

**Dansville Transportation and Industrial and Commercial Access Study  
Public Participation Plan**

**January 9, 2014 Draft**

**I. Introduction & Purpose**

The purpose of this project is to create a transportation and industrial and commercial access study that:

1. Enhances regional competitiveness and promotes long-term economic development in the Dansville area.
2. Identifies needed transportation (road, rail, air) investments to help Dansville revitalize, expand, and upgrade their physical infrastructure to retain existing businesses, attract new industry, encourage business expansion, diversify the local economy, and generate or retain long-term private sector jobs and investment.

The study area includes a portion of the Village of Dansville, Town of North Dansville, and Town of Sparta. Major land uses include the Dansville Industrial Park, LMC Industrial Contractors, Inc., Noyes Memorial Hospital, Genesee Community College, and 4 retail/business plazas. Major transportation features include Interstate 390 (Exits 4 and 5), Genesee & Wyoming Railroad, Dansville Municipal Airport, State Routes 63 and 36.

The purpose of this document is to outline the public participation process during the course of the project. This document is a starting point developed in January 2014, at the beginning of the study. Other opportunities for public engagement, not identified in this plan, may be implemented at later stages of the project.

**II. Project Background**

Dansville's nature as a transportation crossroads fosters a broad range of commercial and industrial traffic patterns, with car, truck, rail, and air transportation all having roles in support of the region's manufacturing, retail and service sector activities. As future development becomes a possibility, the increased potential exists for conflict between the transportation operations and residential areas; in addition, long-established transportation networks and other existing land uses can present barriers to optimal circulation for commercial vehicles. Thus, there is on the one hand the need to harmonize the relationship between transportation and land use but, on the other hand, the need to ensure that the transportation system plays a facilitative rather than limiting role in economic development.

The study area is in a part of Livingston County in which the manufacturing and

industrial sector has been in decline, consistent with the broader local and national trend toward service sector dominance of the economy. That said, given the continued importance of the manufacturing sector to the area and in recognition of the varied skills of area residents, the project partners have mobilized to prepare a strategy aimed at renewing commercial and manufacturing development in Dansville. Revitalization can only be achieved if the transportation resources are used in a facilitative manner.

Primary transportation issues to be addressed:

1. Genesee and Wyoming Railroad (GWRR)/Interstate 390, Exit 5/New York State Route 36. The section of rail line between Mount Morris and Dansville that serves LMC, Inc., in Dansville is in need of major repair and upgrade. The condition of the line impacts LMC's current operations (limited speed and weight) and limits the ability of the company to expand operations. The GWRR, LMC, Dansville, North Dansville, and Livingston County are currently working on possible funding solutions to address the major repairs and upgrades needed in the short term. In moving forward, it also makes sense to determine the future potential for adding new railroad customers, either at the existing location or at other property in the vicinity, such as the Dansville Industrial Park. Immediate access to I390, Exit 5, and New York State Route 36 contribute to the marketability of the area.
2. Interstate 390, Exit 4/New York State Route 36. The County owns vacant property adjacent to I390, Exit 4, and New York State Route 36. This project provides an opportunity to identify the various development options that make best use of the location and the existing transportation network.
3. Dansville Industrial Park/Zerfass Road/New York State Route 36. The road network between the Dansville Industrial Park and State Route 36 is disjointed, not constructed to handle heavy truck or vehicle traffic, and directs vehicles through a well-established low-income residential area. The project will identify alternatives for better connecting the Industrial Park with access to I390 and to the commercial and industrial properties located on New York State Route 36. The Livingston County Industrial Development Agency (LCIDA) is in the beginning stages of developing a new marketing strategy for the industrial park. This project will inform the LCIDA's efforts and help determine how the transportation network can be improved and leveraged to help market and develop the Park.

### III. **Partners**

This section of the Public Participation Plan describes the specific roles for each partner. There are several categories of partners who are necessary to make this study successful. Each partner will have different roles and responsibilities. The focus of this section is to understand relationships and how each group will be involved.

- a. **Livingston County** is the project administrator. The Planning Department will manage this project and have the contractual relationship with the consultant team. Planning Department staff will be involved in the study development. The public meetings will be advertised on the project website and the final product will be posted there as well.
- b. The **Project Steering Committee** will provide input to the overall vision of the plan and its recommendations. A list of the Steering Committee members is included as Appendix A.
- c. **The Public** will have an opportunity to provide valuable input into the transportation improvements at two (2) public meetings, dates for which will be identified at a later date.

