

CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2016

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Maggie Alix, Albany County Legislature
Carm Basile, Capital District Transportation Authority, Vice Chair
Lou Desso, Town of North Greenbush
Steve Feeney, representing Anthony Jasenski, Schenectady County
Terrence Hurley, Albany Port District Commission
Steve Iachetta, representing John O'Donnell, Albany County Airport Authority
Andrew Kreshik, representing Mayor Patrick Madden, City of Troy
Joe LaCivita, representing Paula Mahan, Town of Colonie
Joe Landry, Town of Niskayuna
Randy Milano, representing Mayor Kathy Sheehan, City of Albany
Anne Shaughnessy, representing Stan Brown, Rensselaer County Legislature
Mike Stammel, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Steve Tommasone, Town of Rotterdam
Linda Von der Heide, representing Kathleen Jimino, Rensselaer County
Chris Wallin, representing Mayor Gary McCarthy, City of Schenectady
Thomas Werner, Saratoga County
Arthur Wright, Saratoga County
Sam Zhou, NYS Department of Transportation - Region I, Secretary

STAFF AND OTHERS

Anne Benware, Capital District Transportation Committee
Rob Cherry, NYS Department of Transportation - Region I
Jim Digioia, Office of General Services
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee
Keith Irish, interested citizen
Sandy Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee
Chris O'Neill, Capital District Transportation Committee
Aaron Spies, Capital District Transportation Committee
Steve Williams, Daily Gazette

OPENING REMARKS

Carm Basile opened the Capital District Transportation Committee meeting at 3:05 PM and welcomed those in attendance. Members and attendees introduced themselves.

ADMINISTRATION

Approval of the March 29, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The March 29, 2016 meeting minutes were approved by the members.

A subsequent e-mail from Keith Irish noted that the reference on page 3 to Nancy Thompson should be corrected to Nancy Benedict.

PRESENTATION - WHEELS UP - ALBANY AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Steve Iachetta gave a presentation about the Albany International Airport and its development. He reviewed the history of the Airport including the construction of a new terminal for less than \$240 M, which opened in 1998. The Airport serves a fifteen county market area. Three million total passengers travel through the terminal each year, supplemented by the same number of "meeters and greeters" for approximately six-million total annual terminal patrons. On December 10, 2015, Jet Blue started service at the Airport supplementing competitive low-fare scheduled service by Southwest, American, Delta, United and Cape Air. The Airport is an aircraft maintenance base, supporting over 160 full time jobs. The Airport is a member of Capital District Clean Communities and has invested in LED street light lamp conversions and CNG fueling station improvements. The Airport is preparing for the construction of CDTC project A240, the I-87 Exit 4 Airport Connector. Sam Zhou explained that this project will allow traffic from the south to avoid three traffic signals and will reconfigure Exits 4 and 5 to provide better traffic flow from the north.

FINAL DRAFT 2016-21 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM APPROVAL

Mike Franchini summarized the 2016 TIP and the process that was used to create it. The new merit evaluation process was very successful and encouraged the selection of the best projects. The draft TIP was approved for a sixty day public comment period at the March 29 Policy Board meeting. No public comments have been received. Members spotted some mistakes that were corrected, but there have been no substantive changes since the March 29th meeting. Project listings and summaries were included in the mail out. The full TIP is on the CDTC website, and hard copies are available by request. Forty-one new projects were approved for the TIP. By cost, most of the new project funding is for bridge projects. Fifteen new projects are State projects, ten new projects are city projects, nine new projects are county projects, five new projects are town projects. New projects represent \$97 M over three years, and the total TIP includes projects totaling about \$70 M per year, including roll over projects.

Members approved the 2016-21 TIP. Carm Basile said that the TIP represents a great job by staff, and that the TIP contributes to the economic vitality of the region.

5310 SOLICITATION FOR 2014-15 FUNDS

Anne Benware explained that NYSDOT announced the 2016 solicitation for the FTA Section 5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program on May 31, 2016. The 5310 Program provides funds for projects that serve the special needs of transit-dependent populations beyond traditional public transportation services and Americans with Disabilities Act complementary paratransit services. Basically this program funds capital projects such as human service agency vehicles, related equipment and mobility management, and other non-capital or operating projects such as development of a regional driver training curriculum. Applications are due July 1, 2016. After a competitive selection process, selected projects will need to be programmed by September 30, 2016 to ensure the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2014 funds do not lapse.

