

CDTC August 5, 2020 Planning Committee Meeting

>> Liz Kormos: require public meetings to go in person again i didn't check

>> Sandy Misiewicz: it was extended um there's a link on our website list to the conference of mayor's information on the covet page you can check it out

>> Liz Kormos: okay

>> Sandy Misiewicz: so they extended it yeah and i think they're gonna extend it again it was about to expire like within the next couple of days

>> Liz Kormos: yeah no i heard

>> Mike Franchini: wow coming in fast and furious now good morning Mayor Conway. You might be muted Bob

>> Bob Conway: i'm sorry good morning Michael, how are you?

>> Mike Franchini: good. How you doing?

>> Bob Conway: good good have you been good

>> Mike Franchini: hanging in there family is all doing well don't know anybody who has gotten covid 19.

>> Bob Conway: well that's a plus

>> Mike Franchini: definitely lura testing to the new normal taking

>> Steve Iachetta; do we have our quorum mike? do we have a quorum?

>> Mike Franchini: uh hold on steve

>> Steve Iachetta: yep

>> Mike Franchini: i'll get 30. okay i'm gonna read off who i have on my list i think sandy you're also helping but uh on attendance but let me read this off uh i got Brad Birge from saratoga springs Chris Wallen from the city of Schenectady um Andrew Kreshik from troy Peter Camenzo Rotterdam Don Csaposs from guilderland Jamie O'Neill malta Liz Kormos from Ballston Spa Ross Farrell CDTA Bob Rice and Greg Wichser from D.O.T Tony Vasil from the port Steve Iachetta from the airport Melissa Shanley from CDTA Bob Conway from vorysville Chris Bauer Laura Robertson um right lura i got you from there okay i won't mark you twice from Niskayuna uh Jen Ceponis Glenn Posca Carrie Sandy Ron Schaefer d.o.t Rima Andrew Jacob is there anybody I missed Sean McGuire just popped in

>> John Scalvo: and Mike i came in late also

>> Mike Franchini: and who was that

>> John Scalvo: john scalvo

>> Mike Franchini: oh john thank you john

>> John Scalvo: yep

>> Andrew :mike it's Andrew from the village of scotia i just signed on

>> Mike Franchini: all right thank you Andrew

>>Katura Vics: Katura Vics city Rensselaer

>> Mike Franchini: um who is that from Rensselaer please

>>Katura Vics: uh Katura Vics planning director

>> Mike Franchini: thank you one two three
steve we're looking for one more we have
10 members right now
oh todd for bosey just turned in
we have 11.

ready to commence

you have a quorum yes

mike there's one more um note in the
chat from joseph graves that says just
jumped in working on audio issues
i don't know if you saw that

no i didn't
thank you

sure

so we're ready to go

>> Mike Franchini: yes yes go right ahead start it up

>> Steve Iachetta: Thank you Michael for doing attendance uh welcome everyone to the august
5th meeting of the capital district transportation committee planning committee thank you so

much for taking time out of your very challenging schedule in these unprecedented times to join us to address the regional transportation needs today I'm Steve Iachetta thank you for allowing me to share these meetings it's an honor and privilege it's my introduction are there any visitor issues at this time the agenda advanced agenda was sent out by staff and posted online we're following our normal protocol so we thank you very much once again for taking time and addressing the important matters in our agenda today any visitor issues at this time let me mention one thing on protocol i know zoom works better when you mute until you're ready to speak and then on mute so that does help the bandwidth i guess it's the new science of zoom meetings but uh thank you for your participation any visitor issues can be entertained at this time just speak up and we'll recognize you going once going twice we move to item three administration which is adoption of our prior planning committee meeting minutes of July 1st which was also held online and we would entertain a motion to adopt the meeting minutes of July 1st they were distributed and we can address any clarifications or corrections at this time also and they will be posted online thank you

so moved

>> Steve Iachetta: thank you. in a second?

>> Bob Rice: second

>> Steve Iachetta: thank you bob all in favor please say
aye raise your hand

aye

>> Steve Iachetta: very good any abstaining or opposed hearing none the minutes are hereby adopted thank you for your support and we'll move forward into item oh presentation excuse me presentation of the cdte's learning center useful resources for local officials uh by rima you're ready to go

>> Rima: yeah

>> Steve Iachetta: well thank you very much presentation this is a great tradition thank you very much

>> Rima okay hi um I'm really much to me I'm a transportation planner with cdte um and i just wanted to show you guys um the learning center that we put together um i made some updates related to um Covid 19 content so i just wanted to introduce you guys to the to the learning center and um show you a little bit about where it is and how it works um if i could share my screen is that all right could i um it looks like i it's disabled um is anybody able to share a screen so that i can show you all the website my customer can give me a permission to share

>> Jen Ceponis: i think i just made you a host Rima

>> Rima all right so you should be able to see the uh the website home page is that right

yes hello yes thank you just I can't see what you see so um all right so if you go into the uh under what we do the drop down you go under learning center and it'll bring you to um our video library and sorry my computer's a little slow so it'll take a second to load um but it has a whole bunch of topics um put together sort of a curated collection of videos that range from just a few minutes and there's um all the way up to there's a handful like really good um content that's um like full webinar link that we chose to include as well but most of the videos are fairly short like five to ten minutes um and it's really intended to be um a resource for um local government officials um you know maybe planners who aren't uh totally familiar with all the range of transportation planning topics out there and then also just the general public so they can get an idea of some of the concepts that go into planning streets and for multiple modes so on the top here i um added a section for um covid 19 transportation challenges and i can show you um how the videos work in in a minute they're embedded in the website so they're really easy to use but some of the other topics I'll just scroll through real quick there's maybe 20 or so different topics with videos um access management active transportation and they're listed alphabetically atomic autonomous vehicles traffic congestion let's see i'll just move down more quickly um complete streets equity freight planning infrastructure investment land use and transportation connection so you know a whole range of different topics parking management tdm safety suburban retrofitting and the idea with these videos is um we pulled we i tried to find videos that really pertained as directly as possible to our communities so you know not a lot of video content about like you know mega cities in china or um you know new york city um because the kind of transportation issues that they face are very different from ours so tried to focus on like mid to small sized cities suburban communities um and street systems that are similar to ours so i just wanted to show you quickly what um you know how these videos work i mean it's very simple i'm just going to click on this one and hopefully my internet connection will cooperate

the 2020 pandemic has changed life in city pretty dramatically lockdowns it can be very eerie to look out of the street and see no people and no traffic traffic in urban centers has been like a constant but under the threat of coronavirus many have been experiencing what life could be like without a little after 6 30 and we're looking at the west l.a area what is different in this picture well how about this into probably about 10 of the cars that are usually out here traffic in the united states has been a growing problem over the last decade especially in san francisco where each commuter spent so you can kind of get an idea of um of how it works and i would encourage you to take a look at the video library and if you have any suggestions or feedback on the content or you know don't see any topics that you want to see in there um you know to add more we're going to be adding and updating sort of continuously thank you

