Mid–Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee
(unapproved) Executive Meeting Synopsis
Thursday, August 22, 2019
Westchester County Center, White Plains, New York

MEETING ATTENDEES
Naomi Klein, Westchester County Department of Public Works and Transportation
Lance MacMillan, New York State Department of Transportation – Region 8
Oluseye Folarin, Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Lizy Philip, New York State Thruway Authority
Sandra Fusco, Putnam County Department of Planning
Pat Gerdin, Rockland County Planning Department
Olayinka Alamu, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
Ali Mohseni, Mid–Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee
Gerry Bogacz, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
Stephen Courage, Westchester County Department of Public Works and Transportation
David Drits, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
Melissa Everett, Sustainable Hudson Valley
Nicole Farmer, New York State Department of Transportation
Angelina Foster, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
Fidel Garcia, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
Sandra Jobson, New York State Department of Transportation
Daniel Johnson, Mid–Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee
Craig Lader, Westchester County Department of Public Works and Transportation
David Lake, Mid–Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee
Andrea Miles–Cole, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
Robert Mortell, Mid–Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee
John Pilner, Putnam County Department of Planning

PUBLIC ATTENDEES
Morgen Fleisig, Trustee, Village of Hastings–on–Hudson
Ken Zebrowski, Assemblyman, State of New York, 96th District
1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**: Lance MacMillan, Regional Director for the New York State Department of Transportation, Region 8, and Secretary for the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee (MHSTCC), opened the meeting at 10:06 a.m. and began with the roll call and introductions. Mr. MacMillan confirmed receipt of the required signed proxy letters from the Principals, and that a quorum of voting members was present.

2. **Opening Remarks**: Naomi Klein, Director of Planning, Westchester County Department of Public Works and Transportation, representing Westchester County Executive George Latimer, Chair for the MHSTCC, welcomed attendees to the meeting and to Westchester County. Ms. Klein informed the attendees that the meeting was being offered as a webinar and would be archived and available through the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) website.

3. **Presentation on TCC Activities**: “Electric Vehicles: Under the Hood and in the Marketplace”: Ms. Klein introduced Melissa Everett, Ph.D., Executive Director, Sustainable Hudson Valley to discuss electric vehicles and the work Drive Electric Hudson Valley has done in conjunction with MHSTCC and other groups to educate local municipalities, school districts, dealers, and the public. The presentation covered the many benefits of migrating to hybrid and all-electric vehicles, and key considerations when making the switch, as well as options for charging stations.

   Following the presentation there were questions about charging the vehicles. It was explained that even a typical home outlet can be used to recharge, though it will take a very long time, typically overnight. Other residential and commercial options are available to recharge more quickly. A different kind of planning is required when owning an electric vehicle, and there are apps to assist with this planning.

4. **Development of the Federal Fiscal Years (FFYs) 2020–2024 Transportation Improvement Program**: Ms. Klein introduced Ali Mohseni, Staff Director, MHSTCC, to provide an overview of the development of the FFYs 2020–2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Mohseni provided an overview of NYMTC, the planning process, and the role of the TIP in the planning process. He covered the types of projects included in the TIP, the TIP development cycle, and the transition from the current to the proposed TIP. The types of federal funding were discussed, as well as the assumptions used to develop the proposed TIP and how the funding is distributed. The total proposed programmed funding for NYMTC is $21.6 billion, of which $2.749 billion is included for projects in the MHSTCC listing. Mr. Mohseni described how to view the projects on the
NYMTC website either through the project visualization capability or through the TIP documentation. He concluded by discussing the remaining steps and process to adopt the proposed TIP.

5 **Highlights of the Mid-Hudson South Project Listings:** This agenda item was covered after the next item, “Public Participation”. Ms. Klein asked each of the members to provide a brief overview of their respective projects.

Lance MacMillan shared the project plans for NYSDOT. They plan to spend $145 million repaving highways in the Hudson Valley during the years covered by the TIP. They will also be focusing on the bridge system.

Sandra Fusco, Putnam County’s representative, invited John Pilner to speak about the projects in Putnam County. Mr. Pilner discussed their featured project, completion of the Putnam Bikeway in Putnam County. The project goes back 20 years. They have been progressing it in segments as funding became available. They are now at the end of the corridor as it was originally envisioned. There are two small projects with a planned completion of December 2020 that will complete the bikeway. They are coordinating with the Empire State Trail and the Maybrook Trailway being constructed in Putnam County and Dutchess County by Metro-North Railroad. The Maybrook Trailway also has a completion date of December 2020, so at that time the corridor will be complete from New York City through Westchester County, through Putnam County, and into Dutchess County to Poughkeepsie and across the Hudson River on the old railroad bridge, Walkway Over the Hudson. Once completed, they expect this alternative transportation facility to become a primary transportation facility for the public for many years to come.

Pat Gerdin, representing Rockland County, discussed that Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding will be used for replacement of their paratransit buses and TOR buses. They will be getting new ITS systems to better serve bus passengers. Highway funds will be used for county bridge replacement.

