



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

Planning and Coordinating Committee (PCC) Meeting Wednesday, September 6, 2023 @ 9:30am

Public Participation Live 438 Main St. Buffalo and Virtual on Facebook Live

Please note that the GBNRTC PCC meeting will be broadcast live for public viewing on GBNRTC's Facebook Page facebook.com/GBNRTC. You may watch the live stream at this link, whether or not you have a Facebook account. However, in order to leave a comment on Facebook Live, you will need a Facebook account. You can also send any questions or comments to staff@gbnrtc.org.

A glossary of transportation terms is available at <https://www.gbnrtc.org/glossary-of-terms>

DRAFT AGENDA

Pledge of Allegiance

I. PROCEEDINGS

- A) Roll Call
- B) Public Participation
- C) Approval of Meeting Agenda
- D) Approval of Previous (7-13-23) Meeting Minutes

II. ACTION ITEMS

- A) TIP Amendment #6: N. Adam St over Erie Canal – New Project
- B) TIP AdMod # 36: Tonawanda Riverwalk Multi-use Pedestrian Trail – Let Delay
- C) Resolution 2023-18 PEF Settlement – GBNRTC Salary Adjustments
- D) 2023 Public Participation Plan - Update Public Review
- E) 2020 FHWA Urban Boundary Update – Public Review
- F) Six (6) New ATC/MEP Projects – Public Review

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A) TPS Approved Action Report
- B) Policy Committee Action Report
- C) Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program
- D) Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Program
- E) 2023 Coordinated Human Transportation Services Draft Plan Update

IV. STATUS REPORTS/INFORMATION

- A) Member Agency Reports
- B) Director's Report

V. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Next PCC Meeting: October 4, 2023



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Planning and Coordinating Committee (PCC) Meeting Minutes Wednesday July 13, 2023

A meeting of the Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council Planning and Coordinating Committee was held on Wednesday July 13, 2023.

The following GBNRTC-PCC representatives were present:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| • NFTA | Darren Kempner |
| • NYSTA | John Boser |
| • NYSDOT | Dave Hill |
| • Buffalo | Nolan Skipper |
| • Niagara Falls | Kevin Forma |
| • Erie County | Darlene Svilokos |
| • Niagara County | Garret Meal |

Others present:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| • C. Gordon | NYSDOT (via Zoom) |
| • J. Couzzo | NYSDOT (via Zoom) |
| • Athena Hutchins | NITTEC |
| • G. Mani | FHWA |
| • M. Leydecker | Wendel |
| • J. Booth | GoBike |
| • B. Roth | NFTA |
| • GBNRTC Staff (6) | |

Public Attendees:

- 35 members of the public viewed through Facebook Live link.

I. PROCEEDINGS

The Chairperson (Mr. Kempner from NFTA) called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and led in the pledge of allegiance.

A) Roll Call

- All members were present.

B) Public Participation

- Jud Weilksnar asked for an update on Louisiana Street, specifically when work will begin on the Louisiana Street Bridge.
- Jud Weilksnar asked who to contact about getting roadways and sidewalks swept. COB Nolan Skipper is the point of contact
- Jud Weilksnar asked if there was a dedicated budget for maintenance on the urban bike trails Regionally there is not, there maybe at the municipality level and for Niagara St Bike lanes COB Nolan Skipper is the point of contact

C) Approval of Meeting Agenda

- *Motion to approve the agenda as proposed (NC/EC). Approved 7-0*

D) Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- *Motion to approve the 6-7-23 meeting minutes (EC/CNF). Approved 7-0.*

II. ACTION ITEMS

A) Amendment #4: FTA 5339 Reapportionment, Fund Transfer and Change & Project Deletion - Guarino

- This is a NFTA request to modify three existing projects
- 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)
- 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"
- 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.
- All approved public outreach procedures have been followed with no comments received
- Today's action would be to recommend approval of these actions to the GBNRTC Policy Committee
 - *Motion to approve (NFTA/CNF). Approved 7-0.*

B) Amendment #5: Twin Cities Memorial Hwy Improvements (Study) - Guarino

- This is a NYSDOT request to add a new project to the TIP

- The project will be a study that will examine the redesign of the Twin City Memorial Highway (NY Route 425) located in the City of North Tonawanda in Niagara County
- The objective of the study is to look at options that will increase connectivity, increase mobility, and create a thriving and resilient community while addressing inequities and barriers to opportunity
- Total project cost is \$0.625M
- \$0.625M offset will be provided by Federal Earmark - Community Project Funding/Highway Infrastructure Programs; Demo ID = NY794
- ICG concurred with the suggested Air Quality conformity exemption code of C3 (Planning and technical studies that do not involve or lead directly to construction) on 7/10/23
- All approved public outreach procedures have been followed with no comments received
- Today's action would be to approve via Resolution GBNRTC 2023-16
 - *Motion to approve (TWA/NC). Approved 7-0.*

C) AdMod #30: Niagara Falls Connection Trail (576358) - Guarino

- This is a NYSDOT request to modify an existing project
- C & CI phases would be increased by a total of \$2.366M
- A portion of the increase (\$1.676m) pertains to work in PIN 5760.75 (Great Lakes Seaway Trail River Rd Corridor) which will be transferred into this project for constructability and ease.
- Detailed Design and ROW-A funds will be transferred to the C & CI phases to cover the remainder of offset
- Non-federal match source switched from local to state
- Fiscal constraint is maintained
- Recommended by TPS on 6/21/23
- Today's action would be to approve this Minor Scope Change to as AdMod #30
 - *Motion to approve (DOT/NFTA). Approved 7-0.*

D) AdMod #31: Bridge Rehab – 3 EC Bridges (581407) - Guarino

- This is a NYSDOT request to modify an existing project
- Minor bridge rehabilitation and bridge deck preservation on
 - BIN 1022700 Fillmore Ave @ NY Rt 33
 - BIN 1022720 Grider @ NY Rt 33
 - BIN 1001380 NY Rt 5 @ Eighteen Mile Crk
- A Detailed Design phase was not carried over from the previous TIP/STIP and will need to be added back to the project
- \$0.875M will be added to the new Detailed Design phase
- \$0.875M offset will be transferred from PIN 5V24.11 (I-86 Shoulders, U-Turns And Gore Areas; Cattaraugus County
- Fiscal constraint is maintained
- Recommended by TPS on 6/21/23
- Today's action would be to approve this change as AdMod #31
 - *Motion to approve (DOT/EC). Approved 7-0.*

E) AdMod #32: Cars on Main St (2 Projects)

- This is a Buffalo request to modify two existing projects

- PIN 5763.93 Cars on Main St (Exchange to Church)
- PIN 5763.94 Cars on Main St (Church to Mohawk)
- All design work for both projects will be completed under the Detailed Design phase of PIN 5763.93.
- \$2M of Preliminary Design and Detailed Design funding from PIN 5793.94 will be transferred into the Detailed Design phase of PIN 5763.93.
- Fiscal constraint is maintained
- Today's action would be to approve this change to as AdMod #32
 - *Motion to approve (DOT/TWA). Approved 7-0.*

F) AdMod #33: Buffalo SRTS School Zone Safety Improvements (576352) - Guarino

- This is a Buffalo request to modify an existing project
- This request is to delay let from 10/16/23 (FFY 24) to 4/15/25 (FFY 25).
- Additional time was needed to verify scope and to make sure locations were consistent with overall Citywide School Zone Plan
- All costs are unchanged
- This is a TPS action being expedited by PCC
- Today's action would be to approve this change to as AdMod #33
 - *Motion to approve (NFTA/COB). Approved 7-0.*

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. NYSDOT Passenger and Freight Rail Assistance Program (PFRAP) – Accepting Applications – Grabau/Guarino

- What is PFRAP?
 - The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Passenger and Freight Rail Assistance Program (PFRAP) provides enhanced assistance for rail and port capital investments to preserve and enhance the State's major trade and passenger corridors.
- How much PFRAP funding is available?
 - NYSDOT anticipates making awards up to \$121.6 M in PFRAP funding.
 - The maximum award shall be \$10.0 M.
 - There is no minimum match requirement but preference will be given to those applications that are able to provide a greater local share of the total project costs.
 - Applicants will be limited to three (3) PFRAP awards.
- Who may apply for PFRAP?
 - Any railroad company*
 - Any NYS agency
 - US Federal Government
 - Canadian Government
 - Any other state or instrumentality thereof
 - Any public authority (within NYS or otherwise)
 - Any political subdivision or municipality within NYS
 - *All common-carrier, intercity passenger or tourist railroad corporations must be in good standing with NYSDOT at the time of application.

