

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes

July 6, 2016

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bill Anslow, representing Darrell Duncan, Albany County
Brad Birge, City of Saratoga Springs
Frank Bonafide, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1
Kevin Corcoran, Town of Glenville
Steve Feeney, Schenectady County, Vice Chair
Rocky Ferraro, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee,
Secretary
Stephen Iachetta, Albany County Airport Authority, Chair
Andrew Kreshik, City of Troy
Robert Leslie, Town of Bethlehem
Randy Milano, City of Albany
Paul Reuss, Village of Menands
John Scavo, Town of Clifton Park
Joseph Teliska, representing Wayne Bonesteel, Rensselaer County
Michael Valentine, Saratoga County
Tony Vasil, Albany Port Commission
Christopher Wallin, City of Schenectady

STAFF AND OTHERS

Robert Cherry, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1
Bryan Cross, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1
Karen Hulihan, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1
Chris O'Neill, Capital District Transportation Committee
Suzanna Randall, NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation
Rich Rooney, McFarland Johnson
Aaron Spies, Capital District Transportation Committee
Coulture Tate, McLaren Engineering
Carrie Ward, Capital District Transportation Committee
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1

INTRODUCTION AND VISITORS' ISSUES

Steve Iachetta opened the meeting at approximately 9:35 AM. There were no visitor issues.

ADMINISTRATION

Previous Meeting Minutes - May 4, 2016

Members approved the May 4, 2016 minutes.

PRESENTATION—NYS ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES CORPORATION GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Suzanna Randall gave a presentation on this topic. She described the Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP) and its goals: protect and improve water quality; spur innovation; build green capacity --locally and beyond; and facilitate the transfer of these technologies to other areas of the State. Good Capital Planning will incorporate Green Innovation implementation into capital improvement projects including: sewer/water projects; sidewalk replacement projects; and utilities upgrades. She reviewed a number of green infrastructure projects from around New York State. She said that creative funding is desirable, for example by using GIGP funding to supplement other funding sources in a project. Rocky Ferraro noted that the Albany Pool Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan includes a green infrastructure component and that getting funding for the cities to build systems that prevent sewer overflow is critical. Also, it is important to incorporate green design into the design of transportation systems and site and building improvements in order to reduce the amount of storm water entering into these combined sewer systems in order to reduce the likelihood of an overflow from occurring during a rain event.

ACTION ITEMS

2016-21 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Mike Franchini reviewed the proposed changes described in the memo in the mail out titled "2016-21 TIP Proposed Changes to the Project Listings". These proposed changes were identified through the effort to reconcile the TIP with the STIP and included funding changes and schedule changes. He explained that because two Madison Avenue projects (A564 and A565) were found to be eligible for HSIP funding, two contingent projects can now be funded with STP-Urban funding (S245, Rosa Road, Wendell Avenue and Nott Street Intersection Project; and S246, Highbridge Road and East Campbell Road Pavement Preservation). This funding was approved at the March 2nd Planning Committee since it was contingent upon the Madison Avenue projects being determined to be eligible for HSIP funding. Mike said that some items do not require action based on CDTC procedures. Members approved the changes described in sections B, C, E and F.

NYS DOT PROPOSED FUNCTIONAL CLASS CHANGES

Frank Bonafide said that three functional class changes are being requested: NY 787 (Cohoes Boulevard), from Tibbets Avenue to NY 32; Washington Avenue Extension (910D), from NY 155 to Fuller Road; and NY 50, from North Broadway to I-87. Each of these requested changes will be from Principal Arterial (Expressway) to Principal Arterial (Other). These changes will better align functional class with the current use and function, including traffic signals and pedestrian amenities. Brad Birge asked if the changes would allow the lowering of the speed limit. Rob Cherry said that if changes are made to create a different road environment, speed limit changes could potentially be made. Members approved the proposed functional class changes.

TITLE VI AND OTHER CIVIL RIGHTS REGULATIONS PLAN APPROVAL

Carrie Ward presented the draft of the *Title VI and Other Civil Rights Regulations Plan*, included in the mail out. Mike Franchini said that it pertains primarily to consulting contracts and internal work, not to capital projects. Andrew Kreshik noted three corrections identified on page 7:

Correction 1– in the indented clause, change “contact” to “contract”;
Correction 2– under number 4, replace “thereron” with “thereon”;
Correction 3– in number 5, replace “where” with “when”.

Mike Franchini said that for correction 3, “where” is used in the law and should not be changed; staff will verify this. (Subsequent to the meeting, this was verified.)

