Council Adopts Regional Transportation Plan

On September 4th, NYMTC’s members took action to adopt the Draft 2014 – 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (Plan 2040) and the 2013 Congestion Management Process Report; the 2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and the Transportation Conformity Determination. Taken together, these federally required major products and analyses are critical to enabling hundreds of billions of dollars of federal transportation funds to flow to the region. The products were adopted unanimously and shared with the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration for review and acceptance.

A presentation by Seth Diamond, New York State Director for Storm Recovery, entitled “Making New York’s Transportation System More Resilient,” focused on the four major principles put forth by Governor Cuomo to respond to Hurricane Sandy and make the state stronger and more resilient to future events. Appointed by Governor Cuomo in May 2013, Mr. Diamond oversees the planning, coordination and implementation efforts associated with funding the state has received for recovery, rebuilding and resiliency work associated with Hurricanes Sandy, Irene and Lee. More information is available at http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/

Council members attending the meeting included Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone; Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell; NYS Department of Transportation Chief Financial Officer Ron Epstein, representing Commissioner and NYMTC co-chair Joan McDonald; Westchester Deputy County Executive Kevin Plunkett, representing Westchester County Executive and NYMTC co-chair Robert Astorino; FTA Regional Administrator Marilyn Shazor; FHWA Division Administrator Jonathan McDade; MTA Chief Operating Officer Nuria Fernandez; and designated representatives from the Port Authority of NY&NJ; Nassau County; Rockland County; New York City DOT; New York City Department of City Planning; and other federal and state representatives.

The products and the webcast are all available at www.nymtc.org.
Upcoming Meetings

**Brown Bag Presentation: Toward Regional Water Mass Transit**

*October 23, 2013 – 12 noon*

NYMTC, 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, NYC.

Roland Lewis, President and CEO of the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance, will discuss the advantages of an extensive, regional commuter ferry network as a means of transit equity, economic development, and emergency management, as well as how upland transit improvements, fare integration, and regional service coordination can optimize the benefits of water mass transit. This meeting may be attended in person or via webinar. Go to [http://tinyurl.com/BB-10-23-13](http://tinyurl.com/BB-10-23-13) for more information and to register.

**PFAC Meeting**

*October 29, 2013 – 1:15 p.m.*

NYMTC, 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, NYC.

This meeting will be webcast.

Action items will include recommendation of Transportation Enhancement Program projects. Agenda and documents are available at [www.nymtc.org](http://www.nymtc.org)

**PFAC Meeting**

*November 14, 2013 – 1:15 p.m.*

NYMTC, 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, NYC.

This meeting will be webcast.

In addition to action items, this meeting will include a presentation by Drew Galloway, Chief, Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor Infrastructure Planning & Performance, on *The Gateway Program: Critical Capacity Expansion to the Northeast Corridor.* Agenda and documents will be posted in advance of the meeting.

NY-NJ-CT Transportation Vulnerability Assessment Underway

As part of a grant first announced by FHWA Administrator Victor Mendez at NYMTC’s Annual Meeting on February 28th, the Federal Highway Administration and representatives from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut Departments of Transportation, four Metropolitan Planning Organizations in the three states – NYMTC; North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority; South Western Regional Planning Agency; and Greater Bridgeport Regional Council – along with the MTA and the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, have begun a region-wide vulnerability assessment and adaptation analysis for the tri-state area. This technical study is funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) at a maximum amount of $650,000.

FHWA selected Cambridge Systematics as the lead consultant to examine the effects on the transportation system from Hurricanes Sandy and Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, and identify strategies to protect transportation assets from the impacts of extreme weather and climate change. NYMTC Staff has taken a key role in organizing a Project Guidance Committee, with the goal of providing local input and guidance for the study.

The Committee is currently developing a prioritized list of transportation assets for detailed engineering evaluation, and will meet again in late October to review the transportation assets proposed by member agencies.

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’s Title VI Policy**

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council assures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or gender, as provided in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which NYMTC received Federal financial assistance.

Further, NYMTC incorporates the principles of environmental justice into its policies, planning and project development activities to ensure that there are no inequitable impacts on minority groups and low-income groups throughout the region.
NYMTC Council Members

Voting Members

- Joan McDonald, New York State DOT Commissioner and NYMTC co-chair
- Rob Astorino, Westchester County Executive and NYMTC co-chair
- Janette Sadik-Khan, Commissioner, New York City Department of Transportation
- Amanda Burden, Director, New York City Department of City Planning
- Thomas Prendergast, Chairman and CEO, 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

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
- Marilyn G. Shazor, Regional Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, Region 2

Upcoming Regional Planning Workshops

The NY-CT Sustainable Communities Consortium is holding a series of public workshops to discuss ways to expand opportunities for jobs, housing and transportation in more livable neighborhoods.

The workshop will include presentations of how neighborhood conditions are affected by federal, state and regional decision-making in housing, transportation and development, and engage participants in discussions of how these planning and programs can be improved to build more sustainable and equitable communities. For more information, go to www.sustainablenyct.org or www.facebook.com/sustainablenyct.

