



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Director: Julie Richmond

Minutes for the February 11, 2026 Meeting
Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Planning Committee
Oneida County Department of Planning Conference Room
Union Station
321 Main Street, Utica, New York

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

Mark Nagele, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Voting Members Present

Mark Nagele	Highway Superintendent, Herkimer County
Matthew Baisley	Commissioner, Oneida County Department of Public Works
Jeff Quackenbush	Representing James Genovese, Oneida County Commissioner of Planning
Tara Spraker (Online)	Director of Capital Programs, Central New York Regional Transportation Authority
Sara Sherlock	Assistant Engineer, New York State Thruway Authority
Audrey Alix	Planner, City of Utica
Matthew Andrews	Director, Community & Economic Development, City of Rome
Deborah Windecker	Regional Planning and Program Manager & HOCTC Liaison, NYSDOT Region 2

Non-Voting Members Present

Christopher Burtch	Deputy Commissioner, Oneida County Department of Public Works
Julie Richmond, MPA	Director, HOCTC
Barb Hauck	Principal Planner, HOCTC
Amy Heiderich	Senior Planner, HOCTC
Grace Whiffen	Planning Specialist, HOCTC
Francisca Ortiz	Planner, HOCTC
Mark DeRocco	Assistant Regional Planning and Program Manager & HOCTC Liaison, NYSDOT Region 2
Andrew Karas	Assistant Engineer, City of Utica
Austin Cornacchia	Engineer, City of Utica
Christine Labuzzetta	Associate Capital Program Analyst, NYSDOT Region 2

2. Approval of the Minutes

- Motion to approve the meeting minutes from the November 19, 2025, meeting as submitted by: Matthew Baisley
- Seconded by: Audrey Alix
- Voting: Passed, 8-0-0

3. Public Comment

- No public comment

4. Director's Report - Julie Richmond, HOCTC Director, gave a synopsis of HOCTC activities for the past quarter.

Exit 31 PEL Study

- The last several months have been reserved for the review of the concept screening process, selection of the final two concept alternatives, supporting the tech memos and the analysis that goes along with them. The consultant team is finalizing this review phase in the coming weeks with a final email being circulated to the agency stakeholders as the last call on comments.
- While the review has been underway, the consultant team are advancing work on the 2D visuals.
- The project schedule has been revised slightly. It is anticipated that the final draft report will be presented to HOCTC around March. NYSDOT and FHWA final review will be in April. The tentative final TAG meeting will be mid-June with a final public meeting shortly following in late June.
- NYSDOT Region 2 noted that this PEL study is the first in the region to utilize SPR funds for a PEL Study.

HOCTC LRTP Add-on Task: Freight Memo

- When HOCTC completed the Long-Range Transportation Plan update, one of the outcomes and recommendations was to take a closer look at freight. As a result, HOCTC has conducted a freight network analysis task with assistance from Cambridge Systematics and Transpo Group.
- The primary objective of the freight and truck analysis task revolved around evaluating and identifying the needs for improving the network within the planning area. It involved assessing the current state of the freight network by conducting a comprehensive review of the region's existing conditions. Then analyzing both current and future transportation needs, considering factors such as demand trends, growth protections, and evolving industry requirements.
- HOCTC conducted interviews with regional economic development stakeholders, and the agricultural community, to discuss the current and future needs of these industries, their input was incorporated into the analysis.

- The final report, or technical memorandum details freight demand drivers, directional flow, supply chain operations within the broader logistics industry and determines how these sorts of dynamics will influence freight movement in the region today and in the future. It also outlines recommendations and identifies both short- and long-term policy and capital improvements and the assigned stewards for implementation.
- The final draft of the content of the tech memo is complete; it is currently being formatted by the consultant team. After it is reviewed by the planning commissioner and it is approved, it should be ready to be presented at the May/June TPC and GP&L meetings. The memo will be circulated to the stakeholders who provided input for the analysis.