#### IV. **Public Engagement Methods**

The methods used in the study will be aimed at developing and maintaining project communication, identifying participants, maximizing participant exchange and providing an accurate and timely record and reports.

The study process will include **two public meetings** during the course of the project.

- d. The first public meeting will present a site inventory and existing conditions. The focus of the meeting will be to gather input on and document issues and opportunities in the study area. Presentation materials will be designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the project.
- e. A second public meeting will present transportation access and site development alternatives and recommendations using input received during the first public meeting. Additional public feedback on the proposed alternatives will also be solicited at this meeting.

#### V. **Stakeholder Outreach Tools**

Several different tools will be employed to organize information, document input and evaluate the stakeholder participation process.

- f. The consultant will develop a **stakeholder database** with the name, title, agency, address, phone number, and email address of each person or stakeholder involved in the development of the study. The municipality will provide initial information to populate the database, and additional information will be gathered through the outreach process. The database will track the involvement of each member and categorize stakeholders by their participation level. Some agencies will be in involved in multiple activities.

- g. The **public meeting notices** will provide the study website address as well as contact information to enable access to more study information upon request. Public meeting advertisements will be in compliance with the New York State Open Meetings Law. Public meeting materials will consist of email invitations for the meeting, meeting agenda, and meeting summaries. The consultant will provide all of these materials to Livingston County in a timely manner for posting on the project website. Outreach materials for the public meeting will consist of media releases, renderings, graphics, and PowerPoint presentations. The meeting notices will provide the project website address as well as contact information to enable access to more study information upon request.
- h. A **project web page** will be created for the project on the Livingston County Planning Department web site. The Town of North Dansville and the Village of Dansville will link to the County's page. The intent of the page will be to describe the project, provide the project schedule, advertise public meetings, post draft and final deliverables, and provide a project contact to the public. Web page content will be provided by the consultant team and posted by Livingston County at four points during the project (initial project information, information regarding public meeting #1, information regarding public meeting #2/draft report, final report).
- i. The consultant will collect **verbal public comments** at the public meetings. **Written public comments** may also be submitted up to one week after each public meeting through email. The public engagement process will meet or exceed the Genesee Transportation Council's Public Involvement Policy.

## VI. Project Schedule

<b>Task</b>	<b>Date</b>
Existing conditions/baseline analysis	Feb/Mar 2014
Needs assessment	March 2014
Public meeting #1	March 2014
Development scenarios, alternatives, and recommendations	April/May 2014
Public meeting #2	May 2014
Action plan and funding strategy	June/July 2014
Marketing plan development	July 2014=
Draft report submission and committee review/ comment	July 2014
Final report submission	August 2014

**Appendix A: Dansville Transportation and Industrial and Commercial Access Study  
Project Steering Committee Members**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Add1</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Dennis Mahus	Town of North Dansville	14 Clara Barton Street	dpmahus@frontiernet.net	585-335-2330
Peter Vogt	Village of Dansville	14 Clara Barton Street	prv@frontiernet.net	585-335-5330
Mark Schuster	Town of Sparta	6464 Liberty Pole Road	doublemsch@msn.com	585-669-2803
Julie Marshall	LC Economic Development/IDA	6 Court Street, Room 306	jmarshall@co.livingston.ny.us	585-243-7124
Angela Ellis	LC Planning Department	6 Court Street, Room 305	aellis@co.livingston.ny.us	585-243-7550
Jody Binnix	Genesee Transportation Council	50 West Main, Suite 8112	jbinnix@gtcmpo.org	
Dan Hallowell	NYS Department of Transportation	1530 Jefferson Road	dhallowell@dot.state.ny.us	585-272-3410
Ron Klein	Rochester & Southern Railroad	400 Meridian Centre, Suite 330	RKlein@gwrr.com	585-463-3302
Jeff Shaver	Dansville Municipal Airport	176 Franklin Street		
Jim Culbertson	Dansville Economic Development Corporation	6 Court Street, Room 201	jculbertson@co.livingston.ny.us	585-243-7010
Lawrence Mehlenbacher	LMC Industrial Contractors	2060 Lakeville Road	lmcic@frontier.net	585-226-6244
Amy Pollard	Noyes Memorial Hospital	111 Clara Barton Street		585-335-6001
Keith F. Ewald	Barton & Loguidice	290 Elwood Davis Road, Box 3107	KEwald@BartonandLoguidice.com	315-457-5200
Jeffrey K. Marshall	Jeffrey K. Marshall, P.E.	23 Health Street	marshalljk@aol.com	585-281-7118
Tanya Zwahlen	Highland Planning	17 Mulberry Street	Tanya@highland-planning.com	585-315-1834