

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Draft Meeting Minutes

July 1, 2015

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bill Anslow, representing Darrell Duncan, Albany County
Brad Birge, City of Saratoga Springs
Frank Bonafide, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1
Ross Farrell, Capital District Transportation Authority
Steve Feeney, Schenectady County, Vice-Chair
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee, Secretary
Stephen Iachetta, Albany County Airport Authority, Chair
Andrew Kreshik, City of Troy
Randy Milano, City of Albany
Paul Reuss, Village of Menands
Tom Richardson, City of Mechanicville
Laura Robertson, Town of Niskayuna
Jeremy Smith, City of Watervliet
Joseph Teliska, representing Wayne Bonesteel, Rensselaer County
Michael Tengeler, representing Joe LaCivita, Town of Colonie
Michael Valentine, Saratoga County
Christopher Wallin, City of Schenectady
Brett Williams, representing Ahmad Ibrahim, NYS Thruway Authority

STAFF AND OTHERS

Tom Baird, Barton & Loguidice
Chris Bauer, Capital District Transportation Committee
Robert Cherry, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1
Jennifer Ceronis, Capital District Transportation Committee
Bryan Cross, NYD Department of Transportation- Region 1
Robert Hansen, Creighton Manning
Karen Hulihan, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1
Christine Kingery, Spectra Engineering
Christina Minkler, CHA Companies
Sandy Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee
Shelley Norton, Town of Malta
Chris O'Neill, Capital District Transportation Committee
Glenn Posca, Capital District Transportation Committee
Bill Trudeau, City of Albany

VISITORS' ISSUES

Steve Iachetta opened the meeting at approximately 9:38 AM. There were no visitors' issues.

ADMINISTRATION

Previous Meeting Minutes - May 6, 2015

Members approved the May 6, 2015 minutes.

PRESENTATION – COMPLETE STREETS EDUCATIONAL & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP SERIES

Chris Bauer explained that the Complete Streets Educational & Technical Workshop Series is in response to recommendations by the

Complete Streets Advisory Committee. The purpose of the workshop series is to assist local governments in developing and implementing Complete Streets policies. The task was developed with guidance from Complete Streets Advisory Committee and supports the New Visions recommendation to provide Complete Streets training. A maximum of \$40,000 is budgeted to fund up to four workshops. A "Linkage-like" project administration will be used. Ten responses to the training consultant RFP were received and Planning 4 Places with Sam Schwartz Engineering were selected by the selection committee.

Three workshop types will be offered:

1. Workshop Type A: Complete Streets Basics
2. Workshop Type B: Complete Streets Policy Development
3. Workshop Type C: Complete Streets Policy Implementation

Discussion about the focus of each workshop type followed the presentation. Chris Bauer said the intent is to make each workshop targeted and tailored to the needs of an individual municipality.

ACTION ITEMS

2013-18 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

R246 & SA244 (PIN 1089.64): US 4 over the Hudson River: Element Specific Repair

Frank Bonafide explained that revised cost estimates have necessitated an adjustment of funding for this project, to be offset by reducing RG117, State Pavement Maintenance Set-Aside (see below). Members approved the amendment.

A547 (PIN 1051.79): South Mall Expressway Pier 18 Repair: I-787 to Empire State Plaza, Repair

Frank Bonafide explained that this project will make repairs deemed necessary to prolong the lifespan of these critical bridges, thus continuing the work started with PIN 1051.71 (South Mall Expressway Bridges Repair). The cost increase will be offset by a reduction in the State Pavement Maintenance Set-Aside. Members approved the amendment.

RG117 (PIN 1809.42): State Pavement Maintenance Set-Aside

The reductions in this project were approved as part of the previous two

amendments.

S223 (1759.95) & S224 (1759.96): Guilderland Avenue & Broadway Mill and Fill

Chris Wallin explained that the City of Schenectady is requesting that these two projects be combined into one TIP number to better facilitate the completion of the project, and the construction phases for both projects reflect that of project S224 as currently shown in FFY 14-15. No change in cost was requested.

Joe Teliska said that S223 had to be obligated by February 2015 and he asked for an update on projects that had deadlines. Karen Hulihan said that the projects are moving. Mike Franchini said that CDTC staff would develop a list for the next meeting showing the status of these

projects. He said that if a sponsor has a reasonable request to move a project phase, it has generally been approved. Joe Teliska asked how this might affect projects in 2016. Frank Bonafide explained that what is not spent will roll over. This is only a problem if too much rolls over. He said for future reference, when programming a project it is best not to program design and construction in the same year.

Chris Wallin explained that the City has been working closely with NYSDOT, but the project schedule has not aligned with the City fiscal budget cycle. Frank Bonafide commented that while it behooves us to deliver projects, there is a need to be flexible. Members approved the amendment, with Joe Teliska abstaining.

A435 (PIN 1756.63): ITS Transit Signal Priority on Washington and Western Avenues

Bill Trudeau explained that this project received very favorable bids. This created an opportunity to include striping for crosswalks and ADA compliant curb ramps into the project without increasing cost. Originally, the striping and curb ramps had been removed as a cost saving measure. Andrew Kreshik commented that ADA compliant features should always be incorporated into ITS projects. Bob Hansen said that it was never the intent to not include ADA compliance; it would have been accomplished with separate features. Rob Cherry said that ADA compliance should be integral to the project, not icing on the cake. NYSDOT is becoming more and more cognizant of this. Mike Franchini said that we should discuss this more and we can consider requiring ADA compliance in the TIP update. Members approved the amendment.

