



**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

Boehlert Center at Union Station  
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Director: Dana R. Crisino, AICP

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**Minutes for the August 26, 2021  
Regular Meeting – Q3 2021  
Herkimer-Oneida Counties  
Transportation Planning Committee  
Virtually held through Cisco WebEx**

*Administered by: Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Council (HOCTC) MPO*

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Call to order at 9:39 AM made by Dana Crisino.

**1. Roll Call**

Voting Members Present

*Stephanie Tyoe*

*representing Mark Nagele, Chairman, Superintendent,  
Herkimer County Highways Department*

*Chris Burtch*

*Deputy Commissioner, Oneida County Public Works  
Department, representing Mark Laramie, Commissioner,  
Oneida County Public Works Department*

*E.J. Moses*

*Director of Facilities, CNYRTA/Centro*

*Deb Windecker*

*Regional Planning and Program Manager, NYSDOT  
Region 2*

*Joe Guiliano*

*Engineer II, Engineering Department, City of Rome*

*Christopher Lawrence*

*Senior Planner, City of Utica*

Non-Voting Members Present

*Dana Crisino, AICP*

*Director, HOCTC*

*Barb Hauck*

*Principal Planner, HOCTC*

*Alexander Turner*

*Planner, HOCTC*

*Adam Palmer*

*Planner, Oneida County Planning Department*

*Jeff Rehler*

*Senior Planner, Oneida County Planning Department*

*Tara Spraker*

*Director of Grants and Revenue Contract Administration,  
CNYRTA/Centro*

*Amy Henges*

*NYSDOT*

*Chris Henry*

*Associate Planner, Oneida County Planning Department*

*Matt Andrews*

*Deputy Director, Community & Economic Development,  
City of Rome*

Voting Members Joining Late

*Jerrin George*

*Professional Engineer I, NYS Thruway Authority*

*James Genovese*

*Director, Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive  
Planning Program*

Voting Members Absent

Rocky Corigliano

Vice President of Operations, Birnie Bus Service, Inc.

**2. Approval of the Minutes**

- Motion to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2021 meeting as submitted made by: E.J. Moses
- Seconded by: Deb Windecker
- Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

**3. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**4. Director's Report**

- Dana Crisino gave a synopsis of HOCTC activities for the past quarter.
- The MPO has been working on the Environmental Justice Plan and update to the Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan.
- New members joined the Oneida County Planning Department: Adam Palmer in February and Jeff Rehler in June.
- Oneida County recently launched the Main Street Program which the MPO staff had a large role in the technical development in.
- HOCTC has been assisting with COVID response for Oneida County.
- The Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail Guide is being updated and will be brought online in a digital format, with a estimated Spring 2022 release.
- There has been work on the electric vehicle and charging station mapping and build-out planning for the two counties.
- The Local Transportation Planning Assistance Program (LTPAP) projects are set to come back online and move forward.

**5. NYSDOT Region 2 Report**

- Deb Windecker gave a report on the activities that NYSDOT Region 2 has performed in the last quarter.
- The following projects are scheduled for lettings between September and November
  - Utica Pedestrian Action Plan
    1. This program will address intersection and midblock crossings in Utica. \$432,000 of Highway Safety Improvement funding with an award forthcoming.
  - Oneida Street over Sauquoit Creek Bridge Replacement in the Village of Clayville for \$1.2 million.
  - Reconstruction of Middle Settlement Road in the Town of New Hartford from Route 5 to Clinton Street for \$4.6 million. This project is 100% State and local funded.

