

Finger Lakes Economic and Workforce Development Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 30, 2016 - 9:00a.m.
Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board Offices
41 Lewis Street, Geneva, NY

ATTENDANCE

Michael Manikowski-Ontario IDA, Kathy Bailey-Ontario Workforce, Marcy Lynch-FLCC, Brenda Estey, Ann Sheetz-Ontario ARC, Joe Davis- Yates Workforce, John Mueller-Board Chair, Lynn Freid-Workforce Development Institute
Bob Arosen-Seneca IDA, John Vrable-Seneca Workforce, Karen Springmeier-FLWIB, Michael Woloson-FLWIB

❖ **Presentation-Public transportation in the Finger Lakes by Regional Transit Service:**

Maggie Brooks, V.P. Strategic Initiatives
Bonnie Maguire, RTS Business Development Director,
Joe Moriarty, RTS Seneca and Ontario Regional Manager,
Bob Jordan, RTS Wayne Manager

- In 2016 RTS conducted a regional service efficiency study in the seven counties they serve outside Monroe to identify ways to operate more efficiently, make improvements to existing service, discover new and foster existing business partnerships, and maintain strong relationships with individual counties..
- **Outreach & Engagement planning-**
 - Involved various groups including business partners, including universities, colleges, hospitals, employers from all sectors, and other organizations with concentrated populations of students, employees, and customers who need affordable and reliable transportation.
- **Funding Trends**
 - Annual funding (federal and state) will remain relatively steady for the life of the strategic plan.
 - More resources are being directed to our area through the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council, the Upstate Revitalization Initiative, and the Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative.
- **Business, Higher Education and Employment Trends**
 - Long-term growth in employment will mirror the overall population growth rate (approximately 2%).Regional employment will continue to move away from Manufacturing and retail, while moving more toward health care, social assistance, and government services.
 - Colleges/universities will continue to impact region's economy.
- **Regionalization: Beyond Rochester and its suburbs:**
 - Agriculture, entertainment/recreation, higher education, and manufacturing are growing industries, with employees who rely on public transportation to get to work.
 - Public transportation services at scheduled times are required by clusters of business employers and medical/health facilities to attract the workforces they need.
- **Product Development**
 - Van Pool Pilot
 - Bike Sharing Program
 - Jobs 1st-Free round-trip ride to interview.

- **Regional Connectivity Study**- In June 2016, RTS studied its services in Genesee, Livingston, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, and Wyoming Counties to identify service improvements and connections across counties.
 - **Ontario**-longer evening hours, more frequent services.
 - **Seneca**-weekend routes, expanded services, bigger busses.
 - **Wayne**- evening hours, more frequent services
- Group recommended that presentation be arranged for business in the region during the fall.
- Next Meeting: TBD.