



**Policy Board Meeting
June 4, 2026
Meeting Minutes**

Members Attending

Frank Annicaro, Capital District Transportation Authority, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Mayor Dorcey Applyrs, City of Albany
Philip Barrett, Saratoga County Board of Supervisors
Michael Beaudet, representing Phil Serafino, New York State Thruway Authority
Andris Blumbergs, representing Supervisor Peter Crummey, Town of Colonie
Erin Cassady-Dorion, Town of Niskayuna
Melissa Cherubino, representing Mayor Charles Patricelli, City of Watervliet
The Honorable Mayor John DeFrancesco, City of Rensselaer
Chris Marini representing The Honorable Mayor Carmella Mantello, City of Troy
Randy Milano, NYS Department of Transportation Region-1, representing Mike Arthur
The Honorable John Safford, City of Saratoga Springs
Ann Marie Salmon, representing Daniel P. McCoy, Albany County Executive's Office
Larry Schillinger, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Linda von der Heide, representing Steven McLaughlin, Rensselaer County Executive
Chris Wallin, representing The Honorable Gary McCarthy, City of Schenectady
Tom Werner, Saratoga County

Staff and Others Attending

Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Tony Christian, Creighton Manning Engineering
Chris Cook, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Chris Desany, Capital District Transportation Authority
Martin Hull, Capital Region Transportation Council
Madison Hrysko, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Lavina Garcia, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Kate Maynard, Schenectady County
Adam McCarvill, Capital Region Transportation Council

Nicole McGrath, Federal Highway Administration
Sandra Misiewicz, Capital Region Transportation Council
Christine Primiano, Town of Glenville
Melissa Shanley, Capital District Transportation Authority
Ethan Townsend, Capital Region Transportation Council
Andrew Tracy, Capital Region Transportation Council

I. Opening Remarks

Frank Annicaro called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. Those attending in person introduced themselves. Sandra Misiewicz introduced those attending virtually. Frank Annicaro chaired the meeting on behalf of Mayor Gary McCarthy who was unable to attend.

II. Privilege of the Floor

No one was registered to speak.

III. Presentation – The New Normal: Transportation in the Capital Region by Mark Castiglione and Madison Hrysko of the Capital District Regional Planning Commission

Mark Castiglione noted that this project is an example of CDRPC's partnership with the Transportation Council, which invests some of its planning funds with CDRPC to do various studies. CDRPC assessed various modes of transportation and how their use has changed pre-pandemic versus post pandemic. Mark introduced Madison Hrysko who will be providing the presentation

Madison noted the report explores ridership trends between 2019, pre-pandemic, and 2025, post-pandemic, related to CDTA, Amtrak, Albany International Airport and several other modes of travel. CDTA's ridership for its services decreased about 35% between 2019 and 2020 but rebounded to 2019 levels by 2023, slightly increasing between 2024 and 2025. Amtrak ridership dropped from 912,000 passengers in 2019 to 534,000 in 2020 and slowly recovered reaching 2019 levels in 2023. However, a strong rebound happened in 2024 and 2025 when Amtrak reached over 1 million passenger trips, surpassing 2019 levels. The airport saw passenger traffic decrease by 66% between 2019 and 2020 and flights were down 44% in that same period. Passenger traffic rose nearly 90% from the lowest point in 2020 through 2021 and full recovery was met in 2025 when passenger volume surpassed to 3 million for the first time in the airport's history.

The report contains a lot of data, charts, and graphs for the different modes of transportation reviewed, and offers some insights as to the response of the different entities to the pandemic and factors that may have influenced ridership or passenger level recovery. The main takeaway from the report is that the regional trends are all positive, should continue to be monitored, and highlight the good work of our regional partners.

IV. Administration

A. March 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Frank Annicaro asked if anyone had any edits to the draft minutes. There were none. Frank asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mayor John Safford made the motion, seconded by Ann Marie Salmon. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

B. Performance and Expenditure Report (October 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026)

Sandy Misiewicz reviewed the report which is prepared every six months by the Transportation Council to summarize the work federal planning funds have been expended on. Staff developed a new work plan for the fiscal year which began on April 1st, updated the Title VI Analysis and Public Participation Plan, continued the on-demand count program, and continued the technical assistance program in partnership with CDRPC. The regional travel demand model is also being updated and in partnership with CDRPC, population, household, and employment data related to the traffic analysis zones embedded in the model were updated with recent Census data. The model is also being expanded to include Washington, Warren, and Montgomery counties now that CDTA is operating in those counties.

