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Overview of the Records

Repository: New York State Archives

Summary: Records in this series document highway projects; planning and programming; administration and program management; finance; training and recruitment; contracts, legislation, claims, and other legal affairs; agency bureaus and units; transportation-related authorities, commissions, and committees; meetings and conventions of professional organizations; rights of way and land acquisition; federal aid; traffic safety, signals, and regulations; and highway research and development.

Creator: New York (State). Department of Transportation

Title: Department of Transportation Commissioner's correspondence and subject files

Quantity: 891 cubic feet

Inclusive Date: 1940-2007

Series: 10487

Scope and Content Note

The series consists of standard subject files and copies (sometimes called "book copies") of outgoing correspondence of the commissioner of the Dept. of Transportation (DOT), and also card files (hundreds of thousands of cards) indexing much of the correspondence.

Records cover a wide variety of topics, including various highway projects (involving interstates, arterials, the State Thruway, bridges and grade crossings, and parkways); highways in each of the ten DOT districts; planning; administration and program management; finance; training; and highway research and development.
and recruitment; contracts, legislation, claims, and other legal affairs; files from various DOT bureaus and units, as well as transportation-related authorities, commissions and committees; meetings and conventions of professional organizations (especially the AASHO and AHONAS); rights of way and land acquisition; federal aid; planning and programming; traffic safety, signals, and regulations; and highway research and development.

10487-99: This accretion consists of standard subject files and "book copies" of outgoing correspondence that span several decades. Files are primarily those of commissioners Raymond T. Schuler and T.W. Parker. Correspondence generally dates from 1965 through 1978. Although there is a group of "alphabetical listings" dating from 1944, very few of the records date prior to 1965. About a dozen boxes in the accretion contain card files (tens of thousands of cards) indexing the correspondence. There is a small amount of general personnel correspondence and reports, and several boxes contain a notation "Card Files - Confidential Commissioner's Correspondence."

10487-99A: This accretion consists of standard subject files and "book copies" of outgoing correspondence of the commissioner and executive deputy commissioner of the Department of Transportation (DOT). Files are those of executive deputy E.B. Hughes (1968-1969) and commissioner Raymond T. Schuler. Correspondence generally dates from January 1965 through December 1966; and from January through December 1968.

10487-10: In addition to the commissioner's correspondence, this accretion contains subject files that document the Lake Champlain Bridge Commission, the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (Tri-State), and the Governor's Regulatory Review Program, which was established by Executive Order 108 (1988) to ensure that all existing regulations were "current, necessary, and not unnecessarily burdensome."


10487-15: This accretion includes records about Woodstock and Bethel, 1994, which likely pertain to the Woodstock '94 music festival.

10487-22: This accretion contains correspondence files and conference/event files of Joseph H. Boardman from 2001. Boardman served as Commissioner of Transportation from 1997-2005. During his tenure he led the department in its efforts to incorporate environmental initiatives, such as eliminating invasive species and incorporating nature trails, into its operations. The department also implemented Context Sensitive Solutions, a philosophy in which transportation solutions are designed in harmony with the community. Boardman also oversaw "Transformation," an internal reform movement aimed at improving system mobility and reliability, enhancing economic competitiveness, improving environmental conditions, and ensuring the safety and security of the state's transportation systems.

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Related Information

Related Material


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Other Finding Aids

Available at Repository

10487-99: Partial folder list is available at the repository.

10487-14: Folder list is available at the repository.

10487-20, 10487-21: Transfer lists are available at the repository.

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Use of Records

Access Restrictions

Personnel records in this series are restricted to protect personal privacy. State Archives staff will review requests for specific records in the series and disclose in accordance with State Freedom of Information Law.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

10487-99A: RC GAIN report mistakenly gives RDA as 10482.
10487-99: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 710016, 710026, 710047, 710118, 730007, 730009, 740007, 740117, 740113, 750001, 750017, 760017, 780002, 790002, 790020, 800053, 840058, and 880048.

10487-99A: This accretion includes records from transfer list 720005.

10487-10: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 900001, 910001, 920010, and 940005.

10487-12: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 970057, 860039, 850042, 810076, 820064, 860021, 850012, 830079, 830070, 840057, 870050, 840086, 860004, 870002, 890063, 880002, 890001, 900003, 880070, 900004, and 920001.

10487-13: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 930108, 940005, 950002, and 990076.

10487-14: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 920055 and 940060.

10487-15: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 950022, 950046, and 960009.

10487-15A: This accretion includes records from transfer list 930100.

10487-16: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 970001 and 990076.

10487-17: This accretion includes records from transfer list 970089.

10487-17A: This accretion includes records from transfer list 150050.

10487-18: This accretion include records from transfer lists 980090 and 990076.

10487-18A: This accretion includes records from transfer list 880048.

10487-19: This accretion includes records from transfer list 000002.

10487-20: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 910001, 940005, 960009, 930032, 990076, and 010020.

10487-22: This accretion includes records from transfer list 030054.

Processing Information

10487-85: Files of the executive deputy commissioner (6 cu. ft.) were accessioned to this series by mistake. The records now correctly appear as Series/Accretion B1334-85.

10487-21: Records were consolidated from 10 boxes to 9 boxes and have been placed in acid-free folders.
Access Terms

- Monitoring
- New York (State)--Public works
- Supervising
- New York (State)
- Administering
- Transportation and state
- Card files
- Public works
- Transportation--New York (State)
- Correspondence
- Context sensitive solutions (Transportation)
- Hughes, E.B.
- New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
- Parker, T.W.
- Lake Champlain Bridge Commission
- Schuler, Raymond T.
- Boardman, Joseph H., 1948-2019