Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comment on Action Items *
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
5. Secretary's Report
6. Action Items
   A) Annual GBNRTC Memorandum of Understanding Resolution 2009-3
   B) Unified Planning Work Program 2008-2010 – Second Year Affirmation Resolution 2009-4
   C) TIP Major Amendment: Economic Stimulus Projects Resolution 2009-5
   D) Election of Policy Committee Chair and Vice Chair
7. Discussion Items:
   
   **Plans:**
   A) GBNRTC involvement in 2009 Corridor Plans and Studies

   **Projects:**
   A) Capital Program Update-Stimulus Projects Plan and next TIP implications
   B) Regional Priority Transportation Projects Status
   C) Regional Agencies Initiatives Report
      Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority
      New York State Thruway Authority
      New York State Department of Transportation
      Niagara International Transportation Technology Coalition

8. Other Business
9. Next Meeting
10. Adjournment of Policy Meeting

* Up to 3 minutes per speaker please on agenda items

A Public Forum will be conducted after the meeting for general discussion of transportation issues and concerns and all are welcome to participate
A meeting of the Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC) Policy Committee was held on February 23, 2009 at 438 Main Street, Buffalo, New York. Alan E. Taylor, Director for Region 5 of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), opened the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

The following GBNRTC Policy Members or their representatives were present:

- Alan E. Taylor, NYSDOT
- Thomas Pericak, NYS Thruway Authority
- Gerard Sentz, Erie County
- Thomas Desantis, City of Niagara Falls
- Peter Merlo, City of Buffalo
- Robert Gower, NFTA
- William Ross, Niagara County

Others present were:

- Richard Beers, FHWA
- Hal Morse, GBNRTC
- Timothy Trabold, GBNRTC
- Robert Wagner, GBNRTC
- Gary Gottlieb, NYSDOT
- Joe Buffamonte, NYSDOT
- Pete Nixon, NYSDOT
- Ron Hayes, NYSDOT
- Charles Sickler, Erie County
- Doug Tokarczyk, NYSTA
- Kevin O’Brien, Niagara County
- Anthony Bluhm, Resident
- Kristin Allen, League of Women Voters
- Gladys Gifford, CRTC
- Alvin Schuster, CRTC
- Marie Hanrahan, League of Women Voters
- Kelly Thompson, TVGA Consultants
- Rachel Chrostowski, ECDEP
- Joelle Guy, Town of Amherst
- BK Lockwood, Rep. Higgins
- Chris Fahey, Rep. Higgins
- Gary Witulski, City of Buffalo OSP
- Tim Hughes, C & S Engineering
- Elmer McCratty, CRTC
- Jim Anderson, CRTC
1. **Roll Call**
Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:15 am with all members present. He stated that Commissioner Glynn sends her regrets, as she was not able to attend.

2. **Public Comment on Action Items**
Gladys Gifford representing CRTC/TRAC spoke in support of several transit projects on the stimulus list, noting the importance of public transportation for the community.
Alvin Schuster read a statement from Self Advocacy Association of NYS, Western Region. The group is very concerned with the possibility of another fare increase, noting the current rise in fare is already adversely affecting people with disabilities. They support bringing cars back to Main Street however not the current plan, noting it has major flaws. The group stated “if money is to be spent at this time it should be spent on securing and expanding the current bus system”.
Kristen Allen representing League of Women Voters spoke in support of the purchase of buses, the upgrade and replacement of rail cars and the elimination of the pending fare increase and reduction in service.

3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda (02/23/09)**
Mr. Sentz moved to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Mr. DeSantis, and all were in favor.

4. **Approval of GBNRTC Policy Committee Meeting Minutes (11/20/08)**
Mr. DeSantis moved to approve the minutes of November 20, 2008, seconded by Mr. Sentz, and all were in favor.

5. **Secretary’s Report**
Mr. Morse reviewed public comments received regarding American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009 Economic Stimulus Project Additions.