- Eligible projects for PFRAP include any capital improvement to freight, intercity passenger or tourist rail assets with a minimum service life of 10 years or greater, including but not limited to:
 - Track construction and rehabilitation
 - Bridge construction and rehabilitation
 - Elimination of clearance obstructions
 - Yard, terminal and siding construction and rehabilitation
 - Signal and train control systems
 - Rolling stock acquisition and rehabilitation
 - Capital projects that will reduce carbon footprint of railroad facilities
 - All projects must comply with the NYS Smart Growth Public Infrastructure Policy Act.
- How to apply for PFRAP?
 - To apply or learn more about PFRAP visit <https://www.dot.ny.gov/railgrants>. This website provides full details on PFRAP as well as frequently asked questions and instructions for preparing the required benefit-cost analysis.
 - The application deadline is October 6th, 2023.
 - All not-for-profit organizations applying for or receiving state grant funds must be registered in and prequalified in Grants Gateway. For more information, please visit <https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov>.

**B. Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Award Announcement
Award Summary - Guarino**

- Discretionary grant program for road, rail, transit and port projects
- 162 community-led infrastructure project awards announced on June 28
- \$11 billion requested for the \$2.26 billion available
- Half of funding going to rural areas and the other half to urban areas
- 70% of the grants went to projects in regions defined as an Area of Persistent Poverty or a Historically Disadvantaged Community
- FFY 23 NY AWARDS
 - Infrastructure
 - NYC - Safe Access for Electric Micro-mobility (\$25M)
 - NYC - Broadway Junction Streetscapes Improvement Project (\$20M)
 - Kingston - Weaving the Waterfront Transportation Project (\$21.8M)
 - Planning
 - Cattaraugus County - Southern Tier Trail Planning and Design Project (\$7M)
 - Suffolk County - Long Island Greenway East (Phase II) Planning and Design (\$3.8M)

C. FFY 23 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) – Accepting Applications - Guarino

- Grant program to help reconnect communities that were cut off from opportunity and burdened by past transportation infrastructure decisions
- \$185M awarded to 45 communities in FFY 22 (first year of program) including 6 capital construction grants and 39 planning grants
- For this round, USDOT has combined the Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) and the new Neighborhood Access and Equity (NAE) programs into a single NOFO to provide a more efficient application process for project sponsors.
- While they remain separate programs for the purposes of award, the programs share many common characteristics, including:

- Prioritizing disadvantaged communities;
- Aiming to improve access to daily needs such as jobs, education, healthcare, food, and recreation;
- Fostering equitable development and restoration;
- Reconnecting communities by removing, retrofitting, or mitigating highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity, including to mobility, access, or economic development.
- Three grant types are available

1. Capital Construction

- Reconnecting-focused projects and smaller projects focused on reducing environmental harm and improving access in disadvantaged communities.
- \$1.15B available
- Projects may address:
 - A dividing facility
 - Mitigating a “burdening” facility (a source of air pollution, noise, stormwater, or other burden)
 - Improving access and building or improving Complete Streets

2. Community Planning

- Planning activities to support future construction projects and allow for innovative community planning to address localized transportation challenges
- \$185M available
- Projects may address:
 - Planning to restore community connectivity
 - Community/public engagement
 - Assessing environmental impacts from transportation in underserved communities (i.e., air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, extreme heat hotspots, gaps in tree canopy coverage, or flood prone transportation infrastructure)
 - Developing local anti-displacement policies and community benefit agreements

3. Regional Partnerships Challenge

- Build stronger partnerships to tackle persistent equitable access and mobility challenges, as well as greenhouse gas emissions reductions
- \$450M available
- Applicants must consist of a partnership between two or more eligible agencies
 - Local governments
 - Tribal governments
 - MPOs/RPOs
 - State DOTs
 - Non-profit, private, and community partners
- Upcoming Webinars
 - Interested in Applying? Reconnecting Communities Grant Program Overview for Prospective Applicants
 - Tuesday, July 11, 2023 from 1:30 – 3:30PM ET
 - Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods – Tribal focus

- Thursday, July 27, 2023 from 1:30 – 3:30PM ET
- Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods – Rural/Nonprofit focus
- Tuesday, August 15, 2023 from 1:30 – 3:30PM ET
- Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods – Capital Construction
- Thursday, August 24, 2023 from 1:30 – 3:30PM ET
- Benefit-Cost Analysis for the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program
- <https://cms.dot.gov/grants/reconnecting-communities/benefit-cost-analysis-reconnecting-communities-august-30-webinar>
- Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern Time) Thursday, September 28, 2023 through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)

D. NYSDOT BRIDGE NY Program Award Announcement - Guarino

- The BRIDGE NY initiative, is aimed at helping local governments across the state harden their existing infrastructure while boosting the resiliency of bridges and culverts in the state.
- More Than \$516 Million in awards announced on July 5
- Projects were selected based on input from Regional and Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- The funding will support all phases of project delivery, including design, right-of-way acquisition and construction
- GBNRTC formed a review team for each county which reviewed and scored all bridge applications per NYSDOT MO guidance
- All culvert applications were reviewed and scored by NYSDOT-led review teams
- MPO culvert projects typically are 100% state funded and are therefore not required to be placed on TIP
- MPO bridge projects utilize federal funding and must be placed on the TIP
 - Public notice, amendment/resolution and PCC approval required

Awards by NYSDOT Region

● Long Island	73.5M	14.3%
● NYC	73.1M	14.2%
● WNY	68.8M	13.3%
● Mid-Hudson	60.1M	11.7%
● Southern Tier	52.8M	10.2%
● Capital Region	44.5M	8.6%
● Finger Lakes	39.7M	7.7%
● North Country	36.5M	7.1%
● Mohawk Valley	35.2M	6.8%
● Central NY	31.4M	6.1%

WNY Breakdown

● MPO (Erie/Niagara)	34.6M	50.4%
● Non MPO (Chau, Cat, All)	34.1M	49.6%

MPO Breakdown

● Erie/Bridge	7	20M
● Erie/Culvert	7	5.6M
● Niagara/Bridge	3	5.6M

- Niagara/Culvert 4 3.4M
- Erie County Bridge Awards (7@ \$20M)
 - \$2.024 million to the City of Tonawanda for the replacement of the Fletcher Street bridge over Two Mile Creek
 - \$1.827 million to Erie County for the replacement of the Dennis Road bridge over Little Sister Creek.
 - \$4.75 million to Erie County for the replacement of the Mill Road bridge over Cazenovia Creek.
 - \$2.953 million to Erie County for the replacement of the East Eden Road bridge over Hampton Brook.
 - \$4.75 million to Erie County for the replacement of the Hammond Hill Road bridge over Cattaraugus Creek.
 - \$2.288 million to Erie County for the replacement of the Marshfield Road bridge over N. Bridge Clear Creek.
 - \$1.432 million to the Town of Clarence for the replacement of the Kenfield Road bridge over Black Creek
- Erie County Culvert Awards (7 @ \$5.6M)
 - \$701,000 to the Town of Eden for the replacement of the Larkin Road culvert carrying the tributary to Franklin Gulf
 - \$991,000 to the Town of Holland for the replacement of the Day Road culvert carrying the tributary to Hunter Creek Tributary
 - \$800,000 to the Town of Lancaster for the replacement of the Siebert Road culvert
 - \$958,000 to Erie County for the replacement of the Milestrip Road culvert carrying the tributary to Muddy Creek.
 - \$861,000 to Erie County for the replacement of the Milestrip Road culvert carrying tributary to Delaware Creek.
 - \$798,000 to the Town of Amherst for the replacement of the Reist Street culvert carrying the tributary to Ellicott Creek
 - \$536,000 to the Town of West Seneca for the replacement of the Greymont Avenue culvert carrying the tributary to Ebenezer Brook
- Niagara County Bridge Awards (3 @ \$5.6M)
 - \$1.706 million to Niagara County for the replacement of the Route 271 bridge over Branch Jeddo Creek.
 - \$1.575 million to Niagara County for the replacement of the Carmen Road bridge over Golden Hill Creek.
 - \$2.3 million to the Town of Wheatfield for the replacement of the Plaza Drive bridge over Bergholz Creek, Niagara County.
- Niagara County Culvert Awards (8 @ \$3.4M)
 - \$784,000 to Niagara County for the replacement of the Balmer Road culvert carrying the tributary to Twelve Mile Creek.
 - \$867,000 to Niagara County for the replacement of the Ransomville Road culvert carrying the tributary to Twelve Mile Creek.

- \$871,000 to the Town of Cambria for the replacement of the Baer Road culvert carrying the tributary to Twelve Mile Creek, Niagara County.
- \$860,000 to the Town of Lockport for the replacement of the East High Street culvert, Niagara County.
- \$2.724 million to Allegany County for the rehabilitation of the County Road 31 bridge over Van Campen Creek.
- \$6.635 million to Allegany County for the rehabilitation of the County Road 4 bridge over the Genesee River.
- \$1.799 million to Allegany County for the replacement of the Karr Valley Road culvert carrying the tributary to Karr Valley Creek.
- \$2.207 million to Allegany County for the replacement of the Middaugh Hill Road culvert carrying the tributary to Gordon Brook

E. Regional Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Update – Weymouth

- 41 of the recommendations are off-road corridors proposed as a part of the region’s greenway trail network.
- Developed in consultation with local, county, state representatives, public organizations and institutions, advocacy groups, and private citizens.
- Implementation of the proposed greenway trails would double the region’s roughly 220 miles of existing trails.

