

**CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes  
September 6, 2018**

**MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Carm Basile, Capital District Transportation Authority, Vice Chair  
Brad Birge, representing Mayor Meg Kelly, City of Saratoga Springs  
Maria Chau, representing Michael Canavan, Federal Highway  
Administration  
Vincent DeLucia, Town of Malta  
Steve Iachetta, representing John O'Donnell, Albany International  
Airport Authority  
Patrick K. Jordan Esq., Albany Port District Commission  
Ed Kinowski, Saratoga County Board of Supervisors  
Andrew Kreshik, representing Mayor Patrick Madden, City of Troy  
Joe Landry, Schenectady County  
Randy Milano, representing Mayor Kathy Sheehan, City of Albany  
James Shaughnessy, Capital District Regional Planning Commission  
Ralph Signoracci, representing Mayor Shawn M. Morse, City of Cohoes  
Joseph Stahl, NYS Thruway Authority  
Linda von der Heide, representing Steven McLaughlin, Rensselaer  
County Executive  
Chris Wallin, representing Mayor Gary R. McCarthy, City of Schenectady  
Tom Werner, Saratoga County  
Sam Zhou, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1, Secretary

**STAFF AND OTHERS**

Nancy Benedict, Interested Citizen  
Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission  
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Kara Hogan, Federal Highway Administration  
Keith Irish, Interested Citizen  
Elizabeth Lattanzio, Colonie Senior Services  
Darlene McGraw, Interested Citizen  
Sandy Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Chris O'Neill, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Bob Rice, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1  
Jordan Solano-Reed, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Carrie Ward, Capital District Transportation Committee  
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1

**OPENING REMARKS**

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

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Approval of the June 7, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

The June 7, 2018 meeting minutes were approved by the members.

#### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Nancy Benedict spoke in favor of consistently clean and safe bus stops. She said that "no parking" signs should be provided at bus stops because when cars are parked at bus stops it creates a problem for those entering or exiting the bus. Paved waiting areas should be provided at bus stops as well as good curb cuts. These recommendations are especially important for providing good service for people with mobility impairments.

Darlene McGraw advocated for people with different abilities. She said that with regard to Northway Express service to Malta, the lack of sidewalks on Route 9 is a significant problem.

#### **ADA SIDEWALK TRANSITION PLANS PRESENTATION BY FHWA**

Kara Hogan gave a presentation on the importance of ADA transition plans. She explained that the State and local governments must ensure that individuals with disabilities are not excluded from programs, services, and activities (pedestrian facilities were clarified as being a program formally after *Barden vs. City of Sacramento* in 2004), as required by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). To fulfill this requirement, State and local governments must:

- Designate an ADA Coordinator
- Post an ADA Policy Statement
- Post an ADA grievance procedure
- Complete a self-evaluation and Transition Plan

She said that having a Transition Plan is essential; it can be a twenty year plan. CDTC has volunteered to be a resource to municipalities, and has established an ADA Transition Plans Working Group. CDTC has created a sidewalk inventory.

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

##### **R310, Sand Lake Hamlets Sidewalk Enhancements, Town of Sand Lake, Rensselaer County**

Mike Franchini explained that financial pressures on the Town of Sand Lake have changed the availability of matching funds. Also, parts of the scope of the project now conflict with other upcoming infrastructure work. Therefore the Town would like to change the scope as follows:

- 1) Remove the 2700 feet of new sidewalk in Averill Park

- 2) Remove the 400 feet of new multi-use path between Averill Park and Sand Lake
- 3) Increase the number of pieces of sidewalk to be replaced in West Sand Lake from 26 to 43.

The portion of the scope that rehabilitates 2200 feet of sidewalk in West Sand Lake remains as is. Accordingly the cost is reduced by \$1.037M (58% of the original project cost). Members approved the amendment as presented.

### **Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) Projects**

1. A590, City of Albany
2. S257, City of Schenectady

Mike Franchini explained that four communities received funding under the PSAP solicitation. Guilderland and Clifton Park received Planning Committee approval but did not need Policy Board approval. Albany and Schenectady received Planning Committee approval but also need Policy Board approval. Members approved the amendments as presented.

### **NYS DOT PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGET APPROVALS**

Mike Franchini distributed two hand outs, and explained the federally required performance measures and NYS DOT targets.

The committee then briefly discussed and voted on the performance measure targets:

1. Safety - The safety targets include targets for Number of Fatalities, Rate of Fatalities (Fatalities/100M VMT), Number of Serious Injuries, Rate of Serious Injuries (Serious Injuries/ 100M VMT), and Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Non-motorized Serious Injuries. Members approved adopting the NYS DOT safety targets and approved Resolution #18-3.
2. Bridges and Pavements - The Bridge Targets include targets for Percent (%) NHS Bridge by Deck Area in Good Condition and Percent (%) NHS Bridge by Deck Area in Poor Condition. Mike Franchini said that performance targets will be considered in developing the new TIP. Pavement targets include Percentage of Interstate System in Good Condition, Percentage of Interstate System in Poor Condition, Percentage of non-Interstate NHS in Good Condition, and Percentage of non-Interstate NHS in Poor Condition.
3. System Performance - System Performance targets include Percent (%) of Person Miles Traveled (PMT) on the Interstate that are reliable and Percent (%) of PMT on the non-Interstate National Highway System (NHS) that are reliable. Mike Franchini explained that reliability means that while delays may occur, they are predictable on a day to day basis.
4. Freight Performance - The freight performance target is the Truck Travel Time Reliability (TTTR) Index. Members approved adopting the NYS DOT targets for bridges, pavements, system performance and freight

performance and approved Resolution #18-4.

