

**Planning Committee Meeting  
February 2, 2022  
Meeting Minutes**

**Members Attending**

Bill Anslow, Albany County  
Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission  
Peter Comenzo, Town of Guilderland  
Ross Farrell, Capital District Transportation Authority  
Steve Feeny, Schenectady County, Vice-Chair  
Patrick Jordan Esq., Port of Albany  
Elizabeth Kormos, Village of Ballston Spa  
Andrew Kreshik, City of Troy  
Steve Iachetta, Albany County Airport Authority  
Joe LaCivita, City of Watervliet  
Sean Maguire, Town of Colonie  
Randy Milano, City of Albany  
Sandra Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee, Secretary  
Jaime O'Neill, Town of Malta  
Robert Rice, New York State Department of Transportation – Region 1  
Tom Richardson, City of Mechanicville  
John Scavo, Town of Clifton Park  
Joe Seman-Graves, City of Cohoes  
Joe Teliska, Rensselaer County  
Chris Wallin, City of Schenectady  
Adam Yagelski, Town of East Greenbush

**Staff and Others Attending**

Christian Bauer, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Jacob Beeman, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Jen Ceponis, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Joe Cimino, CHA  
Kristin Diotte, City of Schenectady  
Kelley Kircher, NYS Department of Transportation - Region I  
Teresa LaSalle, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Fred Mastroianni, GPI  
Jeff Pangburn, Creighton Manning Engineering  
Ryan Riper, Town of Malta  
Rima Shamieh, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Melissa Shanley, Capital District Transportation Authority  
Paul Sheldon, Schenectady County  
Cara Sherman, Town of Malta  
Chaim Simon, Capital District Transportation Committee

Andrew Tracy, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Carrie Ward, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation - Region I

## **Introduction**

Steve Iachetta opened the meeting at approximately 9:31 AM.

## **Visitors' Issues**

There were no visitors' issues.

## **Administration**

### **Previous Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2022**

Sean Maguire motioned to approve the January 12, 2022 minutes with the extra space between paragraphs 2 and 3 on page 3 removed, Randy Milano seconded, and members approved the motion.

### **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Fiscal Constraint - Summary Table 4**

Jacob Beeman noted that after last month's approved changes, Table 4 shows that we are still within our 5% over / under programming guidance.

## **Action Items**

### **2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments**

1. A594, 1761.64, Lark Street, Madison Avenue to Washington Avenue: Mill & Fill, City of Albany, Albany County

Randy Milano noted that the project was originally programmed as a Mill & Fill, but the project will now be more of a Complete Streets project with a cost increase funded locally. Steve Feeney motioned to approve the amendment as presented, Mark Castiglione seconded, and members approved the amendment.

2. S247, 1760.57, Brandywine Avenue, I-890 to State Street: Safety Improvements, City of Schenectady, Schenectady County

Chris Wallin noted that this project, awarded in the competitive HSIP solicitation, encountered a cost increase of approximately \$400,000. The cost increase is proposed to be funded with additional available HSIP funds. Steve Feeney motioned to approve the amendment as presented, Andrew Kreshik seconded, and members approved the amendment.

## **2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program Solicitation Recommendations**

Sandra Misiewicz provided a presentation on the draft UPWP, which is one of the three main products of an MPO. It is set on the state fiscal year, starting April 1<sup>st</sup> each year. This year CDTC issued a call for projects to try to consolidate a number of solicitations, with proposals due at the end of November 2021. The solicitation included categories for the Linkage Program, Technical Assistance, and Regional Plan implementation. Sandra provided an overview of the applications received, with five for the Linkage Program and one for Regional Plan Implementation. Sandra reviewed the staff rankings of the received applications.

## **Draft 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program Review and Approval for Public Comment**

Sandra Misiewicz provided an overview of the funding categories and the tasks within each category. NYSDOT issued UPWP guidance and funding allocation estimates in December. The draft UPWP will need to address new FHWA and FTA Planning Emphasis Areas, including coordination with tribal and federal lands. There is a virtual public workshop scheduled for Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. Bob Rice suggested that future work programs look at preservation related to pavements and bridges. Sandra Misiewicz explained that staff plans to explore options to update the regional travel demand model using updated household travel survey data. Mark Castiglione motioned to approve both the solicitation recommendations discussed above and the draft UPWP for public comment. Sean Maguire seconded the motion and members approved the solicitation recommendations and released the draft for public comment.

## **CDTC Public Participation Plan Amendment**

Jen Ceponis noted that the recent update to the Public Participation Plan kept the public review periods that had previously been used. With the upcoming TIP and UPWP development having condensed timelines, staff is requesting changes to the minimum public review periods for these and other products of CDTC's planning process. Sandra noted that CDTC remains committed to an inclusive input process. Sean Maguire motioned to approve the Public Participation Plan Amendment as presented, Adam Yagelski seconded, and the motion passed.