Cheektowaga Trails Feasibility Study – project website coming soon

- Scajaquada Corridor Trail Cheektowaga Ext. RBMP Project #13
- Clarence Pathways Trail Cheektowaga Ext. RBMP Project #18

Lancaster Heritage Trail Ext Feasibility Study

Project Website: <https://gobikebuffalo.org/project/lancaster-heritage-trail-extension/>

Feasibility Study

- Studies are being completed concurrently.
- Proposed corridors identified as high priority in the adopted Regional Bicycle Master Plan (2020).
- Builds upon currently funded and advancing trail projects (Eastside Trails).
- Closes significant gaps in the existing off-road trail network.
- Improves bicycle connectivity between the City of Buffalo and Cheektowaga and beyond.
- Active interest and support from local municipalities to advance these projects.

Stakeholder Committee

- NYS Assembly member, Monica Wallace
- Town of Lancaster, Supervisor Ronald Ruffino
- Village of Lancaster, Mayor Lynne Ruda
- Town of Cheektowaga, Dan Young
- Town of Cheektowaga Councilmember, Brian Pilarski
- Town of Cheektowaga Councilmember, Brian Nowak
- Village of Depew, Mayor Kevin Peterson
- Town of Clarence, Jonathan Bluer
- Erie County, Mark Roundtree
- City of Buffalo DPW

Scope and Schedule

- January
 - Stakeholder Committee meeting held
- June
 - Draft technical memo for existing conditions
 - Site visits
- July
 - Online map /survey for public input
- August
 - Initial draft technical memo for conceptual trail plan
- September
 - Public meeting for concept feedback
 - Revised draft technical memo for conceptual trail plan
- October
 - Draft technical memo for corridor maintenance
 - Draft technical memo for implementation plan
- November
 - Final Plan complete

Expanding Our On-Road Network

- The intent is for on-road corridors to ultimately provide a bicycle facility that offers a high level of comfort for riders of all ages and abilities.
- Many of the treatments aim to calm motor vehicle traffic and promote safety for all users.
- Tier II recommendations may, in some cases, be thought of as longer term and aspirational, with Tier III being the appropriate option in the short term.
- Bicycle Facility Treatments for On-Road Facilities (Tier II and III)
 - Promote consistent design treatments for on-road corridors in urban, suburban, and rural areas.
 - Should be considered for corridors that comprise the regional bike network and other roadways municipalities are interested in improving bicycling.

Integrate proposed bicycle treatment(s) into planned repaving projects

- TIP and RBMP projects overlay

What about federal aid roads that are not funded through the TIP?

Available resources:

- [Bike Buffalo Niagara: Regional Bicycle Master Plan \(2020\)](#)
- [Online Regional Bicycle Master Plan Mapping Tool](#)
- Regional Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Contract (GObike)
 - Public Outreach: Assistance related to intergovernmental cooperation and public outreach.
 - Technical Assistance: Develop on-road and intersection treatment recommendations and perform needed modeling to evaluate recommendations if applicable.
 - Funding Package Development: Identify potential funding sources and assist in preparing grant proposals for bicycle infrastructure and trail projects consistent with the Regional Bicycle Master Plan

RBMP Implementation Contract

Scajaquada Creek Trail Cheektowaga

\$48,230

Clarence Pathway Trail Cheektowaga Ext	\$62,260.
Lancaster Heritage Trail Ext	\$50,000*
Total Allocated	\$110,490
Contract Total (UPWP)	\$208,800
Remaining Funds Available	\$98,310

*Funding provided through Assembly member Monica Wallace

F. Complete Streets Set Aside Funds - Finn

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) creates a 2.5% set-aside of Planning funds to be used to Complete Streets initiatives
- \$128,681 for SFY 2223 and 2324. Estimating \$65k for SFY 2425
- Funds DO NOT have a matching requirement
- FHWA issued guidance in Spring 23 on eligible project and procedure to get a waiver
- Eligible activities
 - Adopt Complete Streets standards/policies
 - Develop Complete Streets Prioritization Plan
 - Develop transportation plans that:
 - Create a network of active transportation facilities
 - Integrate active transportation facilities with public transportation
 - Increase public transportation ridership
 - Improve safety of bicyclists and pedestrians
 - Development of transportation plans and policies that support transit-oriented development
- Waiver requirement
 - State or MPO adopted Complete Streets Policy - NYSDOT adopted policy applies to all Federally funded projects regardless of agency
- State or MPO adopted Complete Streets Prioritization Plan
“...specific list of Complete Streets projects to improve safety, mobility or accessibility of a street.”
- Next steps
 - Submit on-going projects for approval of the use of current funds
 - Wait for NYSDOT guidance given impact on matching funds
 - Apply for Statewide or MPO waivers
 - Continue to use the funds with no match
 - If NYSDOT recommends waiver, MPO staff can develop a Complete Streets Project Priority list from the current TIP

IV. STATUS REPORTS/INFORMATION

- Member Agency Reports
 - Niagara County (Meal) reported construction is underway and a reminder to watch out for workers on the roadways
 - All other agencies reported the same.
 - NITTEC (Hutchins) reported that the “All Roads” project (previously ATC/MTD) continues.
- Director’s Report
 - Job postings - The postings are up on social media and applications are being accepted.
 - SS4A - Updated the members on progress noting the grant application has been submitted to FHWA for review

V. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- Next PCC Meeting will be held on Wednesday August 2nd at 9:30 am
- *Motion to Adjourn (NC/CNF). Approved 7-0.*
- The meeting concluded at 11:15 am.

The meeting will begin shortly.



Planning and Coordinating Committee

July 13, 2023





Agenda

I. Proceedings

II. Action Items

III. Discussion Items

IV. Status Reports / Information

Proceedings

- Roll Call
- Public Participation
- Approval of Meeting Agenda
- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Action Items



 GBNRTC

A. Amendment #6: PIN 5815.16 N. Adams St. Over Erie Canal

- This item will be tabled
- Today's action would be to table the approval vote for Resolution 2023-17

B. AdMod #36: Tonawanda Riverwalk Multi-Use Pedestrian Trail – Let Delay (#576473)

- This is a NYSDOT request to modify an existing project
- Request to move let date from 9/15/24 (FFY24) to 8/15/25 (FFY 25)
- Funding is not changed
- Fiscal constraint is maintained
- Submitted by NYSDOT on 8/29/23
- Today's action would be to approve this change to as AdMod #36

C. Resolution 2013-18 PEF Settlement – GBNRTC Salary Adjustments

- GBNRTC staff, by practice since the inception of the MPO, follow NYS Public Employee Federation (PEF) salary schedule and job classifications.
- PEF ratified a new contract for its employees to cover April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2026
- The new contract includes the following provisions that apply to GBNRTC employees:
 - 3% annual salary increase for each year
 - \$3000 contract signing bonus
 - New performance award (aka longevity) schedule starting in FY2526
- The increase costs are relatively small in the overall MPO financial picture and are able to be absorbed with no impact.
- Today's action would be to approve the resolution and authorize NFTA to adjust compensation schedules for GBNRTC staff

D. 2023 Draft Public Participation Plan

This Plan update includes the following changes:

- Addition of virtual meeting option via Facebook live.
- Affordable housing organizations added to the list of MPO stakeholders for direct public engagement.
- GBNRTC member agencies are given a minimum of 30 calendar days to review draft planning documents and provide comments to GBNRTC staff prior to initiating the public review and comment period.
- Advance notice of meetings and agendas are distributed no later than one week prior to the meeting to members of the public.
- Engagement metrics revised to align with USDOT new guide, Promising Practices for Meaningful Public Involvement in Transportation Decision-Making released in October 2022.
- The public review and comment period for TIP, MTP and UPWP amendments changed from 20 days to 30 days for consistency with FTA requirements.

