

Planning Committee Meeting
April 3, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Members Attending

Beige Berryman, City of Saratoga Springs
Sharon Butler, City of Cohoes
Alexandria Carver, City of Schenectady
Steve Feeney, Schenectady County, Chair
Howard Goebel, City of Albany
Patrick Jordan Esq., Albany Port District Commission
Andrew Kreshik, City of Troy
Kim Lambert, Saratoga County
Amy Lolik, City of Rensselaer
Sandra Misiewicz, Capital Region Transportation Council, Secretary
Lisa Ramundo, Albany County
Tom Richardson, City of Mechanicville
Bob Rice, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1
John Scavo, Town of Clifton Park
Michael Williams, Capital District Transportation Authority

Staff and Others Attending

Jacob Beeman, Capital Region Transportation Council
Chris Cate, MJ Engineering
Jennifer Ceponis, Capital Region Transportation Council
Joe Cimino, CHA Companies
Don Csaposs, Town of Guilderland
Lorenzo DiStefano, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1
Tess Drauschak, Capital Region Transportation Council
Dan Harp, NYS Department of Transportation Region-Main Office
Liz Kormos, Interested Citizen
Tim Lane, Village of Menands
Randy Milano, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1
Kristen Morris, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1
Jamie O'Neill, Town of Malta
Jeff Pangburn, Creighton Manning Engineering
Ryan Riper, Town of Wilton
Ayla Schermer, Federal Transit Administration
Chaim Simon, Capital Region Transportation Council
Jeremy Smith, Capital District Transportation Authority
Andrew Tracy, Capital Region Transportation Council

Bill Trudeau, City of Albany
Carrie Ward, Capital Region Transportation Council
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1

Introduction

Steve Feeney opened the meeting at approximately 9:34 a.m.

Visitor's Issues

There were no visitor's issues.

Presentation - Regional Vision Zero Action Plan: Planning Process Overview

Carrie Ward introduced the Regional Vision Zero Action Plan, being funded through FHWA's Safe Streets and Roads for All grant program. Key outcomes include a shared regional safety vision, interjurisdictional partnerships, a comprehensive program of fundable projects, and annual reporting. The plan will follow FHWA's Safe System Approach and focus on reduction and elimination of fatal and serious injury crashes. Community engagement will include rounds of public workshops, a website with an interactive map, stakeholder meetings, a community advisory committee, and the Regional Operations and Safety Advisory Committee. An important component will be a Vision Zero target to an eventual goal of zero deaths and serious injuries. Tasks include equity, data analysis, speed limit reduction analyses, strategy and project selection, 10 demonstration projects, 40 targeted safety investigations, policy and process changes, ongoing progress and transparency, and the draft and final plans.

Administration

Previous Meeting Minutes – February 7, 2024

There were no proposed changes to the meeting minutes. Pat Jordan motioned to approve the February 7, 2024 minutes as presented, Kim Lambert seconded, and members approved the motion.

Nominating Subcommittee Results

Sandra Misiewicz noted that John Scavo will be the new Town and Village representative on the Planning Committee, with a number of alternates.

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

Jacob Beeman noted that we are currently within the 5% fiscal overprogramming constraint restriction. We are slightly under-programmed for the four years of FHWA funding sources.

Action Items

2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

Amendment 1: S265, 1761.59, Freemans Bridge Road Multi-Use Path, Town of Glenville, Schenectady County & S285, 1762.49, Freemans Bridge Road Sidewalks & Multi-Use Path, Town of Glenville, Schenectady County. Lorenzo DiStefano noted that the Town of Glenville has two adjacent multi-use path projects. The design and preliminary design funding had previously been merged by TIP amendment; however, this is not allowed. The amendment will again separate the design and preliminary design for the two projects. Andrew Kreshik motioned to approve the amendment as presented, Tom Richardson seconded, and members approved the motion.

Discussion Items

NYSDOT Carbon Reduction Strategy

Bob Rice summarized the federal overview of the program, the statewide plan requirement, and the regional suballocation. The program's purpose is to reduce transportation emissions. The statewide Carbon Reduction Strategy was approved by FHWA this year, must be updated every four years, and should be integrated into or referenced in the MPO long range plans. The Strategy largely adopted the transportation components of the 2022 Scoping Plan from New York State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. The three components are expanding zero emission vehicle adoption and infrastructure, enhancing public transportation and efficient mobility systems, and expanding active transportation and shared mobility choices. The statewide allocations will be broken into large urban, medium urban, and small urban, with the remaining 35% into statewide programs. The funding is supporting "Innovative Mobility" projects at non-MTA transit agencies.

Summary of 2022-2027 TIP Project Selection Moves

Jacob Beeman noted that these changes will be called administrative modifications going forward. There were ten such changes this month, mostly moving phases into fiscal year 2024, a couple shifting funding between phases, and one project with repurposed earmark funding.

Local Project Delivery Update

Sandra Misiewicz shared a list of local projects that have not obligated construction funding and have a design year of FFY21-22 or earlier. If these projects do not obligate their construction funding this year, they will roll into the next year and consequently reduce the amount of available funding to program in the next TIP update.

NYSDOT Project Delivery Update

Greg Wichser noted that repaving on I-90 from I-787 to Corporate Woods was recently let and construction is expected to begin this summer.

Status of Regional Transportation Planning Initiatives

Sandra Misiewicz noted that the Sand Creek Road Complete Streets Feasibility Study and the Hoosick Road Corridor Study were recently completed. The contract for the All Access Complete Streets Feasibility Study in Voorheesville was finalized, and two new projects were added to the new UPWP.

Regional and Local Planning Updates

1. Transportation Council

Sandra Misiewicz noted that the first public workshop for the In Motion transportation plan was on March 21st and a recorded version will be made available online for people to watch at their own pace. The first task force meeting will be April 16th at 3pm. The public survey is available on InMotionPlan.org. The Equity Advisory Committee will be restarting soon and we are seeking one Planning Committee member to participate, with the first meeting to be held in May. The survey for the FHWA/FTA certification review will remain open through April 15th. The ADA Transition Plan solicitation has been extended to April 19th. Jen Ceponis will be leaving the Transportation Council on April 19th.

2. CDRPC

There was no update.

3. CDTA

Michael Williams noted that CDTA will be holding Phase Two of public outreach in May or June to discuss initial ideas for the Transit Development Plan. At this time they will also reconvene stakeholder meetings.

4. NYSDOT

Bob Rice noted that NYSDOT is expecting instructions for the program update any day. This will start the discussion for the broader program update for the TIP and STIP. Bob will be retiring from NYSDOT on June 19th. Guy Tedesco will be joining the region's planning group.

5. NYSTA

There were no updates.

6. Albany County Airport Authority

There were no updates.

7. Albany Port District Commission

Pat Jordan noted that the piers and casings for the bridge connecting the main port area to Beacon Island are finished and work on the bridge will begin in the next month. The rail improvement infrastructure project is commencing now.

8. Local Government/Other

There were no updates.

Upcoming Meetings/Events/Deadlines

Steve Feeney referenced the upcoming meetings listed on the agenda.

Adjournment

Tom Richardson motioned to adjourn at approximately 10:41 a.m., Pat Jordan seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Misiewicz, AICP
Secretary