

## **CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes  
June 4, 2015

### **MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Carm Basile, Capital District Transportation Authority, Vice Chair  
Maria Chau, representing Michael Canavan, Federal Highway  
Administration  
John Clarkson, Town of Bethlehem  
Andrew Donovan, representing Mayor Lou Rosamilia, City of Troy  
John Evers, representing Dan McCoy, Albany County  
Alan Grattidge, Town of Charlton  
Daniel Harp, representing Rocky Ferraro, Capital District Regional  
Planning Commission  
Terrence Hurley, Albany Port District Commission  
Steve Iachetta, representing John O'Donnell, Albany County Airport  
Authority  
Mayor Kris Kastberg, Village of Scotia  
Joe Landry, Town of Niskayuna  
Charles Moore, representing Mayor Dan Dwyer, City of Rensselaer  
Tom Richardson, City of Mechanicville  
Paul Sausville, representing Matthew Veitch, Saratoga County  
Mayor Kathy Sheehan, City of Albany  
Alson Spain Jr., Town of North Greenbush  
Linda von der Heide, representing Kathleen Jimino, Rensselaer County  
Chris Wallin, representing Mayor Gary McCarthy, City of Schenectady  
Thomas Werner, Saratoga County  
Mayor Joanne Yepsen, City of Saratoga Springs

### **STAFF AND OTHERS**

Frank Bonafide, NYS Department of Transportation-Region 1  
Larry Conway, Colonie Senior Services  
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Laura Halligan, Troy Record  
Sandra Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Tim O'Brien, Times Union  
Chris O'Neill, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Peter Tarantelli, interested citizen

### **OPENING REMARKS**

Mayor Sheehan opened the Capital District Transportation Committee meeting at 3:03 PM and welcomed those in attendance. Members and attendees introduced themselves.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Approval of the March 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

The March 5, 2015 meeting minutes were approved by the members.

### **FINAL DRAFT NEW VISIONS 2040 PRESENTATION**

Mike Franchini stated that the Draft New Visions 2040 Plan represents an important milestone and is ready for a 90 day public review period. The draft Plan is based on nine white papers which were approved by subcommittees and presented at five public meetings. The draft Plan was prepared in house by staff. Surveys and ballots have been collected and comments will be addressed. After the Draft New Visions Plan is approved for release at the Policy Board meeting, the 90 day review period will begin, with final approval expected at the September Policy Board meeting.

Mike Franchini reviewed the draft Plan. He said that the twelve Planning and Investment Principles have been developed to be focused and understandable and give a very good sense of what the Plan is about. The next nine chapters are condensed versions of the White Papers. Chapter 13 describes performance measures and explains that there will be a major effort in the coming year and a half to address MAP-21 guidelines for performance measures. Chapter 14 includes recommendations from the White Papers. Key recommendations are included in the Executive Summary (Chapter 1).

Mike presented an overview of the key recommendations. The Plan seeks adequate funding and more funding by subject area. The Plan recommends consideration of automated vehicles in the design of highway projects. The Plan recommends dedicated bicycle and protected bicycle lanes; promotes the use of Complete Streets design and implementation guidelines; and encourages consideration of bus/transit only travel lanes. Mike highlighted the importance of Human Services Transit in the Plan. He emphasized the importance of operations and travel reliability and said that the Plan policy is to not expand existing road capacity and to look for opportunities to right-size existing roads—which can create space for pedestrians, cyclists and transit. The region's transportation infrastructure (roads, bridges, sidewalks, etc.) and its physical condition are vital to transportation and the Plan recommends developing and publishing an Infrastructure Report Card for roads, bridges and other assets. CDTC is in the process of developing a new Regional Freight Study, and the importance of freight transportation is highlighted in the Plan.

Mike Franchini commented that the draft Plan has received excellent publicity in Capital District newspapers. Two more public meetings will be held in Albany and Niskayuna. After the 90 day review period, the Policy Board will be asked to approve the final New Visions 2040 Plan in September. Terry Hurley commented that draft Plan is a great

product. Mayor Sheehan suggested asking CDTC members to post an announcement of the public meetings on their respective websites. Maria Chou asked about the financial plan; Mike responded that the financial plan is included in Chapter 3.

Members approved the release of the draft New Visions 2040 Plan for a 90 day public review period.

#### **FINAL DRAFT 2015 COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN RELEASE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Anne Benware presented the draft Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan. She said that the Regional Transportation Coordination Committee (RTCC) continues to foster communication and coordination among a variety of groups in an effort to better serve people with transportation challenges. This Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan is the third developed with the assistance of the RTCC.