D. 2023 Draft Public Participation Plan

- Member agencies 30 day review and comment period completed on August 18, 2023
- All comments received have been incorporated into the draft document
- Public Review and Comment Period (September 7, 2023 – October 21, 2023)
- Two public meetings scheduled:

Thursday, September 21, 2023 – Hybrid 10:30-11:30am

Join us in-person in the Downtown Central Library – West Room (Main Floor)

Join us virtually on Facebook: <http://facebook.com/GBNRTC>

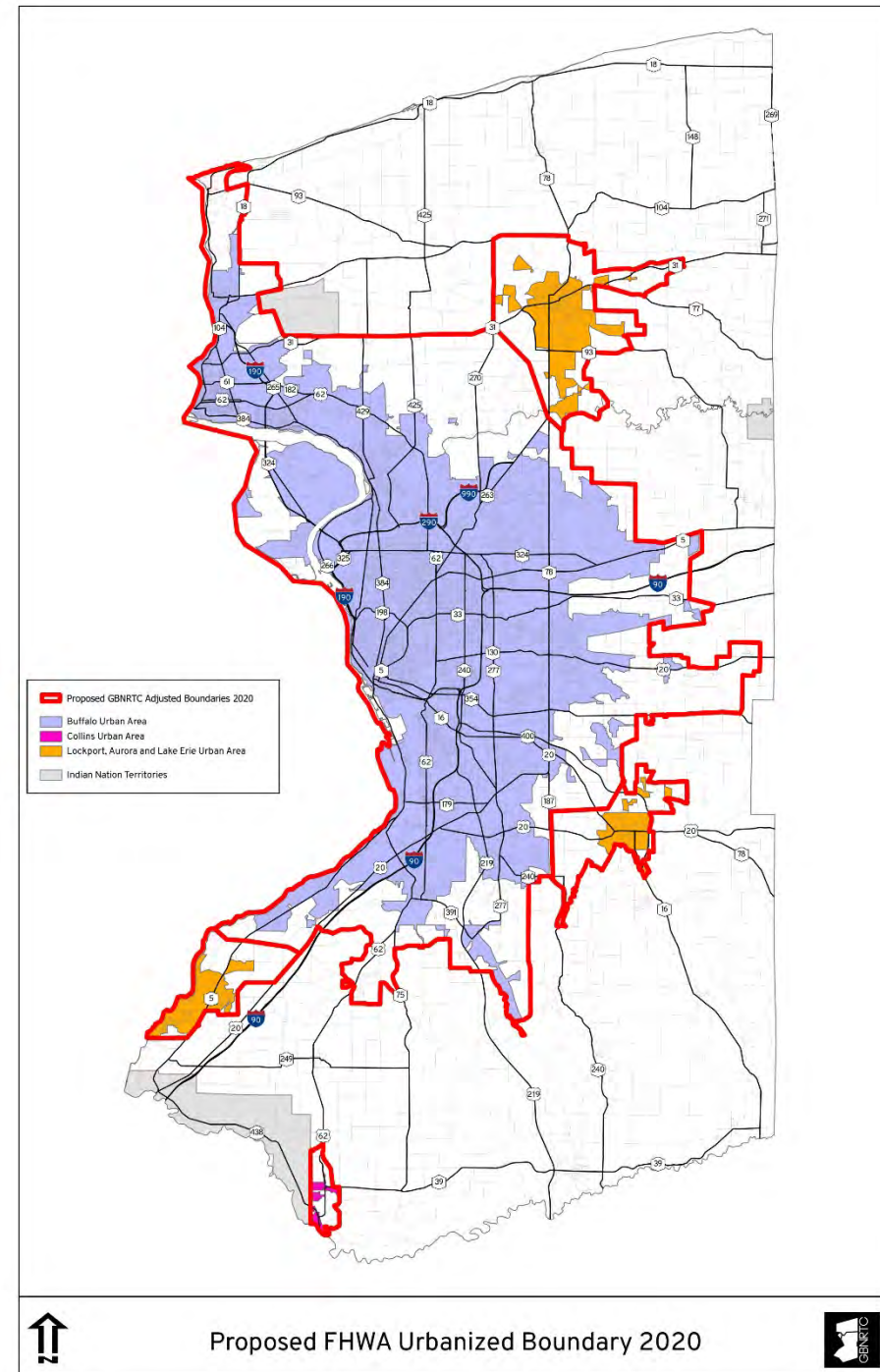
Tuesday, September 26, 2023 – Virtual Only 5:30-6:30pm

Join us virtually on Facebook: <http://facebook.com/GBNRTC>

Today's action would be to initiate 45 day public review and comment period.

E. 2020 FHWA Urban Boundary

- Every ten (10) years, following the US Census, New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) in coordination with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and local partners are required to adjust the defined census urbanized area boundary in a process called “smoothing”.
- This smoothing eliminates geographic irregularities, maintains administrative continuity, encompass fringe areas having residential, commercial, industrial, and/or national defense significance and determines capital program funding and eligibility.
- Today's PCC action would be to initiate a 20-day public review period for the proposed 2020 FHWA Urban Boundary



F. Six New Transit Projects

- NFTA has requested to add six new projects to the TIP
 - PIN 5826.00 - Purchase of Eleven (11) Under 30-Foot Small buses
 - PIN 5826.01 - Purchase of Twelve (12) Under 30-Foot Small buses
 - PIN 5826.02 - Bus Garage Fire Alarm & Methane Detection Upgrades
 - PIN 5826.03 - Purchase and Installation of Fuel Tank Upgrades
 - PIN 5826.04 - Replacement of Metro Bus Wash System
 - PIN 5826.05 - Purchase and Installation of Metro Bus Lifts

F. Six New Transit Projects

1. PIN 5826.00 – Purchase of Eleven (11) Under 30-Foot Small Buses

- this project will support the purchase of eleven (11) under 30-foot gasoline fueled paratransit vehicles that will replace life and mileage expired vehicles.
- Total Project Cost - \$1.29M
- Fiscal constraint will be maintained as offset will come from
 - \$1.29M SFY 2023-24 NYSDOT Accelerated Transit Capital Program (ATC)
- Let (obligation) date is 1/2/24

F. Six New Transit Projects

2. PIN 5826.01 – Purchase of Twelve (12) Under 30-Foot Small Buses

- this project will support the purchase of twelve (12) under 30-foot gasoline fueled paratransit vehicles that will replace life and mileage expired vehicles.
- Total Project Cost - \$1.41M
- Fiscal constraint will be maintained as offset will come from
 - \$1.4M SFY 2023-24 NYSDOT Accelerated Transit Capital Program (ATC)
- Let (obligation) date is 1/2/24

F. Six New Transit Projects

3. PIN 5826.02 – Bus Garage Fire Alarm & Methane Detection Upgrades

- this project will Install new fire alarm and methane detection systems at all three NFTA-Metro bus garages(Cold Spring, Babcock, and Frontier).
- Total Project Cost - \$5.14M
- Fiscal constraint will be maintained as offset will come from
 - \$98K (Design) SFY 2023-24 NYSDOT Public Transportation Modernization and Enhancement Program (MEP)
 - \$2.63M (Construction) SFY 2023-24 NYSDOT Public Transportation Modernization and Enhancement Program (MEP)
 - \$2.41M NFTA Local Funds
- Let (obligation) date is 4/1/24

F. Six New Transit Projects

4. PIN 5826.03 – Purchase and Installation of Fuel Tank Upgrades

- this project will purchase and install fuel tank upgrades at NFTA bus facilities.
- Total Project Cost - \$1.05M
- Fiscal constraint will be maintained as offset will come from
 - \$600K SFY 2023-24 NYSDOT Public Transportation Modernization and Enhancement Program (MEP)
 - \$450K NFTA Local Funds
- Let (obligation) date is 4/1/24

F. Six New Transit Projects

5. PIN 5826.04 – Replacement of Metro Bus Wash System

- this project will Replace the Metro Bus Wash system at NFTA's three bus garages located at Cold Spring, Babcock and Frontier.
- Total Project Cost - \$2.3M
- Fiscal constraint will be maintained as offset will come from
 - \$1.8M SFY 2023-24 NYSDOT Public Transportation Modernization and Enhancement Program (MEP)
 - \$500K NFTA Local Funds
- Let (obligation) date is 4/1/24

F. Six New Transit Projects

6. PIN 5826.05 – Purchase and Installation of Metro Bus Lifts

- this project will replace bus lifts at NFTA's three bus garages located at Cold Spring, Babcock and Frontier.
- Total Project Cost - \$4.9M
- Fiscal constraint will be maintained as offset will come from
 - \$1.8M SFY 2023-24 NYSDOT Public Transportation Modernization and Enhancement Program (MEP)
 - \$2.47M SFY 2023-24 NYSDOT Accelerated Transit Capital Program (ATC)
 - \$628K NFTA Local Funds
- Let (obligation) date is 4/1/24

F. Six New Transit Projects

- Today's PCC action would be to initiate a 30-day public review period for the proposed new TIP projects.
- Public comments will be received until October 6

Discussion Items



A. TPS Approved Action Report

- PIN 5763.57 City of Tonawanda Pedestrian Bridge
 - Project needed additional time for 4(f) review
 - Let delayed from 4/24 (FFY 24) to 4/25 (FFY 25)
 - Fiscal constraint is maintained as funding is unchanged
 - Change approved as AdMod #34
- PIN 5763.17 Allen St Phase 2; Wadsworth St to Delaware Av
 - \$0.243M in matched earmarked federal HPP funds will be added to the project.
 - Construction Phase will increase from \$6.077M to \$6.320M.
 - As HPP funds are unallocated statewide federal funds, fiscal constraint is maintained
 - Change approved as AdMod #35

B. Policy Committee Approved Action Report

- Three (3) projects currently on the 2023-2027 TIP were modified
 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
 - All current funding (\$0.633M matched FTA 5339 funds) will be transferred to PIN 5900.45
 - The NFTA has decided to use local funds for the purchase of bus shelters
 - This project will no longer contain any federal funds and will be need to be deleted from the TIP
- Resolution 2023-15 was completed via electronic Policy Committee Ballot on 7/19/23

C. Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation

- The SMART Grants Program funds projects that focus on using technology interventions to solve real-world challenges facing communities, always with a focus on purpose-driven innovation and supporting technologies that provide clear, near-term benefits
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law established SMART Grants Program for smart community technology demonstrations
- USDOT is now accepting applications for the second year of the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program
- SMART will provide funding for approximately 20 to 30 Stage 1 (Planning and Prototyping) projects in FY 2023, up to \$2 million per project.

C. Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation

- SMART welcomes applications from a wide range of diverse eligible applicants regardless of size, location, and experience administering Federal funding awards
- Visit the SMART Grants Program website to access the NOFO and learn about eligibility, application submission processes, and illustrative use cases.
- The application submission deadline is Tuesday, October 10, at 5:00 PM ET on the Valid Eval website.
- If you still have questions after reading the NOFO and the FAQs, contact smart@dot.gov

D. Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN)

- For FY23, the NOFO for the Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) and Neighborhood Access & Equity (NAE) grant programs were combined to provide a more efficient application process
 - Reconnecting Communities Pilot Grant Program
 - For restoring community connectivity through the removal, retrofit, mitigation or replacement of highways, roadways, or other infrastructure facilities that create barriers to mobility, access or economic development
 - Neighborhood Access and Equity Grant Program
 - Context-sensitive projects that improve walkability, safety, and affordable access
 - Mitigating or remediating negative impacts on the human or natural environment in disadvantaged communities from a surface transportation facility;
 - Planning and capacity building activities in disadvantaged or underserved communities.



D. Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN)

- Grant #1: Capital Construction Grants
 - Funds for reconnecting-focused projects
 - Would include funding for projects focused on reducing environmental harm and improving access
- Grant #2: Community Planning Grants
 - Funds for planning activities to support future construction projects
 - Would allow for innovative community planning to address localized transportation challenges
- Grant #3: Regional Partnerships Challenge Grants (NAE)
 - Funds for projects to encourage regional collaboration and innovation among partners to address regional challenges (vs. one facility)
 - Designed to collaboratively focus regions on equitable access and mobility challenges, anti-displacement and GHG reduction



D. Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN)



RCN Combined Funding - Availability and Award Amounts

Statutory Program Elements	RCP FY23	NAE FY23
Community Planning Grants*	\$50M	\$135M
Capital Construction Funds*	\$148M	Up to \$2.57B*
Regional Partnership Challenge Grants*	N/A	Up to \$450M*

Award Amounts:

- RCP Planning: No more than **\$2M**
- RCP Capital Construction: No less than **\$5M**
- NAE: **No Minimums** or **Maximums**

*USDOT reserves the right to not expend all funds in FY23.

D. Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN)

- Applications are due September 28th, 2023, at 11:59pm EDT
- Applications may be submitted through Valid Eval
- Customer support for Valid Eval can be reached at support@valideval.com
- Previously recorded webinars and presentation materials are available
- For further inquiries or questions related to the program, please contact the RCN Team at ReconnectingCommunities@dot.gov





Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council

2023 Draft Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan

GBNRTC PCC Meeting
September 6, 2023



What is the Coordinated Transportation Plan?

- Provides the framework for improving transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, individuals with lower incomes.
- Strives for communities to coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple sources.

What is the Coordinated Transportation Plan?

- Serves as a mechanism for Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals w/Disabilities Grant Program.
- NYSDOT Public Transit Division in Albany administers this program

Plan Methodology

Information from:

- Literature Review
- Demographics Analysis
- Health and Human Services
Transportation Agency Survey
- Targeted Outreach
- Identification of Transportation
Needs/Gaps and
- Strategies to Address Needs/Gaps

Coordinated Transportation Plan - Key Sections

Chapter 1: Background

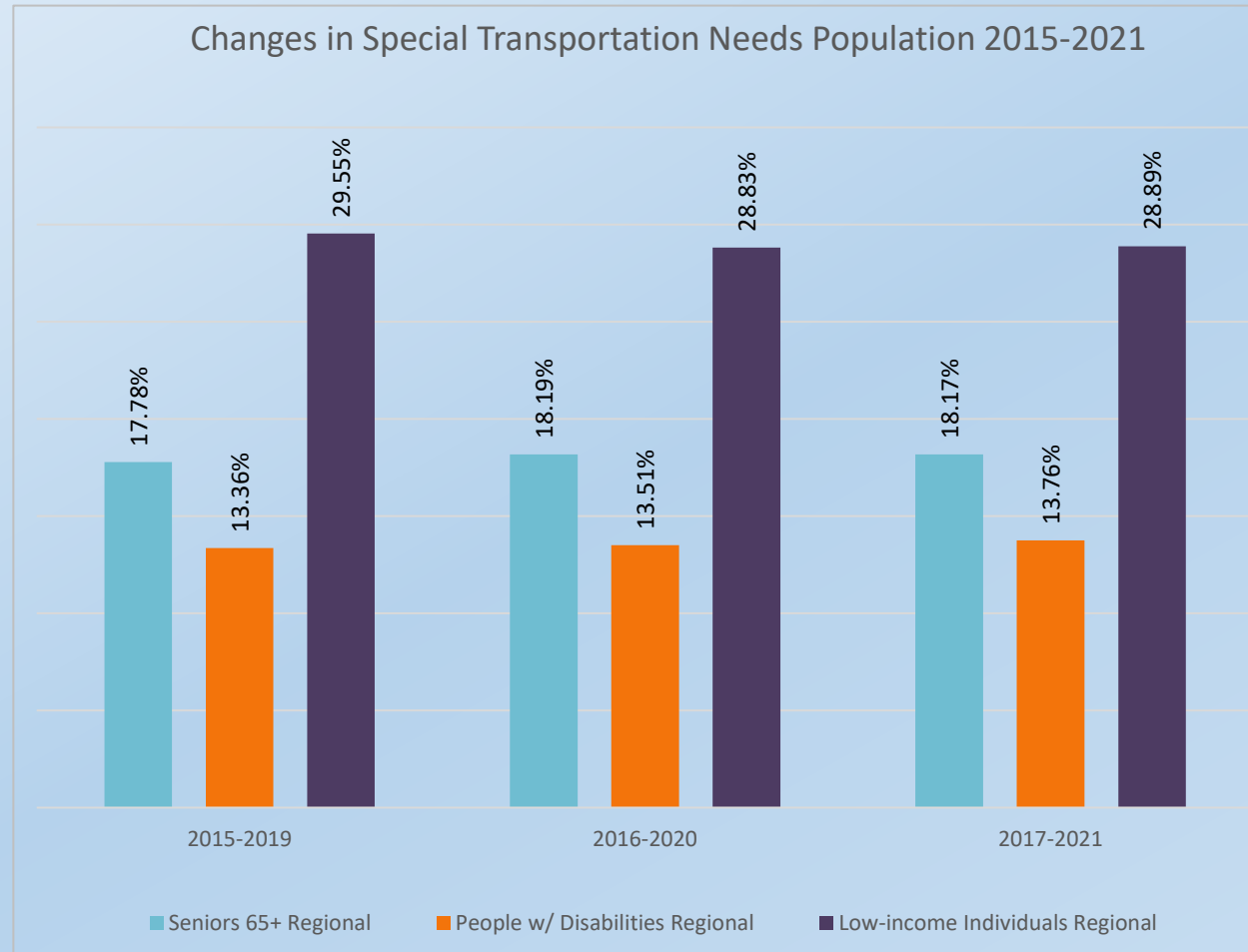
- Coordinated Human Services Transportation Planning
- Coordinated Transportation Plan Elements Section
- 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program

