

**Synopsis of the April 27, 2000 Meeting of the
Program, Finance and Administration Committee (PFAC)**

A. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

1. The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. by *Mr. Craig Siracusa*, Chairperson of the Program, Finance and Administration Committee. All attendees introduced themselves.
2. **Chairperson's Remarks** - *Mr. Siracusa* asked Mr. Schulze to make his report.
3. **Staff Executive Director's Report** - *Mr. Schulze* announced that the Unified Planning Work Program for FY2000/2001 was adopted, and on the website. He said that a consultant had started reviewing round two of the Job Access and Reverse Commute proposals; round three of the TCSP was sent to the Federal Highway Administration. The next update of the Regional Transportation Plan began, with the staff working with members to layout a schedule. He announced that a consultant was selected for the Regional Freight Plan. He said that date for the Household Interview Survey was available on the website. He named several of the reports that were published and available on the website, or at the receptionist area.

Mr. Schulze said that the Financial report was available at the sign-in desk. He announced the departure of Michele Bager, and her replacement Larry McAuliffe. He also mentioned the new Nassau/Suffolk TCC Staff Director Kevin Wolford. He said that the Biennial (Annual) Report was completed and distributed recently.

Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC) Staff Directors' Report

- a. **New York City** - *Mr. Malsam* said that the TCC staff and members were attempting to resolve funding policy and technical eligibility questions related to the CMAQ program. In addition, five minor TIP amendments were prepared, and a full five year TIP update would begin in the summer. A User Friendly TIP in both English and Spanish would be distributed shortly. Finally, the TCC staff and members were working collectively with the Central Staff and other PFAC members to start the update of the Regional Transportation Plan.
- b. **Nassau-Suffolk** - *Mr. Moreno*, who reported for the new staff director, Kevin Wolford said that staff was working on TIP issues, as well as the Microsoft Access mailing list. Mr. Moreno added that Mr. Wolford was trying to fill a vacant TA title.
- c. **Mid-Hudson South (MHS)** - *Mr. Gerdin* reporting for Jean Shanahan said that since the last PFAC meeting, the Mid-Hudson TCC staff had worked on the two sustainable development studies which were ongoing. He added that amendments were being prepared as necessary to keep the document current.

B. ACTION ITEMS

1. Accept: February 17, 2000 Meeting Synopsis

Mr. Siracusa said that he was aware of one change, that *Lawrence Salley was the Commissioner of Westchester County DOT, not Commissioner of Planning*. He asked if there were other any changes to the February 17, 2000 meeting synopsis. There being none, Mr. Siracusa asked for a motion to accept the February 17, 2000, meeting synopsis. A motion was made by Ms. Patty Chemka, representing the Mid-Hudson South TCC, and seconded by Thomas Smith, representing Nassau-Suffolk TCC, and passed, approving the February 17, 2000, meeting synopsis.

2. Adopt: Resolution #130A: Amendment to the List of Proposals for the FY 2000 Job Access & Reverse Commute Grant Applications

Mr. Bogacz said that Resolution 130A revised the list of Job Access & Reverse Commute grant applications. The original list of thirteen proposals was approved by PFAC in February, 2000. By way of the above resolution two proposals were added to the list.

Mr. Bogacz urged members to consider and adopt Resolution No. 130A.

Mr. Siracusa asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #130A - the Amendment to the List of Proposals for the FY 2000 Job Access & Reverse Commute Grant Applications. Mr. Thomas Smith, of Nassau County, representing Nassau-Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Ms. Sarah Rios of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and Resolution #130A was passed.

3. Adopt: Resolution #131 - Creation of a Standing PFAC Advisory Group to be Called the Safety Advisory Working Group

Mr. Harris said that there was discussion about the creation of the Safety Advisory Working Group (SAWG) at the February, 2000 PFAC meeting. The NYMTC work program contained an activity related to the SAWG. The resolution presented would allow PFAC to create a SAWG so that the function and the activities related to the SAWG could be organized and work could begin. Mr. Harris described how the idea of forming a working group got started to focus attention on safety and security issues in the metropolitan area. He read the safety goals as they were stated in the Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. Harris said that the Department thought safety important enough to warrant a special working group to focus solely on safety issues. The next step, if the resolution passed, was to hold an organization meeting headed by SDOT personnel.

