

**Planning Committee Meeting  
August 3, 2022  
Meeting Minutes**

**Members Attending**

Bill Anslow, Albany County  
Susan Barden, City of Saratoga Springs  
Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission  
Steve Feeney, Schenectady County, Chair  
Anna Feltham, Town of East Greenbush  
Patrick Jordan, Albany Port District Commission  
Andrew Kreshik, City of Troy  
Joe LaCivita, City of Watervliet  
Sean Maguire, Town of Colonie, Vice-Chair  
Randy Milano, City of Albany  
Sandra Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Bob Rice, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1  
Tom Richardson, City of Mechanicville  
Joe Seman-Graves, City of Cohoes  
Melissa Shanley, Capital District Transportation Authority  
Mike Valentine, Saratoga County  
Ketura Vics, City of Rensselaer  
Chris Wallin, City of Schenectady

**Staff and Others Attending**

Chris Bauer, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Jacob Beeman, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Mike Brown, Town of East Greenbush  
Chris Cate, McFarland Johnson, Inc.  
Joe Cimino, CHA Companies  
Peter Comenzo, Town of Rotterdam  
Angelo DiStefano, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1  
Tess Drauschak, City of Cohoes  
Mark Hammond, Town of Malta  
Ryan Kedzior, Village of Scotia  
Kelly Kircher, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1  
Elizabeth Kormos, Village of Ballston Spa  
Lana Kroll, CHA Companies  
Rob Leslie, Town of Bethlehem  
Jaime O'Neill, Town of Malta  
Jeff Pangburn, Creighton Manning  
Tony Papile, CHA Companies

Katerina Retzlaff, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1  
Ryan Riper, Town of Wilton  
Rima Shamieh, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Chaim Simon, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Ed Snyder, GPI  
Steve Strichman, City of Troy  
The Honorable Tom Tobin, Village of Colonie  
Andrew Tracy, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Carrie Ward, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1

## **Introduction**

### **Visitor's Issues**

There were no visitor's issues.

### **Presentation – CDTC Jobs Access Report**

Rima Shamieh began the presentation by describing the historic growth pattern in the Capital Region. More people of color in the Capital Region experience poverty than white residents, and of those in poverty, a higher percentage of people of color live in the three largest cities. About 12% of workers are in poverty. She discussed recent changes in the location of frequently low income job types, which is tending to move out of cities. The relationship between home values and the age of homes is inverse, and rental housing tends to be concentrated in areas with older homes in the three largest cities. The rate of bus ridership is significantly higher for people of color than for white residents in the region, and is also higher for people experiencing poverty. Commute times for bus commuters are about twice as long as for car commuters. Rima provided an overview of the ratios of low wage jobs to low wage working residents by municipality. She reviewed where four pairs of zoning code have allowed multi-family housing over time. Generally speaking, areas not allowing housing or allowing only single-family housing have grown, and areas allowing multi-family housing have shrunk. Recommendations in the report include publishing measures of equitable access by transportation providers, encouragement of affordable housing near low-wage jobs, and further researching accessibility of jobs from regional neighborhoods.

## **Administration**

### **Previous Meeting Minutes – May 18, 2022**

Sean Maguire motioned to approve the May 18, 2022 minutes, Chris Wallin seconded, and members approved the motion.

### **Nominations for Planning Committee Vice Chair**

Sean Maguire nominated Steve Feeney to serve as Chair, Randy Milano seconded, and members approved the nomination. Mark Castiglione nominated Sean Maguire to serve as Vice Chair, Pat Jordan seconded, and members approved the nomination.

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

Jacob Beeman noted no major changes to fiscal constraint and that the TIP remains under-programmed in all years.

### **Action Items**

#### **2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments**

**A. S263, 1761.62, Sunnyside Road over Amtrak Bridge Rehabilitation, Village of Scotia, Schenectady County**

Joe Cimino noted that the CHA Companies are under contract for the project and described the Village's requested amendment for a scope change from rehabilitation to replacement. The requested amendment would also change the name and the schedule, add incidental and right-of-way acquisition phases, and reduce funding for construction by the amount to be allocated for those new phases. The bridge currently has five spans, which is more than necessary to cross what is currently one set of tracks. Chris Wallin asked if NYSDOT is still planning to move forward with plans to abandon a rail line bisecting the City of Schenectady that has three at-grade crossings within the city, and create a sand bank line, which would require more than one span on the Sunnyside Road bridge. Bob Rice advised that the amendment as presented is to change the project to a bridge replacement with no stipulation of the number of spans to be included. Andrew Kreshik motioned to approve the amendment, Tom Richardson seconded, and members approved the motion.