>> Steve Iachetta: okay thank you Rima excellent tool any questions for Rima at this time hearing none i look forward to going through all those videos and tools online we're in some uncharted waters on context i think David brooks uh summed it up pretty well saying we're seeing an unprecedented triple calamity uh think of it as 1918 pandemic depression of 32. and the civil protests of 1968 so 1918 32 and 68 all together and of course that has transportation impacts on the economy and society globally so with that background any other questions on the website and the learning tools it's an excellent initiative and I'm really ecstatic and pleased to see the progress we're making despite challenges any other comments around the table next item is our fiscal constraint running story in a new context but mike you've got the table and the advanced agenda with our balancing act over five years coming and we polished our crystal balls and everything appears less than a five percent deviation over the five year period right Mike

>> Mike Franchini: yes i mean uh just for those who may not remember or not heard before uh fiscal constraint of our tip our five-year capital plan is a very critical criteria that FHWA and FTA reviews on a regular basis so in order to keep fiscal constraint within the parameters that have been given to us by the federal government we monitor it on a regular basis and every month we put a copy of our table 4 which comes right out of our tip in the planning package or the policy board package so that everybody can see that you know we have met the requirements we are within the parameters nothing exceptional no exceptional changes since the last as Steve said we're all under the five percent parameter and overall for the four years we are actually uh one percent under programmed so that's the good news no other news right now

>> Steve Iachetta: thank you mike any questions for michael on item four is this a voting item mike we need to uh

>>Mike Franchini: it's just for information so you know we always give the members the information before they approve any kind of amendments to the team

>>Steve Iachetta: okay so that's an update on our previously voted on tip um item five we get into our specific action items for the 2019 through 2024 tip proposed amendments there are four a b c and d and uh item a is t six a state pin 1824.01 enhanced mobility of seniors this section 5310 program very important for the disabled transit mike and carrie may give us an overview

>>Mike Franchini:just just quickly this is a regular program that we solicit projects for every few years along with d.o.t and our partners very important as steve said for transit buses smaller buses for seniors and people with disabilities it also pays for operations equipment to encourage the coordination

among the many providers Carrie ward is
our program manager
and she's online care if you could
summarize what we're approving today
well are you muted
>>Carrie Ward: can you hear me now

>>Mike Franchini: yes i can

>>Carrie Ward: okay um so
this the information in the packet
is the same projects that were already
approved
to be presented to dot for funding
now d.o.t has a main office transit
bureau has
approved those projects so they're back
to us just to add them
to the tip

>>Steve Iachetta: any questions for carrie on this updated
table showing
the six seven
is it seven total funding of nine
hundred ninety four thousand three
ninety four
federal balance remaining of just four
thousand eight hundred eighty four
dollars carrie
will that carry forward

>>Carrie Ward yes

>>Steve Iachetta: and then
above there's a different
federal balance remaining that's in the
saratoga springs urbanized area
23 218. so this is all in your advanced
agenda
any questions for Carrie before we vote
on this this is a voting item
hearing none may have a motion to adopt
the
presented funding
for this year motion i can move it as
chair

move second please

>>Bob Rice: second steve

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you bob handle in favor please say aye or raise your hand thank you any abstaining or opposed hearing radio silence the motion is adopted of item a so we move to item b now which is uh regional 145 state pin 1811.39 wrong way driving and low clearance bridge counter measure set aside it's a set-aside that was in the advanced agenda from d.o.t go to our packets on dot letterhead dated July 28th and uh bob did you want to do an overview or Greg

>>Bob Rice: i think greg's going to talk yeah

>>Greg Wichser: yeah hey good morning everybody um so we we mentioned this last uh two week coming stay tuned and well here it is um the main office safety uh traffic and safety folks have are rolling out this initiative to um first to prevent wrong-way driving on the interstates uh by adding more wrong-way signs pavement markings uh in region one they're going to hit uh approximately 250 highway ramps uh limited access highway ramps uh where this you know it's kind of how it happens people get on the wrong way unfortunately usually under the influence um and they're hoping through some studies and stuff that the additional signs will help reduce the wrong way driving uh phenomenon i guess i'll call it um and then the second one is the low low clearance bridge initiative to prevent truck hits of low bridges um there's approximately 20 locations across the region that uh are gonna get upgraded static signs pavement markings things of that nature and uh that we're putting these even though they're separate initiatives they're the same work it's signs and pavement markings so we're putting it in one project to get it done all at once uh and this is the start of it here um it's almost two million dollars for both initiatives combined um if you have any questions you can feel free to fire away

>>Steve Iachetta: any questions for Greg for bob this sounds like a very important safety initiative well presented

>>Mike Franchini: i think Liz has a question Liz

>>Liz Kormos: i just wondered where the list is of the of the the bridges what they're gonna address because i'd like to find out if the one in our village is one of them

>>Greg Wichser: uh it's on it's on state routes uh would um i had the

>>Liz Kormos: yeah it might not be i have to check okay because we have some for the trucks

>>Greg Wichser: yeah

>>Liz Kormos: and it causes trucks to go on no truck routes through our village because they realize they can't get under the bridge

>>Greg Wichser: right yeah um yeah i believe this is for state routes at this at this time um I haven't heard of hitting local routes yet that have issues but uh I've required to see if they're

going there

>> Steve Iachetta: 8 10. okay um any other questions the funding table proposed tip lists 10 line items with incremental funding of hsp flex nhpp large urban so on what's the combined total of 10 aggregate items uh somewhere around two or three million it looks like i haven't totaled it