2026 – 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- The UPWP is a document that is updated annually. It's the planning component of the funding HOCTC receives. HOCTC receives both FHWA PL funds and FTA and MPP funds on the transit side.
- The purpose of the UPWP is to direct the daily operations of the MPO and delivery of transportation planning. It helps HOCTC move towards implementing the LRTP goals. HOCTC ensures all modes of travel are included and it provides a forum for the community to have input, it aligns with regional development goals with transportation investments, and it utilizes data and analysis to support transportation planning.
- HOCTC works to achieve LRTP and TIP goals through interim planning in the annual UPWP to carry out the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process.
- For this UPWP there are a few things to note: Federal Fiscal Year 2026 is the final year of the IIJA Act, which is to expire September 30th of this year. This matters because:
 - Federal surface transportation reauthorization is the process Congress uses to renew, fund, and update the programs that build and maintain the nation's roads, bridges, transit, and multimodal networks.
 - Reauthorization is one of the most important tools Congress has to shape national transportation policy. Typically, transportation legislation is passed every five to six years. These bills establish funding levels, define federal priorities, and guide how transportation investments are made.
 - These decisions influence which types of projects are eligible, what outcomes are prioritized (such as safety, mobility, economic development, etc.), and how regions access and manage federal dollars.
 - As an example of how this impacts us at municipal level, HOCTC was advised by NYSDOT Main Office and FHWA representatives asked to remove the joint FHWA and FTA planning Priority Emphasis Areas set forth in IIJA, from the UPWP narrative. The PEA's included:
 - Tackling the Climate Crisis, Advancing Racial Equity, Evaluating the impact of Complete Streets, increasing meaningful Public Involvement, Coordination with federal agencies on connectivity for public roads that connect to Department of Defense facilities or

Federal Lands, Environmental Review Process, and Transportation Data Sharing.

- HOCTC received further guidance after the UPWP was drafted advising to HOCTC to not reference any rescinded Executive Orders related to Environmental Justice and to refer to NYS regulations. HOCTC will continue to conduct demographic analysis, as it relates to Title VI policy.
- The final UPWP that will be passed by Governmental Policy & Liaison Committee will vary slightly from the draft that was circulated to the Transportation Planning Committee to reflect the changes to the Environmental Justice section.
- Some highlights of what was completed in the 2025-2026 Planning State Fiscal Year are:
 - Long Range Transportation Planning
 - Transportation Atlas has been updated and HOCTC will have more on that during the next meeting.
 - Freight Planning – Technical Memo was created
 - Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Non-Motorized Transportation Systems – Story Map was created
 - HSTP Implementation – Established a Regional Mobility Coordination Council
 - TIP Update and Maintenance
 - Adopted the 2025-2029 TIP in June 2025
 - Program Support and Administration
 - Environmental Justice/Title VI Analysis update which will be renamed to ‘Non-Discrimination Demographic Analysis/ Title VI Policy’
- New tasks have been added to the UPWP:
 - Housing and Community Planning Task was added. This task is to examine the need for affordable housing and jobs, which intersects with transportation, infrastructure, safety, complete streets, planning and multi-modal connectivity and to access jobs. HOCTC has a few projects currently underway working toward implementing the Oneida County Housing Study and Cornhill Public Realm Improvement Plan.
 - Regional Sidewalk Inventory Task was added. HOCTC is working in cooperation with the NYSDOT Region 2 office in undertaking a pilot mapping study of all sidewalks and multi-use paths within Oneida and Herkimer Counties. HOCTC began this process by coordinating with Region 2 to sort and identify locations where upgrades to the pedestrian network should be prioritized.
 - Slow Moving Vehicles & Agriculture Equipment on Roadways Safety Study Task was added. This task will expand the work started under the Safety Action Plan and establish a data driven process to assist in documenting the safety challenges based in the rural communities.
 - 5311 Mobility Management Activities Task was added. This is more of an active task line because Oneida County has received separate funding

sources for this work. This is where the HSTP implementation work will happen as well as the development of the mobility manager.

