



COMMUNITY PLANNER FORUM

Date: 9/21/2023

Start Time: 9:30 am

End Time: 11:00 am

Facilitator: Jen Ceponis

Study/Project/Task: 1.61 CDTC Operations

Attendance

Name	Title	Affiliation
Linda Van Der Heide	Principal Planner	Rensselaer County Planning Dept
Anna Feltham	Senior Planner	City of Albany
Peter Comenzo	Senior Planner	Town of Rotterdam
Liz Kormos	Trustee	Village of Ballston Spa
Madison Hrysko	GIS/Data Analyst	CDRPC
Chaim Simon	Transportation Planner	Transportation Council
Mark Castiglione	Executive Director	CDRPC
Rebecca O'Dell	GIS	Transportation Council
Rima Shamieh	Transportation Planner	Transportation Council
Ethan Townsend	Assistant Planner	Town of Colonie
Sean Maguire	Director	Town of Colonie
Susan Barden	Principal Planner	City of Saratoga Springs
John Scavo	Director	Town of Clifton Park
Todd Fabozzi	Director of Sustainability	Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Ellen McNulty Ryan	Mayor	Village of Green Island
Flora Huizinga	Planner / Stormwater Management Officer	Town of Malta

Jen Viggiani	Open Space Coordinator	Town of Clifton Park
Kim Lambert	Community Development and Planning Specialist	Saratoga County
Megan Quirk	Senior Planner	CDTA
Ryan Ripper	Director of Planning & Engineering	Town of Wilton
Sean Maguire	Director, Planning & Economic Development	Town of Colonie
Stephen Maples	Public Engagement Specialist	Capital Region Transportation Council
Celeste Harp	Transportation Analyst	NYS DOT Region 1

Agenda Items:

1. Albany County Resiliency Plan, Lucas Rogers (Office of the Albany County Executive)

Extreme weather events will have budgetary impacts due to increased road and bridge repairs and disrupted services. The Plan assessed risks and vulnerabilities of critical county wide systems, similar to a hazard mitigation plan, but focused on climate threats only. It used a FEMA recovery framework. Report recommendations include conducting a county-wide culvert analysis and conducting a transportation vulnerability assessment, among many others.

The Transportation Council did a basic vulnerability assessment to identify bridges (https://www.capitalmpo.org/images/roads_bridges/2020_CDTC_Local_Bridge_Study_-_Final_Report.pdf). A more detailed assessment for culverts and all other infrastructure would require additional data collection and is becoming an increasing topic of interest from our federal partners and may be incorporated in the MTP update.

Project website: <https://www.albanycounty.com/government/county-executive/albany-county-climate-resiliency-plan>

2. Regional Trends StoryMap Preview, Madison Hrysko (CDRPC)

Storymap will feed into the baseline existing conditions trend data as the Transportation Council begins the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP, currently New Visions) update. It will help us identify regional strengths and challenges.

The StoryMap presents interactive data on population change, road history, age/cohort projections, and much more. The map shows data like household size, racial/ethnic diversity, the Cost-of-Living Index (COLI), housing prices, unemployment, poverty, and trends in multi-family housing builds.

Ideas on how to improve the map:

- Add information about affordable housing

- Rental housing costs trends. Very high, can't save to purchase a home
- Regional housing costs have doubled. The cost of transportation has increased as well, so people are increasingly making housing/transportation tradeoffs.
- Take a closer look at seniors by breaking down the age groups for the "over 60" set, since that's the fastest growing age group.
- Farmland/open space protection and solar community projects
 - Clifton Map has seen a surge in applications for solar projects.
 - Maybe National Grid can share their solar data.
 - NYSSolarmap.com could be a good resource.
- Childcare costs and availability – include that in the story

Please email Jen with other thoughts on how to improve the Storymap.

The Storymap will go live in early November.