- Route 825 Bridge Rehabilitation in the City of Rome for \$2.7 million.
- The following projects are currently under construction:
  - Stage 1 of the Route 8 bridge replacement over Routes 5, 8, and 12 for \$12 million has been completed. The interchange will be opened in the winter. There has been challenges with obtaining the steel necessary for the bridge replacement. Stage 2 will not commence until Spring 2022 at which time the interchange will be closed again.
  - Forestport bridges for \$2.2 million
  - Route 5 paving for \$2.7 million, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of July.
  - Route 28 in the Village of Mohawk for \$1.5 million. The curb work is underway with milling and paving to commence at the conclusion of the curb work.
- The U.S. Senate passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act on August 10. This would authorized \$1.2 trillion in funding for transportation nationwide with \$550 billion in all-new funding, \$110 billion of which would be for roads and bridges. Furthermore, there were new programs proposed such as electric vehicle charging stations and an increased in bicycle and walking infrastructure. A resiliency program to harden infrastructure against flooding was also proposed. A new bridge and culvert program to address fair and poor rated bridges was proposed too. The U.S. House of Representatives recently approved \$3.5 trillion Public and Human Infrastructure bill. The FAST Act transportation bill will expire on September 30.
- The Transportation Alternatives Program will have another round coming funded in the amount of \$62 million with support for walking, bicycling, and multi-use trails. The awards for each project will range from \$500,000 to \$5 million. The funding split will be 80% federal funds and a 20% local sponsor match. The applications for the program are due September 29. Deb anticipates an early 2022 announcement of award of projects.

## 6. Other Reports

- **2020 Census Results**
  - Alexander Turner gave a report on the latest announcement for data related to the 2020 Decennial Census.
  - The Census Bureau released the first set of results containing general populations counts, household counts, and race data on August 12.
  - Every municipality in Herkimer and Oneida Counties has specific population counts made available.
  - Overall, the HOCTC MPO region lost 7,133 people (-2.39 %) from 299,397 in 2010 down to 292,264.
  - Herkimer County lost 4,380 people (-6.79%) from 64,519 in 2010 down to 60,139.

- Oneida County lost 2,753 people (-1.17%) from 234,878 in 2010 down to 232,125.

## 7. Presentations

- **Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis & Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Plan (Coordinated Plan) for Oneida and Herkimer Counties**
  - Dana Crisino gave the following presentation on the latest developments of the HOCTC Environmental Justice Analysis and Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan for Oneida and Herkimer Counties.
  - Federal law dictates that every MPO focus transportation planning efforts on vulnerable populations.
  - As a part of the analysis, the plan sought to identify and compile strategies to mitigate adverse effects on the following populations: poverty, disabled, minority, limited English proficiency (LEP), elderly, zero-vehicle households, and renters.
  - Development of the EJ plan began in June and the drafting is still in-progress. Public outreach has commenced and will be completed by mid-September. A 30 – day public review and agency comment period will occur in October with the TPC and GP&L Committees reviewing the plans before the end of the year.
  - Dana explains how the data analysis determined a comparative score for every Census Block Group in the MPA with an identification for where future planning efforts would be most beneficial.
  - The Coordinated Plan is also dictated under Federal law for every MPO. The updated plan will be used to assess transportation needs of the elderly, disabled, and poverty populations. Additionally it will identify potential gaps in service of transportation providers and improve system efficiency to reduce redundancies.
  - The development of the new Coordinated Plan began in June and is still on-going. A 30-day public review process will occur in October with a corresponding public hearing. The TPC and GP&L Committees will review and approve the plan before the end of the year.

## 8. Old Business

- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 24: Amendment to the 2021 – 2022 UPWP Budget** presented by Dana Crisino.
  - Description: An amendment to the 2021 – 2022 Unified Planning Work Program budget to rectify the actual expenditures from the FHWA PL backlog.
  - Discussion: Dana states that the amendment is to revise the UPWP budget due to actual expenditures differing from the expected expenditures. The resolution, which was previously passed by the TPC, was tabled by the GP&L in June due to ongoing discussions

with NYSDOT on the budget. The UPWP had originally programmed an estimated \$450,000 in FHWA Planning backlog/savings but actual expenditures had resulted in a backlog/savings of \$283,098.

