



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Director: Dana R. Crisino, AICP

**Minutes for the August 24, 2023
Regular Meeting – Q3 2023
Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Planning Committee
Oneida County Department of Planning Conference Room**

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

Call to order at 9:33 AM made by Julie Richmond, Transportation Program Manager, HOCTC.

1. Roll Call

Voting Members Present

Matthew Baisley	Commissioner, Oneida County Public Works Department
Jeff Quackenbush	Representing James Genovese, Oneida County Commissioner of Planning
Stephanie Tyoe	Representing Mark Nagel, Highway Superintendent, Herkimer County
Deborah Windecker	Regional Planning and Program Manager, NYSDOT Region 2
Andy Karas	Engineer, City of Utica
Sara Sherlock	Representing Jerrin George, Assistant Division Maintenance Engineer, NYS Thruway Authority

Non-Voting Members Present

Mark DeRocco, PE	Assistant Regional Planning and Program Manager & HOCTC Liaison, NYSDOT Region 2
Barb Hauck	Principal Planner, HOCTC
Julie Richmond, MPA	Transportation Program Manager, HOCTC
Dana Crisino, MBA, AICP	Director, HOCTC
Amy Heiderich	Planner, HOCTC
Nicholas DiGennaro	Deputy Commissioner, Oneida County Public Works Department
Chris Burtch	Deputy Commissioner, Oneida County Public Works Department
Tara Spraker	Director of Grants and Revenue Contract Administration, CNYRTA/Centro
Kelly Walters	Executive Director, 50 Forward Mohawk Valley
Danielle Salisbury	City of Rome
Garret S. Wykoff	City of Rome

2. Approval of the Minutes

- Motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2023, meeting as submitted made by: Nicholas DiGennaro
- Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
- Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

3. Public Comment

- No public comment

4. Director's Report

- HOCTC Director, Dana Crisino gave a synopsis of HOCTC activities for the past quarter.
- PEL – Conditionally Awarded: The contract is expected to be on the Board of Legislator's meeting agenda for September 13, 2023. It should be signed and finalized by the end of September and is a 22-month project. The PEL/Exit 31 Redesign study budget is \$800,000 comprised of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Metropolitan Planning (PL) funds (\$100,000) and Statewide Planning and Research (SPR) funds (\$700,000). The funding for this project is specifically made available by Federal Highway Administration U.S. Department of Transportation to address larger-scale regional transportation issues and planning for the future needs of the transportation network. The SPR funding was secured by working with NYSDOT Region 2. The chosen consulting team are industry leaders in data analysis and familiar with this region. This project will provide the opportunity for integration and functionality for Exit 31 and will potentially have an impact on the five I-90 exits within the MPO planning area. Initiating a PEL Study will provide the opportunity to redesign the exit and surrounding areas to reflect the current needs and support the continued economic development occurring within the corridor.
- SS4A Grant – Conditionally Awarded: This grant will examine local roadways in Oneida and Herkimer Counties and compile a safety network action plan that will allow HOCTC to apply for additional funding in the SS4A's implementation round. This will be a 12-month project to look at the local road network from a top-down evaluation to define safety issues and identify countermeasures that are then eligible for implementation funding. Municipalities can apply for project implementation funds directly, or jointly with the County. This plan will also help to attract additional capital funding to build projects proposed in the plan. For the planning portion of the SS4A grant, HOCTC will be requesting involvement from members of the Transportation Policy Committee to serve on the Technical Advisory Committee. (TAC.)
- LTPAP – In Progress: HOCTC is hopeful that this projects will be wrapped up by the end of 2023. The final public outreach portion of the project is anticipated for the end of September or the beginning of October.
- LRTP – There is an update due in 2025. HOCTC is trying to be proactive in determining whether this update will require a consulting team or if it can be

completed internally. One critical component that is currently lacking from this report is freight, which may require consultation to update.

