

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
February 6, 2020
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bradley Birge, City of Saratoga Springs
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee, Secretary
Stephen Iachetta, Albany County Airport Authority, Chair
Andrew Kohout, Village of Scotia
Liz Kormos, Village of Ballston Spa
Andrew Kreshik, City of Troy
Randy Milano, City of Albany
Robert Rice, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1
John Scavo, Town of Clifton Park
Mike Valentine, Saratoga County
Adam Yagelski, Town of East Greenbush

STAFF AND OTHERS

Chris Bauer, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jacob Beeman, Capital District Transportation Committee
Audrey Burneson, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1
Kimberly Case, PLACE Alliance
Joe Cimino, CHA Consulting
Patrick Collins, Albany County Legislature
Lorenzo Distefano, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1
Ken Guyer, Town of New Scotland
Jeremy Hughes, Barton & Loguidice
Martin Hull, WSP USA
Teresa LaSalle, Capital District Transportation Committee
Amy Lolik, City of Rensselaer
Stephanie Long, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1
Fred Mastroianni, GPI
Kate Maynard, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Jim Mearkle, Albany County
Sandy Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee
Chris O'Neill, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jeff PangBurn, Creighton Manning
Glenn Posca, Capital District Transportation Committee
Bill Smart, City of Rensselaer
Matthew Smith, City of Schenectady
Jordan Solano-Reed, Capital District Transportation Committee
Brian Stewart, Cambridge Systematics
Andrew Tracy, Capital District Transportation Committee
Mary Moore Wallinger, LAndArt Studio
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1

INTRODUCTION AND VISITORS' ISSUES

Steve Iachetta opened the meeting at approximately 9:37 AM.

There were no visitors' issues.

ADMINISTRATION

Previous Meeting Minutes - January 8, 2020, and January 22, 2020

Members approved the January 8, 2020, and January 22, 2020 meeting minutes, with one revision to the minutes for January 8, 2020. Mike Valentine, Saratoga County, will be added to the meeting attendance roster.

PRESENTATION - Craig-Main Connection Complete Streets Study

Mary Moore Wallinger and Kim Case described the Linkage project's approach and outcomes. The project included analyzing the incorporation of Complete Streets elements along Craig Street and Main Street in the City of Schenectady.

The study area encompasses two low-income neighborhoods that are currently experiencing some investment. The study area's population has a lower-than-normal rate of car ownership, and public participation efforts in these neighborhoods are known to be challenging. The project team engaged a well-known neighborhood advocate to help with garnering participation. The project included several innovative techniques for gathering public input. There were excellent attendance and engagement at multiple public outreach events.

The study's recommendations include a two-way cycle track on Craig Street from Emmett Street to the Craig Street Bridge, and two-way cycle track and improved sidewalks over the Craig Street Bridge. On Main Avenue, there were three alternatives analyzed which included one-way traffic, utilizing other neighboring roadways, and improved pedestrian amenities. The recommendation for Main Avenue is a further traffic study to analyze the impacts of potentially converting street(s) to one-way, with the possibility of extending the Craig Street improvements to Main Avenue. There were also recommendations to improve safety and pedestrian crossings at the intersection of Chrisler Avenue, Main Avenue, and Crane Street.

Additionally, there were several recommended transit access improvements and identified public art opportunities. One of the public art projects, an installation on the Craig Street Bridge over I-890, has already been grant-funded.

The project has support from the City of Schenectady Council. The Council intends to adopt the final plan.

ACTION ITEMS

FISCAL CONSTRAINT DISCUSSION - TIP SUMMARY TABLE 4

Mike Franchini reviewed the fiscal constraint table, which is updated monthly by CDTC. Mike also distributed a new table displaying cumulative programming amounts over multiple years, versus displaying it year-by-year. This new table provides a more complete picture of the funding situation over multiple years. When the funding is shown on a year-by-year basis, the TIP can appear over-programmed; however, when it is shown with cumulative total, the TIP is actually under-programmed. FHWA guidance is for MPOs to stay within +/- 5% of the anticipated funding.