6. **Action Items (Resolutions)**

A. **Annual GBNRTC Memorandum of Understanding Resolution 2009-3**
Annually, members of the GBNRTC formally agree to cooperate in transportation planning and in doing so function as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for this region. No changes appear necessary at this time. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval.
Mr. DeSantis moved approval of Resolution 2009-3, seconded by Mr. Merlo, and all were in favor.

B. **Unified Planning Work Program 2008-2010 – Second Year Affirmation Resolution 2009-4**
Every two years GBNRTC develops a work program to guide staff activities in support of the Council’s initiatives. The UPWP is currently in its second year. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the UPWP for approval.
Mr. Sentz moved approval of Resolution 2009-4, seconded by Mr. DeSantis, and all were in favor.

C. **TIP Major Amendment: Economic Stimulus Projects Resolution 2009-5**
The Economic Stimulus Program provides an opportunity for projects to be forward in this region. Mr. Morse noted a list of ready to go projects has been provided along with a list of illustrative projects should additional funds become available. He also noted two NYSDOT projects will be added to the list of Stimulus eligible pending final ICG review, and two projects (Mapleton Road repaving; MOF-Highway JOC) will be removed they were determined not federal aid eligible, these funds were reprogrammed to existing projects.
Mr. Sentz moved approval of Resolution 2009-5, seconded by Mr. DeSantis, all were in favor.

D. **Election of Policy Committee Chair and Vice Chair**
Motions were made to elect Astrid Glynn, Commissioner of the New York State Department of Transportation as Policy Committee Chair; and Thomas Pericak, New York State Thruway Authority Division Director, as Vice Chair for 2009; and all were in favor.

7. Discussion Items
   Plans:
   A. Capital GBNRCT involvement in 2009 corridor Plans and Studies
      Mr. Morse reviewed upcoming project and corridor studies in the region.
   
   Projects:
   A. Capital Program Update-Stimulus Projects Plan and next TIP implications
      Implications of the stimulus projects on the TIP and next steps in the process were discussed.
   B. Regional Priority Transportation Projects Status
      A baseline status of current projects was presented showing current plans for implementation, projected costs, and project responsibility.
   C. Regional Agencies Initiatives
      Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority
      Mr. Gower noted the current construction of the Niagara Falls Airport Terminal Building, a late summer of 2009 opening is expected. Mr. Gower also reported on the current Transit Strategic Restructuring Study.
      New York State Thruway Authority
      Mr. Pericak reported major projects underway, South Grand Island Bridge Improvements, ITS Improvements along the I190 and I190 Major rehabilitation.
      New York State Department of Transportation
      Mr. Taylor reported the attention and focus of the department will be delivery of the Stimulus projects.

8. Other Business
   No other business.

9. Next Meeting
   To be announced.

10. Adjournment of Policy Meeting
    Mr. Taylor thanked the members for attending and the audience for their participation.

    Mr. Sentz moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m., seconded by Mr. Merlo, and all were in favor.
Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comment on Action Items *
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
5. Secretary's Report
6. Action Items
   A) Resolution 2009-6 TIP Amendments #8 and #9
   B) Resolution 2009-7 Amendment to Public Involvement Plan
   C) Resolution 2009-8 MOU Amendment
   D) Resolution 2009-9 ARRA Project selection process
   E) High Speed Rail Initiative Support
7. Discussion Items:
   Process:
   A) Mid-Term UPWP work status and upcoming studies
   Plans:
   A) Smart Roads Traffic Systems and Better Border Management: Tom George
      Executive Director, Niagara International Transportation Technology Coalition
   Projects:
   A) Capital Program – Stimulus projects status and TIP program
   B) Regional Agencies Initiatives Report
      Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority
      New York State Thruway Authority
      New York State Department of Transportation
      Niagara International Transportation Technology Coalition
8. Other Business
9. Next Meeting
10. Adjournment of Policy Meeting

* Up to 3 minutes per speaker please on agenda items

A Public Forum will be conducted after the meeting for general discussion of transportation issues and concerns and all are welcome to participate
A meeting of the Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC) Policy Committee was held on May 28, 2009 at the Quality Inn, Niagara Falls, New York. Alan E. Taylor, Director for Region 5 of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), opened the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