Chapter 2: Mobility Today

- Demographics Analysis & Maps
- Transportation Providers

Special Needs Population 2017-2021

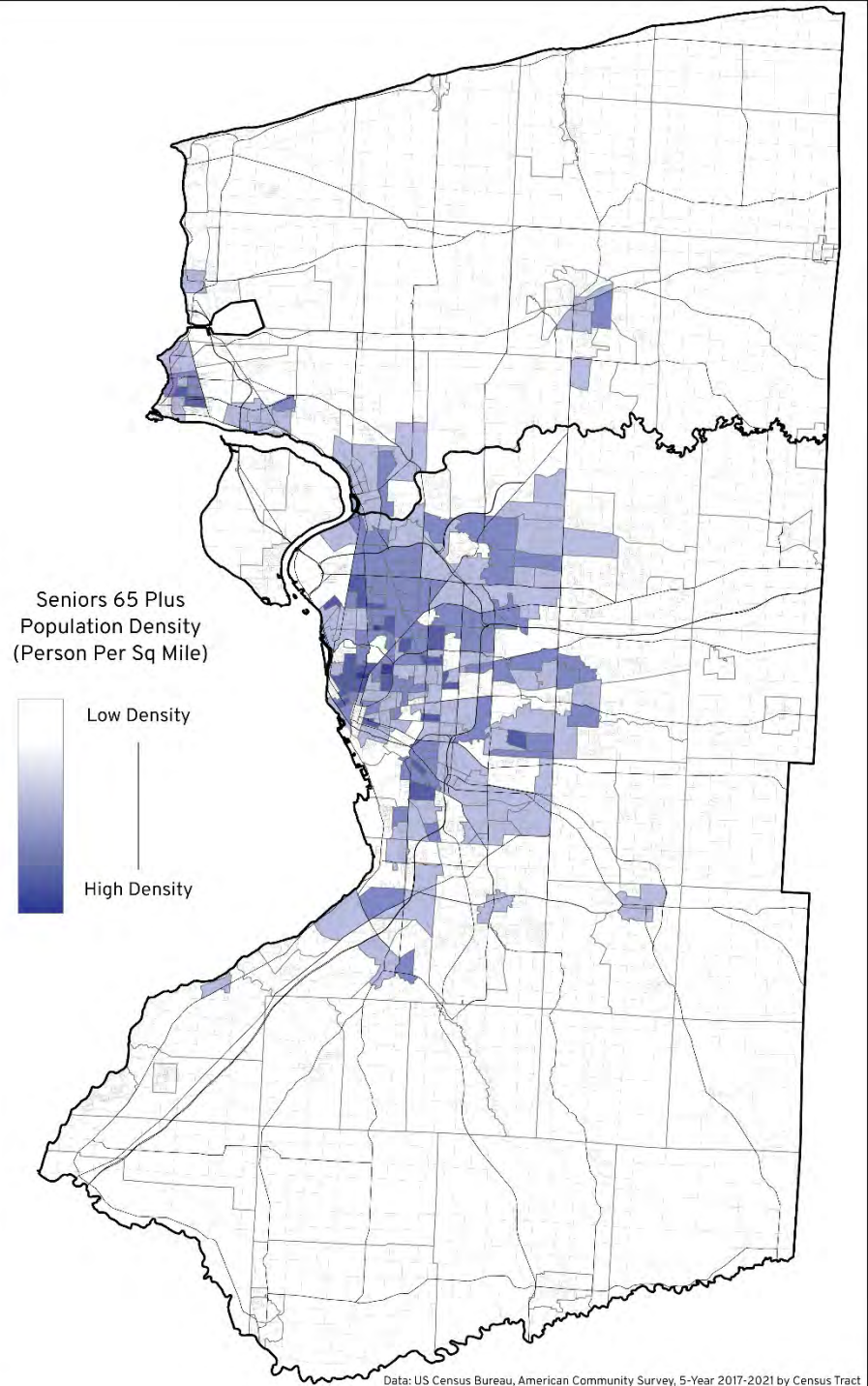
Erie & Niagara Counties

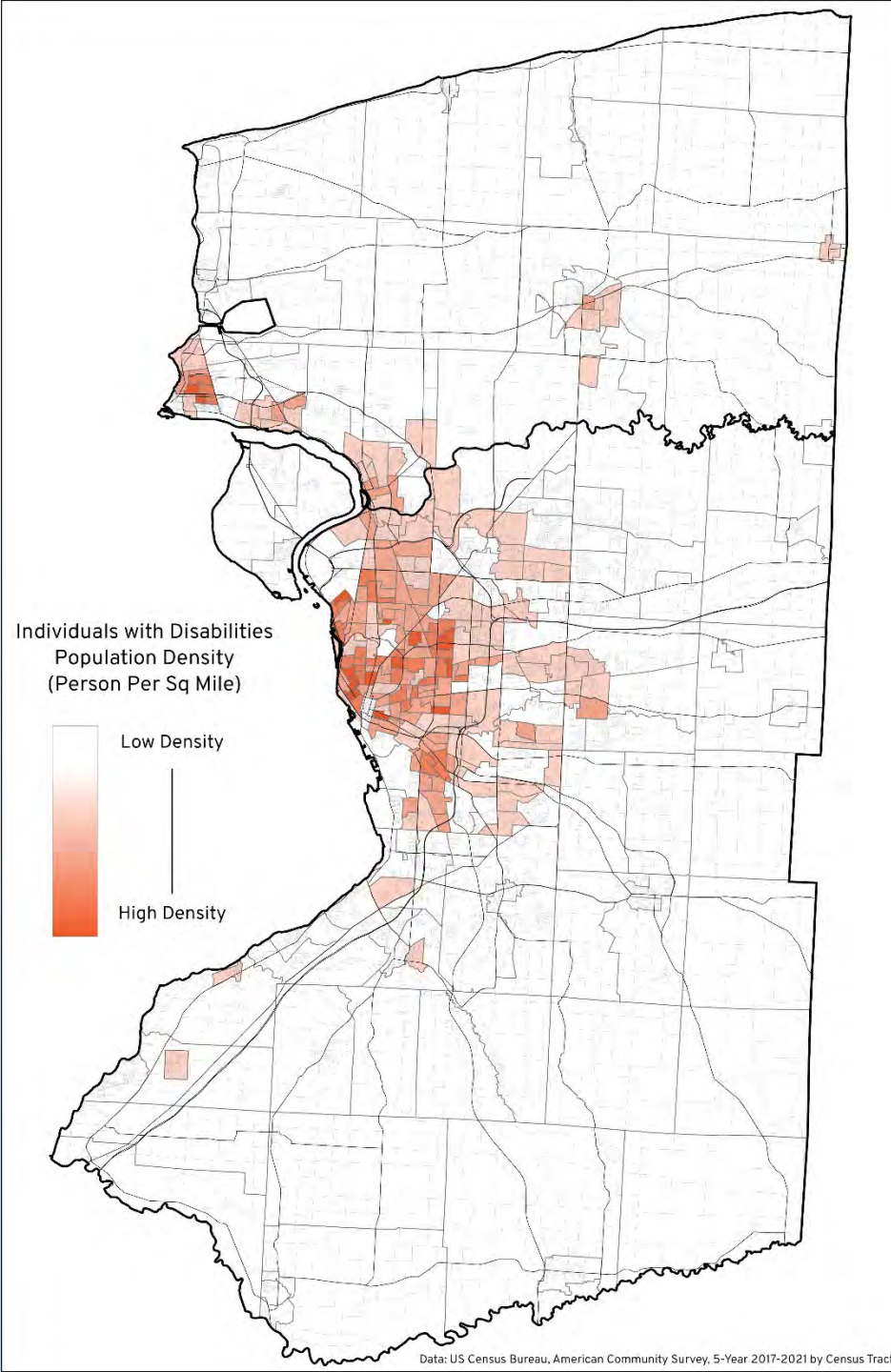


Low-income individuals defined as 200% below the federal poverty level.

