

Planning Committee Meeting
January 29, 2025
Meeting Minutes

Members Attending

Mike Beaudet, NYS Thruway Authority
The Honorable Michael Butler, City of Mechanicville
Sharon Butler, City of Cohoes
Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Mike Dutre, City of Saratoga Springs
Steve Feeney, Schenectady County, Chair
Howard Goebel, City of Albany
Tom Hulihan, City of Rensselaer
Andrew Kreshik, City of Troy
Kim Lambert, Saratoga County
Sandra Misiewicz, Capital Region Transportation Council, Secretary
Lisa Ramundo, Albany County
Tom Romano, Town of Colonie
John Schneidawin, Albany Port District Commission
Chris Wallin, City of Schenectady, Vice-Chair
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1
Mike Williams, Capital District Transportation Authority

Staff and Others Attending

Chris Bauer, Capital Region Transportation Council
Joe Cimino, CHA Consulting
Peter Comenzo, Town of Rotterdam
Don Csaposs, Town of Guilderland
Josh Giller, Town of East Greenbush
Liz Kormos, Interested Citizen
Tim Lane, Village of Menands
Teresa LaSalle, Capital Region Transportation Council
Emily Loughlin, Capital District Transportation Authority
Adam McCarvill, Capital Region Transportation Council
Nicole McGrath, Federal Highway Administration
Randy Milano, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1
Parker Morris, Capital Region Transportation Council
David Nelson, Capital Region Transportation Council

Juvena Ng, CHA Consulting
Jaime O'Neill, Town of Malta
Jeff Pangburn, CME
Joe Peregrim, Town of Colonie
Bob Rice, FCM Engineering
Scott Rice, Village of Schaghticoke
Ayla Schermer, Federal Transit Administration
Melissa Shanley, Capital District Transportation Authority
Ed Snyder, GPI
Guy Tedesco, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1
Rosa Tirino, Albany County
Ethan Townsend, Capital Region Transportation Council
Andrew Tracy, Capital Region Transportation Council
Carrie Ward, Capital Region Transportation Council

Welcome and Introductions

Steve Feeney opened the meeting at approximately 9:36 a.m.

Visitor Issues

There were no visitor's issues.

Administration

Previous Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2025

There were no proposed changes to the meeting minutes. Sharon Butler motioned to approve the January 8, 2025 minutes as presented, Kim Lambert seconded, and members approved the motion.

Action Items

2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

1. I-787 Viaduct over Broadway Bridge Preservation

Greg Wichser explained that recent bridge lettings have not received any bids. This project will be a drawdown for this one bridge. This will amend the current TIP and will

be let soon. Andrew Kreshik motioned to approve the resolution as presented, Chris Wallin seconded, and members approved the resolution.

2025-2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Release for Public Review

1. Draft 2025-2026 UPWP

Sandra Misiewicz explained that the UPWP is the Transportation Council's planning work plan for the upcoming fiscal year beginning April 1st. It is a federally required product and includes funding for all three applications submitted for consideration at the end of 2024. She summarized the tasks included in the UPWP.

2. Draft Resolution 25-3: 2025-2026 UPWP for Policy Board Approval

Howard Goebel motioned to approve release of the draft UPWP for public review, Sharon Butler seconded, and members approved the motion.

Additional Changes to 2022-2027 TIP Project Data Impacting the 2025-2030 TIP Update

1. New Draft Projects Proposed to Roll off the 2025-2030 TIP

Upon further review, it was discovered that there are additional existing projects with all phases obligated, and which can therefore roll off of the TIP. Mike Butler motioned to remove the provided list of projects to roll off of the TIP, Chris Wallin seconded, and members approved the motion.

2. New Draft Projects Proposed to Roll In to the 2025-2030 TIP As Is

Sandra noted that two additional projects need to roll in to the new TIP. Chris Wallin motioned to roll the two projects into the TIP, Mike Butler seconded, and members approved the motion.

3. New Draft Administrative Modifications to 2022-2027 TIP Projects

Sandra explained that all of the project phases in the provided list need to be moved up to a future fiscal year. Howard Goebel motioned to amend the projects as outlined, Mike Butler seconded, and members approved the motion.

