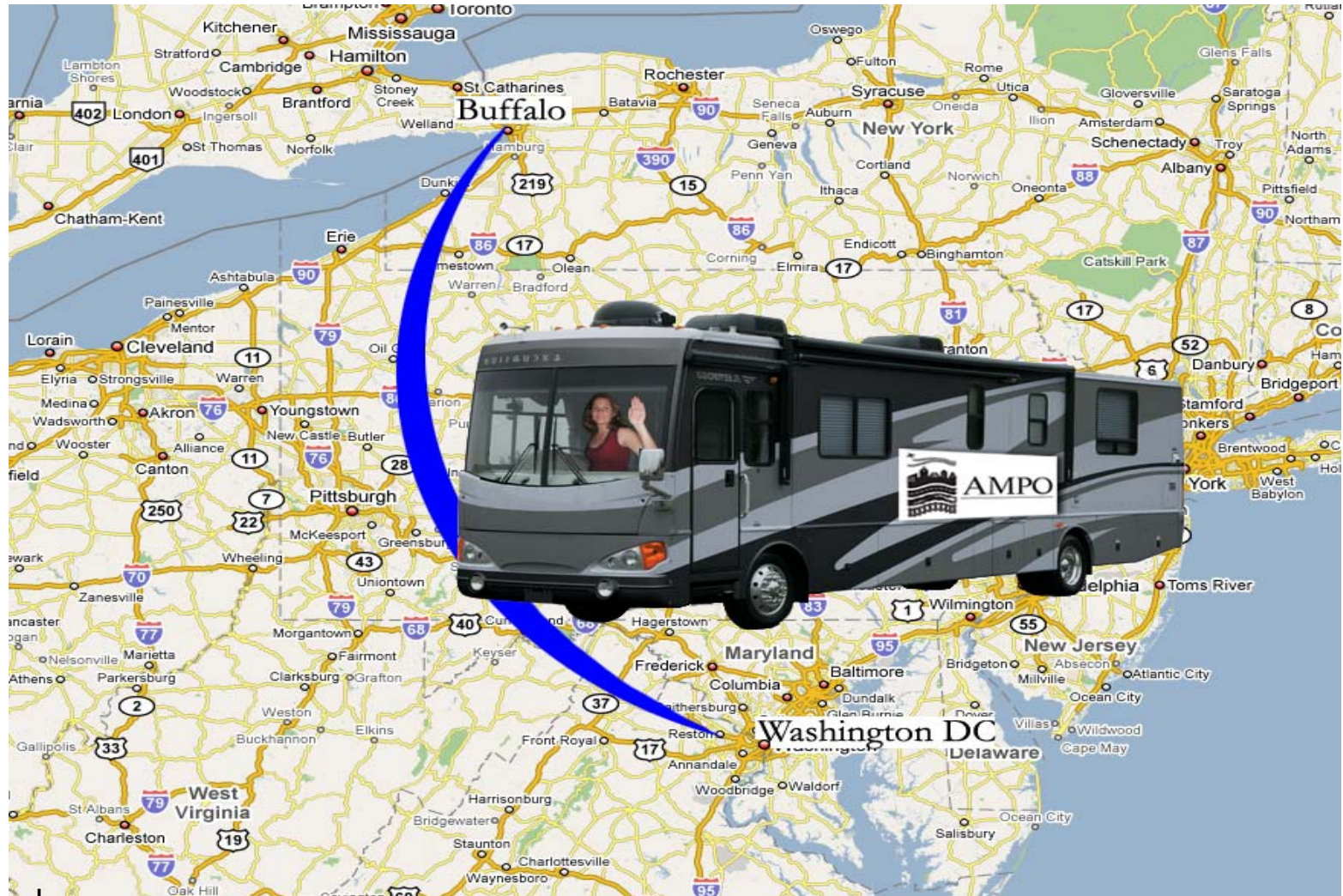


The AMPO Road Show – Stop 3

Nicole Waldheim, Senior Program Manager



8 Items of Interest: AMPO Programs and Activities



Item of Interest #1:

