



Fall 2024

... NYMTC NOTES

Welcome to NYMTC Notes

Inside this issue, you'll find a recap of the efforts and accomplishments of NYMTC and its members to keep our transportation system optimally funded and functioning.

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About NYMTC

NYMTC is the federally mandated council of governments that directs the use of billions of dollars in federal transportation funds for New York City, Long Island, and the Lower Hudson Valley.

As the area's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), NYMTC provides a collaborative planning forum that addresses transportation-related issues and develops regional plans and goals through a shared vision for its regional transportation network.

Visit www.nymtc.org/ABOUT-US to learn more!

September 2024 PFAC Meeting Features the Build America Bureau's Financing Programs



Sarah Williams

On September 19, 2024, NYMTC's Program, Finance, and Administration Committee (PFAC) convened for its bi-monthly meeting to discuss recent and upcoming NYMTC activities. The meeting also featured a presentation on the U.S. Department of Transportation's Build America Bureau and its credit loan and technical assistance programs.

Led by **Sarah Williams**, a project lead for the Bureau, the presentation discussed the agency's approach to financing and supporting critical infrastructure projects across the country.

Watch the presentation at: <https://youtu.be/Cv2qEMx-qdI?si=VLB5J79kljcrEM0m>.

Build America Bureau	
Advancing Investment in America's Transportation Infrastructure	
Point of contact and coordination for federal credit programs, transportation expertise, and strategies to access private capital	
Financial Assistance Credit assistance for a wide range of eligible projects, \$100 billion available Tax-exempt bonds for public-private partnerships, \$5 billion available	Technical Assistance Grants for project planning and development, and community solutions Education on innovative project planning, financing tools, and delivery models

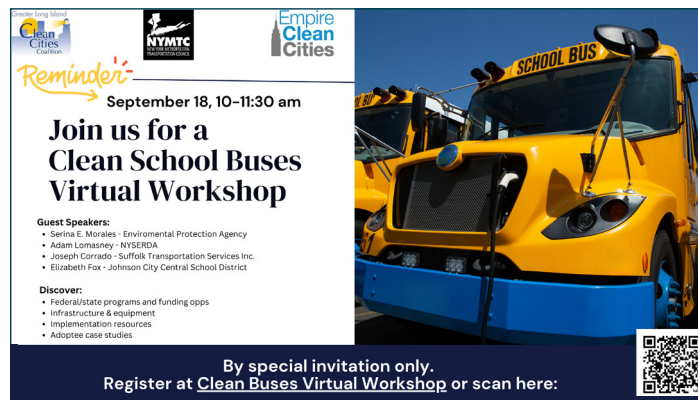
Build America Bureau presentation from September 2024 PFAC Meeting

Government Agencies and Municipalities Explore Electric School Buses at Clean School Bus Virtual Workshop

On September 18, 2024, representatives from government agencies and municipalities across the NYMTC region joined the Clean School Buses Virtual Workshop cohosted by NYMTC, Empire Clean Cities, and the Greater Long Island Clean Cities and Communities Coalition.

In the workshop, participants learned about the infrastructure and equipment needed to support electric school bus fleets. Participants also received information about federal and state funding opportunities to accelerate the adoption of electric school buses for their communities. Case studies highlighted how communities across the NYMTC region have advanced clean school bus fleets.

To watch the Clean School Bus Virtual Workshop on NYMTC's YouTube channel, visit <https://youtu.be/hlj3T340yh4?si=Lk-RRkUfnaGxied5>.



NYMTC's September Brown Bag Explores NYC's City of Yes Zoning Reform Plan

Frank Ruchala, Jr., Zoning Director at the NYC Department of City Planning, led NYMTC's Brown Bag presentation in September to discuss the "City of Yes" Plan, a framework to help advance a more inclusive, equitable future for New York City.

Over the past two years, the NYC Department of City Planning has started modernizing the city's zoning regulations to support numerous priorities, including economic opportunity (especially for small businesses), housing diversification, and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Ruchala, Jr. presented major, approved updates to the city's zoning code and outlined changes currently in public review.

To watch the meeting presentation on NYMTC's YouTube channel, visit <https://youtu.be/kuZqANeEfPg?si=2CX6N1NauthwLAv4>.

