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*** Sept 11 Program Student Receives Award** by Alan Borenstein

Gitakrishnan Ramadurai has been selected as the second prize winner for the ITS World Congress Student Essay competition based on his NYMTC September 11th Memorial Program Academic Initiative work. Ramadurai, a Ph.D student in Civil Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, worked on Identification and Modeling of Next Generation Traveler Guidance Systems. He reviewed emerging traveler information/guidance technology and reported on his development of modeling techniques for efficient implementation and operation of next generation systems. Gitakrishnan was advised by Satish Ukkusuri of RPI and worked with Todd Westhuis of the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT). ITS America recognized him with a number of rewards.

The University Transportation Research Center (UTRC) has continued to work with NYMTC to administer NYMTC's September 11th Memorial Program for Regional Transportation Planning Academic Initiative and has been instrumental in the success of the program. This program was established to honor three colleagues lost in the attack on the World Trade Center, Ignatius Adanga, Charles Lesperance, and See Wong Shum. It is designed to educate and motivate people interested in transportation technology and planning and to encourage innovations in planning activities throughout the region. The program's Academic Initiative provides support to talented students from across the region for internships and independent research projects.

The third year of the academic program was brought to a successful completion in September when the five participants presented their work at the NYMTC office. In addition to Ramadurai, Nancy Mahadeo, a Masters student in City and Regional Planning at Rutgers University had participated in an internship at



NYMTC studying Mobile Source Emissions Reduction Planning under the direction of Larry McAuliffe. Matthew Roe, a Masters student in Urban Planning at Columbia University, worked with New York City (NYC) DOT on Pedestrian Safety Planning. Brian Ross, a Masters student in Urban Planning at New York University (NYU), participated in an internship at NYMTC on Coordinated Human Services in Public Transit Planning. Timon Stasko, A Ph.D student at

Cornell, presented the results of his independent research to develop a model to predict fleet owner behavior for undertaking diesel retrofits. All of these presentations are available on the NYMTC website (www.NYMTC.org).

For the new program year, five students were selected from many applications after evaluation by a committee of seven faculty and agency representatives who rated the students on relevance of academic and professional preparation, quality of their submitted essay, and strength of recommendation letters. In addition to these criteria, the candidates for independent research were evaluated on the relevance and feasibility of their proposal.

Evan Bialostozky of Hunter College, is working with Jorge Argote of NYMTC on the development of an algorithm to detect transportation modes from GPS travel survey data and assessment of the survey design of the Regional Travel Household Survey. Peter Feroe of NYU, is participating in an internship with Westchester County, supervised by Ed Burroughs, on Transit Oriented Development along the I-287 Corridor. Jennifer Lozano of NYU, is an intern with Metropolitan Transportation Authority Capital Construction, supervised by Regina Gramola, and will evaluate the outcome of workforce development initiatives and measure their success. Darrell Sonntag, a Ph.D. student in Civil Engineering at Cornell, will be conducting an independent research project on “Modeling the Temporal and Size Distributions of Diesel Vehicular Particulate Matter Emissions” with academic advisor Oliver Gao and professional advisor Larry McAuliffe of NYMTC. Nicholas Tulach, a Ph.D. student in City and Regional Planning at Rutgers University, will be undertaking an independent research project on “Jurisdictional Boundaries for Comprehensive Street Planning in NYC.” His faculty advisor is Daniel Chatman and his professional advisor is Michael Flynn of NYCDOT.

Contact: Alan Borenstein at 212.383.7200 or ABorenstein@dot.state.ny.us.



*** Westchester BRT at Brown Bag December 17** by Gerry Bogacz



Naomi Klein

The Westchester County Department of Transportation is completing a feasibility study of the potential for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in the Central Avenue Corridor in Westchester. The corridor extends approximately 14 miles from White Plains to the Bedford Park Boulevard subway station in the Bronx and is characterized by a variety of development including strip malls, high rise residential buildings and smaller scale residential and commercial structures. Experience has shown that public transit can be a catalyst for development around transit stations, creating more walkable communities and having the potential to reduce dependence on automobile travel. Though most experience with transit oriented development has focused on rail systems, more recent examples of the impacts of BRT on land use exist. Naomi Klein, the Project Manager for the Central Avenue BRT study, will provide an overview of the Central Avenue project and discuss the study's approach to guiding land use changes that could be implemented to support BRT.