>>Greg Wichser: it's just shy of two million one point nine six five million

>>Steve Iachetta: um thank you

>>Greg Wichser: but it's uh it is statewide funded so it doesn't impact our fiscal constraint at our table so

>> Steve Iachetta: 1.9 to benefit state roads in the region any other questions for Greg before we vote going once going twice may have a motion to adopt agenda item b rg 145 to address low clearance bridge we do see these accidents with a fair degree of frequency right great so this is an important safety measure um i can move it as chair in a second please

>>Mike Franchini: brad raised his hand and

>>Steve Iachetta: bread moves it brad moves it first thank you brad second bye

>>Mike Franchini: andrew

>>Steve Iachetta: andrew thank you all favor please say aye aye raise your hand okay any abstaining or opposed go once going twice hearing none the item is adopted thank you item c is rg 131 CDTC 0.31 bus rapid transit set aside which was the advanced agenda dated July 28 CDTC letterhead in your packet Ross did you want to do an executive overview is ross there or anyone from CDTA are you muted click your button I'm not hearing anyone

>> Mike Franchini: Ross is in attendance

>>Steve Iachetta: yeah i saw Ross hit your mute or pick up the phone please uh what's your recommendation Michael should we attempt to cover their summary on our own or

>> Carrie Ward: uh mike can you unmute people yourself

>>John Scavo: and it's star six if he's doing it by phones on mute

>>Carrie Ward: yeah his computer is unmuted but the phone is muted

>>Steve Iachetta: ah good point

>>Mike Franchini: i unmuted the phone

>>Carrie Ward: okay in the computer

>> Ross Farrell: i think it worked, can you hear me?

>>Steve Iachetta: russ ross we hear you now yes the green phone image is your face on the screen thank you for joining us are we ready for an example summary of your item for bus rapid transit this is a an update i guess on our program that we've had presentations previously but this is your correspondence July 28th in our advanced agenda can you give an overview exactly what we're voting on today

>>Ross Farrell: uh definitely thanks Steve. CDTA now has the funding in place for our 40 miles of bus rapid transit uh the red line which is obviously up and running the blue line which is under construction and we'll start operations in november and then recently we were uh uh allocated the funding for uh the purple line and so now that we have uh funding in place uh construction underway and design almost done on all the different routes we're taking the next step and seeing what can we do with brt over the next uh and the overall system over the next uh five five years or so and part of that is on a separate side it's looking at where future routes where the fourth or the fifth or the sixth brt route is uh but at the same time what we can do to existing brt uh routes to make improvements and enhance them to get as close as possible to the effectiveness of of light rail and uh thank you to cdte uh to uh mike and and staff for including uh part of the upwp was a bus lane feasibility study so that's looking at where bus lanes can be placed in the region uh where they make sense where they would be the most effective and then at the same time what this agenda item is is cdta looking to draw down part of our brt set-aside to supplement those funds and that will allow us to have a uh a study of roughly around uh two hundred thousand dollars uh which one will be a feasibility study but then once we determine the locations that bus lanes make the most sense in the region um starting a level of design you know hopefully up to 30 percent but we'll see how much uh we can do at least a conceptual design of those different locations um so what is going to happen with this agenda item is we're taking from the brt set-aside rg 131 creating a uh new tip uh project t126 uh and then those funds are going to be essentially merged with the upwp's bus lane feasibility study that is the overall background of happy to entertain any questions the one thing i will point out is we're going to be primarily looking at bus lanes on existing brt routes or future brt routes um but we're going to be comprehensive as well there's even locations in the region where we may not have a brt route but having a bus lane or bus priority infrastructure whether it's a queue jumper something of that nature could be effective so again big picture feasibility study narrowing things down to certain locations and then doing conceptual design all right if there's any question feel free I'd be happy to answer them.

>> Steve Iachetta: excellent thank you for excellent overview ross any other questions on this combined item c and d on our agenda with the rg 131 and promoting uh optimization of the bus lane uh with the feasibility study is t126 um seems clear to me are there any other questions for ross hello speak up feel free don't be shy maybe we're ready to vote everyone comfortable voting feel free to speak up if there's additional discussion

>> Sean McGuire: i'll make emotional approval

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you sean and a second bye

>>Bradley Birge: I second

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you brad okay we'll vote now all in favor please say aye and raise your hand hi any abstaining or opposed going once going twice thank you for your support on the brt that's a great initiative promoting regional mass transit all right we're in titum six now the final new vision 2050 approval it's been on the website as a follow-up from our prior meetings uh Michael lead us and then Jen Ceponis item six on the agenda referring to our packet Michael is Michael's still there muted

>> Sandy Misiewicz: um Steve you skipped an agenda item

>>Mike Franchini: right item six is the safety plan CDTA safety plan

>>Steve Iachetta: oh presentation approval so uh following the uh advancement okay so that was C and D let me go back to the other agenda i get two agendas one uh presenters names on it I apologize uh all right so going back to the original agenda so we did a through d oh item six okay yeah there's been a difference between the two agendas i get uh so item six is the safety plan presentation is that ross or Michael

>>Mike Franchini: correct yeah

>>Steve Iachetta: sorry thank you sandy

>>Ross Farrell: all right uh hello again everyone uh so cdta as part of a federal mandate needs to build what is a safety plan and this is basically documenting it's in your packet it's documenting what we do to make sure our system is as safe as possible it targets a number of of different areas safety management policy which is just making sure that the necessary accountabilities are in place and the management staff is in place at a leadership level to make sure safety is prioritized coming up with a standard process the safety risk management standard process to identify hazards how risky those hazards are and then the process to mitigate those risks safety insurance which is essentially just a process to to monitor ourselves and quantify how well we are implementing the safety plan and how effective we are at risk mitigation and then overall safety promotion and communication uh throughout the authority another key part of it is uh well is key performance targets basically that's annual targets that are set by our cdo our ceo and board um in sense of uh accidents injuries etc that we need to be below and that those targets are based on the last three years of uh reporting that we have um everything's in the packet i have Rich Cordero on the phone he is well now is actually our previous uh manager of safety but he was the lead on putting the plan together I worked with sandy uh and Mike on this and we just need an action item and approval because uh the safety plans need to be approved by both the transit authority uh board as well as the regional mpo board and if you have any questions let me know I'll try to answer some uh or rich can answer them as well

