



**GOVERNMENTAL POLICY AND LIAISON
COMMITTEE**

Boehlert Center at Union Station
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Chairperson, ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR, Executive, Oneida County
Secretary, JAMES J. GENOVESE II, Commissioner, Oneida County Dept. of Planning

Vice-chairperson, VINCENT J. BONO, Chairman, Herkimer County Legislature
Clerk, DANA R. CRISINO, Director, Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Council

**Minutes for the December 14, 2021
Governmental Policy & Liaison (GP&L) Committee
Quarterly Meeting – Q4 2021
Board of Legislators Chambers
Oneida County Office Building**

*Administered by:
Herkimer – Oneida Counties Transportation Council (HOCTC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)*

A recording of this meeting is available upon request.

Chairperson Anthony J. Picente, Jr. called the meeting to order at 9:38 AM.

Roll Call

Voting Members present:

Anthony J. Picente, Jr., Chairperson	Oneida County Executive
Vincent J. Bono, Vice-Chairperson	Vice-Chairman, Herkimer County Legislature
James Wallace	Administrator, Herkimer County
Timothy Seymour	Commissioner, Herkimer County Social Services
Mary Austin Pratt	Legislator, Oneida County Board of Legislators, <i>representing Gerald J. Fiorini, Chairman, Oneida County Board of Legislators</i>
David Wood	<i>representing George Joseph Majority Leader, Oneida County Board of Legislators</i>
Michael Waterman	Public Works Committee Chairman, Oneida County Board of Legislators
Scott Musacchio	Supervisor, Town of Verona
Joseph Smith	Supervisor, Town of Trenton
Linda Lubey	Regional Director, NYSDOT Region 2, <i>representing Marie Therese Dominguez, Commissioner, New York State Department of Transportation</i>
Tim Julian	Oneida County Legislator, <i>representing Philip Sacco, Minority Leader, Oneida County Board of Legislators</i>
John Piseck	Executive Director, Herkimer County Industrial Development Agency

Voting Members present virtually:

E.J. Moses

Director of Facilities, Central New York Regional Transportation Authority, *representing Nicholas Laino, Chairman, Central New York Regional Transportation Authority*

Jerrin George

Professional Engineer, Syracuse Division, NYS Thruway Authority, *representing Joanne Mahoney, Chair, NYS Thruway Authority Board of Directors*

Matt Andrews

Deputy Director, Community & Economic Development, City of Rome, *representing Jacquelyn Izzo, Mayor, City of Rome*

Non-voting Members present:

James Genovese, Secretary

Commissioner, Department of Planning, Oneida County

Dana Crisino, Clerk

Director, HOCTC

Deb Windecker

Regional Planning and Program Manager, NYSDOT, Region 2

Mark DeRocco

Assistant Regional Planning and Program Manager, NYSDOT, Region 2

Barb Hauck

Principal Planner, HOCTC

Alexander Turner

Planner, HOCTC

Amy Heiderich

Planning Specialist, Department of Planning, Oneida County

Christopher Burtch

Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Works, Oneida County

Robert Pronteau

Assistant County Attorney, Department of Law, Oneida County

Robert Smullen

Assemblyman, District 118, New York State Assembly

Brian Miller

Assemblyman, District 101, New York State Assembly

Susan Joquish

Attaché to Assemblyman Brian Miller, New York State Assembly

Voting Members absent:

Robert Palmieri

Mayor, City of Utica

Glenn Asnoe

Supervisor, Town of Frankfort

Raymond Smith

Chairman, Highways Committee, Herkimer County Legislature

David Catalfamo

Director, Economic Development, Oneida County

• **Approval of Minutes**

- Motion to accept the minutes of the September 9, 2021 meeting made by: Vincent Bono
 - Seconded by: Scott Musacchio
 - Discussion: None
 - Voting: Passed, 15-0-0

• **Public Comment**

- No public comment.

