

**CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Draft Meeting Minutes  
September 1, 2016

**MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Maggie Alix, representing Sean Ward, Albany County Legislature  
Carm Basile, Capital District Transportation Authority, Vice Chair  
Steve Feeney, representing Anthony Jasenski, Schenectady County  
Steve Iachetta, representing John O'Donnell, Albany County Airport Authority  
Patrick Jordan, Esq., Albany Port District Commission  
Andrew Kreshik, representing Mayor Patrick Madden, City of Troy  
Joe LaCivita, representing Paula Mahan, Town of Colonie  
Joe Landry, Town of Niskayuna  
Joseph Moloughney, NYS Thruway Authority  
Kathy Sheehan, City of Albany, Mayor, Chair  
Chris Wallin, representing Mayor Gary McCarthy, City of Schenectady  
Thomas Werner, Saratoga County  
Joanne Yepsen, City of Saratoga Springs, Mayor  
Sam Zhou, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1, Secretary

**STAFF AND OTHERS**

Eric Anderson, Times Union  
Chris Bauer, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Anne Benware, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Frank Bonafide, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1  
Mike Cukrovany, NYS Department of Transportation  
Jim Digioia, Office of General Services  
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Richard Hendrick, Albany Port District Commission  
Keith Irish, Interested citizen  
Teresa LaSalle, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Mike Loftus, HNTB  
Randy Milano, City of Albany  
Christina Minkler, CHA Companies  
Sandy Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Chris O'Neill, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Glen Posca, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Mark Schaeffer, Capital District Transportation Authority  
Angela Trichilo, NYS Department of Transportation

**OPENING REMARKS**

Mayor Kathy Sheehan opened the Capital District Transportation Committee meeting at 3:10 PM and welcomed those in attendance. Members and attendees introduced themselves.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Approval of the June 2, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

The June 2, 2016 meeting minutes were approved by the members.

### **PRESENTATION-ALBANY PORT DISTRICT COMMISSION-PORT DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

Rich Hendrick gave a presentation on this topic. He said that the Port of Albany received a \$17.6 million federal TIGER grant which will allow them to improve their ability to move and store heavy-lift and project cargo. This includes reconstructing the wharf to add a roll-on/roll-off dock, to accommodate the movement of over-dimensioned General Electric cargo. Other improvements include a new temperature controlled warehouse, terminal upgrades and reconstruction of the Port's internal roadway. The Port is also in the process of purchasing additional property located to the south of the current Port facilities. This new property could potentially be a future site for regional distribution center(s). He said that the Port is doing very well, and business has increased from the previous year.

### **PRESENTATION-NYS DOT I-87 EXIT 4 PHASE II**

Angelo Trichilo gave a presentation on this project. He described the configuration of the new facility to be constructed. Sidewalks will be installed on both sides of the road between Wolf Road and the new intersection west of Old Wolf Road. Five foot shoulders for bicycles will be provided on both sides of Albany Shaker Road between Wolf Road and the new intersection. A multiuse trail will be built on the south side of Albany Shaker Road from the new intersection to Meeting House Road, where it will provide access to the system of trails to the west. NYSDOT is working with the Desmond Hotel to determine if new access to the hotel can be provided through the intersection of Albany Shaker Road and Old Wolf Road. The new intersection at Albany Shaker Road and the new facility will be a signalized intersection. The new signal will be designed to prevent queues stacking into the runway protection zone. Right of way acquisition has started, and construction is expected in 2019. The merge area for the northbound entrance to the Northway at Exit 4 will be extended. Traffic impacts during construction will be relatively minor.

### **2016-2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS**

#### **A240 (PIN 1721.90) I-87 Exit 4 Airport Connector-**

Frank Bonafide presented a TIP amendment to reflect the funding that Region has received for this project. Funding was received as part of the 2016-2017 State Budget and will not count against core Region 1 allocations. Right of Way costs will be included in the total of \$50M. Members approved the amendment.

A563 (PIN 1051.79) South Mall Expressway Pier 18 Bridges

Frank Bonafide explained that during design it was determined that this pier will need more expensive repair work and there is a need to replace more of the pier than anticipated. A complex temporary support system will be needed to construct the project adjacent to an active rail line. Because of the offset provided, there will be no impact to the CDTC budget. Members approved the amendment.

R246/SA244 (PIN 1089.64) US 4 over the Hudson River: Element Specific Bridge Repair

Frank Bonafide explained that this project was assumed to be completed as part of the previous TIP, it was not included in the new TIP. Because of the project schedule, it now needs to be included in the new TIP. It is budget neutral since it was already calculated in the TIP numbers. Members approve the amendment.

S247, Carman Road Safety Improvements, Guilderland

This safety project will use HSIP funding to add turn lanes to provide safety benefits at the intersection of Carman Road and Lydius Street in Guilderland. Funding for this project is provided from the Statewide program and will not affect the CDTC budget. Members approve the amendment.