## **Discussion Items**

### **2022-2027 TIP Update Discussion and Status**

Sandra Misiewicz provided a presentation summarizing the TIP and its update process. Greg Wichser provided an overview of NYSDOT Region 1's Planning Target development. It begins with a Needs Assessment of everything including the non-Federal Aid system for input into state budgeting, reviews available federal funding, and then assembles targets. Greg Wichser noted that federal funding focuses on the National Highway System. Sandra Misiewicz noted that CDTC has not yet received TIP/STIP update guidance and federal fund allocations from NYSDOT. This will significantly limit the TIP update schedule.

## **Summary of 2019-2024 TIP Project Selection Moves**

Jacob Beeman said that there were fifteen project selection changes between the last meeting and last Wednesday. All but one change were schedule changes, and SA336 was a cost increase.

## **CDTC Project Delivery Update**

Jacob Beeman noted that PS&E was submitted in December 2021 for A581 - West Old State Road Sidewalks in Guilderland. R310 – Sand Lake Hamlet Sidewalk Enhancements in Sand Lake was let in June 2021, and construction will begin in spring 2022. PS&E was submitted and construction authorized in January 2022 for S247 – Brandywine Ave, I-890 to State Street Safety Improvements in the City of Schenectady. A590 – City of Albany PSAP in the City of Albany, was let in November. NEPA concurrence for S265 – Freemans Bridge Road Multi-Use Path in Glenville was approved in December. Construction on SA314 – Fox Hill Road over Little Hans Creek Bridge in Edinburg, was completed in December. Next month’s updates will be from Scotia, Clifton Park, City of Albany, and CDTA.

## **NYS DOT Project Delivery Schedule**

Bob Rice said that Route 20 over Schoharie Creek and the Northway Resurfacing between Exits 15 and 16 were both let in the last couple of weeks and came in within a couple hundred thousand of the estimates. About \$26M in corrective maintenance projects will be let tomorrow, and the approximately \$17M I-890 pavement rehabilitation project will be let in the next couple of weeks.

## **Status of CDTC Planning Activities**

Sandra Misiewicz referenced the table in the packet.

## **Status of Regional and Local Planning Activities**

### **1. CDRPC**

Mark Castiglione noted that CDRPC will be conducting its spring training virtually again this year and the Capital Region Indicators website was updated to include school districts and zip codes. CDRPC is launching the new Climate Smart Communities Coordinator program, working with communities to advance DEC’s Climate Smart Communities program goals. CDRPC will also be working with CEG to look at the supply chain for off-shore wind, focusing on the Ports of Coeymans and Albany and related upstream industries. CDRPC will also be working with the counties to look at regional broadband access as part of a grant received from the Northern Border Regional Commission. Final census numbers are still estimated to be released in 2022.

### **2. CDTA**

Ross Farrell reported that CDTA adjusted 14 or 15 routes in the last month, increased the service on the microtransit system, and matched the microtransit fare to the fixed route system.

### 3. NYSDOT

Bob Rice noted that Region 1 presented its proposed program to the DOT Commissioner and the Executive Team. Each Region presents its program, with about half of the regions having already presented. The focus is on preservation. He also reminded everyone that federal funding is provided as reimbursements, meaning that all of the state-implemented projects are contingent on the availability of state funding and the state budget. Alex Poland joined the region as an engineer in local programs. Joe Thompson also joined the local programs unit. Alex Poland and Joe Thompson will be reaching out to local sponsors for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Kelly Kircher has joined the region on the program side.

### 4. NYSTA

There was no report.

### 5. Albany County Airport Authority

Steve Iachetta noted that the Authority is moving forward with its master plan, considering existing and proposed facilities over a 20-year horizon. Cargo is up 10%, with passenger traffic at about 80% of 2019 rates. New service to Nashville is beginning, as well as direct service to LaGuardia Airport. Repaving of the runways and taxiways continues.

### 6. Albany Port District Commission

Pat Jordan announced that he is the new designee to the Planning Committee. The Port finished last year with increases in ships and tonnage. The SEQR process for the port expansion site in the Town of Bethlehem is expected to be finished over the next month. NYSDOT approved new turning lanes and possibly a new traffic signal on River Road and South Pearl Street just south of the City. About 14 acres within the current port district will be repurposed to support the receiving yard and entry port for the project. Pat Jordan noted that the Port hopes to improve the roadways within the Port to divert some traffic off of South Pearl Street.

### **Upcoming Meetings/ Events**

Steve Iachetta referred to the meetings listed on the agenda.

### **Adjournment**

Steve Iachetta motioned to adjourn at approximately 11:32am, Sandra Misiewicz seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Misiewicz, AICP  
Secretary