

**Synopsis of the July 21, 2005 Meeting of the
Program, Finance and Administration Committee (PFAC) of the
New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC)**

A. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND REMARKS

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:18 p.m. by Mr. Timothy Gilchrist, of the New York State Department of Transportation. Mr. Gilchrist introduced himself as the Chairperson of the Program, Finance and Administration Committee and asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

2. Chairperson's Report

Mr. Gilchrist explained that President Bush signed legislation which gave the New York metropolitan region a waiver on specific federal planning and air quality conformity planning requirements of time to prove that air quality conformity could be met. The waiver would expire on September 30, 2005. He said a lot of work was carried out by the staff and thanked them for their efforts. Mr. Gilchrist said that Best Practices Model was re-calibrated because of the changes in the economic forecast due to the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and said that the Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program were updated. Mr. Gilchrist announced that a Council Meeting will be held on August 4, 2005.

3. NYMTC Directors' Report

Mr. Joel Ettinger talked about NYMTC's Regional Transportation Plan Update. He said that staff had done extensive public outreach initiatives and said that NYMTC had exceeded the minimum requirements. Mr. Ettinger said that all formal comments were reviewed by NYMTC staff and member agencies and copies were available at the sign in table. He said that the public involvement comments appeared in the Appendix of the Regional Transportation Plan document said that the plan would formally be acted on by the Council on August 4, 2005.

Mr. Robert Griffith of the Federal Highway Administration noted that the federal agencies, the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, were both involved with the products from the beginning and it was not the first time for the federal agencies to review them.

B. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Anne Hopkins, representing the Orient Association, submitted the attached comments.

Tom Lunke, representing the Harlem River Park Task Force, presented a list of signatures in opposition to the New York City Department of Transportation's proposed Harlem River Drive Flyover project. The community expressed concern that adding elevated structure over the Harlem River Drive would increase automobile pollution and create a permanent visual barrier to the waterfront. Mr. Lunke said that they would like the New York City Department of Transportation to hold public forums and working group meetings with the affected community to develop an alternative to the proposed Flyover.

C. ACTION ITEMS

1. Accept: May 19, 2005 Meeting Synopsis

Mr. Gilchrist asked for a motion to accept the May 19, 2005 Meeting Synopsis. A motion was made by Mr. Lawrence Salley representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Jack Schmidt, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee. The meeting synopsis was accepted.

2. Adopt: Resolution #200 – Recognition of Service to Charles Ukegbu, NYCDOT

Ms. Gwen Perlman read the resolution that was prepared for Mr. Charles Ukegbu. Ms. Perlman thanked Mr. Ukegbu for his enthusiasm and professionalism and congratulated him on his promotion. She then handed Mr. Ukegbu a plaque made for him as a token of appreciation from the Program, Finance and Administration Committee.

Mr. Gilchrist asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #200, Recognition of Service to Charles Ukegbu, NYCDOT. A motion was made by Mr. Jack Schmidt, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Robert Shinnick, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

3. Adopt: Resolution #201 – Recognition of Service to David Harris, NYCDOT

Ms. Gwen Perlman read the resolution that was prepared for Mr. David Harris. Ms. Perlman explained that Mr. Harris was out of town and that his token of appreciation from the Program, Finance, and Administration Committee would be mailed to his new location.

Mr. Gilchrist asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #201, Recognition of Service to David Harris, NYCDOT. A motion was made by Mr. Jack Schmidt, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Robert Shinnick, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

4. Adopt: Resolution #202 – Recommendation to the Council to Adopt the 2005-2030 Regional Transportation Plan, the 2006-210 Transportation Improvement Program, Transportation Conformity Determination and Supporting Products

Mr. Joel Ettinger read the resolution. Mr. Ettinger said that the resolution was a recommendation from the Program, Finance and Administration Committee to the Council to adopt the 2005-2030 Regional Transportation Plan, the 2006-2010 Transportation Improvement Program and Transportation Conformity Determination. He said the resolution would be brought to the Council for its adoption on August 4, 2005.

