

IN MOTION

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Metropolitan Planning Organization for New York's Capital Region

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Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Enacted

On November 15, 2021, President Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) into law, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The BIL invests \$1.2 trillion into the nation's infrastructure, including \$567.5 billion for USDOT surface transportation programs. The transportation funding is intended to modernize the nation's aging road and bridge infrastructure, improve the reliability of the transportation system and provide economic benefits through travel efficiencies, increased construction activity and increased jobs.

The final year of the FAST Act, the previous surface transportation legislation, provides the BIL funding baseline at \$293.4 billion over five years with the addition of \$274.1 billion in new funding commitments. Of the new funding, \$89.8 billion will increase Highway Trust Fund contract authority and \$184.1 billion is guaranteed to highway, transit, safety, rail, airport and multi-modal transportation programs. Over the next five years, New York State is expected to receive approximately \$24.2 billion for highway, bridge, and transit programs, representing a 44% increase over previous years.

The funding is expected to help New York:

- Repair and rebuild roads and bridges with a focus on climate change mitigation, resilience, equity, and safety for all users, including cyclists and pedestrians.
- Improve healthy, sustainable public transportation options.
- Build a network of EV chargers to facilitate long-distance travel and provide convenient charging options.
- Modernize and expand passenger rail, improve airports and improve freight rail efficiency and safety.

Quotable Quotes

"The infrastructure bill will rebuild and replace infrastructure that is decades, or even a century, old. It will promote safety, help us combat the climate crisis, and advance equitable access to transportation. No matter where they live or who they voted for, all Americans deserve to have a transportation system that works for them."

-U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg

CDTC expects to receive guidance by early 2022 from NYSDOT on the impact the BIL may have on funding availability for the 2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP programs federal transportation funds to capital projects and is in the process of being updated. CDTC will monitor the implementation of the BIL as new and expanded competitive grant programs are anticipated to launch over the course of the next year.

To learn more about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, visit <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/>.

New Visions 2050 Implementation: TIP & UPWP

CDTC announced the 2022-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) update in September and received 92 project proposals. CDTC staff will complete the initial review and evaluate all proposals by December 30th, project sponsors will have an opportunity to review their qualitative and quantitative scores, and all evaluations will be finalized in January 2022. Once all evaluations are finalized, the Planning Committee will begin the programming process. A Draft TIP will be released for public review and comment in March. The final 2022-27 TIP is expected to be adopted by the Policy Board in June 2022. Additional information and schedule updates can be found at www.cdtcmo.org/2022tip.

An update to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was announced in October. The UPWP uses federal transportation funds to support concept-level planning, feasibility analyses, and technical assistance. CDTC collected planning project proposals from local governments and its member agencies, which will be evaluated by staff and presented to its Planning Committee and Policy Board for approval. A Draft 2022-23 UPWP is expected to be released for public review in February and an updated UPWP will be adopted by CDTC's Policy Board in March 2022. More information on the 2022-23 UPWP can be found at www.cdtcmo.org/2022upwp.

CDTC will create a range of outreach events and innovative strategies to present the Draft TIP and UPWP materials to the public and collect comments. Both of these major products developed by CDTC are constructed through the lens of the New Visions 2050 Plan and help achieve the vision for the 21st century transportation system laid out in the region's long-range transportation plan.

Project Spotlight: Geyser Road Trail, Saratoga Springs



Images: Geyser Road Trail | Source: City of Saratoga Springs

The Geyser Road Trail completes an important gap in the Saratoga Greenbelt Trail - the 2.8 mile-long three-season trail stretches from the Milton town line to Route 50 at the Saratoga Spa State Park along Geyser Road. The project started as a grass roots effort by local residents to create a new pedestrian and bike connection from the western neighborhoods to the Geyser Road Elementary School, Veterans Memorial Park, Saratoga Spa State Park, downtown, and Broadway. The Geyser Crest neighborhood is roughly 20% of the city's population, but before this trail was completed the only option residents had to reach other neighborhoods and downtown was to travel by car. The new trail not only provides needed recreation and transportation opportunities for this neighborhood but provides benefits to the entire community. The trail builds upon Saratoga Springs unique heritage of Health, History and Horses and provides a healthy and safe alternative to get outside, enjoy nature, and recreate.

