

WELCOME TO

NYMTC-Notes!

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February 20, 2008

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* **Regional Vision at NYMTC Annual Meeting** by Joel Ettinger

NYMTC's Principals will present their vision for regional growth at the NYMTC Annual Meeting on **March 13** (see the calendar). The vision is built around ten desired growth areas. Growth within these areas is to be encouraged, particularly through strategic transportation investments that will increase their attractiveness and development potential. Please join us at our Annual Meeting.

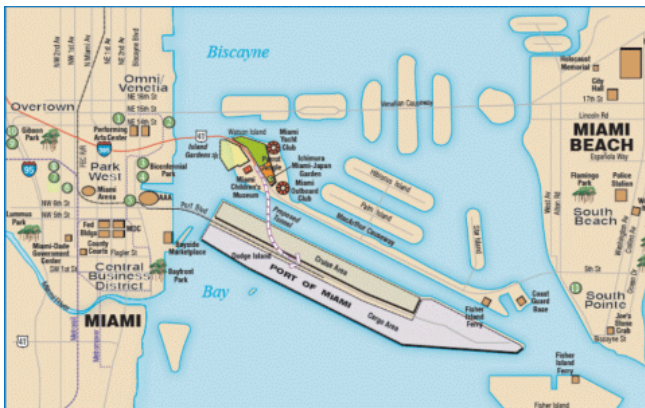


Contact: Andrea Miles-Cole at 718.482.4551 or AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us.

* **Freight Group Set for Feb. 25** by Howard Mann

NYMTC will hold an important Freight Transportation Working Group Meeting on February 25 at 10am. Freight corridors and the planning that go into them will headline the agenda which includes New Jersey's Liberty Corridor and Florida's Port of Miami truck tunnel.

Most freight experts are aware that freight issues are manifested along corridors and not usually at individual points. Usually, it's the cumulative effect of the individual points that creates the corridor-wide problems. New Jersey officials have developed a corridor approach to solving the problems in and around the port in New Jersey involving several types of improvements. In Florida the problem is truck circulation through downtown Miami to get to the Port



of Miami. Their approach is a truck-only tunnel that would divert these trucks from downtown.

Please join us for these discussions as well as updates on the Multi-State Truck Stop Inventory and Assessment and the Feasibility of Freight Villages study. The meeting will be webcast as well (see www.NYMTC.org).

Contact: Gretchen Riederer at 212.383.7258 or GRiederer@dot.state.ny.us.

*** Quest for Greater Mobility Continues** by Jan Khan

These are indeed interesting times for transportation in the New York metropolitan area. When the Metropolitan Mobility Network (MMN) meets on March 11, one of the main discussion topics will be the Managed Use Lane (MUL) study currently underway in New York City. This study is sponsored by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and one of the main objectives is the development of a toolbox of strategies to implement a MUL system that moves



people and goods on selected arterials. In keeping with its objective of updating members and other stakeholders on ridesharing options, the MMN's agenda also includes a presentation on GreenRide, which is a rideshare tool designed for use by Metropolitan Planning Organizations, transit agencies, employers and campuses. According to Tony Gale (of GreenRide), options include carpool, vanpool, transit and bike buddy ridematching, dynamic surveying, cluster mapping, event matching, and online retailer prize fulfillment.

Persons attending the meeting will also be provided with updates on the 2008 Regional Commuter Choice Awards, which will recognize employers making significant efforts to encourage their employees to commute via alternative transportation; the Clean Air NY program; New York 511; and the Trips123 Traveler Information System. See the calendar below for details.

Contact: Jan Khan at 212.383.7251 or JKhan@dot.state.ny.us.

*** Central Avenue BRT Study Progresses** by Naomi Klein, Westchester County DOT

The Steering Committee for the Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Study in Westchester County met on February 7 to discuss preliminary recommendations for BRT improvements in the corridor. The study began in February 2007 and initial tasks included collection of ridership and traffic data as well as an analysis of current operating conditions. A project newsletter has been prepared and the first public meeting was held in June 2007. A second public meeting is anticipated in late spring.

