

**GREATER BUFFALO - NIAGARA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**June 13, 2011 10 AM – 12 PM
New York State Department of Transportation
100 Seneca Street, Buffalo, NY.
Buffalo Room**

Proposed 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 2011-5: Recommend Approval of FY09 JARC, FY09 New Freedom projects and FY11 §5307 Program Realignment
 - B) Resolution 2011-6: Recommend Approval of I-90 Exit 49@Route 78: Park-n-Ride Improvements
 - C) Resolution 2011-8 GBNRTC Planning Self-Certification Report
7. Discussion Items:
 - Plans:**
 - A) TIP and LRP Issues and Development
 - B) Final Report – Value Pricing – Truck VMT
 - Process:**
 - A) Simulation Technology Demonstration
 - B) Regional Signal Systems – Initial Results and Next Steps
 - C) Emerging Legislation and Finance Issues
 - Projects:**
 - A) Recent Proposals in the Region – TCSP and Upcoming Livability
 - B) Capital Program – 2011 Construction Outlook
 - 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 three minutes per speaker on agenda items please

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 13, 2011 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 June 13, 2011 at the New York State Department of Transportation.

The following GBNRTC Policy representatives were present:

Darrell Kaminski	NYS DOT
Tom Pericak	NYS Thruway Authority
Gerard Sentz	Erie County
Mayor Dyster	City of Niagara Falls
Peter Merlo	City of Buffalo
Tom George	NFTA
Kevin O'Brien	Niagara County

Others present were:

Hal Morse	GBNRTC
Tim Trabold	GBNRTC
Amy Weymouth	GBNRTC
Rich Guarino	GBNRTC
Steve Szopinski	GBNRTC
Mike Davis	GBNRTC
Athena Hutchins	NITTEC
Ramsey Kahi	NYS DOT
Joe Buffamonte	NYS DOT
Paul Gavin	NYS DOT
Tom Romono	NYS DOT
Dipak Shasti	NYS DOT
Tom DeSantis	City of Niagara Falls
Charlie Sickler	Erie County
Seth Piccirillo	NFTA
Jody Clark	SNI
Bill Smith	BNMC
Joelle Guy	Town of Amherst
Dan Howard	Town of Amherst
Mark Lee	EC Environ/Plng
Mike Small	CSDD
Brian Moore	Bergmann
Chris Austin	VB
Sheila Ransbottom	Fisher Assoc.
Donny Kolb	Ecology and Environment

POLICY BOARD MEETING

1. Roll Call

Mr. Kaminski called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM with all members represented.

2. Public Comment on Action Items

Members of the public were afforded an opportunity to speak publicly on the action items before the Council. Further opportunity to introduce issues of regional concern was provided and several attendees highlighted emerging and pertinent topics.

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda (6/13/11)

Mr. O'Brien moved to approve the meeting agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Pericak and all were in favor.

4. Approval of GBNRTC Policy Committee Meeting Minutes (12/10/10)

Mr. Sentz moved to approve the minutes of December 10, 2010, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, and all were in favor.

5. Secretary's Report

Mr. Morse reviewed correspondence received from various agencies.

6. Action Items (Resolutions)

A. Resolution 2011-5 FFY 2009 Sec. 5317 New Freedom Projects; FFY09 sec. 5316 Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) Projects

Mr. Merlo, seconded by Mr. Sentz to approve the resolution, all were in favor.

B. Resolution 2011-6 I-90 Exit 49 @ Rt. 78 Park-n-Ride Improvements

Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Merlo to approve the resolution to add projects to the current TIP as described. All were in favor.

C. Resolution 2011-8 GBNRTC Planning Self-Certification Report

Mr. Sentz, second by Mr. Merlo, all were in favor.

D. Resolution 2011-9 Sno-Seekers Trail Grooming Equipment and Point of Meadow Gateway Enhancement Project

Mr. Dyster, second by Mr. George, all were in favor.

7. Discussion Items

Plans:

A) TIP and LRP Issues and Development – an initial look at the new TIP and issues concerning program size and revenue stream were discussed.

B) Final Report – Value Pricing Truck VMT

Staff reviewed findings from the recently completed Value Pricing Study.

Process:

A) Simulation Technology Demonstration

The regional simulation framework continues to develop, staff demonstrated some recent utilization of the technology and highlighted use in upcoming studies.

B) Regional Signal Systems – Initial results and next steps.

Performance results from the initial corridor signal timing upgrades were presented as well as some of the next steps in the regional coordination.

C) Emerging Legislation and Finance Issues

Mr. Morse presented various SAFETEA-LU successor bills and various concepts that have been emerging.