Mr. Harris said that the SAWG would be comprised to member agencies, and their safety professionals. He continued and said that he assumed that once the Working Group was organized, membership would be opened to have greater participation as do many of the other PFAC working groups.

Mr. Haikalis first praised the efforts to raise the awareness of safety, however, he said that he

hoped that wording would be incorporated into the Resolution to open all of the SAWG meetings to the public. Mr. Harris check the wording in the Resolution. Dr. Lapp then suggested that appropriate language be inserted into the Resolution to include the public.

A motion was made by Dr. Lapp representing NYC Transportation Coordinating Committee to approve an amended Resolution No. 131, and seconded by Mr. Tom Smith, of Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Committee, and passed.

C. REGIONAL ISSUES

1. Westchester County Megatrends

Mr. Ed Burroughs said that his presentation was geared for the Westchester County Executive and other staff. He gave a background of the program which grew out of issues that the County Executive was not aware of on a day to day basis. The goal was to raise the consciousness of the County Executive so that he would have knowledge of what was happening in Westchester county and elsewhere in the region and how issues impacted the entire region. His presentation to PFAC focused on the transportation aspect of the program: population was getting older and more diverse; traffic congestion increases; and transportation planning. He also spoke about the need to create strategic alliances, housing affordability and unaffordability; the connection between housing and transportation; growing employment; and transportation and the quality of life; flexibility of life styles. Mr. Burroughs also spoke about the four types of work trips into and out of Westchester County.

2. Results of the Freight Focus Sessions

Mr. Bogacz said that he would give a brief status report on an activity that PFAC had requested about a year ago to engage private shippers and movers of goods in a discussion of freight issues in the region related to the work of the Freight Transportation Working Group. With the help of slides Mr. Bogacz said that freight focus sessions were held in October 1999, and sponsored by NYMTC, Baruch College Center for Logistics and Transportation, and General Contractors Association. He mentioned the fifteen organizations that participated. He said that transcripts of the sessions were available upon request. (A copy of the presentation is attached).

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Haikalis, President of the Institute for Regional Urban Mobility, Inc. spoke about his organization's said some good news was that the new FAA reauthorization which wiped out artificial capacity restraints at LaGuardia and Kennedy airports, which means more aircrafts into both airports, but the bad news was that there would be more noise near the airports. He mentioned that April 22 was the 30th anniversary of Earth Day. He mentioned that the Forecasting Working Group public outreach meeting was very helpful, and informative, however, neither the public, or PFAC agencies were appropriately represented.

Ms. Frank of Landmark Studios spoke about the congestion of the 3rd Avenue and Willis Avenue bridge, and proposed that the 2nd Avenue bridge be restored, followed by repairs to the Willis Avenue bridge.

E. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **Regional Freight Plan-** *Mr. Bogacz* said he was reporting for Howard Mann. He said that the Freight Transportation Working Group recommended the development of a Regional Freight Plan. A consultant Cambridge Systematic, was recently selected to develop a Freight Plan. The Plan should identify regional issues and built on the various major studies of freight that were underway. Work should begin in the fall. He said that if anyone needed additional information they should call Howard Mann
2. **Forecasting Working Group (FWG)** - *Mr. Schulze* said that was reporting for Juliette Bergman. He said that the Forecasting Working Group was reconvened with consultant, Regina Armstrong to redo the forecasts through year 2025. A meeting which included the public was held recently held to discuss the forecasts and to layout a schedule. If you need additional information, you should contact Juliette Bergman. The next FWG meeting will be held in June.
3. **Transportation Air Quality Initiatives** - *Mr. Zamurs* briefed attendees on the status of some of the transportation air quality initiatives which were a result of the Metromobility Network. The effort was to enhance and increase public outreach, and public awareness of the connection between transportation and air quality. He said that the ozone action days season was about to start. A list of what can be done to reduce ozone levels if in business or an individual was distributed. He said that any agency that wanted to be alerted of ozone action days should see him after the meeting. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Ukegbu mentioned the City's comprehensive strategy for ozone action days.

F. NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

G. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING

The next **PFAC meeting** is tentatively scheduled for **Thursday, June 15, 2000 at 1:15 p.m. One World Trade Center, New York City.**

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Voting Members/Alternates

Floyd Lapp, NYCDCP - New York City TCC
Bob Shinnick, Charles Nauss, Suffolk County - Nassau/Suffolk TCC
John Pilner, Putnam County - MHSTCC
Noami Klein, Westchester CDOT - MHSTCC
James Yarmus, Rockland County - MHSTCC
Craig Siracusa, Chairperson, NYSDOT-Region 8
Thomas Smith, Nassau County - Nassau/Suffolk TCC
Sarah Rios, MTA
Charles Ukegbu, NYCDOT - New York City TCC

Advisory (non-voting) Members

Elizabeth Bartlett, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Nancy Danzig, Federal Transit Administration
Jonathan McDade, Federal Highway Administration
Lou Venech, Port Authority of NY&NJ

NYMTC Council Staff

Alan Borenstein
Larry McAuliffe
Jose Moreno, Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee
Wai Cheung
Anthony Gawrych
Michael Harmel
Norma P. Hessic
Larry Malsam, New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee
Tom Schulze
Patrick Gerdin, Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee
Ashley Tyrell

Others

Jon Bray, NYSDOT

M. T. Doyle, PCAC

Jeff Elmer, GCH

Gwyn Ephraim, Ove Arup & Partners

Zee Frank, Landmark Studios

George Haikalis, Institute for Rational Urban Mobility, Inc.

James Harris, NYSDOT, Albany

Brian Ketcham, Konheim & Ketcham

Seth Leitman, NY Power Authority

Larry Lennon, Parsons Brinckerhoff

Phil Rella, Queens Surface Corp

Xavier Rodriguez, Bronx Boro. President's Office

Jesse Strauss, Mayor's Office

R. Weisbrod Sustainable Ports

William Wheeler, MTA

John Zamers, NYSDOT, Albany

**Synopsis of the June 15, 2000 Meeting of the
Program, Finance and Administration Committee (PFAC)**

A. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

1. The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:25 p.m. by *Mr. Doug Currey*, Regional Director of NYSDOT, Region 11 office on behalf of the Chairperson of the Program, Finance and Administration Committee. All attendees introduced themselves.
2. **Chairperson's Remarks** - *Mr. Currey* gave an update of the search for an Executive Director for NYMTC.

Dr. Lapp spoke about the achievements of Mr. Robert Storseth, a past Director of Finance of NYMTC's predecessor agency, the Tri-State Regional Planning Commission, and asked for a moment of silence in honor and in memory of his passing in Texas on June 2 at the age of 72.

3. **Staff Executive Director's Report** - *Mr. Schulze* announced the release of the Council Contract, the Annual Report, and the NYMTC Notes. He updated attendees on the Certification Review, and said that responses were being written to the 2 Findings and the 43 Recommendations. He mentioned the recent public meeting held by FHWA and FTA on the Certification Review. He also spoke about the Federal Proposed Rule Making for TEA 21 which was recently released, and the many meetings being held around the country. He said that a consultant would be chosen by the end of summer for NYMTC's public involvement program which would last 2 years. He said that staff was in the process of updating the forecasts, and announced that the Forecasting Working Group would hold a public meeting on July 7.

Mr. Schulze said that the Financial report was available at the sign-in desk, and showed that the Central Staff program was 20% under budget due mainly to staff vacancies.

Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC) Staff Directors' Report

- a. **Mid-Hudson South (MHS)** - *Mr. Schulze* reported for Jean Shanahan and said that since the last PFAC meeting, the Mid-Hudson TCC staff had concentrated on the following items: worked on the two sustainable development studies which were ongoing; TIP amendments and project selections were being processed as necessary, in addition preparation began for the FFY 2002-2006 TIP update; participated in the review of consultant proposals for the NYMTC mailing list and public involvement program, also participated in the update of the Regional Transportation Plan.
- b. **Nassau-Suffolk** - *Mr. Wolford*, said that the N/STCC continued to work on TIP issues. Staff continued to work with the Central Staff to update the RTP. He mentioned his concern about the shortage of staff.

- c. **New York City** - *Mr. Malsam* said that the TCC staff and members were working in several areas: assembling future infrastructure needs for the next 25 years as input for the next Regional Transportation Plan; restarting the CMAQ evaluation process; conducting an Administrative Update for the first two years of the TIP; and addressing issues raised in the MPO certification.

B. ACTION ITEMS

1. Accept: April 27, 2000 Meeting Synopsis

Mr. Currey asked if there were any changes to the Synopsis. There being none, *Mr. Currey* asked for a motion to accept the April 27, 2000, meeting synopsis. A motion was made by *Mr. Thomas Smith*, representing the Nassau-Suffolk TCC, and seconded by *Dr. Floyd Lapp*, representing NYCTCC, and passed, approving the April 27, 2000, meeting synopsis.

3. Adopt: Resolution #133 - Amendment to NYMTC's MMTI/MIS List to Delete the Long Island Expressway Development Study

Mr. Manzolillo said that Resolution 133 amended the Council's Major Metropolitan Transportation Investment/Major Investment studies List by removing the Long Island Expressway development Study which was sponsored by the NYS Department of Transportation. This approved resolution would update the UPWP and the RTP accordingly. The list was last revised by PFAC on April 22, 1999. Questions were asked by *Mr. Rosmy* of the Brooklyn Borough President's Office, and *Mr. Haikalis*, President of the Institute for Regional Urban Mobility, Inc. Their questions were answered.

Mr. Currey asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #133 -Amendment to NYMTC's MMTI/MIS List to Delete the Long Island Expressway Development Study. A motion was made by *Mr. Smith*, of Nassau County, representing Nassau-Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by *Dr. Floyd Lapp* of NYC Department of City Planning representing NYC Transportation Coordinating Committee, and Resolution #133 passed.

4. Adopt: Resolution #134 - Employer Parking Management Demonstration Project

Mr. Robert Ancar, of New York State Department of Transportation-Albany, spoke about this demonstration project from its inception, with discussions between the three state forum of TDM agencies, known as the Metropolitan Mobility network of the Tri-State Region. He added that discussions were organized through a collaboration of metropolitan planning organizations from the three states. He said that the Employer Parking Management Demonstration was intended to establish a structure in the region through which a longer-term approach to employer-based parking management could be pursued. He explained that the demonstration project would build on the structure through research, marketing and coalition building. He said that the funding would be from Section 1216(a) of TEA-21. He also said that the project was strongly supported by NYSDOT, and was also consistent with NYMTC's Regional Transportation Plan. He asked that PFAC endorse the sketch plan so that it could be forwarded to the Federal Highway Administration. There were no questions asked.

A motion was made by Dr. Lapp representing NYC Transportation Coordinating Committee to approve an amended Resolution No. 134, and seconded by Ms. Patty Chemka of Westchester County Planning Department, representing Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee, and passed.

C. REGIONAL ISSUES

1. Rockland County Transit Development Program

Mr. George Sarmiento of Rockland County Planning Department said that the handout for his presentation was available at the sign-in desk. He said that the Transit Development Program was a management tool for the County of look at the next five years. He presentation covered: the study background; the study process; the findings of surveys; the key findings of the study, the recommendations; and the business plan. (A copy of the presentation is attached). Questions were asked and answered.

