

**Policy Board Meeting
June 1, 2023
Meeting Minutes**

Members Attending

The Honorable Michael Butler, City of Mechanicville
Rory Fluman, Schenectady County
Connor Haskin, representing Philip Calderone, Albany County Airport Authority
The Honorable Ron Kim, City of Saratoga Springs
Andrew Kreshik, representing Mayor Patrick Madden, City of Troy
Bob Rice, New York State Department of Transportation– Region 1
Lawrence Schillinger, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Joe Seman-Graves, representing Mayor William Keeler, City of Cohoes
Phil Serafino, New York State Thruway Authority
The Honorable Kathy Sheehan, City of Albany, Chair
The Honorable Michael Stammel, City of Rensselaer
Linda von der Heide, representing Steven McLaughlin, Rensselaer County Executive
Chris Wallin, representing Mayor Gary McCarthy, City of Schenectady
Tom Werner, Saratoga County

Staff and Others Attending

Chris Bauer, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jacob Beeman, Capital District Transportation Committee
Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Jen Ceponis, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jennifer Dunn, City of Saratoga Springs
Bernie Kalus, WSP
Dan Lara, Saratoga Technologies
Cairenn Miller, New York State Department of Transportation– Region 1
Teresa LaSalle, Capital District Transportation Committee
Stephen Maples, Capital District Transportation Committee
Sandra Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee
Rebecca Odell, Capital District Transportation Committee
Susan Olsen, New York State Department of Transportation
Chaim Simon, Capital District Transportation Committee
Andrew Tracy, Capital District Transportation Committee
Carrie Ward, Capital District Transportation Committee
Greg Wichser, New York State Department of Transportation – Region 1

Opening Remarks

The Honorable Kathy Sheehan opened the meeting at approximately 3:04 PM.

Administration

A. March 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Linda von der Heide motioned to approve the March 2, 2023 minutes, Chris Wallin seconded, and members approved the motion.

B. CDTC 2022-2023 Performance and Expenditure Report

Sandra Misiewicz noted this federally required report summarizes work completed over the last six months and expenditures in the last year. The Transportation Council completed a range of data collection activities, the Complete Streets Design Guide, three technical assistance projects, the Bus Lane Feasibility Study, Smart Mobility Toolbox, ADA Transition Plans in Albany and Saratoga Springs, Menands Land Use Regulations Update, Rensselaer Waterfront Connectivity Study, and the Federal Street Corridor Study.

Privilege of the Floor

There were no speakers.

Presentation – NYS Route 378 Troy-Menands Bridge PEL Study - Initial Concepts

Susan Olsen introduced the project, a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study on this bridge requiring replacement or major rehabilitation to determine if it should be moved in the event it is replaced. PEL studies serve as the beginning of the National Environmental Protection Act review process undertaken as part of major capital projects. The study is seeking early and robust public, resource agency, and stakeholder involvement. Existing traffic, environmental and cultural resources have been investigated and the consultants have nine potential locations for review. Bernie Kallis from WSP reviewed the nine concepts and public input that has been received so far. The existing 378 bridge was built in 1932 and is nearing the end of its useful life. There is significant congestion around the bridge, particularly around Morrison Avenue.

Other needs include maintaining the connection between the two communities, safety improvements, bicycle and pedestrian connections, and transit connections. Concepts include (1) rehabilitation of the existing bridge, (2) a new bridge immediately adjacent to the current bridge but in the same location, (3) a new bridge to the north modernizing the 787 interchange and improving operations at Morrison Avenue, (4) a new bridge farther north modernizing the 787 interchange and bringing the bridge into Mill Street, (5) a new bridge to the south connecting to the south drive to HVCC, (6) a new bridge to the south connecting to the recently constructed roundabout at Route 136, (7) a new bridge to the south connecting to a new roundabout on the east side of the Hudson River, (8) a roundabout on the west side of the river with two new bridges over the river, and (9) a new bridge connecting to the 787 interchange at Exit 6 farther south.

To date most comments have referred to improved bike/ped access, followed by access to the riverfront. There were also comments about connections to Troy and traffic congestion. The overwhelming favorite with the public was (4) the bridge connecting to Mill Street, with other favorites being 7 and 8. CDTC will model four representative concepts to anticipate traffic impacts. The team will overlay environmental resources to help with coordination with other agencies. The project is just over halfway finished, and a draft is underway now.

