



**NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs
TRANSIT WORKING GROUP
December 18, 2018
Teleconference
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM**

MEETING NOTES

1. Participating

- AGFTC – Jack Mance
- BMTS – Scott Reigle
- CDTC – Carrie Ward
- DCTC – Mark Debald
- ECTC – Tina Hager
- ECTC – Angela Wood
- GBNRTC – Hal Morse
- HOCTS – Barbara Hauck
- NYSDOT – Lisa Cataldo
- NYSDOT – Mark Grainger
- OCTC – Ashlee Long
- SMTC – Mario Colone
- Tompkins County – Dwight Mengel
- UCTC – Brian Slack
- WJCTC – Barbara Cadwell
- Planning4Places – Jim Levy
- Cambridge Systematics – Rich Denbow
- Cambridge Systematics - Scott Boone

1. Introductions

M. Colone opened the meeting.

2. Approval of Meeting Notes – September Teleconference

The meeting notes were reviewed and approved for posting to the nysmpos.org website. One edit changing a reference in item #8 from CDTC to DCTC was requested.

3. Cambridge Systematics Specialist Presentation: TNC's and Transit

Presentation based on work done for an Austin, TX Pilot Program. Analysis Paradigms – Supply and Demand oriented & Substitutive (Substitute for transit service) or supplemental (leverage existing system). Many shared mobility pilots and programs across the country. Austin has undertaken several PILOTS...but wanted to standardize the program to scale it to a larger size. Demand-Oriented Analysis – decided on data sources and applied to geographic zones for TNC Pilot program. Clustered zones into areas with similar travel & demographic characteristics and then used a workshop to select a single zone. Used cellphone data and travel demand model, market research techniques to design a program. Market Analysis – Assessed origin characteristics, trip characteristics, destination characteristics. Several different modes and measures used. Looked to see who is living in these areas and what their travel needs are. Loosely grouped each zone into clusters of

similar areas and candidates for similar types of programs (Based on characteristics listed above). A Workshop id'd what type of program would be appropriate. Considered several different market analysis techniques and matched-up to high-level characteristics. Then detailed different partnership types from less agency investment (market-based) to more agency investment (Policy and Investment). This program is in the middle of these two types. More market – hands off, more policy and investment – more hands-on. Matching Programs & Policies – Trip distance, network, time of travel, destinations with type of info. Used streetlight data (cellphone location) provides detailed travel behavior down to the block level which is better than regional travel demand model. A map was shown detailing accessibility pre and post service changes. The project identified 1st mile/last mile changes.

Lessons learned – this work requires a lot of coordination with the agencies. Know your goals regarding fixed route service. There are always some people looking to replace all fixed route service. Look at partnerships all-around, especially with local TNC providers. Framework approach – looking at single zone methodology can be applied to any number of zones, so the work can be flexible.

Questions/Discussions -

Any take-away for working with a transit agency regarding 1st/last mile and Uber/Lyft? Another pilot which used dedicated vehicles was found to be difficult to handle regarding cost and fare payments. In this case, the assessment offered more flexibility.

The Syracuse area transit agency is interested in broaching conversations with Uber & Lyft but it has only been an idea so far. How could an agency go about this? There seems to be more willingness from Uber and Lyft recently.

4. NYSDOT Update

Lisa Cataldo provided an update on behalf of Kent Sopris. 2019 solicitation materials for the 5310 program are being updated. NYSDOT is asking MPOs to provide feedback on the previous scoring criteria. Please send any comments to Kent or Tom. It is anticipated the solicitation will be released in the 1st quarter of 2019. Mario noted that if any more involvement is wanted or needed from MPOs, to please let them know.

5. MPO Updates

a. DCTC, OCTC, UCTC Joint Study – Connect Mid-Hudson Regional Transit Study

Mark DeBald noted that this study just completed the initial public outreach effort. It included pop-up events across the three counties. It is still early in the process but as the project gets further along it would be useful to discuss it in more detail.

b. GBNRTC – Comprehensive TOD Plan

Hal Morse provided a Powerpoint presentation and discussed the project. This large FTA-funded, GBNRTC project was completed in August. It included four segments for analysis – Downtown, Main Street, Niagara Falls Blvd/Eggertsville and the UB North Campus/Audubon. The Study was undertaken to align transit investment in Metro Rail with the region's vision for smart growth and economic

development to create new, walkable, and vibrant TOD neighborhoods and to increase Metro Rail usage. There is more investment coming along this corridor, not just in the Downtown area. Station Area plans were developed and schematics were shown in the Powerpoint. There are several next steps including creating an intergovernmental group to implement the Plan, prioritize the Station Areas, undertake detailed Comprehensive Planning (with a \$780,000 FTA award), support needed infrastructure upgrades, incorporate mobility hub attributes, partner in development with NFTA and continue land use planning to focus development in a way that minimizes sprawl. More information can be found at www.gbnrtc.org/tod/.

Mario Colone noted that Syracuse is going through a complete rezoning and asked if Buffalo and/or other municipal zoning codes are supportive of concepts? Yes – the Buffalo Greencode is supportive. Amherst is working on code revisions to incorporate this effort.

c. Other Project Updates

No additional updates noted.

6. Workplan Assessment/Update

Any ideas for next year? If so, please submit to Jim and Mario. Mario, Jen and Jim will draft workplan and distribute to WG. Draft plans due in late January.

7. Transit Fact Sheet Status Update

The fact sheet has been updated based on a few Executive Committee requests. It has been sent back to the Executive Committee for final approval. Hope to print in January or February.

8. Other?

None.

Action Items

- Print the Fact Sheet
- Identify a speaker for the March Teleconference Call
- Draft & Finalize the Workplan for 2019-2020