

**Capital District Transportation Committee**

**2014-16 Unified Planning Work Program**

**Progress Report**

April 1, 2013 to September 30, 2013

Prepared by

Capital District Planning Committee Staff

for

CDTC Planning Committee Review and Approval

February 2014

**SUMMARY OF KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS DESCRIBED IN THE  
APRIL 1 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2013 PROGRESS REPORT  
PREPARED FOR CDTC'S PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Some of the key accomplishments of CDTC's 2012-14 UPWP for the period beginning April 1, 2013 and ending September 30, 2013 include:

- Commissioned a web design firm to refresh and upgrade CDTC's website. The launch of the new website is expected sometime in April, 2014.
- Significant progress has been made in reinvigorating the Freight Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee is once again active, with both former and new members, and is meeting on a quarterly schedule.
- CDTC has cultivated a notable working relationship with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), and world-renowned freight transportation expert, Jose Holguin Veras. CDTC staff has given presentations of our activities to graduate level transportation classes.
- CDTC's Freight Planning Program partnered with Clean Communities to host a one-day sustainable freight conference. Hosted at the Albany International Airport, the conference brought together over 70 experts in freight and alternative fuels from around the northeast to discuss the future of sustainable freight movement in our region.
- With the assistance of the Freight Advisory Committee, staff has begun to develop a scope of services for a full-scale freight plan for the region. A consultant is scheduled to be on board in the Spring of 2014.
- CDTA, with CDTC staff assistance, completed a new Transit Development Plan for the region.
- Signed an agreement with CDTA to administer part of the Travel Demand Management set-aside, including administering iPool2, Capital Moves, the proposed car-share program, and bicycle/pedestrian planning projects.
- Created a regional Walking Guide, and began planning for provision of on-road bicycle skills training courses, a bike-to-work-day campaign, and potential bike share implementation pilot projects in all four counties.
- Continued to support the Capital District Healthy Communities Coalition.
- Supported and participated in the State Departments of Health and Transportation Central Avenue Corridor Pedestrian Safety Work Group to identify ways and treatments to improve pedestrian safety. CDTC incorporated the Group's pedestrian safety campaign into Capital Coexist. CDTC also began preparing official traffic forecasts for the corridor using the regional STEP model.
- Continued work with CDTA, NYSDOT, and other members and partners in the Region to implement New Visions.
- The role of CDTC in security planning continued through intense involvement with Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) at the county level. CDTC has been asked to provide

traffic modeling assistance for emergency planning for different scenarios and events. Over the next two years, CDTC will continue to expand security planning efforts in conjunction with operations, safety, and local emergency response.

- CDTC assessed automobile and freight traffic performance for the National Highway System using HERE probe data acquired through FHWA.
- Developed and approved the revised urbanized area boundary based on the 2010 Census.
- Staff continued to be intensely involved in not only regional safety planning but statewide safety planning issues through their roles in the NYS MPO Highway Safety Working Group.
- Capital Coexist has explored new and innovative ways to reach the public.
- The biennial survey of non-state federal-aid roads and Albany County-owned roads was completed.
- Approved a resolution adopting the findings of CDTA's Washington/Western Bus Rapid Transit Concept Design Study as a refinement to the New Visions Plan. This will allow CDTA to initiate FTA's required Alternatives Analysis process.
- CDTC successfully integrated MAP-21 changes for human service transportation into the HSA planning and project selection process. CDTC conducted two separate solicitations for the JARC and New Freedom programs, which were eliminated under MAP-21. And, in consultation with various stakeholders, CDTC selected NYSDOT as the designated recipient to administer the new Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program.
- One Linkage study was completed (the New Scotland Hamlet Master Plan) while work on four others was initiated.
- Four new activities were added to the UPWP, involving consultant support for New Visions, car share and bike share programs, purchase of congestion management data, and promotion services for the Clean Communities program.
- CDTC staff remains heavily involved in the Governor's Cleaner Greener Regional Sustainability Planning effort, participating in both the Transportation Technical Committee and the Land Use/Livability Technical Committee.
- Compiled a series of photographs of completed transportation projects. The goal is to create a catalogue of photos that can be used to tell the story of development in the Capital District. Emphasis was given to improvements which had a pedestrian component.
- Conducted a field study of the I-87 Exit 15 interchange in response to reports that traffic was backing up onto the Northway. Video of the traffic was recorded. Mapping of the problem was created for discussion with NYSDOT staff and other stakeholders.
- Staff Tested methodologies for sidewalk condition and bicycle level of service.
- CDTC staff analyzed the 2012 highway data collected for Albany County and the City of Albany, and shared results accordingly.

- Complete streets: Staff gave presentations on Complete Street topics to the Village of Scotia and the City of Saratoga Springs. Community safety was a central theme.
  - Organized a one-day sustainable freight conference titled “Freight & Fuels: Planning for Green Goods Movement” which was hosted at the Albany International Airport and had over 70 attendees.
  - Initiated the TCSP funded for the I-787 Livable Corridor Study to investigate feasible alternatives to the current roadway.
  - Began holding Advisory Group meetings for New Visions 2040.
  - Initiated an update to Capital Coexist to include pedestrian issues and printed a Capital Region Walking Guide.
  - Developed a Project Justification Package for solicitation of Set-Aside projects on the TIP.
  - Formed a Complete Streets Working Group to review preservation projects for the potential incorporation of complete streets improvements.
  - Staff provided traffic forecasts for intersections in the Route 5 corridor between Albany and Schenectady and for the Route 7 Corridor in the City of Troy. The forecasts will be used for safety improvements to intersections for pedestrian safety improvements in these corridors.
  - CDTC and CDTA have signed a sub-recipient agreement outlining shared implementation responsibility for the region’s travel demand management program.
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*[In order to minimize paper consumption, the full Progress Report has been posted on CDTC's website. To access the report, click on the 'Planning Committee' link and select the meeting materials for the February 2014 meeting. Paper copies are available upon request.]*