



**NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs  
FREIGHT WORKING GROUP  
January 7, 2020  
Webconference  
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM**

**MEETING NOTES**

**1. Participating**

- BMTS – Leigh McCullen
- CDTC – Christian Bauer (Chairman)
- DCTC – Mark Debald
- ECTC – Nicolette Wagoner
- GBNRTC – Rich Guarino
- GTC – Jody Binnix
- NYMTC – Leslie Fordjour
- OCTC – Ashlee Long
- SMTC – Mike Alexander (Co-Chair)
- WJCTC – Scott Docteur, Al Ricalton, Kristopher Reff
- NYSDOT – Jim Davis, David Rosenberg
- FHWA – Maria Chau, John Formosa, Gautam Mani
- AVAIL – Eric Krans, Alex Muro
- T.Y. Lin International (NYSAMPO Staff Support) – Richard Perrin
- Cambridge Systematics (NYSAMPO Staff Support) – Brian Stewart

**1. Roll Call**

Bauer opened the meeting and conducted the roll call.

**2. Use of the National Performance Management Research Data Set for Goods Movement Planning**

The AVAIL team reviewed the NPMRDS dataset, which is provided by FHWA who procures it from INRIX. NYSDOT purchases an expanded version, which includes more than National Highway System (NHS) facilities. AVAIL has been working with NYSDOT and the NYSAMPO Modeling Working Group to develop various tools using the dataset. Authorized users can analyze the measures included in the third MAP-21 performance management rulemaking. These include:

- Level of Travel Time Reliability on the Interstate System
- Level of Travel Time Reliability on the non-Interstate NHS
- Truck Travel Time Reliability on the Interstate System (TTTR)

The output reports are flexible in terms of format and are publishable as a URL. AVAIL is currently developing a tutorial and training materials and will work with MPOs one-on-one in the interim. AVAIL is also identifying opportunities to integrate other data (e.g., classification counts, business establishment data, etc.) with the NPMRDS.

Debald thanked AVAIL for their work with DCTC on its congestion management process. He asked how trucks are recorded. Krans responded that trucks are only applied to the Interstate System datasets. Debald added that the effects of deliveries to residences by medium-duty and passenger vehicles is becoming more and more important in planning.

Bauer asked if thresholds can be applied to the TTTR data to identify truck bottlenecks. Krans and Muro replied that MPO staff members can provide their emails if there are specific analyses they would like to have considered.

### **3. 2020-2021 Work Plan**

Bauer reviewed the current work plan, stating that 75-80 percent of the activities are still relevant. He stated that the major change is the completion of the *New York State Freight Transportation Plan* and opportunity to support any follow-on activities and updates. Bauer also suggested being cognizant of the number of meetings relative to members' workloads and ability to focus on freight issues. Alexander suggested that the group prioritize the items it has already identified and others to ensure that the group operates as efficiently as possible. Chau recommended conducting a survey to identify planning initiatives, activities, and trainings undertaken by members.

Bauer directed Perrin to incorporate the comments received at the meeting into the current year's work program and distribute to the group for review and further comment.

### **4. 2020-2021 Meetings Schedule**

Bauer asked members for their opinion on continuing to hold meetings in April, July, October, and January. The group concurred with following the current schedule.

### **5. Updates from Stakeholders**

Bauer reported that CDTC is updating their long range transportation plan (LRTP) and conducting a review of its 2016 regional freight plan to inform the goods movement component of the LRTP update, which is anticipated to be completed in 2020.

Mani reported that FHWA is seeking comments on the draft National Freight Strategic Plan. Specifically, USDOT is seeking responses to the 10 questions included in the Request for Information. The comment period is 45 days with submissions due February 10, 2020. Bauer informed the group that CDTC will be drafting brief comments for review by its Freight Advisory Committee.

Guarino reported that GBNRTC is 40 percent complete with its freight study update. The update includes, but is not limited to, new data, a gap analysis, and stakeholder outreach. On December 11, 2019, 30 stakeholders participated in three one-hour roundtables. A draft report summarizing notable freight practices in comparable areas that have been successful in leveraging their goods movement networks to contribute to economic development is being developed. Guarino stated that the update is expected to be completed in summer

2020. Bauer asked Guarino if GBNRTC would be willing to present the results of the plan update to the group when completed. Guarino responded in the affirmative.

Alexander reported that the inland port at the Port of Oswego is using a \$21 million grant to expand to accommodate 30,000 containers per year, serving both imports and exports. He also informed the group that construction of a \$350 million, 3.8 million-square foot distribution facility is being advanced in the Town of Clay. All needed approvals have been received along with a financing package from the Onondaga County IDA. There has still been no announcement of the operator.

Debald reported that DCTC is beginning the development of its LRTP and will be considering the "Amazon Effect" and associated increase in local deliveries.

## **7. New Business**

Bauer asked the group if anyone had new business. There was none.

## **8. Adjourn**

Bauer adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.