



New York State
Association of
Metropolitan
Planning Organizations
WORKING GROUP MINUTES

WORKING GROUP: Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group

MEETING DATE: 9 June 2016

MEETING LOCATION: Conference Call

LIST OF ATTENDEES BY ORGANIZATION:

Metropolitan Planning Organizations:

Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council – A/GFTC: Kate Mance

Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study – BMTS: Scott Reigle (Chair);

Capital District Transportation Committee – CDTC: Jen Ceponis

Genesee Transportation Council – GTC: Bob Torzynski

Orange County Transportation Council – OCTC: Ashlee Long; Ethan Brennan

Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council – PDCTC: Emily Dozier

Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council – SMTTC: Danielle Krol (Co-Chair); Mike Alexander

Watertown Jefferson County Area Transportation Council – WJCTC: Geoffrey Urda

New York State Department of Transportation – NYSDOT:

Main Office: Tom Benware; Jim Ercolano; Chandra Williams

Region 1: Valerie Dean

Region 3: Jeff Sterly

Region 4: Steve Beauvais

Region 5: Chris Church

Region 6: Pauline Burns

Region 7: Lynn Godek;

Region 9: Katy Mangan

Region 10: Lanny Wexler

Federal Highway Administration – FHWA: Katie O’Sullivan; Maria Chau

Other:

NYSAMPO Staff: Corey Mack, RSG

NYBC: Paul Winkeller

PTNY: Greg Francese; James Meerdink



New York State Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations **WORKING GROUP MINUTES**

MINUTES:

1. 9:30AM – Roll Call (C. Mack)
2. 9:40AM – NYBC Update/Legislation (P. Winkeller)

Winkeller: Electric Bikes: A bill is being drafted in the legislature to allow New York City to develop a registration system for Class 1 E-Bikes (pedal assist up to 20 mph). There is no schedule for implementation at this time.

Three Foot Passing Law: The 3-foot amendment (A9198a) to the Safe Passing Law is not on the Transportation Committee agenda and will not likely get passed.

Bikes on Board: The Bikes on Board measure has been removed from the budget and will not be implemented.

Other NYBC activities: Expanded law enforcement education activities including the development of a law enforcement version of the bike safety booklet with police to develop. A draft will be prepared later this year and NYBC will likely reach out to the Bike-Ped WG for feedback on the copy. Additionally, NYBC is seeking police officers interested in bicycling to be on the development committee.

3. 9:50AM – Park and Trails NY – Unused Earmarks Project (J. Meerdink)

Francese: PTNY developed a webpage with information regarding the earmark repurposing: <http://www.ptny.org/earmarks>. From the website:

“The current federal transportation funding bill, Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, gives states the opportunity to repurpose expired earmarks.

All eligible earmarks available for repurposing must meet the following criteria:

- Meets the definition of an earmark. An earmark is defined as a dedicated fund for a specific project, given by the authority of a law or contract.
- Authorized or designated on or before September 30, 2005
- Less than 10 percent obligated or the project has been completed and closed

According to our analysis, there is over \$207 M in earmark funding available for repurposing in New York State, including approximately \$18 M originally intended for bicycle and pedestrian projects.”

More information is available on the website, including a link to the FHWA earmark repurposing guidance memorandum.

Beauvais: a project sponsor, such as a municipality or non-DOT agency, is required, similar to the TAP program. Unaware of any form, proposal, or state guidance regarding the repurposing.

Dozier: unable to find much guidance, has discussed earmarks repurposing with communities, but not sure how to progress. Appears that the funding does not have to stay in same mode.

Benware: not sure who is leading from DOT, will find out. **T. Benware to find out the DOT contact for repurposing expired earmarks.**



New York State Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations **WORKING GROUP MINUTES**

The group conjectured that the money, if not spent, goes back into federal general fund or is otherwise no longer dedicated to transportation.

