

Capital District Transportation Committee
Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee

October 8, 2019 Meeting Notes

Attendance:

Linda von der Heide, Rensselaer County Planning; Lorenz M Worden, Albany Bicycle Coalition; Valerie Deane, NYSDOT Region 1; Lauren Stairs, Schenectady County Public Health Services; Jennifer Hogan, NYSDOH; Lindsey Garney, CDTA; Elaine Troy; Zach Powell, City of Albany Planning; Tricia Bulatao, Albany County DOH; Ivan Vamos, NYBC; John Mitchell, Halfmoon Trails and CCTWG; Martin Daley, CDRPC; Calvin MacDowell, Capital Roots; Jen Ceponis, CDTC; Jordan Solano-Reed, CDTC; Rima Shamieh, CDTC; Andrew Tracy, CDTC

1.0 New Business

1.1 Welcome and Introductions

1.2 Presentations

Capital Roots Healthy Streets Initiative

Calvin MacDowell presented to the committee on their current demonstration and outreach initiatives. Capital roots tailors their demonstration projects based on community needs. Calvin expressed that outreach is key, and is best when paired with other community events. Capital Roots selects communities by reaching out to various municipalities while trying to achieve regional balance. Emphasis is placed on coordination with municipal economic development leaders, planning departments, and DPWs. Capital Roots makes use of temporary signage and safety measures, coupled with stakeholder outreach and community engagement.

Program goals include promoting NYS Walking Goals, improving safety, improving local laws, NYSDOT coordination with data, and improving local access to food. Capital Roots also promotes Albany County DOH's Complete Streets Lending Library, and emphasizes the importance of benches and overlapping stormwater management goals.

1.3 CDPHP Cycle! Update, CDTA

Lindsey Garney from CDTA presented on the current status of CDPHP Cycle. There have been over 34,000 rides so far this season. The "out-of-hub" fee is no longer in effect, but bicycles should still remain within the system boundaries. CDTA is coordinating with institutions (like hospitals and colleges) to provide discounted or all-inclusive rates. CDPHP Cycle! has 11,000 members with approximately 100 being added per week. In the past week alone, there were over 1,800 rides. Scotia and Waterford are both having the boundaries extended to include their municipalities. CDTA is in talks to add additional communities to the system as well. Currently the system has 350 bicycles total. CDPHP Cycle's last day of the season is November 30th, weather depending.

1.4 CDTC Updates

- 1.4.1 New Visions 2050 Update – Jen Ceponis is currently finishing the New Visions 2050 White Paper on Bicycles and Pedestrians. CDTC is undertaking an updating of the New Visions 2050 Long-Range Plan. The update will look at

safety data and metrics, highlight the trails plan, assess certain bicycle and pedestrian counts, address TIP funding, discuss infrastructure inventory, and consider four scenarios used for regional planning. These scenarios will be based on vehicle ownership, development patterns, and electric vehicle adoption rates. Committee members asked for the update to include trail mileage and mileage in a state of good repair. CDTC is distributing a “Bicycle Preference” survey in conjunction with LTS recommendations.

- 1.4.2 Capital Coexist Mini-grants: \$40,000 was requested for projects, with \$25,000 available. Eight projects were selected to be funded completely or partially. All eight projects are complete or are wrapping up.
- 1.4.3 2019 Bicycle & Pedestrian Education Series – APBP webinars are on-going through CDTC.
- 1.4.4 Complete Streets Advisory Committee Update(s) – No updates at this time.
- 1.4.5 Smart Communities Task Force Update – A nighttime sky tour took place in Saratoga Springs at the end of September. The walk involved various stakeholders and interested parties, assessing the lighting conditions along Broadway and adjacent corridors.

1.5 NYSDOT Updates

- 1.5.1 NYS has conducted a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan.
- 1.5.2 TAP/CMAQ – TAP/CMAQ projects have been identified by NYS. There are 8 projects within CDTC’s planning area that cover bicycle, pedestrian, trail, and transit projects. [TAP/CMAQ](#)

1.6 Linkage Updates – See Linkage update table.

1.7 Local Program Updates

CDTA’s microtransit pilot will start by the end of the year. Schenectady’s Governor’s Traffic Safety Grant is wrapping up. The Capital Coexist Minigrant Bike Rodeo was a success with over 85 children coming through. Bike rodeo kits in a bag are now available.

Rensselaer County has received planning funds for a waterfront trail study.

The Zimm Smith Trail extension is slowly wrapping up. The Empire State Trail is progressing.

The Albany South-End Connector started construction.

Plans for New Scotland Avenue do not include bicycle lanes.

November 7th, Capital Roots will be planting trees in Watervliet.

Lark Street had a curb-extension demonstration project. It was successful.

Western Albany County is receiving benefits from a Governor’s Traffic Safety Grant.

See & Be Seen Campaign is completing its final filmings.

1.7 Other Updates – None at this time.

2.0 Upcoming Meetings

Meetings are open to the Public. The next CDTC Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting is **November 12, 2019 at 9:00am at the CDTC Office.**