

**Synopsis of the September 8, 2005 Meeting of the
Program, Finance and Administration Committee (PFAC) of the
New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC)**

A. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND REMARKS

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:18 p.m. by Mr. Joel Ettinger, Executive Director of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council. Mr. Ettinger informed everyone that the Mr. Timothy Gilchrist, the Program, Finance, and Administration Committee Chairperson, was not available to attend the meeting and that he would chair the meeting on Mr. Gilchrist's behalf. Mr. Ettinger then asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

2. NYMTC Directors' Report

Mr. Joel Ettinger opened the meeting by talking about the tragedy in Louisiana, Mississippi. He said that NYMTC reached out to provide help to the Metropolitan Planning Organization in the affected communities. He said that it was important to offer whatever support possible. He noted that NYMTC had experienced the loss of colleagues, was displaced and had to start all over because of the events of September 11, 2001. Mr. Ettinger talked about the new federal legislation the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Act, A Legacy for Users, which was also known as SAFETEA-LU, and how important it was to NYMTC and its member agencies. He said that it funded the transportation programs and highway transit programs through 2009. The \$286 in funding represented a 38% increase over the existing surface transportation legislation. He talked about new programs, such as Safe Access to Schools, which would provide safer access to schools for children; the pilot program Highways for Life, which would help advance longer lasting highways through the use of innovative technology and practices; and the New Freedom Program, which would help provide new public transportation services to assist individuals with disabilities.

B. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

C. ACTION ITEMS

1. Accept: July 21, 2005 Meeting Synopsis

Mr. Ettinger asked for a motion to accept the July 21, 2005 Meeting Synopsis. A motion was made by Dr. James Yarmus representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Ms. Gwen Perlman, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee. There was no discussion. The meeting synopsis was accepted.

2. Adopt: Resolution #203 – Adoption of the Long Island Sound Waterborne Transportation Plan into the Regional Transportation Plan

Mr. Gerry Bogacz said that a detailed presentation on the Long Island Sound Waterborne Transportation Plan was provided by Mr. Kevin Wolford at the July 21, 2005 Program, Finance and Administration Committee

meeting. He said that information on that presentation was available upon request. Mr. Bogacz then read the resolution. There was no discussion.

Mr. Ettinger asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #203, Adoption of the Long Island Sound Waterborne Transportation Plan into the Regional Transportation Plan. A motion was made by Mr. Jack Schmidt, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. Robert Shinnick, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

3. Adopt: Resolution #204 – Amend the 2005-2006 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Stephen Hausch said that the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) amendment had a standard amendment adjustment. He said that Central Staff, the New York City Department of City Planning and Nassau County were carrying out their 2005-2006 UPWP projects and needed to amend their programs to better address their planning needs. He said that the amendments would require the use of reprogrammed funds and no new funds and that it was determined that funds were available to undertake these amendments. There was no discussion.

Mr. Ettinger asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #204, Amend the 2005-2006 Unified Planning Work Program. A motion was made by Ms. Gwen Perlman, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. John Pilner, representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

4. Adopt: Resolution #205 – Adoption of the Air Quality Conformity Determination for the Poughkeepsie Ozone Non-Attainment Area

Mr. Gerry Bogacz said that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency promulgated the new 8-hour air quality ozone regulations and had designated Putnam, Orange and Dutchess Counties as the Poughkeepsie 8-Hour Ozone Attainment Area. Mr. Bogacz said that regulations required that by June 15, 2005, a conformity determination be completed by the Poughkeepsie Ozone Non-Attainment Area demonstrating conformity to the new 8-hour ozone air quality standard and that Putnam County and lower Orange County were granted a temporary waiver of the air quality conformity requirements through October 1, 2005. Mr. Bogacz said that the resolution stated that NYMTC, the Orange County Transportation Council, and the Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council have completed an updated Conformity Determination to comply with the October 1, 2005 deadline. There was no discussion.

Mr. Ettinger asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #205, Adoption of the Air Quality Conformity Determination for the Poughkeepsie Ozone Non-Attainment Area. A motion was made by Mr. Jack Schmidt, representing the New York City Transportation Coordinating Committee, and seconded by Mr. John Pilner, representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee. The resolution was unanimously approved.

