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Calendar of Events

- 1/12 - TRF - New York Chapter: Presentation by former Lt. Governor Richard Ravitch
  - 11:45 a.m. – Alfredo of Rome, 4 W. 49th Street. For more info and to RSVP contact PKGessner3@verizon.net

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Public Comment Period Now Open for the Draft 2012-13 Unified Planning Work Program

A public comment period for the Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) covering the period April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013 is now open, closing at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, February 3, 2012. The UPWP is a federally-mandated product of NYMTC’s planning process that defines planning activities in NYMTC’s region and identifies federal planning funds to conduct these activities. The Draft 2012 – 2013 UPWP is available for download on www.NYMTC.org.

NYMTC’s members will take action to adopt the draft UPWP at their Annual Meeting on March 1, 2012. The meeting will be held from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the NYU Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South, New York.

Public Comment Period Now Open for Proposed TIP Amendments

A public comment period is now open for a series of proposed amendments to NYMTC’s FFY 2011-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), closing at 4 p.m. on Friday, January 13th. The proposed amendments are to program new projects and revise existing projects throughout the NYMTC region.

Details of the proposed changes can be accessed through our website at: www.nymtc.org/abouttip-down.cfm.

Annual Listing of Obligated Transportation Improvement Projects Now Available

NYMTC’s Annual Listing of Obligated Transportation Improvement Projects for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011 is now available, as required by federal regulations. Although the TIP indicates planned funding for improvement projects and confers eligibility for federal funding, obligation effectively “locks in” the funding for projects and leads the way to implementation.

The TIP documents the region’s transportation improvements that are programmed for federal funding. All federally-funded projects are required to be on the TIP in order to be eligible for funding. The FFY 2011 Annual Listing of Obligated Transportation Improvement Projects reports which of these improvement projects have had their funding obligated during FFY 2011, which began October 1, 2010 and ended September 30, 2011. It is available at http://www.nymtc.org/abouttip-down.cfm (near bottom of webpage).
NYMTC invites not-for-profit organizations, state and local government agencies, public authorities, public and private operators of public transportation services and federally-recognized tribal governments to apply for Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom funding administered by the Federal Transit Administration. Applications must be received electronically by 4 pm on January 18, 2012. Applications from eligible applicants will be reviewed and evaluated by NYMTC’s member agencies.

Applications and overview guidance for the JARC program are available at www.nymtc.org/project/PTHSP/jarc5316.html.

Applications and overview guidance for New Freedom are available at www.nymtc.org/project/PTHSP/freedom5317.html.

Consultant Planning Services RFP Released
NYMTC, through the resulting contracts to be held by the New York State Department of Transportation, is releasing an RFP seeking to retain at least three but no more than five responsive, responsible and fully qualified Planning Consultants or Teams of Planning Consultants under an FHWA-funded, FTA-funded and potentially New York State-funded planning services term-type agreement for Consultant Planning Services.

Please note the following dates and deadlines:
January 18, 2012: Pre-Proposal Conference will be held in NYMTC’s offices at 2:00 PM
January 20, 2012: Deadline for questions about the RFP is 4:00 PM
January 24, 2012: Date when answers to questions will be released
February 2, 2012: Deadline for the submission of proposals is 2:00 PM

For more information contact Ismet Apdiroglu. To access the RFP go to http://tinyurl.com/NYMTC-PSA3-RFP

Next Brown Bag: Mobility Initiatives for an Aging Population: A Scan of Current Practices
NYMTC’s next Brown Bag, to be held in NYMTC’s offices on January 18th at 12 noon, will focus on Mobility Initiatives For An Aging Population: A Scan of Current Practices, which sets out to identify current mobility issues of older adults and examines innovative solutions in transportation, mobility and accessibility for an aging population. A total of 17 current practices or case studies are examined, eleven of which are in the United States. They address safety, accessibility and transportation choice to enhance mobility. This presentation, by Jack Schmidt, Director, Transportation Division, New York City Department of City Planning, will focus on the results of the case studies and their applicability in New York City.

This presentation may be attended in person or via webinar. For more information and to register go to http://tinyurl.com/1-18-2012-NYMTC-BB.
Freight Villages Public Information Session A Success

More than two dozen people attended NYMTC’s November 7th Public Information Session on Freight Villages – Moving toward the next RTP. The meeting kicked off a new series of public information sessions as NYMTC begins the development process for the next Regional Transportation Plan.