Policy

- 2007 Policy Year in Review
 - All of the legislative highlights regarding transportation from the last year can be found on the Members Only page
- Home Page
 - Weekly legislative updates – “What’s Happening on the Hill”
- AMPO Process
 - Member input surveys that have helped us shape policy priorities are on members only page
 - AMPO policies for next authorization are about to go before the BOD – “talking points” for members

Item of Interest #2:

Annual Conferences

■ 2008

- Seattle, WA: October 28-31: Hosted by Puget Sound Regional Council
- 30 Sessions on Various Aspects of MPO functions for staff and Board
- Now offering AICP credits
- Annual Awards – nominate your MPO

■ 2009

- Savannah, GA

■ 2010

- St. Louis, MO

Item of Interest #3:

Website

- Memorandum – Global Warming
 - surveys recent developments in the area of global warming and possible implications for MPOs
- Past Presentations
 - Most recent - Transportation Project Development
- Testimony
 - Challenges in metro areas
- Keep America Moving video
- AMPO wiki
 - Technical priorities for MPOs

Item of Interest #4:

Neighborhood America Partnership

- Through AMPO membership, MPOs can receive a HUGE discount on the Neighborhood America Public Comment © software
- In it's simplest form, the software assists in collecting information from the public through the web and creates "easy to understand" custom reports
- 3 MPOs have already signed up, with 6 more on the way. AMPO also uses this software
- Contact: Anita Clark, Account Executive for Neighborhood America,
aclark@neighborhoodamerica.com

Item of Interest #5:

Workshops and Exchanges

- Co-hosted Workshop with NADO on Rural/MPO/State Relationships
 - Checklist for working with your rural colleagues

- Hosted 3 Peer Exchanges with FHWA and Resource Systems Group on: Financial Planning, Security, and Climate Change
 - Reports are finalized and awaiting distribution.

- Hosting 2 workshops in 08 on Integrating Transportation and Land Use Planning
 - First workshop was June 3-4 in Olympia, Washington
 - Second workshop is Nov.13-14 in Austin, Texas

Item of Interest #6:

Travel Modeling

- TRB's Special Report 288 on Travel Forecasting came out last summer
 - The report lays the groundwork for new policy direction and possibly new funding for travel modeling during authorization
 - AMPO is undertaking an MPO pooled research initiative to contribute \$\$\$ towards hiring a consultant to document the use of advanced modeling practices. We currently have a commitment of \$102,000 from 10 MPOs.
 - The AMPO Travel Modeling Work Group has established a repository of MPO-sponsored research on travel modeling.

Item of Interest #7:

Air Quality

- EPA finalized new air quality standards for ozone on March 12.
- The 8-hour primary ozone standard is now 0.075 parts per million (ppm), a change from the 0.08 PPM standard set in 1997.
- EPA also set a secondary standard of 0.075 ppm, which is designed to protect ecosystems.
- Under the implementation schedule for these new standards, EPA will select final nonattainment areas by March 2010
- Air quality plans for these areas will be due three years later (2013). New conformity determinations will be required in nonattainment areas.
- All NY counties will be nonattainment to the 8-hr std using 2004-2006 monitored data:
 - Chautauqua
 - Erie
 - Essex
 - Niagara
 - Orange
 - Oswego
 - Putnam
 - Queens
 - Rensselaer
 - Richmond
 - Saratoga
 - Suffolk
 - Ulster
 - Westchester

Actual designations will be based on 2006-2008 monitor readings, so this list could change.

Item of Interest #8:

CMAQ

- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) provision was included in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (signed into law in December)
 - All CMAQ projects require the use of 80% of federal funds
- AMPO responded with Letter to FHWA Acting Administrator
 - Asking to remove 80% Floor
 - Assembled detailed list of projects that would be delayed, derailed, or canceled



Thank you

Nicole Waldheim

nwaldheim@ampo.org

202-296-7051 x 4