

**SYNOPSIS OF THE JANUARY 17, 2008 MEETING OF THE  
PROGRAM, FINANCE, AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS AND REPORTS**

1. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Joel Ettinger, Executive Director of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council. He announced that the meeting was available to the public by webcast. He asked the Program, Finance, and Administration Committee members to introduce themselves. It was established that there was a quorum.

**2. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Ettinger said the Program, Finance, and Administration Committee would recommend to the NYMTC Principals the adoption of a draft Unified Planning Work Program for the 2008-2009 program year at their annual meeting being held on March 13, 2008 at New York University. He reported that NYMTC would hold the first of a series of public involvement events related to the development of NYMTC's next Regional Transportation Plan, which would cover the period 2010-2035 beginning January 24, 2008, and would be a Town Hall Webcast. The purpose of the event would be to share information of the draft "Overarching Issues" section of the new Regional Transportation Plan and to gather ideas and comments. He said participants would be able to join by webcast, submit comments by e-mail, or attend event at the NYMTC offices. Mr. Ettinger said that the webcast would be archived and accessible for viewing through NYMTC's website and participants would be able to view at their convenience and submit their comments to NYMTC through February 25, 2008.

**B. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. George Haikalis, President of the Institute for Rational Urban Mobility, Inc., (IRUM) thanked NYMTC for providing data needed to carry out IRUM's "Balancing Free Transit and Congestion Pricing Study", and said that IRUM would welcome an opportunity to present the findings at a future NYMTC meeting. Mr. Haikalis said that states, in partnership with the federal government, could produce a vision that would help the nation deal with problems of growing congestion on the nation's roadways and airways, the energy crisis, the negative impacts of climate changes resulting from greenhouse gas emissions, and the rising concerns about the nation's long term fiscal and economic viability. He talked about his opposition to building deep cavern railway terminal stations in mid-town Manhattan and said that transit agencies failed to see the advantages of regional cooperation. He said that the projects were costly to build and operate and would require more years to build. He said that the Long Island Railroad would be brought directly into existing tracks and platforms at Grand Central Terminal and the new Hudson River tunnel could be connected directly to existing platforms and tracks at a soon to be rebuilt Moynihan-Penn Station. Mr. Haikalis said that New York and New Jersey had much to gain by advancing these coordinated plans and said that it was time for the three Governors to move forward with a three-state planning process and produce a plan that could deal effectively with the key problems facing the region.

**C. ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Accept: December 4, 2007 Meeting Synopsis**

A motion to accept the December 4, 2007 Meeting Synopsis was made by Mr. Lawrence Berger, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Jack Schmidt, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee. The meeting synopsis was unanimously accepted.

**2. ADOPT: RESOLUTION #247 – AMENDMENT TO THE 2007-2008 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM TO AMEND NYMTC CENTRAL STAFF AND NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

Mr. David Kletsman said that the purpose of the resolution was to amend specific NYMTC Central Staff and the New York City Department of Transportation projects in the 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program to better

address the planning needs of NYMTC and its members. He said the amendments impacted the use of reprogrammed funds and did not require new funding.

A motion to adopt Resolution #247, Amendment to the 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program to Amend NYMTC Central Staff and New York City Department of Transportation Projects was made by Mr. Jon Orcutt, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Ms. Naomi Klein, representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution unanimously passed.

**3. ADOPT: RESOLUTION #248 – RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE 2008-2009 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

Mr. Gerry Bogacz, with the help of slides, said that the resolution recommended the Council to adopt the 2008-2009 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Mr. Bogacz said that the UPWP, a required document, was a \$45 million program and a key element of the metropolitan transportation planning process. Mr. Bogacz said that the UPWP brought federal planning funds into the region which supported NYMTC staff operations, funded important consultant work, and supported the members' planning programs. He said the Regional Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program and the UPWP were required work planning products and explained the components of the work program. He then provided examples of specific projects in the work program. The draft UPWP and the slide presentation were available on the NYMTC website at [www.nymtc.org](http://www.nymtc.org).

A motion to adopt Resolution #248, Recommendation to the Council for the Adoption of the 2008-2009 Unified Planning Work Program was made by Mr. Jack Schmidt, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. John Pilner, representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution unanimously passed.