D. REGIONAL ISSUES

1. September 11th Memorial Program for Regional Transportation Planning

Mr. Joel Ettinger said that it was an appropriate time to announce the inaugural results of the September 11th Memorial Program for Regional Transportation Planning with the fourth year of remembrance upon us. Mr. Ettinger said that the program was established by NYMTC in honor of the three staff members, Ignatius Adanga, Charles Lesperance and See Wong Shum, who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Mr.

Ettinger said that he thought that the memorial was unique because it attempted to recognize the lives and contribution of the three staff members by improving the process that they worked hard to support. It was a living memorial that would contribute to the future and be fueled by the ideas and the work of the students and organizations that would participate in the inaugural work. He acknowledged the presence of the family members, Renee Alexander, fiancée of Charles Lesperance and Rebecca Shum, wife of See Wong Shum and expressed his gratitude for their attendance. He then said that Afiong Adanga, wife of Ignatius Adanga, was not able to be present. He invited Ms. Alexander and Mrs. Shum to speak.

Ms. Renee Alexander said that she was happy to say that she was a committee member on the September 11th Memorial Program and it was an honor and pleasure to be involved in it. Ms. Alexander then thanked the committee members and the NYMTC employees. She said that she couldn't think of a better way to honor, memorialize, commemorate and create a legacy for our fallen loved ones and colleagues than to create this kind of award program. Ms. Alexander said that the committee reviewed some very competitive and very impressive credentials and resumes of the candidates and said it was a pleasure to meet, greet, and congratulate the award recipients. Ms. Alexander said that Charles Lesperance valued and loved education and was competitive in his own way and was a pursuer of knowledge. She said that Charles would be delighted and very pleased to see this kind of award in his name.

Mrs. Rebecca Shum shared a story about See Wong Shum that explained how much he valued education. Ms. Shum said that See Wong was a teacher in Hong Kong and helped a student who was financially disadvantaged obtain a scholarship to attend school. Ms. Shum said that the importance of education was trickled down to her young son in elementary school, who had already talked to her about attending High School. She said that See Wong was a good teacher who was loved by his students and valued education. Ms. Shum thanked the committee for developing the memorial award program.

Mr. Alan Borenstein said that he was very pleased and honored to be involved in the program and thanked everyone for all their help. He then talked about the academic awards. He said that the academic initiative would fund graduate student research at participating universities throughout the area and at internships at NYMTC's member agencies. He said that the idea of the academic part of the program was to assist students in transportation planning and technology and that the students would stay interested in these fields and become more familiar with NYMTC and the member agencies. He said that he hoped that the program and the spirit of Mr. Shum, Mr. Lesperance and Mr. Adanga inspired the students selected. Mr. Borenstein said that the inaugural research awards went to students pursuing advanced degrees in Civil Engineering and Urban Planning, two at City College of New York and one each at Columbia University and Rutgers University. He said that the award winners would participate in important transportation planning research in the region.

Mr. Todd Goldman, Assistant Director for New Initiative at the University Transportation Research Center said that he was honored to be involved in the developing process and that he was very excited to see the process move forward.

Ms. Renee Alexander introduced the students who received the research awards.

Li Chen would work as an intern with the West Side Manhattan Traffic and Transportation Study with the New York City Department of Transportation. Ms. Chen would start the Ph.D. program in Civil Engineering at City College of New York in the fall, 2005.

Ms. Li Chen thanked the September 11th Memorial Committee for being selected and for the opportunity to work in the transportation field with the New York City Department of Transportation, and said that she hoped and would try to improve traffic in the area.

David Dayu Zhang would work as an intern in the Office of the Director of NYMTC, helping to organize conferences on emerging transportation issues and challenges facing the region. Mr. Zhang is a Masters Degree student in Urban Planning at Columbia University.

Mr. David Dayu Zhang thanked all who were involved in the memorial program and said that it was a great honor to receive the award and he would work hard to continue the goals of the three heroes.

Jeevanjot Singh would work with the Westchester County Department of Transportation to conduct research on time-of-day pricing strategies in public transit. Ms. Singh is a doctoral student in Civil Engineering at Rutgers University.

Ms. Jeevanjot Singh thanked everyone on the committee who helped develop the program and said that she was honored to obtain the award.

