



**NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs
TRANSIT WORKING GROUP
December 17, 2019
Teleconference
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM**

MEETING NOTES

1. Participating

- AGFTC – Jack Mance
- BMTS – Scott Reigle
- CDTC – Carrie Ward
- ECTC – Angela Wood
- ITCTC – Jay Lambrix
- SMTC – Mario Colone
- Tompkins County – Dwight Mengel
- UCTC – Brian Slack
- NYCTCC – Karl King
- NYSDOT – Tom Vaughn
- NYSDOT – Kent Sopris
- NYSDOT – Harriet Lewis
- WJCTC– Barb Caldwell
- WJCTC – Jennifer Hodge
- Planning4Places – James Levy

1. Introductions

M. Colone opened the meeting.

2. Approval of meeting notes.

The meeting notes were approved.

3. Peer Presentations

a. MaaS – Mobility as a service

D. Mengel discussed the Tompkins County plan to implement their MaaS program for small urban and rural communities.

The project combines multimodal trip planning, customer service and bundled mobility services to meet customer needs. This is a homegrown idea that was originally presented to ITCTC in 2010. It was not originally called MAAS. Tompkins County is 1 of just 6 FTA mobility on-demand on-ramp programs to rework the MaaS concept into a multi-phase project (and the only one in northeast).

Phase 1 – Building Blocks, includes multi-modal trip planning, rural mobility services, and multi-modal customer service. The first building block is multi-modal trip planning. TCAT connects with Cortland Transit, Schuyler Transit and CTran. CTRAN has real time bus locations via apps. Tompkins County envisioned an app. that would integrate all info available for people before traveling and when travelling. The second building

block increases the supply of rural services (TCAT receives NYSERDA & NYSDOT funding to pilot a first and last-mile project) between TCAT and Gatabus/Village of Dryden. The County has volunteer transportation services and a carpooling program and is in the process of moving to a new platform (want to bring back vanpooling). There are 15,000 commuters to work and 5,000 outside the county. TCAT will design a pilot an app starting in April 2020 that enables requests to be picked up within a TBD distance in the Village of Dryden, enable people to request service in on-demand basis or pre-schedule pick-up. Need to be able to handle service between TCAT and Gadabout minibuses. Way-to-Go Cornell Coop. Extension will provide public outreach, surveys and rider education for the pilot. Could expand service county-wide and there is the possibility of income-based subsidies.

The third building block is multi-modal 24/7 customer service provided through an app. and by customer service providers. The project envisions 50% usage through the app. and 50% calling or going online. Two agencies currently provide customer service – Ithaca carshare and 211 information & referral (which takes trip reservations & requests). The project will work with these two entities to see what costs would be to have them staff a 24/7 service. Envision on the app as a single button to call any of the customer providers. The enhanced guaranteed ride program is a membership based program which people pay an income appropriate fee to have a guaranteed ride service, not only from work to home but also home to work. This service would provide guaranteed service. First mile/last mile and multi-modal trip planning & customer services will have an app. The County does not yet have funding for multi-modal trip planning app.

Phase 2 will require a broader base of expertise than was needed for phase 1 – particularly for financial services. This is likely a 2-year development project after Phase 1 is implemented. In this Phase, the County is looking to create annual mobility budgets similar to what utilities do to create budget billing where customers make the same payment every month. The budget would be reconciled quarterly. The County has cost estimates for both urban and rural households

Significant work needs to be done to get this Phase implemented. The plan is to develop a coalition, an experienced working group, with the assistance of Cornell University (among others) to create a pilot of Phase 2 that could be deployed with 100-200 users. The program would eventually scale-up from the pilot.

M. Colone asked if the County is thinking about further outreach/assistance from FTA similar to what was done in the first phase? D. Mengel noted that the County is looking for funding from every possible source. FTA is a possibility. The County applied for IMI funding in August and is waiting to hear on the application. Phase 1 is implementable and important elements are underway. The County is confident that they can get additional funding to really develop the program. Phase 2 will take a lot more work and will require some work to identify funding.

The Tompkins County MaaS webpage: <https://www.tccoordinatedplan.org/mobility-as-a-service.html>

(The presentation is the top file on the right-side column on the page.) On December 4th the County hosted a delegation from Japan on their way to D.C. They discussed MaaS and the challenges they are having, but were really looking at how the small urban and rural efforts were progressing.

4. NYSDOT Update

NYSDOT staff is in the final stages of preparing the next 5310 and 5311 solicitations. NYSDOT is awaiting the OGS bus contract award which is expected shortly.

5. Conferences

No Updates.

6. Work Plan

The Work Plan development information will be provided in January.

7. MPO Updates

SMTC – SMTC just held a policy committee meeting and adopted the 2020 UPWP. SMTC undertook a brief analysis for urban towns and the City of Syracuse along with CENTRO. SMTC is looking at NYS RT 5/Erie Blvd. which although served by CENTRO, has no amenities for buses in the corridor. As it is a commercial corridor, SMTC is looking to do improvements in the corridor. The project has identified numerous shelter locations and landing pads along with route stop consolidation opportunities based on usage data provided by CENTRO. The information is on SMTCs website (*Note: SMTC Erie Boulevard Transit Enhancement: <https://smtcmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Erie-Boulevard-Transit-Enhancement-Final-Report.pdf>*).

8. Upcoming Conferences/Events

No Updates.

9. Other

No Updates.

10. Action Items

The following were noted for follow-up by the Chairperson to contact himself or J. Levy on the following topics:

- J. Levy will send out meeting calendar notices for 2020