

**Planning Committee Meeting  
November 5, 2025  
Meeting Minutes**

**Members Attending**

Steve Feeney, Schenectady County, Chair  
Sandra Misiewicz, Capital Region Transportation Council, Secretary  
Michael Williams, Capital District Transportation Authority  
David Montiverdi, Albany County Airport Authority  
Michael Beaudet, representing Phil Serafino, NYS Thruway Authority  
Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission  
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation-Region 1  
Chris Wallin, City of Schenectady  
Kim Lambert, Saratoga County  
Sharon Butler, City of Cohoes  
Melissa Cherubino, City of Watervliet  
Michael Dutre, City of Saratoga Springs  
Andrew Kreshik, City of Troy  
Lisa Ramundo, Albany County  
John Schneidawin, Albany Port District Commission  
Tom Hulihan, City of Rensselaer  
Bill Trudeau, City of Albany  
Jaime O'Neill, representing Peter Comenzo, Town of Malta

**Staff and Others Attending**

Adam McCarvill, Capital Region Transportation Council  
Martin Hull, Capital Region Transportation Council  
Andrew Tracy, Capital Region Transportation Council  
Teresa LaSalle, Capital Region Transportation Council  
David Nelson, Capital Region Transportation Council  
Randy Milano, NYS Department of Transportation-Region 1  
Joe Cimino, CHA Consulting  
Jim DiGioia, Interested Citizen  
John Scavo, Town of Clifton Park  
Ed Snyder, GPI  
Megan Daly, Albany Port District Commission  
Melissa Shanley, Capital District Transportation Authority  
Emily Loughlin, Capital District Transportation Authority  
Madison Hrysko, Capital District Regional Planning Commission  
Laura Robertson, Town of Niskayuna

Christine Primiano, Town of Glenville  
Jesse Vogl, LaBella Associates  
Lorenzo DiStefano, FCM Engineering  
Leah Rye, Capital Region Transportation Council

## Welcome and Introductions

Steve Feeney started the meeting at 9:37 AM and introduced himself. Those attending in person introduced themselves. Sandra Misiewicz read the names of those attending virtually.

## Visitor Issues

No visitor issues.

## Presentation – Capital Region Housing Trends, Madison Hrysko, GIS / Data Analyst, Capital District Regional Planning Commission

Madison Hrysko gave a presentation on Capital Region Housing Trends focusing on two reports: the Capital Region Housing Affordability Study and the Missing Middle vs. Single-Family trends reports from CDRPC. Key takeaways from the reports include that rent prices are increasing at a faster rate than wages, renters in every county are spending at least 30% of their income on housing costs, and the median sale price of housing units affordable to middle-income households, defined as those between the scale of single-family homes and large apartment complexes, increased by 10.9% for middle income households versus a 3.6% median sales price increase for all single family homes. Investors accounted for 10% of all regional home sales in 2024 further impacting supply and demand for middle income housing.

Andrew Kreshik asked if the housing trends follow population increases and decreases, or if there is a noticeable gap at points for people moving into the area and housing availability. Mark Castiglione replied that housing trends follow a similar trend to population increases and decreases, but housing and population are distinctly divorced because one is looking at economic factors and the other at demographic factors.

Mark Castiglione noted that CDRPC's next report will focus on 411 property class types, which are large apartment complexes, to assess the location of these complexes relative to public transit. The Capital Region is seeing a high demand for and growth of large apartment complexes in more auto dependent suburban and exurban areas.

Chris Wallin indicated that after COVID the housing market expanded at a rate higher than income, and he asked if the gap has increased since 2022. Mark Castiglione responded that there was a spike in 2021 for housing cost increase, at trend that continues upward. CDRPC has been doing an analysis of which communities allow ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units), which

could be part of the housing solution. John Schneidawin shared that he was on a housing coalition when he lived in Long Island, and ADUs were identified as a huge part of what could help address the missing middle housing issue there. There was some further group discussion about ADUs.

