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NYMTC Program, Finance and Administration Committee Hears City Innovate Foundation 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 need to “build a data collaborative” in order to achieve long-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 goal of the Collider Program is to find solutions and best practices that are then recorded in its Urban Mobility Playbook. The Playbook documents lessons learned that include relevant data, collaborative ideas and information from both public and private sectors that can help to 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).

The next PFAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16 at 12:15 p.m.

Additional photos are available on NYMTC’s Flickr Page.

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) is a regional council of governments that is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley. NYMTC provides a collaborative planning forum to address transportation-related issues, develop regional plans and make decisions on the use of federal transportation funds for its planning area. NYMTC is comprised of nine voting members and seven advisory members who develop plans, goals and a shared vision for the region's transportation network, which includes a planning area that covers 2,440 square miles and includes a population of 12.4 million, which was approximately 64% of New York State's population, based on the 2010 Census.