

CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2021

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Patrick Barnes, NYS Department of Transportation – Region 1, Secretary
Susan Barden, representing Mayor Meg Kelly, City of Saratoga Springs
Carm Basile, Capital District Transportation Authority, Vice-Chair
Phil Barrett, Town of Clifton Park
Mark Castiglione, representing Craig Warner, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Mayor Thomas Gifford, Village of Scotia
Stephen Iachetta, representing Philip Calderone Esq., Albany County Airport Authority
Patrick Jordan Esq., Albany Port District Commission
Sean Maguire, representing Paula Mahan, Town of Colonie
Michael Morris, representing Andrew Joyce, Albany County Legislature
Mayor Kathy Sheehan, City of Albany, Chair
Mayor Thomas Tobin, Village of Colonie
Linda von der Heide, representing Steven McLaughlin, Rensselaer County Executive
Chris Wallin, representing Mayor Gary McCarthy, City of Schenectady
Tom Werner, Saratoga County

STAFF AND OTHERS ATTENDING

Chris Bauer, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jacob Beeman, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jennifer Ceponis, Capital District Transportation Committee
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee
Teresa LaSalle, Capital District Transportation Committee
Randy Milano, City of Albany
Sandy Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee
Glenn Posca, Capital District Transportation Committee
Bob Rice, New York State Department of Transportation – Region 1
Jordan Solano-Reed, Capital District Transportation Committee
Andrew Tracy, Capital District Transportation Committee
Carrie Ward, Capital District Transportation Committee

OPENING REMARKS

Mayor Kathy Sheehan opened the Capital District Transportation Committee meeting at approximately 3:06 PM.

ADMINISTRATION

March 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mayor Tom Gifford motioned to approve the March 4, 2021 minutes. Steve Iachetta seconded, and members approved the March 4, 2021 minutes.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

There were no visitors.

2019-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

SA334, PIN1722.74, Sitterly Road Over I-87 Bridge Replacement, NYSDOT

Bob Rice reminded attendees that an oversized vehicle struck the bridge a number of weeks ago and the bridge needs to be replaced. There is a temporary structure in place now. This amendment would add about \$9.5M to the project, through statewide funds that won't otherwise impact the TIP. Chris Wallin motioned to approve the amendment as presented, Tom Werner seconded, and members approved the amendment.

T6B, PIN1820.37, STAR Buses Replacement & Expansion, CDTA

T11, PIN1821.18, Passenger Facility Improvements at Various Locations, CDTA

T14B, CDTC.08, Transit Operations Support for Saratoga Service, CDTA

T16, PIN1821.80, Transit Support Vehicles, CDTA

T17, PIN1820.48, Transit Bus Replacement/Expansion, CDTA

T57, 1TR6.04, Preventative Maintenance, CDTA

T135, UV Disinfecting System for Transit Buses, CDTA

CDTA received final apportionment numbers from FTA for the previous seven amendments in January. The seven amendments bring the TIP in alignment with the apportionments. Chris Wallin motioned to approve the seven transit amendments, Linda von der Heide seconded, and members approved the motion.

TIP APPLICATION & EVALUATION UPDATE

Sandy noted that staff is in the midst of updating the application process. To date we have selected Jotform to create the application, and have been working on the application itself, which will be presented to the Planning Committee in July. We are also updating the merit evaluation scoresheet, which was shared with the Planning Committee at its April meeting. We are receiving

comments on both of these and will share updates with the Planning Committee in the coming months.

Preservation Discussion

Staff developed a draft discussion paper for further clarification regarding the definition of preservation and beyond preservation. It incorporates NYSDOT's Transportation Asset Management Plan and materials from the last TIP/STIP update guidance document to develop a definition of terms for preservation and beyond preservation. It also defines responsibilities related to the Americans with Disabilities Act. Better defining preservation will allow staff to more fairly evaluate projects during the TIP update process. Linda suggesting clarifying that the ADA considerations are required for beyond preservation projects.

COMPLETE STREETS SUMMER SERIES

Mike noted that this series helps to implement New Visions. Jen referenced the meeting handout and noted that the summer series is part of the New Visions Virtual Learning series. The existing Complete Streets workshop contract will provide three sessions – one each on June 15th, July 13th, and August 17th. Specifically they will focus on obstacles to implementing complete streets, demonstration projects, and open streets. The series is free but does require [pre-registration](#).

STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES

CDTC

Mike shared CDTC's status table and noted that there are six ongoing Linkage Studies right now, including three new ones. There are several planning and technical assistance projects ongoing, and the solicitation for the program is open right now - contact Mark at CDRPC or Sandy at CDTC if you are interested. There are a number of other planning initiatives underway, including a Local Bridge Preservation Report, ADA Self-Evaluations, Patroon Creek Greenway Feasibility Study, Bus Lane Feasibility Study, and a Regional Truck Parking Study.

CDRPC

Mark Castiglione noted that CDRPC is wrapping up its spring webinar series. The COVID Economic Recovery dashboard includes in-migration data. He noted that the latest recovery bill may be three times as much as in the past. The Clean Energy Communities Program leadership round is fully launched and CDRPC continues outreach to help municipalities lower their carbon footprint and save money.

CDTA

Carm noted that CDTA is almost past COVID and is still implementing the expansion efforts underway pre-COVID. This includes garage expansion projects in Troy and Albany to accommodate BusPlus expansions. Ridership has been increasing and they are anticipating

increased student ridership in the fall. The bikeshare program recently expanded into Warren County, in Lake George and Glens Falls, with a very positive reception. CDTA will pilot 85 electric scooters over the summer. CDTA acquired the rights to Capital Carshare, is seeking grant funding for 10 electric vehicles, and will pilot operations in Albany with an operating partner. CDTA has been assisting moving people to vaccination sites, and is now assisting transporting medical professionals to people who need vaccines. Please reach out if you are aware of additional need where CDTA could assist.

NYSDOT - Local Projects & NYSDOT Projects

Pat Barnes noted that there has been a high number of bidders on projects, allowing many to be bid lower than estimates. Upcoming is a superstructure replacement on the bridge over Fuller Road, and the joint repairs on I-90 over Erie Blvd will begin again once Fuller Road is finished. Painting underneath the Twin Bridges and the area around the high splash zone will also begin soon. Two employees were seriously injured in a work zone a few weeks ago – please remember to pay attention and slow down in work zones. Bob Rice noted that the Bridge NY program has so far received 197 bridge applications, amounting to over four times the available funding of about \$90.6M for the upstate MOU area. The culvert applications were due already, and NYSDOT received about \$376M in requests, with \$50M available statewide.

NYSTA

No update.

Albany County Airport Authority

Steve Iachetta noted that the first aeronautical technology institute was launched today with Hudson Valley Community College to train aircraft mechanics. It will offer degree and certificate programs. Passengers are returning, approaching 2/3 of pre-pandemic levels. Cargo remains strong with 10-15% growth during the pandemic. The Authority received competitive asphalt bids to reconstruct the primary taxiway, and is moving forward with bids for vehicles. The Authority is pursuing grants to expand the terminal facility and a new commercial hangar.

Albany Port District Commission

Pat Jordan noted that the newest warehouse received its temporary Certificate of Occupancy and has been receiving products. The Port introduced the firms that will construct and operate the wind towers to a number of local economic and workforce development stakeholders. The Port is working with HVCC and BOCES to train people at locations on Warren Street and Broad Street to work at the wind tower facility. The new bridge over the Normanskill will be able to hold ten times the capacity of a normal highway bridge. It is expected that the plant will be operational in the third quarter of 2024. The Port has been involved with vaccinating people coming in to port on ships.

Linkage/Local Planning Activities

Chris Wallin inquired whether the touring route funding program is expected to be a one-time

solicitation or if it will be ongoing. Bob noted that it is currently a one-time program this year. He also inquired why the Port of Coeymans isn't part of CDTC. Mike noted that it is not a member because it is a private business and it would not be eligible for federal fund sources.

Other

Mayor Sheehan noted that the Executive Director search committee work is underway, but is delayed. Mike agreed to stay on into mid-summer to find a replacement. She then proclaimed today as Michael Franchini Day in the City of Albany.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

Mayor Kathy Sheehan referred attendees to the list in the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, Mayor Sheehan motioned to adjourn the meeting, Linda von der Heide seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patrick Barnes
Secretary