



# New York State Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations **WORKING GROUP MINUTES**

**WORKING GROUP:** Climate Change Working Group

**MEETING DATE:** February 17, 2016

## **LIST OF ATTENDEES BY ORGANIZATION:**

- A/GFTC: Kate Mance
- CDTC: Jen Ceponis
- ECTC: Jim Arey
- GTC: Joe Bovenzi
- NYMTC: Leslie Fordjour
- PDCTC: Shelby Tompkins, Mark Debald
- NYSDOT: Collen Smith-Lemmon, Cathy Kuzsman

## **MINUTES:**

### **1. Work Plan Status/Priority Items**

#### **a. FAST Act: Resilience and environmental mitigation activities, travel demand reduction strategies for congestion management**

Mance reported on items of interest: There are additional planning factors for MPO long range plans, including resiliency and reliability and mitigating stormwater impacts. There is a new optional congestion management plan; this does not replace the Congestion Management Process that is still required for TMA MPOs, but could become part of an approach to sustainable transportation.

We should expect federal guidance over the coming months

#### **b. Integrated Planning**

Gayle reported that the MPO Directors approved the Working Group work plans for 2016-17. The consolidated Work Program document has been distributed.

Integrated Planning is an ongoing effort of the Association to identify opportunities for collaboration among MPOs and with NYSDOT, with the intent of making the most efficient use of Federal planning funds, both metropolitan and statewide. The current Integrated Planning Action Plan requires updating for 2016-17 and 2017-18. The Directors appointed a small group to develop an updated plan.

In doing so, they extracted items from the Working Group work plans that are reasonable to build into the Integrated Planning effort. These are the identified items. (Asterisks indicate tasks which could be completed in conjunction with other working groups)

- a. Operations and management strategies\*
- b. GHG emissions - estimates and forecasts\*
- c. Shifting trends in VMT\*
- d. Sustainable land use strategies

#### **c. Community Risk and Resiliency Act (CRRRA) input - format, scheduling**

NYSDEC is developing a program to implement law. Mark Lowry from DEC is manager. They are developing unified guidance – flood risk management standards – for affected programs and agencies.



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Smith-Lemmon: There are several sets of guidance for different aspects of CRRA. These are being worked on, engaging other state agencies as appropriate. Outreach will begin in the coming months. Expect stakeholder outreach.

Mance: MPOs are on fringe of guidance, but it affects project sponsors as it will impact Locally Administered Federal Aid Projects. Lowry has offered to have NYSAMPO CCWG act as stakeholder review group. To group: How involved do we want to be? [for example, we can participate in larger meeting, have our own meeting]

Smith-Lemmon: To clarify, there are several sections to CRRA with individual guidance. Smart Growth, protection of water (bridge and culvert guidance), model local laws.

Mance will contact Lowry to get schedule of stakeholder meetings; can have some participation.

Bovenzi: CRRA seems like minor changes into existing law and procedures; straightforward implementation

Flood risk management practice may replace floodplain mapping, which has been a challenge.

### **d. Sustainability Summit/In-Person Meeting**

Mance raise the idea of increased outreach with state agencies/partners that are doing sustainability planning, beyond our work with NYSDEC, NYSERDA. Examples include the Department of State, which administers Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, Brownfield Opportunities Areas; the Environmental Facilities Corporation.

This is envisioned as a long term effort. Could be done as a meeting/conference/fact sheet

Mance will reach out to partner agencies to gauge their interest.

Smith Lemmon comments that in-person meetings generate more interaction.

Gayle: Notes the increasing interest in resiliency planning. Also, there will not be a NYSAMPO Conference in 2016; this is now planned to be a biennial event, next occurring in 2017. This provides some flexibility for Working Groups to planned focused events.

Bovenzi: Notes Smart Cities program - applications

## **2. Partner Agency Updates**

- a. NYSDOT – nothing new to report
- b. NYSERDA – Ruder unable to attend the meeting, no report
- c. NYSDEC – New unable to attend the meeting, no report

## **3. Other Items/MPO Updates**

Bovenzi – wrapping up resiliency project; will be happy to share at a future meeting.

Mance: A/GFTC working on a small watershed problem.

## **4. Adjourn**

**NEXT MEETING:** May 18, 2016, 1:00 PM