- Other Tasks also updated in the UPWP:
 - Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Non-motorized Transportation System task was updated to include Active Transportation.
 - Complete Streets/Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Planning has a separate line then Task 23.02.50 because HOCTC has planning funds set aside and it is the last year of IJJA: Increasing Safety & Accessible Transportation Options Metropolitan Planning Set-Aside funding. So, HOCTC will utilize that within the updated task.
 - Consolidation of GIS Task lines to be more inclusive and allow flexibility to adapt to changing technology. For example, Road Scoring/ Pavement Management, traffic counting is something that will continue to happen, but it falls under a more general category of Transportation Data Collection and Analysis.
- The UPWP aligns with the federal planning factors that were talked about, and it ensures that all modes of travel are included. It engages the community, the decision-making process, aligns the goals and investments, and utilizes data analysis. So, this kind of programming is a balancing act.
- A quick look at the HOCTC Budget 2026-2027:
 - This pie chart is an illustration of how staff time is allocated to carry-out each of the supporting planning tasks, which includes the maintenance and implementation of the MPO required core documents: Long Range Transportation Plan, Human Services Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Plan, Public Participation Plan and Non-Discrimination Demographic Analysis/ Title VI Policy. Categories will shrink or expand depending on whether it is an update year for one of those core documents – (for example, even though TIP maintenance is an ongoing core function of the policy committee, staff will not be undertaking the update process this UPWP program year, so it's showing 2%.)
 - Of the \$1,201,922 budget the allocation received for the 2026-2027 SFY was roughly \$500,000 for FHWA PL Funds and an additional \$83,000 in MPP (Transit Planning funds). The balance of the budget incorporates carry-over funds that HOCTC has in reserve for consultant supported studies (during the update years).
 - The “Other Activities” category includes administrative support services to the MPO (printing, travel, equipment, supplies, reproduction, etc.) and just under 20% of that is for consultant supported services. This is why there is not always enough room to undertake studies that fall out of the required activities under the current legislation.
- When preparing the UPWP, HOCTC circulated a call for projects. Some of the issues heard were:
 - It was identified that there were needs for Freight Planning:
 - Pedestrian, vehicle, and freight access optimization to areas near the Griffiss Chobani site, Turning Stone Resort Casino, and the Nexus Neighborhood.

- Freight access at Chaminade Road in the Town of Marcy.
- Traffic safety and connectivity improvements for roadways between NY 840 and Westmoreland I-90 Exit 32.
- Freight traffic coming into and out of distribution facilities in the Town of Schuyler in Herkimer County.
- **How addressed in UPWP:** This analysis was incorporated into recommendations in the Freight Analysis Technical Memorandum.
- Enhance first and last mile connections focusing on public transit nodes, major employment centers, and areas of high housing density.
 - **How addressed in UPWP:** Planning can be incorporated into new TASKS: Housing and Community Planning, Active Transportation, Complete Streets and Mobility Management.
- Need to provide pathways to accessible, affordable, and available transportation options that assist in keeping non-institutionalized disabled population active and less isolated.
 - **How addressed in UPWP:** TASKS 5310 & 5311 Transit Service Planning: HSTP Implementation, Mobility Management Activities, formation of Regional Mobility Coordination Council (RMCC), inclusion of consumers in ongoing public engagement activities.
- Assess the intersection of NYS Route 5 and Dyke Road/Newport Road, including NYS bike parking.
 - **How addressed in UPWP:** TASKS: Roadway Safety Planning, Active Transportation.

5. **NYSDOT Region 2 Report** – Deborah Windecker, NYSDOT gave a synopsis of Region 2 activities this past quarter.

- NYSDOT is in budget season with the state. The transportation budget hearing took place the week prior to TPC. It was a nine-hour testimony for all different transportation sectors. The commissioner presented for about an hour and half.
- There is a lot of discussion about CHIPS and trying to get more money for CHIPS. Region 2 is waiting to see what is allocated in the budget. NYSDOT is there to do whatever the budget, legislators, and the executives agree upon.
- The Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) final application is due March 12, 2026. It was announced on November 12, 2025, the pre-review was due January 15, 2026. Region 2 has been pleased with the amount of interest in the 6-county area. The award is 80% Federal Funding with a 20% match – if a project is on a state highway, then NYSDOT will cover 15% of the match, leaving only 5% to be covered locally. Awards range from \$0.500M to \$7.0M, an increase from the last funding round. TAP provides an opportunity for pedestrian enhancements to roll into DOT paving projects.
- Upcoming Projects:
 - Route 46/Wright Settlement Road Intersection Improvement: It is a \$1.9M project and was awarded to Central Paving. It will be completed by the end of 2026. The intersection is going to be replaced with a new signal. The project is going to address geometric deficiencies to improve traffic

operations at Wright Settlement and North James Steet (left turn lane North Madison) and improve pedestrian accommodations to Ridge Mills School.

