

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

May 6, 2020

Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS ATTENDING

William Anslow, representing Lisa Ramundo, Albany County
Bradley Birge, City of Saratoga Springs
Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Maria Chau, Federal Highway Administration
Peter Comenzo, Town of Rotterdam
Ross Farrell, Capital District Transportation Authority
Stephen Feeney, Schenectady County, Vice-Chair
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee, Secretary
Stephen Iachetta, Albany County Airport Authority, Chair
Andrew Kohout, Village of Scotia
Elizabeth Kormos, Village of Ballston Spa
Sean Maguire, Town of Colonie
Randy Milano, City of Albany
Jaime O'Neill, Town of Malta
Robert Rice, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1
John Scavo, Town of Clifton Park
Steve Strichman, City of Troy
Mike Valentine, Saratoga County
Tim Wainwright, NYS Thruway Authority
Chris Wallin, City of Schenectady
Adam Yagelski, Town of East Greenbush

STAFF AND OTHERS

Chris Bauer, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jacob Beeman, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jennifer Ceponis, Capital District Transportation Committee
Sandy Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee
Chris O'Neill, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jeff Pangburn, Creighton Manning
Glenn Posca, Capital District Transportation Committee
Latanya Sellie, Capital District Transportation Committee
Melissa Shanley, Capital District Transportation Authority
Dalia Szarowicz, Town of Ballston
Andrew Tracy, Capital District Transportation Committee
Carrie Ward, Capital District Transportation Committee
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1
Benny Zlotnick, Town of Milton

INTRODUCTION AND VISITORS' ISSUES

Steve Iachetta opened the videoconference meeting at approximately 9:42 AM.

ADMINISTRATION

Previous Meeting Minutes - April 1, 2020

Members approved the April 1, 2020 minutes.

ACTION ITEMS

FISCAL CONSTRAINT DISCUSSION - TIP SUMMARY TABLE 4

Mike Franchini noted that the table in the meeting package is the current fiscal constraint table without any adjustments.

TIP BUDGET ESTIMATE ADJUSTMENTS (see enclosed)

Mike Franchini described the two fiscal constraint tables in the packet showing budget estimate adjustments in the form of decreases for some years and increases in the same amount for other years. The changes result in a net zero for the four year STIP period and the five-year TIP period. Members approved the adjusted TIP Summary Table 4.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

A. R195, 1754.59, South Troy Industrial Park Road Phase I

Andrew Kreshik explained that the City of Troy had estimated the Right-of-Way costs of Phase I and Phase II separately when the project was split. Bids for Phase I recently came in lower than anticipated, and the City anticipates Right-of-Way and acquisition for Phase II to be costly. The amendment seeks to move the cost savings from Phase I into Phase II and therefore doesn't result in an overall cost increase. Members approved the amendment as presented.

B. R195A, 1761.30, South Troy Industrial Park Road Phase II

See the previous discussion. Members approved the amendment as presented.

C. T57, 1TR6.04, Preventive Maintenance

D. T17, 1820.48, Transit Bus Replacement/Expansion

E. T6B, 1820.37, STAR Buses Replacement and Expansion

F. T16, 1821.80, Transit Support Vehicles

G. T9, CDTC09, Facility Improvements

H. T14B, CDTC.08, Transit Operations Support for Saratoga Service: Preventive Maintenance & Operating Assistance

Amendments C through H seek to align CDTA's annual budget with the TIP. Members approved Amendments C through H as presented.

DRAFT NEW VISIONS 2050 UPDATE AND APPROVAL TO RELEASE FINAL DRAFT TO THE PUBLIC

Mike Franchini introduced the process to date. Jen Ceponis provided an overview of changes made to the summary document. The Public Participation Plan originally included a number of virtual methods, which are still available on CDTC's website. Staff is also accepting invitations for virtual presentations. In-person outreach has been cancelled to date. The air quality Conformity Analysis required by the Clean Air Act has been updated with new data. In addition, the document now reflects new VMT data from NYSDOT that continues to show a slowdown in VMT growth compared to the 1980's, 1990's, and 2000's. There is an update to the resiliency chapter to reflect impacts of the pandemic. Ross explained that the Transit Development Plan expected in 2020 will be delayed due to uncertainty related to the pandemic. Mike noted that there will be virtual public meetings before the plan is adopted. In addition, adoption of the plan is required by September. Jen advised that staff plan to maintain New Visions as a living document, making amendments and conducting outreach continuously. Members approved release of the final draft of New Visions 2050 to the public.

