



April 17, 2018 - RACOG Report

NY Alerts Update – New York State is currently working on fixing the issues with getting the village and town boundaries into the new vendor application. They are making progress, but there is still no timetable to when this will be ready for RACOG.

LED Lighting – National Grid is presenting at our April meeting on LED lighting conversion. Troy & Banks has offered to come talk to the board about their municipal owned option, it may be good to also bring in one other company for another perspective. Once that has been done, it may be worth having ANCA come back out to look at all the options with the board.

CCA (Community Choice Aggregation) – NYSERDA information on what is a CCA can be found on their website: <https://www.nyserra.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Clean-Energy-Communities/Clean-Energy-Communities-Program-High-Impact-Action-Toolkits/Community-Choice-Aggregation> . There are a couple of CCAs out there:

- MEGA (Municipal Energy Gas Alliance): <http://megacca.org/>
- NY-MEP (New York Municipal Energy Program): <https://ny-mep.com/>

MEGA will be out this way around April 30th if the board is interested in meeting up with them. Also, Good Energy with NY-MEP is willing to come present to the board about their program.

Community Resource Map - The intern from Monroe Community College has been working on pulling together the historical, municipal, and non-for-profit resources for the RACOG. I got a list of resources the other day from her that I will be circulating for the communities to look over. Also, she will be coming to present at the May meeting about her project.

Website – There have been three updates to the website already and there is a new update out there now to be completed. Town of Champion still has some things to be added to their site, but is near completion. Work is starting on the Deferiet and Lowville sites. Their domain names are already setup. The domain names will be the following, deferiet.racog.org and lowville.racog.org. The Wilna Champion Transportation Association web page will be added to racog.org in the near future.

Internships – We are waiting to hear on whether our application through the Jefferson County Workplace gets accepted. It will be end of May or early June before we hear about that internship. The intern through that program will be assisting with comprehensive planning and some mapping work. There will be a GIS/GPS intern working in the RACOG area for the summer. This will be through a partnership with the Environmental Finance Center and the Tug Hill Commission. His name is Seth Lapp, and he will be starting in early May.

Mapping – The Tug Hill Commission web map portal www.tughill.giscloud.com has undergone some changes. More local data is in the process of being loaded and more features have been added. The Commission is receiving some feedback from communities on what things they would like to see or be able to do.

Mickey Dietrich, RACOG Circuit Rider - Report

RACOG Highway/DPW Meeting – Looking at having a spring meeting of Highway and DPW Superintendents to discuss shared service tracking and other issues they might be facing. Also will be looking to have a presenter or two at that meeting. This meeting will probably be in May.

River Recreation Opportunities - Currently, I am look over some of the navigation studies for the Black River and what opportunities there might be for the RACOG communities.

Local Leaders Conference

We invite you to join the SU-EFC for our annual Local Leaders Conference to be held once again at the beautiful Minnowbrook Conference Center in Blue Mountain Lake, NY. The purpose of this conference is to provide rural leaders in NYS the opportunity to develop leadership skills and discuss local governance needs, all while networking with technical assistance providers and state and federal funding agency representatives. This event is part of EFC's Public Management Finance Program (PMFP). <http://efc.syr.edu/2018-smart-management-for-small-communities-conference/>

Black River Watershed Conference - June 12, 2018: The conference will be held at Camp Turk, with the keynote speaker being David Eichorn. His presentation is titled "Changing Weather in a Changing Climate".