

**Synopsis of the September 21, 2006 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 1:16 p.m. by Mr. Robert Zerrillo, Director of the Office of Policy and Performance within the New York State Department of Transportation. Mr. Zerrillo introduced himself as the Chairperson of the Program, Finance, and Administration Committee. Mr. Zerrillo asked the members to introduce themselves.

Mr. Robert Zerrillo said there was a Federal Notice for the state-wide and metropolitan planning regulations that came out over the summer in which the NYSDOT, NYMTC and other metropolitan planning organizations made comments on. Mr. Zerrillo said that the process of reaching out to all the stakeholders to provide input in the rule making and get the comments back to the federal government was positive. He then thanked the people who were involved.

Mr. Zerrillo informed the audience that the NYSDOT Albany staff was joining the PFAC meeting via video conference.

2. **NYMTC Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Joel Ettinger said that NYMTC was in the process of developing the next annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He said that the development in the UPWP used suggestions that were compiled from the most recent Listening Sessions. He said program building for the 2008-2012 TIP was underway, a public solicitation for project proposals for the update was completed over the summer, and the new UPWP would be completed by April 1, 2007. Mr. Ettinger said that NYMTC was processing a series of batch proposed amendments to non-exempt projects in the 2006/2007 TIP.

Mr. Ettinger then talked about the Good to Go Conference – Transit Options for Older Adults. He informed the audience to get the conference brochure that was displayed on the sign-in table and encouraged everyone to register and attend. He said that NYMTC would co-sponsor the conference with the New York University Rudin Center, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and AARP. The Good to Go Conference would be held on September 26, 2006 at New York University.

B. PRESENTATION

“What is the Future of Surface Transportation?”

Mr. Ken Orski, editor and publisher of Innovation Briefs, gave his presentation on the Future of Surface Transportation. Mr. Orski provided three predictions/speculations on the future of surface transportation. He said the use of tolls and variable road pricing as tools of augmenting transportation revenue and managing travel demand would continue and may accelerate. In addition, he said that the private sector and private investment capital would assume a more prominent role in construction, financing and operation of transportation facilities, both new and existing. Lastly, he said that both of these trends may profoundly influence the Federal role in surface transportation. For more details on the presentation, to go NYMTC's website at www.nymtc.org

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. George Haikalis, President of IRUM, announced that there would be an exhibit on regional rail, hosted by the Municipal Arts Society, and invited all in the audience to attend an opening reception at the Society on Wednesday, September 27, 2006.

Mr. George Burlow spoke to correct a statement by Ms. Beverly Dolinsky of the Permanent Citizen Advisory Committee (PCAC) made when she was the PFAC speaker at the June 15th meeting. Ms. Dolinsky said that if you paid for your Metrocard by credit card and kept the receipt, you would be reimbursed should you lose that card. Mr. Burlow wanted it on record that based on personal experience, that was not the case and MTA would not issue any reimbursements.

D. ACTION ITEMS

1. **Accept: August 24, 2006 Meeting Synopsis**

Mr. Robert Zerrillo asked for a motion to accept the August 24, 2006 Meeting Synopsis. A motion was made by Mr. Lawrence Berger, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Lawrence Salley, representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee. The meeting synopsis was unanimously accepted.

2. **Adopt: Resolution #218 – Amendment to the 2006-2007 Unified Planning Work Program to Amend Central Staff Projects**

Mr. Gerry Bogacz said the resolution purpose would amend central staff's projects in the Unified Planning Work Program and no new dollars would be used.

Mr. Lawrence Salley of Westchester County questioned why funds were reduced in the Assessment of Transportation Needs for the Elderly & Disabled project pending the outcome of a regional conference and asked what would come out of that conference that would help shape the members decisions.

Mr. Gerry Bogacz explained that money would be identified in the Unified Planning Work Program to potentially fund a study that could not be defined until the regional conference had been completed. He said that funds would be programmed in the next program year, which begins April 1, 2007. Mr. Bogacz said that key issues, in terms of transportation for the elderly would be defined through the conference which should form the member's decisions on how to proceed.

Mr. Salley wanted it on record that that the County of Westchester wanted a future commitment.

Mr. Robert Zerrillo asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #218, Amendment to the 2006-2007 Unified Planning Work Program to Amend Central Staff's Projects. A motion was made by Mr. Robert Shinnick, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Lawrence Berger, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

3. **Adopt: Resolution #219 – Amendment to the 2006-2007 Unified Planning Work Program to Amend Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Projects**

Mr. Gerry Bogacz said the purpose of the resolution would be to amend several of Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) projects in the Unified Planning Work Program. MTA funds would be used to offset funds moved per this amendment. He said one project was being put back into the work program because it was not completed as anticipated, but the deliverables would remain the same.

