

**Policy Board Meeting
March 6, 2025
Meeting Minutes**

Members Attending

Michael Arthur, NYS Department of Transportation – Region 1, Secretary
Phil Barrett, Board of Supervisors Chair, Saratoga County
Michael Beaudet, representing Phil Serafino, New York State Thruway Authority
Andris Blumbergs, representing Supervisor Peter Crummey, Town of Colonie
Michael Collins, Capital District Transportation Authority, Vice-Chair
Stephen Donnelly, Town of Coeymans
Rory Fluman, Schenectady County Manager
Richard Hendrick, representing Christine Stuto, Albany Port District Commission
Andrew Kreshik, representing Mayor Carmella Mantello
The Honorable Gary McCarthy, City of Schenectady
Kim Lambert, representing Tom Werner, Saratoga County
The Honorable John Safford, City of Saratoga Springs
The Honorable Kathy Sheehan, City of Albany, Chair
The Honorable Michael Stammel, City of Rensselaer
Linda von der Heide, representing Steven McLaughlin, Rensselaer County Executive

Staff and Others Attending

Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Mollie Collins, Town of Rotterdam
Jim Digioia, Interested Citizen
Howard Goebel, City of Albany
Teresa LaSalle, Capital Region Transportation Council
Adam McCarvill, Capital Region Transportation Council
Sandra Misiewicz, Capital Region Transportation Council
Parker Morris, Capital Region Transportation Council
Ethan Townsend, Capital Region Transportation Council
Andrew Tracy, Capital Region Transportation Council
Carrie Ward, Capital Region Transportation Council
Greg Wichser, New York State Department of Transportation – Region 1
Dan Lara, Interested Citizen

Opening Remarks

Kathy Sheehan opened the meeting at approximately 3:00 PM.

Privilege of the Floor

There were no speakers.

Administration

A. December 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Sandra Misiewicz noted that the December meeting minutes would be corrected to reference COVID in CDTA's report, and Stephen Donnelly advised he was not present at the meeting. Rory Fluman motioned to approve the December 5, 2024 meeting minutes as corrected, Michael Stammel seconded, and members approved the motion.

B. Policy Board Operations Proposal

Sandra Misiewicz explained that the existing Policy Board operations document did not specify that CDTA's designated Policy Board representative serves as Vice Chair, though this has been the practice. The proposal will update that document to include that specification. Phil Barrett motioned to approve the proposal as presented, Linda von der Heide seconded, and members approved the motion.

C. Nominating Subcommittee Report

Sandra Misiewicz noted that the following are nominated as Policy Board officers: Mayor Kathy Sheehan as Chair, Michael Collins as Vice-Chair until a new Executive Director is announced at CDTA, and Michael Arthur as Secretary. Supervisors Scott Ostrander from the Town of Milton and Mollie Collins from the Town of Rotterdam are nominees for Policy Board Town or Village representatives with Mayors Richard Straut of Voorheesville and Michael Slik of Castleton-on-Hudson as alternates. Peter Comenzo from the Town of Rotterdam is nominated as Planning Committee Town or Village representative, with numerous alternates. Gary McCarthy motioned to approve the nominations as presented, Mark Castiglione seconded, and members approved the motion.

2025 Performance Measure Targets

Sandra Misiewicz noted that there were changes to the measurement methodology for pavement condition by NYSDOT, resulting in an update to the pavement condition target data. Additionally, NYSDOT annually adopts new safety performance measure targets. Policy Board action is needed to support both pavement and safety targets.

A. Resolution 25-1: Support for Revised NYSDOT Pavement Condition Targets

Rory Fluman motioned to approve the resolution on pavement condition targets as presented, Stephen Donnelly seconded, and members approved the motion.

B. Resolution 25-2: Support for NYSDOT Targets for Safety Performance Measures

John Safford motioned to approve the resolution to support NYSDOT’s safety measure targets, Mark Castiglione seconded, and members approved the motion.

2025-2030 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Sandra Misiewicz advised that three submissions were received from the fall planning study solicitation to be considered for inclusion in the work plan for next year. All three are recommended by staff for funding. Staff compiled a draft UPWP and released it for public review at the end of January. The draft presented today includes the final text and additional changes to align the text with new federal executive orders.

A. Resolution 25-3: 2025-2026 Unified Planning Work Program Approval

B. Final Draft 2025-2026 UPWP

Mike Stammel motioned to approve the UPWP as presented, John Safford seconded, and members approved the motion.

2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

Proposed TIP amendments were discussed individually and approved in a single vote. They represent major changes to existing TIP projects that will also be rolled into the Draft 2025-2030 TIP.

A. A611 – Central Avenue/Frisbie Avenue Project Split

Kathy Sheehan explained that the City of Albany initially had two separate projects on the TIP and had combined them. This amendment separates the projects again to enable the Frisbee Avenue project to proceed ahead of the Central Avenue project, which is still undergoing design.

B. R315 – US Route 9 Bridge over I-90 (Exit 11), Bridge Replacement

Greg Wichser explained that the scope on this project will be modified to change the interchange type, in addition to an increase in cost to account for inflation.