InMotion is Going Digital

The *InMotion* Newsletter was launched in 2008 and is CDTC's opportunity to connect with residents and stakeholders in the Capital Region. In order to accomplish the vision presented in *New Visions 2050*, CDTC believes that planning must be done with the public's full involvement and include those whose everyday life is affected by how they get to work, school, or home, and to stores and services. *InMotion* has been an essential part of our ongoing public engagement and provides helpful information on transportation planning, technology, projects, and programs in the Capital Region. It's a place to showcase local projects, engage the public in the metropolitan planning process, and promote CDTC's accomplishments in an attractive and engaging format. This will be the last *InMotion* issue that is printed.

***InMotion* is going digital and will be delivered directly to your email inbox. Please email newsletter@cdtcmpo.org to be added to the newsletter email list.**



Image: Kenneth Wersted, a Ditch the Car participant, enjoying an outing with his family. | Photo credit: Kenneth Wersted



Image: Rebecca Clark and her co-worker commuting together by bike. | Photo credit: Rebecca Clark

A Successful First Year for the Capital Region's Ditch the Car Challenge

October 8th concluded the first-ever Ditch the Car Challenge. Eighty-four participants logged over 1,700 trips and 23,400 miles, burned over 368,100 calories and saved almost 940 gallons of gas. The program prevented over 18,740 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions from being released.

The Challenge, which began in June, was designed to encourage Capital Region residents to build the habit of replacing car trips with other modes of transportation such as biking, walking, riding the bus, carpooling or using CDTA's FLEX On Demand Transit. Participants earned badges for trips and shared photos of how they were getting to work or running errands without a car.

The regional Bike to Work and Bike to School Challenges have been on hiatus since the pandemic began but will be offered again in 2022 along with another Ditch the Car Challenge.

Mark your 2022 calendars:

National Bike to School Day - May 4

National Bike to Work Day - May 21

National Walk to School Day - October 5



Capital District Transportation Committee
One Park Place, Main Floor
Albany, NY 12205-2628

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**Capital District Transportation
Committee**

One Park Place, Main Floor
Albany, NY 12205-2628
Phone: 518-458-2161
Fax: 518-729-5764
Email: cdtc@cdtcmpo.org
www.cdtcmpo.org

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Mayor Kathy M. Sheehan
Executive Director
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Albany County

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Region 1**

Patrick Barnes

New York State Thruway Authority

Phil Serafino, Acting Albany Division
Director

Non-Voting Members

Marie Therese Dominguez, NYSDOT
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Richard J. Marquis, FHWA

CDTC Meetings Calender

Due to COVID-19, most CDTC meetings are being held virtually. For the most up to date meeting information and CDTC virtual meeting registration information, please contact cdtc@cdtcmpo.org.

12/14/21	Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee @9:00 AM, Virtual Meeting
12/16/21	Community Planner Forum @9:30 AM, Virtual Meeting
1/10/22	Regional Transportation Coordination Committee @ 2:00 PM, Virtual Meeting
1/11/22	Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee @9:00 AM, Virtual Meeting
1/12/22	Planning Committee Meeting @9:30 AM, Hybrid Meeting
1/19/22	Planning Committee Meeting @9:30 AM, Hybrid Meeting
2/2/22	Planning Committee Meeting @9:30 AM, Hybrid Meeting
2/8/22	Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee @9:00 AM, Virtual Meeting
2/16/22	Planning Committee Meeting @9:30 AM, Hybrid Meeting
3/3/22	Policy Board Meeting @3:00 PM, Hybrid Meeting

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