



# NYMTC-Notes

September 2009

[www.NYMTC.org](http://www.NYMTC.org)

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## Calendar of Events

- 9/15 – TIP Comment Period Opens
- 9/17 – PFAC Meeting - 1:15 p.m.  
199 Water Street, 22

## A Word from NYMTC Co-Chair Amanda M. Burden



As Director of New York City's Department of City Planning, I have long recognized that our future growth and prosperity depends on our ability to use our resources and infrastructure wisely. Every day, we witness the legacy of half a century of automobile driven policies – in traffic, pollution, and overtaxed infrastructure. Channeling growth to transit-rich areas and creating livable, walkable neighborhoods is key to accommodating a growing population, competing globally *and* reducing the environmental footprint of our region.

For the first time, land use and transportation planning throughout the region are unified in a sustainable vision for our shared future. With strong leadership at all levels of government, now is the time to ensure we have the resources to support this vision. The NYMTC partners must seize this moment to champion and invest in transit-oriented development and establish a blueprint for a sustainable and livable future for our communities.

## Still Time to Register: Transportation Secretary LaHood to Keynote Sept. 24 Council Meeting

There is still time to register to attend NYMTC's September 24 Council meeting featuring keynote speaker Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, who will discuss the Obama Administration's commitment to Sustainable Communities. The Secretary will also touch on other timely transportation topics.



Following the Secretary's remarks, NYMTC's members will act on the 2010-2035 Regional Transportation Plan, entitled *A Shared Vision for A Shared Future*. The Plan forecasts future trends and provides a blueprint for long-range strategic transportation studies and investments to support sustainable regional growth. The meeting will be held at NYU's Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South, from 10:30 - noon. Space is limited. Please RSVP to Andrea Miles-Cole at [AMiles-cole@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:AMiles-cole@dot.state.ny.us) or call 212.383.7200.

## Next PFAC Meeting: September 17 at 1:15 p.m.

At the September 17 meeting of NYMTC's Program, Finance and Administration Committee, Paul Beyer, the Director of Smart Growth for the New York State Department of State, will discuss Smart Growth and Energy/Climate Change. 199 Water Street, 22 floor. RSVP to Andrea Miles-Cole at [Amiles-cole@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:Amiles-cole@dot.state.ny.us) or 212-383-7200.



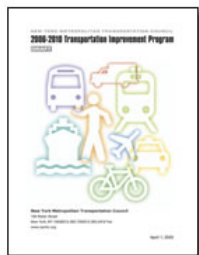
floor, NYC 10038

- 9/22 – USEPA Webinar: Intro to Clean Diesel Technologies and Strategies  
- 1:30 – 3:30  
<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/787205227>
- 9/23 – Challenges of the South Ferry Subway Station  
- 5:30 – 8:30  
Register at  
[www.acteva.com/go/nysspenychapter](http://www.acteva.com/go/nysspenychapter).
- 9/24 NYMTC Council Meeting  
- 10:30 a.m. – noon  
NYU Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South, NYC
- 9/25 APA Metro Planning Conference  
<http://www.nyplanning.org/events/092509b.pdf>
- 9/29 NYMTC Marine Highways Workshop  
- 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
199 Water Street, 22 floor, NYC 10038
- 9/30 Federal Funding 201 Free Audio Conference  
<http://tinyurl.com/senior-transport>
- 9/30 and 10/1 USDOT Distracted Drivers Summit  
[http://www.rita.dot.gov/distracted\\_driving\\_summit/](http://www.rita.dot.gov/distracted_driving_summit/)
- 10/16 Westchester County SRTS Conference  
- 8:30 a.m.  
[www.westchestergov.com/transportation](http://www.westchestergov.com/transportation)

**Did You Know?**

## TIP Comment Period Opens September 15

A public comment period for proposed changes to the 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) opens September 15. The proposed changes impact transportation projects throughout NYMTC's planning area. Details of the proposed TIP amendments are available at [www.NYMTC.org](http://www.NYMTC.org). Comments should be sent in writing to the contact noted below by 4 p.m. on Friday September 28, 2009.



Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee:  
Jean Shanahan at [JShanahan@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:JShanahan@dot.state.ny.us)

Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee:  
Nancy O'Connell at [NLOconnell@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:NLOconnell@dot.state.ny.us)

New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee:  
Carl King at [CKing@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:CKing@dot.state.ny.us)

## Workshop on Marine Highways

NYMTC will hold a workshop to gather public comments and ideas on the network of regional marine highways it recommended to the US Maritime Administration, which was developed around existing and projected passenger and freight needs for the Marine Highway Program. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 29, 6 pm – 8 pm, at NYMTC's office at 199 Water St., 22 floor, New York, NY 10038. Materials for the workshop are now available at [www.NYMTC.org](http://www.NYMTC.org), where the program will also be webcast live and made available for viewing at a later date. Please RSVP to Gretchen Riederer at 212.383.7258 or [GRiederer@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:GRiederer@dot.state.ny.us).

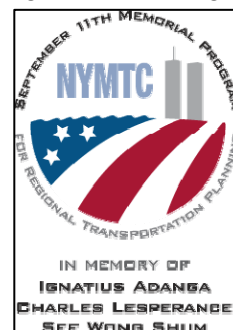


**Maritime Administration**

## Five Years of the September 11th Memorial Program for Regional Transportation Planning

By Penny Eickemeyer, UTRC

In 2005, NYMTC and the University Transportation Research Center (UTRC) joined together to create the September 11th Memorial Program for Regional Transportation Planning to serve as a living memorial to Ignatius Adanga, Charles Lesperance, and See Wong Shum, the three NYMTC staff members lost during the attack on the World Trade Center. The Program includes an academic component that is about to enter its fifth year and has proven to be a successful addition to the transportation profession in the region. To date, it has attracted 51 student applicants and has had 18 participants selected: nine in agency internships and nine for independent research covering a variety of topics pertinent to the regional planning process.



To be eligible for the Program, students must attend one of the University Transportation Research Center's 12 consortium universities in New York and New Jersey and undergo a rigorous selection process involving committee review of their application, résumé, and transcripts, composition of an essay on how they envision their role in the transportation planning process, and for the independent research candidates, a written explanation of their planned research topic. The selection committee members include representatives from NYMTC staff, its member agencies, and consortium faculty. All selected students have academic advisors, while interns work alongside supervisors at their respective agencies, and independent research participants are assigned advisors from NYMTC's members to provide a professional perspective as their research progresses.

*1916 - Help from Washington: The Federal Aid Road Act of 1916 established a regular system of federal funding for state road projects.*

*It became the basis for all future federal transportation laws that provide funding to states for highway construction.*

NYMTC-Notes is a monthly newsletter of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council.

NYMTC is a regional council of governments that is the metropolitan planning organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley.

NYMTC-Notes editor:  
Lisa Daglian  
212.383.7241 or  
ldaglian@dot.state.ny.us

Contact Us:  
<http://www.NYMTC.org>

NYMTC-  
Notes@dot.state.ny.us

### NYMTC Council Members

#### **Voting Members**

- Stanley Gee, Acting Commissioner, New York State DOT and NYMTC co-chair
- Amanda Burden, Director, New York City Department of City Planning and NYMTC co-chair
- Helena Williams, Acting Executive Director, Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- Thomas R. Suozzi, Nassau County Executive
- Janette Sadik-Khan,

Although the students receive financial compensation – tuition assistance from their respective schools for their participating year and a stipend funded by NYMTC – benefits go beyond monetary. This academic year alone, interns



have worked on a wide range of assignments including travel mode identification using GPS; Bus Rapid Transit in the I-287 Corridor in Westchester County, and workforce development at MTA Capital Construction. NYMTC has also taken on several interns who participated in projects such as data management; arranging regional conferences; personal travel surveys; mobile source emission reduction planning;

and coordinated public transit-human services planning.

A similar range is seen with the independent research topics. Examples include traveler guidance systems; time of day ridership patterns at subway stations; supply and demand issues and parking regulations; incentive structures for diesel retrofits; and temporal and size distributions of diesel vehicular particulate matter emissions.

Students and advisors both agree that the Program's goals to educate and motivate people interested in transportation planning and to encourage innovations in planning activities throughout the NYMTC region are being met. Student participants indicated that they had been given opportunities that helped them gain confidence and further career goals, participate in relevant and applicable research, and gain insight into leadership practices. As a Program advisor recently observed, "the internship program allowed him (the student) to be free to focus on one topic and work seamlessly with our staff, allowing us as a team to produce a level of analysis, outreach and website content that would have otherwise been beyond our reach."

For more information on the September 11 Program visit [www.NYMTC.org](http://www.NYMTC.org).