4. Draft SA339/172269 Minor Amendment

Sandra explained that this amendment for the Nelson Avenue bridge over I-87 bridge replacement moves design out to fiscal year 2025 and adds funding to construction. Sharon Butler motioned to approve the minor amendment as presented, Howard Goebel seconded, and members approved the motion.

5. Update to SA338/172276 Major Amendment Recommendation

Ethan Townsend explained that this project for I-87 Exit 16 bridge replacement and intersection improvements still had a phase shown in fiscal year 2023 after the last meeting, and that phase needs to be moved into the current fiscal year for obligation. Andrew Kreshik motioned to approve the major amendment as presented, Sharon Butler seconded, and members approved the motion.

2025-2030 TIP Update

1. Funding Target Estimates and Programming Capacity

Sandra presented the anticipated available funding to program for the next TIP following the previous amendments and based on the planning targets by fund source provided by NYSDOT. She summarized eligibility by fund source.

2. Proposed Scope Change to Regional BRT Set-Aside

Mike Williams explained the history of the BRT Set-Aside. He said it eliminates CDTA from competing at the regional table and also serves as a consistent match source for additional competitive funding. To date, CDTA has built out its initial network with three lines. More recently, CDTA has worked to implement dedicated right of way, including the University at Albany busway. Upgrades to the red line between Albany and Schenectady continue and many other locations in the region justify enhanced infrastructure, which may include microtransit and other micromobility services. CDTA proposes to rename the existing set-aside the Enhanced Transit Infrastructure Set-Aside at the same funding level, to include additional eligibilities of transit priority for non-BRT corridors, mobility hubs, and other street and technology infrastructure at high ridership locations.

3. Proposed Regional Set-asides

Sandra presented the table of proposed set-asides from the previous meeting, which included existing set-asides and three new proposals. The new proposals include implementation of the SS4A project, upgrades to the NYSDOT pedestrian safety action plan (PSAP), and for a traffic signal consultant. Mark Castiglione motioned to approve the existing set-asides as presented with CDTA's new scope for the Enhanced Transit Infrastructure Set-Aside, Andrew Kreshik seconded, and members approved the motion.

The three new set-asides were further discussed. The SS4A set-aside would be responsive to recommendations coming out of the SS4A grant, which could be systemic infrastructure undertaken by local governments, as well as region-wide non-infrastructure projects. The PSAP set-aside could fund multi-site enhancements to calm

traffic. The traffic signal set-aside could focus on the top congested corridors and consider technology enhancements to improve travel time reliability. Mark Castiglione motioned to recommend the three new set-asides as presented, Howard Goebel seconded, and members approved the motion.

4. Candidate Projects – Interactive Location Map and Factsheets by Project Category:
 - a. Pavement Only
 - b. Complete Streets
 - c. Bridge
 - d. Congestion, Freight, and Air Quality (CFAQ)
 - e. Bike/Ped Only
 - f. Other

Andrew Tracy presented all projects submitted for funding organized by project category and in order by the pre-established scoring process. Andrew presented the eligibility by fund source for each project. Staff assembled a draft funding program based primarily on project scoring.

Progressing by category, staff recommended funding the top three scoring projects sponsored by the Village of Colonie (ID# 20), Town of East Greenbush (ID# 47), and Town of Guilderland ID# 49 in the bike/ped only category. Mark Castiglione motioned to approve the staff recommendation for bike/ped only projects, Chris Wallin seconded, and members approved the motion.

The staff recommendation for funding bridge projects is based on project scoring, as well as NYSDOT internal priorities for the NYSDOT projects. Recommended projects include bridges sponsored by NYSDOT (ID# 6, 2, 7, and 5), Saratoga County (ID# 35, 42, and 29), and the Town of Sand Lake ID# 45. Kim Lambert noted that Saratoga County may want to review the recommendations internally following the meeting as the Dwaas Kill bridge (ID# 34) may be more important to the county than the Sand Creek bridge (ID# 29). As everything is draft at this point, any changes to the recommendations may be made at the Policy Board meeting in March. Mark Castiglione motioned to approve the recommended bridges for funding as is, Chris Wallin seconded, and members approved the motion.