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you Ross any questions on the safety plan we need a motion to adopt anyone moving

>>Sean McGuire: so moved

>> Steve Iachetta: thank you Sean second bye a

>> Bob Rice: second Steve

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you bob all in favor please say hi raise your hand abstaining or opposed hearing none the safety plan is adopted is item six on her agenda now item seven this is the final new vision 2050. okay thank you Russ very good all right now uh back on track here uh final division 2050 it's been on uh the website and very important we've got some good press on it Michael you want to lead us on this sure

>>Mike Franchini: I'll just introduce Jen but before i do that um we did not include a copy in your packet because as you as you know it's it's a long it's pretty large document and we have we have sent copies to you before paper copies before the document itself hasn't changed so we didn't want it we didn't want to overload you with even more paper but we do have a presentation that Jen will give now regarding the status and the next steps so Jen would you please

>>Jen Ceponis: sure um can you make me a host

>>Mike Franchini: i thought you already were but no where do we do that

>>Jen Ceponis: if you go to my um square and click on the three dots in the corner right up there and video

>>Mike Franchini: it's not giving me the option on your square to make host um

>>Jen Ceponis: okay because it's it says that the host disabled participant screen sharing so i don't know

>>Sandy Misiewicz: did you make ima host she might be the current host

>>Rima Shamieh: don't think i am

>>Jen Ceponis: yeah Rima could you click on my box the three dots and see

>>Rima Shamieh: i don't see 3.

>>Carrie Ward: you should once you move your mouse it

>>Rima Shamieh: no I can't um but it looks like i can still share my screen so

>>Jen Ceponis: right so you're the host so i don't know advanced sharing options

>>Rima Shamieh: um you want to share your screen is that it

>>Jen Ceponis: yes

>>Rima Shamieh: let me try this now try

>>Jen Ceponis: yes got it yeah okay can everyone see my screen

>>Mike Franchini: yes

>>Jen Ceponis: okay sorry about that okay so um we just wanted to give an update on the new Visions um 2050 plan and process we as you know released this for public comment in March originally we had two separate phases of public involvement planned with in-person meetings events presentations and then supplemental virtual public involvement tools however Covid kind of um upended those plans and we've decided to do continuous public involvement through September when we anticipate policy board um eventual policy board adoption so as part of that we um move the majority of our public involvement opportunities to virtual platforms we expanded the new visions 2050 web page to include links to online surveys polls and other things like being able to download all of the surveys the meeting in a box materials and other things we had a funding poll custom built and integrated into our website we've been doing social media outreach trying to initiate some photo campaigns and other uh ways to engage with the public we also developed a flyer that we were able to print and get to some of our stakeholders who agreed to distribute the flyers um either at bike rescues where they were still continuing to have some limited face-to-face contact with the public as well as food deliveries and book deliveries with the libraries um we set up a virtual voicemail box where the public could text their comments to and then we launched a virtual public workshop series through the month of July where we did five virtual public workshops open to the public and then three specially scheduled workshops with some stakeholders so this is just kind of a brief overview of some of the um things we developed and have been doing to get outreach and to get feedback on new visions so like i said we did a series of virtual public workshops and these workshops integrated live polling throughout them um we asked people uh to through their phone or through another browser window to answer some questions and then they were able to see the feedback live so we asked them things like what do you like living about the what do you like about living in the region and what does a quality region mean to you we presented most of the major themes and policy recommendations throughout new visions 2050 and generally there was consensus and support for all of these as well as the scenario planning we've been talking about the concentrated development scenario and there was majority support for that we saw for the funding poll as you can see we did get um a good number of participants who participated in that um with a real you know kind of um diverse um spending in the different kinds of categories so public support for a lot of the things that we have been supporting and uh that new vision strongly um recommends we support like continued maintenance and of course a multimodal approach to the system we also received some written comments email comments text comments so we have summarized them generally they were supportive there was nothing um that stood out too much we made some tweaks to the executive summary based on these just kind of emphasizing maintenance um and preservation of the existing system so um all of this material can be found on the new visions 2050 webpage there's also a youtube video of the July 29th workshop um so you can watch that if you didn't get to see it and then there's the summary of all of the feedback we received also

there um next steps of course uh we're asking the planning committee today to adopt the plan and then it will go to policy board in September um you just voted on the public transportation agency safety plan we do anticipate updates um to new visions over the next year or so so we understand that given Covid and other changing circumstances we may need to shift some things or make some changes and we're open to you know your ideas our thoughts on that but we're going to continue to do engagement on new visions even beyond September um to just on different themes and topics within the plan and then of course we all know we implement new visions through the pwp and tip projects and all of our linkage and other cdte supported studies and we anticipate another update in 2025 so again you can see details on the public feedback on the new visions web page and if anyone has any questions we would be happy to answer them

>>Steve Iachetta: excellent overview jen thank you anyone else have comments or questions on the living and dynamic tip 2050 new vision it's a great collaborative effort of everyone and we appreciate everyone's participation and input and i'm glad to hear everyone's focus will be on continuing uh flexible elements to deal with new and changing circumstances in the coming seasons and coming year anyone else don't be shy that's item seven any thoughts ready to move to item eight as the air quality conformity is next any other thoughts on the tip great effort everyone um so air quality conformity is another running story also advanced on the advanced agenda uh if

>>Mike Franchini: we need a vote

>>Steve Iachetta: we have to vote on the final division approval you're right i'm sorry yeah item seven we need to vote on so motion

>>Mike Franchini: I

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you michael

>>Mike Franchini: andrew motion

>>Steve Iachetta: andrew seconded all in favor please say aye any abstaining or opposed go once going twice hearing none we carry our consensus forward thank you very much so the tip is adopted great work that's how many years after a couple years right

