



Active Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

April 9, 2024, 9-10:30am

Transportation Council Office, 1 Park Pl, Albany, NY 12205

Attendees

- Ben Luke, Albany County DOH
- Charles Welge, Albany County Department of Health
- Christina Akey - NYS Department of Health, Bureau of Occupational Health and Injury Prevention - Health Educator
- David Long, JMT, Traffic Section Manager
- Ed Brennan, President, Albany Bicycle Coalition
- Ed Snyder, Director of Business Development, GPI
- Emily Loughlin, Senior Planner, CDTA
- Emily Scimeca, Capital Roots
- Ethan Warren, Senior Planner, CDTA
- James Rath, Executive Director, Capital Streets
- Jen Ceponis Transportation Council
- John Scavo, Director of Planning, Town of Clifton Park
- Kaylee Noll, Transportation Analyst Trainee, Region 1 DOT
- Lindsey Bradt, CDTA/CDPHP Cycle!
- Megan Bacon, Senior Project Engineer, MJ Engineering
- Nate Owens, Senior Planner, Town of Bethlehem
- Rebecca Odell, Transportation Council
- Steve Bratspis, CDTA/CDPHP Cycle!
- Thomas E. Hulihan, Director of Planning and Development, City of Rensselaer
- Tess Drauschak, Transportation Council
- Ivan Vamos, New York Bicycling Coalition
- Linda von der Heide, Principal Planner, Rensselaer County
- Carrie Ward, Transportation Council
- Chaim Simon, Transportation Council

Notes

- Welcome & introductions
- Feature Presentation: Regional Vision Zero Action Plan Update (Carrie Ward)
 - Key outcomes include:

- building partnerships and a shared vision around regional roadway safety (using 4 E's)
 - Developing a comprehensive Safety Implementation Program of fundable projects and have annual reporting on that program.
 - We are adopting a Safe System Approach, which has had success in other countries.
 - Part of this will be adopting a vision zero target with a date.
 - Includes equity analysis, safety analysis (data review, historic trends, network screening, high injury network, systemic safety analysis), speed limits to enable certain municipalities to reduce speed limit to 25 mph.
 - We will use the above to develop a strategy and select projects, safety investigations at 40 sites, and policy and process changes, a transparent progress report, and a final vision zero action plan.
 - Discussion
 - Ivan wanted to note that fatalities per hundred miles is not a good metric to evaluate how safe or unsafe walking is because of the difference in scale
 - Also, fatalities are often a result of chance, serious injuries should also be considered
 - Charles Welge: Please note that Albany County Department of Health is recipient of GTSC Highway Safety grant program
 - Ed Brennan: ITSMR VRU fatality and serious injury data for Albany County and Albany City appears to have climbed sharply in 2022 and persisted in 2023 to levels unprecedented since ITSMR has published its data. Have other counties in our area seen this same issue? Is this vehicle size and speed? Intoxication? Any idea yet what is driving this?
 - Linda von der Heide: anecdote about pedestrians not checking the lights in Troy when crossing the street
 - Carrie Ward: we are looking at researching this, but this is not unique to Albany County or Albany City
- Discussion items:
- InMotion 2050 (Jen Ceponis)
 - Please reach out if you have any events or meetings we can table or speak at to increase public engagement
 - Virtual in motion interactive workshop: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-9_DBH-Jmxo
 - Survey: <https://form.jotform.com/crtcmpo/long-range-survey>
- CDPHP *Cycle!* season summary
 - Lindsey Bradt: the cycle season has started, and we are excited to get the bikes out early this year! E-bikes and regular bikes are out
- Regional Trail Planning



- We are going to start trail counting again now that there's nicer weather, please let us know if there are trails you would like counted
 - James Rath: It'd be great to see data between Troy and Albany. Specifically, it'd be great to see usage of the Troy-Menands Bridge
- 2024-25 Unified Planning Work Program
 - Halfmoon/Clifton Park County Route 109 Corridor study and Niskayuna Complete Streets Study: NYS Route 7 have been approved
- NYS MPO Bicycle & Pedestrian Working Group updates
 - Updates at end of meeting
- Transportation Council Complete Streets Policy
 - Vision Zero and UPWP
- [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) (BIL)
 - Funding opportunities: congestion relief program, multimodal project discretionary grant, active transportation infrastructure investment program
 - Please see our website for more funding information from FHWA
 - Congestion Relief: April 22 <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/352531>
 - Multimodal Discretionary: May 6 https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2024-03/MPDG%202025-2026%20Notice%20of%20Funding%20Opportunity_0.pdf
 - Active Transportation Infrastructure: June 17 <https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/353043>
- Status of Planning Initiatives
 - See attached list
- Other Updates
 - In the future we will have data on CDPHP ridership
 - Ivan Vamos: Discussed possible project in Menands, interested in restoring small boat river access called "Little River". There is support from Region 1 DOT and a study is underway by Hudson Greenway. There would be a walkway attached to the access. There are currently 65-year-old culverts there that are likely undersized. When these culverts are replaced, we'd like a bridge and other issues to be considered. Possibly in context with the 787 reimagination.
 - Ed Brennan: Albany Bicycle Coalition will hold its 7th Annual Free Earth Day Ride on April 20th. 10-mile ride. Looking at Albany City Complete Streets Projects. Gathering 12:45pm at Capital Hills Golf Course Parking Lot. <https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/upcoming-events/earth-day-bike-ride/>
 - Capital Streets: We held our anniversary party event recently, over 120 people attended and we will be creating an annual report. Current projects include advocating for complete streets considerations on Manning Blvd and a separated facility on Frisbee Ave, both in City of Albany. Also awaiting updates on 787.



