

BINGHAMTON METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
POLICY COMMITTEE  
December 14, 2017  
11:00 a.m.  
Broome County Office Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Legislative Conference Room  
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Mike Marinaccio, at 11:00 a.m.

Members Present

- Supervisor Michael Marinaccio, Town of Dickinson, Chair
- Legislator Michael Roberts, Tioga County, Vice-Chair
- Acting Commissioner Paul Karas, NYSDOT, *represented by Jack Williams, Region 9*
- County Executive Jason Garnar, Broome County, *represented by Kevin McManus*
- Mayor Richard David, City of Binghamton
- Mayor John Bertoni, Village of Endicott, *represented by Martin Shaw*
- Mayor Greg Deemie, Village of Johnson City
- Supervisor Donald Castellucci, Jr., Town of Owego, *represented by Barbara Roberts*
- Supervisor Rose Sotak, Town of Union, *represented by Robert Mack*
- Supervisor Gordon Kniffen, Town of Kirkwood
- Donna Howell, Regional Director, NYS Department of Economic Development, *represented by Sabina Mora*

Members Absent

- Supervisor John Schaffer, Town of Vestal
- Jennifer Gregory, STERPDB
- Supervisor Harold Snopek, Town of Chenango

Others Present

Jennifer Yonkoski, BMTS  
John Sterbentz, BMTS  
Cyndi Paddick, BMTS  
Leigh McCullen, BMTS  
Pam Eshbaugh, NYSDOT  
Scott Vergason, NYSDOT  
Marie Giurastante, NYSDOT

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES SEPTEMBER 14, 2017, MEETING***

Mayor Deemie motioned to approve the minutes; Robert Mack seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

***OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT***

The Chair, Mike Marinaccio opened the floor for comment.  
There were no public comments.

***ELECTION OF OFFICERS***

Jack Williams, NYSDOT, stated that the Nominating Committee had emailed the committee regarding interest in the seats of the Chair (Michael Marinaccio) and Vice Chair (Mike Roberts), as both of their terms will end in December 2017. There was no interest from the committee members; Jack nominated

Michael and Mike to each serve another term. Mayor Deemie motioned to approve the nomination and Mayor David seconded. It was unanimously approved.

### ***ACTION ITEMS***

☐ **2017-2021 TIP Amendment**

Resolution 2017-21; Approving an amendment to the 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program. PIN 9TSR18 Increase C & CI and change funding source from STP Flex to NHPP.

Pam Eshbaugh, NYSDOT, reported that funding for PIN 9TSR18 would be increasing from \$300,000 to \$400,000. The funding will be switched to NHPP funds, with the offset coming from paving contracts.

Mayor Deemie motioned to approve the resolution; Robert Mack seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved.

### ***DISCUSSION ITEMS / UPDATES***

☐ **2018-2019 UPWP Call for Projects**

Jenn Yonkoski, BMTS, reviewed the project requests that were received:

- There was a request for a study in Downtown Binghamton to address congestion on Isbell St. It appears that access to Isbell St. will remain throughout and after the 363 Gateway Project.
- The Town of Chenango submitted a request for a study to be conducted on the Route 12A and Kattelville Rd. intersection. It was recommended that there be more discussion, as NYSDOT felt it would be a larger project than just the requested intersection.
- The Village of Johnson City requested a Signal Warrant Study.
- There was a request for a Corridor Study on Hooper Rd. in Endwell.

Jenn will be sending a draft of all requests prior to the next meeting in March. If you have any other ideas between now and then, please send her an email.

☐ **RSA –Washington Drive with emphasis on the Murray Hill Road intersection in Vestal**

Cyndi Paddick, BMTS, reported that a Road Safety Assessment was conducted along Washington Drive. The town of Vestal also asked BMTS to look at the intersection of Murray Hill Road/Washington Drive in Vestal due to concerns of speeding in the area of the Elementary School. The assessment was presented at the Planning Committee meeting. Suggestions were made to calm traffic in the area including: pavement markings, speed monitoring, sign changes and added crosswalks to improve safety of pedestrians. The report indicated that there weren't a lot of reported crashes.

☐ **Pavement Condition Ratings 2017**

Jenn Yonkoski, BMTS, provided an overview on the Pavement Condition Ratings showing a map of ratings as of July 31, 2017. The map showed Non-State Federal Aid Pavement Conditions Ratings. This year's ratings show an increase in excellent scores, with a decrease in poor, fair and good scores. The pavement ratings have been sent to each municipality and are also posted on the BMTS website.

☐ **Route 434 Greenway Project – Pennsylvania Avenue to Murray Hill Road**

Jack Williams, NYSDOT, reported on the Greenway Project stating that three public outreach meetings have recently been held with constituents. The first meeting was held on Thursday, November 30 at the State Office Building for the Vestal Ave. residents. This meeting was held to

inform the residents on what we were doing, why we were doing it, and offer them a chance to express their feelings on the project. The meeting also gave NYSDOT an opportunity to explain alternatives to the residents.

The second meeting was held for the general public on Tuesday, December 12 at MacArthur Elementary school, and the third meeting for the general public was held the following day at Vestal Hills Elementary School. There was opposition to the Greenway on Vestal Ave Alternatives. NYSDOT will be evaluating all the comments received since the project is still in the Preliminary Design Phase. NYSDOT is considering options to phase construction.

□ **NYSDOT updates**

**Prospect Mountain Update**

Jack Williams, NYSDOT, stated that on the 81N and 17W overpass, the switch-over to the newly constructed Westbound bridge was done last week.

Jack also commented that there has been a significant investment made in the lighting for the Chenango Street Bridge.

**NYSDOT staffing changes**

Jack Williams, NYSDOT, informed everyone of some recent changes to the NYSDOT staff. There is a new NYSDOT commissioner, Paul Karas. Mr. Karas will be the acting commissioner until he is confirmed by the State Assembly and Senate.

Cathy Calhoun, former NYSDOT Chief of Staff, is now the Director of Operations for Governor Cuomo.

Todd Westhuis has been chosen to be the new NYSDOT Chief of Staff. Mr. Westhuis was formerly the Regional Director of the Hudson Valley Area.

**Lighting**

Jack commented that NYSDOT has had two years of talking to the Planning Committee and the Policy Committee on lighting improvements on Routes 201 and 26 in the Town of Union and Owego. He is also communicating with the Town of Nichols mayor now to provide guidance on changes in lighting in Tioga County. Jack also mentioned that if anyone has any requests for lighting to let Scott Vergason or Pam Eshbaugh know as there is a contractor and sub-contractor on the active Where and When Contracts for Lighting.

***BUSINESS OFFERED FROM THE FLOOR***

Supervisor Gordon Kniffen, Town of Kirkwood, stated that he had been shown the Corridor Study by Leigh McCullen with pictures of a potential Gateway to Kirkwood Project and wondered what the chances of the project progressing are, since there is no funding for the project attached. Jack Williams, NYSDOT, responded that the Town of Kirkwood and the State could work together to explore the possibilities of using multiple contracts, and making advancements whenever possible, as the scope of that project would not be in the current capital funding. Jack offered suggestions of smaller pavement/ sidewalk reconstruction, pedestrian safety, traffic safety and landscaping jobs to achieve some of the desired results. Jennifer Yonkoski stated that the corridor study is part of the UPWP and has just begun.

***2018 MEETING SCHEDULE***

- The next Policy Meeting is proposed for March 1, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. An announcement will be sent out.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Deemie; it was seconded by Kevin McManus. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00p.m.