**B. R313, 1001.32, NY Rt 2 over NY Rt 22 Bridge Replacement, Town of Petersburgh, Rensselaer County**

Greg Wichser noted that NYSDOT would like to add \$2.1M to the project and change the scope due to the need to replace two culverts as well as a need for deeper foundations. Chris Wallin motioned to approve the amendment as presented, Randy Milano seconded, and members approved the motion.

**C. T148, CDTA01, Washington-Western Corridor BRT Operations**

**D. T149, CDTA02, Intelligent Route Planning for System Expansion and Improvement**

Melissa Shanley noted that items 3 and 4 are new items being added as a result of competitive funding awards. Item 3 will fund service and operational related expenses for the Washington-Western project for the first two years. Item 4 will support use of route planning software to

redesign and restructure service. Pat Jordan motioned to approve the amendments as presented, Randy Milano seconded, and members approved the motion.

- E. TBD, 1762.61, East Old State Rd Sidewalk, Town of Guilderland, Albany County
- F. TBD, 1762.46, Cherry Avenue Extension Multi-Use Path, Town of Bethlehem, Albany County
- G. TBD, 1762.32, Columbia Street Pedestrian Accessibility and Safe Routes to School, City of Cohoes, Albany County
- H. TBD, 1762.59, Sidewalk Improvements, Village of Voorheesville, Albany County
- I. TBD, 1762.56, Intersection and Pedestrian Upgrades, Village of Nassau, Rensselaer County
- J. TBD, 1762.57, Sand Lake Beach Sidewalk Connector Project, Town of Sand Lake, Rensselaer County
- K. TBD, 1762.53, Traffic Safety and Pedestrian Connectivity Improvement, Town of Wilton, Saratoga County
- L. TBD, 1762.60 Town Center Walkability: Clifton Country Road Corridor Pedestrian and Bike Improvement Project, Town of Clifton Park, Saratoga County
- M. TBD, 1762.58, Zim Smith Northern Trail Extension: Phase 1 (Oak St to Malta Ave), Town of Ballston, Town of Malta, Village of Ballston Spa, Saratoga County
- N. TBD, 1761.59, Freemans Bridge Rd Sidewalk Project, Town of Glenville, Schenectady County
- O. TBD, 1525.41, Craig St Bridge Improvements, City of Schenectady, Schenectady County

Greg Wichser noted that items 5 through 15 were recently funded from the TAP/CMAQ solicitation. Mike Valentine motioned to approve the amendments as presented, Tom Richardson seconded, and members approved the amendments.

### **2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Program Update**

#### **1. Draft 2022-2027 TIP Document Approval**

Jacob Beeman noted that changes since the Planning Committee last approved the draft TIP have been limited to fiscal year changes. Years 2 and 3 had been over-programmed. Jacob shared a list of twelve projects proposed to move out to years 4 and 5. This includes five projects that would move to year 5. Those projects would then require a Planning Committee amendment to move into year 4 or earlier. Joe Seman-Graves motioned to approve the TIP Document as presented, Tom Richardson seconded, and members approved the motion. Mike Valentine motioned to approve the fiscal constraint table as presented with the following three changes - for PIN 175919 (SA342, Kinns Road/Plank Road Intersection Improvements) move the preliminary design and design phases into year 1, for PIN 176255 (R353, River/Ferry Intersection) move the preliminary design

and design phases into year 1, and for PIN 176236 (S277, Crane St. Bridge) move the preliminary design and design phases into year 1; Sean Maguire seconded, and members approved the motion.

2. Draft Air Quality Conformity Document Approval
  - o Resolution 20-3

Mike Valentine motioned to recommend that the final TIP document be approved by the Policy Board pending conclusion of the public participation process and any related edits, Sean Maguire seconded, and members approved the recommendation.

### **ADA Transition Plan Solicitation**

Carrie Ward explained that staff has worked with the Town of Glenville, City of Saratoga Springs, and City of Albany to inventory the condition of pedestrian infrastructure and draft Transition Plans. This year's UPWP included additional funds to continue the work. Staff has developed a solicitation for consultant assistance as well as municipal participation in the program. Chris Wallin motioned to approve the consultant solicitation as presented, Andrew Kreshik seconded, and members approved the motion.

