



Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council
438 Main St, Suite 503 | Buffalo, NY 14202 | 716-856-2026 | www.gbnrtc.org

Transportation Projects Subcommittee (TPS) Meeting

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 9:00 AM

Agenda

1. Approval of April 19, 2023 TPS Meeting Summary
 2. 2023-2027 TIP – Action Requests
 - a. PIN 5011.37 NY 93; NY 18F to Niagara Scenic Parkway – Increase Funding (*NYSDOT*)
 - b. PIN 5814.20 Large Culvert Preservation at Various Federal-Aid Eligible Locations – Fund Transfer (*NYSDOT*)
 - c. PIN 5814.66 Goodell St, Tupper St & Pearl St; NY 33 (Kensington Expwy) to NY 5 (Main St) – Increase Funding (*NYSDOT*)
 - d. PIN 5111.77 US 20/Cazenovia Creek – Increase Funding (*NYSDOT*)
 - e. PIN 5825.77 Rail Capital Project – Realignment & Name Change (*NFTA*)
 - f. FTA 5339 – Reapportionment, Fund Transfer, New Funding Source & Project Deletion (*NFTA*)
 - i. PIN 5900.45 Purchase Revenue Vehicles
 - ii. PIN 5900.46 Purchase Paratransit Vehicles
 - iii. PIN 5900.47 Purchase Bus Shelters
 - g. FTA 5307 and 5337 – Project Realignment & Name Change (*NFTA*)
 - i. PIN 5825.76 Bus Capital Project (5307)
 - ii. PIN 5900.28 Rail Preventative Maintenance (5307)
 - iii. PIN 5900.34 Rail Preventative Maintenance (5337)
 3. Old Business
 4. New Business
 - a. RPPM Action Report
 5. Next Meeting – Wednesday June 21, 2023, 9:00 AM
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TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS SUBCOMMITTEE (TPS) MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, April 19, 2023
9:00 A.M. via Zoom Meeting

Attendees: D. Hill, H. Ismail, K Forma, M. Finn, K. Stilwell, N. Skipper, A. Weymouth, D. Svilokos, B. Roth, K. Smith, N. Allen, and R. Guarino.

1. Approval of March 15, 2023 TPS Meeting Summary – *Motion for approval: Svilokos/Roth. Approved.*
2. 2023-2027 TIP Discussion
No Action Items to approve this month.
3. Old Business
 - a. GBNRTC Website – R. Guarino reviewed the updates to the GBNRTC website. He explained the revised layout for the 2023-2027 TIP.
 - b. Safe Streets for All (SS4A) – SS4A is a discretionary program in the IJA. The total funding available is \$5-6B over 5 years, with \$800M to be awarded in the first round. The second round of applications is open and due July 10, 2023. Eligible applicants include MPOs, political subdivision of a State, including transit agencies created under state law, States and State agencies are NOT eligible. Eligible projects include developing a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan which is the scope of Round 1 grant award, supplemental planning of existing Comprehensive Safety Action Plan which includes topical safety subplans, i.e. speed management, vulnerable road users, ADA transition plans, etc., road safety audits, other roadway safety planning activities that enhance an Action Plan; Demonstration Projects is new in 2023 and includes feasibility studies using quick-build strategies, MUTCD Engineering studies, pilot programs that demonstrate safety benefits of technologies not yet adopted in the community; Implementation Projects which must be identified in a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. GBNRTC received a SS4A grant in February 2023. The grant scope consisted of Preparing a Roadway Safety Action Plan for all roads in Erie & Niagara Counties. The grant award amount was \$450,00 in federal funding, \$125,000 in cash match by members, and \$12,500 of in-kind match by members staff time. The work scope is to be done by a consultant. GBNRTC has discussed developing an Action Plan in house. Some of the issues involved are a compressed time frame, the impact to the grant award, and liability concerns. The liability concerns that were discussed are how the plan exposes roadway owners to possible problem areas. However, FHWA shared that federal statute keeps plans developed under HSIP program out of discovery in State and Federal court. The Cornell Local Roads Plan Liability webinar explained that plans are important to develop and organize a rationale for prioritizing improvements and that they have a data-based prioritization. Final recommendation of any project is a ranking of priority based on a committee developed system. Strategies used are to be high level based on the safe systems approach. All projects will require further engineering analysis to develop specific design approach. The final plan must be adopted by Policy Committee. Disclaimers in the plan and the resolution are anticipated to cover liability concerns. Therefore, it is important to start discussions now to resolve liability issues. The MPO liability issues should be covered by having a consultant develop the plan and include disclaimers in the plan. The next steps we need to take include deciding whether the action plan should be done with grant funds or in-house, applying for the second round of grant applications for supplement planning/demonstration projects, formation of a committee, and further liability discussions.
4. New Business
 - a. RPPM Change Report – 1. PIN 5815.53 Broadway & Church Street Traffic Signal Replacement: Increased Preliminary Design and reduced Detailed Design by \$50K. Approved on 3/30/2023. 2. PIN 5045.28 NY 93 @ NY 104, Molyneaux Corners, Intersection improvements : \$50K HSIP added to Preliminary Design Phase. Approved on 4/18/2023.
 - b. USDOT Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program – There are more than 1M Wildlife Vehicle Collisions (WVCs) annually which present a danger to human safety and wildlife survival, cost over \$8B, and result in approximately tens of thousands of serious injuries and hundreds of fatalities on U.S. roadways. The Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program is a competitive grant program with the goal of reducing Wildlife Vehicle Collisions while improving habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) authorized \$350M total in federal-aid contract authority funding for Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2022 through 2026 to be awarded through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), for the Wildlife Crossings Program. Eligible entities for the program include: State Departments of Transportation, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, units of local government, regional transportation authorities, special purpose districts or public authorities with a transportation function, Indian tribes, Federal Land Management Agencies, and a group of any of the above entities. All projects should seek to protect motorists and wildlife by reducing the number of WVCs and improve habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species. The Wildlife Crossing Program provides funding for construction and non-construction projects. Construction Projects include engineering, design, permitting, right-of-way acquisition, and other activities related to the construction of infrastructure improvements, such as the building of a wildlife crossing overpass or underpass. Non-Construction projects include planning, research, and educational activities that are not directly related to construction of infrastructure improvements, such as a hot spot analysis of WVCs. The call for applications is now open. NOFO and application checklist was sent in the meeting package and is also available on the FHWA website. Applications must be submitted electronically via Grants.gov no later than 11:59PM, Eastern Time, on August 1, 2023. Program webinars and information on how to participate will soon be scheduled. Webinars will be recorded and posted on the FHWA website.

