



Joel P. Ettinger
Executive Director

**MEETING SYNOPSIS OF THE JANUARY 20, 2011
PROGRAM, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

A. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS AND REPORTS

1. Welcome and Introductions

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council's (NYMTC) Program, Finance, and Administration Committee (PFAC) meeting was called to order by Ms. Heather Sporn of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). She said that she would be chairing the meeting on behalf of Robert Zerrillo for the NYSDOT. The committee members introduced themselves and a quorum was declared.

2. NYMTC Executive Director's Report

Mr. Joel Ettinger announced that the Council would acquire two new members; newly elected Governor Andrew Cuomo nominated Joan McDonald as the Commissioner for the New York State Department of Transportation, and after five terms, Robert Bondi, retired as the County Executive of Putnam and would be replaced by Interim County Executive Paul Eldridge. Mr. Ettinger said that the Annual Council Meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 10, 2011 and may be shifted to March 24, 2011 depending on guest speaker availability. He then reported that the final report of the Canal Area Transportation Study was released for public review and a series of review meetings with the public were held.

3. Activities of the Transportation Coordination Committee

Ms. Jean Shanahan, Staff Director of the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee reported that since the last PFAC meeting, staff had been focusing on the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), conformity and public outreach. She said that staff was also working on all of the components that go into the development of the entire 2011-2015 TIP, such as TIP descriptions, financial information, and conformity information. She said that much of the staff's time also was spent on addressing the public's comments and inquiries and providing them with updated information.

Mr. Howard Mann, Acting Staff Director of the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee (N/STCC) said that since the last PFAC meeting, staff had been working on the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and working on the development of the 2011-2015 full TIP update. Mr. Mann said that the N/S TCC was involved with keeping abreast with planning issues within the Long Island Regional Planning Council's 2035 Plan and its impact on the NYMTC planning program. He reported that initial outreach to the Shinnecock Nation on Long Island had begun since the new federal recognition of the Shinnecock Nation. More information will be provided at the next PFAC Meeting.

Mr. Gerry Bogacz, Acting Staff Director of the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee (NYCTCC) said that since the last PFAC meeting staff had been working on the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the 2011-2015 full TIP. Mr. Bogacz said that a project list for public review would be released in mid March, 2011 for a 30 day comment period. He said staff was reviewing CMAQ proposals from the member agencies and the proposals would be amended into the TIP once they were selected. He said an Executive Committee meeting was tentatively scheduled for April 28, 2011.

B. PRESENTATION

Fred Abouselman, Executive Director, National Association of Regional Councils

Fred Abouselman, Executive Director, National Association of Regional Councils, (NARC), gave a presentation on “The 112th Congress; the Administration and the current and future policy; and funding and finance of transportation and infrastructure. He explained that NARC as a national, non-profit trade organization that represents multi-jurisdictional regional planning organizations with its concentration on four core areas—transportation, economic and community development, homeland security/public safety, and the environment. He talked about changing Congressional priorities and how they may affect transportation and infrastructure legislature and spending in the coming years. The full presentation can be found on the NYMTC website at, www.NYMTC.org.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Paul Shubert, Community Advocate, said that for many years there was regular ferry service going to and from the Rockaways. He said that in the 25 Year Plan for NYC, there was no mention made of ferry boats in any of the boroughs even though all of the Borough Presidents talked about building ferry terminals.

Gerry Bogacz said that NYMTC’s Regional Transportation plan did include a waterborne element and that he believed that New York City was working with the direction of the New York City Council on a ferry plan for the city.

George Haikalis, President of Institute of Rational Urban Mobility, Inc. (IRUM), said that IRUM was an institute for rational urban mobility and was concerned with the excessive use of motor vehicles in dense urban areas. He said the cancelation of the Trans Hudson Tunnel Project, Access to the Region’s Core deep cavern project in New Jersey indicated the colossal of failures in the current metropolitan planning organization (MPO) process. He said the that New York State should also take a second look and cancel its deep cavern station and devise a way to use more cost effective ways to use its resources. He said the 10 MPOs that currently do the work of what was the Tri-State Regional Planning Commission were not working and a cost effective MPO and a cost effective commuter rail system was needed. He suggested that these could be combined and put into the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey which would probably have modifications to allow greater transparency and greater public participation. He thanked Joel Ettinger for noting that the Tri-State Regional Planning Commission and NYMTC were mentioned in the Second Edition Encyclopedia of the City of New York. He questioned if the federal government should continue to certify 10 planning agencies to do the work of the nation’s largest metropolitan region and urged that the certification process be reasonable, accurate and welcoming so that the public could be heard. He said that he supported the resolution that recognized that LaGuardia Airport could benefit from improved transit access.