Workshop locations and dates are as follows – follow links to register:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yonkers</td>
<td>November 12, 2013</td>
<td>5 – 7:30 PM</td>
<td>Yonkers Public Library, Community Rm</td>
<td><a href="http://yonkersnov12.eventbrite.com">http://yonkersnov12.eventbrite.com</a></td>
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<td>1 Larkin Ctr., Yonkers, NY 10701</td>
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<td>Hempstead</td>
<td>November 13, 2013</td>
<td>6 – 8:30PM</td>
<td>African American Museum of Nassau County, Gallery II</td>
<td><a href="https://nassaunov13.eventbrite.com/">https://nassaunov13.eventbrite.com/</a></td>
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<td>110 N. Franklin St., Hempstead, NY 11550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronx</td>
<td>November 18, 2013</td>
<td>6 – 8:30PM</td>
<td>Fordham University, O'Keefe Commons</td>
<td><a href="https://bxnov18.eventbrite.com/">https://bxnov18.eventbrite.com/</a></td>
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<td>441 E. Fordham Rd., Bronx, NY 10458</td>
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<td>100 Martine Ave., White Plains, NY 10601</td>
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<td>Brentwood</td>
<td>November 20, 2013</td>
<td>6 – 8:30PM</td>
<td>Make the Road Long Island – (Pending)</td>
<td><a href="https://suffolknov20.eventbrite.com">https://suffolknov20.eventbrite.com</a></td>
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<td>1090 Suffolk Ave., Brentwood, NY 11717</td>
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<td>Brooklyn</td>
<td>November 25, 2013</td>
<td>6 – 8:30PM</td>
<td>St. Francis College (Pending)</td>
<td><a href="https://bknov25.eventbrite.com">https://bknov25.eventbrite.com</a></td>
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<td>Callahan Center 180 Remsen St., Brooklyn, NY 11201</td>
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<td>Norwalk</td>
<td>December 02, 2013</td>
<td>6 – 8:30PM</td>
<td>Norwalk City Hall, Community Room</td>
<td><a href="https://norwalkdec2.eventbrite.com">https://norwalkdec2.eventbrite.com</a></td>
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<td>125 East Ave., Norwalk, CT 06851</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Haven</td>
<td>December 09, 2013</td>
<td>6 – 8:30PM</td>
<td>Gateway Community College, Community Room</td>
<td><a href="https://nvdec9.eventbrite.com">https://nvdec9.eventbrite.com</a></td>
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<td>20 Church St., New Haven, CT</td>
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The New York-Connecticut Sustainable Communities Consortium is a bi-state collaboration of cities, counties and regional planning organizations. This initiative, funded with a $3.5 million U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant, will integrate housing, economic development, transportation and environmental planning. The Regional Planning Enhancement study and Fair Housing and Equity Assessment are integral components of the initiative that includes place-based planning for sustainable development at key nodes in the regions transit network.

Contact Brian Dennis at bdennis@rpa.org to request translation services at least three (3) days in advance of any of the meetings.
Freight in the NYMTC Region

As part of Plan 2040, NYMTC undertook an interim update of its Regional Freight Plan, created in 2004. This interim freight plan contains basic freight characteristics including modal descriptions; commodity flow analysis; a solid waste report; resource scan; updates of work on freight villages; a logistics report; and updated outreach materials including a new freight data wheel and a revised freight brochure. With the exception of the last four tasks, this work was included as part of the recently approved regional transportation plan. The next phase containing more in depth work on identifying freight transportation challenges and solutions will begin as NYMTC wraps up contracting work for this phase sometime in 2014. The Interim Freight plan is available at http://tinyurl.com/Freight-Page.

Following is an overview from the interim freight plan:

- Trucks carry 86 percent of all freight into, out of, through, and within the NYMTC region.
- 399 million tons of freight is moved through the NYMTC region annually (2007).
- The NYMTC region expects to increase freight volume (tonnage) by 48 percent through 2040.
- 45.4 million tons of freight moved between the NYMTC region and Northern New Jersey, making that region NYMTC's largest trading partner by tonnage. The NYMTC region’s largest trading partner by value is the rest of New York State, which traded $107 billion worth of freight in 2007.
- The top three commodity groups transported in the region are secondary traffic (moves of consumer products to or from warehouses or distribution centers), nonmetallic minerals, and petroleum or coal products.
- Of the 5.5 million private-sector jobs in the NYMTC region, 1.3 million, or 24 percent, are in freight-intensive industries, such as construction, manufacturing, agriculture, wholesale or retail trade, and transportation and warehousing.
- The NY/NJ region is the nation’s second largest marine port based on number of containers transported, and the nation’s third largest port based on cargo value, and the busiest port on the East Coast.
- The NY/NJ region contains the 8th largest air cargo airport in the United States (John F. Kennedy International Airport) by air cargo volume, and is the top international gateway based on cargo value.
- Nationally, truck and rail freight together are responsible for 40 percent of nitrogen oxides, 31 percent of particulate matter, and 20 percent of carbon dioxide emissions from all transportation sources.
- Federal emissions standards for heavy vehicles are expected to reduce tractor-trailer emissions by 20 percent nation-wide between 2014-2018.