Mr. Lawrence Salley questioned why funds were decreased in the MTA-Metro-North Railroad White Plains Access and Parking Study.

Ms. Sarah Rios of the MTA said that the change affected the MTA planning staff budget only since funds were no longer needed. The decrease of funds would not impact the MTA White Plains Study.

Mr. Robert Zerrillo asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #219, Amendment to the 2006-2007 Unified Planning Work Program to Amend Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Projects. A motion was made by Mr. Robert Shinnick, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordination Committee, and seconded by Mr. Joseph Barr, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

4. Adopt: Resolution #220 – Amendment to the 2006-2007 Unified Planning Work Program to Amend New York City Department of City Planning's Projects

Mr. Gerry Bogacz said the resolution would amend several of New York City Department of City Planning's projects in the Unified Planning Work Program. He said no new dollars would be used in this mid-year adjustment. He said that projects that were anticipated to be completed prior to the current program year were being added back into the program because they were not completed and said that the NYCDCP would fund their completion.

Mr. Robert Zerrillo asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #220, Amendment to the 2006-2007 Unified Planning Work Program to Amend New York City Department of City Planning's Projects. A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Barr, representing the New York City Transportation Coordination Committee, and seconded by Mr. Lawrence Salley, representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. September 11th Memorial Program Report

Mr. Alan Borenstein said the September 11th Memorial Program for Transportation Planning was to educate and motivate interest in transportation technology and planning and to encourage innovation with planning activities in the region. The academic portion of the program was to bring students into the NYMTC family, make students aware of NYMTC including the member agencies, learn transportation planning and computer services, learn how interesting the field could be for students to start the roots for our future, and to honor the NYMTC colleagues lost on September 11, 2001—Ignatius Adanga, Charles Lesperance, and See Wong Shum. Mr. Borenstein said that four students were present to talk about their experience with the program and four students entering the program were also present. He said that a Brown Bag Presentation would be held on October 18, 2006 where the students would do an in-depth presentation of their work with the program.

Mr. Todd Goldman of the University Transportation Research Center and manager of the program introduced the students of the program to talk about what their experience.

Mr. David Zhang said that he worked with NYMTC's Executive Director, Joel Ettinger on emerging transportation issues faced in the region. He said that he worked with the NYMTC staff in developing proposals for regional policy conferences on specific issues; he worked with the planning committee for the "Good to Go" Conference; he assisted in the development of a RFP for development of a new land use model; and he gained professional exposure in NYMTC's meetings and conferences at all levels. Mr. Zhang said his internship gave him a better understanding of the metropolitan planning process and a real picture of working in the public sector and the decision making process. He thanked NYMTC and UTRC for the opportunity and everyone who helped him during his internship.

Mr. Jeevanjot Singh interned with the Westchester County Department of Transportation. She researched and modeled the impacts of variable time of day pricing on rideship on Westchester's Bee-Line bus system.

Ms. Li Chen said that she interned with the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT). Assuming the role of a project manager, Ms. Chen undertook an existing conditions analysis as a first step in a larger traffic and transportation study on Manhattan's West Side. She said the internship developed her management skills and she thanked UTRC, NYMTC and the staff at the NYCDOT.

Ms. Wei Li worked as an intern with NYMTC and the Westchester County Department of Transportation. Ms. Li researched transportation services in Westchester County that were available to seniors. She thanked NYMTC and the staff at Westchester County for the opportunity.

Mr. Todd Goodman introduced the four students entering the second year of the program.

2. Coordinated Human Services – Public Transit Plan

Ms. Nancy O'Connell said that guidelines were published in September 6, 2006 Federal Register concerning the Job Access and Reverse Commute, New Freedom, and 5310 Programs and the required coordinated transit-human services transportation plan. The Federal Transit Administration issued circulars on each of the three programs and member agencies were encouraged to provide comments by November 6th to the Federal Register. Ms. O'Connell said the NYMTC staff, in cooperation with the Access to Jobs Working Group, were developing an Interim Coordinated Human Service Plan in order not jeopardize 2007 funding for these programs.

