



NYMTC-Notes

November 2009

www.NYMTC.org

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Calendar of Events

- 12/3 – TRF - *New York Chapter: Rail Renaissance: Returns, Capital and Capacity*
- 11:45 - Moran's, 103 Washington Street, 2nd floor. For more info and to RSVP contact PKGessner3@verizon.net
- 12/9 - Lower Hudson Valley Mobility Advisory Forum: Presentations on NYMTC 2010 – 2035 Regional Transportation

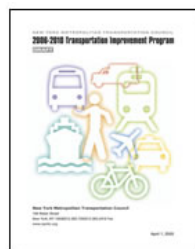
SAVE THE DATE: FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan at January 21 PFAC

Help us welcome FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan to her first appearance at NYMTC on January 21, 2010, at 1:15 p.m. Prior to joining the FTA in July 2009, Ms. McMillan was the Deputy Executive Director-Policy at the San Francisco Bay Area region's Metropolitan Transportation Commission. RSVP to Andrea Miles-Cole at amiles-cole@dot.state.ny.us.



TIP Comment Period Opens November 23

A new public comment period for proposed amendments to the 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) opens Monday, November 23, 2009 and will end Wednesday, December 2, 2009. Amendments include three new transit projects proposed for programming in Rockland County; one recreational trails project is proposed for the Bronx; one new roadway project is proposed for programming in Suffolk County; and a traffic and safety study at various locations in Nassau and Suffolk counties. Details on the proposed amendments are available at



<http://www.nymtc.org/abouttip-down.cfm>.

Reaching Across Borders: Regional Planning

With the understanding that programs, projects and issues go over, under and across its borders, NYMTC has been actively engaged in working with other New York area MPOs to enhance the regional planning process.

On November 19, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) executive director Mary K. Murphy gave a well received presentation to NYMTC's Program, Finance and Administration Committee on *Plan 2035*, the recently adopted long-range transportation plan for 13 counties in northern and central New Jersey. Similar to NYMTC's 2010-2035 Regional Transportation Plan, addressing population and employment growth while maintaining a reasonable level of



performance for an aging transportation system are key components of *Plan 2035*. The plan contains hundreds of projects, programs, studies and initiatives designed to improve transportation and promote economic activity in the region while encouraging smart growth. For more information on Plan 2035, visit www.NJTPA.org. For more information on

Plan and Westchester
2025 Plan
- 10 a.m.
Westchester County
Center, White Plains, NY.
RSVP by 12/7 to Charles
Sutter at 914.813.7761 or
cjs2@westchestergov.com

- 12/16 – Brown Bag Lunch
Presentation
- 12 noon
199 Water Street, 22 fl.
NYC RSVP to Gretchen
Riederer
griederer@dot.state.ny.us
- 1/21/10 – PFAC Meeting
Featuring FTA Deputy
Administrator Therese
McMillan
- 1:15 p.m. – 3 p.m.
199 Water Street, 22 fl.
NYC RSVP to Andrea
Miles-Cole
amilesc@dot.state.ny.us

Now Available:

The Regional Transportation
at a Glance 2007 brochure is
now available at
www.NYMTC.org/files/2007_at_a_glance_page.pdf

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

Did you know??

*In 1811 the New York State
Legislature introduced the
Grid Plan for New York City
entitled, 'Commissioners'
Plan of 1811', which divided
its streets into a rectangular
pattern. The design has
been the basis for
transportation planning in
the city ever since.*
- *Gotham Gazette*

NYMTC's 2010-2035 Regional Transportation Plan, *A Shared Vision for A Shared Future*, visit www.NYMTC.org.

A month prior, on October 20th, five metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) from across the tri-state region gathered with Federal and State representatives in the first annual Metropolitan Area Planning (MAP) Forum. The MPOs – NYMTC, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, South Western Regional Planning Agency, Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials and Greater Bridgeport/Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization – entered into a memorandum of understanding in 2007 to work more closely together on planning issues in the larger region. The annual MAP Forum is one aspect of this new agreement.



Richard Sarles, Executive Director of New Jersey Transit, provided a keynote address for the forum on thinking across regions, and Connecticut Transportation Commissioner Joseph Marie discussed opportunities for improved service integration. The MAP Forum then turned to discussions of opportunities for multi-jurisdictional planning. Topics included planning in the context of the Northeast Megaregion, regional transit service improvements, goods movement, marine highways, and boundary projects – planned improvements to the transportation system whose impacts will be felt in more than one planning area.



NYMTC Launches Travel Survey Branding Competition for Area College Students

NYMTC invites area college students to participate in a competition to create and design the brand for its Regional Household Transportation Survey. The brand includes the Survey name, Logo, Color(s), and Design components which will be used on collateral materials – including the Survey website – to communicate information about the Survey to the public and involved agencies. Winner(s) will be awarded \$250 donated by University Transportation Research Center (UTRC); will present their entry at a Program, Finance, and Administration Committee (PFAC) meeting; and will be announced in NYMTC-Notes and on NYMTC & UTRC web-sites. More information about the competition and the Survey is available at www.NYMTC.org.