C. S281 – Bridge Replacement, Rt 146 over I-890

Greg Wichser explained that this amendment adds freight funding to cover an increase in cost due to inflation.

D. S280 – Bridge Replacement, Rt 146 over Chrysler Avenue

Greg Wichser explained that this bridge also extends over the CSX railroad, and the amendment accounts for cost increase due to height requirements, in addition to inflation. Freight funding will cover the increase.

E. SA338 – Bridge Replacement and Interchange Improvements, I-87 Exit 16

Greg Wichser noted that the configuration of the interchange and accommodation for freight growth in the corridor will increase the cost, which will be covered with freight funding.

F. S263 – Sunnyside Road over Amtrak, Bridge Replacement

Andrew Tracy noted that this amendment exchanges STBG funds for NHPP, and increases the project budget.

G. S267 – NY Route 5S Pedestrian/Bicycle Access Imps from NY 103/Bridge St to Parkis and Iroquois

Molly Collins explained that the local funds will be replaced with HSIP funding.

Linda von der Heide motioned to approve the seven amendments as presented, Gary McCarthy seconded, and members approved the motion.

2025-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Andrew Tracy explained what the TIP is, and that the new TIP will cover the four-year period starting October 1, 2025. A TIP Task Force was convened to prepare materials for the TIP update process. Andrew noted that the previously adopted guidance document was followed except for modifications to align with new federal direction. We received 61 total applications, summing to \$454 million. Staff evaluated all applications following the methodology in the TIP guidance document. About \$294 million of previously existing projects are included in the new TIP. Andrew presented estimates of funding availability by fund source for programming in the new TIP. Ethan Townsend presented the draft project listings, noting fund source eligibility and project scoring. If approved today, the public review period will begin tomorrow with all materials posted to the website, along with an interactive map. There will be a virtual public meeting on March

13th at 1pm, and an in-person public meeting on March 19th at 4pm. Following public input, the next steps would be for the Planning Committee to approve the final TIP in May and the Policy Board to approve in June.

A. TIP Guidance Document and Appendices

Mark Castiglione motioned to approve the amended TIP guidance document, Gary McCarthy seconded, and members approved the motion.

B. Draft 2025-2030 TIP Document for Public Review

Phil Barrett motioned to approve the TIP document as presented for public review, Mark Castiglione seconded, and members approved the motion.

Delegate Authority to Planning Committee to Release Draft Air Quality Conformity Document for Public Review

Sandra Misiewicz explained that the Transportation Council needs to coordinate air quality conformity with the Adirondack/Glens Falls MPO and two rural counties in the broader Albany-Schenectady-Troy MSA, which do not yet have new project listings available. John Safford motioned to delegate authority to the Planning Committee to release the draft air quality conformity document for public review, Rory Fluman seconded, and members approved the motion.

In Motion: The Plan to 2050 Update

Sandra Misiewicz explained that staff have completed needs assessment, and scenario planning, and are now preparing draft strategies. A draft plan will be presented to the Policy Board at its June meeting.

Status of Regional Transportation Planning Initiatives

A. Transportation Council

Sandra Misiewicz noted upcoming public meetings for the Vision Zero Safety Action Plan on March 18, from 4:00-7:00PM at the Washington Avenue Branch Library, March 22, from 9:00AM-2PM at the Troy Farmers Market, March 25, virtually at 6:30PM, and March 26, from 4:00-7:00PM at the Franklin Square Market in Saratoga Springs.

B. CDRPC

Mark Castiglione noted that CDRPC recently released a report on Older Adults in the Capital Region, regional farming trends and updated data on regional employment, cost

of living, and the consumer price index. Under the CDRPC/Transportation Council's technical assistance program, CDRPC developed a study related to the circular economy and the development of a regional reuse center. On March 26th training will be provided on how to use www.capitalregionindicators.org and the US Census website. CDRPC is proceeding cautiously toward completing the EPA-funded regional climate action plan by September.

C. CDTA

No updates were provided.

D. NYSDOT

Michael Arthur noted NYSDOT released a solicitation for implementing the Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan. It is estimated that there will be about \$3.5 million available for the Transportation Council's planning area.

E. NYSTA

No updates were provided.

F. Albany County Airport Authority

No updates were provided.

G. Albany Port District Commission

Richard Hendrick noted that the Port recently received a state grant of about \$18 million to continue work on Beacon Island to prepare the site for a new project. The Port has been discussing the transport of agricultural materials from the Port to Hunts Point in New York City. The Port is interested in better understanding the timeline for the reconstruction of I-787. Greg Wichser advised that it is likely to be another few years before a preferred alternative is chosen.

H. Regional/Local Planning Activities

There were no additional updates.

Other

None provided.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Kathy Sheehan referred to the following upcoming meetings and events:

- TIP Virtual "Lunch and Learn" Webinar on March 13th at 1pm
- TIP Open House on March 19th at 4pm
- Planning Committee on April 2nd at 9:30am

Adjournment

Mark Castiglione motioned to adjourn at approximately 4:03 PM, Gary McCarthy seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Arthur
Secretary