



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Boehlert Center at Union Station
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Director: Dana R. Crisino, AICP

**Minutes for the June 1, 2023
Regular Meeting – Q2 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 9:32AM made by Mark Nagele, Chairman.

1. Roll Call

Voting Members Present

Mark Nagele	Chairman, Superintendent, Herkimer County Highways Department
Nicholas DiGennaro	Acting Commissioner, Oneida County Public Works Department
Jeff Quackenbush	Representing James Genovese, Oneida County Commissioner of Planning
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
Christine LaBuzzetta	Associate Capital Program Analyst, NYSDOT Region 2
Ashton Roberts	Transportation Analyst, NYSDOT Region 2
Barb Hauck	Principal Planner, HOCTC
Julie Richmond, MPA	Transportation Program Manager, HOCTC
Dana Crisino, MBA, AICP	Director, HOCTC
Nicole Correll, MPA	Planning Specialist, HOCTC
Tara Spraker	Director of Grants and Revenue Contract Administration, CNYRTA/Centro
Kelly Walters	Executive Director, 50 Forward Mohawk Valley
Derek Crossman	Engineer, City of Utica

2. Approval of the Minutes

- Motion to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2023, meeting as submitted made by: Nicholas DiGennaro
- Seconded by: Deborah Windecker
- Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

3. Public Comment

- Public comment received from Mary Adele LaClair via letter dated February 25, 2023-See attachment

4. Director's Report

- HOCTC Director, Dana Crisino gave a synopsis of HOCTC activities for the past quarter.
- SS4A Grant was awarded at the end of January and the RFP released this Spring: The grant will fund a comprehensive local roadway safety analysis. Analysis will reveal and prioritize the most critical local roadways and corridors that have safety issues to be addressed. Intent is to move forward with future funding applications for implementation. The RFP was released in April, and responses were due May 26th. Three (3) quality responses were received. Currently, HOCTC staff is starting its internal technical review, and may be reaching out to members of TPC to participate on the review team and assist with interview process. HOCTC cannot award consultant contract until grant contract is reviewed and approved for signature by federal highways, which is expected to take at least 60 days.
- PEL – Conditionally Awarded: Consultant was selected by committee for the PEL Study. Project is of regional importance due it being a gateway to the North and South, as well as the main gateway into Utica. Currently waiting to finalize the scope with consultant, and we are expecting to be in contract in August. It is a 22-month project, and there will be updates given every few months. It is expected that the results of the study will lead into applications for grants to pursue project implementation.
- LTPAP – In Progress: Great feedback from the public and public engagement on this project. First surveys had over 700 and 300 responses, second survey is still open. Second survey is also intended to be educational, as it shows options and tries to get an understanding of the preference of the public. Surveys and public engagement are expected to go into early Fall.
- PROTECT Grant: Application due August 18th. Still coordination needed to figure out who will be the lead applicant. Kristen Campbell with Oneida County Department of Planning is assisting with research needed for the application.

5. NYSDOT Region 2 Report

- Deborah Windecker gave a report on the activities that NYSDOT Region 2 has performed in the last quarter.
- Governor's Budget has been approved.
 - CHIPS 11% increase (60M) to 598M.
 - State Touring Route 40% increase (40M) to 140M.

- Bridge NY- awards announcements to be made soon.
- Environmental Bond Act Listening Sessions: Can find sessions on Google. Sessions in Cortland and Albany upcoming. Kristen Campbell from Oneida County Department of Planning will be attending.
- Automated Work Zone Enforcement: Started on April 17th. Vans with cameras have been placed in certain active work zones. Website is active that shows where most vans will be located. Rules are very strict on where vehicles can be placed, signage required, and the type of work zone. DOT is the certifier to ensure that the pictures are clear and license plates can be read. Has to be on interstates and limited access highways for construction and maintenance. Speeds have been clocked in excess of 100 miles an hour. This will be a permanent program. Violations will start to be given out shortly, fines increase with each violation.
- DOT Grant Submissions
 - Safe Routes and Streets for All Grant: July 10 due. Current recipients can request additional funding – 170M prior round rolled into this NOFO.
 - RAISE Planning Grant: Burrstone/Champlin/French announcement 06/28.
 - PROTECT Grant – Resiliency: \$848M, 25% rural areas, due 08/18.
- Transportation Alternative Program
 - NOFA will be coming out in late Summer 2023.
 - Region 2 will be having information sessions to assist municipalities.
- Upcoming Projects
 - Genesee Street Town and Village of New Hartford and Campion Road: 2-year project. Pave rehab, waterline (MVWA), intersection upgrades, complete streets. \$7.986M/3.0M waterline. CCI is the awarded Contractor.
 - Route 5S over Nowadaga Creek and culvert replacements Herkimer County: \$4.1M. ING Construction low bid award.
 - Champlin Avenue Pavement Reconstruction, Village of Yorkville: Complete streets, ADA ramps, sidewalks, signal, intersection improvements. \$3.1M, \$.650M MVWA waterline. Rifenburg awarded contractor.
 - Route 8 Village of Cold Brook to W. Canada Creek: 11 miles of pavement resurfacing and guiderail and sign upgrades. Heidelberg awarded contractor.
- Discussion/Comments:
 - Deborah Windecker stated the New York Mills/ Town of New Hartford bridge project will have many funding sources

in order to have it fully funded. Jeff Quackenbush noted that the sewer main is right on the bank.