4. 10:10AM – NYSDOT Initiatives

a. Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (T. Benware/J. Ercolano)

▪ Pedestrian Safety Education Campaign:

Benware: the campaign is getting kicked off June 20. The Department of Health and Governors Traffic Safety Committee are the lead agencies. After the June 20 announcement, DOH is looking to work with local safety boards and MPOs to connect to local government. The hope is the Pedestrian Safety Education Campaign will have a similar effect as the seat belt education campaign.

b. NYSDOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Program - Office of Traffic Safety and Mobility (OTSM)

▪ Bicycle Map:

Benware: the bicycle route and infrastructure mapping effort is continuing to move forward. DOT is meeting with each region and working towards coming up with a common set of mapping attributes. DOT is discussing with other agency partners: DEC; NY Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation; Hudson Valley Greenway; others; and developing use scenarios: describing who is using the map, what they are using the map for, and what device they're using it on. Hoping to finish this stage of the map development in July and share with the stakeholder groups. This information will help direct map and webpage layout. The entire project is targeting a September 30 draft completion date. **T. Benware to share initial stage development with BPWG when available (estimated July 2016).**

▪ TAP (Lisa Ford/T. Benware)

Benware: No specific information regarding a TAP solicitation in 2016 at this time.

5. 10:25AM – Work Plan Implementation

a. Updating NYS Driver's Manual and Website (S. Reigle/E. Dozier)

Reigle: will follow up with P. Winkeller / NYBC to set up a meeting with DMV. **S. Reigle to discuss scheduling a meeting with DMV to update the Driver's Manual.**

b. MPO Safety Education Tool Kit (E. Dozier/S. Reigle)

Reigle: recommend waiting for the DOH / GTSC / DOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan to roll out their education component before investing time and effort into this initiative.

Wexler: consider working with the Education Department to include pedestrian safety in the school curriculum.

Urda: Washington DC includes bicycle training as part of their school curriculum: described here: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/all-dc-public-schools->



New York State
Association of
Metropolitan
Planning Organizations
WORKING GROUP MINUTES

[students-will-learn-to-ride-a-bike-in-second-grade/2015/09/23/22a0b356-6203-11e5-b38e-06883aacba64_story.html](https://www.nysampo.org/students-will-learn-to-ride-a-bike-in-second-grade/2015/09/23/22a0b356-6203-11e5-b38e-06883aacba64_story.html)

Godek: A technique that removes the pedals to help children learn to balance has been shown to be effective. The New York Learn to Ride Event, where this technique is employed, is described here: https://youtu.be/u4Y_9cZLoyQ

Adding bicycle and pedestrian safety education into the educational curriculum may be a future work plan goal.

c. Complete Streets – MPO/Region Initiatives (All)

- Complete Streets in Long Range Plan Compilation:

Reigle: have compiled several examples of how complete streets policies have been worked into Long Range plans, with the intention of adding this information, as available, to the MPO website. The BMTS complete streets policy may be approved following today's meeting, at which point it will be added to the list. **S. Reigle and C. Mack to coordinate adding the integrated Complete Street Policies and Long Range Plans to the MPO website.**

Torzynski: GTC is developing a groundwork for local policy implementation, also on the consent agenda today. **B. Torzynski to share approved local policy development plan when approved.**

Dozier: PDCTC has drafted a Dutchess County policy, which is on track for fall approval.

- Buffalo Complete Streets Study Status (C. Kuzsman)

S. Reigle: no update, looking for more information and a possible future presentation topic.

- Other MPO Initiatives:

Ceponis: CDTC has completed two Complete Streets Policy Implementation Workshops and the initial feedback has been positive. Workshops are tailored specific to the community or level of complete streets policy development, and is geared to planners, officials, public works staff. The workshops have discussed the policy development process, how to improve the process, and how to implement the complete streets policy once developed. **If available to share, J. Ceponis will distribute the workshop materials that have been developed.**

Reigle: BMTS is planning a complete streets seminar on September 21, offered to municipal officials and planners; still developing materials and agenda.

Beauvais: the GTC board is to approve 2017-2020 TIP, a couple TIP application projects included pavement preventive maintenance projects that included road space reallocation concepts. These projects were scored higher due to their complete street principals and understanding, although it was not an explicit scoring

