



**Human Services Transportation Advisory Committee
Monday, February 17, 2026 at 2:00 PM
Meeting Notes**

Attendance

Name	Title	Representing
Martin Hull	Director of Regional Planning	Transportation Council
Judy Dahoda-Taylor	Deputy Director	Saratoga County Office for the Aging
Brian Monaco	Director of Employment & Transportation Services	Center for Disability Services
Divya Duraisamy	New York Public Health Fellow III	Mechanicville Area Community Services Center
Toufiq Zahan	System Specialist	NYS DOT Public Transportation Bureau
Ross Dubarry	Service & Oversight	NYS DOT Public Transportation Bureau
Alexis Soto	ADA Certification Manager	Capital District Transportation Authority
Jordan Rosecrans	Interested Citizen	Public
Kathleen Holsopple	Interested Citizen	Public
Bob O'Connell	Board Member	Captain Community Human Services
Adam Leach	Program Director	Catholic Charities Diocese of Albany
Peggy Osborne	Senior Services Coordinator	Town of Bethlehem Senior Services
Nancy Koszyk	Program Assistant	Town of Bethlehem Senior Services
Noelle Schmidt	Executive Director	Colonie Senior Service Centers
Mark Castiglione	Director	Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Angelina Searles	Director	Town of Colonie Senior Resources Department
Carrie Ward	Principal Transportation Planner	Transportation Council
David Nelson	Transportation Planner	Transportation Council
Leah Rye	Administrative Specialist	Transportation Council

1. **Welcome/Introductions**

The meeting started at 2:03 PM. Those attending in person introduced themselves. Martin Hull introduced those attending virtually.

2. **Public Comment**

No public comments.

3. **UPWP**

Martin Hull shared information on the Transportation Council's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. The UPWP spells out a plan for the Transportation Council's work for the course of the year through federally funded transportation initiatives. Some of the highlights for the 2026-2027 UPWP include beginning the implementation of both the Metropolitan Transportation Plan "In Motion: The Plan to 2050" and the "Capital Region Vision Zero Safety Action Plan." Additionally, consultants will be hired to prepare a variety of studies, plans, and a regional household travel survey. The Transportation Council plans to host two workshops during the year: a Transportation and Housing Workshop (in conjunction with CDRPC, to help jurisdictions plan for the integration of housing and transportation), and a Tools of the Trade Workshop (for human services transportation providers). The public is invited to review the UPWP and provide comments, which are due by March 3, 2026. The full UPWP document can be found at: www.capitalmpo.org/upwp

4. **Tools of the Trade Workshop planning**

- **Aiming for May.**
- **Half day summit on topics related to human services transportation.**
- **Last held in 2024.**
- **Topics have included volunteer recruitment and retention, CDTA's new Flex service, and transit integration in St. Lawrence County.**
- **Any thoughts on topics or speakers?**

Martin Hull asked for any ideas that the group might have for topics or speakers for the Tools of the Trade Workshop that is planned for later this year.

Mark Castiglione indicated that aging in place and service provision to the population that is aging in place might be too big of a topic for a half-day workshop, but in CDRPC's preliminary research on large apartment complexes, not only is there no coordination with transit, but only one out of 20 communities actually had a zoning

district that allowed large apartment buildings to be constructed. The large apartment complexes that have been built outside of those zones were built via SUPs (Special Use Permits) or PUDs (Planned Unit Developments).

One of the biggest deficits in this region in terms of senior housing is that there is no “third option.” There are people who plan to age in place, and there are assisted living facilities. There’s not a lot of coverage for that middle area of people who want to downsize. This topic may be more appropriate for the housing workshop.

Bob O’Connell indicated that people in southern Saratoga County continue to be interested in mobility management, and that topic would be of interest.

