



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY WORKING GROUP

**March 18, 2019
Webinar Meeting
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM**

MEETING NOTES

Participating

- CDTC, Jennifer Ceponis (Chair)
- AGFTC, Jack Mance
- BNMC (Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus), Bill Smith
- CS, Rich Denbow
- DCTC, Dylan Tuttle
- ECTC, Courtney Taylor
- GTC, Joe Bovenzi
- NYSDOT, Colleen Smith-Lemmon
- NYSDOT, Elisabeth Lennon
- NYMTC, Leslie Fordjour
- OCTC, Zach Coleman
- SMTC, Kevin Busa
- WSP, Fred Frank

1. Buffalo Smart Corridor

Bill Smith, Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus and Fred Frank, WSP, presented on the Buffalo Smart Corridor project underway near the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus (BNMC).

- The Medical Campus area has 9 million square feet of facilities for more than 150 public and private companies, 16,000 employees, 1.5 million patients and visitors annually, and \$1.4 billion in public and private infrastructure investments over the past 10 years.
- With this activity, the area has experienced strains on the transportation network, increased safety issues, and parking issues. To help address these issues, the GoBNMC Transportation Management Association (TMA) was created.
- Smart Corridor efforts underway include active parking management, transit oriented development, complete streets, shared mobility, electric vehicle infrastructure, and TDM strategies.
- BNMC received funding from NYSERDA and NYSDOT to develop a Main Street SMART Corridor Plan.
- As part of the Plan, case studies were developed to look at how peer cities are applying smart city/smart corridor technology and lessons learned that can be applied to the Buffalo project.

- One of the key lessons learned is that it is critical to build a data management framework for smart city/smart corridor efforts. The Buffalo project will follow this approach.

The following questions and answers were discussed after the presentation:

Q: Will emission reductions that would result from the project be estimated?

A: That is not part of the scope. Two components of the project, dynamic traffic flow and parking management strategies, will likely result in less VMT, leading to emission reductions.

Q: Do the smart street lights require digging for cable installation and installing new systems?

A: No. The existing light fixture and housing is replaced with the smart street light. Communication will take place through wireless signals, so no new cables are required.

Q: Some of our communities are looking into replacing older streetlights with LED lights and are getting multiple bids and getting overloaded with information from streetlight vendors. Have other MPOs experienced this?

A: Some WG members commented that this has been the experience in their communities as well.

2. Mitigate NY: NYS Hazard Mitigation Plan

Elisabeth Lennon provided an overview of the 2019 New York State Hazard Mitigation Plan, MitigateNY. The purpose of the plan is to identify and evaluate risks and vulnerabilities associated with natural hazards and resulting disasters and lead to the development of long-term strategies for risk reduction. The plan is now a web-based planning tool that is regularly updated through a variety of data resources. The information is valuable to MPOs and local governments that are working on resiliency planning.

MitigateNY is accessible online at <https://mitigateny.availabs.org>. The Department of Homeland Security is the owner of the site, and the plan is FEMA-approved. A transportation component will eventually be added.

3. Partner Agency/MPO Updates

Jen reported that the CCWG Work Plan is expected to be approved soon by the NYSAMPO directors, along with the other WG work plans.

Jen also reported that she is coordinating with the Bike-Ped WG to possibly develop an e-mobility fact sheet.

4. Next Meeting/Adjourn

Jen requested an in-person WG meeting at the July NYSAMPO conference. The conference planning group is considering WG requests and will determine which WGs will meet at the conference. If the CCWG meeting takes place it may be held with another WG.

The meeting was adjourned.