3. CDRPC Planning Updates

a. Sustainability Updates – Todd Fabozzi

The Clean energy community program will be continuing. CDRPC is still available to do new climate gas inventories and resiliency plans in 2024. The climate pollution reduction grant regional development climate action plan is underway; the project scope is in development.

b. 2023 FLIP Program Recap

The program focuses on civic planning and urban leadership. The program visited the Tivoli Preserve and the South End Grocery and did a complete streets activity in Albany, met with the City of Troy Economic Development, and also did activities in Saratoga Springs. Partnering with schools has been challenging. CDRPC is considering options for 2024.

c. 2020 Census Results status

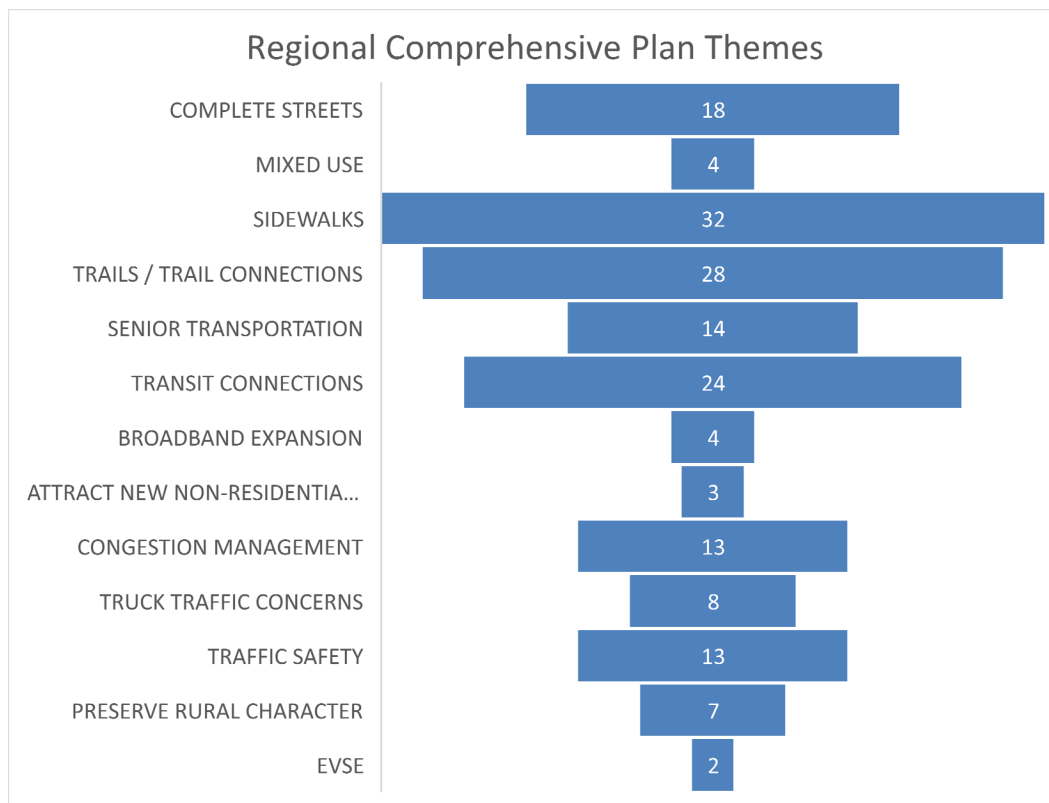
i. Urban Area Boundary update (Transportation Council)

3 minor adjustments will have minimal impact.

4. Transportation Council Planning Updates

a. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (New Visions) update

We hired a firm to rebrand and create logo for the MTP. There will be a companion existing conditions report and survey. There will be a TIP update before the MTP is complete. The CMP and Coordinated Plan will be integrated into the MTP as it is updated.



Here is a summary list of the common themes of comprehensive plans that have been produced recently by communities in the region: complete streets, sidewalks, trails, transit, senior transportation, preserving rural character and broadband (in rural areas), truck traffic, traffic safety, EV charging expansion.

i. Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan update

The plan is about to be released.

ii. Congestion Management Process (CMP) update

There is some congestion in some areas of the region, but overall congestion is low here relative to other parts of the country. There are strategies that can be employed to address congestion where it does exist.

iii. Safe Streets for All update

The RFP will be released soon.

b. New Policy Development Updates

i. Complete Streets

A complete streets policy is in development.

ii. Equity

We intend to begin developing an equity policy as part of our 2023-2024 Equity Work Plan.