- [May 1: 787 Public Meeting from 4-7 at 55 Eagle St Albany NY](#)
 - Nate Owens: the town of Bethlehem has several announcements. We are wrapping up Kenwood Ave traffic calming study and are making a local road speed limit reduction plan, dropping speed limit to 25mph. We have several projects in the works, including Cherry Ave extension multi use path, connecting Kenwood avenue, the rail trail, and the Slingerlands roundabout. About to launch a campaign called Bethlehem Safe Streets. Updating zoning code to incorporate connectivity and transit. Walk and Roll fest on Saturday May 18.
 - Transportation Council: Our Technical Assistance program is open on a rolling basis, please reach out if you have project ideas or questions
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- Upcoming Meetings: July 9, 2024; October 8, 2024
 - All meetings will be offered in a hybrid format and are recorded and live streamed to the Transportation Council YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb-8bzvqrkwNSCpjcD1N_BA

STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL PLANNING INITIATIVES AS OF APRIL 1, 2024

NAME AND LOCAL SPONSOR	CONSULTANT OR STAFF, PROJECT COST, TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL CONTACT	FUNDING APPROVAL DATE	STATUS	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE	PROJECT WEBSITE LINK
COMMUNITY PLANNING SUPPORT					
1. Route 4 Corridor Study: Inter-Municipal Update Town of East Greenbush	M.J. Engineering and Land Surveying \$90,000 Chris Bauer	Policy Board Approved 3/4/21	The consultant team continues to develop the draft project report.	April 2024	https://nyroute4study.com
2. Town of Brunswick Hoosick Road Corridor Study Town of Brunswick	Creighton Manning Engineering \$99,000 Andrew Tracy	Policy Board Approved 3/3/22	Second round survey closed on March 10th; over 1,100 responses recieved. Public open house meeting was held on March 4th at the Brunswick Community Center; over 100 attendees. Consultant team is compiling public input and preparing final report. Study website is https://hoosickroadstudy.com/	April 2024	https://hoosickroadstudy.com/
3. Sand Creek Road Complete Street Feasibility Study Village of Colonie	MJ Engineering and Land Surveying \$65,000 Jacob Beeman	Policy Board Approved 3/3/22	Consultant made final presentation to the Village Board on March 4th and study was approved by Board. Final invoice was submitted for payment on March 14th. Study is Complete.	March 2024	https://www.sandcreekcompletestreets.com/
4. City of Schenectady Albany & Crane Streets Linkage Study City of Schenectady	PLACE Alliance \$90,000 Jen Ceponis	Policy Board Approved 3/3/22	A final Study Advisory Committee that was open to the public was held in February. The consultant team is finalizing the report, the project is substantially complete.	April 2024	https://www.craig-main-connection.com/albany--crane-streets.html
5. All Access Complete Streets Feasibility Study Village of Voorheesville	TBD \$55,000 Rima Shamieh	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	Full contract execution is pending.	March 2025	TBD
6. Broadway Flood Resilient Multi-Modal Corridor Study Albany County	Highland Planning \$115,000 Jen Ceponis	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	The Study Advisory Committee met and visited the study area. A Draft Public Involvement Plan and Existing Conditions Assessment is being developed by the consultant team.	November 2024	www.ResilientBroadway.com
7. Castleton Complete Streets & Connections Plan Village of Castleton-on-Hudson	Verity Engineering \$75,000 Chaim Simon	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	Project website is live with existing conditions, public survey, and interactive map. First round of public outreach is being scheduled.	December 2024	www.castletonstreets.com
8. Central Avenue West Corridor Study Town of Colonie	TBD \$150,000 Andrew Tracy	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	REI issued, and consultant proposals received March 12th. Consultant selection team is evaluating proposals with anticipated selection in April.	November 2024	TBD
ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY PLANNING SUPPORT (continued)					