- There has been significant development in the last five years that deals in freight, requiring an update. The data sets forthcoming from the PEL and SS4A studies, and any internal updates will be included in the next LRTP.
- AMPO National Conference in Cleveland, OH – HOCTC will be presenting on three topics:
 - The Main Street Program and LTPAP, specifically how to open a discussion when the phrase “Complete Streets” has a poor connotation, and the public is resistant to change. The topic will be co-presented with representatives from the Broward County, FL MPO. The discussion will focus on the politics of Complete Streets.
 - Transportation Atlas presentation - HOCTC has been awarded for the Atlas and the County Executive has been awarded for Outstanding elected official leadership for transportation planning.
 - Dutch system of transportation and how to reflect those ideas in the United States.
- There is a smaller, one-day conference on September 15th hosted by the American Planning Association (APA) at the Marriot Downtown Syracuse and registration is still open

5. NYSDOT Region 2 Report

- Deborah Windecker gave a report on the activities that NYSDOT Region 2 has performed in the last quarter.
- BridgeNY Program funding announced. The projects will be further discussed by Mark DeRocco for the TIP Resolutions. There is almost \$15M for three bridges – Railroad St. in Frankfort/Schuyler, Oswego Rd. in the Town of Vienna, and Firehouse Rd. in the Town of Deerfield.
- Culvert Program is state-funded – \$4.5M awarded – Herkimer County – Hard Scrabble Rd., City of Rome – Merrick Rd., and Oneida County – Simmons Rd. In addition, \$8.5M awarded for bridge projects for the program. Due to inflation, there is \$10.47M allocated. Nicholas DeGennaro stated that Oneida County is the sponsor for the bridge in Augusta. NYSDOT Region 2 is thankful that Oneida County has a program to assist smaller municipalities with bridge and culvert work.
- We expect another Bridge NY announcement by the end of 2023 as the program funds were in the Governor’s budget. Urge municipalities to be ready to apply for BridgeNY funding.
- Leadership changes – Sam Zhou has retired from NYSDOT and taken a position with the MBTA.
- Transportation Assistance Program (TAP) – The NOFA should be available sometime in mid-September. Region 2 can assist with the application process. There is funding for sidewalks and any other multimodal uses other than cars. In the application, an applicant should be able to show connections.

- IJJA funding – MPOs can now apply. It is a question of whether it is National or State funding since availability depends on the structure of the MPO. HOCTC, for example, would not be eligible under federal guidelines since the MPO is hosted by Oneida County.
 - Andy Karas, City of Utica Engineer asked if there would be a benefit for the City of Utica to coordinate with the MPO. Dana Crisino stated that coordination will help. There are several ideas to redevelop Broad. St. including daylighting and complete streets concepts. The idea is to add bike lanes on Broad St. to Dyke Rd. to connect to the Empire State Trail – connectivity from street grid to trail systems.
 - The key to all these grants is to leverage funds from all sources since all funding generally cannot come from one source.
- Route 46 over the Old Erie Canal – Region 2 used the State Bridge Contract to close the bridge from June to August to precast box culverts and install canoe access.
- Route 31/46 in Durhamville – The corrugated pipes were showing distress. Region 2 is fixing the pipes in September and October.
- Village of New Hartford/Campion Rd. – A two-year repaving and complete streets project is moving along. There are also water main replacements taking place. Region 2 partnered with the Mohawk Valley Water Authority to complete this \$8M project. They will detour as needed.
- Champlain Ave. – Work will be completed in 2023. The detour worked well during the Boilermaker, there were no issues mentioned.
- Route 5S in Herkimer – Completing culvert replacements on Route 5S. The bridge over Nowadaga will be closed until October. They are trying to keep Creek Rd. open.
- Route 8 in Cold Brook – The 11-mile repaving project is taking longer than expected due to the lack of availability of contractors. The project is expected to take two years.

6. NYS Thruway Authority Report

- Sara Sherlock, NYSTA Assistant Engineer, gave a synopsis of NYSTA activities for the past quarter.
- Bridge update – Both the Main St. (not in Oneida or Herkimer Counties) bridge and the Miller’s Grove Rd. in Frankfort bridge replacements will be completed in the winter of 2023/24.
- 2024 tentative projects
 - Bridge rehabilitation over Sterling Creek with a Winter 2025 completion date.
 - Thruway bridge replacement over Mohawk St. (Route 28) with a Winter 2026 completion date.
 - Bridge replacement over Oriskany Blvd. (Route 69) in Whitesboro with a Winter 2026 completion date.