The following GBNRTC Policy Members or their representatives were present:

Alan E. Taylor  NYSDOT
Thomas Pericak  NYS Thruway Authority
Charles Sickler  Erie County
Paul Dyster  City of Niagara Falls
Peter Merlo  City of Buffalo
Robert Gower  NFTA
William Ross  Niagara County

Others present were:

Hal Morse  GBNRTC
Timothy Trabold  GBNRTC
Robert Wagner  GBNRTC
Gary Gottlieb  NYSDOT
Joe Buffamonte  NYSDOT
Peter Nixon  NYSDOT
Ron Hayes  NYSDOT
Chris Church  NYSDOT
Doug Tokarczyk  NYSTA
Kevin O’Brien  Niagara County
Thomas DeSantis  City of Niagara Falls
Ali Marzban  City of Niagara Falls
Tom George  NITTEC
Mike Laydecker  BNP
Heidi Bugenhagen  BNP
Paul Pfleuger  Watts A/E
Denise Gee  Buffalo News
Ursula Strong  Sen. Thompson
David Distant  Sen. Thompson
Z. Sadler  Sen. Thompson
Michael Gent  Voice Buffalo – TRAC
Mark Scheer  Niagara Gazette
Adam Locher  Assemblmen Gabyszak
Kathy Lenihan  Cong. Slaughter
POLICY BOARD MEETING

1. Roll Call
Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:15 am with all members present.

2. Public Comment on Action Items
Thomas Frank spoke in regards to the High Speed Rail Initiative.

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda (05/28/09)
Mr. Gower moved to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Mr. Merlo, and all were in favor.

4. Approval of GBNRTC Policy Committee Meeting Minutes (2/23/09)
Mr. Ross moved to approve the minutes of February 23, 2009, seconded by Mr. Sickler, and all were in favor.

5. Secretary’s Report
Mr. Morse reviewed correspondence received from various agencies.

6. Action Items (Resolutions)

A. Resolution 2009-6 TIP Amendments #8 and #9
This resolution amends the current TIP to add three TEP enhancement projects and one High Risk Rural Road project. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval.
Mr. Merlo moved approval of Resolution 2009-6, seconded by Mr. Sickler, and all were in favor.

B. Resolution 2009-7 Amendment to Public Involvement Plan
The GBNRRTC Public Participation Plan has been updated to reflect compliance with the SAFETEA-LU language. The plan provides guidance on public participation activities in the development of transportation plans and programs and is designed to provide complete information in a timely manner. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval.
Mr. Gower moved approval of Resolution 2009-7, seconded by Mr. Sickler, and all were in favor.

C. Resolution 2009-8 MOU Amendment
The Memorandum of Understanding, previously approved by Policy committee is being slightly revised to reflect SAFETEA-LU language to assure all parties cooperate in developing and sharing information related to the development of financial plans for the LRP and TIP. Subsequent to recommendation to adopt from PCC, the Federal Highway Administration requested that action be postponed to allow development of a coordinated approach among all MPO’s statewide. It is recommended that this Resolution be tabled at this time.
Mr. Ross moved to table Resolution 2009-8, seconded by Mr. Sickler, all were in favor.

D. Resolution 2009-9 ARRA Project Selection process
Mr. Trabold described the evolving documentation requirements for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) program and a directive that MPOs demonstrate their ARRA infrastructure investments are an appropriate use of taxpayer's dollars and meet the priority project criteria required in the bill. The GBNRTC undertook a full review of the procedures used when programming ARRA projects and prepared a resolution affirming such compliance.
Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval.
Mr. Pericak moved approval of Resolution 2009-9, seconded by Mr. Dyster, all were in favor.

E. High Speed Rail Initiative
Opportunities for further development of passenger rail services and higher speed linkages are evolving, including potential funding in current ARRA process. A support letter has been drafted for support of
initiatives to include the Buffalo Niagara region. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the letter for submittal.
All were in favor of support letter.

7. **Discussion Items**

**Process:**
A. Mid-Term UPWP work status and upcoming studies
Mr. Morse reviewed upcoming project and corridor studies in the region.

