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
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  NYSDOT
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  NYSDOT
Joe Buffamonte  NYSDOT
Paul Gavin  NYSDOT
Tom Romono  NYSDOT
Dipak Shasti  NYSDOT
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.
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) I90/1290 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
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.