

# NITTEC

## Regional Concept for Transportation Operations

### Vision:

*"To establish a basis for a safe, reliable, efficient and seamless surface transportation system for the Buffalo-Niagara Region."*

### **BUFFALO-NIAGARA REGION**



### Manage and operate regional multimodal transportation systems

This Regional Concept for Transportation Operations (RCTO) focuses on providing future guidance and goals for NITTEC to enhance participation and provide value to the membership to improve regional mobility.

The RCTO provides historical documentation and future guidance for:

- existing and proposed operations;
- policies and protocols that have been established through the evolution of the coalition; and
- roles of key agencies who are responsible for day-to-day operations within the Buffalo-Niagara Region.

The success of the RCTO will be achieved through a joint effort among operators, planners and other key stakeholders working together to establish a direction and agree on ways to obtain the vision. The RCTO ultimately answers the question, "What do NITTEC stakeholders want to achieve, and how are we going to achieve it?"

### Coordination among agencies

The RCTO provides a framework for regional agencies to improve regional transportation system performance by continuing to work together and engage additional stakeholders.

The success of this RCTO study is largely due to stakeholder involvement and invaluable input. The stakeholders of the Buffalo-Niagara Region include the 14 NITTEC member agencies and other related transportation agencies/organizations that recognize the benefits of improved transportation operations in the Buffalo-Niagara Region.



...making the regional bi-national transportation system more safe and efficient...

**Improvement of operations through the development of goals and objectives**

Eighty one (81) candidate goals and objectives for the Buffalo-Niagara Region were developed through vetted discussions with members and stakeholders using the goals and objectives identified by the 2007 Strategic Plan. Short-term (less than 5 years) and long-term (5-10 years) goals were developed for the RCTO that focused on improvement in the following five operational categories: Agency Coordination, Traveler Information, Mobility (Arterial, Border, Freeway, and Transit), Incident Management, and Policy and Procedures.



<b>RCTO Operational Categories and Goals</b>				
<b>Agency Coordination</b>	<b>Traveler Information</b>	<b>Mobility (Arterial, Border, Freeway, Transit)</b>	<b>Incident Management</b>	<b>Policy and Procedures</b>
5 short term 5 long term	7 short term 7 long term	10 short term 10 long term	15 short term 16 long term	3 short term 3 long term

**Implement RCTO Action Plan**

A RCTO Action Plan was developed consisting of 14 project recommendations separated into five categories. The table below describes one project recommendation for each category.

**Representative Sample of Project Recommendations**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Project Recommendation</b>
<b>Expansion and Continued Integration of TRANSMIT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expansion of TRANSMIT along the approaching road network to the United States from the Canadian side</li> </ul>
<b>Web Page Pre-Trip Planning Enhancements and Multi-Modal Integrations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further expansion of the NITTEC website, which provides "speed link" information of the road network. <i>(Early win)</i></li> </ul>
<b>Strategically located VMS for Border Crossing Traffic Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expansion for a VMS on the Niagara-bound QEW in advance of the QEW/405 split. Additionally, consideration could be given for a VMS on the Niagara-bound QEW in advance of the QEW/420 split.</li> </ul>
<b>Communication Links to Other Control Centers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiation of a communication study to identify all current and future needs, and the feasibility of various communication options (i.e. 3rd party, wireless, leased or owned landline) for the future needs of ATMS data exchange and sharing of control of border related field devices. <i>(Early win)</i></li> </ul>
<b>Development of Agency Coordination Enhancement Plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Participation and Involvement Strategy and Action Plan can be developed, to further enhance participation of agencies.</li> </ul>

An Implementation Plan was developed that details action items needed to complete the project recommendations and lists a responsible NITTEC Committee or other partner who should be involved with implementing the proposed projects identified in the Action Plan.

**Support RCTO Activities**

The RCTO focuses on taking the objectives and goals identified to develop areas for improvements and enhancements, and make recommendations for short-term and long-term projects. Moving forward, the RCTO recommended Action Plan will enhance and advance the NITTEC mission. The existing and future relationships among NITTEC members and stakeholders are essential in supporting RCTO activities needed to improve and achieve full integrated operations in the Buffalo-Niagara Region.



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