

**Planning Committee Meeting
October 5, 2022
Meeting Minutes**

Members Attending

Bill Anslow, Albany County
Susan Barden, City of Saratoga Springs
The Honorable Mike Butler, City of Mechanicville, Mayor
Peter Comenzo, Town of Rotterdam
Martin Daley, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Ross Farrell, Capital District Transportation Authority
Patrick Jordan Esq., Albany Port District Commission
Andrew Kreshik, City of Troy
Steve Iachetta, Albany County Airport Authority
Sean Maguire, Town of Colonie, Vice-Chair
Randy Milano, City of Albany
Sandra Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee, Secretary
Chris Wallin, City of Schenectady

Staff and Others Attending

Jacob Beeman, Capital District Transportation Committee
Tina Carton, City of Saratoga Springs
Chris Cate, McFarland Johnson, Inc.
Jennifer Ceponis, Capital District Transportation Committee
Kristin Diotte, City of Schenectady
Kelly Kircher, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1
Liz King, Bergman
Stephen Maples, Capital District Transportation Committee
Rebecca O'Dell, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jaime O'Neill, Town of Malta
Jeff Pangburn, Creighton Manning
Melissa Shanley, Capital District Transportation Authority
Ed Snyder, GPI
The Honorable Tom Tobin, Village of Colonie, Mayor
Andrew Tracy, Capital District Transportation Committee
Carrie Ward, Capital District Transportation Committee
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1

Introduction

Sean Maguire opened the meeting at approximately 9:37 AM.

Visitor's Issues

There were no visitor's issues.

Presentation – Patroon Creek Greenway Feasibility Study

Liz King of Bergmann Associates explained the study goals were to identify a feasible path between Albany's Hudson River waterfront west to Six Mile Waterworks Park and to improve connectivity and quality of life for residents within the study area. Liz reviewed public and agency outreach, including with National Grid, Albany County, CSX, FHWA, and NYSDOT. The project included a citizen advisory committee and an online survey with over 350 responses. Between the Albany Pine Bush and Everett Road, the project recommends an off-road trail between I-90 and the railroad. East of Everett Road the project evaluated multiple route options. In the short term the route would utilize the Everett Road bridge to Livingston Avenue and remain on public roads. The most popular option utilized more off-road connections from the east end of Commerce Ave into the Tivoli Preserve and straight across Northern Blvd, under Route 9, and over the railroad to Tivoli St. There are a number of options for the crossings around Everett Road and Central Avenue. Most survey respondents said they would be most comfortable riding a bicycle on an off-road trail or a separated facility. There was discussion about phasing of the project and the project champion.

Administration

Previous Meeting Minutes – August 3, 2022

Steve Iachetta motioned to approve the August 3, 2022 minutes, Ross Farrell seconded, and members approved the motion.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Fiscal Constraint – Summary Table 4

Jacob Beeman noted no major changes to fiscal constraint. We are still using the 2019-2024 TIP.

Action Items

Interim TIP Amendment Guidance

Jacob Beeman noted that while CDTC officially approved the 2022-2027 TIP, which would normally be live as of October 1st, we are waiting for the new Statewide Transportation Improvement Program to be approved. STIP approval is expected in mid-November. If sponsors want to authorize a phase of a project in the 2022 TIP before the STIP is approved, the project will first need to be added to the current, 2019-2024 TIP / STIP. Since the phase has already been adopted in the 2022-2027 TIP, it will be processed as project selection and not require an amendment. Greg Wichser motioned to approve the Interim TIP Amendment Guidance as presented, Andrew Kreshik seconded, and members approved the motion.

2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

1. R342, 1528.87, I-90 Pavement Corrective Maintenance Hudson River to Exit 10, Town of East Greenbush, Town of North Greenbush, City of Rensselaer, Town of Schodack, Rensselaer County

Greg Wichser noted that PS&E is underway on this project. The amendment includes the new anticipated cost, with a total increase of \$2.01M. Patrick Jordan motioned to approve the amendment as presented, Steve Iachetta seconded, and members approved the motion.

2. T134, 1824.71, Washington / Western BRT – Phase 4, Albany County, Regional Transit

Ross Farrell explained that the amendment realigns the distribution of funding among phases and fund sources. Andrew Kreshik motioned to approve the amendment as presented, Greg Wichser seconded, and members approved the motion.

3. T150, CDTA06, Expansion of CDTA's Electric Bus Fleet and Charging Infrastructure, Regional Transit

Ross Farrell noted that CDTA was successful in receiving FTA funding from the Low or No Emission Vehicle Program. The project funds infrastructure necessary to charge a 25% electrified fleet, helping CDTA to achieve New York's clean energy mandate, and will add 12 electric buses to CDTA's fleet. The amendment adds this project to the TIP. Patrick Jordan motioned to approve the amendment as presented, Steve Iachetta seconded, and members approved the amendment.

