



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Director: Julie Richmond

Minutes for the August 29, 2024

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

Dana Crisino called the meeting to order at 9:39 AM. At the request of the Chair and Vice Chair, Dana Crisino assumed the Chairperson role for this meeting due to the Chair and Vice Chair's absence.

Dana Crisino, Director of HOCTC, announced her departure from Oneida County and HOCTC and that Julie Richmond would replace her as the Director of HOCTC.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Voting Members Present

Christopher Henry	Representing Matthew Baisley, Commissioner, Oneida County Department of Public Works
Stephanie Tyoe	Representing Vice-Chairman, Mark Nagele, Superintendent, Herkimer County Highways Department
Jeff Quackenbush	Representing James Genovese, Oneida County Commissioner of Planning
Deborah Windecker	Regional Planning and Program Manager, NYSDOT Region 2
Tara Spraker	Director of Capital Programs, Central New York Regional Transportation Authority

Non-Voting Members Present

Mark DeRocco, PE	Assistant Regional Planning and Program Manager & HOCTC Liaison, NYSDOT Region 2
Christine Labuzzetta	Associate Capital Program Analyst, NYSDOT Region 2
Dana Crisino, MBA, AICP	Director, HOCTC
Julie Richmond, MPA	Transportation Program Manager, HOCTC
Barb Hauck	Principal Planner, HOCTC
Amy Heiderich	Senior Planner, HOCTC
Madalyn DeCarr	Planning Specialist, HOCTC
Grace Whiffen	Planning Specialist, HOCTC

2. Approval of the Minutes

- Motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 13, 2024, meeting as submitted by: Deborah Windecker
- Seconded by: Chris Henry
- Voting: Passed, 5-0-0

3. Public Comment

- No public comment

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

The Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP): The consulting team has been initiating data collection, forecasting, goals and strategies, network updates, financial outlook, and project listing all while HOCTC has been conducting public outreach.

- HOCTC conducted extensive public engagement efforts with over 25 tabling and pop-up events in combination with the Safe Streets for All Safety Action Plan to optimize public interest results as well as minimize public engagement fatigue.
- In addition, HOCTC was able to speak at association meetings, superintendents' meetings, and law enforcement coalition meetings on behalf of both plans.
- The combined survey had 502 responses, a phenomenal result.
- The Safe Streets Reporter, created for the SS4A project but also used to inform the LRTP had over 300 participants submit locations throughout the two counties.
- The survey responses told us:
 - 92% of respondents' primary means of transportation is a personal automobile but roughly 50% of these people also own a bike. They also indicated convenience as the primary reason to use a personal automobile.
 - 55% of respondents indicated that they would use another form of transportation to get to work, with public transit being the preferred option.
 - When asked to rate the various systems in the MPO region, highways and bridges ranked Good but public transit, sidewalks, and bike infrastructure ranked Fair.
 - When participants ranked Improvement importance, sidewalk infrastructure ranked the highest, indicating a need to invest in safety, multi-mobility, and connectivity.
 - Highways and bridges came in next. This hasn't changed since the last plan and confers with public engagement responses. This confirms the TAC priority of the goals for Safety and Accessibility as well as investing funding into System Preservation.
- Since the last TPC meeting, the LRTP team has summarized the survey results and public engagement events and Public Meeting #1 and held a second TAC meeting.
- There will be a new TIP cycle approaching and the team would like to get potential projects listed in the LRTP to avoid amendments later.
- The next steps are distributing the flyer for the public meeting #2.

- The final edits will be completed soon for Chapters 1-9 and a draft will be released for review and comment to the TAC in September, with a public comment period in October. The draft will be circulated electronically.

SS4A – The Oneida Herkimer County Safety Action Plan

- The consultant team is working on confirming the High Incident Location areas identified by the data versus safety issues that do not show up as data points. Public engagement is reactive for data but proactive for things that data might not tell the team.
- There is an overlap with Environmental Justice Areas.
- The team is working on prioritizing the list of ten locations for Highway Safety Investigations.
- The Safety Summit will take place before Thanksgiving.
- The RFA for Implementation funding has been pushed to February, so this plan must still be completed quickly.

Exit 31 Planning and Environment Linkages Study

- The four tech memos are complete and were very data driven.
 - These will be discussed at the next TAG meeting.
 - Meetings have been conducted with NYSDOT Region 2.
- The team began preliminary concepts.
- The next public workshop will likely be held in October.