c. Planning Study Status (see attached)

d. CDTC/CDRPC Technical Assistance Program

i. Status of ongoing projects (see attached)

ii. No deadline to submit proposals

The Technical Assistance Program will now remain open on a rolling basis. If you have small-scale, data, or mapping-related needs, you are encouraged to contact us about applying to the program.

e. 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Solicitation materials can be found at: www.capitalmpo.org/2024upwp

Proposals are due December 1, 2023

f. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

Updates on funding opportunities can be found on website at <https://www.capitalmpo.org/page/91-documents/transportation-improvement-program-tip/539-federal-transportation-funding-available>

5. Trainings/Workshops

- a. [CDRPC / NYPF Fall Planning & Zoning Workshop](#) – October 20 at HVCC, Troy
- b. NYS LTAP Center – [Cornell Local Roads Training Program](#)
 - i. Grant Writing – How to Get Started (online) – September 28th 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
 - ii. Solutions for Safer Roads and Streets – October 12th in Schenectady County
 - iii. Snow and Ice Control – October 21st in Warren County
- c. [NY Planning Federation Training School](#) – September 12th in Sand Lake, NY
- d. Visit the **News & Events** Pages on both the [CDTC](#) and [CDRPC](#) websites for additional updates on training and workshops.

Announcements:

Other Regional, State and Local Planning Updates

- The Village of Ballston Spa just completed its comprehensive plan and has an RFP out to update its zoning. CDTA has agreed to put in a bus shelter in Ballston Spa.
- Effective September, 2023, New York State employers with 4 or more employees now have to include a salary or salary range in their job postings. Our municipalities tend to lose a lot of planning staff to state and private employment. Maybe it would be helpful to do a survey to present to municipal officials when presenting budget request?
 - Urban and Regional Planner Wages in the 8-county capital region: <https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/kylee.teague2482/viz/shared/W3RQRPFF5>
 - Wage Comparisons Across Labor Market Regions in NYS: <https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/kylee.teague2482/viz/shared/JNRYMJQ9R>
 - NYS Pay Transparency Law (FARE Grant): <https://dol.ny.gov/pay-transparency-law-fare-grant#:~:text=Effective%209%2F17%2F2023%2C,the%20state%20of%20New%20York>.
 - NYSDOL Occupational Wages Search Tool: <https://dol.ny.gov/occupational-wages-0>

Next Meeting:

2023 Meeting Schedule: December 21

2024 Meeting Schedule: March 21, June 20, September 19, December 19



CAPITAL REGION
**Transportation
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Community Planner Forum

SEPT 21, 2023

P L A N N I N G T H E W A Y W E M O V E



WELCOME

Please type your name, title, and what organization or municipality you are representing today into the chat.



Hybrid Meeting Guidelines

- Mute your microphone
- You can choose to use just the phone function
- You can choose to turn your camera off if you want
- Use Zoom's chat function or "raise hand" if you have a question during the presentation
- The Transportation Council is no longer recording Planner Forum meetings



AGENDA



1. Featured Presentations:

Albany County Resiliency Plan, Lucas Rogers (Office of the Albany County Executive)
Regional Trends StoryMap Preview, Madison Hrysko (CDRPC)

2. CDRPC Planning Updates

3. Transportation Council Planning Updates

4. Upcoming Trainings & Workshops

5. Other Regional, State, and Local Planning Updates

6. 2023-24 Meeting Schedule

2023: December 21

2024: March 21, June 20, September 19, December 19





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Albany County Resiliency Plan