- **Director's Report**, presented by Dana Crisino.
 - The 2021 HOCTC Environmental Justice Analysis Plan and the 2021 – 2024 HOCTC Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan have had their work finished by staff.
 - The UPWP for 2022 – 2023 is being developed for early next year. The program is an open solicitation for projects. The backlog funding however has been shrinking due to recent increased spending on recent projects.
 - The TIP for 2023 – 2027 will be developed in the next few months. Solicitation for this document will soon get underway at the MPO.
 - The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) was recently signed into law on 15 November, which reauthorizes surface transportation programs for the next five years (FFY 2022 – 2026).
 - The new law authorized \$1.2 trillion in total funding which equates to \$550 billion above former levels. Approximately half of the new funding is for transportation. There is additional funding for existing programs as well as the creation of new ones. The law however does not solve the Highway Trust Fund solvency issues, as an additional \$118 billion will be allocated away from the general fund. Core FHWA and FTA formula programs will be increased to include: NHPP, STBGP (including TAP), HSIP, CMAQ, PL, 5307, 5310, 5311, 5337, 5339, 5340, and MPP. The NHFP was reduced from FFY 2021 levels, however, it will return to those levels in FFY 2026.
 - Of the additional \$550 billion above former levels, \$274 billion was included for USDOT. \$89.8 of which will be used to allow increased Highway Trust Fund contract authority over the five-year period. \$184.1 billion to be made in direct appropriations to highways, transit, safety, railroads, airports, and ports.
 - The creation of new formula programs:
 - FHWA Carbon Reduction Program funded at \$6.4 billion,
 - FHWA Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost Saving Transportation (PROTECT) at \$7.3 billion
 - Bridge program at \$27.5 billion
 - Electric vehicle program at \$5 billion
 - The creation of new grant programs:
 - Bridge investment at \$9.2 billion
 - National Infrastructure Project Assistance at \$5 billion
 - Safe Streets and Roads for All at \$5 billion
 - Culvert removal, replacement, and restoration at \$1 billion
 - Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation at \$500 million
 - Increase to existing programs
 - RAISE - \$7.5 billion total
 - INFRA - \$3.2 billion total
 - CIG - \$1.6 billion total
 - CRISI - \$5 billion total
 - Multiple Passenger Rail - \$31.2 billion
 - Bus and Bus Facilities - \$2.3 billion
 - Funding summary for the FFY 2022 – 2026 for New York

- FHWA Apportioned - \$11,572,530,054
 - FHWA Bridge - \$1, 891,375,585
 - FHWA Electric Vehicle - \$175,466,514
 - FHWA Ferry Boats and Terminals - \$19,538,015
 - FTA - \$9,803,829,463
- IJJA Key MPO Policy Changes
 - Requires MPOs to use no less than 2.5% of PL funds to carry out Complete Streets activities that increase safety and accessibility for multiple modes
 - Requirement for MPOs to consult with housing officials and adds housing to the scope of the planning process
 - Revises fiscal constraint requirement for LRTPs by revising “outer years” from beyond first 10 yrs. to beyond first 4 yrs.
 - Increases the maximum number of highway miles a state may designate as critical urban freight corridors
 - Increases TAP funding and increase MPO sub allocation to 59%
 - Expands eligibility and allow up to 100% federal share on safety projects
- Discussion
 - John Piseck asks if the funding for electric vehicles includes provisions for boats. Dana states that she is unsure but will look into the matter and find out an answer. Anthony Picente states that as a member of the Canal Corporation Board, the corporation has been looking at installing electric vehicle charging stations for boats across the system of locks.
 - John Piseck makes an inquiry into the possibility of a freight railroad spur in Herkimer County based on the news of the new IJJA providing funds for carbon reduction. Dana states that it may be possible and she will be vigilant into the topic.
- **NYSDOT Region 2 Report**, presented by Deb Windecker.
 - A new transportation authorization bill in Congress (The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) was authorized 5 years of fully funded Surface Transportation at \$11.5 billion for New York State. \$1.9 billion of that funding will go to a new formula based bridge program that addresses bridges condition and the creation of two new programs, a Carbon Reduction and a Resiliency program. There will also be \$65 billion authorized for broadband nationwide.
 - The discretionary program of RAISE (formerly BUILD/TIGER) will be reauthorized at \$7.5 billion. New discretionary programs that have been created include: Reconnection Communities, Bridge Investment Program National Infrastructure Project Assistance Program, Safe Streets and Roads for All, and Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration.
 - Work is underway in preparation for the next TIP/STIP update for 2022 – 2027.
 - Deb states that NYSDOT has been feeling the pressures of inflation recently as many proposals for projects have been over the engineer’s cost estimates.
 - The following projects are scheduled for lettings in November: Route 825 Bridge Rehabilitation Project with the apparent low bidder being Tioga Construction at \$2.5 million.
 - The following projects have been let or are scheduled to be let in December:

- VPP Projects by the Office of General Services:
 - State Route 5s from Oneida County line to Ilion for \$4.5 million
 - State Route 274 from Ward Street to Fuller Road in Oneida County for \$1.4 million.
 - Route 8 over Oneida Street Bridge Deck Replacements for \$2.5 million.
 - Multisite Bridge Deck and Superstructure Replacement for Route 274 over Big Brook in Oneida County for \$1.8 million.
 - The following projects are scheduled to be let in January:
 - Route 51 (Otsego Street) over Steele Creek bridge replacement in Herkimer County for \$4.2 million.
 - Route 26/365 Safety and pavement Project in Rome for \$6.3 million.
 - Bridge Painting Contract for Mulaney Road Bridges over Route 12 in Oneida County for \$1.9 million.
 - The following projects are scheduled to be let in February:
 - Route 51 over Route 5s Bridge Deck Replacement in Herkimer County for \$1.1 million.
 - The 2018 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) for the Mohawk River Trail Phase II in Rome will be let in January for \$1.1 million.
 - 2021 TAP Applications have been scored and are under review with a 2022 late winter/spring announcement of awards.
 - A BRIDGE NY update announcement should be out by the end of the year regarding the program.
- **Other Reports - 2020 Decennial Census**, presented by Alexander Turner.
 - A Herkimer – Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program (HOCCPP) resolution will be presented that will seek to approve an agreement with the New York State (NYS) Data Center. The NYS Data Center, in cooperation with the US Census Bureau, is a peer network that ensures quality census data information is provided to the counties. HOCCPP has participated since 1978. The Data Center is seeking an updated operating agreement to continue participation.
 - Further demographics from the 2020 Census will be released in 2022, which includes data related to sex, relationship, household types, and age. The data release is taking longer than usual due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the implementation of new confidentiality protections in the data.
- **Presentations**
 - **Environmental Justice Analysis 2021**, presented by Dana Crisino.
 - The Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis Plan is mandated by federal law in order to identify and address the effect of all programs, policies, and activities on minorities and low-income populations. The five core populations that were identified in previous plans are: poverty, disabled, minority, Limited English Proficiency (LEP), and elderly. As a part of the new plan, zero-vehicle households and renter populations were added to the analysis.
 - A quick analysis of the data revealed that across Herkimer and Oneida Counties: 1 in 10 households are zero-vehicle, 58% of the population are in the workforce, roughly one quarter of income is spent on transportation, the minority population has increased 7.4%, and 21% of the population is under 18 years old.