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

- Region 2 has reached out to NYSTA for more involvement and will circle back but does feel that they are, like most agencies, short-staffed.
- West German Street over Bellinger Brook, a BridgeNY 2018 project is finally under construction with some earmarked funding.
 - Planned completion in Fall 2024 with a cost of \$3.7M.
 - This is a big project for the Village of Herkimer. W. German St. is a major route.
 - The road is closed with an anticipated opening in the fall. The bridge is near the entrance to the college.
- N. Genesee Street Safety Project is moving forward with the DOT adding an additional lane on the off-ramp to I-90/I-790. This is a DOT project, not NYSTA. The ramp closure is for four weeks to finish work and extend the paving to meet the City of Utica’s paving projects. This is a whole systems approach to working together and ties into the PEL study.
 - This project has a \$2.4M construction cost and plans to be completed in Fall 2024 with the signal to remain up.
 - The signal will be temporary for a few years and become permanent with the upcoming bridge replacement project.
 - The signal is meant to have a calming effect and seems to be working since this is a high crash area. The signal is slowing drivers down.

- Route 12 Boonville Safety Project is progressing but there are supply chain challenges, especially with signals and poles. The companies are having staffing issues. The signal will not be installed until 2025.
 - The project cost is \$2.4M.
 - The plan is to install metal signal poles but cannot get the materials at this time. Wood poles are considered temporary.
- Route 46 over Oneida Creek was let in December 2023 with a construction cost of \$4.3M.
 - This project is facing a lot of staffing challenges. While a lot has gone back to normal, staffing has changed due to many retirements and a different work ethic among the younger generations.
- Multi-site Pavement Rehabilitation Project on N. Washington Street in the Village of Herkimer, Herkimer County and paving in Canastota.
- Burrstone Rd./Champlin Ave. Intersection Improvement with a sidewalk expansion was let in July for \$2.3M.
- The Boonville Route 12D Paving Project, along with Route 12D/294/46 was let in August and has a construction cost of \$3.006M. DOT was trying to let the paving project and safety project together then the lead abatement funding in the Village became available and it was hoping for a Village grant. After talking with the DOH and EFC, the statewide need was greater than the funds available and the DOT could not wait any longer.
 - This project will be under construction next year.
- Clinton Route 12B Paving project will be let in October. Route 12B and 412, Oneida County at a construction cost of \$8.3M.
 - 6.9 miles of pavement rehab, signal improvements, sidewalk extensions, sanitary improvements, and hydrant replacements.
 - The DOT has been working with the Village of Clinton for a betterment of over \$1M.
- W. Main Street over Moyer Creek bridge in the Village of Frankfort, which is a 2016 BridgeNY and was let in 2023. The amount came in at 55% over the engineering estimate. Some modifications will be made, the scope will be revised and the project will be re-let in the fall of 2024.
 - The construction cost is \$5.1M.
- N. Genesee Street Bridges, a \$43M project with a Raise Grant is in heavy design.
 - DOT is working with the City of Utica to create a City street for access management.
 - DOT will be holding a public hearing later in the Fall regarding a NEPA/ eminent domain procedure law hearing.
 - HOCTC and DOT need to coordinate on the date of the public hearing. It is in the beginning stages of planning.
 - The DOT sits in on the PEL Study meetings once per month to keep everyone updated.
 - DOT mapping people have been reaching out to Water Pollution Control due to all the sanitary sewers in the area. They are dealing with 24" mains, along with other utilities that have to be moved to complete the bridge work. This work is important for a variety of reasons, such as Wolfsped.

- NYS Route 29 over East Canada Creek in the Village of Dolgeville to replace the bridge over East Canada Creek.
 - The construction cost is \$14M.
 - The bridge is being moved south. This will involve redesigning the intersection. The DOT will be having a NEPA EDPL hearing.
 - There was another bridge hit within the last month.

6. NYS Thruway Report - Dana Crisino, HOCTC for Sara Sherlock, NYSTA gave a synopsis of the activities undertaken by NYSTA this past quarter.

- There has been a noticeable drop in NYSTA staff at all meetings. HOCTC receives inquiries about the Thruway, so does need to be in better communication with them.
- Mile Post Markers need to be identified better since not many are aware of where these are.
- The Oriskany Blvd. bridge project will have reduced lanes.
- The Route 28 bridge project is likely to have a lot of issues and will be a long project.
- The bridge over N. Genesee St. is a much smaller project with some minor rehabilitation.
- Route 46 bridge over the Thruway, with the DOT having a 34% investment in the project.
- These projects will be impacting the local travel patterns.