## Westchester County to Host Oct. 16 Safe Routes to School Conference by Charles Sutter, WCDOT

The Westchester County Department of Transportation will host a Safe Routes to School Conference (SRTS) Local Initiative on Friday, October 16, 2009 at the Westchester County Center in White Plains, New York starting at 8:30 a.m. In November of 2004, the County hosted a workshop which introduced the concept of Safe Routes to School to a regional audience. Between November 2005 and February 2008, NYMTC, in cooperation with Westchester County DOT, sponsored nine workshops in eight communities covering twelve schools.



Building on this foundation, Westchester County is hosting the upcoming Conference to focus on how different communities have risen to the challenge and developed their own SRTS programs, often based on lessons learned from one of the nine workshops. Scheduled speakers include Westchester County Executive Andrew Spano, Department of Transportation Commissioner Lawrence C. Salley and Department of Health Commissioner Dr. Joshua Lipsman.

The conference will also feature two significant panels covering examples of local initiatives by Westchester County municipalities and organizations. These panels are organized around the building blocks of the Safe Routes to School Program known as the "Five E's": Engineering, Encouragement, Education, Evaluation and Enforcement. For more information visit [www.westchestergov.com/transportation](http://www.westchestergov.com/transportation).

RSVP by October 13 to Charles Sutter at [cjs2@westchestergov.com](mailto:cjs2@westchestergov.com) or (914) 813-7761.

Commissioner, New York City Department of Transportation

- Robert J. Bondi, Putnam County Executive
- C. Scott Vanderhoef, Rockland County Executive
- Steve Levy, Suffolk County Executive
- Andrew J. Spano, Westchester County Executive

#### Advisory Members

- Christopher O. Ward, Executive Director, Port Authority of NY&NJ
- Richard R. Sarles, Executive Director, New Jersey Transit
- Mary K. Murphy, Executive Director, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
- Alexander B. Grannis, Commissioner, New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation
- Brigid Hynes-Cherin, Regional Administrator, Federal Transit Administration
- Jeffrey Kolb, Divisional Administrator, Federal Highway Administration
- George Pavlou, Acting Regional Administrator, US Environmental Protection Agency

Joel P. Ettinger, Executive Director, NYMTC

Robert Zerrillo, Council Secretary, New York State DOT

## APA NY Metro Planning Conference: Sept. 25

The American Planning Association (APA) New York Metro Chapter, in conjunction with NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, is providing a forum on *Planning for the New York Region in Challenging Economic Times* to explore the planning tools and public policies needed to respond to the challenges of planning in the metropolitan region and to continue a dialogue about the ideas that will propel New York forward well beyond the current downturn. The conference will be held on September 25, from 8:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. at NYU's Kimmel Center. For information visit <http://www.nyplanning.org/events/092509b.pdf>

## USDOT to Hold Distracted Drivers Summit

The U.S. Department of Transportation will hold a summit to determine the best ways to reduce the number of crashes and deaths due to distracted driving on Wednesday, September 30 and Thursday, October 1.

The distracted driving summit will bring together senior transportation officials, elected officials, safety advocates, law enforcement representatives, private sector representatives and academics to address a range of issues related to reducing accidents through enforcement, public awareness and education. Authoritative speakers from around the nation will lead interactive sessions on a number of key topics including the extent and impact of distracted driving, current research, regulations and best practices.



The summit will be available live by webcast and the public will be given the opportunity to submit questions online. For more information go to [http://www.rita.dot.gov/distracted\\_driving\\_summit/](http://www.rita.dot.gov/distracted_driving_summit/)

## US EPA Free Webinar: Introduction to Clean Diesel Technologies & Strategies

Tuesday, September 22, 2009, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Eastern Time

Experts from the US Environmental Protection Agency and state agencies will discuss best practices and strategies for the implementation of a variety of clean diesel projects. This webinar is targeted for local governments and municipalities and others interested in reducing air emissions from diesel-powered vehicles and equipment. Participants will also learn how to calculate the reduction of air pollutants resulting from their clean diesel initiatives.

To register go to <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/787205227>

## Federal Funding 201: Administration on Aging

Free Audio Conference

Wednesday, September 30, 2009, 2-3 p.m. Eastern Time

Greg Link, aging services program specialist with the US Administration on Aging, will present an overview of senior transportation from the perspective of the Administration on Aging in this free audio conference. The AoA works with and through the Aging Services Network to develop a comprehensive & coordinated system of long term care. This audio conference will demonstrate how the AoA supports transportation services locally and what you can do to become involved in the Aging Services Network in your community.



To register go to <http://tinyurl.com/senior-transport>.