As a region it will become increasingly important to address the growing mobility service needs of individuals with disabilities, seniors and low income residents. Currently, the Capital District is home to over 90,000 people with reported disabilities, affecting how they are able to travel and use the variety of transportation choices most people take for granted. The Capital District's senior population is expected to continue to increase. For many people, sensory and mobility loss are associated with aging, impacting their ability to drive and making it more difficult to access and use transit. In addition, many of the region's low income residents face challenges related to access to jobs either because they do not have access to a private vehicle or public transit.

Members approved the release of the draft Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan for a 90 day public review period.

#### **2013-2018 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS**

##### **A547 (PIN 1051.71): South Mall Expressway Bridges: I-787 to Empire State Plaza, Repair**

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

Frank Bonafide explained that the South Mall Expressway project received high bids which were rejected by NYSDOT. NYSDOT decided to re-let the project based on a revised cost estimate to bring in better bids. The cost increase will be offset by a reduction in the State Pavement Maintenance Set-Aside. Members approved the amendment.

## **SECTION 5310 ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM**

Anne Benware explained that NYSDOT announced the solicitation for the MAP-21 Section 5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program on Tuesday April 28, 2015. \$47.5 million in funding is available statewide. 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.

CDTC is currently putting together the rating and ranking committee for applications submitted in our planning area (Albany-Schenectady-Troy Urbanized Area and Saratoga Springs Urbanized Area). This committee will include representatives from the Regional Transportation Coordination Committee (RTCC), NYSDOH Disability and Health Program, and CDTC staff. We are also reaching out to request participation from the NYS Office for the Aging and area County Offices for the Aging. We will ensure that reviewers recuse themselves from reviewing proposals in which they may have an interest. She said there is a tight schedule for the CDTC review process and for the statewide review process. The recommendations of the rating and ranking committee will be submitted to NYSDOT and reported to the Planning Committee and to the Policy Board.

## **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) WORKING GROUP UPDATE**

Anne Benware said that CDTC formed an ADA Working Group in response to municipal interest in moving forward with ADA transition planning as a result of information learned at the June 2014 ADA Training sponsored by FHWA/NYSDOT. The group's first meeting was held in early March. CDTC is conducting an inventory of sidewalks and the level of ADA compliance. It is important for each community to develop an ADA compliance plan. Chris Wallin said it is important for elected officials to understand the issues and choices related to ADA compliance.

## **STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

### **CDRPC**

Dan Harp reported that the The new CDRPC website will be updated making data more accessible. Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) project is going well. All local partners have agreed to sign Intermunicipal Agreements. The most recent five year ACS data has been received and the 79 community profiles will be updated in one month. CDRPC is conducting a survey about data needs and will use the feedback to

redesign their data program including their Capital District Data newsletter.

#### **CDTA**

Carm Basile reported that ridership is still increasing and demand is at an all-time high. Smart card and mobile ticketing is being piloted and full implementation is expected by January 2016. Creighton Manning will begin the engineering work for the Washington/Western and River Corridor BRTs.

#### **NYSDOT**

Frank Bonafide reported that Matt Driscoll is the new Commissioner of NYSDOT. Bids have been received for the Route 146 Rexford Bridge project; the Washington Avenue Extension project; and the Route 85 project. The Patroon Island Bridge project will be finished this year. The I-787 project will be done by the end of 2016. The Exit 4 project is expected to be finished by October 31.

#### **Albany County Airport Authority**

Steve Iachetta reported on enplanement numbers at the Albany International Airport which showed 5% growth. A \$4.3 million runway rehabilitation project is underway, expected to be finished by September. The Airport received \$2.5 M in Airport Improvement Program Aviation Trust funding for passenger terminal roof rehabilitation and for LED airfield illuminated sign replacement. Jet Blue will start serving the Albany International Airport in December, with two flights per day. Southwest Airlines will be expanding.

#### **Albany Port District Commission**

Terry Hurley reported that 2014 was a perfect storm, record setting year. Year 2015 is leveling off to some extent but is still progressing as a very good year. The second annual Port day was held, with about 200 attendees, including attendees from CDTC, and a nice presentation by Mike Franchini.

#### **Clifton Park**

Tom Werner said that the Clifton Park Linkage study was successfully completed, and Clifton Park is now the second municipality in the Region with a form based code.

Mayor Sheehan reminded members about the upcoming public meetings for the I-787/Hudson Waterfront Corridor Study and commended the partnership with CDTC.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Zhou  
Secretary