>>Mike Franchini: yes

>>Steve Iachetta: and item eight is next now I'm sorry I was jumping ahead slightly air quality conformity is up next um Michael and Chris O'Neill

>>Mike Franchini: yep uh hold on i just lost my screen there we go so i want to share a screen can everybody see that

>>Jen Ceponis: yes

>>Mike Franchini: okay so uh this is also a relatively long but technical document that you've seen before there have been no changes just by coincidence we actually approved this document last year as part of the tip update but it's required by federal regulations to approve it after every tip and every long-range regional transportation plan update so we're doing this as part of our new visions plan update the good news is you know we are in conformity all of our projects uh are none of our projects put this way create a negative impact on air quality in the four county region if you look at this document if you've looked at it before you see a list of all the projects on the tip and all those projects are considered exempt and we have no non-exempt projects because uh basically non-exempt projects are using are usually projects which add capacity and therefore have an impact on air quality uh so there's there's nothing new to really to get into it's a very technical process that we work closely with uh dot main office uh Patrick lentil and his group um there's also an interagency group that we work with that involves new york state Dec and a couple of the federal agencies so relatively technical process but a very good process where you know we do document our impact on the air quality and just as a reminder the air quality in our region has been improving uh since uh the clean air act which is which is the good news so um we do need approval of this document uh and if you have any questions I'd be more than glad to ask to answer them

>>Steve Iachetta: a motion to adopt the air quality conformity as presented by michael at this time is there a motion

>>Bradley Birge: motion to move

>>Steve Iachetta: well brad thank you and second bye

>>Sean McGuire: second

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you sean all in favor please say aye raise your hand is there anyone opposed or abstaining to the adoption of air quality conformity item 8 in the agenda going once when twice that is also adopted carrying consensus forward and our last voting item is item nine unified planning work program upwp amendment uh mike what is the amendment

>>Mike Franchini: okay so in the agenda this is part of the uh tip amendment that cdta and ross farrell described before in the process they're taking the 120 000 from their set-aside and we need to include that uh into our upwp so what we're doing is we're asking for approval of um adding 120 000 in tip set-aside funding to what you see on your screen which is the upwp task uh 6.13 transit planning and in that task there's the study for the bus lane feasibility study which is the last bullet there so i don't have anything in writing besides what you see on your screen asking for approval to increase the funding for the bus lane feasibility study from the program 100 000 over two years to 220 000 over two years

>>Steve Iachetta: so this is uh a prerequisite to our already adopted item 5 d delta for the bus lane feasibility study project t126 right Michael

>>Mike Franchini: correct we have to amend the tip and amend the upwp to complete this study

>>Steve Iachetta: very good any other questions on the upwp amendment relating to our already adopted item five delta for the project t126 bustling feasibility study any other questions hearing none are we ready to vote for motion brad second bye

i can second okay seconded
and all in favor please say i or raise
your hand on the screen

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you any abstaining or opposed at this time please speak up one going once going twice item nine is our last voting item is your body adopted that we have consensus to move forward into discussion items in our agenda status of solicitations is always of interest and Michael will lead us on four areas starting with the technical assistance program this was all in our advanced agenda solicitations mike are you ready

>>Mike Franchini: yes there are there are descriptions of all these uh solicitations in the program I'll just go over their status very quickly uh the technical assistance program um right now uh there is a rolling deadline for that solicitation so that if you are interested in applying for that program you can apply for that at any time Sandy Misiewicz is our program manager along with Mark Castiglione and CDRPC it's a joint program between the two agencies it's been very successful i think this is the third solicitation we've had a lot of interest in the past so that's the status there complete street workshops we've had two applications one from the village of Boston spa one from Schenectady county we are working on evaluating those valuations now there still is funding in that program for another uh another workshop so if you're interested please contact us uh Chris Bauer is our is our manager our program manager for that the ADA transition plans uh we've had two applications Saratoga city of Saratoga springs and the town of Glenville those of those proposals are being evaluated now trail fees feasibility study there's been a lot of interest from major members in this feasibility study process we have answered several questions and the applications are due this Friday August 7th uh one solicitation you don't see so i guess we would add in a letter d is our smart cities studies solicitation that was just made public today and if you're looking for information there is information on our website about smart street smart cities studies and if you have questions you can ask Jen Ceponis she's our manager for that and that's a quick rundown of our excuse me our solicitations any questions

>>Chris Bauer: uh mike i wanted to make a clarification about the complete streets workshops if that's okay

>>Mike Franchini: absolutely

>>Chris Bauer: so uh we did convene the selection committee for that um and they have reviewed the two applications and are recommending moving forward with those so i think as long as there's no opposition from this group um we did want to award those two and then go ahead with uh starting the process of coordinating with those two entities

>>Mike Franchini: okay thank you

>>Steve Iachetta: any other questions on solicitations your voice broke up a little bit on the trail feasibility study mike could you do a one sentence recap on trail feasibility item d

>>Mike Franchini: excuse me uh yes there's been a lot of interest uh from several members and you know basically it's looking at a feasibility of priority trails that are already approved in the regional trails plan uh which was approved last year so a lot of interest the applications are due this Friday August 7th

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you Michael any other questions on solicitations at this time we'll move forward to uh item 11 in our agenda hearing no questions uh the pledge to ride campaign summary is up next Michael you'll lead us on this

>>Mike Franchini: there is a very good summary in your packet under agenda item roman numeral 11 this is the first time we did pledge to ride we had 129 people pledged to ride there was a lot of social post generated by this there was also a Raffle for uh three winners uh rima could you give us some of the details are you on still

>>Rima Shamieh: yep i'm here can you hear me yes okay so uh yeah they're like mike said there are 129 participants who are registered for

>> Andrew Kreshik: trouble hearing

>>Steve Iachetta: no sorry Rima that uh broke up, something about the bandwidth is not adequate for your audio um so yeah we saw the summary 129 participants that's a record and this is a great initiative to promote clean air clean fuels biking to work biking to school so it's a great initiative anything else Mike