Rob Cherry asked if LEP (limited English proficiency) should be included as a discrimination category on page 5, Section III. Carrie said staff will check on this and address if necessary. (Subsequent to the meeting, staff received a comment that a recent NYS interpretation widened inclusion of protected classes to include gender identity. Subsequent to the meeting staff added a box for “other” on page 5, Section III, to cover both LEP and gender identity.)

Members approved the *Title VI and Other Civil Rights Regulations Plan*, with the first two corrections and necessary changes to address Rob Cherry’s comment.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

NYSDOT PIN 1721.90, I-87: EXIT 4, AIRPORT CONNECTOR, PART 2

Frank Bonafide presented this requested TIP amendment for information, but action will not be requested until the August Planning Committee meeting. Policy Board approval will be requested in September. He distributed a hand out describing the amendment. He said that Phases I to IV of design are completed. Funding will not be out of CDTC’s core program. Steve Iachetta said that the Airport Authority has submitted a request for FAA airspace clearance.

PAVE NY, BRIDGE NY AND HSIP

Mike Franchini distributed handouts on the PAVE-NY and BRIDGE NY initiatives (attached). The PAVE-NY program apportions funding to municipalities based on the CHIPS program. The BRIDGE-NY program is a competitive program. It is unclear what involvement the MPOs will have in this program.

Mike Franchini said that five projects in our region received funding from the Statewide HSIP solicitation. The five projects are:

- Brandywine Avenue in the City of Schenectady
- Carman Road in the Town of Guilderland

- A CDTA project to reconfigure a one-block section of Washington Avenue in Albany between Lark Street and Dove Street
- Madison Avenue in the City of Albany
- Centerline rumble strips on 350 miles of rural, two-lane highways in the Capital Region

SECTION 5310 ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM PROJECT SOLICITATION

Anne Benware said that applications for this program were due last Friday July 1st, and at least five submittals were received in our region. This is the second year that this program is administered by NYSDOT with MPOs responsible to evaluate and select projects for programming. CDTC should receive all applications by July 15th. In addition to CDTC staff, the evaluation committee will include NYSDOT, Department of Health and the Office of the Aging.

BIKE TO WORK DAY (MAY 20th) WINNERS

Carrie Ward reported that over 500 people registered for the challenge amounting to about 5,700 bicycle miles. She presented highlights from the 2016 Bike to Work Day Workplace Challenge. The City of Cohoes won the municipal challenge for highest percent participation. Lake Avenue Elementary won the school trophy for Saratoga County with about 150 kids participating.

NYSDOT PROJECT DELIVERY SCHEDULE

Karen Hulihan handed out a table (attached) showing the status of local and State projects. She commented that it was a good report.

STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES

CDTC

Mike Franchini handed out an announcement for a presentation on ADA Transition Plans to be presented by FHWA on September 30, 2016. Chris Wallin commented that he would like to get broader involvement within the City beyond the engineering staff. Rob Leslie commented that if you don't have an ADA Transition Plan, you can jeopardize funding from other sources. Mike Franchini said that CDTC has UPWP funding to assist communities with conducting ADA inventories.

Mike Franchini said that CDTC is seeking applicants for the new Environmental Justice/Title VI Task Force.

CDRPC

Rocky Ferraro reported that the online Census Mapping Application is complete. CDRPC staff is available to help use this tool. Positive feedback has been received. This application is a good resource when writing grant applications. CDRPC hired a new staff person, Robyn

Reynolds, who will be working on the NYSERDA Community Partnership Grant under the Cleaner Greener Communities Program.

NYSDOT

Frank Bonafide said that reconciliation of the TIP and the STIP is about done. He reported that Sam Zhou is now full time again in Region 1.

Albany County Airport Authority

Steve Iachetta said that, as reported in the news, the first horse transport plane of the 2016 Saratoga racing season arrived at Albany International Airport. Bidding is taking place for seven projects for a total of \$6 M.

Albany Port District Commission

Tony Vasil reported that 2016 is on track to have a comparable number of vessels as in 2015. The Port is refurbishing 1500 feet of dock and will have a 50,000 square foot climate controlled warehouse to store GE generators expected in 2018.

Linkage/Local Planning Activities

Mike Franchini referred members to the Linkage status report in the mail out. Chris Wallin reported that Erie Boulevard will be closed July 30th-31st for roundabout paving.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 AM. The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for August 3, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael V. Franchini
Secretary