- c. TIP Change Control Guidelines Update – TIP/STIP projects may need to be modified for one or more of the following reasons: Addition of new projects, deletion of existing projects, cost change, scope/work element change, location changes, funding source changes, scheduling changes, or phase additions or deletions. Change controls govern the procedures and governing body approvals required to make any of these changes to the TIP. The change controls are reviewed every 2 years. There is a need to carefully balance efficiency with transparency. Amendments require public review and a resolution. Policy Committee meets twice per year. The smallest changes do not require paperwork or MPO board approvals but are reported out at PCC as RPPM changes. There is a proposed change to the federal to non-federal fund source changes (II.c. and II.d.). Currently the change control requires the following: If the dollar amount is under \$150K then an AdMod and PCC Approval is required, and if the amount is over \$150K it requires an Amendment with PCC Approval. The proposed change is for changes under \$150K to be reported at TPS as an RPPM change and changes over \$150K would require an AdMod approved by TPS and reported at PCC.
 - d. Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan – What is the Coordinated Transportation Plan? The plan provides the framework for improving transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, individuals with lower incomes. It strives for communities to coordinate transportation resources provided through various sources. The plan serves as a mechanism to assist in project selection for Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individual w/Disabilities Grant Program. About the Coordinated Transportation Plan: Per federal requirements, the update will include: An assessment of transportation needs for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and persons with limited means; Strategies to address identified needs and gaps in service, achieve efficiencies in service delivery and eliminate or reduce duplication in services for more efficient utilization of resources; Priorities and/or projects based on resources, time, and feasibility for implementing the specific strategies/activities identified; and an inventory of available services that identifies current transportation providers from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. The following is the process for the Plan Update: Spring 2023 Activities: Review of 2019 plan to determine changes in services, network of providers, and demographics (using updated 2020 Census and building off the MTP demographics). Spring/Summer 2023 Activities: Reconvene human service stakeholders, human service providers and transportation providers, conduct public outreach and engagement with the purpose of soliciting input concerning transportation needs, gaps, and potential strategies and/or priority projects. Summer 2023 Activities: Reconfirm and/or develop strategies/potential projects to address unmet needs. Fall 2023 Activities: Establish the public review period. Endorse the updated plan through GBNRTC Policy Committee Resolution in November 2023. Engagement and Input from: Health & Human Service Coalitions, County Departments of Senior Services, NFTA and other transportation providers, Individual employers & job development agencies, and Health & Human Service Non-Profit Agencies and others.
 - e. Bridge Investment Program (BIP) – Non-Large Bridge Award Announcement – Eight states and Washington, DC were awarded funds for from the Non-Large Bridge Award. New York State received one award for Restoring the Castleton-on-Hudson Bridge for \$21M. The total amount awarded nationwide was \$296M. The NOFO for FFY23 funding is scheduled to be announced this spring. Go to <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/bip/bridgegrants2022/> for fact sheets on all awarded bridges.
5. Adjourn: The next TPS meeting will be held at 9 a.m. Wednesday May17, 2023 – Format will continue to follow the hybrid model (Live and Zoom options). *Motion to adjourn: Svilocos/Hill. Approved.*