NEW YORK METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Brown Bag Virtual Presentation

City of Yes:
Creating Opportunities for Housing, Small Business and Sustainability in New York City

Speaker
Frank Ruchala Jr.
Zoning Director at the NYC Department of City Planning

Thursday, September 26, 2024

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Note: This event is eligible for 1 APA Certification Maintenance Credit. Join us virtually.
Meeting Link: <https://bit.ly/4bZVZ6l>
Meeting number: 161 834 9505
Password: BBZCZ09262024
Join by phone: +1-518-549-0500 USA Toll; Access code: 161 834 9505

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Community Planning Workshop Program Releases New Promotional Video

NYMTC's Community Planning Workshop Program (CPWP) released a new video to highlight CPWP's benefits for municipalities in the NYMTC region.



Through CPWP, NYMTC collaborates with local municipalities to analyze walkability, traffic safety, parking, and traffic management in its area. CPWP programming blends public engagement with subject matter expertise by hosting community workshops that identify potential improvements. CPWP then offers recommendations for the improvements and identifies funding sources to implement them – all of which are included in a final report.

Watch the new CPWP video on NYMTC's YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/uudMai8UbSg?si=kjwBLKSaWsckmfxP>. Municipalities interested in CPWP can contact NYMTC for more information: NYMTC.Web@dot.ny.gov.

Public Feedback Gathered in Four Pop-Up Events for Palisades Shared Use Path Study

This August, NYMTC hosted four pop-up events to collect community input for the Palisades Shared Use Path Study, a feasibility study that will consider a 20-mile shared use multi-modal path through the lower Palisades in Bergen and Rockland counties. The path will connect the George Washington Bridge in Fort Lee, NJ, to the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge in South Nyack, NY.

Over 90 members of the public visited the pop-ups at four locations across the project area: the George Washington and Mario M. Cuomo bridges, the 9W Market in Palisades, NY, and the Park Ranger Station in Alpine, NJ. Public feedback addressed the path's amenities, missing connections to other trails or paths, and safety improvements like more directional signage, blind spots, erosion, and problematic intersections. Restrooms and water fountains were the most requested amenities along the shared use path.

The public's feedback will inform recommendations for the path's final study report, which is expected in early 2025.



Palisades Pop-Up Events

For more information about the Palisades Shared Use Path Study, please visit www.palisadespathstudy.com.

A NYMTC Summer Outing Aboard the Circle Line

Twenty-two NYMTC staffers from the agency's New York City, Long Island, and Lower Hudson Valley offices boarded the Circle Line in late August for their annual summer outing. Few are unfamiliar with the iconic sightseeing cruise, which travels down the Hudson River from Manhattan's West Side, rounds the bottom at the State of Liberty, proceeds up the East River to the Lower East Side, and heads back. A flawless summer afternoon provided the ideal opportunity to view the area's stunning vistas, socialize, and snap selfies and group photos with colleagues.

Another staff excursion is already in the making, but we're not quite ready to announce that yet. Learn more in the next issue of *NYMTC Notes*.



NYMTC staff aboard NYC's Circle Line.

June 2024 PFAC Meeting Features IIHS Presentation on the Effectiveness of Crash Avoidance Technologies

On June 20, 2024, NYMTC's Program, Finance, and Administration Committee (PFAC) held its regular bi-monthly meeting to review NYMTC activities.

The meeting featured a presentation led by Eric Teoh, Director of Statistical Services at the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), who provided an overview of the Institute's efforts to reduce deaths and injuries from motor vehicle crashes. Teoh shared the Institute's crash avoidance technology research - including automatic emergency braking and blind spot detection - and how it effectively lowers vehicle crash rates.

To watch the PFAC meeting and presentation, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UyYYumY7K7U&t=2254s>.

Saving lives. Preventing harm.

IIHS-HLDI mission:

To reduce deaths, injuries and property damage from motor vehicle crashes through **research and evaluation** and through **education** of consumers, policymakers and safety professionals.

IIHS Presentation from June 2024 PFAC Meeting

Stay Connected

Stay connected to your region! There are a number of ways you can continue to learn more about transportation events and investments in the NYMTC region:



Reach out to us:

NYMTC-Web@dot.ny.gov



Visit our website:

[NYMTC.org](https://www.nymtc.org)



Subscribe to our newsletter:

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Please be safe and be well.