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

Mike Franchini explained that NYSDOT released a solicitation for the 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program on May 31, 2016. Eight applications were submitted requesting funding from the 5310 Program for the CDTC planning area, and seven applications passed screen.

Anne Benware took the lead in organizing the effort to evaluate the applications. Members of the 5310 evaluation committee, comprised of staff from the NYS Office for the Aging, NYS Department of Health, NYSDOT and CDTC, reviewed the seven applications that passed the screen and used evaluation methodology developed by NYSDOT in cooperation with the NYS MPOs. Each of the applications that passed screen was deemed worthy of funding. However, requested funds exceed available funds. The Committee developed options for each urbanized area, and the Planning Committee selected the recommendations as described in the mail out.

For the Albany-Schenectady-Troy Urbanized Area, the evaluation committee developed this option that would fund each of the six proposals, with some applicants receiving partial awards, but using the most of the available federal funds of \$633,407. Partial award recommendations were based on the applicants overall average score, amount requested, and balance among proposals, as shown in the

handout. This option was approved by the Planning Committee.

For the Saratoga Springs Urbanized Area, there was only one applicant for the Saratoga Springs Urbanized Area funds, NYSARC Saratoga County Chapter/Saratoga Bridges. The total federal requested amount for the two vehicles of \$108,587 exceeds the available federal funding of \$98,995. Option 1 would fund Saratoga ARC's two requested vehicles but at the total amount of available federal funds of \$98,995. It would be up to the applicant to adjust the OGS contract for each vehicle to meet the amount of available funds, or to increase the amount of their local share. The Planning Committee approved this option.

Members approved the Planning Committee recommendations as presented.

#### **NYSDOT 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). He said that without making these functional class changes, complete streets features could not be incorporated. Frank said that after Policy Board approval, the changes will need FHWA approval. Members approved the functional class changes.

#### **LOCAL HSIP PROJECT SOLICITATION**

Mike Franchini explained that HSIP funding has been difficult to program because of the need for technical analysis of crash history. In the first four years of the 2016-21 TIP we have approximately \$8.4 million in HSIP funding that is not programmed.

CDTC will offer significant support for Round 1. It includes an HSIP Application Workshop that is required for all applicants. Half the funding would be programmed in the first round.

The Second Round will occur sometime in the 2018 calendar year, after a Regional Safety Study was completed, and after a consultant analyzed potential candidate projects. Municipalities would receive all the information about these candidate projects, including benefit/cost ratio and estimated project cost, and then would submit project applications. The remaining half of the funding would be programmed in the second round. The solicitations will be open to NYSDOT as well.

#### **TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP)/CMAQ PROJECT SOLICITATION**

Frank Bonafide said that there will be a September 12<sup>th</sup> workshop for project applicants for the TAP and CMAQ programs. TAP is mostly bike and ped projects. CMAQ is for projects that reduce vehicle emissions

and/or traffic congestion. It includes intersection projects that reduce congestion, bike and ped projects and other project types. For this solicitation, \$62.2 M is available for TAP projects and \$36.5 M is available for CMAQ projects. Projects must be no less than \$250,000, and no greater than \$5.0 M. Applications are due on October 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### **STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

##### **CDTC**

Mike Franchini said the staff is busy working on Linkage projects and the HSIP solicitation.

##### **CDTA**

Carm Basile reported on service expansions to alleviate overcrowding, including increased frequency on trunk lines. The contract for the Lark/Washington intersection was let. CDTA will be developing a plan to provide centralized oversight of taxis. He said the goal is to bring the CDTA model of customer service to taxis and to one set of rules for taxis in the region. In response to a question he said that CDTA supports implementation of ridesharing services such as Uber and Lyft. They can provide the last mile in transit service. Mayor Sheehan said that the upstate Mayors of New York State strongly support making ridesharing services legal in upstate New York.

Mayor Yepsen expressed appreciation for the CDTA trolley service in Saratoga Springs.

##### **NYS DOT**

Sam Zhou reported the Route 85 project would be done in two weeks. The re-decking of the South Mall Expressway from I-787 to the Plaza will be completed this year with minor impacts to commuters. Rexford Bridge construction is progressing and traffic will be on the new bridge next year. The I-890 project will be done by November. Route 32 over the Mohawk River is on track.

In response to the tragic accident in Cohoes, education and enforcement efforts are underway. New pedestrian buttons have been installed.

##### **NYS Thruway Authority**

Joseph Moloughney reported that work on the Thruway between Exits 24 and 25 will be finished in the middle of the Fall.

##### **Albany County Airport Authority**

Steve Iachetta said that the Airport is enthusiastic and grateful for

the funding project A240. He said the Airport is experiencing double digit growth.

**Albany Port District Commission**

Patrick Jordan reported that growth in ships served and warehouse space at the Port is increasing jobs for the region.

**Linkage/Local Planning Activities**

Mike Franchini referred to the status of planning activities in the mail out.

**City of Schenectady**

Chris Wallin reported that the new two lane roundabout at Erie Boulevard and Nott Street is working well and is being very well received.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Sam Zhou  
Secretary