

WELCOME TO

NYMTC-Notes!

www.NYMTC.org

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March 5, 2008

- * **March 13 is NYMTC Annual Meeting**
- * **Nominate for Commuter Choice Awards**
- * **Influencing Settlement**
- * **Stewart: A New Beginning**
- * **Sustainability Efforts Evaluated**
- * **Answer the Economic Census**
- * **NYMTC Hosted Australian Planners**
- * **DATA CORNER: GIS Section Gets Overhaul**
- * **CALENDAR OF EVENTS ***



* **March 13 is NYMTC Annual Meeting** by Alan Borenstein

There are still seats available for the NYMTC Annual Meeting on **March 13** (see the calendar). NYMTC's Principals will present their vision for regional growth at the meeting. 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.

* **Nominate for Commuter Choice Awards** Jan Khan

Nominations for the Regional Commuter Choice Awards are now being accepted to recognize the efforts of local businesses to get their employees out of single-occupancy cars and into carpools, vanpools and mass transit to reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality and save money by promoting commuter alternatives in the workplace. Companies of every size in the metropolitan area that have created significant and innovative alternate transportation programs for their employees are eligible for nomination. NYMTC and the Metropolitan Mobility Network will announce the winners at the Third Annual Regional Commuter Choice Awards in June 2008. The Regional Commuter Choice Awards are open to small, medium and large private businesses as well as not-for-profit, government, transportation and environmental organizations. Companies may apply directly for the program or they can get support from their local Transportation Management

REGIONAL COMMUTER
CHOICE AWARDS

Association (CommuterLink in NYC, Long Island Transportation Management on Long Island, and MetroPool in the lower Hudson Valley) in completing the nomination form. Forms are available at www.NYMTC.org with links to local associations.

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

*** Influencing Settlement** by Gerry Bogacz

Please join us for a special Brown Bag presentation on Tuesday, **April 1** (see calendar of events) when Professor John R. Nolon will explain trends and provide descriptions of local government actions that demonstrate how strategies work to influence settlement.

The U.S. Census Bureau projects that the nation's population will increase by 100 million by the year 2043 and that private markets will respond by developing 70 million new homes and 100 billion square feet of non-residential buildings. If current trends continue, 60% of these new Americans will choose a predominately single-family life style and 40% will live in more compact urban places. Many of these new households, however, are urban-oriented and the private sector is showing renewed interest in urban development. Through proper transportation planning and land use regulation, it is possible to shift settlement patterns toward mixed use, higher density places. Influencing settlement patterns in this manner may be one of the most effective strategies available for mitigating climate change.

Dr. Nolon is a professor of land use, property and environmental law at Pace University School of Law, Counsel to its Land Use Law Center, and Visiting Professor of Land Use Law at Yale. Contact: Gretchen Riederer at 212.383.7258 or GRiederer@dot.state.ny.us.

*** Stewart: A New Beginning** by Charles Sutter, WCDOT

Diannae Ehler, the new General Manager of Stewart International Airport explored some of the airport's future potential when she spoke before a capacity audience at the January 7 meeting of the Mid-Hudson South Mobility Advisory Committee at the Rockland County Department of Planning and Public Transportation. Ms. Ehler, a long time Rockland County resident, stressed the unique opportunities and challenges of the airport, now under the umbrella of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Currently the Port Authority is developing a long term plan that features regional growth. A \$17 million capital improvement program is now ongoing and the governing board of the Port Authority has authorized an additional \$500 million over the next ten years. There are about a dozen projects in the planning stage. This commitment to the future of Stewart Airport is also a commitment on the part of the Port Authority to reach out to public officials, environmental groups and other interested parties. Mr. Lou Venech, General Manager, Regional Transportation Policy Development, of the Port Authority discussed the potential for developing more ground-access options for Stewart passengers and employees.

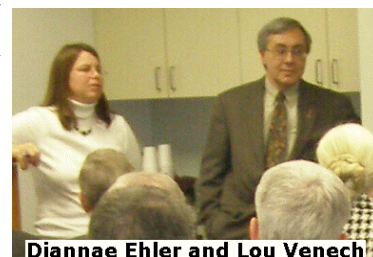
Contact: Charles Sutter at 914.813.7761 or cjs2@westchestergov.com.

*** Sustainability Efforts Evaluated** by Gerry Bogacz

How did NYMTC's four pilot sustainable development studies fare in terms of impacts on land use and transportation improvements? This key question was the focus of a presentation by Valerie Scopaz at NYMTC's Brown Bag presentation on February 20. Valerie was reporting on the program evaluation work she performed for NYMTC. The pilots were undertaken as a means of testing a new approach to integrated land use and transportation planning through consensus building. NYMTC and its members partnered with local municipalities and community boards in three suburban locations and a fourth location in Brooklyn. The evaluation looked at elements of each study and involved a survey of study participants and interviews with local officials.



