

BINGHAMTON METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY
POLICY COMMITTEE

March 7, 2024

11:00 a.m.

Broome County Office Building, 6th Floor Legislative Conference Room

Also, via Zoom at

<https://broome.zoom.us/j/88549283001?pwd=hya357deVNC5NtgEFDQbpfSfqXOE.1>

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Mike Marinaccio, at 11:05 a.m.

Members Present

- × Supervisor Michael Marinaccio, Town of Dickinson, Chair (Zoom)
- × Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez, NYSDOT, *represented by Andrew Stiles, Region 9*
- × County Executive Jason Garner, Broome County Executive
- × Mayor Martin Meaney, Village of Johnson City
- × Supervisor Lew Grubham, Town of Kirkwood
- × Supervisor Rob Mack, Town of Union
- × Mayor Nick Burlingame, Village of Endicott
- × Supervisor Maria Sexton, Town of Vestal

Policy Members Absent

- Supervisor Michael Lumsden, Town of Chenango
- Mayor Mike Baratta, Village of Owego
- Ron Ciotoli, Tioga County Legislator
- Highway Superintendent, Mike Roberts, Town of Owego
- Mayor Jared Kraham, City of Binghamton
- Joann Lindstrom *for* Town Supervisor Donald Castellucci, Jr., Town of Owego
- Omar Sanders, NYS Department of Economic Development
- Jennifer Gregory, Southern Tier 8

Policy Committee Advisory Members Absent

Steve Fisher, District 4 Representative, PennDOT

Nicole McGrath, Community Planner, FHWA NY Division

Ayla Schermer, Community Planner, FTA Region II

Others Present

Jennifer Yonkoski, BMTS

Brian Cohen, BMTS

Scott Reigle, BMTS

Andrew Stiles, Acting Regional Director, NYSDOT

Erin Cavanagh, NYSDOT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES December 14, 2023. POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Lew Grubham motioned to approve the minutes; Supervisor Rob Mack seconded. No discussion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

- 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program**
[Resolution 2024-01, Approving the Draft 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program and associated grant budgets]

Jennifer Yonkoski, BMTS, presented a resolution recommending approval of the 2024-2025 UPWP. Yearly work program starts April 1, 2024, and goes through March 31, 2025. Primarily to have all the documents meet Federal requirements, DOT policies, local level policies related to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (P.L.117-58).

Hire a contractor to conduct TMC/Volume counts. Will reach out for locations closer to the Fall.

Begin update to the Long-Range Transportation Plan (15-18 mos.) during this work program required by Federal DOT – Adoption September 2025, prior five-year plan adopted in 2020. Consultant will be hired to develop a future year travel demand model.

Secured \$480,000 SS4A Grant. Will hire a consultant for Comprehensive Safety Action Plan.

BMTS - TIP update for 2026-2030 in June 2025. New projects will be programmed for 2028-2030.

No staffing changes.

Funding breakdowns:

FTA §5303	2024-2025 Allocation (FTA X034)	\$103,376	
	Unexpended Balance (FTA 033) (est. 1/16/23)	\$ 68,000	
	Total §5303 Available		\$171,376
FHWA PL	2024-2025 Allocation (incl AMPO Dues pass through)	\$681,329	
	Unprogrammed and Unexpended Balance (est.1/4/24, w/o unexpended bal of 2023-2024)	\$321,497	
	Total FHWA-PL Available		\$1,002,826.
Total Funds available for Programming			\$1,174,202
Total Funds Programmed, 2024-2025 UPWP (incl. pass through AMPO Dues)			\$ 792,894
Estimated Unprogrammed Funds			\$381,308

County Executive Jason Garner motioned to adopt the resolution; Andrew Stiles seconded. No discussion.

The resolution was unanimously approved.

Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Plan

[Resolution 2024-02, Approving the 2024 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Plan]

Jennifer Yonkoski advised this matter was addressed at the last meeting by Scott. Put it out for 30-day public review period. Few minor changes nothing of note. Asking for approval of the draft received in December.

Supervisor Lew Grubham, motioned to adopt the resolution; Mayor Martin Meany seconded. No discussion.

The resolution was unanimously approved.