- Bridge NY 2021- South James Street over Erie Barge Canal in the City of Rome in Oneida County was awarded to Vector at \$1.9M. This is bridge rehabilitation, element specific work, bridge painting, repairs, steel bolts, and nuts and joints repairs.
- Bridge NY 2022- Oswego Road over Fish Creek in the Town of Vienna in Oneida County. This is a \$3.2M bridge rehabilitation project. The funding will cover bridge painting, repairing steel bolts and nuts and joint repairs.
- Bridge BY 2022- Railroad St. over CSX/Mohawk River & Barge Canal in the Towns of Frankfort/Schuyler in Herkimer County. This project is scheduled to be let in March 2026. It is a \$2.3M bridge rehabilitation project which will repair joints, replace bearings & pedestals, new concrete deck and replace approach slabs. There will be an off-site detour and will be completed at the end of the 2026 season.
 - There will be seven Bridge NY projects under construction in 2026.
- At the last meeting it was noted that the Paving Improvement Program was announced by Governor Kathy Hochul. This program is an investment to renew dozens of vital state roadways across New York State during the 2026 construction season. Oneida and Herkimer Counties were awarded \$15.1M to improve 89 lane miles. These projects were let in Q4 2025 and are scheduled to be under construction this season.
- Discussion: Oneida County DPW has been seeing an increase in want for ATVs trails, but they don't have the funding that snowmobiles groups have. DPW was wondering if they are eligible for the TAP grant or if it for only non-motorized.
 - NYSDOT Region 2 explained that they are not eligible for TAP grant because it is only for non-motorized. But DPW might want to reach out to NYS Parks and Recreation to see if there is available trail funding.
 - DPW explained that in Boonville and Lewis County, it is legal for ATVs to ride the streets. Oneida County is working on getting snowmobile trails connected to Lewis County trails. The area has been struggling in recent years with snowmobiles, and since they depend on snowmobiles for tourism, they are trying to attract ATV riders. DPW said they would be happy to talk to NYS Parks and Recreation.
- Mark Nagele noted that all the paving projects might hurt the locals.
 - NYSDOT responded that sadly there is a negative that goes along with the paving projects.
 - Most of the paving will be a warm/hot mix.

6. NYS Thruway Report –Sara Sherlock, NYSTA gave a synopsis of the activities undertaken by NYSTA this past quarter.

Ongoing Projects:

- Thruway bridge replacement over Oriskany Boulevard (Route 69). The eastbound lanes will be replaced next spring/summer and will be completed fall/winter 2026.
- Replacement of Thruway Bridge over Mohawk Street (Route 28). Westbound lanes replaced next spring/summer and to be completed in fall/winter 2026.

- Replacement of Route 46 Bridge over Thruway. Awarded to Tioga to start spring 2026.
 - The other NYSDOT projects on Route 46 will not be impacted by this project.
- Genesee Street away bridge has been completed. There is still some cleanup to be done this spring.

Tentative 2026 Projects:

- Removal of an abandoned railroad bridge at mile marker 244.85 and it will be let in quarter 4.
- Pavement Resurfacing MP 253-262 4th quarter letting
- Safety Upgrades 210 to 220.
- Slope repairs from 198-207
- Exit 29 Little Falls bridge is getting rehabilitated.

Discussion:

- NYSDOT Region 2 mentioned that they were on the thruway and it seemed like from Fonda to Little Falls there is delamination.
- NYSTA explained that even though that section was recently paved that there was a faulty mix and they have several sections that need to be redone this spring and summer

7. Other Reports – None

8. Presentations – None

9. Old Business – None

10. New Business – HOCTC Resolutions 2026-01 – 2026-10

STIP Approval 2026-2029 Presenter: Julie Richmond, HOCTC

- Description: GP&L approved HOCTC’s draft TIP in June of 2025. NYSDOT submitted the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program on January 6, 2026 for Federal Fiscal Years 2026-2029. The submission was reviewed by FHWA and FTA, and NYSDOT received approval confirmation on Friday, February 6, 2026.
- HOCTC received notification after the TPC meeting packet went out, so just be mindful that all the resolutions will say 2023-2027 TIP, but HOCTC will make the change to the GP&L agenda to reflect these amendments as being added to the 2025-2029 TIP to help minimize the backlog adjustments that have to be made as a result of all the policy committee activity since June.
- There will be a resolution added to the GP&L docket that will adopt all the changes to the previously approved TIP.

