

**PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Minutes  
February 24, 2016

**MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Bill Anslow, representing Darrell Duncan, Albany County  
 Brad Birge, City of Saratoga Springs  
 Frank Bonafide, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1  
 Peter Comenzo, Town of Rotterdam  
 Kevin Corcoran, Town of Glenville  
 Don Csaposs, Town of Guilderland  
 Ross Farrell, Capital District Transportation Committee  
 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  
 Joseph LaCivita, Town of Colonie  
 Robert Leslie, Town of Bethlehem  
 Randy Milano, City of Albany  
 Charles Moore, City of Rensselaer  
 Tom Richardson, City of Mechanicville  
 Laura Robertson, Town of Niskayuna  
 John Scavo, Town of Clifton Park  
 Jeremy Smith, City of Watervliet  
 Joseph Teliska, representing Wayne Bonesteel, Rensselaer County  
 Tony Tozzi, Town of Malta  
 Michael Valentine, Saratoga County  
 Christopher Wallin, City of Schenectady

**STAFF AND OTHERS**

Chris Bauer, Capital District Transportation Committee  
 Robert Cherry, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1  
 Bryan Cross, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1  
 Christopher Desany, Capital District Transportation Authority  
 Chanchilo Ezung, Capital District Transportation Committee  
 Todd Fabozzi, Capital District Regional Planning Commission  
 Ken Guyer, Town of New Scotland  
 Robert Hansen, Creighton Manning  
 Jeffrey Johns, Stantec Consulting  
 David Jukins, Capital District Transportation Committee  
 Doug LaGrange, Town of New Scotland  
 Teresa LaSalle, Capital District Transportation Committee  
 Chris O'Neill, Capital District Transportation Committee  
 Glenn Posca, Capital District Transportation Committee  
 Matthew Rosenbloom-Jones, Capital District Transportation Committee  
 Dan Rourke, Barton & Loguidice  
 Evan Seyboth, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1  
 Owen Shevlin, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1  
 Aaron Spies, Capital District Transportation Committee  
 Jennifer Viggiani, Town of Clifton Park  
 Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation- Region 1  
 Edward Wolk, Capital District Transportation Authority

## **INTRODUCTION AND VISITORS' ISSUES**

Steve Iachetta opened the meeting at approximately 9:40 AM. There were no visitor issues.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Previous Meeting Minutes - February 3, 2016**

Rob Cherry raised a few points of clarification. He said that statewide safety funding and TAP funding do not count against the Beyond Preservation target. Also, the NHPP funding in the Hamburg Street project does not count against Beyond Preservation target. With these clarifications, members approved the February 3, 2016 minutes.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **OCTOBER 1, 2016 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE**

Mike Franchini referred to the memo in the mail out labeled "Agenda Item IV-A". He said that the first group of changes, "Minor Changes Not Yet Approved", were addressed at the last meeting. He referred to the next group of changes, "Major Changes Not Yet Approved". Regarding the first item, Kevin Corcoran explained that this project depended on land donation from a developer which is still expected, but will take time. Action was deferred (till later in the meeting) on this item and the second item in this group.

Mike Franchini explained that staff reviewed project R195, South Troy Industrial Park Road. He distributed a fact sheet that summarized the evaluation (attached). He said that staff carefully evaluated the project using the STEP Model and found zero traditional traffic benefits.

Andrew Kreshik explained the benefits of the project and said that the model result does not capture the many benefits of the project. This project will have many benefits for the City including positive development of the waterfront and is strongly supported by the municipality. He acknowledged the long time the project has lingered but he said that in the last four years the project has been moving. The Native American issues delayed the project by two years. FHWA is supportive of the current scope of the project. The City has a full funding commitment in spite of the City's other infrastructure issues.

In response to a question, Mike Franchini said that the project received 8 merit points which were factored down (as agreed for all projects) to a score of 6. Questions were raised about the plausibility of zero benefits. Chris O'Neill said that although the STEP Model is not perfect, great care was taken to model the project area well, and the Model predicted that the new project would not provide congestion benefits for regular automobile traffic, especially

since several alternate routes are already available. He said truck traffic benefits are not modeled directly in the STEP Model. Mike Franchini noted that the original project analysis in 1997 found very low traffic benefits, and even if these were assumed, it would not help the project to be more competitive. Dave Jukins said that when the project was originally programmed, the B/C ratio was low and the project was selected for other reasons.