Lucas Rogers,
Office of the Albany County Executive



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Regional Trends Story Map

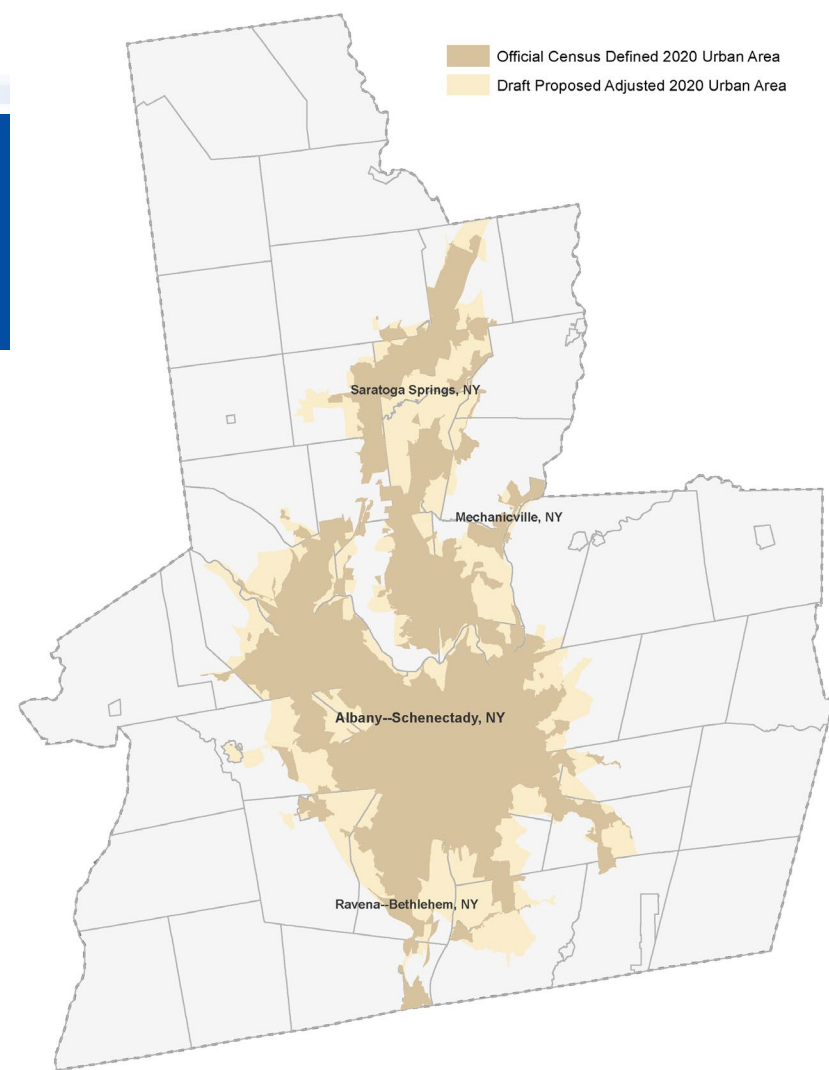
Jen Ceponis, Transportation Council
Mark Castiglione, CDRPC
Madison Hrysko, CDRPC

CDRPC Planning Updates

1. Sustainability Updates
2. 2023 FLIP Program Recap
3. 2020 Census Results Status
 - Urban Area Boundary update (Transportation Council)