- Andy Karas, City of Utica, asked Deborah Windecker if a project he has might be good to apply for a PROTECT grant. The city is preparing for a Broad Street East (BSE) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant application. The BSE TAP area encompasses approximately 1.5 miles of Broad Street to Culver Avenue. The project will be multi-phased and consider multiple funding sources. For the BSE TAP grant the City will focus on all possible elements eligible through the TAP program in order to achieve a “green complete streets road diet” that greatly enhances the existing and drives the future commercial, industrial, mixed-use loft redevelopment in the area. Early outreach/public comment is critical as always. An element of the non-TAP eligible portion of the project is the concept of “daylighting” the Old Erie Canal/Grace Creek. This aspect of the project still needs to be thoroughly vetted. The “daylighting” concept(s) involve property acquisition (unimproved parking lot), environmental mitigation, storm water quality questions, etc. Deborah Windecker stated that the Environmental Bond Act funding may be a better fit for this project.

6. NYS Thruway Authority Report

- Sara Sherlock, NYSTA Assistant Engineer, gave a synopsis of NYSTA activities for the past quarter.
- Drone Study: Has been geared for bridge inspections, other uses will be added. Waiting for policy changes to allow for use of drones outside. Currently still in training.
- Automated Safety Speed Enforcement: Bridge height campaign is ongoing. There is no height restriction with the new (cashless) tolling system, and this has resulted in an increase of bridge hits.
- Judd Road bridge is set to be completed in July. Footprints were discovered in the concrete and has contributed to delay.
- Main Street is set to be finished in November 2023.
- Mohawk Street redesign in progress.

7. Other Reports

- None

8. Presentations

- None

9. Old Business

- None

10. New Business

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 - 16: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add A Bridge Repair & Replacement Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 230351 – Bridge Repair / Replacement Project in the Town of Western, Oneida County shall be added to the TIP; and the project will be funded in the amount of \$7,350,000 for FFYs 2023, 2024, and 2028 utilizing Non-Federal Aid (NFA) funding and federal STBG Flex funding sources.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve the resolution made by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 17: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to remove an Overhead Sign Structure Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2806.89 – Overhead Sign Structure Project 26 for the repair and replacement of various overhead sign structures and panels along highways in the region shall be removed from the TIP; and the total project amount of \$1,614,000 in federal STBG Flex funds shall be moved to PIN 2008.10 for a project outside of the MPO.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Mark Nagele
 - Seconded by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 18: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Guiderail & Signs Replacement Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2806.51 – Guiderail & Signs Replacement Project 23 to repair, replace, or remove hazardous roadside elements (guiderail, bridge rail, tress, etc.) as necessary along highways at various locations in Region 2 shall be revised on the TIP; and the Construction and Construction Inspection costs have increased by a total of \$2.274M increasing the project cost from \$3,262,000 to \$5,536,000.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 19A: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to remove a Block Safety Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.

- Description: PIN 2TTR.23 – Block Safety Project 23 for traffic signal/devices, channelization, traffic signs, sight distance improvements, alignment work, and skid treatment w/grooving shall be removed from the TIP; and that \$555,000 of the project funding amount shall be moved to PIN 2806.55, and the remaining \$255,000 were used for projects outside of the MPO; and that the resolution will move the funding to PIN 2806.55 contingent on HOCTC resolution 2023-19B.
 - Discussion: Does it include Blackmans Corners? Yes. What are they doing there? Warning signs, technology to alert side traffic of oncoming traffic.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Jeff Quackenbush.
 - Seconded by: Nicholas DiGennaro.
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 19B: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Traffic Systems Improvement Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2806.55 – Traffic Systems Improvement Project 24 for safety improvements in traffic signals/devices shall be revised on the TIP; and that the Construction and Construction Inspection costs have increased with the funds from PIN 2TTR23 by the total amount of \$555,000 increasing the project cost from \$2,476,000 to \$3,031,000; and that the resolution will move the funding from PIN 2TTR23 contingent on HOCTC resolution 2023-19A.
 - Discussion: *See above.*
 - *Approved in previous motion.*

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 20: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to revise a Bridge Replacement Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.
 - Description: PIN 2806.66 – Bridge Replacement Project, in Madison and Oneida Counties, shall be revised on the TIP; and that the total project cost shall be decreased by a total of \$644,000 from \$744,000 to \$100,000; and that the resolution will move the funding to PIN 2303.48 contingent on HOCTC resolution 2023-21.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve resolution made by: Deborah Windecker
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 21: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add a Bridge Replacement Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco, NYSDOT.