Unified Planning Work Program Solicitation

Sandra Misiewicz explained that this solicitation is an expansion on the approach from last year. There is about \$1M available for planning studies that implement the New Visions Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The solicitation includes example projects to spur ideas and provides funding estimates and match expectations based on the size and complexity of the proposed project. Sandra also reviewed milestone expectations for project implementation timelines. For consultant projects, CDTC will manage the contracts. Applications will be due November 30th. Tom Tobin motioned to approve the UPWP solicitation as presented, Steve Iachetta seconded, and members approved the solicitation.

Safety Performance Measure Targets Approval & Draft Resolution

Sandra Misiewicz explained that safety is one of the federally required performance measures. NYSDOT has proposed performance measure targets, which CDTC may adopt to use in its planning and TIP project funding processes. The proposed targets are a modest 1% reduction in all five safety measures, reflecting changes resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Sandra Misiewicz shared annual crash data through 2020 for the region and the state. Statewide, the targets haven't been met, which means additional federal requirements will need to be followed by NYSDOT. Regionally, while crashes were down, crash rates were up to a small degree. Steve Iachetta motioned to approve the statewide safety performance targets and recommend the Policy Board's approval, Andrew Kreshik seconded, and members approved the motion.

City of Saratoga Springs Technical Assistance Project Approval

Susan Barden noted that the project would study bike/ped connections from the west side of the city to West Avenue and beyond. There is now a large concentration of residences on the west side of the city, including some large workforce and affordable housing projects. The study budget is \$13,500 with \$10,000 in CDTC and CDRPC staff assistance. Pat Jordan motioned to approve the project as presented, Steve Iachetta seconded, and members approved the project.

Discussion Items

Equity Policy Development

Sandra Misiewicz noted the idea of developing an equity policy began with internal discussions related to evolving CDTC's Equity Advisory Committee. She discussed results of a staff review of peer MPO practices, including a few larger MPOs. Some MPOs developed an equity resolution or policy statement with a list of actions that the MPO will seek to implement. The Policy Board requested a draft equity policy be developed for CDTC. A next step would include volunteers from the Planning Committee to help draft policy language and to join the next Equity Advisory Committee meeting. Contact Sandra Misiewicz if you are interested.

2019-2024 TIP/STIP Performance Changes and Summary

Jacob Beeman noted that FHWA evaluates CDTC and NYSDOT on STIP performance each year, comparing obligated construction phases against total construction phases in a fiscal year. At the end of each year, 95% of construction phases should be obligated in the amended STIP, which incorporates TIP amendments over the year. We should also obligate 75% of construction phases in the unamended TIP, based on a snapshot of the TIP at the beginning of the fiscal year. To meet STIP performance objectives, staff contacted several sponsors and moved project phases out a year if they were not going to be obligated this fiscal year, which ended on September 30th.

Summary of 2019-2024 TIP Project Selection Moves

Jacob Beeman noted that since August 3rd there have not been any project selection changes.

CDTC Project Delivery Update

Jacob Beeman noted that preliminary design for the Town of Colonie's Albany Shaker Road project was authorized in June, the Cohoes Ave pavement preservation project in Green Island was let in December and the draft design report for the Town of Rotterdam's Route 5S Bike/Ped Improvements project was completed in June.

NYSDOT Project Delivery Update

Greg Wichser noted that the final phase of the Glenridge Road project to prevent bridge hits will be let November 3rd, which will be early, so that the contractor can use the winter to acquire the

necessary materials. A state-funded project on Union Avenue/Route 9P from Exit 14 to East Ave will construct a dedicated bike lane in both directions. Members noted that supply chain issues are causing cost increases and very long project delays. Greg advised requiring prime contractors to communicate with their subcontractors and only begin projects once they can be finished in a timely manner, as well as letting contracts early to better accommodate the supply chain issues.

Status of CDTC Planning Activities

There were no updates provided at this meeting.

Status of Regional and Local Planning Activities

1. CDRPC

Capital Region Indicators was updated with 2020 American Community Survey data. CDRPC's in-person workshop is scheduled at Hudson Valley Community College on October 28th. The annual Corning Awards ceremony will be the evening of October 27th at Restaurant Navona.

2. CDTA

There were no updates provided at this meeting.

3. NYSDOT

Greg Wichser noted that the PEL Study for the NY 378 Bridge project is underway, with a partnering meeting on October 19th. If you represent an adjacent municipality and didn't already hear from NYSDOT about the meeting, please contact Greg.

4. NYSTA

There were no updates provided at this meeting.

5. Albany County Airport Authority

There were no updates provided at this meeting.

6. Albany Port District Commission

There were no updates provided at this meeting.

Upcoming Meetings/Events/Deadlines

Sandra Misiewicz noted that upcoming meetings are listed on the website. The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for November. She provided Steve Iachetta with a plaque of appreciation for his many years of service to CDTC.

Adjournment

Steve Iachetta motioned to adjourn at approximately 11:26 am, Martin Daley seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Misiewicz, AICP
Secretary