NAME AND LOCAL SPONSOR	CONSULTANT OR STAFF, PROJECT COST, TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL CONTACT	FUNDING APPROVAL DATE	STATUS	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE	PROJECT WEBSITE LINK
9. Curry Road & Guilderland Avenue Multi-Modal Study Town of Rotterdam	TBD \$90,000 Carrie Ward	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	The project kicked off in March. Partners are assembling a Study Advisory Committee.	March 2025	TBD
10. Milton Town Center Plan Update Town of Milton	LaBella \$100,000 Jacob Beeman	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	Project kickoff meeting was held February 27th. Consultant is working on existing studies review, assembling the Study Advisory Committee (SAC) in preparation for first SAC meeting anticipated for late March early April.	March 2025	TBD

COMMUNITY PLANNING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

1. Saratoga Truck Traffic Study	\$9,547 Chris Bauer	Policy Board Approved Technical Assistance Program 3/2/2023	The data collected and the draft technical memo were transmitted and reviewed by the City. The technical memo was revised and finalized. The project is substantially complete.	March 2024	N/A
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ADDITIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL PLANNING INITIATIVES

1. MTP Update: In Motion 2050 Transportation Council - Regional	Transportation Council Staff \$100,000 Jen Ceponis	Included in the 2023-2024 UPWP	A new brand, logo and tagline has been developed. The Regional Trends StoryMap and Report, and Public Involvement Plan have been completed. The first In Motion Task Force meeting is anticipated to be scheduled for April 2024.	Adopted September 3, 2020 Anticipated adoption of next MTP: September	www.inmotionplan.org
2. NY 378 Bridge Transportation Scoping/PEL Study NYSDOT	WSP \$400,000 Susan Olsen, NYSDOT Andrew Tracy	TIP Project A605/R344: NY 378 Troy Menands Bridge Study	Project is near completion, awaiting final report. The Troy-Menands Bridge Draft Project Scoping Report (PSR) and Draft PEL Questionnaire are available at https://www.dot.ny.gov/troymenandsbridge/reports .	TBD	https://www.dot.ny.gov/troymenandsbridge
3. Regional Truck Parking Study	Gannett Fleming \$137,750 Chris Bauer	Planning Committee Approved 4/7/21	The Policy Board approved the final report at their March meeting. The project team is collecting the final project files, and closing out the project. The project is substantially complete.	April 2024	TBD
4. ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for Pedestrian Infrastructure	Village of Ballston Spa Town of Guilderland City of Troy Carrie Ward	Planning Committee Approved 11/2/2022	Public review of the draft Troy and Guilderland plans is expected in April.	May 2024	N/A

ADDITIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL PLANNING INITIATIVES (continued)

NAME AND LOCAL SPONSOR	CONSULTANT OR STAFF, PROJECT COST, TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL CONTACT	FUNDING APPROVAL DATE	STATUS	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE	PROJECT WEBSITE LINK
5. Hoosick Asset Management Plan Town of Hoosick	Stantec \$33,000 Teresa LaSalle	Policy Board Approved 3/3/22	The consultant team is revising the Draft Final Report.	April 2024	N/A
6. Design-Engineering Feasibility and Planning Study for Reimagining the I-787 Corridor NYSDOT	Parsons \$5,000,000 Greg Wichser, NYSDOT Kelley Kircher, NYSDOT Chris Bauer Jen Ceponis	TIP Project A609 Reimagining the I- 787 Corridor Planning Study	The consultant continues to work on concept development and refinement, as well as the Purpose and Need Statement. Mapping of various environmental, cultural and historic resources continues. Stakeholder engagement remains ongoing with neighborhood associations, business groups, and Transportation Council advisory committees. The consultant team is actively coordinating with the Transportation Council on the development of the base and future year travel demand model and other traffic simulations. The project team is preparing for an open house in early Spring to draft concepts and start the next phase of public engagement.	March 2026	https://webapps.dot.ny.gov/reimagining-i-787A
7. On-Demand Motor Vehicle, Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Services	NDS (National Data & Surveying Services) Up to \$160,000 Teresa LaSalle	Included in the 2023-2024 UPWP	Vehicular and bicycle and pedestrian counts continue to be undertaken to support Transportation Council planning studies and projects, and municipal requests.	March 2025	N/A
8. Regional Signal Timing Program	GPI \$100,000 Andrew Tracy	Included in the 2022-2023 UPWP	Optimized timings implemented on West Ave in Saratoga Springs and on State and Erie in Schenectady. New Scotland Ave timing plan prepared and under review with implementation pending.	April 2024	N/A
9. Vision Zero Action Plan Supported by Cities of Albany, Cohoes, Saratoga Springs, and Troy; Village of Green Island; NYSDOT	Cambridge Systematics \$1,288,000 Sandy Misiewicz Carrie Ward	Included in the 2023-2024 UPWP	The contract was awarded and the project kicked off in February 2024.	April 2025	TBD