**Plans:**
A. Smart Roads Traffic Systems and Better Border Management:
Tom George of NITTEC presented the comprehensive, binational approach to traffic management including recent initiatives, being deployed through the coalition.

**Projects:**
A. Capital Program – Stimulus project status and TIP program
A report was given on the status of ARRA (stimulus) projects in the region and also on TIP projects funded through traditional sources, including the 2009 construction season.
Implications of the stimulus projects on the TIP and next steps in the process were discussed.
B. Regional Agencies Initiatives
**Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority**
Mr. Gower reported the Niagara Falls Airport Terminal Building will be having a grand opening ceremony September 2, 2009. He also noted the Transit Service Fair Study is underway and the NFTA will be purchasing 80 new Hybrid buses this year.
**New York State Thruway Authority**
Mr. Pericak reported recent data on thruway usage.
**New York State Department of Transportation**
Mr. Taylor reported the attention and focus of the department will be delivery of the Stimulus projects.

8. **Other Business**
No other business.

9. **Next Meeting**
To be announced.

10. **Adjournment of Policy Meeting**
Mr. Taylor thanked the members for attending and the audience for their participation.

*Mr. Sentz moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m., seconded by Mr. Merlo, and all were in favor.*
GREATER BUFFALO - NIAGARA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
July 28, 2009 9:00-11:00AM

438 Main Street – Sixth Floor Conference Room
Buffalo, New York 14202

Agenda (Rev 1)

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comment on Action Items *
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
5. Secretary’s Report
6. PRESENTATION: New York State High Speed Rail Opportunity and the
   Stimulus (ARRA) Project Application
7. Action Items:
   A) Resolution 2009-10 TIP Amendment #10:
      • Add two new projects to NFTA 5307 program .
   B) Resolution 2009-11 TIP Amendment #11:
      • Add $717,000 for Truck VMT/Congestion Study
      • Reduce Rt 33 Retaining Wall Replacement and Corridor Enhancements
         project by $2.775M
      • Add $2.0M total funds to evaluate feasibility and cost implications
         of covering a portion of the Kensington Expressway-Best to Delavan
      • Add $775,000 to rehabilitate Hopkins Street Bridge over Buffalo and
         Pittsburg rail line
      • Reallocate $804,650 from intermodal project at Canisius College to
         University LRRT Station at South Campus
   C) Resolution 2009-12 Highway Functional Classification Change-adding Main
      Street from Tupper to Scott as a Collector in Buffalo, New York
   D) Resolution 2009-13 GBNRTC Unified Work Program Amendment-addition of
      Value Pricing Pilot Program Grant for Truck VMT study
8. Discussion Items:
   Process:
   A) MPO Cooperative Planning Agreement
   B) Upcoming Transportation Legislation Alternatives and Issues
   Plans:
   A) Traffic Signal Improvement and Coordination Projects
   Projects:
   A) Capital Program – Stimulus projects status and TIP program
   B) Regional Agencies Initiatives Report
      Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority
      New York State Thruway Authority
      New York State Department of Transportation
9. Other Business
10. Next Meeting
11. Adjournment of Policy Meeting

* Up to 3 minutes per speaker please on agenda items

A Public Forum will be conducted after the meeting for general discussion of transportation
issues and concerns and all are welcome to participate
MINUTES OF THE JULY 28, 2009 MEETING OF THE
GREATER BUFFALO-NIAGARA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
POLICY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC) Policy Committee was held on July 28, 2009 at 438 Main Street 6th Floor, Buffalo, New York. Alan E. Taylor, Director for Region 5 of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), opened the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

The following GBNRTC Policy Members or their representatives were present:
Alan E. Taylor        NYSDOT
Thomas Pericak        NYS Thruway Authority
Charles Sickler       Erie County
Ali Marzban           City of Niagara Falls
Peter Merlo           City of Buffalo
Robert Gower          NFTA
Kevin O'Brien         Niagara County