No action was needed.

2019-24 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

A. R331, 1761.75, South Street Bridge, Replacement & Pedestrian Improvements

Bill Smart stated the City would like to accelerate the schedule from the 5th year of the TIP to the 2nd year of the TIP. The bridge's condition is deteriorating at a greater rate than previously anticipated. There are also more pedestrians using the bridge to connect to adjacent streets with access to residential areas. Members approved the amendment as presented.

B. A583, 1085.40, Carman Road Safety Improvements

C. A595, 1051.85, Dunn Bridge WB To I-787 SB: Element Specific Repairs

Greg Wischer explained that amendments B and C were being presented together, as their budget revisions were being used to offset each other. The original scope of the Carman Road Safety Improvements project included turn lanes at the intersection of Carman Road and Lydius Road. The scope has been changed to include roundabouts at the intersections of NY 146(Carman Road) and Lydius Road, and NY 146(Carman Road) and the I-890 access roadway. NYSDOT has determined the project is eligible for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding. To balance the budget estimates, NYSDOT proposed to offset the increase in HSIP funding for the Carman Road project by decreasing the amount of National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funding for the Dunn Bridge WB to I-787 SB: Element Specific Repairs project. NYSDOT has made small reductions to the scope of the Dunn Bridge project. Members approved amendments B and C as presented.

Andrew Kreshik requested CDTC staff display a project location map of TIP project amendments at future Planning Committee meetings.

DRAFT NEW VISIONS 2050 APPROVAL TO RELEASE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mike Franchini complimented CDTC staff for the development of multiple major products in the last year including a new TIP, New Visions, and a new UPWP. Chris O'Neill presented some highlights of the draft New Visions 2050 long-range transportation plan and process. There are eleven (11) white papers with in-depth information about various relevant topics, and a summary document. The white papers have been vetted by advisory committees and task forces. CDTC held a special session of the Planning Committee on January 22, 2020, to present the draft plan. CDTC staff will conduct a proactive public outreach process after the Policy Board releases the draft Plan for public review.

Chris noted two (2) forthcoming revisions to the document, requested by NYSDOT. Wording will be revised to say that the recommendations from the I-787 study will be considered as projects progress. Also, language will be added to support NYSDOT's TCI efforts. Bob Rice mentioned that NYSDOT has been working with CDTC staff to incorporate their comments. NYSDOT would like to strengthen the connection between the plan and bridge and pavement infrastructure needs to reflect their relationship to funding levels.

Members approved a recommendation to the CDTC Policy Board to release the draft plan and open the public comment period.

2020-2021 LINKAGE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Sandy Misiewicz discussed the 2020-2021 Linkage program applications, including the evaluation process and funding recommendations. CDTC received nine (9) Linkage program applications, with a total of more than \$500,000 of funding requested. The available funding is \$175,000. The applications were reviewed by an evaluation committee comprised of CDTA, NYSDOT, CDRPC, and CDTC staff.

The evaluation committee recommended funding the Linkage program applications for the Village of Ballston Spa, the Village of Menands, and the Village of Scotia. There will be other Linkage-like competitive funding sources available for funding trail feasibility and planning projects, anticipated to be included in the next UPWP.

Members approved awarding the Linkage projects as recommended by the evaluation committee.

2020-2022 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) UPDATE REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Mike Franchini presented the draft 2020-2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), CDTC's 2-year budget document outlining CDTC staff activities. Mike discussed some new highlights of the UPWP including ADA transition planning assistance, an update to the local bridge preservation report, a new regional traffic signal timing program, a freight & land use study near NY 7 in the Towns of Rotterdam and Princetown, trail feasibility study funding, and a bus lane feasibility study in conjunction with CDTA. The third bullet point on page 6 will be revised to remove the placeholder and include the latest numbers. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the regional signal-timing

program. CDTC staff is still developing the program's criteria, but it will have a competitive selection process for funding.

Members approved the UPWP as presented.