Oluseye Folarin, representing the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), stated that the MTA capital program for 2020–2024 was currently being developed. Once the capital program has been developed, the MTA will come back to NYMTC to have the funding applied to individual projects.

Lizy Philip, representing the New York State Thruway Authority, discussed the program for the NYS Thruway.
Naomi Klein spoke last, explaining that Westchester County had included projects to replace their 30-foot and 40-foot buses and paratransit vehicles that had reached the end of their useful life. Tying back to Melissa Everett's earlier presentation, Ms. Klein noted that the county was looking to incorporate electric vehicles into their fleet. Other projects in Westchester County include updating the bus locator system and keeping the roads and bridges in a state of good repair.

Ms. Klein asked if there were any questions from the members and audience for any of the speakers. There were no questions.

6 Public Participation: Ms. Klein opened the Public Participation period by stating that the main public review period was held from June 24, 2019 through July 23, 2019, but that comments were still being accepted up to and during this Executive Meeting. All comments received up through August 21, 2019, and the responses to those comments, were available at the sign–in table. No additional comments related to the Mid–Hudson South portion of the FFYs 2020–2024 TIP were received after the above comments and responses document was produced.

Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski, New York State Assembly District 96, was the only registered speaker. The assemblyman had provided written comments, included in the document available at the sign–in table, and wished to further emphasize one item that continues to frustrate Rockland County residents. He discussed how the Palisades Interstate Parkway is the major north–south corridor through Rockland County. Although the parkway was originally designed for people to visit parks, it has become a major commuter thoroughfare. There was a project back around 1999 or 2000 where there was a major rehabilitation, that included extending on and off ramps and providing shoulders, recognizing the major commuter highway the parkway had become. This project extended from the New York – New Jersey border up through exit 10. There was a plan, at that time in 2000, to continue this rehabilitation through the rest of the corridor up to the Bear Mountain circle within the next few years. That second project never happened. Costs for that second project continue to escalate as time goes on. Assemblyman Zebrowski said that he would really like us to come to a global estimate of when this second project will make it onto an agenda, and specifically when it will appear on the TIP. He confirmed that based on complaints, some repaving has been completed. First, repaving was completed from the bookstore to the Bear Mountain circle, and then from exit 13 to the bookstore. The next repaving project is supposed to be from the New York – New Jersey border up to exit 10. Exit 10 to 13 has never been repaved. While the rest of the parkway will have been either repaved or rehabilitated and repaved, this stretch of road between exits 10 and 13 has received no attention. The residents are frustrated by
this lack of attention. While he advocates for full rehabilitation and that remains his top global priority, he recognizes more planning would likely be required before adding it to the TIP. His second priority though is to get that section of highway between exits 10 and 13 addressed since that section has never had any work done.

There were no other speakers.

7a Action Item – Accept: July 27, 2016 Meeting Synopsis: A synopsis of the last Executive Meeting on July 27, 2016 was included in the meeting package. A motion to accept the synopsis with no changes was made by Sandra Fusco representing Putnam County and seconded by Oluseye Folarin representing the MTA. The motion was unanimously approved.

7b Action Item – Adopt: Resolution #MHS-2019-1 – Recommendation of the Mid–Hudson South Project Listing for Inclusion in the FFYs 2020–2024 NYMTC Transportation Improvement Program: Ms. Klein asked Ali Mohseni, Mid–Hudson South TCC Staff Director to introduce the resolution.

Mr. Mohseni explained that resolution #MHS–2019–1 recommends the proposed project listing for the Mid–Hudson South TCC to the full NYMTC council for inclusion in the FFYs 2020–2024 TIP. NYMTC delegated MHSTCC the responsibility for recommending the project listings for Putnam, Westchester and Rockland Counties for inclusion in the NYMTC TIP, and that the project listings were developed in accordance with federal regulations. He also mentioned that the proposed project listings went through the required 30–day public review period. Mr. Mohseni requested that the MHSTCC recommend the proposed listing for inclusion in NYMTC’s Federal Fiscal Years 2020–2024 TIP.

Ms. Klein asked for a motion to adopt the resolution. Oluseye Folarin representing the MTA made a motion to adopt the resolution; Lizy Philip representing the New York State Thruway Authority seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
7c **Action Item – Selection of New TCC Chair:** Ms. Klein introduced the last action item, selection of the new TCC Chair. She reported that the selection had been made in accordance with the Joint TCC Operating Procedures, and that she had been informed that the TCC members had unanimously selected Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell as the next TCC Chair.

Sandra Fusco accepted on behalf of County Executive Odell.

8 **New Business:** Ms. Klein asked members if there was any new business to discuss. No new business was raised.

9 **Adjournment:** Ms. Klein asked for a motion to adjourn. Lance MacMillan, New York State Department of Transportation Region 8, Regional Director motioned and Naomi Klein representing Westchester County seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.