Wei Li would help develop accessibility indicators for the region's aging population. Her research would examine the accessibility to different kinds of activities including medical services and grocery stores in neighborhoods throughout the metropolitan region. Ms. Li is a doctoral student in Civil Engineering at the City College of New York.

Ms. Wei Li said that she felt very lucky getting the great opportunity to do an innovative project and said that she hoped to do her best this year and hoped her final report will be liked by all next year.

Mr. Gerry Bogacz said that four inaugural planning awards for innovative transportation planning studies in the region were given to the Hunts Point Economic Development Corporation, Manhattan College, New York University, and WE ACT for Environmental Justice. Certificates were provided for these organizations. Ms. Renee Alexander and Mrs. Rebecca Shum assisted with the distribution of the certificates to the organizations.

A certificate was given to Josephine Infante and Muammar Hermanstyne, representing the Hunts Point Economic Development Corporation to participate in a study, (the Bronx Green Fleets Planning Initiative), to convert standard diesel fleets, (an estimated 15,000-20,000 trucks that travel to and from Hunts Point each day), to alternative cleaner fuels.

Ms. Josephine Infante said that she followed NYMTC after September 11th through e-mails and had followed NYMTC on its journey to Queens and back to downtown Manhattan. Ms. Infante said that the Hunts Point Economic Development Corporation had been interacting with NYMTC for many years and said that she was very moved with the memorial and thanked NYMTC for keeping them involved in the memorial process.

A certificate was given to Scott Lowe of Manhattan College's Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering to participate in a year-long project to develop a Regional Scale Air Quality Model that would focus on transportation-related air issues. The model would allow the impacts of transportation planning initiatives on local air quality to be better assessed.

Mr. Scott Lowe of Manhattan College said that the college was a relatively small private institution and that this award from the region's primary transportation planning group was a huge thing for them. Mr. Lowe said that that the project was conceived and collaborated with Dr. James Yarmus of Rockland County and said that he was honored to be involved and present.

A certificate was given to Mr. Lee Sander, Director and Ms. Allison de Cerreno, Co-Director, of the New York University Rudin Center for Transportation Policy Management, to participate in a study that would identify areas for enhanced regional coordination in transportation and land use. The year-long effort would assess the

specific areas where such coordination was mostly urgently needed and benchmark practices in the region with what other metropolitan areas are doing elsewhere around the county.

Ms. Allison de Cerreno thanked the committee members, the families, NYMTC and its member agencies on behalf of Lee Sander, herself and the New York University Graduate Center. Ms. de Cerreno said that they were deeply honored to be among the first recipients of the award. She said she was also grateful for the opportunity to look at something considered to be very important in the region. Ms. de Cerreno said issues in transportation and land use in and around the region would be looked at and would they would see what could be done to make coordination more effective.

Mr. Lee Sander said that since the Rudin Center had begun in 1996, they had worked closely with NYMTC and considered them family. He said that the Rudin Center was very pleased to participate in the program.

A certificate was given to Helen Chin, Cecil Corbin-Mark and Harry Schwartz, who represented WE ACT for Environmental Justice, to participate in a program, Harlem-In-Motion, which will incorporate the community's voice more actively into the transportation planning process. By educating residents and business owners and engaging them in evaluating and shaping transportation planning, the project will enable the community to assume a greater role in important decisions that impact the area.

Ms. Helen Chin thanked the committee for the opportunity and congratulated the recipients. Ms. Chin said that WE ACT was dedicated to providing a voice to their community and said that the grant would educate the community and allow them to be involved in the process.

Mr. Gerry Bogacz said that it was appropriate that the four planning studies were in two communities where there was so much happening in terms of planning transportation improvements and said that it was a great honor to be able to memorialize our three colleagues.

Kuo-Ann Chiao said that in memorializing our lost friends, four great projects were proposed that would improve the quality of life and four promising men and women would be joining the workforce. Mr. Chiao thanked the family members--Ms. Renee Alexander, Mrs. Rebecca Shum, and Mrs. Afiong Adanga; the member agency participants on the committee--Patty Chemka, of Westchester County Department of Transportation, Rona Moyer of Nassau County Planning Commission, Gwen Perlman of New York City Department of Transportation, Joseph Rich of Federal Highway Administration, Jack Schmidt of the New York City Department of City Planning, and Lou Venech of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. He said their insight and research direction were very helpful. Mr. Chiao thanked the NYMTC staff who participated—Gerry Bogacz, Alan Borenstein, Robert Donohue, Dan Evans, Emma Gaitan, Stephen Hausch, David Kletsman, John Lopez, Ella Matthews, Ali Mohseni, Karen Rosenberger and Judith Wilson. Mr. Chiao thanked the participants from consultant agencies that provided help—Margarita Gagliardo, Todd Goldman, and Paul Costello. Mr. Chiao said many people participated in the program and said that he would like to see the program continue.