>>Mike Franchini: go ahead rima

>>Rima Shamieh: sorry mike go ahead

>>Mike Franchini: no go ahead

>>Rima Shamieh: um we did post uh of participants was in a zip code uh one two three nine and the albany um and then the greater Saratoga springs area um one two eight six six zip code um and then the rest of everybody was just sort of scattered around the area uh raffled off three items um uh Alex and Joseph of the black girls Dubai capital region um won a one month CDTA navigator pass um I'm probably going to butcher her name but Tuwan turnbull won a one month Stevie php's uh cycle bike share membership and job and vanilla won a one-year capital cardio membership um and i thought it was interesting like what the respondents like what their motivations were and a lot of them said physical activity but i think it was over 55 over about 60 percent said that they were they rode for mental health you know this was at the height of the the shutdown you know people were just going totally stir crazy and needed to get outside so um but they're also doing practical things like running errands and going from work that's all i got any questions

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you rima heard most of that at the end um great program um anyone else next up is item 12. CDTC project delivery update with Jacob Beeman. Jacob are you ready

>>Jacob Beeman: i am thank you steve very good thank you um so we've got a couple project updates uh from the last meeting to go over uh city of Schenectady project kings road bridge replacement over csx uh had design approval granted in June uh city of Schenectady another city of Schenectady project uh Broadway Millen field south of weaver street uh draft design report was submitted in July and a Schenectady county project hybrid road and east Campbell road sidewalk reconstruction and extension leading was held in June so good to see those projects moving forward again as always we have our our updated project tracking spreadsheet listed in the uh meeting materials online so if anybody wants to take a look and and provide us with some additional updates that would be great for the October planning committee meeting I'm going to be reaching out to city of Schenectady Rensselaer county and the town of Nassau for their individual project updates so keep an eye out for those and we have Mayor Bob Conway from the village of Voorheesville on the call uh to give a little discussion on their pedestrian connectivity project that was just completed by the village Mayor Conway

>>Mayor Bob Conway: thank you Jacob uh good morning everybody uh just wanted to as Jacob mentioned just a very brief update on our project uh the uh the construction the actual construction started in early may uh the project is substantially complete at this point uh our partners Newcastle and and Creighton manning both performed very well on the project and we got a lot of cooperation and assistance from New York state d.o.t and and the Albany county department of public works so we had both new construction uh and uh reconstruction on this project new construction extended sidewalks uh to two areas that were uh were not served before um and the reconstruction was on maple avenue which was the is the main uh thoroughfare through the village so uh i can't i can't say enough the projects went well a few minor glitches but they were addressed immediately um and the feedback from from the public has been has been uh very very positive um the idea here is to connect as many of our sidewalks as as we can uh with the and with the Albany county uh rail trail uh terminating in the village or starting in the village depending on your outlook um uh it's it's been our our goal to to try to to increase the walkability of the village and these in this project uh has certainly helped in that regard

>>Jacob Beeman: thank you mayor great to hear everything went smoothly

>> Mayor Bob Conway: yeah not uh not always my uh my past experience but uh certainly in this case i couldn't have asked for it to go as well as it did

>>Jacob Beeman: very good uh that's up it for my update Steve

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you Jacob thank you mayor Conway excellent overview and thank you for joining us today excellent project uh in our agenda next is the item 13 is the D.O.T project delivery is it Bob

>>Mayor Bob Conway: i'm sorry can i just interrupt for just a second i yes i apologize i have

another call i have another zoom call I have to get on so i just want to thank everybody for your time today and hopefully we'll be talking again thank you very much

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you good day all right item 13 is the dot project delivery is it Greg or Bob might guide us on this

>>Greg Wichser: yeah i can uh speak to this i i did email around a copy it's the same thing as last meeting uh the dot delivery schedule um we have nothing changed if you want i can either i can share my screen if someone wants to enable that I'm not sure if it's claims i can try that so yeah here and unchanged from last time uh we have authorization for route 2 over the post and kill as that progresses to advertisement um for letting in next month and then we have a couple projects out in December and February uh still on their way uh there's not too much to report on that front um i guess i can mention that the i-90 over fuller and Erie was uh awarded uh two days ago so that was good news so that's progressing to construction uh as we speak

>>Bob Rice: Greg i think another item interest on there that the 146 project we're going to have our first virtual public hearing related to the property acquisition so uh we appreciate that some feedback we got some from some of the other regions as well as federal highway on uh trying trying to do the best in the new norm with a with a virtual meeting so that's going to be a first for us

>>Greg Wichser: yeah no i forgot yeah that's a good good point uh the press releases just went Out i believe yesterday to advertise the public hearing so fortunately we weren't the first one out of the gate but we're certainly in the top first five

>>Steve Iachetta: any questions on the d.o.t schedule a lot of Northway resurfacing going on from exit 11 up to 15. it's good to see continued excellent resurfacing there any other questions move into status and planning next is item 14 on our agenda anything to add bob or Greg good overview thank you any questions so status of planning activities uh all agencies first up is the transportation committee

>>Mike Franchini: just briefly uh you know we're monitoring the uh the federal funding scene uh there are several different uh bills of course some of them have already been out in the public for a while now but the covid 19 recovery bills the the first one did include transit funding which was really really great idea they've been several ideas since then some of them do include transit transportation funding some don't fast act is the federal surface transportation bill that we're working with now that expires in September so we're kind of monitoring that situation excuse me most people believe at this point that they'll be fast-tacked excuse me they'll be fast act um not reauthorization but extensions like there have been in the past at least into the next year so uh that's where the fast act is going in addition to those uh those two uh potential federal fund sources there's also been talk about stimulus bills and something dissimilar to the say the era bill back in 2009 and there hasn't been anything definite there's been several ideas in the congress but nothing definite closely monitoring that situation because if you remember during the era bill during that time there were some requirements on transportation to obligate funding very quickly and there were some things that made transportation funding a little more difficult so we're kind

of monitoring that to see if nationally our association can have some input on any kind of stimulus bill if there is one also among the directors for the state we're looking at uh possibly possibly producing a list of potential projects for a stimulus pill uh we haven't got there yet but there's been conversations about whether we should do that or not so that's that's what's going on the federal funding interesting but nothing definite right now thank you

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you Michael any questions on the federal scene i don't think anyone's on from federal highway administration right Mike this morning