Other planning work included partnering with National Grid on a trail planning and utility corridors webinar, multiple administrative modifications were made to TIP projects and 17 amendments were approved, coordination with NYSDOT and Schenectady County on planning and environmental linkage studies continued, and the Transportation Council approved the Capital Region Vision Zero Safety Action Plan, completed six linkage studies, completed three technical assistance projects and initiated three new projects, and RFP's were issued for the Superload and Resilience planning studies. Additional details are available in the report.

V. 2025-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

A. S259 and RG134 – Craig Street Corridor Rehabilitation

Randy Milano noted that this is a joint project between the City of Schenectady and NYSDOT because the bridge over 890 is owned by NYSDOT. NYSDOT is requesting to convert \$2.8 M in state bonded funds to NHPP along with an additional \$1.5 M in NHPP resulting in an overall cost increase for the project of \$1.54 M. due to a revised cost estimate which will be drawn from RG134, the regional bridge preservation set-aside. RG134 will be reduced by \$4.3 M and the state funds will be reprogrammed. Frank Annicaro asked if there were any questions. Hearing none he asked for a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Linda von der Heide made the motion, seconded by Tom Werner. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

B. S265 and S285 – Freemans Bridge Road Sidewalks and Multi-Use Path

Tony Christian presented the amendment on behalf of the Town of Glenville which had a local project for a multi-use path on Freemans Bridge Road on the west side from Freemans Bridge to Dutch Meadows. During engineering, the Town was awarded TAP funds for sidewalks in the same project limits on the other side of the road. This TIP amendment proposes to shift funds to better align the scope of work for these projects. The TAP funds would be shifted to S285 with additional NHPP funds for roadway repaving at the request of NYSDOT. With the additional funds, S285 would be a \$6.18 M project.

Frank Annicaro asked if there were any questions. Hearing none he asked for a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Chris Wallin made the motion, seconded by Mayor John Safford. All in favor said aye,

there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

C. CDTA Capital Program Amendments

Frank Annicaro reviewed the proposed changes to six existing TIP projects and three new projects that evolved out of CDTA's Board approved capital plan and FTA funding apportionments. T6B for STAR buses and T140 for Flex microtransit vehicle replacements will be combined into one project so CDTA can purchase the same vehicles for both services. The updated cost assigns 10% of the funds to project administration. T11 (passenger facility improvements) and T16 (transit support vehicles) will also have 10% of the funds assigned to project administration. The cost for T14B (preventive maintenance for Saratoga) is being increased based on an updated cost estimate.

T165 is a new project for Midsized Infrastructure Construction that will use Section 5307 funds for upgrades to the Washington and North Allen BRT station area and infrastructure improvements in Ballston Spa. T166 is a new project for IT Security to purchase cyber security hardware and software. Funds for T137 (Bus Plus Red Line Upgrades) will be reprogrammed to support a new intelligent mobility project (T167) as the bus plus project was accomplished with Safe Streets and Roads for All grant funds. The new project includes new traffic operations software, analytics software, and new maintenance services agreements to support traffic signal priority and queue jumpers.

Chris Wallin asked if CDTA has to apply for reimbursement similar to a municipality or do they have a different process. Melissa Shanley responded that for the FTA federal funds, CDTA draws them down through the TRAM system and then keeps the backup to show in an audit or review. CDTA also submits reimbursement requests for most of its federal funding which has a 10% match of state funds and so they submit along with the PIN numbers to NYSDOT for reimbursement. Chris Wallin noted the trend of adding 10% administrative costs to all of CDTA's projects that is a big number. Melissa Shanley noted that they intend to spent up to 10% for administration, not a full 10% for each project.

Mayor John Safford asked about traffic signal priority and how it works. Chris Desany explained there are two aspects of the technology. On the bus, GPS and other technology show where the bus is on the street system. That location is compared to schedule information in the software to determine whether the bus is running early or late. Then, depending on dozens of different parameters and configuration options, the bus can send a signal to the traffic signal controller at the intersection to either extend the green time or shorten the red time to assist the buses with staying on schedule.

Tom Werner asked how that interacts with the agency that has operational responsibility for the signal such as NYSDOT on a state highway. Chris Desany noted that CDTA works with the municipalities and to a lesser extent NYSDOT depending on where the bus is on the system. CDTA works a lot with the traffic engineers in the City of Albany and other cities to coordinate if it needs a repair, if it needs a reconfiguration, a reprogramming, etc. Chris also noted that queue jumpers are different than traffic signal priority. Traffic signal priority is in place at about 130 intersections in the Capital Region. It is not at every intersection CDTA operates. It was launched with the implementation of BRT to improve transit reliability.