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

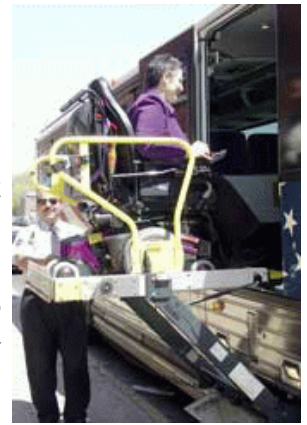
*** JARC/New Freedom Grants** by Nancy O'Connell

The New York State Department of Transportation and NYMTC are currently soliciting project proposals for funding under the Federal Transit Administration Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Programs in the New York metropolitan area. Approximately \$11 million in funds will be available for the 2009 grant solicitation. The deadline for submitting applications is **March 27, 2009**.

These programs are intended to fund innovative and flexible programs and projects which identify and address the transportation needs of individuals with limited incomes and persons with disabilities. Eligible

applicants include private not-for-profit organizations, state and local government authorities and operators of public transportation services. Applications and information on these grant programs are available through the NYMTC website at www.NYMTC.org.

NYMTC will be hosting a series of workshops in January and February 2009 to provide guidance to agencies and organizations interested in applying for these funds. Please see the Calendar of Events below. For those who are unable to attend the workshops, the February 3 workshop will be webcast live and recorded for future viewing on the NYMTC website. Contact: Nancy O'Connell at 212.383.2529 or NLOconnell@dot.state.ny.us.



*** Hudson Greenway Study Kicks Off** by Howie Mann

In the evening of December 1 at one of the most historic structures in the region, the 1748 Van Cortlandt Mansion in Van Cortlandt Park in The Bronx, NYMTC convened the Technical Advisory Committee for the Hudson River Valley Greenway Link study. The meeting was a proactive experience for committee members drawn from a broad array of interests and organizations. Attendees were asked to provide input into the concept of a contiguous non-motorized facility close to the Hudson River.

This study is intended to produce a plan to develop a conceptual design for a multi-use trail that would follow the eastern shore of the Hudson River Valley from Inwood in Manhattan to the City of Yonkers. There are several tasks that will allow for a comprehensive study of gaps in infrastructure and include outreach to the public to assist in improving upon connecting existing facilities. The study will build on and consider previous attempts to plan for a greenway along this corridor.

The demand for public space for pedestrians and bicyclists in recent years makes this project more relevant than ever. Through continuous cooperation with the public, NYMTC will determine the best ways to create public space and provide the necessary infrastructure to support the growing need for better air quality, mobility and recreational space. Look for an announcement of a new webpage on the NYMTC website, where you will be able to follow the project's progress.

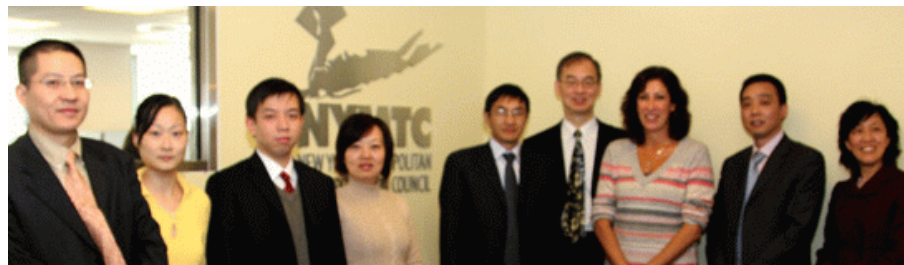
Contact: Howie Mann at 212.383.2530 or HMann@dot.state.ny.us.