3. Center of Excellence for Freight Research

Mr. Howard Mann said that the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute was interested in applying for a grant from the Volvo Research Foundation, which was a freight related grant worth approximately \$4 million. He said that an advantage in participating would be that the research results could be applied to various freight activities that NYMTC is and will be involved in.

4. Emissions Reduction from Locomotives

Mr. Raymond Werner of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency talked about emission reduction from locomotives. He talked about how freight carriers reduced their environmental impact through retrofit and clean fuel activities. Concerns about the environmental effects of increasing freight volumes prompted public agencies and businesses to focus on ways to control emissions from freight transportation sources. Switching to cleaner fuels, reducing idling,

rebuilding engines, retrofitting, replacing old engines with newer and cleaner models and replacing old locomotives for cleaner models were proposed locomotive emissions reduction strategies that could assist in meeting SIP and conformity air quality requirements. EPA's June 2006 Diesel Retrofit guidance for conformity and SIPs describes in detail how state and local air quality and transportation planners can cost-effectively reduce diesel vehicle engine emissions which results in improved air quality. The guidance document located at www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/policy.htm, outlines how to quantify emissions reductions from retrofitting diesel vehicles, engines and equipment, and how to appropriately take credit for these measures in SIPs and conformity.

F. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT PFAC MEETING

Mr. Robert Zerrillo confirmed that the next meeting of the Program, Finance, and Administration Committee was scheduled to be held on Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 1:15 p.m., and will be held at the NYMTC office located at 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, New York City.

G. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned approximately at 3:20 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE

Voting Member/Alternates

Mr. Joseph Barr, NYC Department of Transportation
Mr. Lawrence Berger, Nassau County
Ms. Phyllis Graybow, Rockland County
Mr. Kevin Olinger, NYC Department of City Planning
Ms. Sarah Rios, Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Mr. Lawrence Salley, Westchester County
Mr. Robert Shinnick, Suffolk County
Mr. Robert Zerrillo, NYS Department of Transportation

Advisory (non-voting) Members

Mr. Robert Griffith, Federal Highway Administration
Mr. Irwin Kessman, Federal Transit Administration
Mr. Michael Sheehan, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Mr. Lou Venech, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
Mr. Raymond Werner, US Environmental Protection Agency

NYMTC Council Staff

Robert Angell	Anthony Gawrych	Andrea Miles-Cole
Gerry Bogacz	Stephen Hausch	Jaeki Min
Alan Borenstein	Jan Khan	Kathy Monroe
Kuo-Ann Chiao	Michael LaPorta	Chris Rodrigues
Joel Ettinger	Barbara Lynch	Karen Rosenberger
Leslie Fordjour	Uchenna Madu	Jean Shanahan
Emma Gaitan	Howard Mann	Judith Wilson
Maria Garcia	Larry McAuliffe	David Zhang

OTHERS

Douglas Adams, Sam Schwartz
Amit Arora, Rutgers University
Richard Backlund, FHWA
Jennifer Badali, MTA
George Burlow
Patricia Chemka, Westchester DOT
Cynthia Chen, City College
Talvin Davis, NJDOT
Li Chen, City College
Beverly Dolinsky, PCAC
Peggy Godfrey
Todd Goldman, UTRC
Tatyana Golikova, NYSDOT
Leon Goodman, Transportation Consultant
Sam Goodman, Bronx Boro Pres. Office
David Greenblatt, ED
George Haikalis, IRUM
Gretchen Heiserman, DOT BBO
Beatrice Howe, CB #12
Peter King, NYSDOT
Mary Kate Brangaccio, Transit Center
Jay Kratz, Earth Tech
Wei Li, City College
Tiffany Lu, NYS Senator Office
Thomas Martin, NYS Senator Office
Maureen Morgan, FCWC
Gill Mosseri, URS

Kenneth Orski, Innovation Briefs
John Pavlovich, E&K
Mogens Petersen, Transtech
Brian ten Siethoff, Cambridge Systematics
David Rubin, Earth Tech
Mike Salvato, MTA
Julia Seltzer, MTA
Lou Sepersky
Michael Silas, RPI
Jeevanjot Singh, Rutgers University
Heather Sporn, NYSDOT
Steve Strauss, NYC Comptrollers
Ray Tillman, URS
Carol VanGuilder, Real Estate Board
Jolene Yeats, Sam Schwartz
Janice Yuvan, URS
Melanie Zeman, USEPA

The September 21, 2006 meeting synopsis was unanimously accepted by the Program, Finance, and Administration Committee at its November 16, 2006 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea' Miles-Cole