

APPENDIX C.

ENGAGEMENT WITH PARTNER AGENCIES

There are specific requirements regarding outreach to stakeholders in the planning process that BMTS has met in preparation of this metropolitan transportation plan.

“The MPO shall consult, as appropriate, with State and local agencies responsible for land use management, natural resources, environmental protection, conservation, and historic preservation concerning the development of the transportation plan.” 23 CFR 450.324(g)

“The MPO shall provide individuals, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, ... freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation (including intercity bus operators, employer-based commuting programs..., representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the transportation plan.”² In order to accomplish the first requirement, BMTS sent this letter:

² 23 CFR 450.324(j).

Re: BMTS Long Range Transportation Plan

Dear ,

The Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study, as the designated metropolitan planning organization for Broome-Tioga planning area, is responsible for developing and adopting a long range transportation plan (LRTP) and updating it no less than every five years. Our current plan, 2040, was adopted in 2015. We are now in the process of developing a new plan, Moving Our Future Forward 2045: Long Range Transportation Plan.

It is important to our planning process that we collaborate with environmental resource agencies. While our plan focuses on transportation, we recognize the importance of preserving and protecting a healthy environment and supporting community quality of life. It is especially important that we know of plans you may have for projects or actions in the Broome-Tioga region that may impact transportation infrastructure or services. BMTS will benefit from your input by reflecting your agency's work.

As a first step, we have developed a Vision Statement, as well as draft goals and objectives. These are attached for your review. Please provide any feedback you may have.

I would happy to meet with you to talk about the LRTP if you would find that useful. You can call me at 778-2443 or email at jyonkoski@co.broome.ny.us

Distribution list:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District Planning Division

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Northeast Region, New York Field Office

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 7

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Office of Air Resources, Climate Change, and Energy

NYS Department of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, Region 5

NYS Department of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, Division for Historic Preservation

Broome County Soil and Water Conservation District

Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District

Cornell Cooperative Extension, Broome County

Cornell Cooperative Extension, Tioga County

Broome County Farm Bureau

The second requirement was accomplished primarily by membership in the LRTP Steering Committee and Stakeholder Working Group (appendix A). BMTS also communicated directly with intercity bus carriers with this letter:

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It is important to our planning process that we collaborate with intercity bus carriers early in the development of the plan. While our plan focuses on transportation within the region, we will also be evaluating travel to and from the area. In fact, the Federal planning rule requires consideration of the role that intercity buses may play in reducing congestion, pollution, and energy consumption in a cost-effective manner and strategies and investments that preserve and enhance intercity bus systems, including systems that are privately owned and operated. BMTS will benefit from your input, especially in terms of your company's plans for this region.

As a first step, we have developed a Vision Statement, as well as draft goals and objectives. These are attached for your review. Please provide any feedback you may have.

I would happy to meet with you to talk about the LRTP if you would find that useful. You can call me at 778-2443 or email at jyonkoski@co.broome.ny.us

Distribution list:

Greyhound Lines, Inc

Coach USA Shortline Bus

Trailways of New York

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