

CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2018

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Peter Barber, Town of Guilderland
Carm Basile, Capital District Transportation Authority, Vice
Chair
Jack Conway, Town of East Greenbush
Steve Iachetta, representing John O'Donnell, Albany
International Airport Authority
Patrick K. Jordan Esq., Albany Port District Commission
Mayor Meg Kelly, City of Saratoga Springs
Andrew Kreshik, representing Mayor Patrick Madden, City of Troy
James Shaughnessy, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Mayor Kathy Sheehan, City of Albany, Chair
Ralph Signoracci, representing Shawn M. Morse, City of Cohoes
Jeremy Smith, representing Mayor Michael P. Manning, City of
Watervliet
Joseph Stahl, NYS Thruway Authority
Michael Stammel, Rensselaer County Legislature
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

Jacob Beeman, Capital District Transportation Committee
Nancy Benedict, Interested Citizen
Michael Bopp, NYS Department of State
Elizabeth Burakowski, NYS Department of State
Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Vincent DeLucia, Town of Malta
Jim Digioia, NYS Office of General Services
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee
Keith Irish, Interested Citizen
David Jukins, Capital District Transportation Committee
Teresa LaSalle, Capital District Transportation Committee
Randy Milano, City of Albany
Ashley Mohl, Capitalize Albany
Luke Nathan, The Alt Newspaper
Bob Rice, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1
Rich Tobe, NYS Department of State
Greg Wichser, NYS Department of Transportation - Region 1

OPENING REMARKS

Mayor Kathy Sheehan opened the Capital District Transportation
Committee meeting at 3:02 PM. She welcomed new members Jack Conway,
Peter Barber and Jim Shaughnessy. Members and attendees introduced
themselves.

ADMINISTRATION

Approval of the March 1, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The March 1, 2018 meeting minutes were approved by the members.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

There were no visitor issues.

NYS DEPARTMENT OF STATE 2020 CENSUS PRESENTATION

Richard Tobe gave a presentation on New York State preparations for the 2020 Census. He said that many important decisions are affected by the outcome of the 2020 Census and doing the best job possible is extremely important. Fifty-seven counties in New York State signed up for the Local Update of Census Addresses Program (LUCA). Hundreds of thousands of addresses have been added. Every county has a State point person available to help them. The State is working with special communities, especially lower income groups and immigrants. The goal is to find trusted voices in each community to tell people that this is important, and especially to encourage reluctant groups to be counted. The Census is working to hire people and is looking for suggestions from local officials. There is a need for workers who speak the same language spoken in the community. A contact information sheet was distributed.

NYS DOT/CDTA/CDTC PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Mike Franchini explained that this agreement is required by federal regulation for cooperation between the MPO, the State and providers of public transportation for performance based planning. This agreement was prepared by the New York State Association of MPOs (NYSAMPO). NYS DOT and CDTA have approved it. All 14 MPOs in New York State are on track to approve this agreement. Sam Zhou commented that this agreement is required for the upcoming program update. Members approved the agreement.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT

Mike Franchini explained that CDTC is required to use a performance management approach in carrying out its federally required planning and programming activities, including the CDTC TIP. For now, the requirement is for safety and transit performance measures. Pavements, bridges, and system performance measures will be added later.

The TIP Performance Management Amendment in the mail out describes the ways in which the TIP was developed and concludes that the anticipated effect of the CDTC TIP will be that it will contribute to progress made in addressing the safety performance targets established by the State. CDTC has used performance measures in evaluating and selecting TIP

projects, using the Merit Evaluation Scoresheet. Members approved the TIP Performance Management Amendment.

CDTA TRANSIT ASSET MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE TARGET

Mike Franchini explained that the performance measures presented for the CDTA fleet show that CDTA is meeting CDTA's asset management targets. CDTA is meeting or exceeding FTA requirements. Carm Basile explained that this is essentially a snapshot of our capital assets. Members approved the CDTA Transit Asset Management Performance Measures and Targets.

2016-2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

A. A588, Albany Skyway, City of Albany

Mike Franchini explained that this project will transform a very low volume ramp into a linear park. It is a \$3.1 M project being funded with Demo funding provided by the State. Mayor Sheehan said that two public meetings have been held, and the project has been very well received. Members approved the amendment as presented.

B. T108, TDM Multimodal Implementation and T57, Preventive Maintenance

Mike Franchini explained that this amendment for projects T108 and T57 involves transferring money between these two projects in order to meet FTA eligibility requirements. There is no scope change and no impact to the TIP. Members approved the change as presented.

PROJECT SOLICITATIONS STATUS

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

Mike Franchini said that the 5310 Program funds projects that 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. The NYSDOT selection of projects has not yet been received. Because the September Policy Board meeting will be after the deadline for this program, we are asking the Policy Board to delegate approval authority to the Planning Committee. Members voted to delegate approval authority to the Planning Committee.

B. NYSDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP)

Mike Franchini referred to the list of project applications included in the mail out. He said that the cities of Albany and Schenectady have been identified as focus communities for the PSAP program. CDTC has

submitted recommendations to NYSDOT and is awaiting their reply. Systemic improvements have been identified—proven countermeasures to reduce crashes.

C. CDTC/CDRPC Technical Assistance Program

Mike Franchini said that this is a new program which supports the New Visions Plan. He commended Mark Castiglione and Sandy Misiewicz for developing the program. The mail out describes the five projects that were approved at the May Planning Committee meeting. This program represents sharing resources between CDTC and CDRPC.

D. TAP/CMAQ

Mike Franchini said that NYSDOT is accepting applications for TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) and CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program). Sam Zhou said that applications are due by August 16. Attendance of a mandatory informational workshop is required for submitting an application, and the last of the informational workshops is tomorrow (June 8). He welcomed any questions.

STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES

CDTC

Mike Franchini said that CTC will host a Safety Summit on June 13, at the Crossings, as part of the development of a Regional Safety Action Plan. He said there will be a Smart Communities meeting at CDTC in the afternoon of June 13 and any communities are welcome.

CDRPC

Jim Shaughnessy reported that eighteen Capital District Municipalities are now Clean Energy Communities and more than 2 million dollars in grants have been allocated to those communities for clean energy projects with the help of CDRPC staff. The CDRPC Census Mapper has been updated with most recent American Community Survey data from 2012 - 2016. The Census Mapper is designed to allow the public to visualize and export population and demographic attributes of the Capital Region. CDRPC recently completed an economic impact study for the University at Albany. An announcement of its findings by the University at Albany is forthcoming. The fall CDRPC Local Government Workshop is slated for October. The original date of October 3 will need to be changed due to a conflict with another planning-related event.

CDTA

Carm Basile said that you will see more bike racks, because the Bikeshare program is extremely popular. One developer commented that the Bikeshare program is "the final piece of the puzzle for making the Region livable". CDTA is finishing up the ped safety project at Lark

Street and Washington Avenue. It will move the highest volume bus stop from the Armory to the Albany Public Library, which will improve traffic. The Navigator fare collection system is now 98% done, with 35,000 cards being used.

NYSDOT

Sam Zhou introduced Bob Rice, who will be the new RPPM for Region 1. Bob will replace Frank Bonafide, who is retiring. Bob previously worked in NYSDOT Region 2 as RPPM and then as Director of Operations.

Sam reported that GE steam turbine generators are being transported from the Port of Rensselaer to Dover, Dutchess County. Because the extremely large turbine generators can't be transported across the Route 9/Route 9J bridge due to the construction project commencing, special provisions are being made to transport through local streets in Rensselaer and East Greenbush. A total of 46 round trips will be needed. Jack Conway said that residents are gathering to watch the complex operation, including removal and replacement of traffic signs. Traffic signals are raised in order for the loads to pass through.

Sam reported that the Cohoes Boulevard project will be let in the near future, and work should begin this summer. The Route I-787 paving job was let, but will need to be let again in July because costs have increased. The Collar City Bridge rehab project will be let in the fall.

There was a discussion about contract prices increasing. The cost of oil is increasing along with the cost of asphalt. In addition, other factors such as the increase in trucking cost, the shortage of drivers, and contraction of the work force are also affecting cost. Carm Basile said that the tough market is an issue for CDTA, which has a lot of requirements for contractors. Sam Zhou said that while in the past projects typically receive three or more bids, recently projects have been receiving only one or two bids. Mayor Sheehan said that one City project received zero bids.

New York State Thruway Authority

Joseph Stahl said that the Thruway has also been experiencing bid prices being higher than estimates. The Thruway is working on a mill and fill project between Selkirk and Albany and a project from just west of Rotterdam to Amsterdam.

Albany County Airport Authority

Steve Iachetta said that bids have been received on passenger bridges and replacement of escalators is going out to bid today. The Airport Authority is grateful to NYSDOT for progressing the Exit 4 Airport Connector project. Yesterday the Airport transferred 12 acres of Airport land to NYSDOT for the project. Travel demand continues to be strong.

Chris Wallin commented that standard driver's licenses will not be accepted by airlines after October 1, 2020. Steve Iachetta said that the Airport is monitoring the situation.

Albany Port District Commission

Patrick Jordan reported that the Port of Rensselaer is experiencing the most activity in thirty years. Intermunicipal cooperation has been excellent. Next Thursday is Port Industry Day, and all are invited.

Mike Stammel asked if trees on Broadway affected by the GE turbine moving would be restored. Patrick Jordan said that the mover has committed to restore any damages, and their work has been excellent and dependable.

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 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Sam Zhou
Secretary