□ **Limited English Proficiency Plan Update**

[Resolution 2024-03, Approving the proposed update to the BMTS Limited English Proficiency Plan]

Jennifer Yonkoski updated on the Limited English Proficiency Plan, only change is due to updated 2020 census numbers which did not change any of the policies or procedures based on thresholds that are set. Will continue, upon request, to provide any documents requested using Google Translate – No document requests to date.

Motion to adopt 2024-03 - Supervisor Rob Mack motioned to adopt the resolution; County Executive Jason Garner seconded. No discussion

The Resolution was unanimously approved.

□ **2023-2027 TIP Amendments (2)**

[Resolution 2024-04, Approving an Amendment to the 2023-2027 (add new project) Transportation Improvement Program, Addition of new project, PIN 975565, Bunn Hill Road Pedestrian Connection, Broome County]

Jennifer Yonkoski briefly described the project, Bunn Hill Road Pedestrian Connection between Route 434 and Vestal Road. Is extensive due to the culvert existing between 434 and Vestal Road. Funded with CRP Funds (Carbon Reduction Program Funds). These funds must be used on specific projects that have been determined to reduce carbon. This meets the criteria.

Motion to adopt 2024-04 - Supervisor Lew Grubham motioned to adopt the resolution; Andrew Stiles seconded. No discussion

The Resolution was unanimously approved.

[Resolution 2024-05, Approving an amendment to the 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program, Addition of funds, PIN 982187, Purchase Hybrid Electric Buses, Broome County]

Jennifer Yonkoski announced that Broome County transit has received additional funds from different sources and the breakdown was in your packets. Some are State Funds, some are Fiscal Year Federal Funds, \$5339, that are being added.

Motion to adopt 2024-05 – Supervisor Martin Meany motioned to adopt the resolution; Supervisor Lew Grubham seconded. No discussion.

The Resolution was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS / UPDATES

- Bike/Ped Counter Data Overview of Two Rivers Greenway 2023 in Review – Link on Website
Leigh McCullen– Pedestrian and bicycle counts for 2023 for each of 16 current locations indicated by a red dot and photos. Each site will have its own information, usage and comparison numbers, (monthly, annual, temperature and weather) for 2023.

Specifically, there were over 1.6 million pedestrian and bicycle counts at 15 active counter locations since June or July of 2023, and almost 7 million total counts since Summer 2019. Consider these numbers in future planning and expansion.

Breakdown of numbers for highest usage in 2023, also presented, are only from August to December for the 3 new counters that were installed on the 434

Bicyclists were a higher portion of user on the 434 Greenway.

- **Update Urban Area Designation**
Jennifer Yonkoski reported on the approved, updated Urban Area Boundary. Changes were approved by Federal Highway and accepted by the New York State Department of Transportation based on the 2020 U.S. Census. The Urban Area boundary changed very little within Broome and Tioga Counties. Biggest change is that there is no Urban Area classification down the I-81 corridor into Pennsylvania so that portion of the boundary has been removed.
- **Pavement Condition Rating Summary 2023**
Scott Reigle summarized ratings. Collected ratings from August 23, 2023, and September 18-22, 2023. Rates a little over 228 miles. Photos part of slides. Non-State federal aid eligible roads in Binghamton Urban Area, classified by conditions using 1-10 scoring system. Very poor is 1-2, 9-10 excellent, etc. Also inventory bicycle facilities; bike lanes or shoulders to see if there is shared space.

A matrix of the rating/ratio of the distress of the pavement to determine how to make the scoring decision was presented. After scoring was completed, fair and poor scores were tabulated, and notices are sent out to Highway Officials and DPW Officials with a list notating areas of concern. This helps with prioritizing for any roadway improvements the following paving season.

Additional graph helps to keep track of percentage to years of fair and poor road conditions. A Performance Level is used to maintain collector streets at no more than 25% poor and minor arterial sufficiency at no more than 10% poor. Graph displays well below the 25% threshold for the collectors (6%) but are seeing an upward trend and are below the 10% for the minor arterial road (3.8%) segments.

Information is further broken down by municipality and by grade and mileage both tabulated, graphed and mapped. Also found on website with an interactive comparison tool that can show progression between 2022 and 2023.

