

Meeting Minutes

Monroe County Countywide Active Transportation Plan

Project Advisory Committee Meeting #2: 1:00 – 2:00 pm, June 22, 2022

Location

Virtual (Zoom)

Attendees

Monroe County Planning

Yixuan Lin
Pat Gooch
Rochelle Bell

Consultant Team

Michael Blau, Toole Design
Theja Putta, Toole Design
Tom Robinson, Bergmann
Katie Darcy, Bergmann

Project Advisory Committee Members

Genesee Transportation Council, Bob Williams | MC Dept. of Parks, Pat Meredith | MCDOT, Brandt Smith | NYSDOT, Lora Leon and Caroline Carrion-Rivera | Empire State Trail/Erie Canalway Trail, Chris Morris | Regional Transit Service, Julie Boasi | Center for Disability Rights, Ayisha Salifu Mamudu | Common Ground Health, Mike Bulger | Reconnect Rochester, Renee Stetzer and Jesse Peers | Rochester-Monroe County Aging Alliance, Bill McDonald | City of Rochester, Darin Ramsay | Town of Henrietta, Christopher Hauser | Village of Brockport, Robert LeSuer | Town of Brighton, Evert Garcia

Introductions

Yixuan Lin started the meeting and welcomed the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) to the Monroe County Countywide Active Transportation Plan (CATP) meeting #2. She gave a brief overview of the meeting agenda and committee members were asked to leave their names with the agencies they are associated with in the zoom chat.

Project Update

Yixuan Lin provided a quick project update since the last PAC meeting in March. The update included public engagement through website and pop-up events, press releases, Council of Governments meetings, and completed tasks of Plan Review.

Project Schedule Update

Michael Blau presented the updated overall project scope and schedule, which spans approximately from March 2022 to May 2023. The updated schedule included:

- March – May: Existing Conditions Analysis (Done)
- June – August: Needs Assessment (Doing it)
- September – December: Network Policy Recommendations (Will do it)
- December – Jan: Implementation Strategies (Will do it)
- February – May: Development of Final Report (Will do it)

Analysis Update

Theja Putta presented the Bicycle and Pedestrian Crash Analysis findings. The analysis includes pedestrian and bicycle crash severities in three different settings: Urban, Suburban, and Rural. The crash analysis also presented a list of high crash score roadways within Monroe County.

The next analysis Theja presented is the Level of Traffic Stress (LTS), identifying low- and high-stress roadways for cyclists. The analysis helps identify appropriate bicycle facilities that are comfortable for people of all ages and abilities. A segment's LTS value depends on factors such as number of lanes, traffic volume, speed, presence of bike facility, parking lane, width of bike lanes, etc. In addition to the stress values for a segment, there can also be stress at intersection crossings, which varies depending on the number of crossing lanes, speed, volume, and traffic control device present at the intersection.

Theja then presented the results of the Bicycle Network Analysis (BNA). BNA is a way to measure how effectively people can connect to destinations via bike on comfortable, low-stress routes. The BNA algorithm evaluates each street and trail to measure how traffic speeds, traffic signals, and bike facility design affect riders' stress levels. It then looks at all destinations within biking distance, and what proportion of those destinations can be reached by low-stress connections.

BNA has three main steps:

1. Level of Traffic Stress – The analysis helps identify appropriate bicycle facilities that are comfortable for people of all ages and abilities.
2. Block-to-block connectivity analysis – During this step, we route bicycle trips from every census block in the county to every other census block, and summarize the proportion and types of destinations available in each census block. These fall into several categories, like recreation, retail, transit, population, and employment.
3. Aggregation of destinations – It looks at all the destinations that are within biking distance, then evaluates what proportion of those are reachable on low-stress bikeways.

A color-coded map was shown, indicating the high connectivity and low connectivity areas in Monroe County.

Engagement Update

Yixuan Lin spoke about the other planning initiatives within the County that the CATP is leveraging, including the County Comprehensive Plan update and City of Rochester ATP. Yixuan also showed some past pop-up events and planned upcoming events and asked the PAC for input on public outreach.

Input from the PAC in the chat:

- County sponsored older adult picnic at Charlotte Beach recommended by Bill McDonald, Aging Alliance
- Westside Farmers Market. Brighton Farmers Market recommended by Mike Bulger, Common Ground Health

Katie Darcy presented the results from the social pinpoint interactive map. The online webmap received 472 comments/pins, 1,496 up-votes, and 27 down-votes. Katie also reported on the stakeholder interviews progress. Katie described the 6/29 public workshop format and encouraged PAC members to spread the word and attend this workshop.

Breakout Groups

The meeting attendees were asked to select their own group per their interests and expertise. There were two choices: Group 1: Open discussion and Group 2: Analysis deep dive.

Group 1 Report back summary: the engagement should have targeted audiences and partnered with City ATP outreach using their grassroots approach to reach out to some communities.

Group 2 Report back summary: most data appear accurate but some of the findings are not ground truthed yet, which requires some local input. Reconnect Rochester offered to have an internal working group to review the data.

Next Steps

- The PAC's next meeting will be in **October 2022** (date TBD).