Ross Farrell commented that it is difficult to evaluate the project without having reviewed the other projects for comparison. Andrew Kreshik said that the funding is being requested as an existing project. Frank Bonafide asked questions about the schedule and suggested that it would be helpful to provide a project schedule. Andrew Kreshik said that the project is expected to proceed on schedule. A public hearing is expected in May. Laura Robertson asked if approving this funding increase would affect the Beyond Preservation target. Frank Bonafide said that it would, and will push other new Beyond Preservation projects into later years.

Tom Richardson made a motion to increase the funding for project R195 by \$5.06 M as requested. Chris Wallin commented that if this project is approved today as a change to an existing project, then the changes to the Kings Road bridge project (S204) should also be voted on as an existing project. Members approved the motion by Tom Richardson, with Chris Wallin abstaining.

Joe Teliska explained that an increase in funding of \$133,000 is being requested for project R297, Plank Road (CR 126) over the Deepkill, as an addition to the new TIP. The project will change from element specific bridge repair to bridge replacement, and will change from Preservation to Beyond Preservation. Members approved the change for R297 as requested.

Chris Wallin requested that the Kings Road bridge project (S204) be voted on to be added to the new TIP as a bridge replacement, with a cost increase of \$1.0 M (increasing from \$2.75 M to 3.75 M). The project will change from Preservation to Beyond Preservation. The project will add sidewalks to the bridge. The project was evaluated with total score of 22.2, with a B/C ratio of 10.9 and a merit score of 11. Frank Bonafide commented that this action would resolve all of the requests for changes of existing projects for the new TIP. Mike Franchini pointed out that there was one more change in this category, the Flower Hill Multi-Use Path Connection. Members approved the project changes for S204 for the new TIP as proposed.

A motion was made to approve the changes for the Flower Hill Multi-Use Path Connection (S217) that were submitted in the PJP for the project. Project S217 was capped at \$0.222 M. Due to issues discovered during the engineering phase, the project cost has increased. A PJP was submitted which requests an additional \$0.328 M for construction and \$0.013 M for ROW (a total of \$0.341 M inflated to \$0.384 M) in matched federal funds. The project total cost would be \$0.606 M in matched federal funds. Mike Franchini said that if the project is let by October 1, this change would not affect the Bike/ped set aside.

Members approved the proposed changes for S217 as presented in the PJP.

Members approved the changes presented for RG130 (Travel Demand Management) to change from a 50/50 split between NHPP and STP-Flex to 100% STP-Flex. Members approved putting the funding for S143 in the post period, as requested by the sponsor. Ross Farrell said that the changes proposed for RG131 are not needed and the requested change was withdrawn. Members approved the changes presented for transit funding documented in the listings in the mail out (under item IV-B).

#### **2016-2017 LINKAGE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Sandy Misiewicz explained the review process that was used to evaluate three submissions for the 2016-2017 Linkage Program. The review findings are documented in the mail out. The evaluation team recommended the Glenville and Albany County/Town of Colonie projects for funding. Members approved the evaluation team recommendations.

#### **2016-18 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Mike Franchini reviewed the draft 2016-18 UPWP. The draft UPWP addresses FHWA and FTA guidance about the importance of implementing performance based planning consistent with new rule making. A new task will implement the new performance measures, consistent with new rulemaking and with the CDTC New Visions Plan. The UPWP has decreased in funding because the New Visions Plan update is complete and because the Freight Plan will be complete. A major task will be to address the federal "Ladders of Opportunity" initiative. Another major task will be establishing consultant contracts for data collection, intersection analysis and safety data analysis and development of safety mitigation measures.

Members approved the UPWP subject to CDTC Policy Board approval expected on March 29.

Rocky thanked the CDTC staff for the great partnership with CDRPC and CDTA and support for CDRPC efforts. Mike Franchini said that CDTC has gotten very high value from CDRPC work on demographics and other topics.

#### **REGIONAL FREIGHT PLAN APPROVAL**

Chris Bauer gave a briefing on the significant revisions made to the Regional Freight & Goods Movement Plan resulting from the recent report review periods. The Final Draft is available online at: <http://www.cdncmpo.org/freight/study.pdf>. Chris said they addressed approximately 150 comments from CDTC Staff, the Planning Committee, the Freight Advisory Committee, the public, and others. Chris highlighted some of the significant revisions including: the I-87 Northway Exit 4 Airport Access project was added to the long-range recommendations; a revised project recommendation regarding a Tandem Trailer Lots Relocation Study; and Freight Data Collection and Local Delivery Optimization Programs were added to the programmatic

recommendations. Chris gave an overview of the review process, and said the Final Draft Plan was scheduled to go before the Policy Board in March. Members approved the Final Draft Plan subject to Policy Board approval.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12. The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Michael V. Franchini  
Secretary