- Motion to approve the resolution made by: Chris Burtch
  - Seconded by: E.J. Moses
  - Voting: Passed, 8-0-0

## 9. New Business

- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 25: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to revise a Preventative Maintenance Pavement Rehabilitation Project**, presented by Deb Windecker.
  - Description: A project on the MPO TIP, PIN 205686 – Route 8: Black Creek to West Canada Creek, Preventative Maintenance, shall be revised to reflect an increase in the project cost of \$3,780,000.
  - Discussion: None.
  - Motion to approve the resolution made by: Joe Guiliano
    - Seconded by: Chris Burtch
    - Voting: Passed, 8-0-0
- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 26: 2022 Performance Safety Targets**, presented by Dana Crisino.
  - Description: Approval of the NYSDOT Safety Performance Measures for the HOCTC MPO for 2022.
  - Discussion: None.
  - Motion to approve the resolution made by: Chris Burtch
    - Seconded by: Deb Windecker
    - Voting: Passed, 8-0-0
- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 27A: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to revise a Bridge Deck and Superstructure Replacement Project**, presented by Deb Windecker.
  - Description: A project on the MPO TIP, PIN 280669 – Multi-Site Bridge Deck and Superstructure Replacement shall be revised to reflect a cost decrease in the project from \$7,540,000 to \$2,940,000 due to the removal of a bridge (BIN 4025690) from the project as it was found not to be suitable for a superstructure replacement.
  - Discussion: None.
  - Motion to accept Resolution 2021 – 27A and 2021 – 27B together made by: E.J. Moses
    - Seconded by: Joe Guiliano
    - Voting: Passed, 8-0-0
- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 27B: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to add a Bridge Deck Replacement Project**, presented by Deb Windecker.

- Description: A project to be added to the TIP, PIN 202970 – Route 5s Over Route 51 Deck Replacement (BIN 1074020) funded in the amount of \$1,485,000 for FFY 2021 and 2022.
  - Discussion: None.
    - *Resolution passed in previous motion.*
- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 28A: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to revise a Cyclical Minor Bridge Maintenance Project**, presented by Deb Windecker.
  - Description: A project on the MPO TIP with the designation of PIN 2TM242 – Block Fund Bridge 24 Preventative Maintenance Project, shall have its funding revised to reflect a decrease in the project cost from \$11,788,000 to \$680,000. Part of the removed funds will be moved to a project outside the MPO, PIN 200810.
  - Discussion: None
  - Motion to accept Resolution 2021 – 28A and 2021 – 28B together made by: Chris Burtch
    - Seconded by: Joe Guiliano
    - Voting: Passed, 8-0-0
- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 28B: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to add a Bridge Replacement Project**, presented by Deb Windecker.
  - Description: A project will be added to the MPO TIP, PIN 230350 – Route 46 Over Erie Canal Bridge (BIN 4025690) Replacement Project funded in the amount of \$9,310,000 for FFY 2021 - 2024.
  - Discussion: None
    - *Resolution passed in previous motion.*
- **Administrative Modifications to the 2020 – 2024 TIP**
  - Description: A report of the administrative modifications made to the MPO TIP in the last quarter was given as the following:
    - 2021-09MOD: PIN 275456 – BRIDGE NY 2018: West German Street/Bellinger Brook (BIN 2266820). A ROW Incidentals and ROW Acquisitions phase will be added to the project.
    - 2021-10MOD: PIN 275456 – BRIDGE NY 2018: West German Street/Bellinger Brook (BIN 2266820). The funding year for the Construction and Construction Inspection phases will be changed from FFY 2023 to FFY 2022.
    - 2021-11MOD: PIN 282176 – Transit Bus Purchase for Centro of Oneida – Utica. The NFA funding is corrected to \$380,000 for the project, from \$760,000, due to a processing error.

## 10. Open Forum for Committee Discussion

- Deb Windecker inquires to Chris Burtch as to the flooding situation in western Oneida County and if a request for a FEMA declaration will be made and if the county will assist the Town of Western in a bridge replacement. Chris Burtch responds that a request has been made and that Oneida County is currently in discussions with Western.
- Joe Guiliano asks Chris Burtch about whom to contact with regards to bridge inspections in Rome along the Mohawk River that had been impacted due to recent flooding.

### **11. Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn the meeting made by: Chris Burtch
  - Voting: Passed, 8-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.

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Respectfully submitted by Alexander Turner, HOCTC