Public Comment Period Now Open for the Draft 2012 Public Involvement Plan and Procedures; Meetings to be Held May 22nd

A 45 day public comment period opened on April 30th for NYMTC’s Draft 2012 Public Involvement Plan (PIP) and Revised Operating Procedures for Public Participation, in accordance with federal requirements. The draft revised plan updates NYMTC’s current PIP, originally adopted in June 2007, as part of an ongoing effort to improve public outreach and involvement activities. The Operating Procedures are being revised to reflect revisions to the PIP and codify procedures for public involvement in NYMTC’s Compendium of Operations. The comment period closes at 4 p.m. on June 13th. The draft PIP and revised Operating Procedures are available for download at www.NYMTC.org. Hard copies are available upon request.

In conjunction with the public review period, NYMTC is holding two public meetings on May 22nd in its offices at 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, NYC, to solicit additional comments, at 3 p.m. and at 6:30 p.m. The 3 p.m. meeting will be webcast and may be accessed through www.NYMTC.org and archived for viewing at a later date as well. The 6:30 p.m. meeting will also be offered as a webinar; registration is available at www.NYMTC.org in the Calendar of Events, within the agenda.

Public Comment Period Now Open for Proposed TIP Amendments

A public comment period closes Friday, May 25th at 4PM for proposed amendments to the FFY 2011-15 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The proposed actions include consolidation of projects for Replacement of the Kosciuszko Bridge as part of New York Works Program, and reprogramming funding for three projects in the New York City area.

Details of the proposed changes can be accessed through www.NYMTC.org. Comments are due by 4PM on May 25th to Chris Hardej at chardej@dot.state.ny.us.
EPA Clean Diesel Grants Program

EPA's National Clean Diesel Campaign (NCDC) grant competition is soliciting proposals for the National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program funded through the Diesel Emissions Reduction (DERA) program, through June 4, 2012. The total estimated funding for this competitive opportunity is approximately $20 million. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is posted on www.grants.gov. The NCDC website contains more information regarding clean diesel technologies, past awarded projects, and helpful tips. All questions and/or inquiries regarding this RFP should be submitted in writing to CleanDiesel@epa.gov, or call 1-877-NCDC-FACTS. Additional information is also available at: http://www.epa.gov/cleandiesel/prgnational.htm

Three Upcoming Brown Bag Presentations

Three Brown Bag Presentations have been scheduled for May, June and July. Each may be attended in person or by webinar. To register for a webinar go to www.NYMTC.org, Calendar of Events and download the appropriate agenda. Each of the meetings will be held at 12 noon in NYMTC's offices, 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, NYC. To attend in person, RSVP to Lisa Dean at 212.383.7200 or ldean@dot.state.ny.us.


Presentation: While recognized as an efficient means of moving cargo, marine vessels are large consumers of fuel, as well as significant sources of greenhouse gas and other emissions. This presentation will discuss Shipboard Energy Management tools and processes that provide a means to reduce both fuel consumption and related emissions, with results of reductions in fuel consumption between 4% and 9%, and emission reductions of between 8% and 11%.

June 13: New Approaches to Transportation Planning. Speaker: Robert E. Paaswell, PhD, Dist M ASCE, Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering, CCNY

Presentation: Current transportation planning is derivative from methods developed post WWII to rapidly increase highway supply in the United States. The mandated planning process, development of sophisticated demand models, and the use of engineering tools have helped build networks of infrastructure second to none in the world. This presentation will discuss the importance of carrying out the planning process in full recognition of the impacts of globalization, environmental change, energy supply and price, and quality of life.

July 18: Planning Traffic Changes to Benefit Pedestrians. Speakers: NYC DOT Pedestrian Projects Group: Randy Wade, Director; Terra Ishee, Design Coordinator; and Sean Quinn Planning Coordinator

Presentation: Pedestrian planners have tamed traffic at some of the city's most vehicle-dominated locations, including the complex puzzle presented by the Hoyt-RFK Bridge interchange in Astoria and the complex traffic patterns at Grand Army Plaza in Brooklyn. In addition, Nagle and Tenth Avenue in Manhattan, Macombs in the Bronx, and Union/12th Street along with Washington Avenue in Brooklyn also received pedestrian safety improvements.
NYMTC is a regional council of governments that provides a collaborative transportation planning forum as the metropolitan planning organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley.

**NYMTC Council Members**

**Voting Members**
- Joan McDonald, New York State DOT Commissioner and NYMTC co-chair
- Janette Sadik-Khan, Commissioner, New York City Department of Transportation and NYMTC co-chair
- Amanda Burden, Director, New York City Department of City Planning
- Joseph Lhota, Chairman, Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- Edward P. Mangano, Nassau County Executive
- MaryEllen Odell, Putnam County Executive
- C. Scott Vanderhoef, Rockland County Executive
- Steve Bellone, Suffolk County Executive
- Rob Astorino, Westchester County Executive

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**Safe Routes to School Funding Available**

Applications are now available for $23.9 million in federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funding for infrastructure improvements and public education campaigns across the state to encourage elementary and middle school children to safely walk and bike to school.