2. Access To the Region's Core

Mr. David Widawsky of Access to the Region's Core made a presentation which addressed the planning partnership between the Port Authority of NY & NJ, the MTA, and NJ Transit which, from the beginning focused on improved commuter access to the region's core (Mid-town Manhattan). The study began in 1995 by developing a long list of approximately 137 alternatives; Phase 2 was divided into A & B. Phase 2A narrowed the choice to 15 alternatives, and Phase 2B looked at only four alternatives before settling on the leading candidate alternative "AA". He said that Phase 1 and 2 were summarized into a "Milestone Summary report" which was made available at the sign-in desk. He continued by describing Alternative "AA", and what it would mean for commuters. He then explained Phase 3 which began one year ago. In Phase 3, ARC was analyzing three near term improvements that would expand capacity at Penn Station. He also spoke about the coordination between ARC's study of Grand Central and the East Side Access project. Then he mentioned the "what if" question i.e., what if Alternative "AA" did not work, which he said must be answered. He added that ARC must be prepared with another plan if the Alternative "AA" did not work. He said that ARC was half way into Phase 3, and one variant to Alternative "AA" must be selected and compared with Alternative "AA" leading to the selection of a locally preferred alternative. He then stated that ARC's job was to advise the sponsors and the railroads, but it was up to the sponsors to take the next step in the process, which would be to place it in a capital program, and begin a DEIS in the year 2001. Mr. Widawsky announced that their website had been in operation for three weeks and could answer questions electronically ..www.accesstoregionscore.com. Comments were made, and questions were asked and answered.

3. Federal Certification Review

Mr. Kessman of FTA spoke about the public meeting which was held recently to provide a summary of the Certification Review, and to give people an opportunity to comment. He added that, at that meeting, the procedure that was followed for the review was outlined, and the two findings were reviewed. There was also a discussion on the 42 recommendations that were made as a result of the review.

Mr. McDade, of FHWA explained that NYMTC received a conditional certification because the review cited two technical areas which need to be corrected. The two findings were: 1) lack of an integrated congestion management system with the Transportation Demand Management; and 2) the lack of sufficient staffing. He said that NYMTC had to have a fully functional transportation model integrated with Integrated Congestion Management in time to complete the development and analysis and conformity for the 2002-2006 Transportation Improvement Program. He continued that NYMTC also needed to adopt and implement a strategy to have the necessary capacity to administer the federal program in the metropolitan area which included staffing. He said that in the review the use of a Business Plan which would identify a staffing plan was identified and recommended to NYMTC. He added that, in addition to the two findings, there were a series of recommendations that were made which would enhance the planning process at NYMTC. *Mr. McDade* explained that the conditional Certification which NYMTC received would be reevaluated at the end of a one year period (May, 2001); to identify what progress was made with the recommendations and how the deficiencies were being addressed and/or resolved. If the technical deficiencies were resolved, a full Certification would be issued.

Mr. McDade said that the Council had 60 days to respond to the Department of Transportation (DOT), as to how the deficiencies, as well as the recommendations would be addressed. He added that the Program, Finance and Administration Committee of the Council had already met to develop a response to DOT's letter. He said that NYMTC's response would become a part of the Certification Review Report. He announced that copies of the Certification Review Report were available from FTA or FHWA. Comments were made, and questions were asked and answered.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Frank of Landmark Studios spoke about the need for rail freight in New York City.

Mr. Haikalis, President of the Institute for Regional Urban Mobility, Inc. asked that a document he distributed *Moving Forward on Reforms* be made a part of the synopsis. This document is attached for your information. *Mr. Haikalis* reiterated *Dr. Lapp's* kind comments about *Mr. Storseth*. He also commented on the following: the USDOT review of NYMTC, the two deficiencies; and staffing.

E. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **TRANSCOM'S Model Deployment** - *Mr. Batz* spoke about the traveler information system called TRIPS 123 which would make traveling in the New York/New Jersey/Connecticut region much easier. He said that three services would be available by December. Information would be available on the website, as well as by telephone by October. A transit advisory system would also be ready by mid-December. A brochure was distributed.
- B. **Best Practice Model (BPM)** - *Mr. Chiao* said that there had been a lot of activity by the consultant on the project. The data collection was completed and model development had began. The consultant team had been enhanced so that the BPM would be ready in time to be used for the conformity analysis of the next TIP. The enhanced team would speed up the model development and would be needed to make sure the model works. The team had developed a two-stage approach that would ensure that a version of the BPM was available even if the entire modeling package was not completed in time for the TIP. Stage two would be the completed model set. Completion of the model would be a very big challenge, however, the team believed it would be ready for the TIP conformity.
- C. **Long Island Sound Waterborne Transportation Plan** - *Mr. Bogacz* said that NYMTC members and staff were pursuing several instances of multi-state coordination, one of them being the L.I. South Waterborne Transportation Plan. The Advisory Group of the L.I. Sound Ferry Coalition - a joint effort with the two MPOs in Connecticut, CDOT and SDOT and other agencies - recommended that NYMTC and the other MPOs pursue a waterborne transportation plan. The recommendation was accepted, and money was set aside in the UPWP. *Mr. Bogacz* said that at present a Request for Proposals was being prepared, and that hopefully implementation of the planning process could be in mid-October or November. NYMTC partners in Connecticut and Long Island were pleased with the effort and were looking forward for a planning process that would identify waterborne transportation that would help with the congestion that was experienced on both sides of the Sound.
- D. **Areawide Job Access & Reverse Commute Transportation Plan** - *Mr. Khan* said that the consultant had made significant progress, especially in the areas of community involvement and data collection and data analysis. He gave a list of the public meetings that were scheduled.

F. NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Lapp commended staff for all their hard work, and public involvement, which was visible by the recent presentations at PFAC.

G. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING

The next PFAC meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Thursday, September 21, 2000 at 1:15 p.m. One World Trade Center, New York City.**

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Voting Members/Alternates

Floyd Lapp, NYCDCP - New York City TCC
Chuck Nauss, Suffolk County - Nassau/Suffolk TCC
John Pilner, Putnam County - MHSTCC
Patty Chemka, Westchester CDOT - MHSTCC
Douglas Currey, NYSDOT-Region 11
Thomas Smith, Nassau County - Nassau/Suffolk TCC
Sarah Rios, MTA
Charles Ukegbu, NYCDOT - New York City TCC
James J. Yarmus, Rockland County - MHSTCC

Advisory (non-voting) Members

Elizabeth Bartlett, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Rudy Kapichak, US Environmental Protection Agency
Irwin Kessman, Federal Transit Administration
Jonathan McDade, Federal Highway Administration
Lou Venech, Port Authority of NY&NJ

NYMTC Council Staff

Juliette Bergman
Gerry Bogacz
Alan Borenstein
Anthony Gawrych
Michael Harmel
Norma P. Hessian
Jan Khan
Larry Malsam, New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee
Debra Murray
Tom Schulze, PFAC Secretary
Kevin Wolford, Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee

Others

Robert Ancar, NYSDOT, Albany
George Armet, ESPA
Rich Backlund, FHWA
Tom Batz, TRANSCOM
J. Dean, MTA
M. T. Doyle, PCAC
William Fahey, Liberty Lines
Merrill R. Frank, C. M. Falk
Zee Frank, Landmark Studios
George Haikalis, Institute for Rational Urban Mobility, Inc.
Brian Ketcham, Konheim & Ketcham
Larry Lennon, Parsons Brinckerhoff

J. Manzollilo, NYSDOT, Region 11
Jordan Rosenfeld, ARC
Michael Rossmly, Brooklyn Boro. President's Office
Michele Samson, Frederic R. Harris, Inc.
Joshua Schank, MTA-PCAC
Antoanela Vaccaro, Automobile Club of NY
David Widawsky, ARC
John Zomers, NYSDOT, Albany