2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

- A. T6B, 1820.37, Star Bus Replacement and Expansion**
- B. T11, 1821.18, Passenger Facility Improvements at Various Locations**
- C. T17, 1820.48, Transit Bus Replacement / Expansion**
- D. T57, 1TR604, Preventative Maintenance for Transit Projects**
- E. T14B, CDTC08, Transit Oper. Support for Saratoga Svcs. Preventative Maint. And Oper. Assistance**
- F. 137, CDTC137, Bus Plus Red Line Upgrades**
- G. T140, CDTA03, Flex Micro-Transit Vehicle Replacement / Expansion**

Jacob Beeman explained that we have seven recommended TIP amendments for CDTA. They would all bring the CDTA's exact apportionments into alignment with the previous

estimates for the TIP. Andrew Kreshik motioned to approve amendments A through G as presented, Bob Rice seconded, and members approved the motion.

2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendments

Sandra Misiewicz explained that the proposed amendments move the required dedicated Complete Streets expenditures from fiscal year 2022 to 2023 and add funds from Albany County to conduct Complete Streets training for County municipalities.

Tom Werner motioned to approve the UPWP Amendments as presented, Linda von der Heide seconded, and members approved the motion.

2023 Performance Measures Target Updates

Jacob Beeman explained that performance measures became required in 2012, and in 2017-2018 the first measures were established, and NYSDOT established their first 4-year targets in 2018. MPO's can either approve the state targets or create their own. NYSDOT is currently updating targets for PM2 – Infrastructure for pavement and bridge conditions and PM3 – System, Freight, Air Quality for congestion, traffic reliability, and air quality.

More specifically, the measures for PM2 are the percent of interstate pavements in both good and poor condition, and the percent of non-interstate National Highway System (NHS) pavements in both good and poor condition, and the percent of NHS bridge by deck area in both good and poor condition. The PM3 measures are interstate level of travel time reliability, non-interstate NHS level of travel time reliability, and truck travel time reliability - a ratio of truck travel time in congested and non-congested times. The data shows that interstate reliability in the region is currently significantly higher than the state's target, and moderately higher for the non-interstate measure. Michael Stammel motioned to approve the three resolutions as presented, Linda von der Heide seconded, and members approved the motion.

Renaming CDTC the Capital Region Transportation Council

Sandra Misiewicz explained that the proposed name change is anticipated to help differentiate us from other entities named "Capital District" and will do business publicly as the Transportation Council. She shared the new logo. Michael Stammel motioned to approve the resolution adopting the new name as presented, Bob Rice seconded, and members approved the motion.

Status of Planning Activities

A. CDTC

Sandra Misiewicz highlighted the public survey for the Congestion Management Plan seeking input on locations where people have concerns about congestion. There is also a Transportation Survey seeking input from seniors, people who have a disability, and people who have lower incomes. Bike to Work Day is June 8th and there will be a ride and event in downtown Albany in the morning and in the evening. There are six new community planning studies beginning, as well as the Safe Streets and Roads for All grant.

B. CDRPC

The US Census has released the data that CDRPC uses to develop population projections. CDRPC is the designated economic development district and has developed a draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the region. In addition, they are working with CDTA on a \$1M Climate Pollution Reduction Act grant from EPA looking at greenhouse gas emission inventories and are developing community climate resiliency plans. The Future Leaders in Planning program for high school juniors and seniors is seeking participants.

C. CDTA

There was no update.

D. NYSDOT

Bob Rice noted that Patrick Barnes was promoted to NYSDOT's Main Office and NYSDOT is interviewing candidates for the regional director position. Work on Union Avenue in Saratoga Springs is ahead of schedule and mainline paving projects are getting underway in June. On June 27th from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. there will be a public open house for the I-787 PEL Study in the media room at the MVP Arena in downtown Albany. Community driven concepts are fundamental to the PEL process. In addition, the project has an email at 787@dot.ny.gov and phone number of 518-457-1787. Celeste Harp and Kristen Morris have joined the regional planning group.

E. NYSTA

Phil Serafino advised that NYSTA has no updates.

F. Albany County Airport Authority

There was no update.

G. Albany Port District Commission

Patrick Jordan reported that the off-shore wind project has received all federal and state permits for construction work. The landfill reclamation project is almost finished. Construction for the new bridge over the Normanskill is expected this summer. Construction on the maritime terminal replacement begins next week.

H. Regional/Local Planning Activities

Sandra Misiewicz shared a graphic showing ongoing and upcoming planning activities in the region and noted that we will try to coordinate the public participation components of them.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Sandra Misiewicz referred to the agenda listing upcoming meetings.

Adjournment

Lawrence Schillinger motioned to adjourn at approximately 4:15 pm, Tom Werner seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



for Patrick Barnes
Secretary