

NYSMPO Meeting Summary – October 3, 2003

Present:

Larry McAuliffe, NYMTC
Mary Rowlands, SMTC
Richard Beers, FHWA
Hal Morse, BGNRTC
Harry Miller, HOCTS
Steve Gleason, GTC
Jon Makler, SJS & Associates
John Poorman, CDTC
Mary Neveu, NYSDOT
Kealy Salomon, PDCTC
Jay Schissell, ECTC
Fernando De Aragon, ITCTDC
Steven Gayle, BMTS

- 1) **Meeting Summary August 1, 2003** – The meeting summary was approved
- 2) **Update on Reauthorization of TEA-21/AMPO Activities** – A five month extension to TEA-21 was approved by Congress that includes a slight increase in PL funding. Since the MPOs lost funding due to the creation of a new MPO and cuts, this restores some of that funding. The AMPO annual meeting is October 20-24 and a new Board of Directors will be elected. Steve Gayle will continue to serve on the Board of Directors.
- 3) **NYSDOT Presentation on Air Quality** – John Zamurs from the NYSDOT discussed plans for an Air Quality Week to include training on a number of air quality related activities including MOBILE6 issues. He also provided a website address for MOBILE6 tables and guidance that the NYSDOT has developed. The website is: www.dot.state.ny.us/eab/epm/M6/M6tables.html.

He also discussed the State Energy Plan and that NYSDOT is looking at developing performance measures for the Energy Plan to track progress in the transportation sector. He indicated that the Long Range Plans of the MPOs must address quantitative requirements of the Energy Plan and that the air quality branch of NYSDOT, which he heads up, would work with MPOs to ensure adequate time is allowed for these activities as part of LRP updates. John agreed to coordinate the schedule for air quality week as best he could given the need to do this soon.

- 4) **FHWA Statewide Planning Certification** – A draft of the FHWA finding will be submitted to John Poorman next month and he will circulate to the MPOs for comment. Sarah will work with the MPOs to draft a comment letter.

- 5) **Long Term Funding Needs Status**- The report is complete with the new Appendix which includes a sensitivity analysis.
- 6) **E-Score Update** – The possible use of SCI funds was discussed to buy the E-Score units for each MPO. Jay Schissell distributed a hand-out to ascertain interest by the MPOs and the MPO should email Jay with their comments and he will get back to NYSDOT.
- 7) **UPWP Development** – A call letter will come out from NYSDOT soon for the development of the UPWP. It will include 5 focus areas that are basically the same as the planning factors that must be considered, as appropriate, under Federal planning regulations. The NYSDOT is looking for strategic opportunities to partner with the MPOs on SCI projects. It was agreed that at the December 5 meeting, a presentation on the NYSDOT Transformation process would be requested. Also at the December 5 meeting, any UPWP issues will be discussed. If MPOs do two-year UPWPs, the FTA needs the actual numbers for the first year and FHWA can work with a two-year budget. The \$600,000 in old UPWP money must be expended and Sarah is to look at the unprogrammed funding amount and report back to the MPOs.

8) **SCI Projects**

- a. **Meta-data Initiative** – Jon Makler asked for reactions to the memo sent with the agenda. It was agreed that Jon and Sarah would rescope the effort after talking to Wilbur Smith, Steve Gayle, and the technical staff at SMTC and PDCTC. The goal of the project is to establish a web-based data library.
- b. **Travel Behavior Factors Update**- Sarah reported that FHWA is ready to initiate the project in November at the earliest. She will review the draft scope, distribute it to the MPOs, and draft next steps so the project can be initiated.
- c. **Integrated Community Design** – This project is proceeding and a draft list of 25 possible candidate project has been developed. Seven will be chosen at the upcoming October 30 meeting.
- d. **GIS Training**- Two sessions remain this year and so far the training has been very well received.
- e. **ITS Statewide Study** – This is on hold with NYSDOT and we will revisit this at the December meeting.

9) **Next Meeting Date/Place** – The next meeting will be December 5 in Albany at the CDTC on Wolf Road. NYSDOT will be invited to make a presentation on the Transformation Process at that meeting.