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**\* July 10 Rail Plan Workshop Reminder** by Alan Borenstein

An interactive public workshop will be held on the recently released draft 2008 New York State Rail Plan on July 10 at NYMTC's offices from 1pm to 5pm. The draft 2008 New York State Rail Plan presents a proposed vision for the State's rail system to enable it to meet passenger travel demands, freight shipping needs and the challenges of responding to climate change for both today's New Yorkers and future generations. Public comments are being accepted through July 18, before the final State Rail Plan is developed.

The draft plan is available on the NYSDOT website at: [www.nysdot.gov/2008drafrailplan](http://www.nysdot.gov/2008drafrailplan).

Contact: Jay Hagle at [JHagle@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:JHagle@dot.state.ny.us).



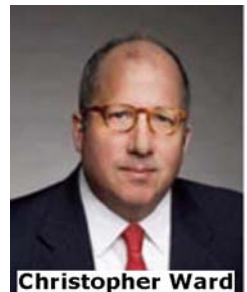
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**\* Hold Sept 18 for Chris Ward** by Alan Borenstein

NYMTC's Program, Finance and Administration Committee meeting on September 18 will feature Christopher O. Ward as the guest speaker. Mr. Ward was appointed the Executive Director of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey on May 22, 2008.

Mr. Ward was previously the managing director of the General Contractors Association of New York, and previously served the Port Authority as Chief of Planning and External Affairs and Director of Port Redevelopment from 1997-2002. He is also a past commissioner of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection.

Contact: Andrea Miles-Cole at 718.482.4551 or [AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us).



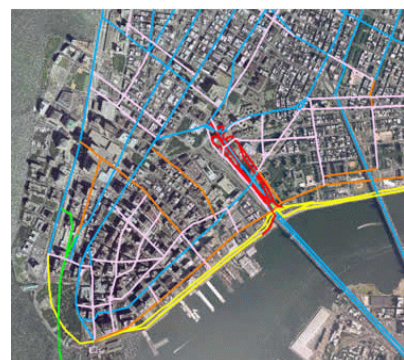
Christopher Ward

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**\* July 10 BPM Users Meet** by Sangeeta Bhowmick

NYMTC will be hosting its next Best Practices Model (BPM) Users Group Meeting on July 10. Over the past few years NYMTC has organized quarterly BPM Users Group Meetings to discuss the updates and issues related to NYMTC's Best Practices Model. The BPM is a travel demand forecasting model used in the region for project planning and analysis.

Contact: Mike Chiume at 212.383.7218 or [MChiume@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:MChiume@dot.state.ny.us).



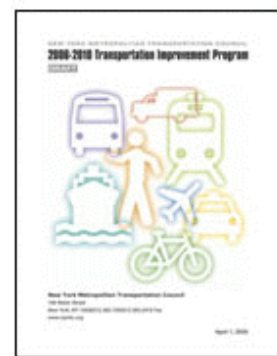
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**\* Conformity Comments Requested** by Chris Hardej

NYMTC announces the availability of a draft Air Quality Conformity Determination, undertaken due to various proposed amendments to the 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program. The draft documentation will be available at [www.NYMTC.org/project/conformity/conformity.html](http://www.NYMTC.org/project/conformity/conformity.html) on July 10, 2008. A 30-day public comment period on the draft Conformity Determination will end on August 8, 2008. In addition, a public review meeting on the Determination will be held on July 30 (see the Calendar of Events for the meeting details).

Contact: Chris Hardej at 212.383.7253 or [CHardej@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:CHardej@dot.state.ny.us).

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**\* Regional Commuter Choice Awards** by Lisa Daglian

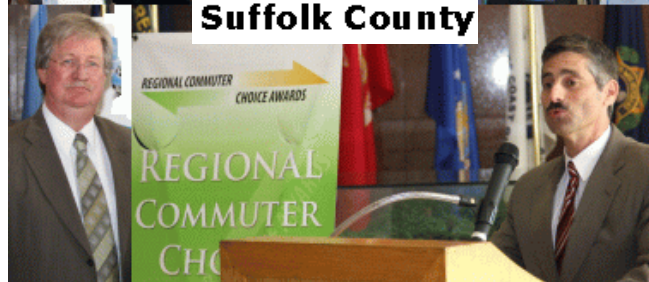


single occupancy vehicles on the road and helping clean the air. For the first time this year, eight companies received Leadership Awards, presented by the County Executives and the New York City Department of Transportation Commissioner in their respective areas, for offering commuter benefits that make important and significant contributions to the environmental and economic health of their communities. The Counties of Nassau, Rockland and Suffolk all received awards for promoting commute alternatives and focusing on the environment.