Steve Feeney asked if CDRPC is looking at other regions in the country and how this region compares. Mark Castiglione responded that there are more in-depth housing analyses that have been done for some other NY counties. This region has not conducted one, but there is some data that is similar to those reports. In upstate NY there is a perpetual soft housing market, which means the appreciation of housing values is not necessarily keeping pace with (in example) the rate of inflation. Compounding that, the existing housing stock is basically the only "affordable" housing stock. It is very costly to build a new house.

Sandra Misiewicz indicated that the Transportation Council is supporting CDRPC's work in this regard because it is relevant to the "In Motion" long-range transportation plan, transportation options and transportation affordability. The Transportation Council will be partnering with CDRPC to do more of this research and explore how it can possibly tie back to the production of some educational materials to share with local governments.

Chris Wallin shared some information about an article he read, describing a "mortgage block," whereby many older people who are empty nesters are not downsizing (even if they want to) because a smaller house may be unaffordable with costs as they are right now. This results in older people not selling their house, making it harder for younger generations with families to access the appropriate housing market for them. Mark Castiglione added that a high percentage of people 65+ also want to age in place, and housing options for older people are not as available as they should be or are not in desirable locations for that population.

## Administration

### A. Previous Meeting Minutes – October 1, 2025

Steve Feeney asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Mark Castiglione made the motion. Kim Lambert seconded. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

## Action Items

### A. 2022-2027 and 2025-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

#### 1. CDTA Amendments for T17, T159, and T68

Melissa Shanley provided information regarding the three CDTA amendments. Kim Lambert mentioned CDTA's plan to remove two of the bus routes in Saratoga Springs and transition those route areas to the FLEX model. She asked if the potential cost savings from that is reflected in any of the amendments here. Melissa Shanley responded that this money is just to

purchase transit buses (regular fleet replacement), it is not related to service changes. Michael Williams indicated that service changes are being handled independently from these amendments. Sandra Misiewicz added that the amendments are related to an adjustment based on new funding that was awarded to CDTA by the state. Michael Williams confirmed that Sandra was correct.

Steve Feeney asked for a motion to approve CDTA's requested amendments. Chris Wallin made the motion. Mark Castiglione seconded. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

## 2. NYSDOT Amendments for Merging I-87 Paving Projects

Greg Wichser provided information regarding the first two NYSDOT amendments related to I-87 paving in Albany and Saratoga Counties (amendments 4 and 5 on the agenda). Two projects will be merged together. The cost increase is in part a result of updated estimates. Andrew Kreshik asked what the estimated cost savings would be through merging, as opposed to keeping the projects independent. Greg Wichser responded that there is probably a small percentage savings achieved by merging the projects. Steve Feeney indicated that given the cost increase, the amendments will go to the Policy Board.

Steve Feeney asked for a motion to approve the I-87 Paving amendments. Chris Wallin made the motion. Michael Dutre seconded. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

## 3. NYSDOT Congress Street Bridge

Greg Wichser provided information about the Congress Street Bridge project. This new maintenance project is being funded entirely through the Regional Multi-Site Bridge Preservation set-aside TIP project. Additionally, the fund source is being changed to Bridge Formula Program funds. The project intends to maintain the bridge structure.

Sandra Misiewicz asked if there was additional bridge formula funding elsewhere in the state. Greg responded that NYSDOT was given bridge formula funding mid-TIP cycle last TIP, and it was never programmed, so it is being used now. Tom Hulihan asked if ramp reconfiguration on River Street was a part of this project. Greg responded that ramp reconfiguration is part of a different project that is advancing by the City of Troy now. Steve Feeney indicated that this amendment will also go to the Policy Board.

Steve Feeney asked for a motion to approve the amendment for the Congress Street Bridge. Andrew Kreshik made the motion. Tom Hulihan seconded. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

## Discussion Items

### A. TIP Amendment Guidelines Revision

Sandra Misiewicz indicated that the Transportation Council is still working through some of the options for how it wants to revise TIP amendments to address what happens when there is a discretionary funding award and new money comes to the region, which requires quick action. Sandra will be bringing this up to the Policy Board members for discussion.