- Service area openings: Schuyler Service Area – tentative Fall 2023 and Oneida Service Area – tentative Winter 2023/24.

7. Other Reports

- None

8. Presentations

- Urban Area Boundary Update – Jeff Quackenbush presented a map that showed the FHWA Urban Area Adjustment for 2023.
 - This is a positive change based on the 2020 census results, going from only the Utica area to three additional areas. Oneida, Rome, Utica, Ilion/Herkimer.
 - Urban areas are not recognized for funding purposes, but for planning purposes. There is a potential for more funding since Urban areas are eligible for more funding than rural areas.
 - There is an allocation associated with these areas through the FHWA. HOCTC had funding reduced by \$85,000 based on the last census, so the MPO will gain some money back. FHWA requires submission by 2024 and HOCTC already submitted; but it could take until 2025 for the funding to come through.
 - Vernon and Verona’s population grew due to the Oneida Nation’s development. Distribution facilities have opened in Ilion/Herkimer area, bringing more jobs to that area.
 - Andy Karas, Engineer, City of Utica, asked if this map impacted boundaries or membership of the MPO or if it would add members to the TPC. It does not.
- Dutch Transportation Innovation Professional Tour – Dana Crisino informed the members that due to time constraints; the presentation will be held until after the meeting adjourns.

9. Old Business

- None

10. New Business

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 - 24: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add a BridgeNY 2022 Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2754.85 – Bridge rehabilitation project in the Towns of Frankfort and Schuyler, Herkimer County shall be amended on the TIP; and the project will be funded in the amount of \$2,707,000 utilizing BridgeNY 2022 funding.
 - Motion to approve the resolution made by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Seconded by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0
- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 25: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add a BridgeNY 2022 Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.

- Description: PIN 2754.89 – Replacement of a bridge deck that carries Oswego Road over Fish Creek in the Town of Vienna, Oneida County shall be amended on the TIP; and the project will be funded in the amount of \$2,709,000 utilizing BridgeNY 2022 funding.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Deborah Windecker
 - Seconded by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 26: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP add a BridgeNY 2022 Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2754.90 – Bridge replacement that carries Firehouse Road over Reall Creek in the Town of Deerfield, Oneida County shall be amended on the TIP; and the project will be funded in the amount of \$3,514,000 utilizing BridgeNY 2022 funding.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Seconded by: Deborah Windecker
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 27: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add a BridgeNY 2022 Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: BridgeNY only funded three bridges in this cycle, so this will be delayed indefinitely. This item should be removed from the agenda.
 - Discussion: The motion was made to un-table this item and remove in one vote.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Nicholas DiGennaro.
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush.
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 28: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Pavement Marking Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2806.50 – Pavement Marking Project 23 to replace worn or missing pavement markings in various locations in Region 2. Construction phase funds will be increased from \$3.2M to \$4.6M, Construction Inspection phase funds will be increased from \$0.480M to \$0.690M, and the total project cost increased from \$4.480M to \$6.090M.
 - Discussion: This is a \$1.4M increase due to increases in material costs. Additional sites were looked at as well.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Seconded by Deborah Windecker