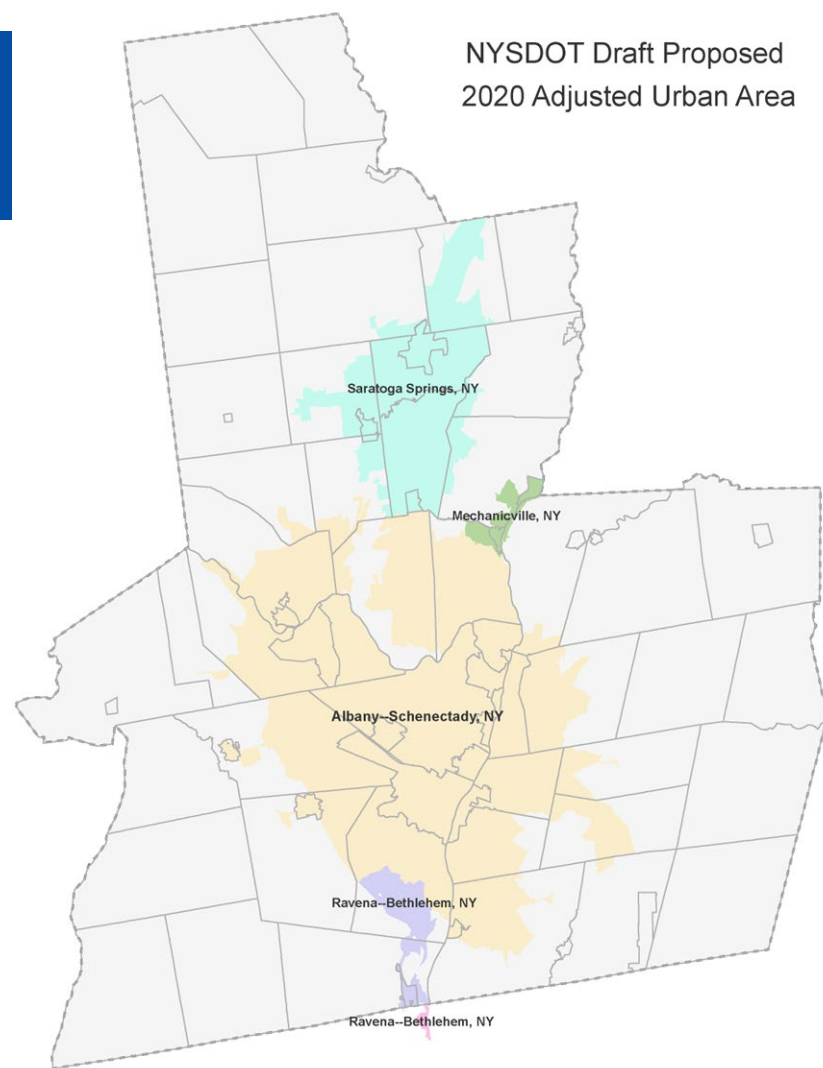
2020 Census Urban Area Boundary

- 3 very minor adjustments proposed
 - Albany-Schenectady
 - 146/Miller/Waite Road – fill a gap
 - Ravena-Bethlehem
 - Fill gap at county line
 - Fill gaps related to drawing errors between 2010 and 2020 boundary



Draft 2020 Adjusted Urban Area Boundary

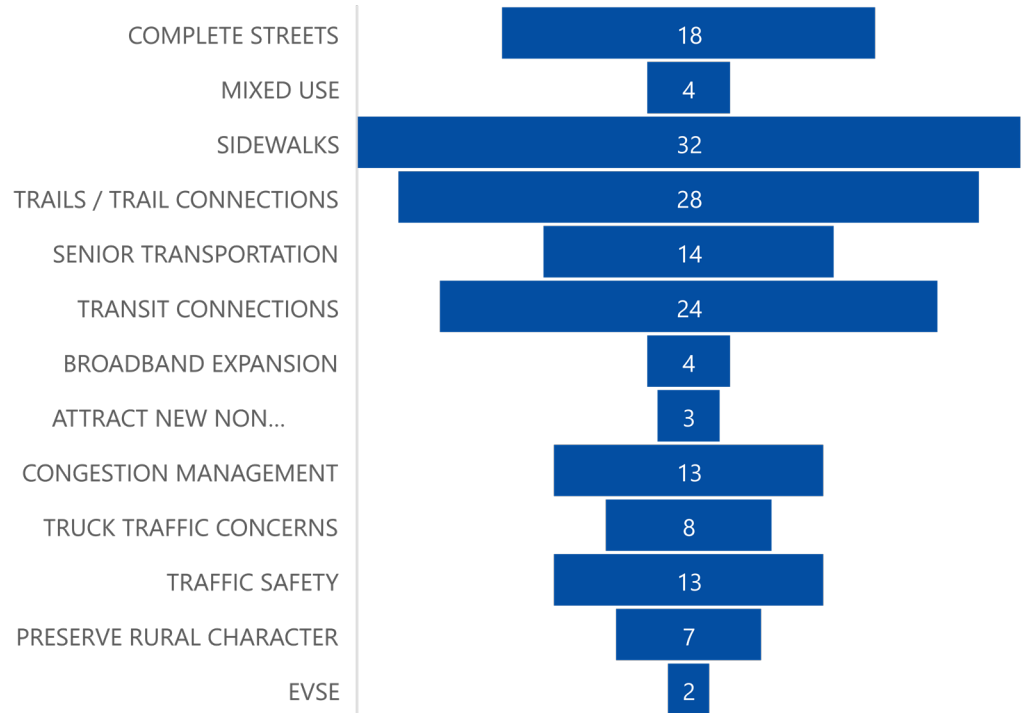
NYSDOT Draft Proposed
2020 Adjusted Urban Area



Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP update)

1. Congestion Management Process
2. Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
3. Safe Streets for All
4. MTP Branding & Logo
5. Existing Conditions / Gaps Analysis (Regional Trends StoryMap)
6. MTP Survey:
<https://form.jotform.com/cdtcmpo/long-range-survey>
7. Transportation Improvement Program

Regional Comprehensive Plan Themes

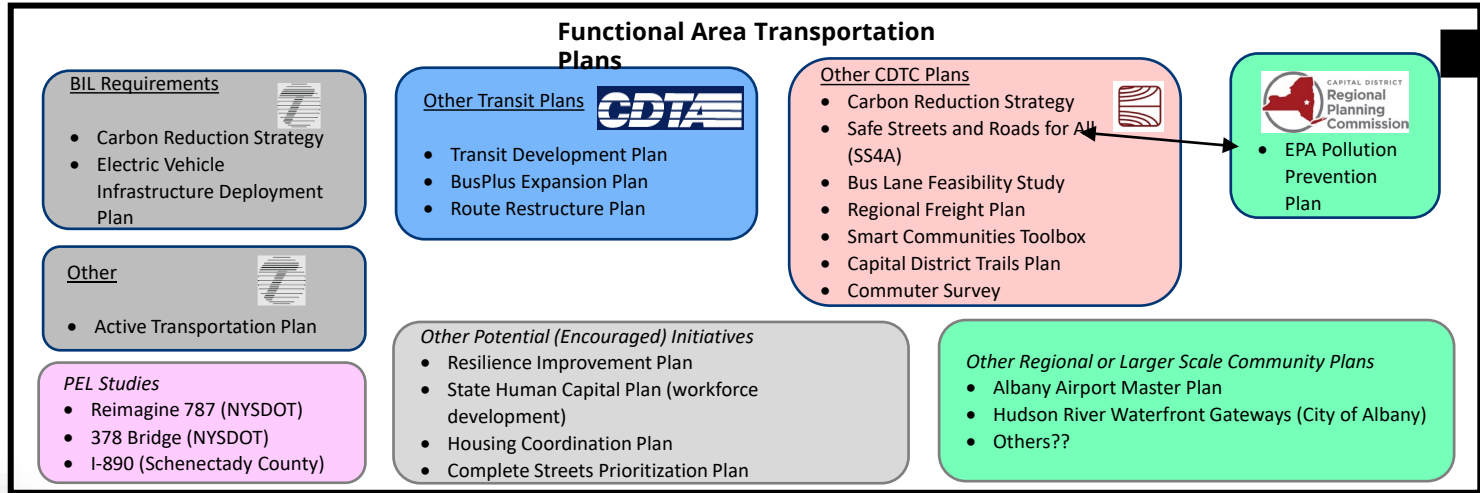




← *Coordination of goals, objectives, performance measures, targets, & strategies* →

Top-down:
Long-range plan goals, objectives, measures, targets, & priorities inform other plans, programs & processes

Bottom-up:
Performance-based plans, programs, & processes inform long-range plans



New Policy Development Updates

1. Complete Streets Policy

Purpose: to achieve the region's long-range vision for fair and equitable investments among modes and programs, and to serve all users equitably, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit vehicles and riders, freight, and personal vehicle drivers and riders.

2. Equity Policy Development

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) has increased emphasis on equity in the transportation planning process
- Federal discretionary programs in the BIL have reinforced this priority by adding equity as a foundational program principle or as a project selection criterion
- The Biden Administration and Federal Highway Administration have made reconnecting communities and ensuring the inclusion of historically and economically disadvantaged groups in the planning, project selection and design process a priority
- A draft policy will be presented to Planning Committee and Policy Board for approval

CDTC/CDRPC Technical Assistance Program

Deadline extended, accepting proposals on a rolling basis.

How to Apply:

If your community is interested in applying, you must contact CDRPC and CDTC to discuss your request.

Send an email to techassist@CDRPC.org or call 518-458-2161 and provide your name, phone number and a time convenient for representatives to call you.