2. Comprehensive Port Improvement Plan Update

Mr. Gerry Bogacz said that the Comprehensive Port Improvement Plan (CPIP) was a project to bring together a lot of planning work to be done in and around the port of New York and New Jersey. Mr. Bogacz introduced Laura Shabe, the coordinator of CPIP to provide a presentation on the plan.

Laura Shabe, with the help of slides, gave a presentation on the Comprehensive Port Improvement Plan. For details, see the attached presentation.

E. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT PFAC MEETING

Mr. Ettinger confirmed that the next meeting of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council Program, Finance and Administration Committee was scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 2005 and would be held at NYMTC, 199 Water Street, 22nd floor, New York City.

F. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

IN ATTENDANCE

Voting Member/Alternates

Lawrence Berger, Nassau County
Patricia Chemka, Westchester County
Gwen Perlman, NYC Department of Transportation
John Pilner, Putnam County
Jack Schmidt, NYC Department of City Planning
Robert Shinnick, Suffolk County
Larry Fleischer, Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Dr. James Yarmus, Rockland County

Advisory (non-voting) Members

Elizabeth Bartlett, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Robert Griffith, Federal Highway Administration
Irwin Kessman, Federal Transit Administration
Michael Moltzen, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Cliff Sobel, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc.
Lou Venech, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

NYMTC Council Staff

Fatai Adekoya	Gary Forman	Ella Matthews
Aizaz Ahmed	Emma Gaitan	Larry McAuliffe
Juliette Bergman	Anthony Gawrych	Ali Mohseni
Sangeeta Bhowmick	Leokadia Glogowski	Larisa Morozovskaya
Gerry Bogacz	Chris Hardej	Nancy O'Connell
Alan Borenstein	Stephen Hausch	Maria Ramirez
Kuo-Ann Chaio	Gerald Jonassen	Chris Rodrigues
Robert Donohue	Jan Khan	Jean Shanahan
George Dua-Awereh	John Lopez	Kevin Wolford
Joel Ettinger	Barbara Lynch	
Daniel Evans	Uchenna Madu	

OTHERS

Renee Alexander	Leon Goodman, Parson Transp. Group
Richard Backlund, FHWA	Muammar Hermanstynne, Hunts Point EDC
Phillip Bergman, Arch St. Communications	Anne Hopkins, Orient Association
Jill Bonamusa, STV	Josephine Infante, Hunts Point, EDC
T. Cardona, USEPA	I-Ren Jackson Jeng, MTA Corp. Comm.
Li Chen, CUNY	Naomi Klein, Westchester County DOT
Helen Chin, WE ACT	Matt Laurita, USEPA
Ethan Cohen, CCNY	Wei Li, City College of New York
Paul Costello, STV	Scott Lowe, Manhattan College
Allison C. de Cerreno, NYU Wagner/Rudin Center	Larry Malsam, NYSDOT
Ronald Farrar, NYCDOT	Sarah Rios, MTA
Patrick Gerdin, Rockland County	Carol Rosenfeld, Environmental Defense
Todd Goldman, University Transportation Research	Elliot Sander, NYU Wagner/Rudin Center
Tatyana Golikova, NYSDOT	Harry Schwartz, WE ACT
Al Goodman, Brooklyn Boro President's Office	Laura Shabe, CPIP

OTHERS CONTINUED

Rebecca Shum
Jeevanjot Singh, Rutgers University
Stephanie Tatham, Environmental Defense
Ron Tindall, NJTPA
Raymond Werner, USEPA
Meseret Yilma, NYCDOT
John Zamurs, NYSDOT
Dayu David Zhang, Columbia University

The meeting synopsis was accepted at the October 20, 2005
Program, Finance, and Administration Committee Meeting
unanimously by all members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea' Miles-Cole

NYMTC's Member Support Liaison