### B. Transportation Council Performance and Expenditure Report (April 1 – September 30, 2025)

Sandra Misiewicz indicated that every six months the Transportation Council is required to provide an update/progress report on the use of its planning funds. The full report is available on the Transportation Council's website. The largest expenditures during the reporting period were for staff time to prepare the new TIP, long-range transportation plan, and to complete the Vision Zero Safety Action Plan. In addition, the Transportation Council completed four linkage studies, one each in Voorheesville, Castleton, Rotterdam, and Milton. Andrew Tracy completed eight GEIS reviews in Malta and Colonie. The Transportation Council partnered with CDRPC on housing studies, collected numerous traffic count data, and completed four technical assistance studies including one that CDRPC largely led. There was limited activity on the Clean Cities and Communities program as US Department of Energy funding supporting that work has been withheld at the federal level.

### C. Technical Assistance Program Update

Andrew Tracy provided an update on some of the technical assistance projects completed over the summer. Andrew reviewed an intersection traffic and safety assessment for the Town of Ballston; a US-4 and Bloominggrove Drive traffic assessment for the Town of North Greenbush; and an intersection assessment at Broadway and Partition for the City of Rensselaer. Sandra Misiewicz provided an update on an in-progress project being led by Parker Morris, a parking assessment for the City of Cohoes. Adam McCarvill provided an update on the electric vehicle (EV) curbside charging siting project for the City of Albany.

Andrew Kreshik asked what the net reduction in total parking would be for all vehicles after installing the charging stations. Adam responded that if the recommended methodology is followed, charging stations will be installed gradually over time, not all at once, and it is presumed that this would avoid potential issues regarding parking loss. Andrew Kreshik asked if there is a greater or lower concentration of EV vehicles in apartment complexes compared with non-clustered housing. Adam responded that he does not have statistics on that, but current ownership data from the DMV was reviewed as part of the project.

Sandra Misiewicz indicated that she believes the city focused on specific neighborhoods to look for opportunities to integrate chargers in locations to increase public access, particularly in areas that lack driveways or off street parking. Mark Castiglione shared that the City of Albany has partnered with a company called Voltpost, whose EV charging devices mount about 12 feet up on a utility pole, and the charging cable drops down after a QR code is scanned by the user. This keeps the technology out of the snow, prevents vandalism, and the installation cost is significantly lower than the cost of a pedestal-mounted EV charger.

Andrew Tracy encouraged attendees to visit the Transportation Council's website ([www.capitalmpo.org/programs/technical-assistance/](http://www.capitalmpo.org/programs/technical-assistance/)) for the full menu of technical assistance offerings. New proposals are accepted on a rolling basis as staff time permits.

#### D. Summary of 2022-2027 TIP Administrative Modifications

Andrew Tracy indicated that the Transportation Council had six TIP administrative modifications in the last month. The new 2025-2030 TIP has not yet gone live, so the Transportation Council is still making a lot of changes to bring projects into the current fiscal year (FY26). Andrew noted that if anyone has a project that is ready to advance now for obligation, the Transportation Council is still working under the 2022-2027 TIP, so bring the project to the Transportation Council for an administrative modification to bring it into FY26. All changes will be reflected in the 2025-2030 TIP once the Statewide TIP has been approved and is live.

#### E. NYSDOT Project Delivery Update

Greg Wichser shared that NYSDOT recently had a couple of bid openings. The Central Avenue preservation and drainage rehab project was let, and bids came in a little below the estimate. NYSDOT also bid a state-funded project in combination with some Parks and Trails funding through the Hudson River Valley Greenway for the Green Island Bridge. Part of the project is to make a connection from Troy to connect to the Empire State Trail. NYSDOT added a signal replacement and some safety reconfigurations on the Green Island side as well. Unfortunately, no bids were received. As such, NYSDOT will package this project with a multi-site pavement project to attempt to get bids. NYSDOT is also letting the I-90 pavement resurfacing project, which will finish I-90 between I-87 and Corporate Woods. The Riverview and Nelson Avenue Bridge replacements in Saratoga County are bidding a couple weeks after that.