John R. Nolon



Diannae Ehler and Lou Venech

The evaluation provided a variety of process-oriented recommendations for future study efforts of this type, noting the importance of local buy-in to a study as well as overall political commitment and public transparency of the study process. Implementation improvements were a particularly important set of recommendations. The evaluation demonstrated that formal agreements must be developed for the implementation phases of these efforts. The evaluation also pointed out the importance of assembling a multi-functional team to perform the work of the studies. Cultivation of the local press is another important aspect of these studies.

The evaluation found that the pilot studies generally took too much time and did not include an implementation phase in their initial designs. Their reliance on simulation modeling was both a huge strength and a significant weakness, since many people needed to understand them and the outputs they were producing. Although much effort was placed in each of the studies on outreach, consensus building and conflict resolution, these aspects were so crucial to the studies that even more resources should have been devoted to them. The evaluation also found that short-term implementation steps needed to be accomplished much more consistently in the studies in order to build trust and to enhance credibility. Also, longer-term implementation must be streamlined in order to better reflect the consensus built through the study.



The webcast can be viewed via www.NYMTC.org using the "webcast" link on the home page. Contact: Gerry Bogacz at 212.383.7260 or GBogacz@dot.state.ny.us.

*** Answer the Economic Census** by Kenneth Comia

The due date for 2007 Economic Census forms passed on February 12. If your business received a form, the law (Title 13, U.S. Code) requires that you complete and return it. If your business is very small and you did not receive a form, no action is required.

Commerce Department Secretary Carlos Gutierrez calls answering the Economic Census "an act of corporate good citizenship." The Federal Reserve Board Chairman Ben Bernanke calls the census "indispensable to understanding America's economy" and adds "returning your economic census form helps us all." So, if your company still has the 2007 Economic Census, fill it out and send it in today or request a 30-day extension at the Census Bureau's business help site at www.census.gov/econhelp or call 1.800.233.6136. To learn what the 2002 Economic Census found about our region, please visit: www.census.gov/econ/census02/. Contact: Kenneth Comia at 212.383.1885 or KComia@dot.state.ny.us.

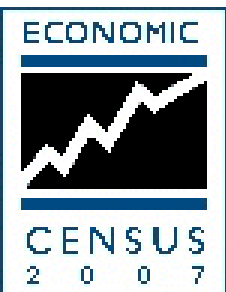
*** NYMTC Hosted Australian Planners** by David Fields, AICP

South East Queensland is Australia's fastest growing urban region, increasingly confronted by issues of sustainability. In recent years, new regional planning processes and evolving changes in urban planning and urban design thinking are significantly changing both the role and ideology of governments at different levels and the nature and emphasis of the urban development.

On February 13, NYMTC, with the New York Metro Chapter of the American Planning Association and the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects hosted three expert planners from Australia, who have had parts to play in those changes. Looking at major urban projects, the panel explored some of these issues with New York's planning community.

The presentation, "Postcard to America: Urban Design/Planning in South East Queensland" provided background into their regional planning. The regional Office of Urban Management (OUM) was created in 2004 to manage urban growth and infrastructure planning. The issues to be addressed by the OUM include urban growth boundaries; public versus private transport; Transit Oriented Development; and density mix and affordability of urban housing.

Contact: David Fields at 917.584.4731 or planman72@yahoo.com.





*** DATA CORNER: GIS Section Gets Overhaul** by Chad Wilcomb

To address a growing public interest in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and mapping, NYMTC has developed a new GIS web section at www.NYMTC.org. The purpose of the GIS web section is to provide the public with a NYMTC Map Inventory, an Interactive GIS section and a public GIS Data Inventory. Additionally, there is a new GIS Resources page that contains several links to GIS information and resources related to transportation planning. In the future, the Interactive GIS program will be updated with newer information and a more modern interface and the GIS Data Inventory will become a useful place to find transportation data. There are also several upcoming projects with web mapping components. The new GIS section is just scratching the surface of what is yet to come to the NYMTC website.

Contact: Chad Wilcomb at 212.383.7230 or CWilcomb@dot.state.ny.us.

*** CALENDAR OF EVENTS ***

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

Section 5310 Workshops:

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.

Transportation Enhancement Workshops:

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

3/20/08, 3pm, NYMTC, 199 Water Street, NYC (**webcast**).

3/25/08, 3pm, White Plains, Westchester County Center, 198 Central Ave.

4/ 1/08, 3pm, Goshen, NY, Orange County Government Center, 255 Main Street.

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.

4/1/08, 12pm, **NYMTC Brown Bag Presentation -Influencing Settlement (webcast)**.

199 Water Street, NYC. Gretchen Riederer, 212.383.7258, GRiederer@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 (webcast)**.

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.

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