5. On-Road Mobile Source Emissions - This performance measure is Total Emissions Reduction for five different emission types. Mike Franchini notes that the CDTC region is in air quality attainment now, however, that may change pending decision in currently being litigated. CDTC uses Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding. Members approved adopting the NYSDOT targets for On-Road Mobile Source Emissions and approved Resolution #18-5.

## **PROJECT SOLICITATIONS STATUS**

### **A. Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program**

Mike Franchini said that the 5310 Program funds projects serve the transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities beyond traditional public transportation services and ADA complementary paratransit, as well as driver training. CDTC evaluated the fourteen applications and submitted the evaluations to NYSDOT. Mike Franchini explained that NYSDOT approved the projects as recommended by CDTC, with minor changes in funding years, as described in the mail out. Because of the deadline for this grant, at its June meeting the Policy Board authorized the Planning Committee to approve these projects. The Planning Committee approved the projects at its August 1 meeting. Carrie Ward said that the 5310 solicitation for next year is expected before the holidays.

### **B. NYSDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP)**

Mike Franchini referred to the list of project applications included in the mail out. The Policy Board took action on this topic earlier in today's agenda.

### **C. New York State Bridge NY Program**

Mike Franchini said that awards are expected in late summer or early fall.

### **D. TAP/CMAQ**

Mike Franchini said that NYSDOT applications for TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) and CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program) are under review by NYSDOT.

## **REGIONAL SAFETY PLAN UPDATE**

Sandy Misiewicz said that The Highway Safety Improvement Program requires the reduction of fatalities and serious injuries on ALL public roads. In the past, systematic evaluation of safety data has been available for State owned highways. The Regional Safety Action Plan will examine non-State owned highways from a data driven, strategic

approach. One important purpose for the Regional Safety Action Plan is to fulfill new federal requirements for performance measures. The CDTC New Visions Plan identified the need for a Regional Safety Action Plan.

The Plan will be a local version of the New York State Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). It will evaluate 6 years of crash data by county, roadway, speed, type, etc. It will follow the data to develop specific recommendations by SHSP emphasis area. Recommendations and strategies will be tailored to the CDTC regional context. A great deal of outreach has already taken place and more is planned.

Tom Werner encouraged all members to let their stakeholders know about this planning effort.

## **STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

### **CDTC**

Mike Franchini said that CDTC is developing a Capital District Trails Plan and is making good progress.

Mike Franchini said that CDTC is committed to complying with both the letter and spirit of the requirements set forth in Title II of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and so Carrie Ward has conducted a Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for CDTC, with recommended improvements and a time frame for making those improvements. CDTC will work with the building owner to make necessary improvements. Changes not made before the lease is renewed will be included in the next lease negotiations. The Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan will be released for public review.

### **CDRPC**

Jim Shaughnessy said that the CDRPC Local Government Workshop is scheduled for November 16 at HVCC. CDRPC will present its Erastus Corning Awards for Intermunicipal Achievement during the workshop.

For 40 years, CDRPC published Capital District Data- a printed publication first used as a dissemination tool for regional data then used to disseminate and analyze regional data. Recently, CDRPC transitioned the printed publication to an online format called DataNews that allows for more regular and timely data analysis and dissemination.

Twenty-five Capital District Municipalities are now Clean Energy Communities: By becoming designated, these communities have qualified for \$2,275,000 in match-free project funding. CDRPC is currently providing technical assistance to nearly over 70 communities in the Capital Region through the program.

CDRPC has developed a video tutorial for its Census Mapper program which will make it even easier for communities to explore census and

building permit data through this platform. CDTC and CDRPC are working together in preparation for the process that will help shape block groups and census tracts. We will be engaging communities and stakeholder in the process.

Four communities are proceeding with projects under the CDTC/CDRPC Technical Assistance Program. Schenectady County's Parks planning project is almost complete, with Niskayuna, Wilton, and Guilderland projects in process.

#### **CDTA**

Carm Basile said that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is home to the Volkswagen settlement which includes \$52 million for bus conversions. He said that there is a possibility that CDTA may get four to five electric buses. Support facilities are a big hurdle.

#### **NYS DOT**

Sam Zhou reported the Exit 4 Airport Connector project was advertised in August and a well-attended pre-bid meeting was held for the project this morning. The Cohoes Boulevard project completed a successful bidding process and award. The project should be finished next year. The Schenectady Rail Station will open in October. There is a Statewide initiative to confront aggressive driving in construction work zones.

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

Steve Iachetta said that the Airport Authority is grateful to NYS DOT for progressing the Exit 4 Airport Connector project. The Albany International Airport received a \$22 M New York State Airport Modernization grant for terminal renovations and a new 1,000 space parking garage with a pedestrian bridge connecting the terminal and garage located south of the existing Administration Building and terminal. The Airport is experiencing growth in enplanements. Travel demand continues to be strong.

#### **Albany Port District Commission**

Patrick Jordan reported that Port Industry Day was a success. The 45,000 square foot, climate controlled rail track inside the facility Big Lift Warehouse will open sometime in the coming weeks. 220 rail cars will be shipped from the Port of Albany to Springfield, then to Boston and Philadelphia.

#### **Linkage/Local Planning Activities**

Mike Franchini referred members to the Linkage status report in the mail out.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Zhou  
Secretary