The consultant team used the baseline data to develop preliminary concepts for transit signal priority, queue jumps, bus only lanes and station access. Additional items discussed with the Steering Committee included the status of the simulation modeling of the corridor and opportunities for promoting transit oriented development. The next steps in the study are to refine the proposed operating concepts and perform modeling of BRT operations at selected intersections. Information is also available on the Westchester County website: www.westchestergov.com/transportation.

Contact: Naomi Klein at 914.813.7758 or nkk3@westchestergov.com.



*** 5310 Grant Applications Available** by Nancy O'Connell

NYSDOT has just announced the availability of applications for this year's 5310 Grant Program. This program, which is funded through the Federal Transit Administration and administered through NYSDOT, helps not-for-profit organizations who serve the elderly and persons with disabilities fund the purchase of buses. The program funds 80% of the vehicle purchase cost, with the remaining 20% provided by the applicant. The recipients are responsible for 100% of the operating expenses for the buses awarded through this program.

A series of workshops will be conducted in March throughout the NYMTC Region to assist prospective applicants filing for this program. See our Calendar of Events for dates and locations. The deadline for submitting applications is June 1, 2008. NYMTC will webcast the March 18 workshop to facilitate those who are unable to attend in person. Additional information and applications are at: www.nysdot.gov/public-transportation.

Contact: Nancy O'Connell at 212.383.2529 or NLOconnell@dot.state.ny.us.

*** TEP Workshops in March** by Nancy O'Connell

NYSDOT and NYMTC will be hosting a series of Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) workshops in March 2008. The March 20 workshop at NYMTC will be webcast for those unable to attend any of the sessions in person. Applications for the 2008 program are available on both the NYMTC website at www.NYMTC.org and the NYSDOT website at www.nysdot.gov. The deadline for submitting applications is June 27, 2008.

This unique community-oriented program helps finance non-traditional transportation projects. There are 12 activities eligible for TEP funding, including improvements to bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, scenic and historic preservation, archeological planning and research, and environmental mitigation. For a complete listing of all eligible activities, consult the TEP Guidebook available on both the NYMTC and NYS DOT websites noted above. Watch NYMTC Notes for further information on the March TEP Workshop dates and locations.

Contact: Nancy O'Connell at 212.383.2529 or NLOconnell@dot.state.ny.us

*** DATA CORNER: Travel Patterns Released** by Mary Hrabowska

NYMTC just released the *2007 Third Quarter Travel Patterns* brochure that includes statistics on passenger ridership and average weekday traffic on the major

river crossings in the New York metro area. On an average weekday, there were well over 9.5 million daily trips registered in the region, 3.5 percent more than the same period in year 2006 and 4.8 percent more than in the second quarter of 2007. Some interesting observations are:

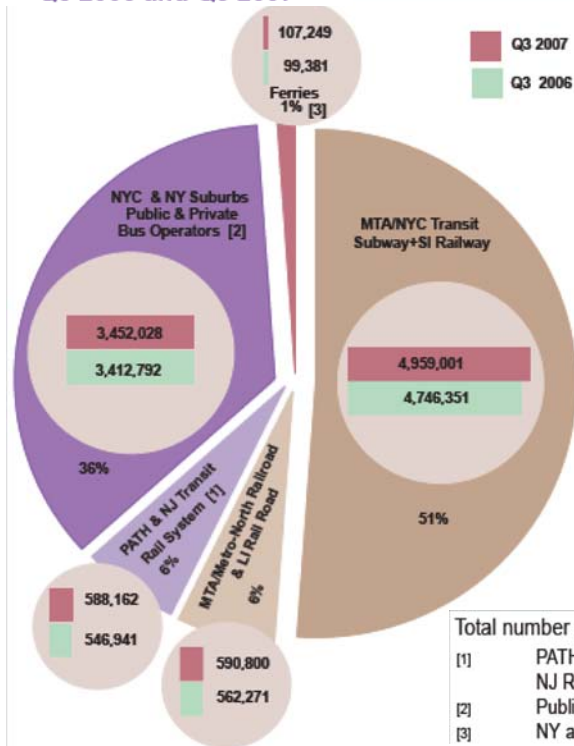
- The Metropolitan Transportation Authority reported its highest ridership. This system carried an average of 8.3 million daily trips or 87% of total trips.

