



Freight Advisory Committee

DRAFT MEETING NOTES

November 15, 2023, 9:00 AM- 10:30 AM

Hybrid

1) Attendance

Tony Vasil, VP-Sales, Transportation Services of America

Dave Sawicz, Director of Transportation, Price Chopper

Howard Ungar, VP, Parsons Corp.

Tom Phelan, BHX Engineering & Planning

Bob Rohauer, Senior Manager of Strategic Projects and Community Affairs, CSX Transportation

Jason Hilton, Senior Project Manager, Parsons Corp.

Doug Morris, Dir. of Safety & Security Operations, OOIDA

Susan Olsen, Transportation Analyst, NYSDOT Region 1

John Davidson, VP Director of Real Property, D.A. Collins Construction

Catherine Lawson, Associate Professor, UAlbany

Reema Louton, Environmental Engineer, EPA Region 2

Pete Bardunias Sr., Vice President, Capital Region Chamber

John Taylor, Senior Economic Developer, Town of Bethlehem

Kate Maynard, Director of Planning and Econ. Dev., CDRPC

Mike Izdebski, Director of Logistics, Plug Power

Bill Trudeau, Chief Supervisor of Traffic Engineering, City of Albany

David Rosenberg, Intermodal Transportation Specialist, NYSDOT

Jeff Wojtowicz, Assistant Director, VREF at RPI

Kendra Hems, President, Trucking Association of NY

Jose Holguin-Veras, Director, CITE at RPI

Gautam Mani, Senior Community Planner, FHWA-NY

Lou Esposito, Supervisor, Town of Princetown/OOIDA

Tom Werner, CRTC Policy Board, Saratoga County

John Scavo, Director of Planning & Zoning, Town of Clifton Park

Peter Comenzo, Senior Planner, Town of Rotterdam

Mark Landgraf, public

Valerie Deane, Senior Transportation Analyst, NYSDOT Region 1

Greg Wischer, Program Manager, NYSDOT Region 1

Chris Bauer, Dir. of Transportation Planning, Transportation Council

Andrew Tracy, Senior Transportation Engineer, Transportation Council

Jacob Beeman, Senior Transportation Planner, Transportation Council

Chaim Simon, Transportation Planner, Transportation Council

2) Presentation – Reimagine I-787 Planning & Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study (NYSDOT Region 1, Parsons)

The project team presented an update on the progress of the Reimagine I-787 PEL Study. The study area of this study is from the Port of Albany to the northern end of I-787, the Dunn Memorial Bridge, and the South Mall Expressway. The scope includes for focus areas; Area A: CP Rail Facility Modification/Operations Analysis, Area B: I-787/Dunn Memorial Bridge/South Mall Expressway Reconfiguration, Area C: Albany Inner Harbor/Historic District Development Concepts, and Area D: Other Access Opportunities. There have been and will continue to be, extensive public and stakeholder outreach efforts. The project team is currently working on refining concepts with a Draft PEL Study Report expected in Fall 2024. For more information see the attached PowerPoint presentation.

3) Update – New York State Freight Transportation Plan (David Rosenberg, NYSDOT)

The State Freight Plan is underway, there have been several State Freight Working Group meetings, and other stakeholder outreach. The next meeting will focus on truck parking and will be held virtually on December 12 at 2 pm. NYSDOT recently released on truck parking at: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/f335f7d80a344490b3cbb32c05f82c67>

4) Update – International Maritime Industry (Tony Vasil, Transportation Services of America)

The cost of transporting an ocean-crossing container has lowered from as high as \$20,000 to pre-2020 levels of approximately \$1,500. Therefore, sailings are down as carriers struggle to fill ships. There were also several updates on current port-related labor union topics.

5) Update – Congestion Management Process (Andrew Tracy, Capital Region Transportation Council)

The Congestion Management Process, presented to the FAC in May 2023, is one of the MPO's required planning activities. The Draft Report has been released. The report includes where congestion is currently occurring and ways to treat congestion. www.capitalmpo.org/2023CMP.

6) Update – Capital District Clean Communities (Jacob Beeman, Capital Region Transportation Council)

NYSDOT has released a solicitation for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) projects. CMAQ funding can be used for freight intermodal improvements, alternative fuel infrastructure, and electric vehicle charging. More information can be found at: <https://www.dot.ny.gov/TAP-CMAQ>. The final application is due January 9.

