



Freight Advisory Committee

NOTES 1

August 12, 2026, 9:30-11:08 AM

In-person: 1 Park Place, Colonie, NY 12205

[Virtual: contact Ethan Townsend for Zoom details](#)

Attendance:

Name	Title	Representing
Tom Phelan	Senior Transportation Specialist	BHX Engineering
Dave Sawicz	Director of Transportation	Price Chopper/Market32
Mike Izdebski	NAM MCU Logistics Leader	GE Vernova
John Scavo	Director of Planning	Town of Clifton Park
Kim Lamber	Senior Planner	Saratoga County
Ryan Riper	Director of Engineering	Town of Wilton
Catherine Lawson	Prog. Director, Masters of Regional Planning	University at Albany
Jeff Gritsavage	Eastern Region Water Management Engineer	Canal Corporation
Stephan Pezdek	Regional Freight Planning Manger	PANYNJ
Ted Thompson	Interested Citizen	Public
Louis Esposito	Interested Citizen	Public
Guatam Mani	Senior Community Planner	FHWA
Reema Louton	Senior Environmental Engineer	USEPA
Valerie Deane	CHIPS, Rail & Bike/Ped Coord.	NYSDOT Region 1
William Fitzgerald	Transportation Analyst	NYSDOT Region 1
David Rosenberg	Associate Transportation Analyst	NYSDOT Region 1
Ethan Townsend	Transportation Planner	Capital Reg. Transp. Council
Andrew Tracy	Director of Transportation Operations	Capital Reg. Transp. Council
Martin Hull	Director of Regional Planning	Capital Reg. Transp. Council
Adam McCarvill	Transportation Planner	Capital Reg. Transp. Council
Christie Shea	Administrative Specialist	Capital Reg. Transp. Council

YouTube Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XbMb6UMSf7U>

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome & Introductions

Ethan Townsend began the meeting at 9:30 AM. Those attending in person introduced themselves. Ethan introduced those attending virtually and reviewed the agenda.

2. Discussion Items:

a. Superload Corridors Study Updates

Ethan provided an update on the Superload Corridors Study. Stakeholder interviews have been ongoing, and the information received in those interviews has informed two design vehicle specifications. These two design vehicles will be used to screen routes throughout the region through NYSDOT tools, which will then have conflict points analyzed by LiDAR scans. The project website should be available soon.

b. Clean Cities & Communities Update

Adam McCarvill gave an update on the Capital District Clean Communities program. CDCC had a meeting in June where Jacob Beeman from National Grid spoke about the utility providers Fleet Electrification Program. Adam also shared that the Advanced Vehicle Technology Group has an [Electric Vehicle Essential online training](#) course available. A coupon code is available for anyone interested by emailing Adam at: amccarvill@capitalmpo.org

Relevant upcoming meetings include an August meeting with Viatic on fleet intelligences, and the nation Clean Cities & Communities Annual Training in Kansas City, Missouri.

c. Coeymans Truck Reroute Study Update

Ethan shared an update on the Coeymans Truck Reroute Study being conducted by Albany County and the Advance Albany County Alliance. The purpose of the study is to examine alternative routes to keep trucks traveling between the Port of Coeymans the nearby quarry to keep them away from Main Street in the Village of Ravena. Four alternatives were presented at a recent public meeting, including one no-change option, two alternative routes using existing roads, and one new road alternative.

The group discussed the pros and cons of the potential new routes, particularly with how the alternatives may increase costs, fuel consumption, and vehicle miles travelled for the trucks hauling goods to the port. More information can be found on the project website:

CoeymansTruckStudy.com

d. Status of Regional Planning Initiatives

Ethan provided an update on the Transportation Council's various planning initiatives.

3. Participant Updates

Louis Esposito shared thoughts about several discussion item topics. Relating to the Superload Study, he questioned where any roads in the region could currently handle the 700,000lbs of the larger proposed design vehicle. Ethan shared that the impacts of the weights on existing infrastructure is one of the reasons the study is being conducted, so that funds can be targets to strengthen certain areas, since loads that heavy are already being moved. Louis also shared his concerns about fuel consumption if trucks will need to take a longer route between the Port of Coeymans and the quarry.

4. Upcoming Meetings: November 18

5. Feature Documentary: Container Ship XXL (53 minutes)

The main focus of the meeting was a screening of the documentary *Container Ship XXL*, which showed the process of building the largest container ships currently in operation.

Ethan Townsend gave a brief introduction to the documentary and played it for the group. During ad breaks in the documentary there was group discussion about aspects of the documentary shown. This included discussion about how ports (including those in the US) are able to accommodate such large ships, the state of industrial manufacturing in the United States, and how the large components of the ship compare to some of the large goods produced in the Capital Region.

Meeting ended at 11:08 AM.