Bruce Schaller, Principal of Schaller Consulting, offered a presentation at the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) on how the expansion of app-based ride services such as Uber and Lyft are impacting New York’s regional transportation system. For the presentation’s summary, please click here.

NYMTC HOSTS PRESENTATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL PROGRAM FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

As part of the September 11th Memorial Program for Regional Transportation Planning, the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) hosted a brown bag discussion that included presentations from Bahman Moghimi and Patricio Vicuna – two exceptional students who served as NYMTC’s participants for the 2016-2017 academic year. For the meeting’s summary, please click here.

NYMTC Council Members:
- Cathy Calhoun, NYMTC Co-Chair and Acting Commissioner of New York State Department of Transportation
- MaryEllen Odell, Putnam County Executive and NYMTC Co-Chair
- Polly Trottenberg, Commissioner of New York City Department of Transportation
- Marisa Lago, Director of New York City Department of City Planning
- Joseph J. Lhota, Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s Chairman
- Edward P. Mangano, Nassau County Executive
- Ed Day, Rockland County Executive
- Steve Bellone, Suffolk County Executive
- Robert Astorino, Westchester County Executive
NYMTC PROGRAM, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE HEARS PRESENTATION ON URBAN MOBILITY PLAYBOOK

Resolutions adopted for Federal Transit Funding and Unified Planning Work Program

NEW YORK - During its September 28 meeting, members of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council’s (NYMTC) Program, Finance, and Administration Committee (PFAC) heard a special presentation from Kamran Saddique, founder and executive director of the City Innovate Foundation.

The presentation discussed how the City Innovate Foundation is utilizing open innovation and data – through its Urban Mobility Playbook and Collider Program – to help transportation officials, city agencies and public sector leaders to identify transportation and mobility challenges.

“In NYMTC’s planning region, forecasts tell us that our overall population in New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley will grow, adding additional strain on our transportation system. This includes expectations for more public transportation ridership and more congestion on our roadways,” said NYMTC Executive Director José M. Rivera. “From a regional planning perspective, we must think outside-the-box when it comes to exploring emerging technology, accepting innovation, understanding currently available data and adapting to new trends to better plan for the future.”

“As regions continue to cope with their changing transportation needs, especially in the New York metropolitan area, I am excited to hear more about how the City Innovate Foundation is improving urban mobility through collaboration amongst the public and private sector,” NYMTC Executive Director Rivera continued.

In addressing PFAC members and the public, Mr. Saddique said that the public, private, academic and nonprofit sectors range transportation planning goals. “Technology and data are going to help us make better informed decisions, but that’s not enough; we need to change the way we think and work,” he added.

While explaining that City Innovate’s Collider Program is helping to collaboratively identify issues in Florida’s Miami-Dade County and San Francisco, Mr. Saddique said that the Collider Program is a six month, eight workshop program that is to include at least 15 public and private stakeholders. Some prior private partners have included Microsoft, Cubic Transportation Systems, Lyft and MasterCard.

“These data are locked in boxes and in silos,” Mr. Saddique highlighted, as he noted how data and information is discovered, documented and shared through the Collider Program.

The result of the Collider Program is to find solutions and best practices that are then recorded in its Urban Mobility Playbook, which documents lessons learned that include relevant data, collaborative ideas and information from both public and private sectors that can help address regional transportation challenges. “Cities trust other cities in learning about best practices,” he added.

Click here to download the presentation: City Innovate Foundation - Helping cities solve challenges with open innovation & data

In other action items, PFAC members adopted various resolutions, which included:

- Amendments to distribution of the October 2016 through April 2017 portion of Federal Transit Funding; and
- Amendments to the State Fiscal Years (SFYs) 2017-2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Additional photos are available on NYMTC’s Flickr Page

NYMTC Advisory Members:
- Rick Cotton, Executive Director of Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
- Steven H. Santoro, Executive Director of New Jersey Transit
- Mary K. Murphy, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority Executive Director
- Basil Seggos, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner
- Stephen Goodman, Regional Administrator of Federal Transit Administration - Region 2
- Peter Osborn, Division Administrator of Federal Highway Administration - NYS Division
- Catherine McCabe, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Acting Regional Administrator
NYMTC REPORT: TRANSPORTATION USAGE KEEPS PACE WITH RECORD SURGE IN POPULATION, EMPLOYMENT

NEW YORK - Public transit ridership, use of ferries and the sheer number of vehicles crossing New York's waterways blew past prior heights, according to new data from the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC).

“We have seen record growth in the New York metropolitan area and it comes as no surprise that more people are relying on our transportation network to get to where they need to go,” said NYMTC Executive Director José M. Rivera. “NYMTC is pleased to offer its Regional Transportation Statistical Report, which serves as a brief picture of how our massive transportation system is handling all those that live and commute within our very connected region.”