The session focused on the completion of NYMTC’s Feasibility of Freight Villages in the NYMTC Region, as it relates to the Regional Freight Plan component of the next RTP. Included in the discussion was an overview of how freight moves into, out of and within the region, along with the goals set forth in the previous Regional Freight Plan, as well as next steps for the development of the next Plan. A lively Q&A with the audience included some suggestions for additional considerations of goals and activities as the planning process moves forward.

The presentation is available for download at http://tinyurl.com/Freight-Village-Public-Info.

Opportunities to Weigh in on What Makes Better Communities

Following on the heels of successful town hall meetings in Mineola and Stamford, upcoming forums will allow the public to weigh in on what makes better communities, and to comment on the efforts of the New York-Connecticut Sustainable Communities Initiative, a partnership between the federal government and 17 cities, counties and organizations in New York and Connecticut. This series of town hall meetings will allow the partnership to get input for a three-year effort to improve jobs, housing, transportation and the environment. For a full description of the initiative, go to sustainablenyct.org. NYMTC is pleased to be a part of this effort and invites the public to attend and participate in these upcoming forums:

**Monday, January 23, 2012**
Bronx County Town Hall Meeting, Fordham University, Walsh Library on the Rose Hill Campus, Bronx, NY 10458. 6pm – 8pm

**Thursday, January 26, 2012**
Bridgeport Town Hall, Housatonic Community College, 900 Lafayette Blvd., Bridgeport, CT 06604. 6pm – 8:30pm

**Tuesday, January 31, 2012**
Suffolk County Town Hall, Dennison Building, 100 Veterans Hwy, Hauppauge, NY 11788. 7pm–9pm

**Tuesday, February 7, 2012**
Queens County Town Hall, York College Performing Arts Center 45 Guy R. Brewer Blvd, Jamaica, NY 11451. 6pm – 8pm

More events are coming across the region, and we'd like you to be there. To sign up for updates on this project, or to get more information about the events and the project, please visit www.sustainablenyct.org/events/
Did SEEDS Take Root on the East End?

The most complex of NYMTC's pilot sustainable development studies was the focus of the November Brown Bag Lunch presentation. Tom Neely, who chairs the East End Transportation Council in eastern Suffolk County, presented the results of the Sustainable East End Development Strategies study, known as SEEDS. Tom also provided his views on the implementation of the consensus plan which emerged from SEEDS that was released in 2005.

Tom's presentation first provided an overview of the approach to SEEDS and its results. The SEEDS process took four years to complete, given the intensity and scale of its community involvement and consensus-building, as well as its technical analysis. The presentation can be accessed at http://tinyurl.com/SEEDS-presentation.

Despite these hurdles, SEEDS did produce significant consensus and a structure for implementation, including an inter-municipal agreement and implementation committee. Tom pointed out that this structure was seeking a very high level of agreement between municipal entities, Suffolk County, the MTA and New York State DOT.

What has happened since the conclusion of SEEDS? Small scale pilots have been undertaken to coordinate transportation services and some of the recommended transportation investments have been made or are in planning stages for intersections, roadways and bike facilities. A follow-on more detailed study of transit service improvements was undertaken by the implementation committee, with a resulting field test of some of the concepts undertaken by the MTA Long Island Rail Road and Suffolk Transit.

Tom also pointed out the ensuing difficulty in achieving the desired land use outcomes that resulted from SEEDS among the 16 municipal entities on the East End. Also, barriers presented by political conflicts between some of the municipalities involved in the SEEDS process have continued and new ones have emerged.

Save the Dates!

February 23, 2012 – 1:15 p.m. | 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, NYC. PFAC Meeting.
Agenda and details to be posted on www.NYMTC.org in advance of meeting. Members will act to recommend UPWP to Council for adoption.

March 1, 2012 – 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. | NYU Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South, NYC. NYMTC Annual Meeting.
Will include a roundtable discussion among the members on Infrastructure at a Crossroads: Financing Our Regional Transportation System. Council will act to adopt UPWP along with several other action items. More information will be posted on www.NYMTC.org as it is available.