Well-attended and festive ceremonies were held over the past two weeks in Nassau County, Westchester County, Rockland County, New York City and Suffolk County (hosting its first RCCA event), with Putnam County celebrating its first-ever award winner during the Westchester event. Great support for the events and selection of the winners came from the NYMTC members and in particular from the regional transportation demand management organizations: CommuterLink in New York City, MetroPool in the

NYMTC and the Metropolitan Mobility Network celebrated the third annual Regional Commuter Choice Awards (RCCA) by recognizing 51 employers for offering commuter benefits to help employees 'green' their commutes, thereby reducing the number of





**Westchester County**

lower Hudson Valley and Long Island Transportation Management on Long Island.

In addition to doubling the number of nominations, this year's events garnered significant media attention, spurred in part by the dramatic rise in gas prices and subsequent increased focus on commute alternative programs promoted by the management organizations.

Contact: Lisa Daglian at 212.383.7241 or [LDaglian@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:LDaglian@dot.state.ny.us).



**Nassau County**

#### \* **NYMTC on Demand** by Alan Borenstein

The webcast of the June 4 Finance Conference at New York University with the Rudin Center is now available by clicking on the *Webcasts* link on NYMTC's website ([www.NYMTC.org](http://www.NYMTC.org)) home page. Technical issues did not allow us to webcast the event live, but it was recorded and can be viewed now in four files including: the opening remarks; the keynote address by Pennsylvania Governor Rendell; and one each for the panels.

NYMTC has been a leader in making its public meetings available by webcast whenever possible. The webcasts are then archived and available for viewing after the event or meeting for anyone not able to attend or view the webcast live. Contact: Andrea Miles-Cole at 718.482.4551 or [AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us).



#### \* **Brown Bag: Produce via Rail** by Scott Solomon

Railrex vice-president Paul Esposito addressed a large audience at NYMTC's latest Brown Bag event on June 18 with a presentation on shipping perishables from coast to coast. Attendance for the Brown Bag was bolstered by those also attending via the webcast and conference call. Railrex provides service by providing logistics, warehousing, and shipping services for perishable food companies across the country using global positioning system (GPS)-tracked refrigerated cars.

Mr. Esposito discussed the potential for rail freight for the country and the region and how rail freight can be both



environmentally sustainable, efficient, and profitable at all levels of the supply chain. Railex has been certified by the EPA as a *SmartWay Transport Partner* in part because its service has removed more than 220 truckloads from the roads per week as well as saving more than five million gallons of fuel per train.

The webcast of the Brown Bag session can be viewed by accessing the Webcasts link on NYMTC's home page ([www.NYMTC.org](http://www.NYMTC.org)). The presentation is available on NYMTC's website as well at [www.NYMTC.org/files/Railex\\_toUnion\\_Pacific\\_Railroad.pdf](http://www.NYMTC.org/files/Railex_toUnion_Pacific_Railroad.pdf).  
Contact: Scott Solomon at 212.383.1885 or [SSolomon@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:SSolomon@dot.state.ny.us).

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**\* CALENDAR OF EVENTS \***

**7/10/08, 1pm- 5pm, NYS Rail Plan Workshop.** NYMTC, 199 Water Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, NYC.  
Jay Higle, [JHigle@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:JHigle@dot.state.ny.us).

**7/10/08, 10am, NYMTC Best Practices Model Users Group Meeting.**  
Michael Chiume, 212.383.7218, [MChiume@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:MChiume@dot.state.ny.us).

**7/16/08, Transit Oriented Development: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Concepts in Transit-Based Community Building.** North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, 1 Newark Center, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, NJ. [www.ntionline.com/CourseInfo.asp?CourseNumber=TPE20](http://www.ntionline.com/CourseInfo.asp?CourseNumber=TPE20). Ginny Stern, NTI, 732.932.1700.

**7/30/08, 3 and 6pm, NYMTC Draft Air Quality Conformity Determination Meeting.**  
NYMTC, 199 Water Street, NYC. Tarrina Weaver, 212.383.7201, [TRWeaver@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:TRWeaver@dot.state.ny.us).

**8/21/08, 1:15pm, NYMTC PFAC Meeting (webcast).** 199 Water Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, NYC.  
Andrea Miles-Cole 718.482.4551, [AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us).

**9/18/08, 1:15pm, NYMTC PFAC Meeting (webcast).** 199 Water Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, NYC.  
Andrea Miles-Cole 718.482.4551, [AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us).

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NYMTC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for 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](mailto:NYMTC-Notes@dot.state.ny.us) with **REMOVE** as the subject. To subscribe, send an email to: [NYMTC-Notes@dot.state.ny.us](mailto: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](mailto:NYMTC-Notes@dot.state.ny.us).

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