Projects:

A) Recent Proposals in the Region – TCSP and Upcoming Livability

GBNRTC staff provided a report on recent application submittals and possible upcoming opportunities.

B) Capital Program - 2011 Construction

GBNRTC staff provided a comprehensive look at the 2011 construction season.

C) Regional Agencies Initiatives Report

All agencies reported on their current 2011 capital projects.

9. Other Business

No other business was noted at this time.

10. Next Meeting

Next meeting would be in the City of Niagara Falls in December 2011; a specific date will be announced.

11. Adjournment of Policy Meeting

Mr. Kaminski thanked the members for attending and the audience for their participation.

Mr. Sentz moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m., seconded by Mr. Merlo, and all were in favor.

**GREATER BUFFALO - NIAGARA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**December 12, 2011 10 AM – 12 PM
The Conference Center Niagara Falls
101 Old Falls St, Niagara Falls, NY 14303**

Proposed Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comment on Action Items *
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
5. Secretary's Report

Presentation: Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus Development and Regional Implications

6. Action Items
 - A) TIP Amendment to add four new projects – Resolution 2011-12
 - B) Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan – Resolution 2011-13
 - C) Revised Public Participation Plan – Resolution 2011-14
 - D) Reaffirmation of Memorandum of Understanding – Resolution 2011-15
 - E) UPWP Amendment: FTA funding change, AA Grant – Resolution 2011-16
 - F) Resolution on Transportation Finance – Resolution 2011-17
7. Discussion Items:
 - Plans:**
 - A) Metro Transportation Plan development and issues
 - B) Moving toward the next Transportation Improvement Program
 - C) BiNational Transportation Planning Initiatives
 - D) Regional Economic Development Councils – results
 - E) Buffalo Niagara Partnership: Regional Agenda
 - F) Transportation Regional Advisory Coalition: Regional Agenda
 - Process:**
 - A) I90/I290 Traffic Simulation Model
 - B) Emerging Legislation and Finance Issues
 - Projects:**
 - A) Capital Program – 2011 Construction Review
 - 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/Adjournment of Policy Meeting

Post Meeting: Members and Public are welcome to remain for informal discussion on issues

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 12, 2011 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 12, 2011 at the Conference Center in Niagara Falls.

The following GBNRTC Policy representatives were present:

Ramsey Kahi	NYSDOT
Tom Pericak	NYS Thruway Authority
Charles Sickler	Erie County
Mayor Paul Dyster	City of Niagara Falls
Peter Merlo	City of Buffalo
Seth Piccirillo	NFTA
William Ross	Niagara County

Others present were:

Hal Morse	GBNRTC
Tim Trabold	GBNRTC
Amy Weymouth	GBNRTC
Rich Guarino	GBNRTC
Steve Szopinski	GBNRTC
Kelly Dixon	GBNRTC
Athena Hutchins	NITTEC
Kevin O'Brien	Niagara County
Doug Tokarczyk	NYSTA
Jody Clark	SNI
Michael Ball	BNMC
Bill Smith	BNMC
Kelly Thompson	Bergmann Assoc.
Gladys Gifford	CRTC
Pat Whalen	BNMC
Dan Skulicz	CTE
Adam Locher	Assm. Gabryszak
Sheila Ransbottom	Fisher Assoc.
Gary Gottlieb	Resident
Bonnie Kane Lockwood	Rep. Higgins
Chris Fahey	Rep. Higgins
Andrew Graham	VOICE/TRAC
Marybeth Iwanski	People Inc.
Concetta Ferguson	People Inc
Chris Lelonek	We Care
Mary Cooke	Town of Grand Island
Craig Turner	BNP
Betty Cheteny	Roswell Park
Mark Lee	EC Environ/Planning
Thomas Frank	Citizen

POLICY BOARD MEETING

1. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM with all members represented. Mayor Paul Dyster welcomed attendees to the City of Niagara Falls and noted that Senator Schumer would be present at 1PM for an announcement regarding Robert Moses Parkway.

2. Public Comment on Action Items

Members of the public were afforded an opportunity to speak publicly on the action items before the Council. Further opportunity to introduce issues of regional concern was provided and several attendees highlighted emerging and pertinent topics. Thomas Frank discussed BiNational issues as they related to regional planning.

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda (12/12/11)

Mr. Pericak moved to approve the meeting agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Piccirillo and all were in favor.

4. Approval of GBNRTC Policy Committee Meeting Minutes (6/13/2011)

Mr. Piccirillo moved to approve the minutes of June 13, 2011, seconded by Mr. Dyster, and all were in favor.