2026-01 – Approval of the 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program *Presenter: Julie Richmond, HOCTC*

- Description: Federal regulations (23 CFR Chapter 1, Part 450, Subpart C, and 49 CFR Chapter VI, Part 613, Subpart B) require that the urban transportation

planning process shall include the development of a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

- The UPWP shall annually describe all urban transportation and transportation planning activities anticipated.
- The UPWP will document the work to be performed with technical assistance provided under:
 - Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Section 5303 Program.
- HOCTC staff developed the 2026– 2027 UPWP through the continuous, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process in coordination with state, regional, and local agencies and officials.
- Discussion: None
- Motion to approve Resolution made by: Matthew Baisley
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed 8-0-0

2026-02A – Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Bridge Deck Replacement Project, Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2754.89 - Bridge NY 2022: Oswego Rd over Fish Creek (BIN 2206390) in the Town of Vienna in Oneida County
- This project is a deck replacement of a bridge that carries Oswego Road over Fish Creek in the Town of Vienna in Oneida County.
- The project shall be decreasing the total project cost by \$2.298M. The Construction and Construction Inspection phases will be moving to PIN 2755.13. The new total project cost is \$0.411M.
- Discussion: None
- *Motion to approve this Resolution will be made in combination with Resolution 2026-02B*

2026-02B– Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add a Bridge Rehabilitation Project, Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2755.13- Oswego Rd over Fish Creek (BIN 2206390) in the Town of Vienna in Oneida County.
- This project will rehabilitate the bridge that carries Oswego Road over Fish Creek in the Town of Vienna in Oneida County.
- The project shall be adding the whole project to the TIP. The project will consist of Construction and Construction Inspection phases only. Construction & Construction Inspection phases moved from PIN 2754.89 and additional funds were added. The total project cost is \$3.608M.
- Discussion: None
- Motion to approve Resolutions 2026-02A and 2026-02B made by: Deborah Windecker
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed 8-0-0

2026-03– Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Traffic Safety Enhancements Project, Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2806.94 – Traffic Systems Improvement Project 26
- This project will provide safety enhancements to the signal system and ADA elements at various intersections. Elements may include signal upgrades, removal of embedded poles, and installation of back plates.
- The project shall be increasing the total project cost by \$0.705M from \$2.26M to \$2.965M.
- Discussion: None
- Motion to approve Resolution made by: Matthew Baisley
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed 8-0-0

2026-04– Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Bridge Replacement Project, Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2047.07 - North Genesee Street Gateway Bridge and Multi-Modal Connector Project
- This project will replace the two bridges carrying Route 921C (North Genesee Street) over Mohawk River, Harbor Lock Road and Erie Canal in the City of Utica in Oneida County. This project will also rehabilitate North Genesee Street from Wurz Avenue to I-790.
- The project shall be increasing the total project cost by \$20.357M by increasing Construction and Construction Inspection phases with a combination of BFP funds from PIN 2118.08 and adding Construction Utilities and Betterment funds to the project. The total project cost is \$83.324M.
- Discussion: The cost increase addresses Right of Way cost increases, a utility agreement that needs to be completed, and overall cost increases.
 - The project will be let in June 2026.
 - Region 2 waited to add all the funds at once.
 - This is a three-year project with utility relocation
 - The total cost of the arterial project was \$60M, so prices have increased significantly.
 - Regional funds are also being used.
- Motion to approve Resolution made by: Audrey Alix
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed 8-0-0

2026-05– Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Culvert Replacement Project, Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2806.87 – Route 20/Unnamed Creek (C260033) Culvert Replacement Project
- This project will resurface approximately 0.57 centerline miles of Route 20 in the Town of Bridgewater in Oneida County, to the Otsego County line and will replace

Route 20/Unnamed Creek Culvert, located approximately 430 feet east of Route 20/Route 8 intersection.

- The project is changing the scope for a project resulting in a significant change to the Project limits or Scope of Work. The total project cost is \$ 3.910M.
- Discussion: None
- Motion to approve Resolution made by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Seconded by: Mark Nagele
 - Voting: Passed 8-0-0

2026-06– Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Bridge Repair and Replacement Project, *Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT*