2024 Unified Planning Work Program

- Complete Streets Workshops
- Medium Scale Community Linkage Studies
- Technical Assistance
- Solicitation: TBA

Upcoming Trainings & Workshops

1. [CDRPC / NYPF Fall Planning & Zoning Workshop](#) – October 20 at HVCC, Troy
2. NYS LTAP Center – [Cornell Local Roads Training Program](#)
 - Grant Writing – How to Get Started (online) – September 28th 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
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OTHER REGIONAL, STATE, OR LOCAL PLANNING UPDATES

STATUS OF CDTC PLANNING INITIATIVES AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

NAME AND LOCAL SPONSOR	CONSULTANT OR STAFF, PROJECT COST, CDTC CONTACT	FUNDING APPROVAL DATE	STATUS	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE	PROJECT WEBSITE LINK
COMMUNITY PLANNING SUPPORT					
1. Route 4 Corridor Study: Inter-Municipal Update Town of East Greenbush	M.J. Engineering and Land Surveying \$90,000 Chris Bauer	Policy Board Approved 3/4/21	The consultant prepared a second draft Future Operational Analysis, which was revised after review by the Town, the Transportation Council, CDTA, and NYSDOT. The Future Operational Analysis is currently being reviewed by the Study Advisory Committee (SAC). The next SAC meeting will be scheduled for early September.	November 2023	https://nyroute4study.com
2. Town of Brunswick Hoosick Road Corridor Study Town of Brunswick	Creighton Manning Engineering \$99,000 Andrew Tracy	Policy Board Approved 3/3/22	First round of public outreach complete - 1032 survey responses, 3792 unique website visitors. The Consultant team is preparing the draft Concepts Report. Transportation Council staff are preparing traffic analysis using its STEP model. The Project website is live at https://hoosickroadstudy.com/	December 2023	https://hoosickroadstudy.com/
3. Sand Creek Road Complete Street Feasibility Study Village of Colonie	MJ Engineering and Land Surveying \$65,000 Jacob Beeman	Policy Board Approved 3/3/22	Public Meeting #1 held on July 24th. Consultant has submitted public meeting summaries and is currently working on developing the draft complete streets plan.	December 2023	https://www.sandcreekcompletestreets.com/
4. City of Schenectady Albany & Crane Streets Linkage Study City of Schenectady	PLACE Alliance \$90,000 Jen Ceponis	Policy Board Approved 3/3/22	The Draft Existing Conditions Report and Complete Streets Concepts have been made available to the public. A series of curbside conversations and open houses will take place throughout the community in June to collect feedback from local residents, business owners, and other stakeholders. Transportation Council staff is coordinating meetings with the consultant team and city emergency services to review draft concepts.	November 2023	https://www.craig-main-connection.com/albany--crane-streets.html
5. All Access Complete Streets Feasibility Study Village of Voorheesville	TBD \$55,000 Rima Shamieh	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	REI is under review by Albany County and NYSDOT.	November 2024	TBD
6. Broadway Flood Resilient Multi-Modal Corridor Study Albany County	TBD \$115,000 Jen Ceponis	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	The REI was released and proposals are due September 8th.	November 2024	TBD
7. Castleton Complete Streets & Connections Plan Village of Castleton-on-Hudson	TBD \$75,000 Chaim Simon	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	Three proposals were submitted, and have been reviewed by the selection team. Contract award is pending.	November 2024	TBD
8. Central Avenue West Corridor Study Town of Colonie	TBD \$150,000 Andrew Tracy	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	Award letter, program procedures, and MOU have been sent to sponsor. Draft scope of work being prepared by Transportation Council staff.	November 2024	TBD
9. Curry Road & Guilderland Avenue Multi-Modal Study Town of Rotterdam	TBD \$90,000 Carrie Ward	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	Staff is drafting a Request for Expressions of Interest.	November 2024	TBD
10. Milton Town Center Plan Update Town of Milton	TBD \$100,000 Jacob Beeman	Policy Board Approved 3/2/23	REI was released on August 14, 2023. Date for submissions is September 15, 2023.	November 2024	TBD