### **City of Rensselaer Technical Assistance Project Approval**

Sandra Misiewicz noted that the City of Rensselaer applied to study port access routes. Ketura Vicz explained that the truck route is through 9J but many vehicles utilize Broadway and Riverside Avenue. A company in the port previously provided funding to install a gate. The Technical Assistance Project will discuss the extent of the issue and recommend suitable design solutions. The study budget is \$7,500. Tom Richardson motioned to approve the project as presented, Andrew Kreshik seconded, and members approved the project.

### **FY2021-2022 UPWP Year-End Budget Revision**

Sandra Misiewicz noted a necessity for two year-end revisions to close out the fiscal year ending March 31. Randy Milano motioned to approve the revisions as presented, Andrew Kreshik seconded, and members approved the revision.

## **Discussion Items**

### **Summary of 2019-2024 TIP Project Selection Moves**

Jacob Beeman noted that since April 30<sup>th</sup> there have been five project selection changes.

### **CDTC Project Delivery Update**

Jacob Beeman noted construction for S268 Washington Avenue Bike/Ped Connection was authorized in May, and PS&E for SA306 Moe Road Multi-Use Path was submitted and construction

authorized in June. In September we'll be contacting sponsors to check on progress on all projects prior to end of the fiscal year.

### **NYS DOT Project Delivery Update**

Bob Rice noted that asphalt prices are increasing by about 20%. The estimate for the I-87 Exit 6 Interchange Safety Improvements was \$1.1M and it went out for just over \$1.4. A state-funded Route 4 paving project in Mechanicville was budgeted at \$1.9M and came in at \$2.0M. Project sponsors should ensure that prime contractors are coordinating with their subcontractors to ensure availability of all materials prior to beginning any demolition work. In addition, any contract extensions should be requested by the prime contractor.

### **Status of CDTC Planning Activities**

Sandy Misiewicz noted that the Smart Communities Toolbox is out for public review, consultant selection for the Albany Crane Street, Sand Creek Road Complete Streets, and Town of Brunswick Route 7 Study Linkage projects will begin soon. The consultant contract for the Town of Hoosick asset management plan is out. The Local Road Safety Action Plan qualifies as an Action Plan for the Safe Roads and Streets for All program. There is a [completed checklist](#) on our website. The National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure state plan will be out soon, and the CDTC website includes a map of roadways that may qualify within the 1-mile range off of the interstate system. The Carbon Reduction Program is under development and is expected out in November. This program will include a regional suballocation. The PROTECT program guidance was released this week, with a requirement of 2% spending on planning.

### **Status of Regional and Local Planning Activities**

#### **1. CDRPC**

Mark Castiglione that the annual Corning Awards nomination is open. Applications are due August 18<sup>th</sup>. The solicitation for the joint Technical Assistance remains open. There is now a New York Forward program for towns and villages with hamlet centers. It is similar to the DRI program but on a smaller scale. CDRPC's next in-person workshop is tentatively planned for October 18<sup>th</sup> at Hudson Valley Community College. The new Climate Smart Communities program provides assistance to help communities achieve the Climate Smart Communities designation and secure grants available with that designation. Work continues on broadband planning.

#### **2. CDTA**

Melissa Shanley noted that Montgomery County service will roll out August 28<sup>th</sup> along with a partnership with the Greater Amsterdam School District, and CDTA will be holding community meetings throughout August.

#### **3. NYS DOT**

Bob Rice noted that NYS DOT is very close to releasing the Expression of Interest for the Reimagining the I-787 Corridor Planning Study. The focus will be around the Albany waterfront,

South Mall and Dunn Memorial area, the CP Rail line operation along the waterfront, and other access opportunities. Significant effort will be placed on stakeholder engagement, equity and community connectedness, and climate resiliency. The implementation process for a new round of the Bridge NY program is under review.

4. NYSTA

There was no update.

5. Albany County Airport Authority

There was no update.

6. Albany Port District Commission

Patrick Jordan reported that ships remain down in numbers, but tonnage and long-shore hours are still up. Federal permitting issues are leading to a holding pattern on the Port expansion project. A NYS Rail Grant is funding work to rehabilitate the terminal, roadway, railroad, and a 60,000 square-foot warehouse to better enable bringing traffic off of South Pearl Street and into the Port area.

**Upcoming Meetings/Events/Deadlines**

Steve Feeney referred to the meetings listed on the agenda. Sandra Misiewicz noted that the TIP public comment period runs through August 12<sup>th</sup>. The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for October 5<sup>th</sup>. Mike Valentine announced that Saratoga County will hold its annual Planning and Zoning Conference on February 1<sup>st</sup> 2023.

**Adjournment**

Tom Richardson motioned to adjourn at approximately 11:44 am, Chris Wallin seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Misiewicz, AICP  
Secretary