**4. ADOPT: RESOLUTION #249 – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ADJOINING METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS IN NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY AND CONNECTICUT**

Mr. Alan Borenstein said that NYMTC developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, the South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Greater Bridgeport/Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Housatonic Valley Council of Elected officials as recommended in the NYMTC Certification Review. Mr. Borenstein said that the MOU would agree to perform in good faith, the activities of voluntary coordination, cooperation and consultation in each others transportation processes.

A motion to adopt Resolution #249, Memorandum of Understanding between Adjoining Metropolitan Planning Organizations in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut was made by Ms. Naomi Klein, representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Robert Shinnick, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution unanimously passed.

Mr. George Haikalis said that the adoption of a MOU with the three states was a landmark event.

**D. PRESENTATION**

**Frank McArdle, Member of the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission**

Mr. Frank McArdle, a member of the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission, reported to NYMTC the Commission's recommendations from the released report, "Transportation for Tomorrow". The Commission was charged with looking at transportation policy and financing in the context of expected growth over the next fifty years and making recommendations that could inform the development of the next federal transportation bill. Mr. McArdle said that the Commission recommended a fundamental transformation in the transportation planning and approach in the United States at all levels of governments. Programs had to be fundamentally reformulated, reconfigured and re-evaluated. The reconfiguration would be achieved through streamlining the planning process and project delivery, as well as through the conversion of the current modally-targeted funding programs into a simpler set of performance-driven and outcome-based programs. He said that the

Commission recommended a simplified program structure built around six emphasis areas—asset management, national strategies for freight and metropolitan mobility, smaller cities and rural areas, intercity passenger rail, environmental responsibility and energy. The consolidated program would be based on bottom-up planning in response to performance standards that would be cooperatively set. Mr. Ardle said that the Commission emphasized the need for additional spending for the country to be able to accommodate anticipated future growth and demand and recommended that current spending levels must reach as much as \$300 billion per year for the transportation system to be able to respond to anticipated future demands. He said the Commission recommended that increases in the gas tax be the source of the additional funding while a national transportation commission was created to look at long-term sources of funding. Mr. Ardle’s presentation could be viewed in the archived webcast of the meeting on the NYMTC website at [www.NYMTC.org](http://www.NYMTC.org)

**E. CONFIRMATION OF ANNUAL MEETING**

The NYMTC Annual Meeting was confirmed to be held on Thursday, March 13, 2008 at New York University in Manhattan.

**F. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT PFAC MEETING**

The next PFAC Meeting was confirmed to be held on Thursday, April 17, 2008 at the NYMTC Office located at 199 Water Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> floor, in New York City.

**G. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Voting Members/Alternatives**

Jon Orcutt, New York City Department of Transportation  
Lawrence Berger, Nassau County  
Sarah Rios, Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Patrick Gerdin, Rockland County  
Jack Schmidt, New York City Department of City Planning  
Robert Shinnick, Suffolk County  
John Pilner, Putnam County  
Naomi Klein, Westchester County

**Advisory (Non-Voting) Members**

Nancy Danzig, Federal Transit Administration  
Lou Venech, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey  
Melanie Zeman, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**NYMTC Staff**

Jorge Argote	Emma Gaitan	Larry McAuliffe
Gerry Bogacz	Anthony Gawrych	Jaeki Min
Alan Borenstein	Gene Huey	Dawn Moore
Kuo-Ann Chiao	Jan Khan	Larisa Morozovskaya
Kenneth Comia	Mikhail Kotikovskiy	Munnesh Patel
Robert Donohue	Uchenna Madu	Chris Rodrigues-Moore
Joel Ettinger	Howard Mann	Jean Shanahan
Angelina Foster	Ella Mathews	Kevin Wolford

**OTHERS**

Seth Berman, NYCDOT  
Murray Bodin, Concerned Grandparents  
Reno Giordano, Parsons Brinckerhoff  
W. G. M. Goetz, CSX  
Tatyana Golikova, NYSDOT  
Aaron Graham, PANYNJ  
George Haikalis, IRUM  
Charles Huang, PANYNJ  
Robert Huffman, United Cerebral Palsy of NYC  
Robert Jang, PANYNJ  
Joseph Jarrin, NYCDOT  
Peter King, NYSDOT  
Frank Marsella, PANYNJ  
Renee Peters-Smith, NYCDOT  
Naomi Renek, MTA  
Lou Sepersky

**This January 17, 2008 PFAC Meeting Synopsis was accepted unanimously by all PFAC members at its March 20, 2008 meeting.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Andrea' Miles-Cole*  
*Secretary 2*