7) 2024 Meeting Dates

- i. 2024 Meeting Dates: February 21, May 15, August 21, and November 20

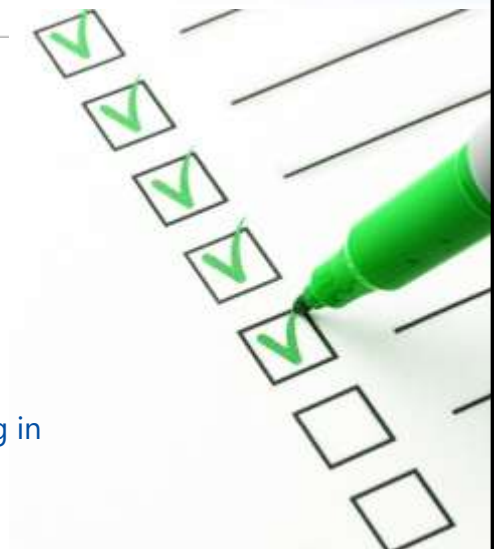




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Administrative Updates

- Rebranding to Capital Region Transportation—Council
- New domain name: capitalmpo.org
 - Email: first initial + last name @capitalmpo.org
 - Ex: cbauer@capitalmpo.org
 - Social Media: @CapitalMPO
- FAC meetings now streaming on the Transportation Council's YouTube channel
 - Updated Public Participation Policy coming in 2024



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Agenda

1) Welcome and Introductions

- In-person – sign-in sheet
- On Zoom – please put **Name, Title, Organization** in Chat

- 2) Presentation – Reimagine I-787 Planning & Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study (NYSDOT Region 1, Parsons)
- 3) Update – New York State Freight Transportation Plan (David Rosenberg, NYSDOT)
- 4) Update – International Maritime Industry (Tony Vasil, Transportation Services of America)
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Reimagining I-787 Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) Study



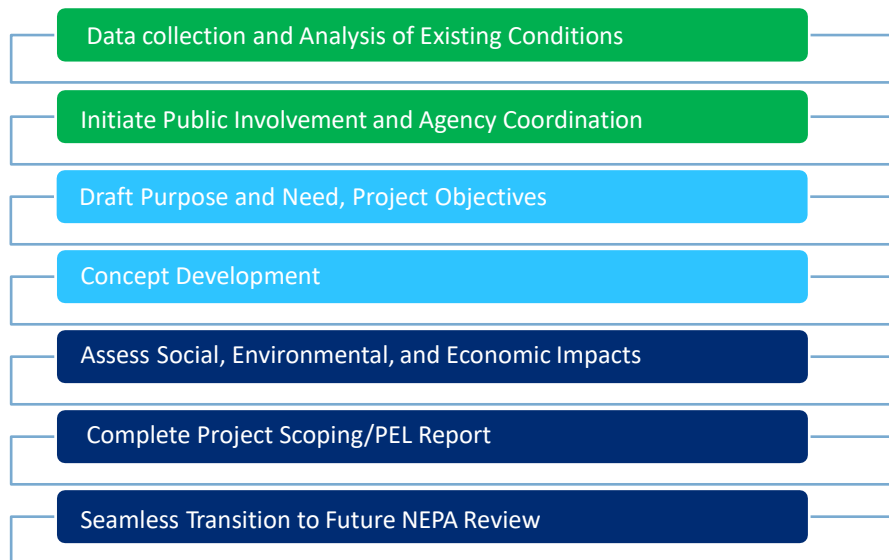
**CRTC Freight Committee Meeting
November 15, 2023**