- Voting: Passed, 6-0-0
- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 29: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to remove a Block Fund Pavement Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2TP2.51 – Block Fund PM Pavement 25 – Pavement preventative and corrective maintenance in Herkimer and Oneida Counties. The total project amount of \$7.830M in STBG Flex, NHPP, and NFA funds shall be moved to PIN 2303.52 (Res. 2023-31) for a project in Oneida County.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve resolution made by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0
- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 30: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to remove a Block Fund Paving Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2V24.01– Vendor Placed Paving 24 (Block Fund) for pavement preventative and corrective maintenance in regionwide locations. The total project cost of \$8.852M in STBG Flex and NFA funds shall be moved to the following PINS: 2807.03 in the amount of \$0.628M in Montgomery County, which is Resolution 2023-32: 2807.04 in the amount of \$4.119M in Oneida and Herkimer Counties: 2303.52 in the amount of \$0.645M in Oneida County, which is Resolution 2023-31: and 2V23.11 in the amount of \$3.460M in Fulton County.
 - Discussion: None
 - Motion to approve resolution made by: Deborah Windecker
 - Seconded by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0
- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 31: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add Bridge Rehabilitation Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2303.52 for a Bridge Rehabilitation Project on Route 46 from the bridge over Lansingkill Creek (BIN 1025790) to Holmes Road in the Towns of Western, Ava, and ends inside Town line in Boonville in Oneida County. The project will be funded utilizing NFA and STBG Flex funding sources from: PIN 2TP2.51 – Resolution 2023-29 and PIN 2V24.01 – Resolution 2023-30 for a total amount of \$11,472M.
 - Discussion: This highway rehabilitation project will go into the Boonville Gorge area totaling 6.25 miles. Dana Crisino asked if the design included a shoulder buffer increase due to the number of bicyclists that ride on this section. Currently, there is little to

no shoulder. This section will connect riders to the Black River Canal Trail. NYSDOT is aware that this is a frequented bike route and are exploring the possibility of expanding the shoulder, but they are not installing an official bike lane. NYSDOT has received community feedback that this section of the road is unsafe.

This Resolution should be revised to reflect a highway rehabilitation project and can be included in the motion.

- Motion to revise name and approve resolutions made by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 32: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add a Region 2 Multi-Site Pavement Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT
 - Description: PIN 2807.04 to rehabilitate the various state routes in Herkimer, Madison, and Oneida Counties: Route 13 in the Village of Canastota, Route 31 in the Town of Vernon, Burrstone Road (Route 921B) in the Town of New Hartford, City of Utica, and Village of New York Mills, and Route 28 between Canal and Caroline Streets and Route 922 B (South Washington Street) in Herkimer County. The Project will be funded with NHPP and STBG Flex funding in the amount of \$4.156M from PIN 2V24.01 – Resolution 2023.30
 - Discussion: Christopher Burtch asked when the site work will begin. Mark DeRocco answered in FFY 2024. The NYSDOT applied for a grant for Burrstone Rd. but did not get it. NYSDOT will not be able to do all the planned work but will be resurfacing the pavement. It is noted that people are calling the DPW and NYSDOT regarding pavement conditions. Heading West, towards Main Street, the conditions deteriorate significantly with complaints being of riding conditions and drainage.
 - Motion to approve resolution made by: Deborah Windecker
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 33A: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to remove a Block Fund Pavement Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2TLB.25 – Local Bridge/Pavement Rehabilitation Project 25 (Block Fund) is to be removed from the TIP. The total project amount of \$2M in STBG Off System funds shall be moved to PIN 2754.92 – Resolution 2023-33B for a project in Herkimer County.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Nicholas DiGennaro

- Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 33B: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add a Bridge Replacement Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2754.92 – Bridge replacement that carries Peckville Road (C.R. 148) over Gillette Creek in the Town of Manheim in Herkimer County. This project will utilize STBG Off System funding in the amount of \$2M from PIN 2TLB.25 – Resolution 2023-33A for a total project cost of \$2.064M
 - Discussion: This project will begin in the 2025 FFY.
 - *Resolution passed in previous motion*