5. Secretary's Report

Mr. Morse reviewed correspondence received from various agencies.

Special Presentation

At this point, Pat Whalen, COO of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus provided an in depth presentation relative to growth and development of the Campus. Consolidation of health care facilities, expansion of UB Medical School, related private development and associated factors are contributing to significant job growth and regional impact. Transportation impacts were further discussed, both immediate and longer term, assistance from the MPO was welcome.

6. Action Items (Resolutions)

A. Resolution 2011-12 Addition of Four New Federally Funded Projects

These projects included:

- Ohio Street Project inclusion by ECHDC
- Niagara Street Corridor – Bus Livability Project
- Alternatives Analysis Project
- Tonawanda Delaware Street pedestrian mobility

Mr. Dyster, seconded by Mr. Piccirillo to approve the resolution, all were in favor.

B. Resolution 2011-13 Human Services Transportation Plan Update

An extensive outreach program had been completed to update the HSTP and the public comment period has been completed. The document was ready for approval.

Mr. Sickler, seconded by Mr. Kahi to approve the resolution, all were in favor.

C. Resolution 2011-14 Public Participation Plan

The Public Participation Plan was being revised and included minor updates to reflect more contemporary approaches to outreach and communications. Public review had been completed and the Plan is ready for approval.

Mr. Ross, second by Mr. Piccirillo to approve, all were in favor.

D. Resolution 2011-15 Memorandum of Understanding

The annual Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), where all members agree to work together as the Metropolitan Planning Organization, remained unchanged this year. Action was to approve the resolution and sign the MOU document.

Mr. Sickler, second by Mr. Merlo to approve, all were in favor.

E. Resolution 2011-16 UPWP 2010 – 2012 Amendment

A revised funding profile of \$1255 less FTA funds necessitated a UPWP Amendment. The Alternatives Analysis scope for work in the region as recently approved through FTA will also be added to the current work program.

Mr. Dyster, seconded by Mr. Sickler to approve the resolution, all were in favor.

F. Resolution 2011-17 Transportation Finance

Issues of importance to the region have been discussed in recent months. The compilation included with the resolution reflects these and would be submitted for consideration in evolving federal legislation. These have been presented for discussion at PCC previously and are recommended for approval at the Policy Committee, with one PCC member abstaining.

Based on further discussion, there was a motion: *Mr. Kahi, seconded by Mr. Sickler to table the resolution. All were in favor.*

7. Discussion Items:

Plans

A) Metro Transportation Plan development and issues. Staff presented initial scope and progress toward development of a comprehensive, new transportation plan for 2050.

B) Moving toward the next Transportation Improvement Program. Subsequent to recent funding reductions and TIP amendments, a strategy to develop a new TIP to keep momentum going on existing projects had been assembled. Staff reviewed the concept and regular TIP Working Group meetings would keep the process on schedule.

C) BiNational Transportation Planning Initiatives. Results of several recent BiNational meetings and coordinated initiatives were presented as well as next steps in cross border planning. The Beyond the Borders initiatives were also discussed.

D) Regional Economic Development Councils. Results of the plan recently developed and successfully presented were summarized and discussed by Craig Turner of the Buffalo Niagara Partnership (BNP).

E) Buffalo Niagara Partnership: Regional Agenda. BNP also presented their Regional Agenda as recently released for information and integration with MPO efforts.

F) Transportation Regional Advisory Coalition: Regional Agenda. Andy Graham, representing the TRAC Regional Advisory Group, presented their consolidated TRAC Regional Agenda.

Process:

A) I90/I290 Traffic Simulation Model. A major milestone was nearing completion in developing advanced simulation capabilities in metro corridors. Staff explained status of Microsimulation models calibration and show some results in the I-90 and I-290 corridors. These models will be used in studies underway in the region.

B) Emerging Legislation and Finance Issues. Several legislative drafts at the federal level outline funding levels and significant programmatic realignment that would affect our region. Staff summarized for discussion and implications for the regional program.

Projects:

A) Capital Program - 2011 Construction: GBNRTC staff provided a comprehensive look at the 2011 construction season and projects completed and underway.

B) Regional Agencies Initiatives Report: Initiatives for information by the major agencies providing regional transportation services were reported, especially major projects and their status.

9. Other Business

No other business was noted at this time.

10. Next Meeting

Next meeting would be in the City of Buffalo in June 2012; a specific date will be announced.

11. Adjournment of Policy Meeting

Mr. Sickler moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m., seconded by Mr. Piccirillo, and all were in favor.