D. ACTION ITEMS

1. ACCEPT: November 18, 2010 MEETING SYNOPSIS

A motion to accept the November 18, 2010 Meeting Synopsis was made by Mr. Robert Brickman 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 #318 – AMENDMENTS TO THE 2010-2011 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM TO AMEND NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING PROJECTS AND NYMTC STAFF PROJECTS

Mr. Stephen Hausch of NYMTC staff said the purpose of the resolution was to amend eleven NYC Department of City Planning and NYMTC staff projects in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Mr. Hausch said the amendments did not require new funding and it was determined that funds were

available to be reprogrammed through these amendments in the current UPWP. He said that the amendment included the addition of LaGuardia Airport Transit Corridor as a new project in the UPWP.

A motion to adopt Resolution #318, Amendments to the 2010-2011 Unified Planning Work Program to Amend New York City Department of City Planning Projects and NYMTC Staff Projects was made by Ms. Naomi Klein, representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Marc Albrecht, representing the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. The resolution unanimously passed.

3. ADOPT: RESOLUTION #319 – AMENDMENTS TO THE 2010-2035 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO INCLUDE THE LAGUARDIA AIRPORT TRANSIT CORRIDOR STUDY

Mr. Jan Khan of NYMTC staff said the Federal Transit Administration, through its Alternative Analysis grant program, selected the LaGuardia Airport Transit Corridor Study for funding for \$1.25 million. Mr. Khan said the purpose of the resolution was to add the LaGuardia Airport Transit Corridor Study to the vision element of the Regional Transportation Plan.

A motion to adopt Resolution #319, Amendments to the 2010-235 Regional Transportation Plan to Include the LaGuardia Airport Transit Corridor Study was made by Mr. Jack Schmidt, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Robert Brickman, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution unanimously passed.

E. INFORMATION ITEM

1. PROJECT SOLICITATION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Larry McAuliffe of NYMTC staff said that the Transportation Enhancement Program provided federally funded community based projects that extended travel choices and enhanced transportation experiences by addressing environmental issues. Mr. McAuliffe said that the activities and the project must relate to the surface transportation network, whereas, projects may include the development of bicycles and pedestrian facilities including traffic calming, streetscape improvements, restoration of historic facilities, light rail depots, and landscape and scenic vistas. He said after consultation with the metropolitan planning organizations throughout the state, the New York State Department of Transportation would recommend a new funding round for a statewide total of \$25 million in funding for calendar year 2011 to the Governor of New York and if the Governor decided to proceed with the programs, local governments and state agencies would be able to submit project applications. Details on the application process will be announced later in the year.

F. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT PFAC MEETING

The next PFAC meeting was confirmed to be held on Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 1:15 p.m. at the NYMTC Office.

G. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members/Alternatives

Marc Albrecht, Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Robert Brickman, Nassau County Planning Commission
Patrick Gerdin, Rockland County Planning Department
Heather Sporn, New York State Department of Transportation
Naomi Klein, Westchester County Department of Transportation
Jack Schmidt, New York City Department of City Planning
Karin Sommer, New York City Department of Transportation

Advisory (Non-Voting) Members

Darin Allan, Federal Transit Administration
Karen Rosenberger, Federal Highway Administration
Lou Venech, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
Melanie Zeman, US Environmental Protection Agency

NYMTC Staff

Afolabi Aiyedun
Voncille Anderson
George Argote
Gerry Bogacz
Thusitha Chandra
Kareem Charles
Kuo-Ann Chiao
Michael Chiume
Lisa Daglian
Nina DelSenno
Joel Ettinger
Angelina Foster

Emma Gaitan
Maria Garcia
Anthony Gawrych
Leokadia Glogowski
Stephen Hausch
Jan Khan
David Kletsman
Mikhail Kotikovsky
Howard Mann
Ella Matthews
Larry McAuliffe
Andrea Miles-Cole

Ali Mohseni
Kathy Monroe
Larisa Morozovskaya
Munnesh Patel
Mohammad Rashid
Chris Rodrigues-Moore
Jean Shanahan
Joyce Tam
Leo Tsang
Fei Yang

OTHER

Fred Abousleman, NARC
Seth Berman, NYCDOT
Bob Cerra, LTK Engineering
James DeSimine, NYCDOT
Tatyana Golikova, NYSDOT
George Haikalis, IRUM
David Hopkins, NYCEDC
Paul Schubert, Community Advocate
Aaron Sugiura, NYCDOT

This January 20, 2011 Meeting Synopsis was unanimously accepted by the voting members of PFAO at its February 17, 2010 PFAO Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Andrea Miles-Cole
Secretary 2- NYMTC*