elect Mr. Voss as the Vice Chairperson of the SMTTC Policy Committee. Motion carried.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. TIP AMENDMENTS**

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

Addition of projects

PIN 305626 (Ramp Re-Alignment Project, I-481 @ Kirkville Rd Interchange, Onondaga Co) Total cost \$700,000. Sponsor New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). Project will address safety issues such as rear end crash patterns at the I-481 NB and SB off-ramps to Kirkville Rd.

As part of the 2016 Statewide Transportation Alternatives Program and Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) solicitation, the following projects are being added to the 2017-

2021 TIP:

PIN 395060 (Region 3 Highway Emergency Local Patrol (HELP) Program) Total cost \$1,500,000. Sponsor NYSDOT. Two HELP trucks with operators will patrol high-volume, limited access highways in Onondaga County during peak volume hours and special events looking for non-recurring events or incidents such as disabled vehicles and accidents.

Mr. D'Agostino stated this program has been in operation in the Albany area and it has been highly successful.

PIN 395061 (North Syracuse Complete Streets Corridor Project) Chestnut St, Centerville Pl & Church St) Total cost \$1,253,273. Sponsor North Syracuse. Project includes the physical alteration of Chestnut St, Centerville Pl & Church St to construct a "complete streets" corridor in order to accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles.

PIN 395064 (Baldwinsville Village Sidewalk Extension Project) Total cost \$1,320,402. Sponsor Baldwinsville. Project will install sidewalks along state roadways within the Village of Baldwinsville to improve pedestrian travel.

PIN 395065 (Fayetteville Sidewalk Project, Rt 257) Total cost \$775,541. Sponsor Fayetteville. Construction of new and, reconstruction of existing sidewalks along Rt 257 and Salt Springs Rd to improve transportation options in proximity of Wellwood Middle School, Fayetteville Elementary School, and Immaculate Conception School.

PIN 350651 (State Fairgrounds Access Improvement Project, Phase I) Total cost \$20,000,000. Sponsor NYSDOT. Two phased project will improve access between Interstate 690 and the New York State Fair's upper (orange) parking lot. Phase I will include paving and striping the upper roads; new lighting and drainage systems and a new on-ramp from the upper lot to westbound Interstate 690.

Mr. Jordan moved and Mr. Voss seconded a motion to approve the TIP Amendments. Motion carried.

**B. FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION PROFILE SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA – DRAFT FINAL REPORT**

Mr. D'Agostino stated that this is a new report based on increased interest in freight movement at both the state and federal level in recent years. Mr. Alexander gave an overview of the report.

Ms. Stanczyk moved and Mr. Fayle seconded a motion to acknowledge the completion of the report. Motion carried.

**C. CENTRAL DEWITT MOBILITY PLAN – DRAFT FINAL REPORT**

Mr. D'Agostino stated that this report was undertaken at the request of the Town of DeWitt. Mr. Alexander gave an overview of the project.

Mr. Smith moved and Ms. Webb seconded a motion to acknowledge the completion of the report. Motion carried.

**D. WORK LINK – DRAFT FINAL REPORT**

Mr. D’Agostino stated this is also a new type of study for the SMTC looking at gaps in the transit system for those seeking employment and how to address those gaps. This project was done at the request of SOCPA and the City of Syracuse. Mr. McKeon gave an overview of the study.

Mr. D’Agostino stated that he has been approached by Providence Services recently. It is an eligible expense of 5307 funds, but Centro would need to be on board, since they are the transit agency.

Mr. Jauch moved and Mr. Schultz seconded a motion to acknowledge the completion of the report. Motion carried.

**E. OPERATIONS PLAN UPDATE**

Mr. D’Agostino stated that a few modifications needed to be made to the existing Operations Plan. The major issue to update is SOCPA becoming a voting member of the Executive Committee. Mr. D’Agostino gave an overview of the Executive Committee. It will not change the quorum definition. Other changes include updating information from the Public Participation Plan due to the FAST Act legislation, updated Organizational Chart, updating the City of Syracuse departments, and an addition of a staff position on staffing plan.

Mr. Voss moved and Ms. Stanczyk seconded a motion to adopt the updated Operations Plan. Motion carried.

**F. FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION MODIFICATIONS**

Mr. D’Agostino stated that modifications to our Functional Classification System were needed after the NYSDOT Main Office reviewed the changes approved by the Policy Committee in February and December 2016. We are seeking approval of the whole system again. Mr. Deshaies gave an overview of the process.

Ms. Stanczyk moved and Mr. Voss seconded a motion to adopt the Functional Classification revisions. Motion carried.

**G. BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY OUTREACH INITIATIVE – DRAFT FINAL REPORT**

Mr. D’Agostino stated that this effort is different from anything undertaken at the SMTC in the past. We worked to create a series of educational public service announcements (PSAs) that ran on Spectrum Cable during the month of May. We would like to do another round at the end of summer. Mr. Alexander gave an overview of the work performed.

Ms. Webb stated that the PSAs still had a local feel. Great job.

Ms. Stanczyk moved and Mr. Smith seconded a motion to acknowledge the completion of the report. Motion carried.

**H. JAMESVILLE HAMLET TRANSPORTATION ASSESSMENT**

Mr. D’Agostino stated that this effort was performed under our Comprehensive Plan Assistance line item on the UPWP on behalf of the CNY RPDB and the Town of DeWitt. Ms. Vitale gave an overview of the work SMTC completed for the Jamesville Hamlet master plan.

Mr. Jordan moved and Ms. Webb seconded a motion to acknowledge the completion of the

Jamesville study. Motion carried.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.