Others present were:
Hal Morse             GBNRTC
Timothy Trabold       GBNRTC
Robert Wagner         GBNRTC
Amy Weymouth          GBNRTC
Gary Gottlieb         NYSDOT
Joe Buffamonte        NYSDOT
Doug Tokarczyk        NYSTA
Gladys Gifford        CRTC
Curt Krempa           NCI
Chris Zeltman         Rep Slaughter
Jeff Sheridan         Rep Slaughter
Gary Witulski         COB OSP
Robert Miller         Citizen
Donald Smith          Urban Eng.
Andrew Graham         TRAC
Yuri Hreshchychyryr   CTRC
Paul Pfleuger         Watts A/E
Maria Lehman          Bergmann Associates
Craig Turner          BNP
Christina Akers       Rep. Hoyt
Zachary Sadler        Sen. Thompson
Andre Scott           Shabach Realty
Jon McNutty           Sen. Ranzenhofers
Adam Locher           Assm. Gabryszak
Thomas Frank          Citizen
POLICY BOARD MEETING

1. Roll Call
Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:10 am with a quorum present.

2. Public Comment on Action Items
Gladys Gifford of CRTC spoke in regards to Light and High Speed Rail, more specifically having the Airport Corridor moved from an illustrative concept to an actual concept of GBNRTC’s planning process. Andrew Graham of TRAC read from a letter written by George Grassor. Mr. Grassor would like GBNRTC to become a pro-active voice in Land Use Change. Thomas Frank spoke in regards to the High Speed Rail Initiative.

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda (07/28/09)
Mr. O’Brien moved to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Mr. Pericak, and all were in favor.

4. Approval of GBNRTC Policy Committee Meeting Minutes (5/28/09)
Mr. Merlo moved to approve the minutes of May 28, 2009, seconded by Mr. Sickler, and all were in favor.

5. Secretary’s Report
Mr. Morse reviewed correspondence received from various agencies.

6. Presentation: NYS High Speed Rail Opportunity and the Stimulus (ARRA) Project Application – Presentation given by Mr. Don Hannon

7. Action Items (Resolutions)

A. Resolution 2009-10 TIP Amendments #10
This resolution amends the current TIP to add two new projects to NFTA 5307 program. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval. Mr. Gower moved approval of Resolution 2009-10, seconded by Mr. Sickler, and all were in favor.

B. Resolution 2009-11 TIP Amendment #11
This resolution amends the current TIP by adding two new federally funded studies, one new bridge project and adjusting the scope of work on two existing projects. These include:
- Pre-Implementation Pilot of a GPS-based Pricing System (New Study) $717,000
- Route 33; Retaining Wall Rail Replacement & Corridor Enhancement (scope/cost reduction) $11,560,000
- Study to Cover Portion of Route 33 – Best St to Delavan Avenue (New) $2,000,000
- Hopkins St over B&P RR Bridge Rehabilitation (New) $775,000
- Buffalo NY Intermodal Center Parking Facility (scope change) $804,650
Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval. Mr. Sickler moved approval of Resolution 2009-11, seconded by Mr. Merlo, and all were in favor.

C. Resolution 2009-12 Highway Functional Classification Change – Main Street Buffalo
Currently the pedestrian/rail portion of Main Street in downtown Buffalo is mostly not on the federal aid eligible street system. This resolution would reclassify Main Street from Tupper to Scott Street as a collector, therefore eligible for federal aid. Mr. Merlo moved approval of Resolution 2009-12, seconded by Mr. Sickler, all were in favor.
D. Resolution 2009-13 GBNRTC Unified Work Program Amendment
This resolution amends the current UPWP to include the scope and budget of a Federal Value Pricing Pilot Program.
Mr. Sickler moved approval of Resolution 2009-13, seconded by Mr. Merlo, all were in favor.

8. Discussion Items

Process:
A. MPO Cooperative Planning Agreement
Mr. Morse reported the agreement is currently being worked on and shall include a specific provision for cooperatively developing and sharing information related to the development of financial plans that support the MTP and TIP.

B. Upcoming Transportation Legislation Alternatives and Issues
With SAFETEA-LU expiring soon, new approaches are being considered for authorizing the federal program. Potential impacts at the MPO level were discussed.