Frank Annicaro asked if there were any additional questions. Hearing none he asked for a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Mayor John Safford made the motion, seconded by Tom Werner. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

D. S290 – Route 7 Traffic Calming

Randy Milano explained this is a new project to be added to the TIP for traffic calming on Route 7 in the Town of Niskayuna. The project cost estimate is \$5.8 M to install proven traffic calming measures primarily between St. Davids Lane and Mohegan Avenue. Measures may include raised medians and narrow travel lanes to lower travel speeds. An open house was held in April and another one is scheduled in July at which an alternative will be presented that includes a signal, crosswalks, and pedestrian accommodations at Hickory Road.

Chris Wallin asked if the town submitted an SS4A project application. Sandy Misiewicz said yes, they went after supplemental funding to expand the project limits for a similar scope. It is hoped that this new project would be completed next year.

Frank Annicaro asked if there were any questions. Hearing none he asked for a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Linda von der Heide made the motion, seconded by Ann Marie Salmon. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

E. Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Grant Projects

Sandy Misiewicz explained that six projects were awarded funding through the 5310 Program, which funds transportation options for seniors and those with disabilities. The projects are largely vehicle purchases or replacements for several different human services transportation providers. The six new projects need to be added to the TIP.

Frank Annicaro asked if there were any questions. Hearing none he asked for a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Ann Marie Salmon made the motion, seconded by Chris Wallin. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

F. T175 - Mobility Service Expansion, Integration, and Supporting System Enhancements

Frank Annicaro explained that this is a new project for \$11.25 M in CMAQ funds that supports an integrated mobility experience for customers that enables coordinated trip planning, booking, and payment across transit modes including STAR and Flex services. This is new money coming into the Capital Region.

Kate Maynard asked if CDTA knows yet where they intend to expand Flex. Frank Annicaro said they have received a number of requests but are reviewing options.

Frank Annicaro asked if there were any questions. Hearing none he asked for a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Linda von der Heide made the motion, seconded by Mayor John DeFrancesco. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

VI. Resolution 26-2: Public Participation Plan Adoption

Sandy Misiewicz reviewed the final draft Public Participation Plan. Changes were needed as two executive

orders were rescinded at the federal level and the public review timeframes for amendments to Transportation Council products needed to be updated. The most significant timeframe proposal is related to major TIP amendment public review which would drop from 25 days to 10 days to better align with meeting schedules so action can be taken in a timely manner. References to the dissolved equity advisory committee were removed, references to the new metropolitan transportation plan were added, evaluation metrics were updated, and the Limited English Proficiency plan was removed as an appendix as it is approved separately.

Per federal requirements, a 45 day public comment period on the draft plan just closed and there were no comments. During the public comment period, staff opted to further clarify and simplify some aspects of the evaluation section to simplify the assessment for staff. The Title VI plan was also added as a core planning activity requiring public review.

Frank Annicaro asked if there were any questions. Hearing none he asked for a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Linda von der Heide made the motion, seconded by Chris Wallin. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

VII. Resolution 26-3: Air Quality Conformity Adoption

Sandy Misiewicz explained that Air Quality Conformity is a federal requirement related to the Clean Air Act. The document being adopted today is needed as an amendment to the project list in the metropolitan transportation plan is expected later this year, moving the 787 project from illustrative to fiscally constrained. This change signals a regional financial commitment to a project in the next 30 years. Before the metropolitan transportation plan can be amended, a new Air Quality Conformity Determination needs to be adopted. The 787 project has been classified as non-exempt for air quality which means a full Environmental Impact Statement will need to be prepared. Transportation Council action is needed to include this detail in its Air Quality Conformity Determination per federal requirements.

Frank Annicaro asked for a motion to approve the Air Quality Conformity document. Mayor John Safford made the motion, seconded by Chris Wallin. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

VIII. Resolution 26-4: Title VI Analysis Approval

Sandy Misiewicz explained that this report is assembled after the Transportation Council adopts a new metropolitan transportation plan and TIP to assess how the MPO is doing with respect to being inclusive in the transportation planning process. This is specific to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The report reviews the Transportation Council's planning work and how its decisions have impacted various population groups. Demographic data is included in the analysis.