Mr. Gilchrist asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #202, Recommendation to the Council to Adopt the 2005-2030 Regional Transportation Plan, the 2006-2010 Transportation Improvement Program, Transportation Conformity Determination and Supporting Products. A motion was made by Mr. Lawrence Salley, representing the Mid/Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Robert Shinnick, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

D. REGIONAL ISSUES

Long Island Sound Waterborne Transportation Plan

Mr. Kevin Wolford gave an introduction of the Long Island Sound Waterborne Transportation Plan. Mr. Wolford said that the Long Island Sound Ferry Coalition group was formed under the leadership of NYMTC and brought together interests from ferry service providers and transportation agencies that were concerned about transportation in the Long Island Sound. He said the federally funded study was initiated in April, 2002 and that a draft final report was prepared in April 2005. He said the revised draft final report was under review. He introduced Mr. Alan Meyers, the consultant of the Long Island Sound Waterborne Transportation Plan, and with the help of the attached slides, Mr. Meyers provided the detail of the LISWTP study. See the attached presentation.

E. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Unified Planning Work Program Development

Mr. Stephen Hausch said that the 2006/2007 Unified Planning Work Program was a one year program that contained regional planning project studies. He said the kick off for the development process would be on July 28, 2005. He said a draft document would be distributed to members for refinements and then the draft document would be submitted to the federal agencies by November 30, 2005 for their 30-day review. Mr. Hausch said that a Program, Finance, and Administration resolution would be prepared recommending the Council to approve it and actions would take place in February and March 2006.

2. Canal Area Transportation Study Track 2

Mr. Aizaz Ahmed said that the Canal Area Transportation Study Track 2 was a multi-modal transportation study identified medium and long range transportation improvements in the area. He said that the project started in November 2004. Mr. Ahmed said that a steering committee was formed which consisted of NYMTC member agencies and the Stakeholders Committee. He said three Steering Committee meetings, two Stakeholders Committee meetings, and one combined Steering and Stakeholders meeting were held. He said most of the data collection was completed and the collection of parking data was being worked on. He said a working tour with the Stakeholders and Steering Committees were conducted, which provided the community an opportunity to address and point out issues in the area. Mr. Ahmed said that draft guiding principles were developed and three community meetings were held, which gave the community the opportunity to provide feedback on the long term vision for that area. He said that next steps would be to finalize the guiding principles based on the input received from the community and to develop a screening process for alternative scenarios.

3. Sustainable East End Development Study Update

Mr. Gerry Bogacz said that the Sustainable East End Development Study (SEEDS) was one of NYMTC's four pilot sustainable studies throughout the region. He said the study began in April 2001 and was one of the most complicated studies in terms of the number of municipalities involved—9 towns, 5 villages. He said by September 2005, presentation of the final results of modeling various future scenarios to a joint meeting of the various municipal boards and elected officials would be done. He said SEEDS developed five alternative land use futures and five alternative transportation futures based on extensive public involvement and visions, which were tested against one another. Mr. Bogacz said that the final results should be out by September 2005.

F. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Mr. Gilchrist confirmed that the next New York Metropolitan Transportation Council Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 4, 2005 and would be held at NYMTC, 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, New York City.

G. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT PFAC MEETING

Mr. Gilchrist confirmed that the next Program, Finance, and Administration Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 8, 2005 and would be held at NYMTC, 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, New York City.

H. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

IN ATTENDANCE

Voting Member/Alternates

Lawrence Berger, Nassau County
Timothy Gilchrist, NYS Department of Transportation
Phyllis Graybow, Rockland County
Gwen Perlman, NYC Department of Transportation
John Pilner, Putnam County
Lawrence Salley, Westchester County
Jack Schmidt, NYC Department of City Planning
Robert Shinnick, Suffolk County
William Wheeler, Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Advisory (non-voting) Members

Robert Griffith, Federal Highway Administration
Irwin Kessman, Federal Transit Administration
Michael Moltzen, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Lou Venech, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

NYMTC Council Staff

Aizaz Ahmed	Kuo-Ann Chaio	Nancy O'Connell
Sangeeta Bhowmick	Joel Ettinger	Jean Shanahan
Gerry Bogacz	Uchenna Madu	Evangel Woods
Alan Borenstein	Henry McBean	

OTHERS

Richard Backlund, FHWA
Seth Berman, NYCDOT
Patricia Chemka, Westchester County
Don Eisele, NJ Transit
Ronald Farrar, NYCDOT
Leon Goodman, PTG
Joseph Harry
Anne Hopkins, Orient Association
Peter King, NYSDOT
Naomi Langley, HRTF
Thomas Lunke, HRPTF
Kevin Olinger, NYCDCP
David Risley, USEPA

The July 21, 2005 meeting synopsis was accepted by all members of the Program, Finance and Administration Committee on September 8, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Miles-Cole
NYMTC's Member Support Liaison