>>Mike Franchini: no there isn't one right now

>>Steve Iachetta: next up is uh regional planning commission sean

>>Todd Fabozzi: you mean Todd

>>Steve Iachetta: oh I'm sorry Todd sorry

>>Todd Fabozzi: john's over and Colonie now

>>Steve Iachetta: oh very very i apologize wake me up I haven't had enough coffee sorry yeah

>>Todd Fabozzi: well just to speak to the UPWP activities as was mentioned previously focused primarily on the technical assistance program and so we're we've made some really good progress with that with the westerlo project and I've been involved with some of these with gis mapping we did did I think 16 maps for them as part of the comp plan process they've got a demographic report that's essentially done and a survey that's being wrapped up now as well so we're near the end of of the deliverables for that and with Clifton park we did an analysis for the town on the western geis area and I've uh provided all that information already to the town so we're pretty much uh on our end of it i know we're doing this with CDTC so there's transportation stuff being done but in terms of the demographic analysis in the gis analysis we're pretty much done with that as well i don't know if john wants to mention anything on that but we're so we're good with that as well i think we're just starting the one in Glenville so the kickoff meeting i don't I'm not involved with that one but i think the kickoff meeting either just took place or was supposed to be this coming week

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you Todd uh any other questions I'd like to ask about the u.s census which is uh in some uncharted waters also calling in the enumerators at least a month early et cetera can you report on impact on our region and state that might have

>>Todd Fabozzi: unfortunately i can't I don't think I'm not looped in enough to uh to give you anything specific um i can just assume it's going to be perfect data and everything will go smooth

>>Steve Iachetta: optimistic i like that um challenging year all around any other questions on the regional planning commission great website thanks for the update next up is CDTA Ross

>>Ross Farrell: thanks steve uh as i mentioned uh the river corridor brt is completing construction that's being led by our well new director of facilities Jeremy Smith who was previously at the city of Watervliet and shelters are going up uh you can see them on the corridor now and the garage expansion is uh is wrapping up soon and as i said before we're hoping to roll out in uh November um service continues to change as the travel patterns of ridership continues to change and we try to adapt as best we can uh to the changing environment related to covid and uh the state's reopening ridership has gotten up to around 40 000 riders per average weekday which is a is a big climb from back in March where it was below 20 000. we've also changed the system and I think I've talked about this before um we've changed the system substantially and we're actually moving towards uh what we've wanted to have which is a system with less fixed route geographic coverage and higher frequency on corridors with the most ridership we've been we've been forced to do that because uh to maintain social distancing uh because of the main corridors at the highest ridership obviously are the ones with the most crowded buses and we're trying our best to to get each bus to have 15 to 20 riders per trip at the same time we're using our other mobility services such as vanpool um to cover rural areas and our new flex micro transit in suburban areas that's operating in Guilderland and Colonie uh so we're there's a silver lining to all this and i may have mentioned this at the last meeting where we're starting to be able to deploy the type of service to the area that it best fits with that we're going to have another round of changes uh in September luckily they won't be um as substantial as uh previous months uh but again with schools coming back or not or in what shape or form that's been our our biggest difficulty is how we provide that services to colleges and universities uh as well as the high school and middle schools that we have we have contracts with so if you have any questions feel free to I'll be able to answer

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you ross any other questions for ross on the overview and the new dynamic overall you said you're about 40 ross that sounds better than airports

>>Ross Farrell: it's uh no uh overall that actually gets us back to a little over 60 percent of where we were um so we're at 40 000 riders weekday riders um it used to be uh it was actually approaching 60 000 in the beginning March. March was actually going to be our it looked like was going to be one of our best months uh you know in a while but obviously Covid change that so it immediately dropped by the end of March to below 20 000. so we've at least doubled what we what we were at our lowest point

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you Ross any other questions on transit dots up next bob

>>Bob Rice: hey thanks Steve there's just a couple activities going on that i want to touch base about you know d.o.t continues to be heavily involved in the Covid 19 support both equipment and supply movement around the state and you know includes our own our planning staff once a week we're packing boxes and sending test kits and supplies to nursing homes across the state and in a new initiative some folks are helping out greeting passengers on flights up at the airport to make sure their questionnaires are filled out for some projects uh i want to kind of the Albany skyway you know we've come a long way a lot of staff work has gone into it uh we have a set of plans we seem to have conceptual agreement on the maintenance and uh terms of the use by the with the city of Albany subsequent to it so hopefully uh we see that project advertised uh

sometime in in the coming weeks our staff has completed uh consultant scope of services and i thank uh sandy and and cdctc for their help uh it's for the uh troy Menands bridge the 378 bridge replacement sort of the pell study which a high level look at potential alternatives for another Hudson river crossing so that's working its way through our contract folks hopefully within the next couple months we're we'll see that advertised as well we still remain working 25 of the staff are in the office at any given time the remainder working at home we switch it out quite a bit depending on what's going on but uh still seems we still seem to be able to keep all the balls up in the air uh as as Greg mentioned that you know the our pavement and letting programs still in full swing we did get a notification from Tim o'donoghue the federal highway area engineer that they will be conducting fire reviews their their fiscal and integrity reviews for local projects so once those they're looking to do two or three projects in the region and uh once they've selected their projects we'll touch base with the sponsors you know what sort of records that they'd be looking for Mike talked about the you know the budget and the federal budget overview not not to repeat that but we certainly you know as congress goes to recess next week a lot of eyes looking on whether whether there's some action taken this week last time i want to touch on if anyone had any dealings with the dot's chief engineer wahid albert has has retired and is is left as of last Friday uh nick chuba uh who previously the regional director both the Mohawk valley and and most recently the Binghamton offices is now in there as the chief engineer so that's uh organizationally a big change for the agency so that's all i had Steve

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you bob uh great overview yeah we wish he'd best we worked closely with him on our recent uh uh terminal improvements parking garage and regional gateway welcome sign so that's a good update any questions on the d.o.t for Bob or Greg thank you bob