Plans:
A. Traffic Signal Improvement and Coordination Projects
Mr. Morse discussed a few of the major signalization projects underway. He noted over fifty signalization related projects are currently in the TIP.

Projects:
A. Capital Program – Stimulus project status and TIP program
A report was given on the status of ARRA (stimulus) projects in the region and also on TIP projects funded through traditional sources, including the 2009 construction season.
B. Regional Agencies Initiatives
Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority
Mr. Gower reported on the current Transit Study noting the consultants will provide short and long term recommendations for the service and fare restructuring. He also noted a web site has been created for the public to see updates on the study as well as fill out a questionnaire. Niagara Falls Airport Terminal Building will be having a grand opening ceremony September 2, 2009.
New York State Thruway Authority
Mr. Tokarczyk reported the Thruway is working on the scope services of the Buffalo Corridor Study.
New York State Department of Transportation
Mr. Taylor reported the department is beginning the process of developing the new 5 year plan. They are also kicking off an outreach effort to local municipalities and elected officials as well as stakeholders to explain the process of developing a new 5 year plan, the expected accomplishments of the plan, current conditions and other relative issues.

9. Other Business
No other business.

10. Next Meeting
To be announced.

11. Adjournment of Policy Meeting
Mr. Taylor thanked the members for attending and the audience for their participation.

Mr. O’Brien moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m., seconded by Mr. Tokarczyk, and all were in favor.
Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comment on Action Items *
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
5. Secretary’s Report
6. Welcome to the New NFIA Terminal
7. Action Items:
   A) Resolution 2009-17/TIP Amendment #15: TIGER Discretionary Grant Application Support – TIP Illustrative Listing Endorsement
   B) Resolution 2009-18: Addition of Two RR Safety Projects to Current TIP
   C) Resolution 2009-19: Affirmation of Vision, Goals, Objectives 2035 Plan Update
   D) Resolution 2009-20: Approval of Demographic Distributions for 2035 Plan Update
   F) Resolution 2009-22: Approval of MPO Cooperative Planning Agreement
   G) Resolution 2009-23: Approval LRP/TIP Conformity-Williamsville Toll Barrier

8. Discussion Items:
   Process:
   Federal Transportation Legislation Status and Issues
   Plans:
   Niagara to GTA Corridor and BiNational Implications
   Projects:
   A) Capital Program – Summary of 2009 Project Delivery
   B) Regional Agencies Initiatives Report
      Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority
      New York State Thruway Authority
      New York State Department of Transportation
      Niagara International Transportation Technology Coalition

5. Other Business
6. Next Meeting
7. Adjournment of Policy Meeting

* Up to 3 minutes per speaker please on agenda items

A Public Forum will be conducted after the meeting for general discussion of transportation issues and concerns and all are welcome to participate
MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 15, 2009 MEETING OF THE
GREATER BUFFALO-NIAGARA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
POLICY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC) Policy Committee was held on December 15, 2009 at the Niagara Falls New Terminal Building, Niagara Falls, New York. Gary Gottlieb of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), opened the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

The following GBNRTC Policy Members or their representatives were present:
Gary Gottlieb NYSDOT
Doug Tokarczyk NYS Thruway Authority
Charles Sickler Erie County
Mayor Paul Dyster City of Niagara Falls
Peter Merlo City of Buffalo
Robert Gower NFTA
Kevin O'Brien Niagara County

Others present were:
Hal Morse GBNRTC
Timothy Trabold GBNRTC
Robert Wagner GBNRTC
Amy Weymouth GBNRTC
Tom George NITTEC
Paul Gavin NYSDOT
Joe Buffamonte NYSDOT
Mike Leydecker BNP
Gladys Gifford CRTC
Edward Stachura TVGA/Fair Exec Comm.
Kelly Thompson Bergmann Assoc.
William Geiben Village of Lewiston
Denise Gee Buffalo News
Thomas Frank Citizen

POLICY BOARD MEETING

1. Roll Call
Mr. Gottlieb called the meeting to order at 9:10 am with a quorum present.

2. Public Comment on Action Items
Thomas Frank spoke about the Williamsville Toll Barrier

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda (12/15/09)
Mr. O'Brien moved to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Mr. Dyster, and all were in favor.