#### F. Status of Regional Transportation Planning Initiatives

Sandra Misiewicz shared that the Transportation Council has completed the Central Avenue West corridor study and the final report is on the website. The Transportation Council is finishing up the Broadway flood resiliency study and is working with the municipalities to adopt the findings of that study now.

## G. Regional and Local Planning Updates

### 1. Transportation Council

Sandra Misiewicz shared that the Transportation Council is still in the hiring process to fill a Transportation Analyst/Transportation Engineer position. Planning study proposal submissions are due on December 5<sup>th</sup>. The 5310 program solicitation deadline was also pushed out to December 5<sup>th</sup>.

### 2. CDRPC

Madison Hrysko shared that CDRPC completed its Regional Climate Action Plan and associated portal, which has greenhouse gas inventory and emissions data per municipality. CDRPC also recently published its "Talent on the Move" report, looking at job inflow and outflow from the region. BEAD (Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment) awards have totaled over \$13M for this region. The public dashboard on the CDRPC website shows the breakout of this money per county.

### 3. CDTA

Michael Williams shared that CDTA's Transit Development Plan (TDP) has been adopted by its Board and is now in effect. The TDP has also been released to the public and can be found on CDTA's website ([www.cdta.org/tdp](http://www.cdta.org/tdp)). CDTA staff met with Transportation Council staff over the past month to go over the highlights of the TDP, and CDTA is planning to present the TDP at the next Policy Board meeting. CDTA also has service changes going into effect in late November that will continue the implementation of the recommendations of the TDP. These include the conversion of two neighborhood routes in Saratoga Springs to FLEX on-demand service. That's going to require a bit more in-depth education than just a regular service change, so CDTA is doing more extension outreach to customers, which will include a public information session at the Saratoga Springs Public Library next Wednesday.

### 4. NYSDOT

Greg Wichser shared that NYSDOT held an I-787 open house on October 21<sup>st</sup>, which was relatively well attended. Empire State Development is hosting their next open house on November 12<sup>th</sup> at the Albany Hilton. The 378 PEL study is going to go out for one last public review. NYSDOT's local liaisons are currently working on collecting project updates.

### 5. NYSTA

Michael Beaudet shared that regarding the Castleton Bridge, eastbound will be open to traffic next week, so the project is ahead of schedule.

### 6. Albany County Airport Authority

David Montiverdi shared that the Airport Authority has been working on making access to the airport a little easier. Traffic numbers are still at record highs. The airport had its busiest October on record, and it is relatively confident that it will break its passenger record this year. Andrew

Kreshik asked how the federal government shutdown was affecting air travel. David responded that nothing is being seen at the local level. It seems as though at some places it is business as usual, and at other places it is very much getting in the way.

7. Albany Port District Commission

No updates to share on behalf of the Albany Port District Commission.

8. Local Government/Other

Chris Wallin shared that the Franklin Street project is going well. It is the City of Schenectady's first separated cycle track and it will be complete in the spring. Also, the Craig Street project is going out to bid, which is the biggest investment the city has ever made for public infrastructure at \$13M. The city is working with the NYSDOT to create a similar separated cycle track as part of this project.

Kim Lambert shared a reminder about the Saratoga County Planning and Zoning Conference, which is taking place on Wednesday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at the Saratoga Springs City Center.

H. Upcoming Meetings/Events/Deadlines (tentative)

1. Human Services Transportation Advisory Committee – November 10<sup>th</sup>
2. Freight Advisory Committee – November 19<sup>th</sup>
3. Policy Board – December 4<sup>th</sup>
4. Regional Operations and Safety Advisory Committee – December 11<sup>th</sup>

Sandra Misiewicz indicated that the Planning Committee will be holding regular meetings in 2026, and the Transportation Council will send out an updated meeting schedule.

## Adjournment

Steve Feeney asked for a motion adjourn. Bill Trudeau made the motion. Chris Wallin seconded. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions. Meeting adjourned 11:02 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Misiewicz, AICP  
Secretary