



## 1.66: Equity Advisory Committee

### Meeting Summary

Date: August 22, 2024

Start – End Time: 3:00PM-4:30PM

Location: 1 Park Place, Albany NY 12205

Facilitator: Rima Shamieh

Name	Title	Representing
Bobbi Wilding	Executive Director	Clean + Healthy NY
Jeff Wojtowicz		RPI
Jackie Gonzales		Capital Streets/ Walkable Albany
Susan Laurilliard	Legislator for the 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dist.	Albany County Legislature
David Banks		U Albany
Mark Castiglione	Executive Director	CDRPC
Lauren Oertel	Environmental Planner	CDRPC
Elaine Frazier		Urban League
Alex Word	Neighborhood Specialist	City of Albany
Katy Carroll, Esq.	Disability and Program Coordinator	Association on Aging NY
Eva Bass	Executive Director	A Village
Linda von der Heide	Principal Planner	Rensselaer County
Ed Brennan	President	Albany Bicycle Coalition
Carrie Ward	Senior Transportation Plnr	Transportation Council
Chaim Simon	Transportation Plnr	Transportation Council
Rima Shamieh	Transportation Plnr	Transportation Council

### **Agenda Items:**

#### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

#### **2. May meeting notes – changes and acceptance**

This item was omitted and will need to be addressed at the next EAC meeting.

#### **3. Regional Vision Zero Safety Action Plan – Carrie Ward, Transportation Council**

The plan's purpose is to build a shared vision of roadway safety in the region, that works towards reducing fatalities and serious injuries to zero.

The project is using the Safe Systems Approach, which focuses on prevention, designs for human mistakes and limitations, reduces system kinetic energy, accepts shared responsibility (rather than individual responsibility), and proactively identifies and addresses risks.

The report uses Equity Priorities Areas in the safety analysis and for recommendations. The Equity Priorities Areas are based on the concentration and severity of burdens relevant to transportation safety.

The Transportation Council hired three Community Ambassadors to strengthen relationships with local organizations and amplify the voices of residents in historically underserved communities. A Community Advisory Committee was also formed, comprised of local community members representing populations who have been historically underserved and marginalized in transportation planning processes. The committee will guide the Plan's development and play a role in decision-making.

The Transportation Council's Regional Operations and Safety Advisory Committee (ROSAC) serves as the study advisory committee for this project. Links to ROSAC meeting dates, agendas, notes, and recordings can be found on the [Transportation Council's Advisory Committee webpage](#).

The first round of public meetings were held in August, 2024. Meeting materials and the link to the virtual meeting can be found on the project website's [Participate page](#).

Visit the project website for more information, [capitalregionvisionzero.org](http://capitalregionvisionzero.org) and to identify safety concerns and share proposed improvements on the [interactive map](#).

#### **4. Equity Audit of 2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) – Rima Shamieh, Transportation Council**

The TIP is the capital funding program for transportation projects in our region. The equity audit investigated the proportion of funded projects in Environmental Justice areas (EJ areas) and whether the Environmental Justice merit score used actually influenced programming decisions.

The equity audit revealed that more than half of the funding allocated to new projects added to the 2022-2027 TIP was/will be spent in EJ areas, where over 9% of the total regional population and about 23% of the EJ population lives. The audit did not find that the EJ merit score had a measurable impact on the programming decisions for the 2022-2027 TIP. The audit will also compare the degree of the local impact by project type; that portion of the analysis is pending completion.

#### **5. Update to the 2025-2030 TIP Merit Score – Andrew Tracy, Transportation Council**

Merit scores are calculated by Transportation Council staff using established criteria to assist the Policy Board in evaluating project proposals to add to the new TIP. Each project proposal is scored for its impact and benefit to environmental justice communities in addition to other merit criteria such as regional benefit and economic

impact, security/resiliency, freight impact, and project readiness, among others. The revised merit criteria developed for the 2025-2030 TIP will weigh the equity score more heavily than past versions. The final scoring criteria is on the Policy Board's September agenda for final adoption.

**6. In Motion Plan**

- a. Please reach out if you have fall meetings or events where we can present information about In Motion.
- b. The Draft Goals and Visionary Projects Survey was open until August 31. A new survey will be released in September.

**7. Status of Local and Regional Planning Studies**

[https://www.capitalmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/X\\_A-PlanningStudyStatus09012024\\_pb-1.pdf](https://www.capitalmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/X_A-PlanningStudyStatus09012024_pb-1.pdf)

**Next Meetings:**

- a. Thursday, Oct 24 at 3 pm
- b. Thursday, Dec 12 at 3 pm