NYMTC’s new report highlights growth for employment (1.51%) and population (0.56%) for New York, New Jersey and Connecticut in 2015 (see Figure 1). For New York City alone, population increases ballooned to approximately 8.4 million, which was higher than any other year over the past decade. Similarly, for the multi-state metropolitan area, population figures reached nearly 21.1 million in 2015. All the while, the unemployment rate dipped to 8.1%, according to the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS) - the lowest unemployment rate for the region since the Great Recession.

However, the Regional Transportation Statistical Report does highlight public transit trips decreased by 1.74% in 2015 following a record high ridership year in 2014. At that time, approximately 2.8 billion unlinked passenger trips were taken on the subway and 184.5 million trips were reported on the Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s (MTA) Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North Railroad – a bellwether year that surpassed the prior decade. When looking further into the data, the MTA reported increases in overall ridership to 1.76 billion for New York City Transit in 2015.

Also, millions of more people turned to our trusted waterways to get around daily. Unlinked passenger trips for the Staten Island Ferry – run by the New York City Department of Transportation – and private ferries showed a continued uptick in usage in New York and New Jersey in 2015. Specifically, there were nearly 1.6 million more trips reported on the Staten Island Ferry and private ferries in 2015, with each service reporting an 800,000 increase in annual unlinked passenger trips when compared to the prior year.

Over the same period, overall traffic volume for bridge and tunnel crossings increased by nearly 2% in 2015 in the multi-state metropolitan region. One reason for this may be the reported historical surge in new registered motor vehicles in New York’s study counties to nearly 5.9 million, indicating that 90% of these registrations were registered for personal use in 2015.

The Regional Transportation Statistical Report includes key statistics, which serve as a report card on the overall region’s performance toward achieving the mobility and safety goals outlined in NYMTC’s Regional Transportation Plan. Recently, NYMTC adopted Plan 2045, its current Regional Transportation Plan, where numerous projections are utilized to effectively plan for the transportation system. NYMTC uses the New York Best Practice Model (NYBPM), a travel demand forecasting model that helps with transportation planning.

For more information, please view the Regional Transportation Statistical Report here.
Dear NYMTC Stakeholder:

October is International Walk to School Month. The goal of long-range transportation planning is to ensure those that use our transportation system are offered safe and efficient service for the future – whether that is on our streets or on public transportation. For NYMTC, our mission is to serve as a platform for collaborative discussion on transportation-related issues from a regional perspective and focus collective planning activities of its members to achieve a shared regional vision.

Safety is the focus of every planning discussion and is a leading element within Plan 2045 – our current Regional Transportation Plan. Also, our recently released Regional Transportation Statistical Report includes key statistics, which serve as a report card on our region’s performance toward achieving mobility and safety goals.

The New York City Department of Transportation (NYMTC Member) regularly leads efforts to better inform students of all ages and provide schools with teaching materials related to pedestrian safety. As a part of NYC DOT’s Vision Zero initiative, its “We’re Walking Here” program invites students to discuss ways to change our behavior on the streets in order to lower traffic fatalities and injuries. NYC DOT offers incentives and has hundreds of New York City classes already registered for the program.

Also, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYMTC Member) highlights that the goal of the Safe Routes to School program is to assist New York communities in developing and implementing projects and programs that encourage walking and bicycling to school while enhancing overall safety. Other similar programs that aim to encourage traffic safety and accident prevention have been offered in New York City and Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland, Putnam and Westchester Counties.

I look forward to us all working together to increase overall safety within our regional transportation system.

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley, NYMTC always wants to hear from you, which is why we have made it easier for you to get in contact with us. If you have a question, comment or a tip for NYMTC, contact us here or message us directly on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube and Flickr.

Sincerely,

José M. Rivera, P.E., Executive Director
New York Metropolitan Transportation Council

NYMTC’s Language Access Program is now available to provide a more inclusive planning process and further enhance NYMTC’s public involvement efforts to increase access to information. The 2010 Census identifies a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) population of roughly 2.2 million people in the NYMTC planning area, with just over 70% of the total LEP population speaks one of three languages – Spanish, Chinese and Russian. These three languages are considered as primary LEP languages in NYMTC’s planning area. For more information on the program and how to access services, go to https://www.nymtc.org/Get-Involved/Language-Access-Program.

Spanish: Para ver los documentos traducidos, vaya a https://www.nymtc.org
Chinese-Simplified: 查看已翻译文件访问 https://www.nymtc.org
Chinese-Traditional: 查看已翻譯文件訪問 https://www.nymtc.org
Russian: Переведенные документы можно получить по адресу https://www.nymtc.org

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) is a regional council of governments that is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the 5 boroughs of New York City, plus Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Putnam and Rockland counties.