Projects recommended for funding by staff in the Congestion Freight & Air Quality category include those sponsored by the Town of Halfmoon (ID# 57), Town of Malta (ID# 56), Town of Wilton (ID# 60), NYSDOT (Project IDs 15 and 14), and the Town of Brunswick (ID#59). Howard Goebel motioned to approve the funding proposal as

presented for the Congestion Freight & Air Quality category, Mark Castiglione seconded, and members approved the motion.

Only one project was recommended by staff in the other category, NYSDOT project ID# 61), design funding for the NY 378 Bridge. Mark Castiglione motioned to approve the recommended project for funding in the Other category, Tom Hulihan seconded, and members approved the motion.

In the Complete Streets category, staff recommended funding the top two scoring projects sponsored by the City of Cohoes (ID# 31) and the City of Albany (ID# 48). Tom Hulihan motioned to approve the funding recommendation for the Complete Streets category as presented, Lisa Ramundo seconded, and members approved the motion.

The staff recommendation for pavement only projects funds all local applications, and NYSDOT projects according to internal NYSDOT priority. Recommended projects include those sponsored by NYSDOT (ID# 11, 23, 10, 9, and 12), Schenectady County (ID# 21 and 16), and Saratoga County (ID# 54 and 32). Chris Wallin motioned to approve the staff recommendation for Pavement Only projects as presented, Greg Wichser seconded, and members approved the motion.

Discussion Items

In Motion Plan Update

Sandra Misiewicz explained that staff held a Lunch & Learn yesterday, and the video is available online. The new survey will be open through the end of February. There will be an open house to discuss all things planning on February 11th from 4-6pm at the Transportation Council office. The draft plan will be released for review in June.

Summary of 2022-2027 TIP Administrative Modifications

Sandra Misiewicz summarized administrative modifications completed since the previous January Planning Committee meeting. The Zim Smith trail saw a budget increase, and the Delaware Avenue project in Bethlehem and Sunnyside Road project in Scotia moved funding between phases.

NYSDOT Project Delivery Schedule

Greg Wichser noted that the project on Route 146 over the Normanskill was let.

Status of Regional Transportation Planning Initiatives

Sandra Misiewicz noted that the table of current planning initiatives is available online.

Regional and Local Planning Updates

1. Transportation Council

There were no further updates.

2. CDRPC

Mark Castiglione noted that the Northern Border Regional Commission's Timber Transit Program is available, and funds bridges and other transportation infrastructure out of wood projects. CDRPC has paused work on the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan funded by the EPA. They will be hosting a training on the Capital Region Indicators website at the end of March. Work on the feasibility of a Regional Re-use Center is underway.

3. CDTA

Mike Williams noted that CDTA will bring the Glens Falls transit system into CDTA's fare system and will then begin to update the Glens Falls route system, which is expected to include a connection into this MPO's area, possibly Saratoga Springs or Albany.

4. NYSDOT

Greg Wichser announced that NYSDOT has tentatively booked May 15th for local sponsors and their consultants for federal aid program training. Please advise Greg and Guy of topics that would be helpful to discuss at this training.

5. NYSTA

There were no updates.

6. Albany County Airport Authority

There were no updates.

7. Albany Port District Commission

There were no updates.

8. Local Government/Other

Kim Lambert noted that the Zim Smith segment from Oak Street to Malta Ave is funded for construction.

Upcoming Meetings/Events/Deadlines

Steve Feeney referenced the upcoming meetings listed on the agenda as follows.


1. Human Services Transportation Advisory Committee - February 3rd
2. Regional Operations and Safety Advisory Committee – February 27th
3. Policy Board – March 6th

The Open House is February 11th and the next Planning Committee meeting will be held on April 2nd.

Adjournment

Howard Goebel motioned to adjourn at approximately 11:48 a.m., Chris Wallin seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sandra Misiewicz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Sandra Misiewicz, AICP
Secretary