- Description: PIN 2303.51 – Route 46 over Stringer Brook (BIN 1025780) & Route 46 over Lansing Kill (BIN 1025790) in the Town of Western in Oneida County.
- This project will rehabilitate the substructure and replace the superstructure of the bridge carrying Route 46 over Stringer Brook, fully replace the structure carrying Route 46 over Lansing Kill, and replace the Route 46 over unnamed creek culvert in the Town of Western in Oneida County.
- The project is changing the scope for a project resulting in a significant change to the Project limits or Scope of Work. The total project cost was increased by \$0.004M in Detailed Design Phase from \$7.355M to \$ 7.359M.
- Discussion: None
- Motion to approve Resolution made by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Seconded by: Sara Sherlock
 - Voting: Passed 8-0-0

2026-07– Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Preventative Maintenance Project, *Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT*

- Description: PIN 2806.80 – Pavement Marking East Project 26
- This project is a preventive maintenance project, and it will be used to replace worn or missing pavement markings at various locations in Region 2.
- The project shall be increasing the total project cost by \$2.425M by adding NHPP funds to Construction & Construction Inspection phases. Also, the Scoping phase was removed and merged the funds with Preliminary Design. The total project cost is \$ 5.821M.
- Discussion: A question was asked if the new striping requirements are a part of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD).
 - NYSDOT explained that it came out as an Engineering Bulletin (EB) and an Engineering Instruction (EI) and they are not sure if it's a part of the MUTCD. It was about the cleaning and who then paves the markings on the interstate roadways, and they have incorporated it into the principal arterials that are high in volume.
 - NYSDOT also explained that pavement markings do not hold up and they are looking at alternative ways. They asked NYSTA how voids in the mineral aggregate (VMA) are working.

- NYSTA explained that they do not have the details on VMA, but they heard that it is coming up in spots.
- Motion to approve Resolution made by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Seconded by: Matthew Baisely
 - Voting: Passed 8-0-0

2026-08– Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add a Safety Project, *Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT*

- Description: PIN 2755.14 – Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan 25: Herkimer County Roadside Safety Enhancements
- This project will replace cable guide rail with box beam guide rail along Butler Road (CR 88), install cards along the entire length of Jordanville Road and post-mounted reflective delineators from NYS Route 167, and replace cable guiderail with box beam guiderail on Roberts Road and Watkins Road.
- The project shall be funded in the amount of \$1.326M with HSIP funds.
- Discussion: NYSDOT gave kudos to Herkimer and Oneida County for taking advantage of this money because statewide \$90M was allocated and only \$40M was given.
- Motion to approve Resolution made by: Mark Nagele
 - Seconded by: Deborah Windecker
 - Voting: Passed 8-0-0

2026-09– Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add a Safety Project, *Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT*

- Description: PIN 2755.15 – Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan 25: 2024 Project Road Guide Rail Improvement
- This project will install new guide rail at 34 locations and remove and replace outdated /damage segments at 13 locations, totaling 22,421 feet of new guide rail throughout Oneida County.
- The project shall be funded in the amount of \$1.541M with HSIP funds.
- Discussion: Oneida County DPW, NYSDOT Region 2, and HOCTC had a call about a misunderstanding of the federal funding process. DPW explained that a lot of that work is either already designed or bid out, and this guiderail project is something that is ongoing. DPW asked if there was a way to modify that at all?
 - NYSDOT responded that the work that has been let is not applicable for funding as is. However, if something were to change with the project scope, DPW would start with bringing the project through NEPA, then complete the design approval reevaluation, show that the project is meeting the NEPA requirements, and then relet, the project would be eligible. Otherwise, the funding would be for future sites.
 - DPW asked if it's something they can look at for the 2026 Guiderail program (for 2027 fiscal year). They could start with the design and have it be a part of the RFP and make sure those levels are met. DPW thinks it

could be the cleanest way for them to make sure they get all of guiderails. Especially since it's an underutilized program.

- NYSDOT replied that they would recommend approving this resolution on the STIP now and if it's different sites, it can be addressed later.
- DPW will work on the 2027 guiderail planned locations and submit to Region 2 to ensure the locations are eligible, then make sure to follow all federal funding requirements.
- Motion to approve Resolution made by: Matthew Baisley
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed 8-0-0