- Description: PIN 2303.48 – Bridge Replacement Project, that replaces the bridge carrying Rt. 46 over Oneida Creek (BIN 1025680) in the City of Oneida in Madison County and in the Town of Verona in Oneida County, shall be added to the TIP; and that the project will be funded in the amount of \$5,720,000 with funds from PIN 2TB2.62, which is outside the MPO; and that the resolution will move the funding from PIN 2806.66 contingent on HOCTC resolution 2023-20.
 - Discussion: None.
 - *Approved in previous motion.*

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 22: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add an FTA Section 5310 Award Project for NYSARC, Oneida-Lewis Chapter**, presented by Barbara Hauck, HOCTC.
 - Description: PIN 282212 for the FTA Section 5310 Award for FY 2022 in Oneida County for the NYSARC, Inc. Oneida-Lewis Chapter for three (3) Lot K replacement buses, each with 26 adult passenger seating and two (2) wheelchair stations, shall be added to the TIP; and that the project will be funded with \$435,000 in FTA Section 5310 funds and \$108,000 in Non-Federal Aid (NFA) funds for a total amount of \$543,000.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve resolutions made by: Nicholas DiGennaro
 - Seconded by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2023 – 23: Amendment to the 2023 – 2027 TIP to add an FTA Section 5310 Award Project for LutheranCare – Katherine Luther Center**, presented by Barbara Hauck, HOCTC.
 - Description: PIN 282213 for the FTA Section 5310 Award for FY 2022 in Oneida County for the LutheranCare-Katherine Luther Center for four (4) Lot E buses, each with 10 adult passenger seating and two (2) wheelchair stations, shall be added to the TIP; and that the project will be funded with \$290,000 in FTA Section 5310 funds and \$72,000 in Non-Federal Aid (NFA) funds for a total amount of \$362,000.
 - Discussion: There was a question from Kelly Walters, 55 Forward, regarding the criteria for TIP amendment resolutions for Section 5310 projects to be brought before the TPC and GP&L committees, because there was no TIP amendment resolution for her Section 5310 project and that she is still awaiting funding award. Barb Hauck explained that there are two funding sources under the Section 5310 Program: Urbanized and NonUrbanized Areas. According to NYSDOT Albany Main Office, her project application was funded with NonUrbanized Area funding (Rural),

which is administered by NYSDOT and does not require a TIP amendment resolution.

- Motion to approve resolution made by: Jeff Quackenbush
 - Seconded by: Mark Nagele
 - Voting: Passed, 6-0-0

- **Administrative Modifications to the 2023 – 2027 TIP**
 - Description: A report of the administrative modifications made to the MPO TIP in the last quarter was given as the following:

ADMIN MOD. #	PIN	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY
2023 – 13MOD	282171	Purchase Paratransit / Call-A-Bus Vehicles with Lifts for Centro-Utica, Oneida County. The funding level for the project has been increased by \$80,000 from \$440,000 to \$520,000 for FFY 2023.	Centro
2023 – 14MOD	2TLS24	Local Safety Project 24 (Block Fund). The funding years for the two miscellaneous phases will be changed from 2026 and 2027 to 2024 and 2026 respectively.	NYSDOT
2023 – 15MOD	280702	Culvert Repair/Replacement Project, Towns of Lee and Ava, Oneida County. The project name is being corrected to, “Culvert Repair/Replacement Project, Town of Lee, Oneida County”. The funding year for the Detailed Design phase will be changed from FFY 2023 to FFY 2024. Additionally, the Construction and Construction Inspection phases will be changed from FFY 2024 to FFY 2025.	NYSDOT
2023 – 16MOD	275474	Utica Harbor Pedestrian Bridge. A detailed design phase will be added to the project. The overall project cost will remain unchanged.	NYSDOT

11. Open Forum for Committee Discussion

- None

12. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Nicole Correll

MARY A. LaCLAIR
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LaClair

Saturday February 25, 2023

Dana R. Crisino, MBA, AICP,
Director Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Council
Oneida County Department of Planning,
Boehlert Center at Union Station,
321 Main Street,
Utica, NY 13501

Dear Ms. Crisino,

This letter is being sent to you at the request of Julie Richmond, MPA, whom I thank for recommending that I additionally pass these comments to you. This is a result of my phone call to her.

The toxic spill affecting the Ohio community has concerned me, as I am sure it has you.

Here are my thoughts:

Septic tanks are pumped out, therefore spills can be sucked up, contained and transported.

Pumper fire trucks pump creek water into truck holding tanks for transporting to other sites.

We have the capability and the equipment.

I would think arrangements for employing them might be considered ahead of time.

Thank you for your work.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A Laclair

Mary Adele LaClair
cc: Julie Richmond