- Additionally, poverty has decreased nearly 8% in five years, the population over 65 years old has increased 11%, 15% of the population is living in poverty, renters have decreased nearly 6%, and 19% of the population is over the age of 65.
 - Discussion
 - John Piseck asks if the data collected for the HOCTC Environmental Justice Analysis is shared with the state and Dana replies that it will be.
 - Robert Smullen mentions that the Climate and Community Investment Act is a carbon pollution fee that is being put out that will levy a tax on fossil fuels. The funding raised as a part of the initiative will go to funding environmental justice efforts across the state. He states that it worries him as the tax primarily falls on all rural upstate people. Some of the funds will be given back to the people as a form of tax credit. The act is coming in the future and he will keep the committee posted on developments.
 - **2021 – 2024 Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan**, presented by Barbara Hauck.
 - USDOT requires that each urbanized area under the direction of an MPO develop a Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan. The purpose of the plan is to: focus on core FTA funding programs such as Sections 5307, 5310, and 5311, assess transportation needs of the elderly, disabled, and poverty populations, identify transportation provides and potential gaps in service, identification of potential system improvements, identification of redundancies in service, and to strengthen partnerships.
 - The draft plan underwent a 30-day public review period with no comments received. The projects eligible for Section 5310 are located in the Appendix 1 of the plan, and were submitted by the following agencies: Senior Citizens Council of Rome New York, Herkimer County Chapter of NYSARC, Parkway Center, and Senior Network Health. Upon approval of the plan, it will go into effect on January 1 2022 and last until December 31, 2024.
- **Old Business - NONE**
- **New Business**
 - **HOCCPP Resolution 2021 – 01: New York State Data Center Affiliate Agreement**, presented by Dana Crisino.
 - Description: Adoption of a contract with the NYS Data Center and the Herkimer – Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program for 2019 to 2023.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve the resolution made by: Vincent Bono
 - Seconded by: David Wood
 - Voting: Passed, 15-0-0
 - **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 29: Approval of the 2021 HOCTC Environmental Justice Analysis Plan**, presented by Dana Crisino.
 - Description: Adoption of the 2021 HOCTC Environmental Justice Analysis Plan.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve the resolution made by: James Wallace

- Seconded by: Linda Lubey
 - Voting: Passed, 15-0-0
- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 30: Approval of the 2021 – 2024 HOCTC Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan**, presented by Dana Crisino.
 - Description: Adoption of the 2021 – 2024 HOCTC Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve the resolution made by: Scott Musacchio
 - Seconded by: Mary Pratt
 - Voting: Passed, 15-0-0
 - **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 31: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to revise a Preventative Maintenance Paving Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco.
 - Description: A project on the MPO TIP, PIN 280653 – New Hartford Preventative Maintenance Paving on Route 921E & 921T (Genesee Street) shall be revised to reflect a cost increase in the project of \$1,276,000 from \$1,857,000 to \$3,133,000.
 - Discussion: Mark DeRocco states that the cost increase is due to the addition of right-of-way and signal work in the project. Mark states that the resolution is related to Resolution 2021 – 32 and asks to have the resolutions voted on together.
 - Motion to accept Resolution 2021 – 31 and 2021 – 32 together made by: Mary Pratt
 - Seconded by: Linda Lubey
 - Voting: Passed, 15-0-0
 - **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 32: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to revise a Traffic Signals Safety Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco.
 - Description: A project on the MPO TIP, PIN 280655 – Traffic Systems Improvement Project 24 shall be revised to reflect a cost decrease in the project of \$1,358,000 from \$2,474,000 to \$1,116,000.
 - Discussion: Mark DeRocco states that the funding being removed from this project is going to Resolution 2021 – 31.
 - *Resolution passed in previous motion.*
 - **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 33: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to delete a Cyclical Highway Maintenance Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco.
 - Description: A project on the MPO TIP, PIN 2TM242 – Block Fund Bridge 24 Preventative Maintenance shall be removed from the TIP.
 - Discussion: None
 - Motion to approve the resolution made by: Scott Musacchio
 - Seconded by: David Wood
 - Voting: Passed, 15-0-0
 - **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 34A: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to delete a Bridge Rehabilitation Project**.
 - Description: A project on the MPO TIP, PIN 2TLB23 – Local Bridge/Pavement Rehabilitation Project 23 (Block) shall be removed from the TIP.
 - *Resolution withdrawn prior to start of meeting.*

- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 34B: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to add a Pavement Reconstruction Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco.
 - Description: A project shall be added to the MPO TIP, PIN 275464 – North Street: US 20 to West Winfield Village Line funded in the amount of \$2,100,000.
 - *Resolution withdrawn prior to start of meeting.*

- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 35: Host Agency Agreement for Oneida County to continue hosting the Herkimer – Oneida Counties Transportation Council Metropolitan Planning Organization (HOCTC MPO)**, presented by Dana Crisino.
 - Description: Approval of the proposed Oneida County host agency agreement for the HOCTC MPO.
 - Discussion: Anthony Picente states that the host agency agreement proposal is for renewing the current agreement from April 2022 to March 2032. The operating agreement will be that Oneida County continues to host the staff and functions of the HOCTC MPO with the approval of both Herkimer and Oneida Counties.
 - Motion to approve the resolution made by: Vincent Bono
 - Seconded by: Scott Musacchio
 - Voting: Passed, 15-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 36: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to add a Preventative Bridge Maintenance Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco.
 - Description: A project shall be added to the MPO TIP, PIN 280699 – 2022 Job Order Contract (JOC) Bridge funded in the amount of \$1,300,000.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve the resolution made by: Michael Waterman
 - Seconded by: David Wood
 - Voting: Passed, 15-0-0

- **HOCTC Resolution 2021 – 37: Amendment to the 2020 – 2024 TIP to revise a Pavement Marking Project**, presented by Mark DeRocco.
 - Description: A project on the MPO TIP, PIN 280650 – Pavement Marking Project 23, shall be revised to reflect a cost increase of \$997,000 from \$3,163,000 to \$4,160,000.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Motion to approve the resolution made by: Scott Musacchio
 - Seconded by: Mary Pratt
 - Voting: Passed, 15-0-0

- **Administrative Modifications to the 2020 – 2024 TIP**
 - Dana gave a report of the administrative modifications made to the MPO TIP in the last quarter as the following:

ADMIN MOD. #	PIN	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY
2021-12MOD	265053	Mohawk River Trail Phase 2. ROW Acquisitions phase for FFY 2021 added to project.	NYSDOT
2021-13MOD	280634	Pavement Marking Project 21. Project cost increase of \$290,000. New Construction phase.	NYSDOT
2021-14MOD	275450	BRIDGE NY 2018: West Main Street/Moyer Creek (BIN 2263720). Construction and Construction Inspection phase changed from 2021 to 2022.	NYSDOT
2021-15MOD	280621	Route 26 and 26/365 Overlap Safety and Preventative Maintenance Paving, Rome. Project cost increased \$349,500. Funding years changed from 2021 to 2022.	NYSDOT
2021-16MOD	205684	Route 8 over Oneida Street Bridges. Cost of project increased \$350,000. Additional construction phase of the project.	NYSDOT
2021-17MOD	280654	Traffic Systems Improvement 22. Funding year changed from 2022 to 2023 for Construction and Construction Inspection phases.	NYSDOT
2021-18MOD	204712	Route 921C (N. Genesee St.) Safety Project. Funding year for Construction and Construction Inspection changed from 2022 to 2023.	NYSDOT
2021-19MOD	205686	Route 8 Village of Cold Brook Line to West Canada Creek Preventative Maintenance. The funding year for the Construction and Construction Inspection phases will be changed from FFY 2022 to FFY 2023.	NYSDOT
2021-20MOD	280621	Route 26 and 26/365 Overlap Safety and Preventative Maintenance Paving. The Construction and Construction Inspection phases of the project utilizing NHPP funding will change to STBG Flex funding. The total funding of the Construction phases will be increased by \$500.	NYSDOT

- **Other Business**
 - Open forum of the committee
 - Anthony Picente states that the Chair of the committee will pass from Oneida County to Herkimer County next year and Vincent Bono will become the new Chairperson.
- **Adjournment**
 - Motion to adjourn the meeting made by: Mary Pratt

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Alexander Turner, HOCTC