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 34: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to Revise a Safety Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2047.12 – A safety project on Route 921C (N. Genesee St.) in the City of Utica, Oneida County to address safety issues with traffic signals, channelization, and sight distance improvements. The Construction and Construction Inspection phases from PIN 2807.01 - Route 5S Bagg’s Square Landscape Project totaling \$0.888M in SDF Funds shall be added to this PIN covering the project cost increase from \$2.307M to \$3.195M
 - Discussion: The original project is being funded through the Highway Safety Improvement funds and the additional project is 100% State funded. Combining these projects should allow for better bids.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Deborah Windecker
 - Seconded by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 35A: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to Revise a Safety Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2016.80 – Route 12 Boonville Safety Improvement Project in Oneida County to address intersection improvements and realignment shall be revised on the TIP. The Construction and Construction Inspection phases shall be decreased by \$3.710M and be moved to PIN 2053.07 – Resolution 2023-35B. The Construction and Construction Inspection phases shall be moved from FFY 2023 to FFY 2024. The total project cost decreases from \$5.730M to \$2.020M.
 - Discussion: There was an expectation that the Town of Boonville would receive funding for water line work. The funding is taking longer than expected, so NYSDOT is decoupling the project resulting in a cost decrease. The existence of lead pipes are contributing to the delays, so the timelines are not aligning.

- Motion to approve resolutions made by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 35B: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Pavement Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2053.07 – Pavement Maintenance Project in the Town of Boonville, Oneida County to pave Routes 12D, 294, and 46. The Construction and Construction Inspection phases shall be added and the Detailed Design phase shall be increased with funds from PIN 2016.80 – Resolution 2023-35A. The total project cost shall increase from \$0.280M to \$4.410M in STBG Flex funds.
 - Discussion: None.
 - *Resolution passed in previous motion*

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 36: Approval of the Urban Area Boundary (UAB) for the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Council**, presented by Jeff Quackenbush, HOCTC
 - Description: The 2020 Census definition of an Urban Area is an area having a population of 5,000 or 2,000 or more housing units. There is no longer a distinction between Urban Cluster and Urbanized Areas. Therefore, the UAB now includes areas of Herkimer County and an expanded Oneida County area. HOCTC and NYSDOT Region 2 developed an updated UAB for submission to the DOT for approval.
 - Discussion: The UAB must be adjusted every time there is a Census, so every 10 years, about three years after the Census.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Matthew Baisley
 - Seconded by: Deborah Windecker
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 37 & 38: Amendments to the 2023 – 2027 TIP Section 5310 award to be removed from the agenda**, presented by Barb Hauck, HOCTC
 - Description: Buses for ARC of Oneida and Lewis Counties and the Katherine Lutheran Center award letter – Recent notification from NYSDOT Main Office in Albany reports that the bus manufacturer, under the current and future NYS Office of General Services (OGS) Section 5310 bus contracts has increased their costs cost per bus which has affected the Section 5310 awards to human service agencies. NYSDOT Main Office in Albany is reconfiguring the 2022 awards and it is anticipated that they will be finalized by the end of the year. Therefore, there are no resolutions, motions, or actions at GP&L since the anticipated funding is likely to change.

- Discussion: The Mobility Management contract should not be impacted. 50 Forward received an award letter. Herkimer County ARC is getting buses funded, some are rural and some are urban, so it may appear on the next agenda.
- **Administrative Modifications to the 2023 – 2027 TIP**
 - Description: A report of the administrative modifications made to the MPO TIP that do not change in scope or any significant component and are less than 10% of total project cost or \$549,000 or less. This was recently updated due to the cost increase in projects. These modifications for the last quarter were given as the following:

ADMIN MOD. #	PIN	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY
2023 – 17MOD	2650.59	New Construction & Reconstruction-New /Improved Pedestrian Facility Project, 2018 TAP: Sherrill Route 5 Corridor Pedestrian Accessibility Project, Oneida County. The funding year for the Construction and Construction Inspection phase will be changed from FFY 2023 to FFY 2024.	NYS DOT
2023 – 18MOD	2065.38	Rehabilitation-Cold Mill with Hot Mix Overlay Preventative Paving Project, Routes 12B & 412 in the Town of Kirkland and the Village of Clinton in Oneida County. The phases of ROW Incidentals and ROW Acquisition will be added increasing the Total Project Cost by \$0.111M to \$4,080,000; and the funding years for the Detailed Design Phases will be changed from FFY 2023 to FFY 2024.	NYS DOT
2023 – 19MOD	2047.12	Traffic Safety Project: Signals/Channelization/Sight Distance Improvements on North Genesee Street/Route 921C; in the vicinity of the intersections with the NYS Thruway Exit 31 and Interstate 790 ramps to North Genesee Street in Oneida County. The phases of ROW Incidentals and ROW Acquisition will be removed, which will not change the Total Project Cost; and the funding sources for the Scoping, Preliminary Design, and Detailed Design Phases will be changed from HSIP to HPP.	NYS DOT
2023 – 20MOD	2754.50	BridgeNY 2018 Project: West Main Street/Moyer Creek (BIN 2263720) for the replacement of the existing West Main Street bridge over Moyer Creek in the Village of Frankfort in Herkimer County. The funding years for the Construction and Construction Inspection phases will be changed from FFY 2023 to FFY 2024.	NYS DOT
2023- 21MOD	2806.99	Preventative Bridge Maintenance Project: 2022 Job Order Contract (JOC): Bridge for a regionwide bridge preventative maintenance job order contract. The ROW Incidentals and ROW Acquisition phases will be added to this project. The Total project cost will be increased by \$.009M from \$1.3M to \$1.309M.	NYS DOT

11. Open Forum for Committee Discussion

- Kelly Walters of 50 Forward Mohawk Valley asked about the next meeting of the Transportation Coordination Committee (TCC) for human service providers and inquired if the meetings will be starting up again. Dana Crisino answered yes. Between the suspension of the Oneida County Rural Transportation system because of Covid and the discussions on how to rebuild the OCRT system, the TCC meetings were considered each quarter but were postponed for lack of agenda items. Oneida county and Centro are working together on an agreement for Centro to be the rural service provider for Oneida County.

- Title 14 – Enabling Legislation in 2005, Oneida County made the choice that Centro would handle the urban services 5310 and Birnie Bus would handle rural services 5311.
 - There were issues with rural areas with less than 1% ridership revealed during the System-Wide Analysis, then COVID happened and there was no money to retrofit buses to keep drivers and passengers safe which resulted in the temporary suspension of the OCRT system. The suspension continued but was reviewed every three months for options to relaunch the system.
 - When the suspension is lifted, Centro as the rural operator, will also handle the Section 5311 to connect Utica, Rome, Turning Stone, and MVCC campuses to start building a reliable transit system.
 - There is a \$7-10M operating cost.
 - Centro, as the rural transit operator for Oneida County, will handle all the administrative oversight of the transit system rather than Oneida County, which will handle marketing and some other tasks.
 - The final draft contract was sent to Centro and to NYSDOT Main Office for their review and approval, so it is close to being completed, then it will require Board of Legislators approval and Centro Board approval. The goal is to have an executed contract in hand by Spring 2024.
 - The timing of the Oneida County and Centro Agreement for Oneida County rural service aligns with the return of Transportation Coordination Committee (TCC) meetings for the human services agencies that are looking to utilize public transportation.
- Andy Karas, City of Utica introduced “Utica Hump Day Slow Roll”, a Happy Streets concept to get people outside riding their bikes at an 8-10 MPH pace. The purpose is to enjoy the city and get people together to promote the city. The Slow Roll is occurring on Wednesdays at 5:30 from Utica City Hall for two hours., About 10 people show up per week with the hopes of the event growing.

12. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn the meeting made by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

8. Dutch Transportation Innovation Professional Tour (optional), Presented by Dana Crisino, HOCTC

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- The approach there is people first but there is still a highway system. This is a somewhat recent change. The Netherlands used to have the same mentality as the US regarding transportation.
 - The speed limits are lower there in residential areas, 20MPH average. Vehicles are available but becoming the least favorable and most expensive option.

- There is a well-integrated and connected train system with bikes available at the train station and methods of easily moving bikes up and down stairways.
- The primary safety issues are becoming with E-scooters since they ride in non-motorized lanes.
- There is a standardized bike tire size and bike size so everyone can move at close to the same speed. Cargo bikes are also popular for children, shopping, or delivery services.
- The city is ancient with cobblestone narrow streets, yet they are still integrating all modes of transportation and infrastructure for EVs.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Heiderich