For the Albany-Schenectady-Troy urbanized area \$633,407 is available; for the Saratoga Springs urbanized area \$98,995 is available. This results in \$732,402 in available 5310 funds for the two urbanized areas. CDTC will put together the rating and ranking committee for applications submitted in our planning area (Albany-Schenectady-Troy Urbanized Area and Saratoga Springs Urbanized Area).

Mike Franchini said that many agencies rely on these vehicles, for example senior centers, and we really want to get the word out about the availability of funding. Carm Basile said that these vehicles are used extensively, and asked members to refer this opportunity to anyone in your community who may be interested.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Mike Franchini reviewed the Progress Report and called attention to the summary of key accomplishments, which include: development of a new project evaluation methodology for the 2016-2021 TIP using a merit score process which worked very well; evaluation of 120 TIP project candidates; funding of two Linkage Program planning studies; finalizing the Regional Freight and Goods Movement Plan; completing the Saratoga County Traffic Study; and solicitation for three complete streets training workshops. The first complete streets workshop was in Niskayuna, and it went very well. The next one will be in Troy next week. Staff participated in the FHWA/FTA certification review for CDTC. Carm Basile said that members should feel free to call Mike with any questions about these tasks.

STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES

CDTC

Mike Franchini said that there will be a public meeting for the Albany Waterfront Multi-Use Path Connection Feasibility Study tonight. He said that two new important rule makings have been issued by FHWA: System Performance Measures and new Metropolitan Planning Regulations. Staff is reviewing these and will prepare comments.

Jen Ceponis reported on the update to the 2006 Regional Trail Perspectives: A Survey of Capital District Trail Facilities. Surveys will be conducted of residents and businesses adjacent to the nine trails, as well as users of the trail, and counts will be taken. Mike Franchini said staff is looking for volunteers to help with the surveys and counts.

Aaron Spies reported that CDTC is proceeding with the creation of an Environmental Justice/Title VI Task Force, as a two year pilot. The group will have a self-determined work plan. More details will be available in coming weeks.

CDRPC

Mike Stammel reported that an online Census Mapping Application is complete. Any user with a web browser and internet connection will be able to query and create regional thematic maps. CDRPC has been approved for a NYSERDA Community Partnership Grant under the Cleaner Greener Communities Program. This task will include three other regions as well as our own and will be managed by CDRPC. Communities can participate in programs to reduce energy and transition to clean energy sources, and if they achieve "Clean Energy Community" status they can apply for additional NYSERDA funding for project implementation.

CDTA

Carm Basile reported that CDTA continues to experience ridership growth, reaching 17.1 million in the last fiscal year. The Smart Card and Mobile Ticketing pilot is almost ready, a full startup is expected by the end of the year or sooner. Important improvements are being planned for the intersection of Washington Avenue and Lark Street in Albany. A \$2 M transit center in Troy is being developed. CDTA is working with law enforcement to install a new communication system.

NYS DOT

Sam Zhou reported that the Patroon Island Bridge project is completed; the I-787 three year contract will finish soon; the South Mall Expressway rehab is underway; the Washington Avenue Extension project is complete; Route 85 construction is underway: southbound work will

be completed by the end of June, and northbound work will be completed by the end of August.

Rexford Bridge construction has begun and will be take place during two seasons. The roundabout will be completed this year. Paving jobs include Route 67 in Charlton; Route 32 in Greene County; and Route 40 in Washington County.

The Route 146 Hamburg Street project is on track. It is a complete street project including sidewalks.

Albany County Airport Authority

Steve Iachetta reported on three projects: Passenger Boarding Bridge Replacement (\$4M); Security Fiber Optic Cable System Replacement (\$1M); and Airfield Generator Replacement (\$100,000).

Albany Port District Commission

Terry Hurley reported that the third annual Port Industry Day on May 12 was a success. The new Annual Report is available on the table. Maritime activity has been robust in the first five months of the year.

Linkage/Local Planning Activities

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Sam Zhou
Secretary