

Capital District Transportation Committee

Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting
August 10, 2021
Meeting Notes

Attendees: Edward Davidson, Albany Bicycling Coalition; Tess Drauschak, Capital Roots; Barbara Nazarewicz, Stantec; Tina Carton, Saratoga Springs; Carrie Ward, CDTC; Kyle Hatch, Chazen; Rima Shamieh, CDTC; Jim Levy, Planning 4 Places; Charles Welge, Albany County; Brent Irving, CDTA; Lauren Stairs, Schenectady County; David Woodin, Waterford; Jim Moore, DASNY; Steve Feeney, Schenectady County; John DiMura, LaBella; Nicole McGrath, FHWA; Ethan Warren, CDTA; James Rath, City of Troy; Sam Morreale, City of Albany; Jack Celuch, Albany County; Ed Brennan, Albany Bicycling Coalition; Fred Mastroianni, GPI; Jen Hogan, NYSDOH; Melissa Cherubino, Glenville; Art Clayman, Cycle Schenectady; Jordan Solano-Reed, CDTC; Nate Owens, Bethlehem; Sandy Misiewicz, CDTC; Janette Kaddo Marino, Bikeatoga; John Gillivan, Albany Bicycling Coalition; Jennifer Viggiani, Clifton Park; Linda von der Heide, Rensselaer County; Valerie Deane, NYSDOT; Lindsey Garney, CDTA; Rogerio Rodrigues, CMPAC; Ivan Vamos, NY Bicycling Coalition

1. Welcome/Intro

Jordan welcomed everyone to the meeting

Sandy introduced herself as the CDTC Executive Director and said a few words on her plans of creating a better transportation system.

2. CDTC Covid 19 Update

Jordan spoke on how CDTC is eager to once again have in person meetings but the current policy is that visitors will need an appointment and to wear a mask. CDTC is open 4 days (M-Th) a week.

3. CDTC Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Program

In the past counts were done manually. CDTC is now looking into ways of moving into an automated way. CDTC selected Eco Counter's technology; they use PYRO Evo boxes that use technology to count people going pass through heat sensors. The PYRO Evo boxes work in all climate and work using batteries. CDTC plans on using the boxes for short and long periods, placing them on regional trails to monitor activity levels before and after projects. CDTC confirms that the automated data collection and transmission works on trails. Long-term placement of boxes is about 1 year and short-term about 1 week. CDTC staff will train staff on use of the boxes. Discussion ideas on where to place boxes is open. Placement of these boxes will start next month.

4. Ditch the Car Pledge

Still encouraging people to sign up and post on social media. Challenge ends in October. More information at <https://www.cdtcmpo.org/ditchthecar/>.

5. Smart Communities Smart Cities Toolbox

CDTC has contracted with a consultant to develop a Smart Cities toolbox to identify underutilized and evolving technologies that can be deployed in the Capital Region like

- Saratoga Springs, Smart Street Lights
- Smart Traffic Lights

6. New Visions & 2022 TIP

Staff is preparing for the 2022 TIP. The evaluation methodology is being reviewed and updated to reflect the New Visions 2050 principles and strategies. Solicitation for new projects will be announced this fall with an online application. All New Visions 2050 materials and upcoming training opportunities are on our website at www.cdtcmpo.org/nv2050.

7. CDTC & CDRPC Technical Assistance Program

This program offers staff time and expertise to local governments undertaking small scale community planning initiatives. Applications for the 2020 Community Planning Technical Assistance Program are still being accepted through December.

The Ballston Spa Linkage project is still ongoing. Draft plan is being developed. REIs will be released in the coming weeks for the following studies:

- New East Greenbush study
- Rensselaer Waterfront Connectivity Study
- Federal Street Corridor Study in Troy

8. Other Planning & Project Updates

NYS released the Statewide Trails Plan

<https://parks.ny.gov/inside-our-agency/master-plans.aspx>

TAP/CMAQ solicitation is out and previews due on August 17th and the final application is due September 29th.

City of Troy applied for a CFA grant to connect the Riverfront north section up to Hoosick Street.

Transport Troy completed an on street park let repurposing a parking space into a public space for sitting using Coexists funding.

Town of Clifton Park has a small Capital Coexists grant and working with youth volunteers on a Discover the Trails of Clifton Park 35 locations. You can find cards with history on the town fun activities you can do and bike safety tips.

Jordan spoke briefly on CDTA's electric scooters.

Jordan also encouraged those to contact himself or Jen on TAP/CMAQ applications and needing counts.

Albany Bike Coalition has updated the Capital NY Bike Map to include Saratoga.