Federal funding was made available to the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), which administers the SRTS program and will reimburse 100 percent of eligible project costs for successful applicants. Applications for the Safe Routes to School program will be accepted through October 5, 2012. Project awards will be announced by the end of the year.

NYSDOT will conduct regional information workshops about the Safe Routes to School program and will make program applications and guidebooks available to communities within the state. In conjunction with some of the workshops, NYSDOT and the Federal Highway Administration-New York Division (FHWA) are jointly providing training about the federal aid process to teach sponsors about the steps, activities, approvals and other requirements needed to ensure that federally-funded projects are developed, designed and constructed in accordance with federal requirements.

Information about this training and additional workshops are available at https://www.dot.ny.gov/safe-routes-to-school.

A portion of the State's Safe Routes to School Program funds has been directed to the New York City Department of Transportation's ongoing SRTS Program, which prioritizes schools based on crash and school data and incorporates community participation in the creation of each plan. Therefore, applications for the State's SRTS Program will not be available to potential applicants that are located within the five counties that comprise New York City (Bronx, New York, Kings, Queens, and Richmond).

The following are workshop locations and times for the NYMTC region.

**Long Island – Suffolk County**
May 31, registration at 8:30 a.m., workshop from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
H. Lee Dennison Building, 100 Veterans Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788
* Part of Federal Aid 101 training (SRTS overview from 9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.)

**Hudson Valley**

**Westchester**
June 4, registration at 9 a.m., workshop from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Westchester County Center, 198 Central Ave, White Plains NY 10606
*Part of Federal Aid 101 training (SRTS overview from 9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.)

**Rockland**
June 7, 10 a.m. to noon
Rockland County Planning, Building T Conference Room, 50 Sanatorium Road, Pomona, NY 10970
Advisory Members

- Patrick Foye, Executive Director, Port Authority of NY & NJ
- James Weinstein, Executive Director, New Jersey Transit
- Mary K. Murphy, Executive Director, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
- Joe Martens, Commissioner, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
- Anthony Carr, Acting Regional Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, Region 2
- Jonathan McDade, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration
- Judith Enck, Regional Administrator, US Environmental Protection Agency
- Joel P. Ettinger, Executive Director, NYMTC
- Robert Zerrillo, Council Secretary, New York State DOT

NYMTC-Notes editor: Lisa Daglian 212.383.7241 or ldaglian@dot.state.ny.us

Contact Us: http://www.NYMTC.org
NYMTC-Notes@dot.state.ny.us

Public Information Session - Toward the Next Regional Transportation Plan: Developing the Safety & Security Element

June 7th: 7PM – 9PM. NYMTC, 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, NYC.

Toward the Next Regional Transportation Plan: Developing the Safety & Security Element is the third in a series of public information sessions being offered to give the public the opportunity to provide input into this element of the 2015 – 2040 Regional Transportation Plan, currently in early stages of development.

The federal planning regulations which govern NYMTC’s planning activities require that safety and security be addressed as a component of each NYMTC Regional Transportation Plan. Promoting a safe and secure transportation system is integral to each of NYMTC’s member agencies and an important component of NYMTC’s new Plan. Using the Plan’s Safety and Security Element as a unifying framework, NYMTC members not only seek to fulfill the federal planning requirements but also constantly work on ensuring that the region’s transportation infrastructure serves users in a safe and efficient manner.

The Safety & Security Element of the current Plan can be accessed at http://www.nymtc.org/project/sawg/sawg.html

This Public Information Session may be attended in person or via webinar. To attend in person call 212.383.7200. Registration for the webinar is available at www.NYMTC.org in the Calendar of Events section, as an agenda attachment.

Previous public information sessions in the series Toward the Next Regional Transportation Plan focused on Freight Villages, held November 7, 2011, and the Pedestrian-Bicycle Element, held March 15, 2012. Presentations from both of the previous public information sessions are available at www.NYMTC.org in the Downloadable Files area under Presentations.

Additional outreach activities, including workshops and visioning sessions, will be held throughout the NYMTC region over the coming months. Stay tuned to www.NYMTC.org for details and more information on how to participate and provide your input for our region’s transportation future.

Section 5310 Application Period Now Open

The competitive Solicitation for Projects for FFY 2012 federal funds under the FTA Section 5310 Program is open through June 1, 2012. Prospective applicants must use the grant application materials on the NYSDOT website at http://tinyurl.com/5307-materials. A presentation from a May 11th workshop is available on www.NYMTC.org, in the Downloadable Files area under Presentations.

Questions can be directed to the NYSDOT Public Transportation Bureau at (518) 457-8335 or mhaas@dot.state.ny.us.