1933.34 Maxon Road Grade Crossing Signal Upgrade, City of Schenectady

Frank Bonafide explained that this is a rail safety project that does not use competitive funds. Steve Feeney said that this is part of the bike trail extension project. Metroplex contributed \$80,000 to make the project whole. Members approved the amendment.

SA214 (1722.05): I-87, Exit 13 to Exit 15, Resurfacing

Frank Bonafide explained that the amendment will move design into the STIP period. Construction remains in the post TIP. Members approved the amendment.

S230 (PIN 1525.36): I-890 Exit 4 Ramp Reconfiguration

Frank Bonafide explained that with this amendment, extra Main Office Safety money will be used, and CDTC funds will not increase. Members approved the amendment.

SECTION 5310 ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM PROJECT SELECTION

Mike Franchini referred to the explanation in the mail out. The 5310 Program provides funds for projects that serve the special needs of transit-dependent populations beyond traditional public transportation services and Americans with Disabilities Act complementary paratransit services. Basically this program funds capital projects such as human service agency vehicles, related equipment and mobility management, and other non-capital or operating projects such as development of a regional driver training curriculum. He said there is a tight schedule

for the CDTC review process and for the statewide review process.

Seven projects were received in the CDTC area, and there is enough funding to approve all seven projects. The balance will be available in the future. Mike reviewed the seven projects. Members approved the CDTC review process.

COMPLETE STREETS EDUCATIONAL & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP SOLICITATION APPROVAL

After a brief discussion that referred to Chris Bauer's presentation on this topic at the beginning of the meeting, members approved the Complete Streets Educational & Technical Assistance Workshop Solicitation.

DRAFT CDTC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICY UPDATE RELEASE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chris O'Neill explained that the update of the existing CDTC Public Participation Policy is required by federal regulation for MPOs. CDTC is updating this in harmony with the New Visions update schedule and we are looking for a September approval by the Policy Board. We are asking the Planning committee to approve a 45 day review period.

He explained that CDTC goes beyond meeting requirements and includes meaningful participation and dialogue. The Linkage Program provides an important component of CDTC's public participation. New Visions is the cornerstone of CDTC's planning and public participation, and has included a two year process, subcommittees, 7 public meetings, and a 90

day review of final draft Plan. Review requirements for the RTP, the TIP and the UPWP are included. Members approved the release of the draft document for a 45 day public review.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Progress Report for the Period October 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015

Mike Franchini highlighted important work products completed by CDTC including the New Visions Plan update, the I-787/Hudson Waterfront Corridor Study, the Town of Colonie GEIS project review process, the ADA Working Group, completion of the Clifton Park Linkage Study, employment forecasts by TAZ completed by CDRPC, and the Saratoga Regional Traffic Study. Members approved the Progress Report.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

BIKE TO WORK DAY

Carrie Ward reported on the Bike to Work Day Workplace Challenge. Over 400 people registered for the challenge in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady Counties, amounting to over 4,000 bicycle miles. The cities of Albany, Schenectady and Saratoga competed for the municipal challenge. The City of Schenectady is the first-ever winner of the municipal challenge, for the highest percent participation including the mayor or supervisor.

NYSDOT PROJECT DELIVERY SCHEDULE

Karen Hulihan distributed the report and explained that above the line means actual and below the line means anticipated. Good progress has been made.

STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES

CDTC

Mike Franchini said that New Visions is going well. Staff will recommend changes based on comments and present them to the Planning Committee. Sree Nampoothiri left CDTC. For family reasons he accepted a position in northern Virginia. He will be missed. His responsibilities are being reassigned within the staff.

CDRPC

Rocky Ferraro reported that the new CDRPC website has been launched. The Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Project is moving well; the first Board meeting of the newly created Local

Development Corporation is scheduled for July 9th. CDRPC will be the Project Manager on behalf of the Albany Pool communities to implement the 15 year plan of proposed improvement.

CDRPC is applying for a Community Partnership Planning Grant available through NYSERDA under the next round of CFA funding. The proposed program is designed to work with local communities and businesses to develop plans and programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. CDRPC is partnering with a number of entities in the public, private and not for profit partners in four economic development regions to develop the proposed scope of work.

NYSDOT

Frank Bonafide announced that Matt Driscoll is the new Commissioner of NYSDOT.

NYS Thruway Authority

Brett Williams reported on project underway Interchange 24 to 26, Interchange 23, Interchange 25 to 26, and the Route 9W bridge.

Albany County Airport Authority

Steve Iachetta reported that passenger growth has been positive and is an economic indicator. The Capital Program is underway including. Installation of LED lighting is underway.

Linkage Studies

Mike Franchini referred to the Linkage Studies report and said that new studies are progressing well.

Bike/Ped Advisory Committee

Mike Franchini said that the Bike/Ped Advisory Committee is reviewing comments on the New Visions Plan.

Freight Advisory Committee

Chris Bauer reported that a meeting at NYSDOT Main Office for the State Freight Plan was well attended. The CDTC Freight Plan is progressing well and is about 60% complete. Mike Franchini said that the Senate proposal for continuing MAP-21 includes freight funding.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:34 AM. The next Planning

Committee meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael V. Franchini
Secretary