Transportation Projects Subcommittee

May 17, 2023



Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council

1. Approval of 4/19/23 Minutes

2. Action Items

a. PIN 5011.37 - NY 93; NY 18F to Niagara Scenic Parkway

- This is a NYSDOT request to modify an existing project
- Additional design costs pertaining to project change from mill/resurface to reconstruction (minor scope change).
- Preliminary Design (PDES) phase will increase by \$0.262M.
- \$0.262M will be transferred from PIN 5044.01 NY 61; B St to Lockport Rd.
- Fiscal constraint is maintained.
- **Today's action will be to recommend this action for approval to PCC**

b. PIN 5814.20 Large Culvert Preservation at Various Federal-Aid Eligible Locations

- This is a NYSDOT request to modify an existing project
- This request decreases the construction phase by \$0.491M (matched NHPP) as project estimates were lower than anticipated
- \$0.491M (matched NHPP) will be transferred to PIN 5B1555 Pavement Maintenance Block
- Fiscal constraint is maintained
- Today's action will be to approve this change as Administrative Modification # 25

c. PIN 5814.66 Goodell St, Tupper St & Pearl St; NY 33 (Kens Exp) to NY 5 (Main St)

- This is a NYSDOT request to modify an existing project
- This project is statewide funded
- This request increases Preliminary Design by \$0.580M to fund outside consultant design
- \$0.580M will be transferred to project from statewide HSIP allocations
- \$0.298M of Detailed Design funding will be changed from statewide HSIP to 100% State Discretionary Funding (SDF).
- Fiscal constraint is maintained
- **Today's action will be to recommend this action for approval to PCC**

d. PIN 5111.77 US 20/Cazenovia Creek

- This is a NYSDOT request to modify an existing project
- Request for a \$7.504M cost increase due to Erie County Water Authority water line relocation and increased material prices
 - Construction phase will be increased by \$6.700M
 - Construction Inspection phase will be increased by \$0.804M
- Fiscal constraint is maintained as all offset (\$7.504M) is 100% Statewide funded
- **Today's action will be to recommend this action for approval to PCC**

e. PIN 5825.77 Rail Capital Project (5337)

- This is a NFTA request to modify an existing project
- This change will align the estimated FTA Section 5337 funds for this project to match the full published federal (FTA) apportionments for FFY23
- Total project cost will increase by \$0.832M (matched FTA 5337)
- New project total will be \$1.889M
- In addition, the project name will change from “Rail Capital Project (5337)” to “Rail: Catenary & Insulator Replacement Project”.
- **Today’s action will be to recommend this action for approval to PCC**

f. FTA 5339 – Reapportion, Fund Transfer, New Funding Source & Project Deletion

- This is a NFTA request to modify three (3) existing projects

1. PIN 5900.45 Purchase Revenue Vehicles

- All FTA 5339 funds from PIN 5900.46 Purchase Paratransit Vehicles and PIN 5900.47 Purchase Bus Shelters will be transferred to PIN 5900.45 Purchase Revenue Vehicles.
- FFY23 FTA 5339 funds in this project will be realigned to published federal apportionments
- The project total will now be \$1.917 (matched FTA 5339)

2. PIN 5900.46 Purchase Paratransit Vehicles

- All FTA 5339 funds will be transferred to PIN 5900.45 Purchase Revenue Vehicles
- This project will now be funded with FFY23 FTA Section 5337 funds which became available from the FTA 5337 realignment to published federal apportionments.
- This project title will be changed to “Rail Fastener and Pad Project”

3. PIN 5900.47 Purchase Bus Shelters

- The NFTA has decided to use local funds for the purchase of bus shelters
- All current funding (\$0.633M matched FTA 5339 funds) will be transferred to PIN 5900.45
- This project will no longer contain any federal funds and will be need to be removed from the TIP.

- **Today’s action will be to initiate a 30-day public review period**

g. FTA 5307 and 5337 – Project Realignment & Name Change

- This is a NFTA request to modify three (3) existing projects
- All three (3) projects will be realigned to match the full published federal apportionments.
 - 1. PIN 5900.28 Rail Preventive Maintenance (FTA 5307)**
 - Decrease of \$3.552M (new total is \$0.619M)
 - 2. PIN 5900.34 Rail Preventive Maintenance (FTA 5337)**
 - Decrease of \$0.005M (new total is \$3.018M)
 - 3. PIN 5825.76 Bus Capital Project (FTA 5307)**
 - Increase of \$0.035M (new total is \$8.785M)
- PIN 5825.76 title “Bus Capital Project (FTA 5307)” will be changed to "Purchase Revenue BEB Vehicles"
- **Today’s action will be to recommend this action for approval to PCC**

3. Old Business

4. New Business

a. RPPM Action Report

1. PIN 5764.73 Tonawanda; Riverwalk; River Rd - Two Mile Creek Rd
 - Advance DDES Obligation Date from FFY24 TO FFY23
 - **Approved 4/20/23**
2. PIN 5111.77 Rt 20 @ Cazenovia Creek BIN 1015520
 - Added 0.145M to Detailed Design (Statewide Funded)
 - **Approved 5/3/23**
3. PIN 5764.30 Upper Mountain Rd; Route 31 to Junction Rd
 - Advance DDES Obligation Date from FFY24 to FFY23
 - **Approved 5/8/23**

Next Scheduled TPS Meeting

- Wednesday June 21@ 9:00 AM