New Census and American Community Survey Data Query Tool Now Available

NYMTC recently launched an interim Census and American Community Survey (ACS) data query tool, which is available at



<http://www.nymtc.org/webquery/census/main.cfm>.
This web tool provides Census 2000 and ACS data from 2005 to the present. Data on commuters' travel mode and travel time are currently available through the tool. Both can be aggregated either by residence location or by workplace location, and tables can be retrieved

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
- Jay Walder, Chairman and CEO, Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- Thomas R. Suozzi, Nassau County Executive
- Janette Sadik-Khan, 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

either by location or by year. Additional Census and ACS data on demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics will be provided in the future. For more information contact Jorge Argote at jargote@dot.state.ny.us.

Westchester County Holds Safe-Routes-to-School Conference by Naomi Klein, Westchester Co. DOT

On October 16, 2009, nearly 100 people gathered at the Westchester County Center in White Plains for a Safe-Routes-to-School (SRTS) Local Initiatives Conference, hosted by the Westchester County Department of Transportation. Following a welcome and introductions by Westchester County Executive Andy Spano and Westchester County Transportation Commissioner Larry Salley, Westchester County's Health Commissioner Dr. Joshua Lipsman spoke about the relationship between public health and transportation. He emphasized how walking and biking to school can address issues of obesity, lung ailments, traffic congestion and air quality.



The conference included panel discussions with representatives from several Westchester communities, who highlighted examples of successful SRTS programs, such as a road diet to calm traffic, a step construction project, golden sneaker contest, safety pledge and crosswalks education campaign.

The conference presentations are available at www.westchestergov.com/transportation.

For more information, contact Naomi Klein at (914) 813-7758, nkk3@westchestergov.com.



New Reports from NYMTC Studies Available

Two significant new reports are now available from NYMTC's studies on the *Feasibility of Freight Villages in the NYMTC Region* and *Hudson River Valley Greenway Link*.

Feasibility of Freight Villages in the NYMTC Region: NYMTC has been studying the feasibility of freight villages in its planning area to address the issue of high freight transportation costs and lessen the impact of trucks in the transportation of freight. A freight village is a facility with clustered warehousing and other value-added logistics centers, and with comprehensive facilities for distribution operations. These facilities combine goods movement and economic development. When concluded, the *Feasibility of Freight Villages in the NYMTC Region* study will provide a comprehensive examination of the potential for freight villages to increase the efficiencies of freight logistics and transportation in the region.



Newly released and available upon request is *Task 2 - Description of Freight Processes in the NYMTC Region*; it is in the process of being added to the website as well. This report includes an analysis of information on commodity flows in the region and focuses on the transportation aspects

- 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

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of moving and handling five specific commodities. This is an important step in the study as it provides the groundwork for examining specific locations where freight villages could be developed. More information on the Feasibility of Freight Villages in the NYMTC Region study is available at www.NYMTC.org/project/freight_planning/freight_projects.html. For more information and to obtain a CD of the report, contact Howie Mann at 212-383-2530 or hmann@dot.state.ny.us



Hudson River Valley Greenway Link Study: NYMTC is also working on a significant bicycle/pedestrian planning project, the *Hudson River Valley Greenway Link Study*, the purpose of which is to identify and design a greenway route that connects the Hudson River Greenway (which currently runs along the west side of Manhattan and terminates at Dyckman Street) with the Old Croton Aqueduct (OCA) Trail in Yonkers.



A technical memo for Task 4 of the study was recently completed and is available at www.NYMTC.org/project/bike_walk/Greenways.html. The report includes information about individual segments of several possible corridors, and begins the process of advancing several main corridors for further examination that will eventually result in design cross sections for a waterfront greenway corridor as well as an inland corridor alternative. Contact Howie Mann at 212-383-2530 or hmann@dot.state.ny.us

Local Planning in a Regional Context

Babylon Town Supervisor Steve Bellone discussed the town's ongoing revitalization and transit-oriented development efforts at a NYMTC Brown Bag presentation on November 18th. *Wyandanch Rising* is the town's coordinated approach to revitalization for the Wyandanch community within the town. Initiated in 2002, the project has been built around a community visioning process which produced a hamlet plan in 2004. That plan features a mix of land uses in a pedestrian-friendly downtown.



Since 2004, various components of this plan have been initiated or implemented, including streetscape improvements and a new post office. A key component of plan implementation going forward will be an intermodal transportation center and related transit-oriented development (TOD) project. Built around the intermodal center, the TOD project will feature commercial and residential development, an intermodal plaza, structured parking, and street realignment, including street narrowing, traffic calming, plantings and bike lanes.

Supervisor Bellone indicated that *Wyandanch Rising* is part of a broader regional vision for enhanced transit services in the critical Route 110 commercial corridor. Along with the Wyandanch Intermodal Center, the reopening of the railroad station at the Republic Airport is an important part of that regional vision, as well as an exploration of potential bus rapid transit facilities and services in the corridor.

The presentation is available under downloadable files, presentations at www.NYMTC.org.