

Capital District
Transportation Committee

February 22, 2021

Freight Planning Project Survey

CDTC staff conducted an online survey to determine which Freight Planning initiatives might be undertaken by staff, with consultant assistance, in 2021-22. The list of potential freight planning initiatives was derived from the CDTC Regional Freight Plan (2016) and input from Freight Advisory Committee Members, and included (in no particular order):

- a. **Local Delivery Optimization** - Research and identify policies, procedures, and actions municipalities can employ to support and facilitate safe and efficient goods deliveries in dense urban zones
- b. **New York State Thruway Long Combination Vehicle (LCV)/Tandem Assembly Area Circulation Impact Study** - Research and identify any issues associated with circulation to/from the tandem lots as a result of revised access from the Cashless Tolling Project, and quantify and make recommendations to mitigate any negative impacts
- c. **Public Official Training and Model Ordinance Development** - Develop a program that educates local public officials, including planning and zoning boards, about freight movement, and create and disseminate model ordinances and regulations for freight-related development
- d. **Regional Rail Weight Capacity Study** – Inventory regional rail line weight capacity to determine which do not meet the standard 286,000 lb. railcar capacity limit, identify missing links, and make recommendations to develop a regional 286,000 lb. network
- e. **Regional Truck Parking Study** – Inventory public and private truck parking supply and demand in the region, identify major factors and trends affecting overnight truck parking, develop a local truck-parking toolkit, and make recommendations to improve truck parking conditions in the region
- f. **Develop Capital Region Freight Finder** – Using free open source software, some readily available data sources, and a small-scale data collection effort, develop an online regional freight mapping application

The respondents were asked to rank the projects, provide input about the projects, and indicate if they were willing to serve on a Study Advisory Committee. The survey was available online from January 14, 2021, to February 16, 2021. There were twenty (20) responses, including seven (7) Study Advisory Committee volunteers.

The survey results were compiled and presented at the February 17, 2021, CDTC Freight Advisory Committee meeting. After a lengthy discussion, the Freight Advisory Committee

recommended the following projects to the Planning Committee for their consideration at their April 7, 2021 meeting:

- **Regional Truck Parking Study (survey rank 1)**
- **Local Delivery Optimization (survey rank 2)**

The current UPWP has available funding for only one consultant-led study. CDTC staff will begin working with potential project stakeholders to ensure buy-in and will begin the consultant selection process upon approval.