Distribution of 65 + Population

Erie & Niagara Counties



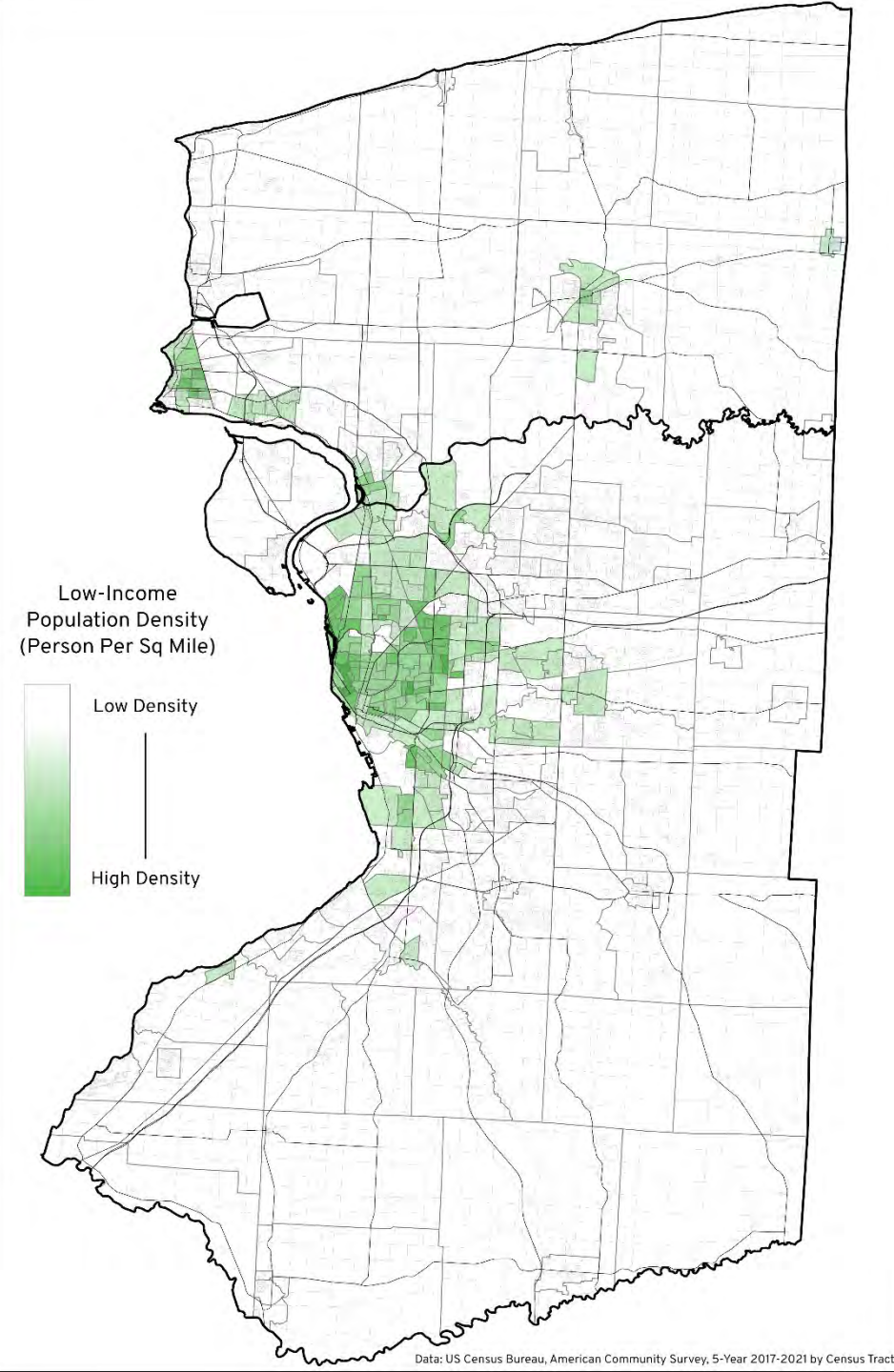


Distribution of Population of Persons w/Disabilities

Erie & Niagara Counties

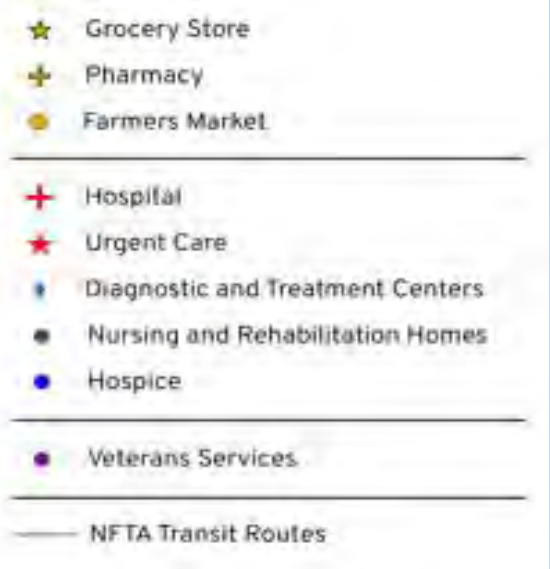
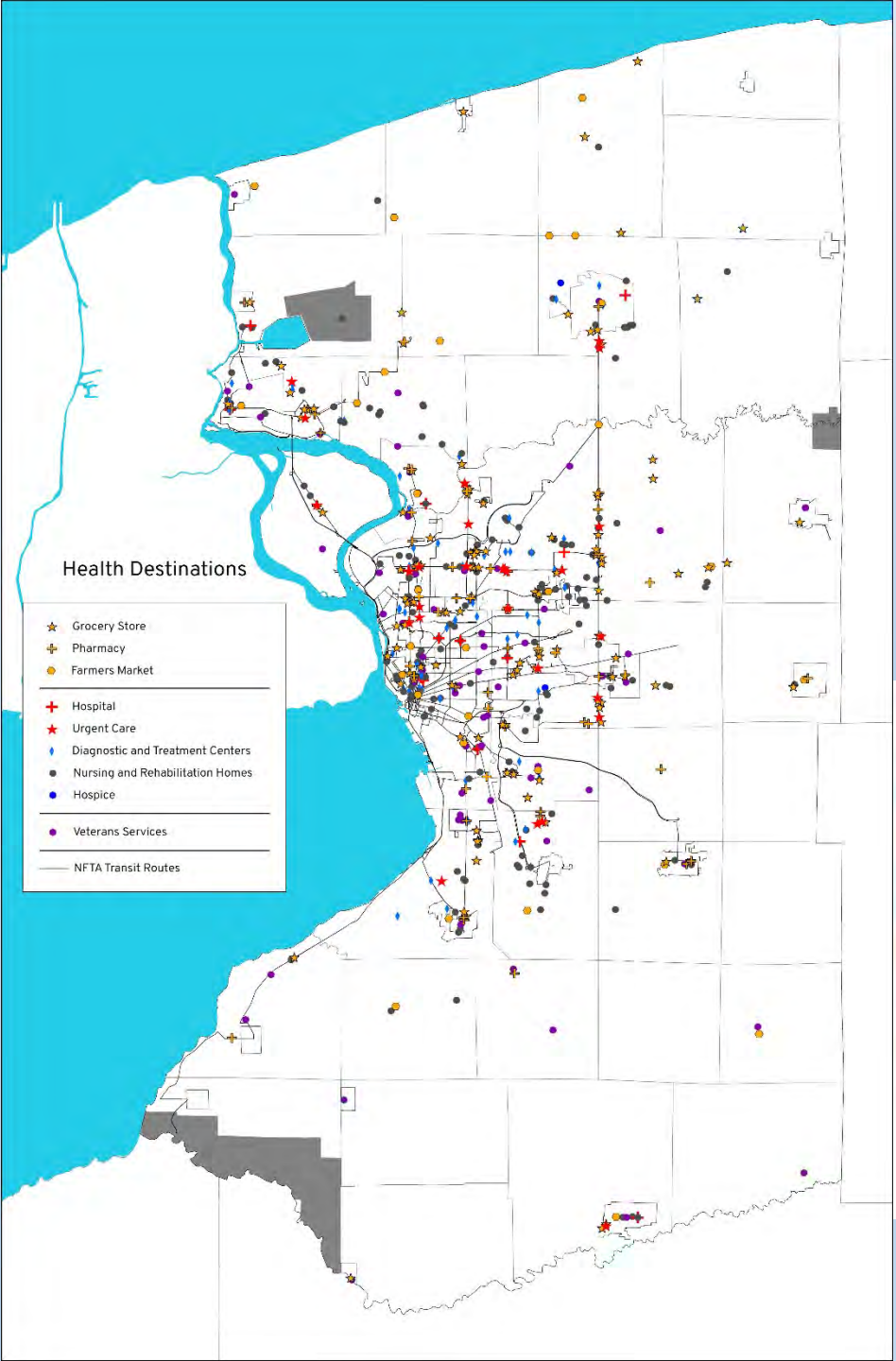
Distribution of Low Income Population

Erie & Niagara Counties



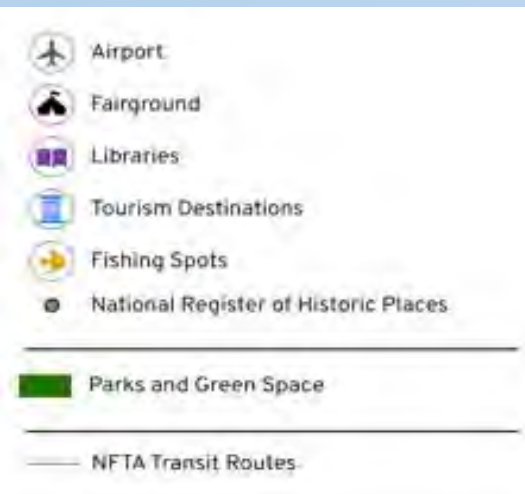
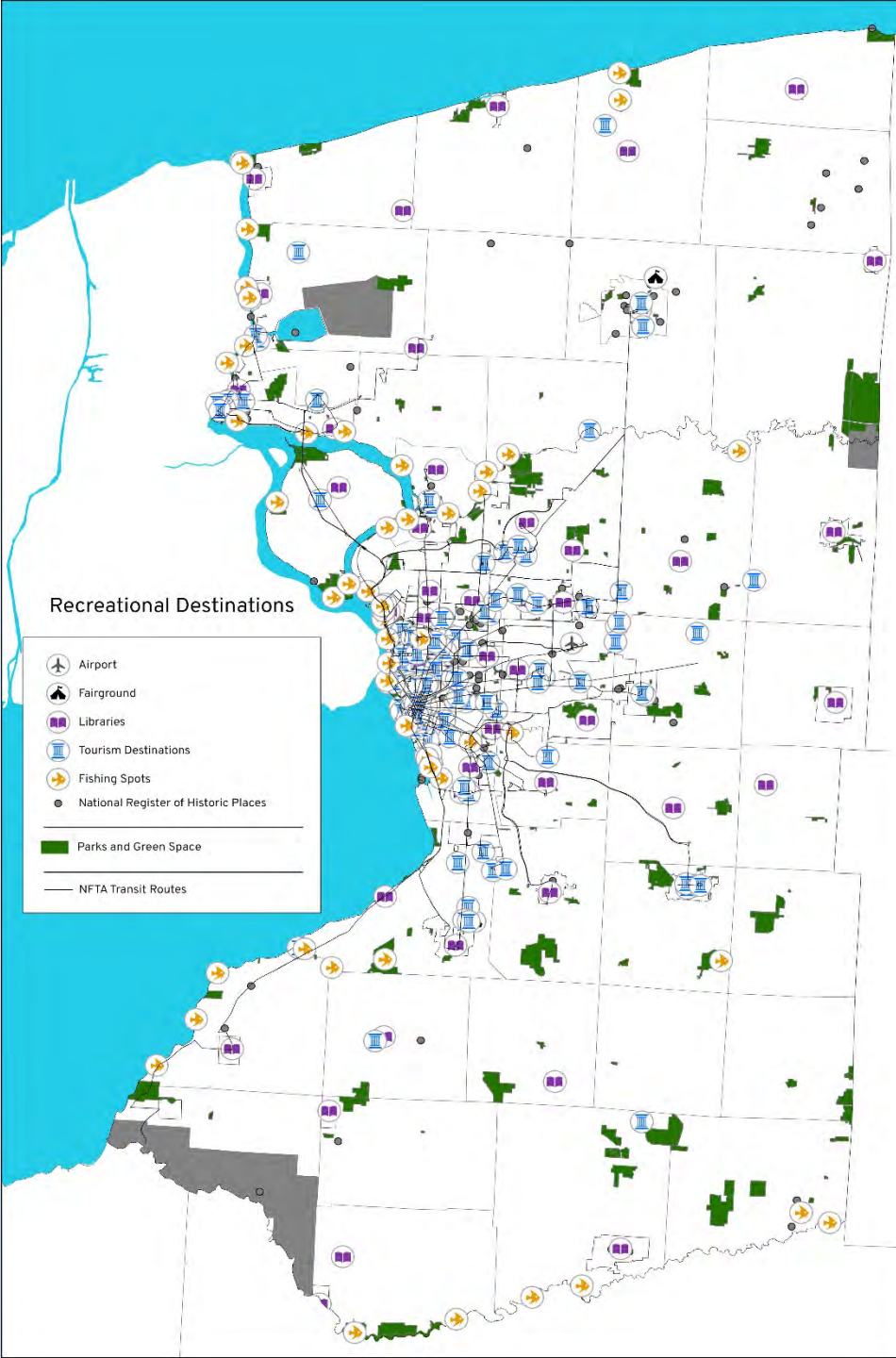
Destinations- Health