TITLE VI (AND OTHER CIVIL RIGHTS REGULATIONS) PLAN APPROVAL

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PLAN APPROVAL

Mike Franchini discussed the Title VI Plan and the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan, both federal requirements. The Title VI Plan focuses on ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, our metropolitan transportation planning process on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or economic status. The LEP Plan discusses and sets a policy for CDTC's translation and interpretation thresholds. The Title VI Notice and Complaint Procedure were translated into Chinese and Spanish, per the draft LEP Plan. Both plans will be available on the CDTC website, and there will be a press release.

Members approved the adoption of the Title VI Plan.

Members approved the adoption of the Limited English Proficiency Plan.

2020 COMMUNITY PLANNING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SOLICITATION

Mike Franchini discussed the 2020 Community Planning Technical Assistance program. There has been great interest in the program, and funding has increased. The program is a joint effort with CDRPC. The program has been expanded to include safety and traffic engineering analyses. The solicitation includes examples of previous efforts to give a sense of effort and scale to potential applicants. The process requires applicants to contact CDTC or CDRPC before submitting an application to help develop a concise scope of work.

Members approved the release of the 2020 Community Planning Technical Assistance Solicitation.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

CDTC PROJECT DELIVERY UPDATE

Jacob Beeman said the Sitterly Road project in the Town of Clifton Park was recently let for construction.

Ken Guyer from the Town of New Scotland presented the Krumkill Road pavement reconstruction project. The design was completed in 2017-18, with construction in 2018-19. The project included 8/10th mile pavement reconstruction on Krumkill Road, from CR 306(Font Grove Road) to county bridge over the Normans Kill. The project employed cold-in-place asphalt recycling and some limited full-depth reconstruction. The project was completed with only minor weather-related delays and under budget. The

project was completed by a contractor on behalf of the Town of New Scotland. The budget was approximately \$400,000. Jacob said next month's project highlight would include Schenectady County and CDTA.

NYSDOT PROJECT DELIVERY SCHEDULE

Bob Rice gave an update on the development of an MOU between the Governor's Office and the NYS Legislature regarding transportation allocations, commonly referred to as the "Book." The MOU could outline spending in a 2-year or 5-year timeframe. There is uncertainty about future federal funding.

STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES

A. CDTC

Mike Franchini shared information from NYSDOT announcing the solicitation for funding through the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Public Transportation grants program (49 USC, Section 5310).

B. CDRPC

Kate Maynard gave several updates on CDRPC initiatives. The 2019 CDRPC Technical Assistance Program projects are nearing completion. The Capital Region Indicators dashboard website is live at Capitalregionindicators.org. Training on the website is available on 2/21 at 2:00 PM. Interested parties are encouraged to sign up for the training via the CDRPC website. There are proposed changes to the Census boundaries as part of the Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) process. CDRPC will be hosting a local government workshop on May 27 at Hudson Valley Community College.

C. NYSDOT

Bob Rice stated the bidding process has begun for the Empire State Trail section in the Town of Rotterdam, with construction anticipated to be completed by the end of 2020. The Fuller and Erie over I-90 project will be rebid. NYSDOT's local demand response contractor is working on Route 4 in the area of Wrights Loop to address flooding issues.

D. Albany County Airport Authority

The Albany County Airport Authority has a new Chief Executive Officer, Phil Calderone. Airports passengers are growing by approximately 3% per year. The peak number of total passengers was 3 million per year in 2004, which is on-track to be surpassed this year. The airport is completing the construction of Phase 4 of the Passenger Boarding Bridges project replacing four bridges and removing two unique Over-the-Wing boarding bridges. \$55 million in new parking Garage and terminal amenities will be completed March 30, 2020. An RFQ for an Airport Master Plan has been released with consultant responses due March 11, 2020.

E. Linkage/Local Planning Activities

The Linkage/Local Planning project status table was included in the agenda package for reference.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:20 AM. The next Planning Committee meeting will be April 1, 2020. The next Policy Board meeting is March 5, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael V. Franchini
Secretary