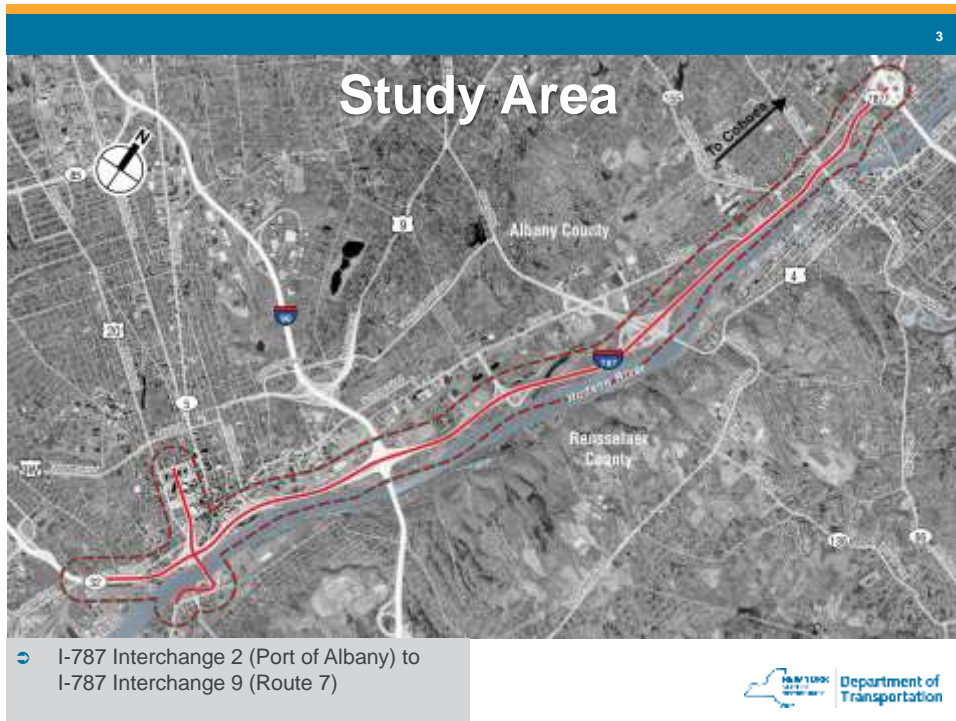
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PEL Process Outline



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Study Scope

I-787/Hudson Waterfront Corridor Study
Albany County, New York
FINAL REPORT
December 2018

Prepared for:
Capital District Transportation Committee
One Park Plaza
Albany, New York 12242

Prepared by:
CHA Consulting, Inc.
10000 Route 9, Albany, New York 12208

- **Area A:** CP Rail Facility Modification/Operations Analysis
- **Area B:** I-787/Dunn Memorial Bridge/South Mall Expressway Reconfiguration
- **Area C:** Albany Inner Harbor/Historic District Development Concepts
- **Area D:** Other Access Opportunities

Department of Transportation

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Outreach Activities

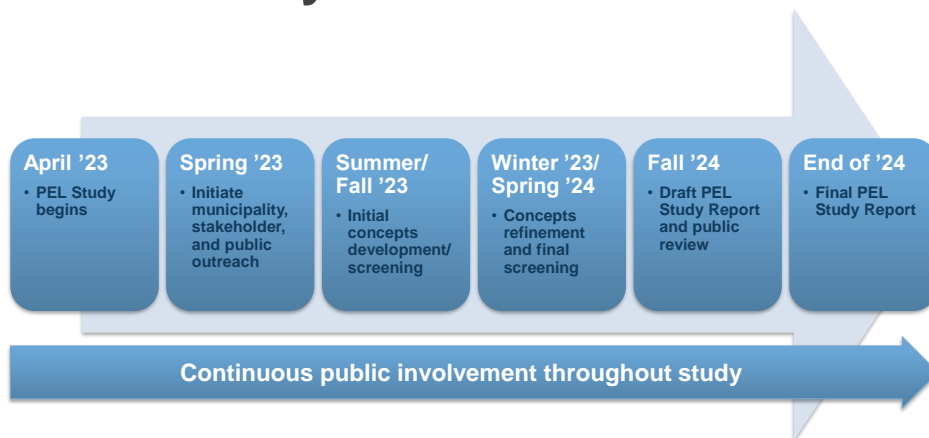
- Public Meetings and Workshops
- Municipal Partnering Committee
- Agency Coordination
- Stakeholders' Committee
- Native Nations



Public Comment Themes

- Waterfront Access
- Bike/Ped. Connectivity
- Alternative Concepts
 - ❑ 787 Boulevard
 - ❑ Albany Waterway/Canal
 - ❑ Remove/reduce transportation footprint
 - ❑ Improved transit
 - ❑ Economic development
 - ❑ Tunnels
- Importance of Natural and Cultural Resources
- EJ Considerations
- Traffic Concerns

Preliminary Timeline



Design Concepts

- ➡ CP Rail relocation/modifications
- ➡ Dunn/SME Interchange configurations
- ➡ 787 boulevard options
- ➡ Highway capping
- ➡ Broadway Canal concepts



