



Kristopher H. Reff
Director, Regional Planning &
Program Management
NYSDOT Region 7
MPO Director

Mayor Sarah V.C. Pierce
City of Watertown
Vice Chairperson - Policy Committee

Eric Wagenaar
City of Watertown
City Manager

Robert F. Hagemann III
Jefferson County Administrator

John D. Peck
Jefferson County Board of Legislators
Chairman – Policy Committee

Kenneth M. Bibbins
Regional Director
NYSDOT Region 7
Secretary – Policy Committee

Jarrold M. Radley
NYSDOT Region 7
Local Stakeholder Group Representative

Watertown Jefferson County Area Transportation Council

317 Washington Street, Watertown, New York, 13601; 315-785-2354

Policy Committee (PC) Meeting Summary

Thursday February 29, 2024, 1:30 PM

9th Floor Conference Room, Dulles State Office Building

Members Present: Kenneth Bibbins, Kristopher Reff, John Peck, Eric Wagenaar (via WebEx), Jarrod Radley

Technical Committee & MPO Central Staff Present: Brian MacCue, Kyle Meehan (Via WebEx), Barbara Cadwell

Other Attendees: Geoff Urda (City of Watertown), Michael Bourcy (Jefferson County), Keith Ewald (B&L - WebEx)

I. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by John Peck at 1:31PM.

II. Prior Meeting Minutes: The draft minutes from the last PC meeting were circulated. A motion was made by Kristopher Reff to accept, the prior (01/25/24) meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ken Bibbins and passed unanimously.

III. Resolution #2-2024 Adopting Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): A motion to adopt the UPWP was made by Ken Bibbins. The Motion was seconded by Kristopher Reff. The Motion was passed unanimously. The full text of Resolution #2-2024 may be found attached in Appendix A.

IV. Local Stakeholder Group: Jarrod Radley reported that he sent out the Fall 2023 Meeting Minutes via email and asked for contact information. He is in the process of updating all of the Local Stakeholders contacts in hopes of more attendance. The next meeting will be held in person in the **Fall 2024**.

V. Miscellaneous Items:

- FHWA is requiring states to produce Greenhouse Gas performance targets by 2/1/2024. After this meeting it was learned that FHWA, while encouraging states to submit targets as soon as possible, will not start enforcing the deadline until March 29, 2024. Once the states sets their targets, the MPO will have 180 days to either support state targets or to set their own (similar to what is done for other performance measures).

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- Section 5310 Program: It was stated that the 5310 Program, Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Grants Application Review is complete and Awards will be announced in the Spring 2024.
- PSA Study Updates:
 - 1) Keith Ewald gave a brief discussion/update on the four upcoming Task Assignments:
 - Long Range Transportation Plan 2050 update:
 - This Task Assignment has taken precedence over the others, with the update needing to be finalized by June 2024.
 - It was stated that the Draft Report submission target is Mid-May.
 - There are Stakeholders and Public Meetings to be held 3/12/2024 throughout the day.
 - The Press Release went out for the Public Meetings.
 - Safe Routes to School Study:
 - The Consultant is looking to start working on this the end of March/early April.
 - Resiliency Study:
 - The Consultant has been working on this jointly with the LRTP.
 - Electric Vehicle Study:
 - The consultant stated that this study will become more of a priority after the LRTP is near completion.
- It was mentioned that there were talks that Route 3A may not be open to the public in the future, and what this would do to the traffic flow through Carthage. An analysis may need to be done for the increased traffic flow.
- The outer Massey Street Railroad overpass was mentioned. The traffic traveling under the bridge mentioned that it is narrow, and the overpass is low. Trucks were seen turning around to avoid this.
 - The Highway Technical Committee will look into this and make suggestions.

VI. Old Business:

- Black River Trail Eastern Expansion: A meeting will be set up with the Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), Policy Committee, B&L, the City of Watertown, and Jefferson County to discuss. A calendar search of the attendees present, proved that March 26th was the best day.

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- With the Public Safety Building Access Study being completed it was recommended that the Highway Technical Committee go through the findings and narrow them down to the best options for a more in-depth study.

VII. Reminder: The next Policy Committee Meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

VIII. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Ken Bibbins. It was seconded by Kristopher Reff and passed unanimously at 1:53 PM.

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