2026-10– Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add a Safety Project, Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2755.16 – Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan 25: Potter Road & Williams Road Safety Improvements
- This project will install new flashing beacons with speed feedback signs (total of 4 sign assemblies, 2 on each roadway) in the City of Rome in Oneida County.
- The project shall be funded in the amount of \$0.065M with HSIP funds.
- Discussion: DPW questioned if there have been any studies on the effectiveness of speed feedback signs.
 - NYSDOT explained that yes, there has been. NYSDOT doesn't have them in hand but has used them in Safe Routes to School programs.
 - DPW replied that the feedback signs make sense by a school zone, but they are getting more requests for them. DPW further explained that they find speed trailers more effective, especially on roads that are not traveled by many people. Also, the trailers pop up in different spots and that keeps people on their toes. DPW suggested that the stationary speed feedback signs turn into white noise.
 - DPW explains that they think it would be helpful to get information from DOT about the best use case of where the speed feedback signs are applicable and where they're not.
 - NYSDOT told DPW that they can talk to their traffic and safety group.
- Motion to approve Resolution made by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Seconded by: Matthew Baisley
 - Voting: Passed 8-0-0

Administrative Modifications to the 2023-2027 TIP, Presenter: Julie Richmond, HOCTC

2025-19MOD	2755.03	Bridge NY 2023: Greenway Road (CR 50) over Stony Creek (BIN 3311210), in the Town of Verona, Oneida County. This project will be changing the funding year for Detailed Design and ROW Acquisition phases from FFY 2026 to 2027 and changing the funding year for Construction and Construction Inspection Phases from FFY 2027 to FFY 2028.	NYSDOT
2026 – 01MOD	2806.83	Crack Sealing Project 27 to extend the service life of pavements at various locations on the state and/or federal highway systems within Region 2. This project will be deleting the Scoping and Preliminary Design Phases and decreasing the Total Project Cost by \$0.048M.	NYSDOT
2026-02MOD	2806.95	Intersection Improvement Project 27 to provide safety enhancements for pedestrians and motorists at various intersections within Region 2. This project will be deleting the Scoping Phase(s). This change will not change the Total Project Cost but will add the funds to the Preliminary Design Phase.	NYSDOT
2026-03MOD	2754.85	Bridge NY 2022: Railroad Street over CSX/ Amtrack & Mohawk River/Barge Canal (BIN 4423040) in the Town of Frankfort in Herkimer County. This project will be increasing the total project cost by \$0.294M from \$2.935M to \$3.229M. The Bridge NY 22 reserve funds will be used to cover this increase.	NYSDOT

12. Open Discussion

- Mark Nagele asked NYSDOT if there is a construction date for the Route 5 Bridge on the Montgomery/Herkimer County line.
 - NYSDOT replied that it is currently scheduled for November 2026 and they are trying to complete it in one season.
- The City of Rome asked HOCTC since the SS4A awards were announced a month or two ago and it looks like Upstate NY didn't receive any consideration in implementation projects. Was there any feedback from Schumer's or Gillibrand's offices?
 - HOCTC replied that they didn't receive any feedback from Schumer's or Gillibrand's offices, but HOCTC did have a debrief with USDOT and they can discuss the debrief at a later time. HOCTC also explained that the funding was oversubscribed and USDOT was looking to focus on where projects are reducing fatal and serious injury crashes. Some locations have a lot of crashes but only involve property damage and/or animal strikes. USDOT sees that as more of a complete streets project. They want to see low-cost countermeasures that can be implemented systemically across intersections.
 - There will be one more round of funding, but HOCTC doesn't know when that will be announced. When it is announced HOCTC will have to weigh if that is worth pursuing or if there is a more suitable funding opportunity for the implementation projects.
 - The City of Rome replied that the Safety Action Plan was a carrot to get us to apply for the implementation funds. But if they are just looking at high

fatality areas, it is almost a misleading effort to go through the planning exercise if that is all they were looking for.

- HOCTC concurred and confirmed MPO's were encouraged to develop a Safety Action Plan and that would make you eligible for implementation funding. NYSDOT added that if everyone does that then everybody will be at the same level and that these grants are very competitive, especially since the program is nationwide.
- DPW asked NYSDOT since one of the commissioner's main points is the highway workers safety NYS Assembly bill (2025-A10066) and trying to get that passed, could NYSDOT provide a boilerplate resolution or some language that could be send out to MPO's for them to show support.
 - NYSDOT responded that they were disappointed last year it didn't pass. But they don't know if that is something they can do as an agency but other agencies on their own could reference the legislation.
- HOCTC let everyone know that Barb Hauck will be retiring at the end of March.

13. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn the meeting made by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Seconded by: Matthew Baisley
 - Voting: Passed, 8-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Grace Whiffen