



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY WORKING GROUP

July 15, 2021

Webinar Meeting

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

MEETING NOTES

Participating

- CDTC, Jennifer Ceponis (Chair)
- CS, Rich Denbow
- DCTC, Mark Debald
- ECTC, Kevin Meindl
- ECTC, Courtney Taylor
- GTC, Joe Bovenzi
- NYMTC, Munnesh Patel
- NYMTC, Sherry Southe
- NYSDOT, Colleen Smith-Lemmon
- NYSDOT, Elisabeth Lennon
- NYSDOT, Alan Warde
- NYSERDA, Richard Mai
- SMTC, Kevin Busa
- UCTC, Brian Slack
- Bergmann, Jayme Thomann

1. Welcome and Introductions

Jen Ceponis welcomed the participants and kicked off the meeting.

2. Scenario Planning for Great Lakes Resilience

Jayme Thomann from Bergmann gave a presentation on how scenario planning has been used for resilience planning for the Great Lakes region. She described scenario planning as a process for considering what you or your community would do given a range of hazards that are outside of your community's control. The process used in the Great Lakes region included identifying system assets, assessing the impacts of potential hazards on asset systems, and exploring adaptive actions. She walked through an application of the approach called the CLEAR (Coastal Lakeshore Economy And Resiliency) Initiative involving coastal cities and towns along Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River.

Jen Ceponis asked about one of the key challenges, which is how to measure and track GHG impacts at the local level. Jayme replied that the scenario planning exercise left that fairly general.

3. Resiliency Planning Roundtable

The Working Group discussed resiliency-related work underway.

Jen reported that the County is developing a county-wide action plan for resiliency. CDTC is participating in the committee that is involved in this work.

Mark Debald said DCTC is considering approaches to conduct a resiliency study. They may shift to a vulnerability assessment.

Elisabeth Lennon suggested that anyone beginning a study check in with the NY Division of Homeland Security & Emergency services. They are mapping vulnerable areas. This may be a good topic for a future meeting.

Jen suggested the Working Group may want to compile various practices. There may also be training, tools, and resources available from FHWA. She will look into this.

4. Round 5 Alternative Fuel Corridors Designations

In April, FHWA announced Round 5 of the Alternative Fuel Corridor Designations. Alan Warde provided an overview of designations in New York and showed maps of segments that are deemed signage ready and signage pending for EV charging. Signage ready corridors include I-86 between the NY/PA border and Jamestown; I-90 between the PA/NY border and Corfu, between Syracuse and Utica, and between Scotia and the NY/MA border; I-278 between the NY/NJ border and the I-278/I-95 interchange in Throggs Neck; and SR-27 between the NY-27/I-278 interchange in Brooklyn and Montauk.

Joe Bovenzi asked if there is value in having MPOs do AFV corridor studies in their planning areas. Alan said he encourages MPOs and others to do these studies. He noted that FHWA guidance looks at a minimum distance of 50 miles between chargers, because it is focused on developing a nationwide network. Regional studies may want to use a shorter distance.

5. NYSDOT Highway Design Manual – Limited Revision for CRRRA Implementation

NYSDOT has released a bulletin regarding changes made to the Highway Design Manual to implement the CRRRA. Elisabeth Lennon discussed changes, which address criteria for culverts on critical and non-critical roadways as well as those spanning tidal waterways, and

design flood frequencies for drainage structures for local roads. Brian Slack asked if critical sites have been incorporated into the manual. Some have, but not all are publicly available due to security reasons.

6. Current TAP/CMAQ Solicitation

Colleen Smith-Lemmon said the TAP/CMAQ solicitation is now available. Up to \$110 million in funding over a two-year period is available (\$62 million under TAP and \$48 million under CMAQ). Applications must be entered and submitted in NYS Grants Gateway. Application pre-review requests must be submitted via email to TAP-CMAQ@dot.ny.gov by August 17, 2021. Final applications must be received by September 29, 2021. Information workshops will be held at various dates and times. See <https://www.dot.ny.gov/TAP-CMAQ> for more information.

7. Partner Agency Updates

NYSERDA provided a brief update on the Climate Action Council. Much of the focus is now on the CLCPA's Scoping Plan process now that the Transportation Advisory Panel's recommendations have been submitted to the Climate Action Council. The recommendations were presented at the May 10th Council meeting. They can be found at <https://climate.ny.gov/Climate-Action-Council/Meetings-and-Materials>.

8. Next Meeting/Adjourn

The next meeting will be scheduled for October 2021.