

NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AUTHORITY, INC.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kamal Saleh, Chairman
Deena Cybulski, Vice Chairman

Minutes

July 9, 2008

I. Roll Call

Chairman Saleh called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Nine voting members were present, and two more arrived later.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 16th meeting were approved unanimously.

III. Action Item

Liz DeRuchie, Central Staff, asked for volunteers to serve on the Subregional Studies Review Committee for the FY 2010-2011 program cycle. She said that the review committee would also include one representative each from NJDOT, NJ Transit and the NJTPA. Chairman Saleh recommended that the review committee membership include representatives from different parts of the region and members who had not served previously. Crystal Barnes, Hunterdon County; Walt Lane, Somerset County; and Liza Betz, Union County, volunteered. Chairman Saleh said that he would seek other volunteers among RTAC members who were not present. Ms. DeRuchie noted that committee activities would include two meetings.

IV. Information Items

1. Subregional Transportation Program (STP) and Subregional Studies Program (SSP) Schedules

Ms. DeRuchie, reported that the STP solicitation will be distributed in November and the proposals will be due in December. She also reported that the SSP thumbnails are due by August 13th, and the full proposals must be submitted one month later. Ms. DeRuchie said that after review of the SSP proposals, the subregions will be invited to the NJTPA offices to discuss them. Ms. DeRuchie noted that the subregions may submit more than one thumbnail, and she encouraged inter-subregional collaboration where applicable.

2. Draft Subregional Data Matrix for FY 2009

Ms. DeRuchie distributed a draft NJTPA Subregional Data Matrix. She said the purpose of the matrix is to obtain an inventory of data sources among the subregions—not the actual data. Ms. DeRuchie said that such an inventory could be useful for Central Staff planning efforts as well as facilitating data sharing among the subregions. She asked the Committee members for direction in tailoring the data matrix to maximize its utility. George Ververides, Middlesex County, suggested that a similar matrix be implemented for NJTPA data. It was noted that data collected by the NJTPA can be accessed on the agency’s website. Liza Betz, Union County, said that the online data is convenient and that it would be helpful if the subregions knew the age of certain online files in case more current data is available. Lou Venech, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, suggested the inclusion of data from the state’s operating agencies.

3. Subregional Outreach and Visioning for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

Hamilton Meghdir, Central Staff, reported that, at the Board retreat in May, several Trustees expressed interest in increasing their engagement in planning activities that lead to policy decisions. Mr. Meghdir said that Central Staff—in preparation for development of the RTP—initiated an intense outreach program to engage the Trustees in dialog about their opinions on the future of transportation planning in the region and any information they could share that would inform the plan. He said that a series of workshops in each subregion were being arranged. NJTPA Executive Director Mary K. Murphy noted that, while the workshops are open public meetings, the focus in some cases would be to glean input from elected officials and administrators. She said that the outreach will also include additional, broader public participation later in the process. A brief general discussion ensued.

V Other

1. AICP Certificate Maintenance Events

Lois Goldman, Central Staff, asked the Committee members to invite their colleagues and Central Staff to any AICP-credit-eligible events that their subregions host. She pointed out that some members of Central Staff also need the credits. Chairman Saleh announced that the New Jersey County Planners Association will hold a session that is certified for AICP credits this September in Atlantic City. Mr. Saleh also announced that the American Planning Association offers audio sessions. Tracy Lockhart, Central Staff, said that an application for AICP credits for the upcoming GIS training will be submitted.

2. Cost Tracking System

Igor Sorin, Central Staff, announced that the revised Cost Tracking System will be deployed during this quarter. He said he will conduct on-site training in August. With the aid of an online presentation, Mr. Sorin demonstrated some of the system’s new features.

3. Remaining Technical Library Funds

David Colón, Central Staff, reported that, as agreed to at the April 16th meeting, unused FY 2008 Technical Library funds were used to purchase Cube Avenue and Cube Dynasim software, which will be installed on the NJTPA server this quarter.

4. New Member of Freight Staff

Ted Matthews, Central Staff, introduced the newest member of the NJTPA Freight Staff, Jacob Rowinski. He said that Mr. Rowinski will soon reach out to Committee members concerning items for next year's Unified Planning Work Program.

5. Coordinated Humans Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP)

Ms. DeRuchie reported that she recently received final copies of the CHSTP report and will distribute copies to the subregions shortly. She thanked the Committee members for all their help with the plan's development.

VI. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the RTAC is scheduled for August 13, 2008.

VII. Adjournment

At 1:00 p.m., the meeting was adjourned by unanimous verbal acclaim.

R-TAC MEETING ATTENDANCE

July 9, 2008

V O T I N G M E M B E R S / A L T E R N A T E S	
Kamal Saleh (Chairman)	Union County
Deena Cybulski (Vice Chairman)	Morris County
George Ververides	Middlesex County
Ken Aloisio	Bergen County
Walt Lane	Somerset County
Crystal Barnes	Hunterdon County
John Lane	Hudson County
Lou Venech	PANYNJ
Doug Greenfeld	Jersey City
Joseph Ettore	Monmouth County
Tom Drabic	Sussex County
O T H E R S	
Barry Ableman	NJ Office of Smart Growth
Frank J. Marsella	PANYNJ
Tony Gambilonghi	Middlesex County
Matt Swane	Bergen County
Liza Betz	Union County
Tara Shepherd	HART TMA
Naomi Hsu	Jersey City
John Allen	NJDOT
Mary K. Murphy	Central Staff
Karen Shannon	Central Staff
Mark Solof	Central Staff
Lois Goldman	Central Staff
Tracy Lockhart	Central Staff
David Behrend	Central Staff
Hamilton Meghdir	Central Staff
David Colón	Central Staff
Igor Sorin	Central Staff
Mary Ameen	Central Staff
Ted Matthews	Central Staff
Dave Dawson	Central Staff
Jacub Rowinski	Central Staff
Angel Young	Central Staff
Meredith Gibson	Central Staff
Liz DeRuchie	Central Staff
Jeffery Vernick	Central Staff
Sara Diaz	Central Staff
Brian Fineman	Central Staff
Ron Tindall	Central Staff
Beverly Morris	Central Staff