Erie & Niagara Counties



Destinations- Parks & Recreation

Erie & Niagara Counties



Coordinated Transportation Plan - Key Sections

Chapter 3: Mobility Needs & Gaps

- Regional Needs and Gaps
- Examples of Addressing Needs and Gaps in the Region

Chapter 4: Mobility Tomorrow

- Planning for the Future
- Strategies for Coordination

Appendices

Plan Outreach



Date	Organization
May 18, 2023	Live Well Erie Taskforce Meeting
May 18, 2023	Live Well Erie Older Adult Working Group
June 5, 2023	Live Well Erie Mobility Sub-Group Meeting
July 20, 2023	Self-Advocacy Association of Western New York
July 26, 2023	Live Well Erie Working Families Meeting
August 1, 2023	Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day Workshop
August 14, 2023	Erie County GIS- Health & Human Services Transportation Data Meeting
August 14, 2023	Niagara County Office of Aging
August 17, 2023	Live Well Erie Taskforce Meeting
August 18, 2023	Hearts and Hands Faith in Action
August 22, 2023	Shared Mobility, Inc.
August 23, 2023	Rural Transit Service
August 24, 2023	Westside Community Services
August 25, 2023	Erie County Town Hall, Schiller Park Senior Center
September 7, 2023	New York State Master Plan for Aging Buffalo Town Hall, Lincoln Memorial Methodist Church (scheduled)
October 18, 2023	Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan Public Meeting (scheduled)

Transportation Needs & Gaps

Categories -

- Geographic Needs & Gaps
- Service Time Needs & Gaps
- Infrastructure Needs & Gaps
- Institutional Needs & Gaps
- Capacity/Affordability Needs & Gaps
- Information/Awareness Needs & Gaps

Transportation Needs & Gaps

Some key needs since the pandemic –

- Significant and sustained driver shortages
- Aging vehicle fleets
- Fewer transportation providers
- More bariatric service vehicles needed
- Low-floor, ambulatory vehicles

Strategies

Geographic Gaps

- First mile, last mile service partnerships.
- Develop transportation options for suburban and rural areas.
- Volunteer Transportation Programs

Service Time Gaps

- Develop transportation options late night and weekend timeframes.
- TNC and taxi partnerships

Strategies

Infrastructure Gaps

- Smart Growth and investment in existing communities when it comes to how we use our land and where development occurs
- Mobility Hubs
- Universal Design into the Built Environment
- Pedestrian safety amenities, crosswalks, adjusted crossing times for those with mobility limitations
- Implement PSAP to help address infrastructure gaps.

Strategies

Information/Awareness Gaps

- Travel Training
- Promotion and education on transportation options (public transit, ridesharing, bikesharing, and e-bike libraries, etc.)
- Mobile technology for navigation, wayfinding and trip planning for individuals with disabilities.

Strategies

Capacity/Affordability Resource Gaps

- Voucher programs
- Non-traditional funding sources

Institutional Gaps

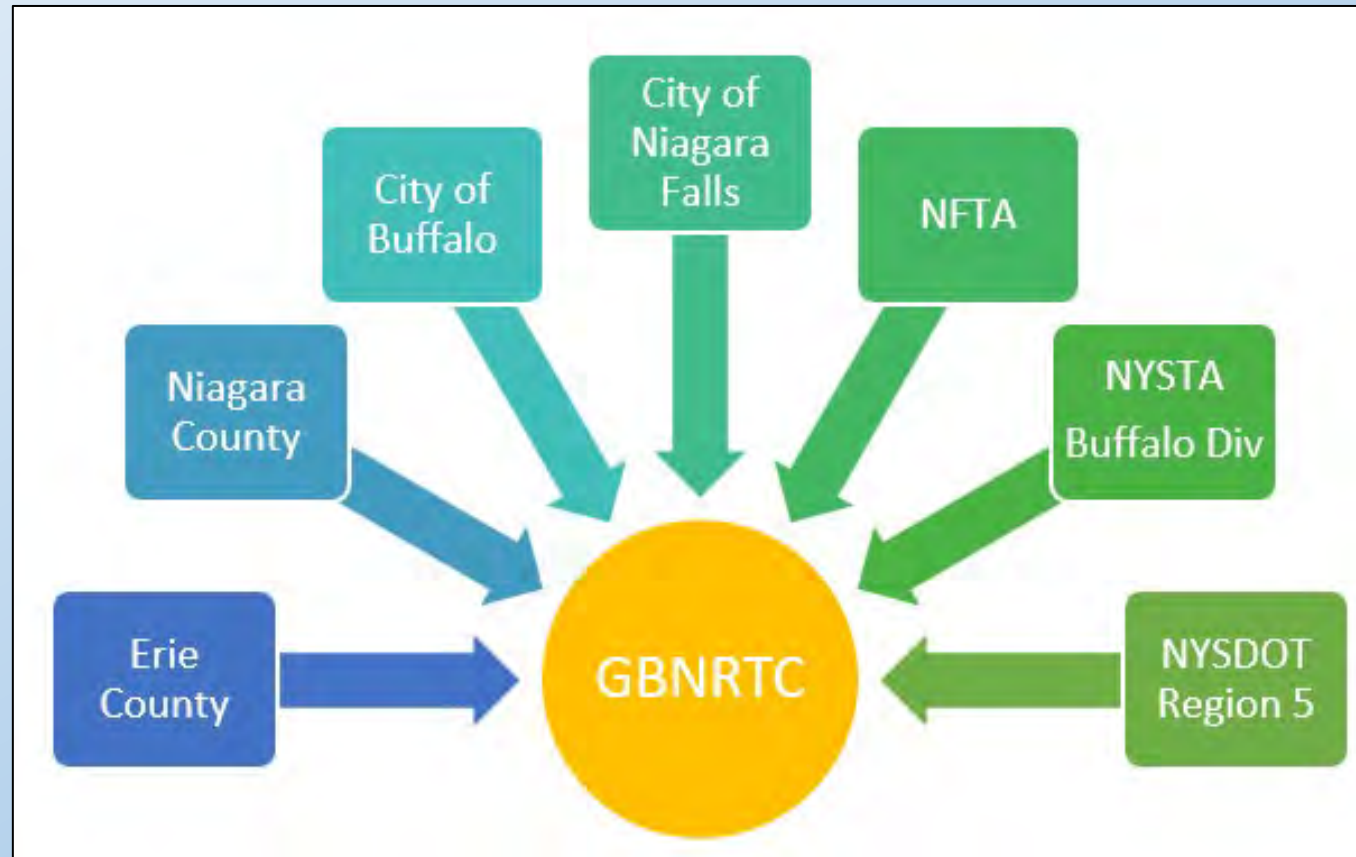
- Group Insurance, joint purchasing, background checks

Next Steps

- Please submit any comments by 9/29/23, so that they may be incorporated into the final draft for 30 day public review in early October.
- Public Meeting for Plan in Mid-October.
- Final draft presented to Planning and Coordinating Committee for recommendation to Policy Committee.
- Plan approved at Policy Committee meeting in November 2023.

Status Reports/Information

Member Agency Reports



Executive Director's Report

- SS4A
- Marketing and Outreach Coordinator

Meeting Wrap Up

- Next PCC Meeting will be October 4, 2023
- Adjournment