Question asked about Hayes Avenue repairs as it relates to condition and responsibility of pavement along/near railroad tracks, is it the railroad's responsibility? Yes.

Trail Rating maps, photos and signs are also found on the website.

□ **Two Rivers Greenway Trail Maintenance Report 2024 Snapshot**

Brian Cohen - The original plan called for an assessment every two years. Last update was 2021. Original plan split the trails up in 1/10 mile sections. The 2024 sections were separated by condition and deemed more beneficial. Using the ArcGIS FieldMaps App data was collected on Pavement (frequency and depth of cracking), ratings were 1 (poor) to 4 (excellent).

Maintenance of trail and surrounding conditions such as trash, overgrown or encroachment issues. 1 (poor) – 3 (Well-Maintained)

Events - hazards (potholes) or items to be addressed for pedestrian safety.

Signage – see if any damage is noted.

Trail ratings map uses color to identify issues. Pop-up identifiers note both signage and areas of concern. Photos of the affected areas can also be seen.

There are photos, comments and spreadsheet for further information.

This can all be found on the BMTS website.

□ **Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)**

Jennifer Yonkoski gave an update on the SS4A grant that BMTS received. An RFP out currently (2/21/24), Question deadline 3/15/24, Proposal due 3/27/24, Review Proposals 4/12/24, Legislative approval 5/16/24, Contract signed June 2024, Work to begin immediately following, 15-18 month project completion of safety analysis in Broome and Tioga Counties, State and locally owned roads.

Once analysis complete the projects listed in the plan will be eligible for SS4A implementation funding through US DOT.

□ **Watson Boulevard Complete Streets Implementation Study**

Jennifer Yonkoski reported that the study was requested by Broome County. Worked with Bergman (now Colliers). They broke down the study area into segments. Closer to Hooper Road was more difficult with the terrain to add a sidewalk/bike facilities – would require an expensive retaining wall, recommend intersection of Watson and Country Club to Valley Plaza would be the first section, least expensive and easiest to do. Did a cost analysis and suggestions for funding sources.

□ **NYSDOT Project Updates**

Andy Stiles reported on NYSDOT updates.

Project to remove the I81 pedestrian bridge over the highway is complete with the exception of a few finishing touches such as plantings, seedings and fence work.

I88/I81 connector bridge project, half was done last year the other half to be done this season similar to last year. I 88 to I 81 north ramp will also be closed with detour signs most of this summer.

Broome County to Apalachin, Crack and Seat Project – Construction to start soon. Two-year project. Westbound will be reconstructed first.

I81 over Loughlin Road is a Pile Retrofit project working on temporary construction that will allow excavation down to do the micropyles under the footings. No impacts to I81. Traffic signal to be used on Loughlin Road for one-way traffic.

I 81 over 990G (Kirkwood) replacing bearing and joint work. Various lane closures on 990G and short duration ramp closure on I81 as work progresses.

Route 11 Court Street resurfacing on schedule – start this Spring. Both daytime and night time lane closures depending on location.

Route 11 Bridge overlays near Dunkin Donuts and Castle Creek Road, near the church to start soon. Will begin at the church, temporary one-way signal there and move down to Dunkin. Work to be done at night and reopened for daytime.

Upcoming Projects:

Route 17c and 26 signal upgrade August let in May – Work start later summer.

US 11 Court Street retaining wall on schedule to be let in August – Late year start.

Route 363 and 434 Binghamton Gateway Project has an archeological dig going on for cultural resources for another month or two and findings report will be completed – Still pushing for a March 2025 letting.

Jennifer Yonkoski commented on the Memorial Street bridge potential design and in December pilot reducing lanes from four to three with Colliers (Bergman) will dovetail into the intersection with 363. Potentially a widened sidewalk, bike lane and/or shared use space will be added on the bridge. Final design timing with a 2025 letting.

Supervisor Michael Marinaccio complimented the removal of the walk bridge. He stated it was very well done and very well planned with little or no problems.

BUSINESS OFFERED FROM THE FLOOR

None

2024 MEETING SCHEDULE

- The next Policy Meeting will June 13, 2024. An announcement will be sent out prior.

A motion to adjourn was made by Broome County Executive Jason Garner; it was seconded by Supervisor Rob Mack. The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.