

NYS ASSOCIATION OF MPOs

CLIMATE CHANGE & SUSTAINABILITY WORKING GROUP

NOV 18, 2015

MEETING NOTES

1. Participating

- A/GFTC – Kate Mance
- CDTC – Jen Ceponis
- GTC – Joe Bovenzi
- NYMTC – Leslie Fordjour
- PDCTC – Shelby Tompkins
- NYSDOT – Cathy Kuzsman
- NYSDEC – Lois New

2. Partner Agency Updates

a. NYSDOT

Kuzsman reported on a stakeholders meeting on CRRRA. Guidance (signed last Sept) will be rolled out next year. Asked if MPOs participated and whether they have a response. Mance – does not appear to have a direct effect on MPO planning process and products, but will impact permitting for local members.

b. NYSERDA

No report – Ruder unavailable

c. NYSDEC: CRRRA updates

New reported on the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.

DEC sees MPOs as important partners, with supportive land use decisions. Guidance for DEC will be helpful for municipalities.

Mance: CRRRA amends existing law to make you take climate change and resiliency into account for things like water quality, sea level rise projections. Affects 19-20 state programs, some overlap with MPO work. MPOs can be useful in communicating with municipal members. Can reach out to DEC and be involved in public outreach process.

Bovenzi: Agree. MPOs should look at planning and policy documents as basis for investment decisions that reflect resiliency and mitigation measures. GTC is working on its Finger Lakes Critical Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessment. This will feed into their LRTP. Much of the information in CRRRA is focused on NYC metropolitan region. GTC is interested in understanding the impact on Great Lakes of sea level rise.

Mance: Excited to see work on bringing data together to generate climate forecasts. Reliability is an issue that is being addressed.

Bovnezi: Original design of data may affect how you use it. Floodplain data is variable by county, for example. Consolidation of data is beneficial.

Mance will reach out to DEC to see how MPOs will fit in to the process.

New reports she will be sending info for a webinar next Tuesday at 12:00 n. Northeast Transportation and Climate Initiative (involves states from Maine to Maryland and DC) Declaration of Intent signed by transportation and environmental agencies. Multistate efforts. Ruder chairs clean vehicle group. Work with policy makers on new directions.

Georgetown (supports TCI) has been working on an analysis of modeling projections on emissions reductions. That report will be released at webinar. Jumping off point for further thinking on larger regional work. She will forward the registration information when available.

Georgetown will support states in working with MPOs. Look at focused conversations in Work Plan on potential policy development and proactive outreach on mitigation programs.

3. 2016-17 Draft Work Plan

Mance reports that goals are largely unchanged, 2015-16 was successful.

Review emerging issues, consider products and partnerships. NYSERDA has been a good partner. Strengthening partnership with DEC.

Gayle reports that resources are available through the staff services contract to produce additional white papers and fact sheets. The group should consider whether there are appropriate topics for further development. They may also consider joint working group products.

Mance –Noted that exploring the impacts of CV/AV was of interest. She has not spoken with Chris O’Neill, who chairs the Modeling WG, but will do so.

Bovenzi concurs.

Gayle notes that the Modeling WG has been consumed as advisors to the U Albany AVAIL project on using NPMRDS data, but that project is close to wrapping up, so they may have more time in the coming months.

Mance: Asked whether the group is interested in continuing with web presentations at meetings. Asks for specific topics of interest. Bovenzi supports, GTC would present on critical infrastructure project when it is completed.

Gayle asked if there is interest in periodic In-person meeting.

Mance: Proposed considering a joint sustainability roundtable with DEC/DOT/DOS as possible

Mance will edit the Draft Work Plan and send out to the group for review.

4. MPO updates

None were offered.

5. Other items

None

6. Next meeting Feb 17, 2016 1:30 PM