NAME AND LOCAL SPONSOR	CONSULTANT OR STAFF, PROJECT COST, CDTC CONTACT	FUNDING APPROVAL DATE	STATUS	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE	PROJECT WEBSITE LINK
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COMMUNITY PLANNING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

1. Depot Square Intersection Redesign & Intersection Improvement Pilot	\$20,420 TBD	Policy Board Approved Technical Assistance Program 3/2/2023	A preliminary site visit and photo documentation was completed. A trail counter was installed at the Zim Smith East trailhead and additional data collection is scheduled for September.	March 2024	N/A
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ADDITIONAL CDTC PLANNING INITIATIVES

1. MTP Update CDTC - Regional	CDTC Staff \$100,000 Jen Ceponis	Included in the 2020-2022 UPWP	The Transportation Council is working with CDRPC to create a StoryMap highlighting key data points summarizing existing conditions. Staff is coordinating with NYSDOT staff on public outreach and engagement efforts in conjunction with the Statewide Long Range Plan.	Adopted September 3, 2020 Anticipated adoption of next MTP: September 2025	https://www.cdtcmo.org/nv2050
2. NY 378 Bridge Transportation Scoping/PEL Study NYSDOT	WSP \$400,000 Susan Olsen, NYSDOT Andrew Tracy	TIP Project A605/R344: NY 378 Troy Menands Bridge Study	Route 378 Troy Menands PEL Steering Committee meeting held July 26th. The Transportation Council is working with the traffic team to refine STEP model outputs relating to concepts with bridge realignments (i.e. realigning bridge with Mill St). Additional field data to be collected by Transportation Council staff. Updated 378 Public Involvement Plan shared on August 14th. The Transportation Council is hosting a stakeholder meeting with the Active Transportation Advisory Committee on Tuesday, August 29th.	TBD	https://www.dot.ny.gov/troymenandsbridge
3. Regional Truck Parking Study	Gannett Fleming \$137,750 Chris Bauer	Planning Committee Approved 4/7/21	The consultant team finalized the draft literature and best practices review. The consultant team is preparing the draft report, toolkit, and other deliverables, and a revised project poster.	August 2023	TBD
4. ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for Pedestrian Infrastructure	Village of Ballston Spa Town of Guilderland City of Troy Carrie Ward	Planning Committee Approved 11/2/2022	Data collection is ongoing.	December 2023	N/A
5. Hoosick Asset Management Plan Town of Hoosick	TBD \$33,000 Teresa LaSalle	Policy Board Approved 3/3/22	Preliminary results from data collection were reviewed in early August. The consultant team will be making edits to the data and sharing the data with the Town and the Transportation Council and performing additional analyses over the next month.	March 2024	N/A
6. Design-Engineering Feasibility and Planning Study for Reimagining the I-787 Corridor NYSDOT	TBD \$5,000,000 Greg Wichser, NYSDOT Kelly Kircher, NYSDOT Chris Bauer Jen Ceponis	TIP Project A609 Reimagining the I- 787 Corridor Planning Study	The first series of public meetings kicked off in June. Survey responses have begun to come in and the consultant has started work on some preliminary concepts. Transportation Council coordinated with the project consultant to develop and execute a travel demand model sharing agreement. Transportation Council staff are working with NYSDOT and the project consultant to develop and share the base year travel demand model(s).	March 2026	https://webapps.dot.ny.gov/reimagining-i-787A
7. On-Demand Motor Vehicle, Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Services	NDS (National Data & Surveying Services) Up to \$160,000 Teresa LaSalle	Included in the 2022-2023 UPWP	Vehicular and bicycle and pedestrian counts continue to be undertaken to support Transportation Council planning studies and projects.	18 month contract with an optional one year extension.	N/A
8. Regional Signal Timing Program	TBD \$100,000 Andrew Tracy	Included in the 2022-2023 UPWP	ATR counts have been conducted at each site to determine peak periods. Turning movement data has been collected in Schenectady; other corridors waiting until September for data collection. Synchro models being prepared by GPI.	March 2024	N/A

2023-24 Meeting Schedule

2023 Meeting Schedule: December 21

2024 Meeting Schedule: March 21, June 20, September 19, December 19

THANK YOU!



Jen Ceponis Director of Regional Planning

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

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