7. Other Reports – None

8. Presentations – None

9. Old Business – None

10. New Business – HOCTC Resolutions 2024-22 – 2024-34

2024-22 – HOCTC Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) 2025-2028,

Presenter: Julie Richmond, HOCTC

- HOCTC has developed a locally derived coordinated transit human services transportation plan through a process that included representatives from public, private, and non-profit transportation services, human service providers, interested parties, and the general public. Some findings include:
 - Rural areas face challenges with limited options. The disabled population also poses an important issue since many live in rural areas with a lack of transportation options.
 - Limited transportation options/accessibility for people with disabilities, seniors, and those with recurring medical appointments. Recurring medical appointments is a particular issue in the HOCTC planning area.
 - Limited regional transportation/connectivity.
 - Driver shortages raise additional challenges.
 - Limited options for employees using transit to get to work.

- Difficulties related to accessing transportation services and connectivity to other services/needs.
- Extended service hours and better coordination of schedules. There is a significant need for and interest in door-to-door service, especially for those with disabilities or health issues. Micromobility options like Uber and Lyft can be very cost prohibitive.
- Significant demand for weekend and evening transit service.
- Cost is a barrier for many people.
- HSTP will continue to focus on addressing the transportation service needs and gaps in the two-county transportation system and on the core federal funding programs with required coordination efforts which are Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities, Section 5311 Rural Area Formula Assistance, and Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula.
 - The updated plan hopes to place focus on emphasis areas to maximize the limited resources among stakeholders.
 - There will be a large increase in the elderly population by 2030 and they will be utilizing the services this funding provides.
- Transit performance targets are used in tracking progress toward the attainment of critical outcomes of the MPO and should be coordinated with public transportation providers to ensure consistency with the performance targets they established under the aforementioned policies.
- Discussion: A question was asked if mapping has been done for senior centers.
 - This was done for the Environmental Justice Analysis for 2021. This plan is due for an update in 2025, so it will be updated then.
- Jeff Quackenbush made a motion to pass Resolution 2022-22.
 - Seconded by: Chris Henry
 - Voting passed: 5-0-0

2024-23 - Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to add a BridgeNY 2023 Project,

Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2754.95 – Pinebush Rd. bridge replacement over Fulmer Creek Tributary in the Town of German Flatts, Herkimer County.
 - Funding will be provided by BFFP Main funds in the amount of \$1.679M.
- All of the BridgeNY projects (Resolutions 2024-23-2024-28) have maps with the locations provided.
- Discussion: None

2024-24 – Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to add a BridgeNY 2023 Project,

Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2754.96 – Norton Ave. over Oriskany Creek bridge replacement in the Town of Kirkland, Oneida County.
 - This project will be funded in the amount of \$2.522M with BFP Main funds.
- Discussion: None

2024-25 – Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to add a BridgeNY 2023 Project,
Presenter Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2755.00 – Shells Bush Rd. over West Canada Creek bridge replacement in the Town of Herkimer, Herkimer County.
 - The project will be funded in the amount of \$0.850M with BFP Main funds.
- Discussion: None

2024-26 - Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to add a BridgeNY 2023 Project,
Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2755.02 – Brewer Rd. over West Branch Fish Creek bridge replacement in the Town of Camden, Oneida County.
 - This project will be funded in the amount of \$2.918M with BFP Main funds.
- Discussion: none

2024-27 - Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to add a BridgeNY 2023 Project,
Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2755.03 – Greenway Rd. over Stoney Creek bridge replacement in the Town of Verona, Oneida County.
 - This project will be funded in the amount of \$2.635M with BFP Main Funds.
- Discussion: None

2024-28 - Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to add a BridgeNY 2023 Project,
Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2754.97 Dyke Rd. and Bleeker St. Extension over Fergusen Creek and Bleeker St. culvert over Tributary to the Mohawk River bridge rehabilitation and culvert replacement in the Town of Frankfort, Herkimer County.
 - This project will be funded in the amount of \$3.361M with NFA and BFP Off-System funds.
 - Three sites were combined into one for this BridgeNY project to hopefully get better pricing.
- Discussion: Attendees of the TPC meeting were on the BridgeNY Selection Committee and stated that there was a rigorous review of each project.
- **A motion was made to approve all BridgeNY projects, Resolutions 2024-23-2024-28** by Stephanie Tyoe.
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting passed: 5-0-0

2024-29 – Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to add a 2023 TAP Project,
Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2650.67 – Utica Broad Street TAP in the City of Utica Project will construct 7 blocks of new pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure beginning at the intersection of Whitesboro Street and Buchard Lane in the City of Utica, Oneida County to the intersection of Broad Street and Mohawk Street.