Environmental Screenings

- Land Use
- Community Facilities
- Parks & Recreational Resources
- Environmental Justice (EJ)
- Historic Resources
- General Wildlife and Ecology
- Threatened/Endangered Species
- Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)
- State and Federal Wetlands/Surface Waters
- Floodplains
- Contaminated/Hazardous Materials



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Open Discussion/Questions



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Update – Congestion Management Process

Andrew Tracy, Capital Region Transportation Council

- Draft Report published:
<https://www.capitalmpo.org/2023CMP>
 - View the interactive map of congestion data
 - Help us distribute the survey
- 30-day public comment period ends December 1st



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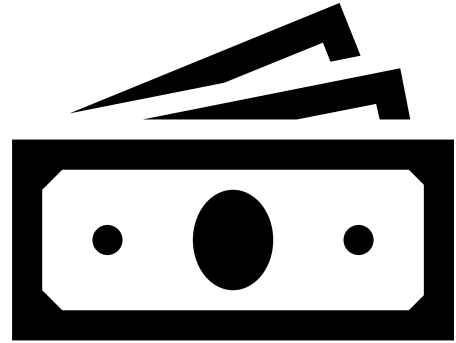
Update – Capital District Clean Communities

Jacob Beeman, Capital Region Transportation Council

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NYSDOT CMAQ Funding: Alternative Fuels

- NYSDOT announced \$165 million in the 2023 TAP / CMAQ / CRP Solicitation
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funding administered through NYSDOT
- NYSDOT will provide 80% of total eligible costs with 20% local match
- Project awards must be no less than \$500,000 and no more than \$5 million



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NYSDOT CMAQ Eligibility

- Project must be in a CMAQ eligible county:
Albany, Chautauqua, Dutchess, Erie, Genesee, Greene, Jefferson, Livingston, Monroe, Montgomery, Niagara, Onondaga, Ontario, Orleans, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, and Wayne
- Eligible Activities:
 - Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
 - Travel demand management & ride sharing
 - Congestion reduction & traffic flow improvements
 - Transit Improvements
 - **Freight intermodal improvements**
 - **Alternative fuel and clean vehicle projects such as electric vehicle (EV) and green hydrogen fuel stations.**
 - Modernization or rehabilitation of a lock and dam, or marine highway corridor, connector or crossing if functionally connected to a Federal-aid highway system
 - **Vehicle refueling infrastructure in alternative fuel projects that would reduce emissions from nonroad vehicles and nonroad engines used in construction projects or port-related freight operations.**

Eligible Sponsors

- Local Governments (counties, towns, cities, and villages)
- Regional Transportation Authorities
- Transit Agencies
- Natural Resource or Public Land Agencies (NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, local fish and game or wildlife agencies)
- Tribal Governments
- Local or Regional Governmental entity responsible for Transportation or Recreational
- Trails
- New York State Department of Transportation (for CMAQ only)

Eligible ONLY in Partnership with a Sponsor listed above:

- Metropolitan Planning Organizations (serves an urbanized area with population of 200,000 or fewer)
- School Districts
- Non-Governmental Organizations

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NYSDOT CMAQ Deadlines

2023 Clean School Bus Rebate Important Dates	
September 29, 2023	2023 TAP / CMAQ / CRP Solicitation Opens
October 19, 2023, 9am – Noon ET	TAP / CMAQ / CRP Informational Webinar
Tuesday, November 28, 2023	Deadline for application pre-review requests
Tuesday, December 12, 2023	Deadline for application pre-review comments to be emailed to sponsors
Tuesday, January 9, 2023, 5pm ET	Deadline for Final Application Submission

<https://www.dot.ny.gov/TAP-CMAQ>

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Action Items

- Reimagine I-787
- Draft CMP Comments
- 2024 Meeting Dates:
 - February 21, May 15, August 21, and November 20
 - Save-the-dates to be sent by the end of the year

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Freight Advisory Committee



Thank you for attending!

Sign up for E-News: <http://eepurl.com/ivx946>

Phone

(518) 458-2161

Email

info@capitalmpo.org

Mail

1 Park Place, Suite 101,
Albany, NY 12205-2676

Web

capitalmpo.org



CapitalMPO



@CapiltalMPO



@CapitalMPO



Capital Region
Transportation
Council