DRAFT TRANSPORTATION/AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY DETERMINATION APPROVAL

Chris O'Neill explained that CDTC does not need to do a detailed analysis but does need to go through the process of conformity. Members approved the draft Transportation/Air Quality Conformity Determination as presented.

SECTION 5310 ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM PROJECT APPROVAL

Carrie Ward provided an overview of the handout in the packet and explained that the selection committee's recommendation is to fund applicants in the Albany-Schenectady urbanized area in the amounts shown in Option 1, as it provides funds to more applicants. Option 2 would fund full applications according to their ranking in the rating process. Members approved the selection committee's funding recommendation Option 1 for the Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program.

CONTINUING OPERATIONS PLAN APPROVAL

Mike Franchini noted that the organization chart is updated to include all of the entities that participate. In addition, the document updates chapter 14 with a discussion on threats to continuing operations. Members approved the Continuing Operations Plan as presented.

CDTC/CDRPC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Mark Castiglione summarized the four received applications, which were from Clifton Park, East Greenbush, Ballston Spa, and

Westerlo. Funding requested is about half of the amount made available through the program. Mark advised that there will likely be another solicitation later in 2020 for the remaining funds. The selection committee for the program recommended funding all of the proposals. Members approved funding all four applications to the Technical Assistance Program.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

FHWA/FTA IN-PERSON CERTIFICATION

Mike Franchini noted that the certification happens every four years and may now change to a virtual format. If it is moved to a virtual format, staff will work with FHWA and FTA to ensure that public participation requirements are met.

PLEDGE TO RIDE

In lieu of Bike to Work Day and to encourage bicycling, this year anyone can Pledge to Ride a bicycle between May 1 and June 5.

CDTC PROJECT DELIVERY UPDATE

Jacob Beeman noted that SA328 CR 59 (Middle Line Road) over Tributary of Gordon Creek, A568 Hudson Avenue Preservation Project, and SA281 Sitterly Road at Woodin Road and Crossings Boulevard were authorized for construction in April. In addition, PS&E was submitted in April for S244 Highbridge Road and East Campbell Rd Sidewalk Reconstruction and extension.

NYSDOT PROJECT DELIVERY SCHEDULE

Greg Wichser said that lettings are still being held on schedule, and that pricing has been competitive.

STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES

CDTC

Mike Franchini noted two active solicitations. One solicitation is for ADA Transition Plan assistance to municipalities. The other is for another round of free Complete Streets trainings, which range from basic to advanced.

CDRPC

Mark Castiglione said that staff is available for technical assistance. CDRPC has started a Thursday webinar series.

CDTA

Ross Farrell noted that CDTA implemented the largest service change in 20 years on April 26th and has stopped collecting fares to allow for rear-door boarding.

NYS DOT

Bob Rice reported that his staff is working from home. The Department has been involved in the pandemic response statewide, transporting essential materials and assisting the Departments of Health and Labor. The initial return to the office may consist of 25% of staff. Federal-aid projects are progressing, however fully state-funded projects may be on hold unless they are health and safety related. The Department is discussing possibilities for funding if there is a federal stimulus. Staff recently held a conference call with staff in Illinois about a bridge reconstruction project with some useful similarities to the upcoming NY378 Troy Menands bridge replacement.

NYS Thruway Authority

Tim Wainwright said that the Thruway Authority is supporting delivery of critical items. In addition, the Old State Road project is progressing, and the Authority is considering diamond grinding between Exits 23 and 24.

Albany County Airport Authority

Steve Iachetta reported that airport passenger counts are down 95% since mid-March, operations are down 60%, and fuel flow is down 90%. Air-freight remains critical as evidenced by the delivery of one-million N-95 masks direct from China to ALB for statewide distribution last month. Several passenger airlines are focusing on supplementing air cargo. The Authority is moving forward with critical infrastructure improvements including paving the long-term parking lot and work on four passenger loading bridges.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

Mike Franchini summarized upcoming meetings as noted on the agenda.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:22 AM. The next Planning Committee meeting will be July 1, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael V. Franchini
Secretary