4. Approval of GBNRTC Policy Committee Meeting Minutes (7/28/09)
Mr. Merlo moved to approve the minutes of July 28, 2009, seconded by Mr. Sickler, and all were in favor.

5. Secretary's Report
Mr. Morse reviewed correspondence received from various agencies.
6. **Action Items (Resolutions)**

A. **Resolution 2009-17 TIP Amendment #15 TIGER Discretionary Grant Application Support – TIP Illustrative Endorsement**
   This resolution amends the current TIP by adding these projects as “illustrative” meaning the projects would be added to the committed list only if they are selected by USDOT for grant award. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval.

B. **Resolution 2009-18 Addition of Two RR Safety Project to Current TIP**
   The two new RR Crossing Improvement projects being proposed are in the Towns of Hamburg and Eden. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval.

C. **Resolution 2009-19 Affirmation of Vision, Goals, Objectives 2035 Plan Update**
   The Metropolitan Transportation Plan Vision, Goals and Objectives are consistent with the current 2030 Plan. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval.

D. **Resolution 2009-20 Approval of Demographic Distributions for 2035 Plan Update**
   The demographic forecasts for the 2035 update were recommended to be kept the same as 2030 by the Planning and Coordination Committee.

   As a result of the last certification review, GBNRTC was requested to update the draft CMP and approve. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval.

F. **Resolution 2009-22 Approval of MPO Cooperative Planning Agreement**
   The agreement is a SAFETEA-LU requirement being requested by all of the MPO’s in NYS this year. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval.

G. **Resolution 2009-23 Approval LRP/TIP Conformity-Williamsville Toll Barrier**
   The Williamsville Toll Barrier is now being included in the air quality conformity analysis for the TIP and LRP at a specific location, not previously available. Planning and Coordinating Committee has recommended the resolution for approval.

*Mr. Merlo moved to approve all resolutions, seconded by Mr. Gower, all were in favor.*

8. **Discussion Items**

**Process:**
**Federal Transportation Legislation Status and Issues**
Mr. Morse reported authorizing legislation for federal transportation programs continues to be in the development and approval stage.

**Plans:**
**Niagara to GTA Corridor and Bi-National Implications**
Mr. Morse discussed the major initiative in nearby Ontario for transportation improvements in the Niagara to Greater Toronto Area. Bi-National implications of current proposals were discussed.

**Projects:**
A. **Capital Program – Summary of 2009 Project Delivery**
   A report was given on the status of ARRA (stimulus) projects in the region and also on TIP projects funded through traditional sources, including the 2009 construction season.

B. **Regional Agencies Initiatives**
   **Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority**
   Mr. Gower welcomed everyone to the New Niagara Falls Airport noting the first flight will be on December 18, 2009. NFTA is expecting delivery of the first newly rebuilt rail cars, the two cars are expected to be in
service the spring of 2010. Also the new budget being considered for the NFTA’s upcoming fiscal year does not included any fare increases or significant service cuts.

New York State Thruway Authority
Mr. Tokarczyk wanted to thank Hal Morse and staff for their efforts in getting the Air Quality Conformity Study on Williamsville Toll Barrier completed.

New York State Department of Transportation
Mr. Gottlieb reported Region 5 has obligated all of the Stimulus funding for the area and wanted to thank all the agencies for their assistance and cooperation.

NITTEC
Mr. George reported since 11/4/09 expressways in this region have been closed for 100 hours, all the closures were either weather or incident related. He also expressed the importance of continued collaboration with all agencies involved. Mr. George also reviewed a new program NITTEC rolled out in November. It’s called MYNITTEC and it provides up to the minute travel information for an individual regarding any segment of highway or any time of day.

9. Other Business
No other business.

10. Next Meeting
To be announced.

11. Adjournment of Policy Meeting
Mr. Gottlieb thanked the members for attending and the audience for their participation.

   Mr. Merlo moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m., seconded by Mr. Tokarczyk, and all were in favor.