- The project will be funded in the amount of \$5.767M with TAP Flex funds.
- Discussion: This project will connect Route 5S upgrades to match the rest of the area.

2024-30 – Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to add a 2023 TAP Project,

Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2650.70 – Kirkland Trails Phase II Development TAP in the Town of Kirkland, Oneida County will construct a pedestrian bridge, two trailheads with parking and a 10-foot wide, 4600-foot section of the proposed Phase II of Kirkland Trails.
 - The project will be funded in the amount of \$1.874M with TAP Flex funds.
- Discussion: None

2024-31 – Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to add a 2023 TAP Project,

Presenter: Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT

- Description: PIN 2650.68 – 2023 TAP: SR 921B/Burrstone Road Pedestrian Connectivity Project in the City of Utica, Oneida County will construct sidewalks on both the North and South sides of Burrstone Road and West of French Road.
 - The project will be funded in the amount of \$3.263M with Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funds and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds.
- This project will tie into the intersection project near Friendly’s Restaurant West to Main Street. Urban CRP funds will come to the MPO annually.
 - The City of Utica does not have any CRP funds. There can be tie-ins to various projects.
 - This connects to the Village of New York Mills where Oneida County is working on a Main Street Program and close to the St. Luke’s campus redesign to integrate with the community more and the Clinton Street Bridge replacement.
- Region 2 is the only DOT that received CRP funds, which is money that is not in a normal allocation. It is money that the DOT otherwise would not get.
- The Freight Plan was submitted to the USDOT in August as a required 5-year update. This should help guide projects and Region 2 should know more about freight funding in the Fall.
- Discussion: None
- **A motion was made to pass the TAP projects, Resolutions 2024-29-2024-31,** by Chris Henry.
 - Seconded by: Deborah Windecker
 - Voting passed: 5-0-0

2024-32 - Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to adopt the Transit Asset Management Plan Targets of the Tier I Operator for the HOCTC Planning Area,

Presenter: Dana Crisino, HOCTC

- Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (CNYRTA) is the transit authority for this area. CNYRTA receives Federal Transit Administration funds in

the Herkimer-Oneida County metropolitan planning area. To receive these funds, the CNYRTA must establish performance targets.

- The CNYRTA requires a plan for benchmarks, the Asset Management Plan, which contains Transit Asset Management (TAM) Targets.
- TAM targets must be updated and the MPO must either agree to support the targets or set their own quantifiable targets.
- This resolution seeks that the GP&L and HOCTC staff will support CNYRTA's performance targets in its Transit Asset Management Plan and any plan and program projects that contribute to the accomplishment of transit targets.
- Centro stated that they determine these target numbers by the assets on hand and the age of the fleet. Performance metrics are looked at yearly.

2024-33 – Amendment to the 2023-2027 TIP to support CNYRTA's Safety Performance Targets, Presenter: Dana Crisino, HOCTC

- A Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan must be developed based on a Safety Management Systems approach. The provider, CNYRTA, must make transit safety targets available to HOCTC in which the provider's projects and services are programmed in the HOCTC TIP. These must be reflected in both the TIP and the LRTP.
- CNYRTA set transit safety targets on December 15, 2023.
- The table goes before the board annually with system maps for each county.
- Discussion: None
- **A motion was made to pass both CNYRTA target adoptions, Resolutions 2024-32 and 2024-33, by Deborah Windecker.**
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting passed: 5-0-0

CNYRTA Discussion:

- The Micromobility service in Rome is doing great, with all good reviews.
 - The \$4.00 fee is not a concern for riders.
 - This is a pilot and would like to expand the service.
- Oneida County Board of Legislators and the Centro Board passed a rural service relaunch. This will be a small rollout from Utica, down NYS Route 49 to Griffiss Technology Park, the Rome Hub, MVCC Rome, then to Verona, stopping at the Turning Stone Resort Casino.
 - MVCC has an interest in connecting its two campuses in Utica and Rome.
 - The service was suspended during Covid.
 - The funding is through the Section 5311 Mobility Management funds.
 - Centro is working with the DOT for the transfer of funding and newer vehicles.
 - This service has the money since it was not used during Covid.
 - There are transit needs in Herkimer County as well, which is something an expansion of service eventually could provide.
- For the December meetings, there will be an update on the rural service and an update on the Move service in Rome. Several people may not be aware that these

services are available since the rural service has not been in service since before COVID-19 and the Move service in Rome is new.

