

**Synopsis of the November 15, 2007 Meeting of the  
Program, Finance and Administration Committee (PFAC) of the  
New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC)**

Note: The meeting was webcast and can be viewed by going to the webcast link on NYMTC's website ([www.NYMTC.org](http://www.NYMTC.org)).

**A. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND REMARKS**

1. The meeting was called to order by Ms. Heather Sporn of the New York State Department of Transportation. Ms. Sporn said that she was filling in as the Chairperson of the Program, Finance, and Administration Committee (PFAC).

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

Mr. Joel Ettinger announced that NYMTC adopted a Transportation Improvement Program for federal fiscal years 2008 through 2012 and also adopted a new Air Quality Conformity Determination and a new Integrated Financial Assessment for the Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program at a second special meeting of the NYMTC Principals on October 29, 2007. Mr. Ettinger talked about NYMTC's Megaregion Conference held at New York University and said that he hoped to use the results of the conference to pursue a new megaregional planning agenda with partnering Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). Mr. Ettinger said that NYMTC had been working on a regular basis with neighboring MPOs in New Jersey and Connecticut in the form of a Regional Transportation Planning Coalition and had meetings on developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the MPOs to coordinate and share the development of products and processes. He said that the MOU would be reviewed by NYMTC members and then would seek to adopt a resolution on the MOU. Mr. Ettinger said that NYMTC completed its latest round of community planning workshops for walkable communities, safe routes to schools and parking management in communities throughout the region. He said this was an example of NYMTC's efforts to think regionally and act locally.

**B. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Murray Bodin of Concerned Grandparents had comments about technology and transportation. He talked about implementing social networking for older adults to utilize the new generation of technology and the need to establish how to utilize technology to provide better transportation to reduce the number of trips taken by commuters.

**D. ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Accept: September 20, 2007 Meeting Synopsis**

A motion to accept the September 20, 2007 Meeting Synopsis was made by Mr. Lawrence Fleischer, representing the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Chemka, representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee. The meeting synopsis was unanimously accepted.

**2. Adopt: Resolution #243 – Amendment to the 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program to Amend NYMTC Central Staff, New York City Department of Transportation, Westchester and Rockland County Projects**

Mr. Stephen Hausch said that the resolution would amend twenty projects in the 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program for NYMTC Central Staff, the New York City Department of Transportation, Westchester County and Rockland County. Mr. Hausch said that no new dollars would be used.

A motion to adopt Resolution #243, Amendment to the 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program to Amend NYMTC Central Staff, the New York City Department of Transportation, Westchester and Rockland Counties Projects was made by Mr. Jack Schmidt, representing the New York City

Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Lawrence Berger, representing the Nassau County Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

**3. Adopt: Resolution #244 – Amendment to the 2005-2030 Regional Transportation Plan to Include the Kosciuszko Bridge Project**

Mr. Peter King said that the New York State Department of Transportation requested the amendment to include the Kosciuszko Bridge Project into the Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. King said that the adoption of the resolution would replace an existing antiquated obsolete bridge with a new structure that would better accommodate current traffic demands through the subcorridor.

A motion to adopt Resolution #244, Amendment to the 2005-2030 Regional Transportation Plan to Include the Kosciuszko Bridge Project was made by Mr. Lawrence Berger, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordination Committee, and seconded by Mr. Jack Schmidt, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

**SPECIAL PFAC MEETING**

Mr. Gerry Bogacz explained the need for a Special PFAC Meeting in early December, 2007. Mr. Bogacz said that NYMTC is in a multiMPO non-attainment area for various pollutants and therefore NYMTC's planning products must conform with the planning products of Poughkeepsie Dutchess County Transportation Council and Orange County Transportation Council. He said that the two MPOs were adopting their new Regional Transportation Plan and NYMTC must keep horizon year on conformity determination the same as the other two MPOs, therefore revised conformity determination for 2035 horizon year adoption would be necessary before December 11, 2007. Mr. Bogacz said that to comply with new SAFETY-LU requirements, NYMTC would also need to adopt a new Integrated Financial Assessment in order to comply with the new federal regulation on year-of-expenditure financial forecasts.