Frank Annicaro asked for a motion to approve the Air Quality Conformity document. Chris Wallin made the motion, seconded by Ann Marie Salmon. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

IX. Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan Project Recommendations

Sandy Misiewicz explained that although official funding announcements have yet to be made, the Transportation Council would like to recommend four projects for funding through the NYS Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan program. The applications are from Albany County, and the Towns of Guilderland, Halfmoon, and Wilton. The proposals are similar in that they request funding to replace guide rail, add edge line markings, widen shoulders, and other improvements to reduce the risk of a roadway departure crash.

Frank Annicaro asked for a motion to approve the Air Quality Conformity document. Linda von der Heide made the motion, seconded by Ann Marie Salmon. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried.

X. Status of Regional Transportation Planning Initiatives

a. Transportation Council

Sandy Misiewicz noted that the Superload study kick off meeting is on June 10th. The proposal were due this week for the Resilience Plan and the RFP is out for the Village of Scotia ADA Transition Plan. The Transportation Council is also hosting a Tools of the Trade Workshop for human services transportation providers on June 18th from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hudson Valley Community College. Human services transportation providers include those who provide transportation for seniors and those with disabilities. Registration opened and a preliminary agenda is available. Federal funds have also been restored for the Capital District Clean Communities Coalition. The first meeting will be on June 25th and the guest speaker will be from National Grid to talk about customer solutions for medium and heavy duty vehicles. Finally, on September 23rd the Transportation Council and CDRPC will be hosting a HUD Thriving Communities housing and transportation workshop. The workshop will focus on the challenges, opportunities, and barriers to integrating housing and transportation.

b. CDRPC

Mark Castiglione shared that CDRPC released new data on regional building permits, housing sales, and cost of living which can be found on their website. A report is about to be released on migration, both interstate and intrastate, to see what counties people are moving to and from. The Capital Region Natural Resource Inventory portal also launched. It is an interactive, web-based planning resource designed to help municipalities visualize and protect important natural resources in their communities. CDRPC also launched an interactive mapping tool that shows the location of Tier 1 and Tier 2 battery energy storage systems. CDRPC is also hosting a climate action webinar series the first Wednesday of each month through the fall. Finally, October 16th will be the date of the fall planning and zoning workshop at Hudson Valley Community College.

c. CDTA

Chris Desany thanked the Policy Board members for their continued support of CDTA. Regarding the red line upgrades, progress slowed due to some changes in FTA regulations but that has all not been resolved and CDTA plans on starting construction this year. This year also marks the 15th anniversary of the Red Line BRT. CDTA will be exploring transit oriented development in the region as the FTA continues to focus on this topic. This will require a great deal of regional collaboration.

d. NYSDOT

Randy Milano shared that there are a lot of large paving projects underway including the Northway which will be paved from Western Avenue all the way to Exit 11. The Riverview Road Bridge replacement project is also underway to be completed in 2027. On the staffing side, Mark Saunders has retired and Brian Lashway is the new resident engineering for Rensselaer County.

Frank Annicaro commended NYSDOT and the Thruway on all the work they are doing to raise awareness about safety in work zones. Randy Milano noted that the automated enforcement in work zones is producing an overwhelming number of violations.

e. NYSTA

Mike Beaudet shared that the comment period on the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan has ended. An internal draft is currently being reviewed and will be shared at a safety summit in August for Executive review and comment. Once that is done, a final action plan will be adopted sometime in December.

f. Albany County Airport Authority

No update.

g. Albany Port District Commission

No update.

h. Regional/Local Planning Activities

Ann Marie Salmon shared that the Albany County Alliance is currently working on a traffic study for the Port of Coeymans area and had a well attended community engagement session last week. The Alliance is also hosting a public workshop for the downtown Albany bus terminal project in the former McDonald's.

VII. Other

No other updates were shared.

VIII. Upcoming Meetings/Events

- A. Regional Operations and Safety Advisory Committee (ROSAC): June 11th at 1:00 PM
- B. Planning Committee: July 1st at 9:30 AM
- C. Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC): July 8th at 9:30 AM
- D. Human Services Transportation Advisory Committee (HSTAC): August 3rd at 2:00 PM
- E. Planning Committee: August 5th at 9:30 AM
- F. Freight Advisory Committee (FAC): August 12th at 9:30 AM
- G. Policy Board: September 3rd at 3:00 PM

Frank Annicaro asked the group to take note of upcoming meetings and events.

IX. Adjournment

Frank Annicaro asked for a motion to adjourn. Chris Wallin made the motion, seconded by Linda von der Heide. All in favor said aye, there were no oppositions or abstentions, and the motion carried. Meeting ended at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'F. Annicaro', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Frank Annicaro
Vice-Chair