- New York City Transit Rail System reported an increase of almost 5% compared to the third quarter of the last year. NYC Transit subway reported daily ridership of more than 4.9 million, which is about 200,000 more than last year.

- Average weekday ferry ridership increased by 8 percent. There were new ferry routes between southern New Jersey and Manhattan.

- PATH reported an increase of 8.5% in ridership, reaching

Average Weekday Passengers
by Public Transportation
Q3 2006 and Q3 2007



Total number of passengers by:
[1] PATH, NJ Transit Rail, Newark Subway, NJ Transit HBLR, NJ River Line
[2] Public and private buses
[3] NY and NJ ferries

247,000 average weekday trips.

-The most heavily used bridge crossing was the George Washington Bridge with 306,000 average daily crossings, followed by the Verrazano Narrows (198,000) and the Tappan Zee Bridge (147,000).

The graphs present the number of average weekday passengers by public transportation in the third quarter of 2007. This publication is at: www.NYMTC.org/files/TP-3Q-2007.pdf.

Contact: Mary Hrabowska at 212.383.7231 or MHrabowska@dot.state.ny.us.

*** CALENDAR OF EVENTS ***

5310 Workshops- Nancy O'Connell, 212.383.2529, NLOconnell@dot.state.ny.us.

3/5/08, 10am, Poughkeepsie, Eleanor Roosevelt State Office Building, 4 Burnett Blvd.

3/6/08, 10am, White Plains, Westchester County Center, 198 Central Ave.

3/18/08, 11am, NYMTC, 199 Water Street, NYC (**webcast**).

3/19/08, 11am, Hauppauge, Dennison Building, 100 Veterans Memorial Hwy.

2/20/08, 12 noon, **NYMTC Brown Bag Presentation, Sustainable Studies Evaluation,**

(**webcast**), 199 Water Street, NYC. Gerry Bogacz, 212.383.7260, GBogacz@dot.state.ny.us.

2/25/08, 10-12pm, **Freight Transportation Working Group (webcast)**, NYMTC 199 Water Street, NYC. Howie Mann, 212.383.2530, HMann@dot.state.ny.us.

3/11/08, 10am, **Metropolitan Mobility Network, (webcast)**, NYMTC, 199 Water Street, NYC. Jan Khan, 212.383.7251, JKhan@dot.state.ny.us.

3/13/08, 11am, **NYMTC Annual Meeting**, New York Univ., Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South, NYC. Andrea Miles-Cole, 718.482.4551, AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us.

3/19/08, 3pm, **Transportation Enhancement Workshop**, Dennison Building, 100 Veterans Memorial Hwy, Hauppauge. Nancy O'Connell, 212.383.2529, NLOconnell@dot.state.ny.us.

3/20/08, 3pm, **Transportation Enhancement Workshop, (webcast)**, NYMTC, 199 Water Street, NYC, Nancy O'Connell, 212.383.2529, NLOconnell@dot.state.ny.us.

4/9/08, 10:30am, **Long Island Sound Ferry Coalition Meeting**, City Hall Annex, Conf. Room "C", 999 Broad St, Bridgeport, CT. Fatai Adekoya, 212.383.7250, FAdekoya@dot.state.ny.us.

4/17/08, 1:15- 3:15pm, **NYMTC Program, Finance and Administration Committee.**

199 Water Street, NYC. Andrea Miles-Cole, 718.482.4551, AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us.



NYMTC, an association of governments and transportation providers, is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region of New York City and the counties of Nassau, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester.

NYMTC-NOTES, emailed every other Wednesday, contains announcements, short articles and calendar. To unsubscribe, send an email to: NYMTC-Notes@dot.state.ny.us with **REMOVE** as the subject. To subscribe, send an email to: NYMTC-Notes@dot.state.ny.us with **ADD** as the subject.

For questions and comments, send an email to: NYMTC-Notes@dot.state.ny.us.

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council is located at
199 Water Street, 22nd Floor, New York, NY 10038 Phone: 212.383.7200

Editor: Bernice Hoffner

Senior Editor: Alan Borenstein