>>Greg Wichser: did you want to mention the step stuff there bob uh

>>Bob Rice: yeah go ahead

>>Greg Wichser: yeah sorry the uh so the you know the end of the fiscal year is coming and it's always the step performance measures that uh they look at and um so if anything has a construction phase in this fiscal year that's not obligated by September we'll have to move it to the appropriate future year that you you all anticipate letting your project uh so lorenzo and folks will be reaching out in the coming couple weeks to move what is uh not gonna make it to construction um there's a handful it's not a ton of projects that didn't make it over the plate that i can tell uh but the second layer that is we're going to look at the following federal fiscal year and evaluate 22 to do the for the unamended step performance um there's out of a cost abundance of caution um you know i just did a quick glance it appears at about 22 local projects in 21 um which isn't not too far out of the realm and then uh you know like i said there's a handful this year we have to see if they're going to make it a construction or we got to move them so uh stay tuned on that and of course as the federal books close each year if you want construction authorization this year before we have to have uh authorization in by psne and to lorenzo's group uh just annual reminders so we'll be working with all of you but just wanted to mention it here and that's all i have

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you greg thank you bob any other questions from d.o.t is anyone on from the throughway authority mike

>>Mike Franchini: uh tim wainwright uh notified us he couldn't make it

>>Steve Iachetta: okay airport's next where we are at about 30 quarantine states um so the view from the airport um we're i mentioned a plateau but it's actually probably a gentle decline i don't know if you can see this chart uh national versus Albany we normally have about 5 500 passengers per day and we're still hovering between 900 and 1000 passengers a day so this economy is taking a hard hit it's the state quarantine condition where the majority of states are on the quarantine list i think is having a direct impact so the state officers and thank you for mentioning that bob meet and greet all arriving passengers with uh forms and paperwork to assure uh their location for contact tracing and two-week quarantine here and air freight is continuing actually uh freight's probably up just slightly but um we're still advancing a number of good initiatives preserving enhancing all our infrastructure exit 3 is beautiful the new gate regional welcome gateway sign of course i hope everyone's had a chance to be welcome to the region uh it's a great asset for all visitors to the area normally about 3 million ticketed passengers this year will be down around 600 000 as the current projection but we'll see every day is a new set of challenges we are proceeding with our federal funded improvements four passenger boarding bridges being upgraded we are removing the dual bridges the over the wing bridges at southwest so six bridges will be worked on this year on the military side state division military naval affairs is building uh four new hangars for the next generation black hawk fleet for statewide emergency response uh good construction activity and progress there um these are jet helicopters black hawks next gen with that I'll open any questions on airport business going once going twice is Tony Vasil still on love to hear about the port of Albany

>>Tony Vasil: good morning all thank you Steve uh well we have not experienced any shutdowns on either the Albany or the rentzler side no Covid cases with staff security or the longshoremen who who are the people who work the ships now from an overall business standpoint we are fortunate we're up 20 on ships and barges and 25 on tonnage and when you break that down into our main commodity groups uh one is the heavy lifting project that's the manufacturer of generators and also major power projects no major power projects this year uh any of them were moved to next year and even then some are in question uh we were fortunate enough to secure a new force products account from Sweden which should account for about 60 000 tons of wood pulp now that wood pulp part of it or some of it is going into a uh facility in northeastern Pennsylvania who make bounty charming and pampers which are products you folks use and we all use uh scrap steel on the wrestler side interesting because uh the economy the world economy is not that great but we have another ship of scrap steel scheduled to load and be exported on Monday out of wrestler and that normally goes to either turkey or Mexico and just reading that in the cruise industry which Steve like the airline industry been hit hard and uh they're scrapping one cruise carrier and scrapping four of their liners and they weigh about 150 000 tons each so I'm saying wow 600 000 tons of scrap steel is going to be the turkey is that going to impact us who knows on other notes looking at the port of New York and new jersey they just announced the first six months they were down

800 million dollars and that's bridges tunnels airport and port uh Davisville Rhode Island which handles automobiles roll on roll off in may due to the fact that the auto industry is another one heavily impacted they were down 95 in May Philadelphia they handle a lot of steel and the imported steel has been under tariff for a long time and they're down 90 so uh we're kind of smiling uh but still trying real hard to keep it going on another topic wind wind is blowing Heavy and uh there's a lot going on we as people may know we purchased 80 acres of property in Bethlehem which joins the port and we're working on establishing a uh some type of wind uh project there and that's ongoing so after all of that that's it for the port any questions

>>Steve Iachetta: excellent reports thank you tony so uh can you give a quick overview of your proposed development on the new 80 acre expansion to the south

>>Tony Vasil: uh we have you know it's all over the place it's highly competitive because uh each and every state it's purchased land and you're looking at possibly various manufacturers because in Europe where they're way ahead of us all the manufacturers of the blades of the nacelles which are the engines they're chock-a-block their their order books are full so there's going to be a lot of uh manufacturers of those products wind blades the nacelles and also ancillary products uh announcing that they're going to be establishing operations worth in the thick of it that's all i could say now

>>Steve Iachetta: good luck and godspeed okay thank you tony any other questions uh for the port of there's a very a positive and optimistic outlook linkage and local planning any local representatives on the line like to report on your local at this time it's uh lev it's coming up on 11 o'clock we're still in a good time speak up if you'd like to report Mike you want to do a linkage update or refer

>>Mike Franchini: just mention that we added our technical assistance projects to the linkage report so there's a little more information there in that report in addition to uh more information in some of the cells so we think it's it's going to provide a little more you know a little more for our members and regarding the status of all those projects that's all

>>Steve Iachetta: thank you mike any uh local planning initiatives worthy of mention at our august meeting here upcoming meetings and events item 15 our final uh agenda is uh bike pet advisory committee is august 11th the freight advisory committee August 19th and our policy board uh Thursday September 3rd in September policy board Thursday 3 o'clock meeting will that be zoom also Michael

>>Mike Franchini: yes no planning committee in September

>>Steve Iachetta: okay so our next planning committee is uh first uh Wednesday of October is that right

>> Mike Franchini: correct

>>Steve Iachetta: very good any new business old business anything

to add to the to the cause at this time last chance motion to adjourn so moved seconded by bob all favor thank you everyone please stay safe and be well and to you and yours thank you very much thanks for your support

>>Mike Franchini: Steve thanks for chairing

>>Steve Iachetta: okay great adventures thank you Michael thank you staff good work keep up the good work