2024-34 – Amendment to the 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Budget, Presenter: Dana Crisino, HOCTC

- FHWA PL funds were estimated at \$414,548 as a carry-over from the UPWP 2023-2024 budget but the actual expenditures resulted in a carry-over of \$384,073.
 - \$100,000 of which is reserved for the Planning and Environment Linkages Study. The funding for this study is \$700,000, with another \$100,000 from the MPO. There is no local share required.
- FTA MPP funds were programmed with an estimated allocation of \$81,689 and are to be increased to reflect the actual allocation of \$82,150.
- Every year, HOCTC determines the amount in January for a budget that ends in March.
- Discussion: None
- A motion to pass Resolution 2024-34 was made by: Jeff Quackenbush.
 - Seconded by: Chris Henry
 - Voting passed: 5-0-0

11. Administration Modifications to the 2023-2027 TIP, Presenter: Dana Crisino, HOCTC - Presentation and discussion of the TIP Administrative Modifications Memorandum.

- These are all the smaller items that are happening in the capital program.
- Completing this task in this method ensures that all of these projects can be completed on time and within budget.
- This is a coordinated effort between the DOT Region 2's Planning and Program Management Department and the MPO.
- As the end of the Federal Fiscal Year is approaching, funds have to be obligated or moved to the 2025 budget.
- In looking at next year, October 1, 2024, there will be more modifications since several projects will be moving to FFY 2025.
- It is currently the unamended STIP so Region 2 can look at 2025 to determine what they think may be falling behind or undeliverable at this time.
- The administration modifications are good since they do not need to wait until a full amendment cycle and keep things moving and the capital program is managed correctly so things keep moving forward.
- Region 2 asked about the TIP update. The MPO has an upcoming in-person meeting coming up.
 - It is the season to speak with MPO directors so the MPOs have a full year to update the TIP.

ADMIN MOD. #	PIN	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY
2024 – 17MOD	2LC1.11	Culvert Resiliency Project 21- Contract 2. This project will rehabilitate or replace large culverts as necessary at various locations on the state and/or federal highway systems within <u>Region 2</u> . The Funding Years will be changed for the Construction and Construction Inspection phases from FFY 2025 to FFY 2024.	NYSDOT
2024 – 18MOD	2LC1.12	Culvert Resiliency Project 21- Contract 3. This project will rehabilitate or replace large culverts as necessary at various locations on the state and/or federal highway systems within <u>Region 2</u> . The Funding Years will be changed for the Construction and Construction Inspection phases from FFY 2025 to FFY 2024.	NYSDOT
2024 – 19MOD	2806.52	Intersection Improvement Project 23. This project will involve traffic control device and/or minor geometric improvements at various intersections to provide highway safety benefit. The fund source type for the Detailed Design, Construction and Construction Inspection Phases will be changed from NHPP to SRTS and SRTS funds will be added to the already obligated phases of Scoping and Preliminary Design. The total project cost increases by \$0.023M.	NYSDOT
2024 – 20MOD	2806.60	Pavement Marking Project 24. This Preventative Maintenance Project will be used to replace worn or missing pavement markings at various locations in <u>Region 2</u> . The Construction Phase will be increased by \$.461M, which will increase the Total Project Cost from \$4.615M to \$5.076M.	NYSDOT
2024- 21MOD	2806.90	Bridge Painting Project 25. This is a Regionwide Bridge painting project to improve the paint condition on bridges in <u>Region 2</u> . The Funding Years will be changed for the Construction and Construction Inspection phases from FFY 2024 to FFY 2025.	NYSDOT
2024- 22MOD	2754.92	Bridge Replacement Project. This project will replace the bridge that carries Peckville Road (C.R.148) over the Gillette Creek (BIN 3307770) in the Town of Manheim in Herkimer County. The Funding Years will be changed for the Construction and Construction Inspection phases from FFY 2024 to FFY 2025.	NYSDOT
2024- 23MOD	2754.76	Bridge Replacement Project. This project will replace the bridge that carries Gridley Paide Road over Big Creek in the Town of Marshall in Oneida County. The Funding Years will be changed for the Detailed Design, ROW Acquisition, Construction and Construction Inspection phases from FFY 2024 to FFY 2025.	NYSDOT

12. Open Discussion

- Jeff Quackenbush talked about Dana Crisino’s history with the Planning Department and wished her luck.
 - Dana stated she will be staying in the area, so the TPC will see her at meetings, etc.
- Chris Henry, DPW, mentioned that they will be working more closely with the DOT on grants.

13. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn the meeting made by: Chris Henry
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 5-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Heiderich