5. NYSDOT solicitation for FTA Section 5311 Formula Grants for Rural Area Program anticipated awards in June

Martin Hull shared that the FTA Section 5311 Formula Grants for Rural Areas is an important program. Once the Transportation Council becomes aware that the process has started moving, it will provide an update. More information about the program can be found at: www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/policy-and-strategy/public-transportation/rural-programs/5311

6. Applications for NYSDOT solicitation for FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities were received in December and are currently being evaluated

Martin Hull shared that the evaluation process for FTA Section 5310 grant applications is currently moving along. Robert O’Connell asked if Martin could share the number of applications that had been submitted for the region. Martin responded that eight applications had been received. More information about the program can be found at: www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/policy-and-strategy/public-transportation/specialized-transportation/5310

7. Albany County pedestrian infrastructure Transition Plan

Carrie Ward shared that this is a project that is looking at sidewalks along Albany County rights of way and roadways, so it does not encompass all of the sidewalks in Albany County. There are not many sidewalks along Albany County rights of ways and roadways, so the implementation timeframe for this project will be shorter than that of

other transition plan projects that the Transportation Council has worked on in the region. The data collection component of the project has been finished. The county is now reviewing an initial draft of the data. It does appear that a lot of the sidewalks that the county owns are in relatively good shape. Carrie anticipates that the Transportation Council will have a draft of the plan out for public review within the next couple of months.

8. **Capital Region Safety Performance Dashboard - [Microsoft Power BI](#)**

Carrie Ward gave a presentation on the Crash Data Viewer, which shows data that was used in the Capital Region Vision Zero Safety Action Plan. This data represents the time period of 2019-2023. The Crash Data Viewer is available to the public on the Transportation Council's website (www.capitalmpo.org/programs/safety-complete-streets/). Carrie's presentation covered how to use the Crash Data Viewer and its various filters. When viewing a map of the data, areas on the map that are red represent higher numbers of crashes in that area.

Ross Dubarry indicated that he was recently contacted by David Harris, who is with AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials), specifically the AASHTO Council on Public Transportation. David is compiling safety data for a report for AASHTO, and Ross asked if the Transportation Council had been contacted by David regarding their crash data.

Carrie responded that she has not heard directly from David, but she indicated that some of the other MPOs in NY State have compiled similar data for their representative counties, so it is possible that David and/or AASHTO reached out to NYSAMPO (NY State Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations) directly for crash data, as opposed to reaching out to individual MPOs.

9. **News Around the Table**

Ross Dubarry shared that the NYSDOT Public Transportation Bureau has done some internal reorganization. The Service and Oversight section has been divided into two distinct program areas, one for Section 5310 and one for Section 5311/5307.

Carrie Ward asked Ross if he knew if the June expectation for 5311 awards is still accurate. Ross responded that he hadn't heard otherwise.

Bob O'Connell shared that in its 2026 budget, the Town of Clifton Park included funding to support the purchase of software for its Senior Express transportation program. The town has met with the people who run the CAPTAIN Community Human Services "Care Links" program, which includes transportation services. The software program used by "Care Links" is called Ride Scheduler. The town likes that software and is hopefully going to be utilizing that kind of software for their senior transportation program. If the town chooses to use that software, it may enable CAPTAIN to do some coordination with the town that it wouldn't have been able to do otherwise.

Peggy Osborne shared that the Town of Bethlehem's Senior Services will be implementing a new software package called My Senior Center, which includes a transportation component. Peggy indicated that she could provide feedback on the software at the next meeting.

Mark Castiglione shared some demographic updates on behalf of CDRPC. The census released its most recent 5-year ACS (American Community Survey) for 2019 to 2024. Most counties in the region are growing at a rate of more than 3%, but the 5-year estimated data only goes through 2024. Regarding vital statistics in this region, for the first time ever, natural growth (the number of births over deaths) is negative, which means there are more deaths than births. It is a similar situation for many areas across the country, but not as severe as for this area. Natural change nationally is about 0.5% positive. However, between 2024 and 2025, the net international migration into the country decreased by 1.5 million. Martin Hull asked how this has affected the Capital Region. Mark responded that he doesn't have the exact statistics for the Capital Region, but the primary reason that the Capital Region has grown is due to international migration. People moving in and out of the region domestically is basically a wash.

Mark also shared that CDRPC, along with all the other regional planning commissions in upstate New York, has filed a grant application for state funds to help with address identification in advance of the 2030 census. If awarded, the funds will cover the work in 45 counties in upstate New York, and the work hopefully will translate into more people being counted so that federal formula funding can be allocated more fairly to New York State.

Next Meeting – May 4, 2026, 2pm

Martin Hull reminded the group that the next HSTAC meeting will take place on May 4th at 2:00 PM.

The meeting ended at 2:40 PM.