**D. “MPO CONCERNS FOR THE NEXT FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION BILL”  
DeLania Hardy, Executive Director, Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO)**

Ms. DeLania Hardy, with the help of slides, gave a presentation on MPO Concerns for the Next Federal Transportation Bill. Ms. Hardy talked about the history of SAFETY-LU and how it was two years late and had many earmarks, inadequate increased funding with earmarks and how the highway trust fund was in jeopardy. She talked about trade and freight, and said that more trade meant more domestic freight movement. She talked about the rise of fuel cost and the non movement of fuel taxes. She talked about safety, congestion and street and highway construction costs increases. Ms. Hardy said that the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission was appointed to study current conditions and future needs of the surface transportation system, to look at alternatives to finance the conditions, and had to report their findings to Congress by January 1, 2008. Ms. Hardy talked about four scenarios for “TEA-4”. She said that Re-TEA was reauthorization as usual. Post-TEA was considered fundamental reform, where the focus was on the metro areas and where the nation's population lived. The third, called Devolution to the States was a tactic to cut out the middle man where action moved to state and local governments or metropolitan regions. Green-TEA dealt with energy independence and global warming issues. The priority would be to fix it first and emphasize transportation projects that reduced greenhouse gases. The full presentation can be downloaded by going to the Presentations link on NYMTC's website, ([www.NYMTC.org](http://www.NYMTC.org)).

**E. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT PFAC MEETING**

Ms. Heather Sporn confirmed that there would be a Special PFAC meeting in early December and also confirmed that the regular PFAC meeting was scheduled to be held on Thursday, January 17, 2008 at 1:15 p.m., and both will be held at the NYMTC office at 199 Water Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> floor, New York City.

**G. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned approximately at 3:30 p.m.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

**Voting Member/Alternates**

Mr. Lawrence Berger, Nassau County  
Ms. Patricia Chemka, Westchester County  
Mr. Lawrence Fleischer, Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Mr. Patrick Gerdin, Rockland County  
Mr. Jon Orcutt, NYC Department of Transportation  
Mr. John Pilner, Putnam County  
Mr. Jack Schmidt, NYC Department of City Planning  
Mr. Robert Shinnick, Suffolk County  
Ms. Heather Sporn, NYS Department of Transportation

**Advisory (non-voting) Members**

Ms. Mary Ameen, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority  
Ms. Nancy Danzig, Federal Transit Administration  
Mr. Lou Venech, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey  
Ms. Melanie Zeman, US Environmental Protection Agency

**NYMTC Central Staff**

Fathi Adekoya	Maria Garcia	Jaeki Min
Jorge Argote	Anthony Gawrych	Dawn Moore
Sangeeta Bhowmick	Stephen Hausch	Larisa Morozovskaya
Gerry Bogacz	Leslie Fordjour	Nancy O'Connell
Alan Borenstein	Jan Khan	Munnesh Patel
Kuo-Ann Chiao	Pam Lee-Sbano	Chris Rodrigues-Moore
Nina DelSenno	Uchenna Madu	Abdus Salam
Robert Donohue	Ella Mathews	Jean Shanahan
Joel Ettinger	Larry McAuliffe	Carol Wilkinson
Emma Gaitan	Andrea Miles-Cole	Kevin Wolford

**OTHERS**

Linda Bailey, NYCDOT  
Seth Berman, NYCDOT  
Murray Boudin, Concerned Grandparents  
Rich Denbow, AMPO  
Kirsten Eiler, TLC  
Henry A. Goessmann  
Tatyana Golikova, NYSDOT  
Leon Goodman, ITE Met Section of NY & NJ  
DeLania Hardy, AMPO  
Peter King, NYSDOT  
Frank Marsella, PANYNJ  
Brian ten Seithoff, Cambridge Systematics  
Victor Waldron, FTA

*The November 15, 2007 PFAC meeting synopsis was unanimously accepted by all PFAC members at its December 4, 2007 meeting.*

Respectfully submitted,

*Andrea' Miles-Cole*