Palisade Ave Trail

*** NYMTC Hosts International Visitors** by Lisa Daglian

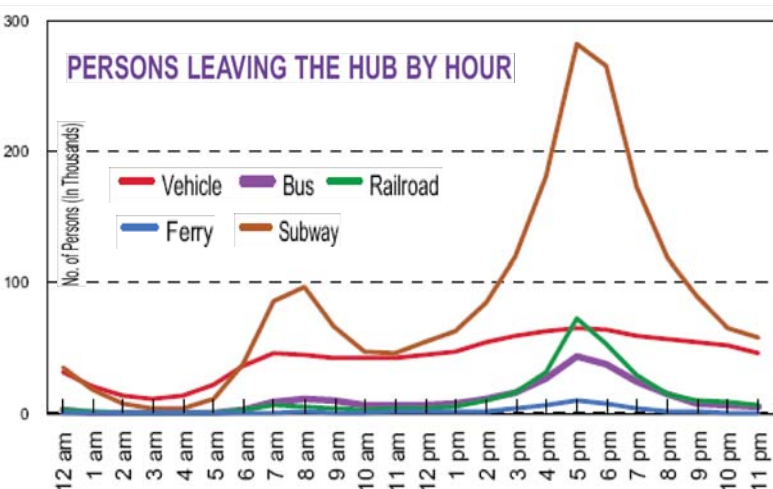
International delegations in town for the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) World Congress were welcomed to the NYMTC offices for tours and a review of the nationally acclaimed Best Practices Model (BPM). Visitors from Nigeria, China, Hong Kong, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Japan all received personal overviews of



the BPM and how it works in concert with planning and data collection and modeling, as well as its applications. Led by Technical Group Director Kuo-Ann Chiao and NYMTC staff, the visitors received a demonstration of the BPM and were given informational packages to take home.

Contact: Lisa Daglian at 212.383.7241 or LDaglian@dot.state.ny.us.

*** DATA CORNER: What Are Peak Travel Hours?** by Adam Schildge



Subway ridership into the region's hub was at its highest from all sectors during the 8am hour in 2007, with more than 19% of all daily inbound riders, as shown in the **2007 Hub Bound Travel Report**. The adjacent peak hours of 7am and 9am each had less than 12%. Outbound subway ridership was more broadly spread, but peaked during the 5pm hour. Travelers during this hour made up 14% of all outbound travel, while the 6pm hour amounted to 13%.

Similar results were collected for non-bus motor vehicles. However, these exhibited much less variation over the course of the business day. Inbound vehicles peaked during the 7am hour, but this was only 6.5% of all daily inbound vehicles. As with the subways, vehicle

travel in the outbound direction peaked during the 5pm hour. This was again a smaller peak than the subway and accounted for only 6.2% of all daily outbound vehicles.

The complete report, with detailed hourly source tables, analytical breakdowns, and textual and graphical analysis is available on NYMTC's website at www.NYMTC.org/data_services/HBT.html.

Contact: Adam Schildge at 212.383.7267 or ASchildge@dot.state.ny.us.

*** CALENDAR OF EVENTS ***

12/17/08, 12pm, NYMTC Brown Bag Presentation- BRT and Land Use in Westchester

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

1/15/09, 1:15pm, NYMTC Program, Finance and Administration Committee (webcast).

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

1/21/09, 12pm, NYMTC Brown Bag Presentation- Cross Sound Ferry Emissions Reduction

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

JARC/New Freedom Workshops- 3-5pm & 6-8pm,

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

1/14/09, Long Island- H.Lee Dennison Bldg., 100 Veterans Hwy., Media Room, Hauppauge.

1/29/09, Hudson Valley- Westchester County Center, 198 Central Ave., White Plains.

2/3/09, New York City- NYMTC, 199 Water Street, 22nd Floor, NYC.



NYMTC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for New York City and the counties of Nassau, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester. NYMTC-Notes, issued every other Wednesday, contains articles and a calendar of events. Email: NYMTC-Notes@dot.state.ny.us for questions and comments or with **REMOVE** or **ADD** as the subject to unsubscribe or subscribe.

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