Capital District Transportation Committee

2016-18 Unified Planning Work Program

Progress Report

October 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018

Prepared by
Capital District Transportation Committee Staff

for
CDTC Planning Committee Review and Approval

April 2018
Some of the key accomplishments of CDTC’s 2016-18 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the period beginning October 1, 2017 and ending March 31, 2018 include:

- CDTC launched its first ever SMART Communities Task Force in March 2018 to continue the Smart Cities activities, such as the Capital Region Smart Cities Roadmap, initiated earlier in the Clean Communities program. This task force will educate our members about new Smart Cities developments and improvements, coordinate regional Smart Cities efforts, and work to develop Smart Cities plans for participating communities.

- CDTC completed its first ever ADA Self-Analysis for CDTC offices and began coordinating with the property owner to make modifications to the building and our offices.

- Modeled on the Town of Colonie’s Airport Area Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FGEIS) process, staff previously developed a mitigation cost approach for the Town of Malta to use to evaluate the impacts of development projects in the town. Under a fully-executed contract, staff reviewed and calculated mitigation costs for seven land development projects over the last six months. Four of the projects required field work and follow-up meetings with Town planners.

- CDTC evaluated the condition of all Albany County-owned streets.

- Four Linkage Projects were completed: Schenectady Bicycle Infrastructure Master Plan, Albany South End Waterfront Connector Feasibility Study, Troy Bicycle Plan and Bethlehem Delaware Avenue Complete Streets plan.

- Completed the Regional Sidewalk Inventory and sent data packages to all municipalities.

- CDTC launched the 2018 Complete Streets Workshop Series by completing the project consultant selection process and local government application process. CDTC’s Planning Committee awarded workshops to the City of Watervliet, Town of East Greenbush, Town of Niskayuna, and Village of Scotia. The workshops will be held between May and September 2018.

- CDTC and CDRPC issued solicitations for Technical Assistance projects that are small scale and short duration. Six applications were submitted and both organizations will review them and select projects and budgets in Spring 2018.

- CDTC assisted the Town of Bethlehem with development of a complete streets feasibility study on Delaware Avenue from Elsmere Avenue to the Normans Kill Bridge to develop concepts for future roadway improvements based on a complete streets framework. At their December 13, 2017 meeting, the Bethlehem Town Board unanimously passed a resolution adopting the study findings, and requested NYSDOT take the necessary steps to implement a road diet for Delaware Avenue during a future pavement preservation project.
• CDTC issued a Request for Proposals to undertake a Regional Safety Action Plan and Safety Engineering Services. VHB was selected as the primary consultant along with sub-consultants River Street Planning and Development. A project initiation meeting and two meetings with the Regional Safety and Operations Advisory Committee were held.

• A draft report was developed for I-787/Hudson Waterfront Corridor Study and made available for public review following a March 13th public open house.

• CDTC completed and released the 2016 Regional Trail Perspectives which estimates trail visits on 9 multi-use trails in the region and summarized opinions of trail users and adjacent property owners.
October 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018

FHWA Metropolitan Planning Funds (PL)
FTA Project NY 80-X027 (2017-18)
FTA Project NY 80-X026 (2016-17)

FHWA STP Project Development
FHWA SHRP2
FHWA TCSP
SDF FUNDS

Introduction

This report is submitted in compliance with Chapter II, Section B7B (2) of the External Operating Manual, Federal Transit Administration (FTA), U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Washington, D.C., August 1972, and Volume 1, Chapter II, Paragraph 42 of the Highway Planning Programming Manual.

Work Performed

The work described in this report was performed solely by the Capital District Transportation Committee (CDTC) staff, by the Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC) staff or by consultants. This is a progress report that includes all work completed in the six month period beginning October 1, 2017 and ending March 31, 2018.

TASK 1.51 Committee Activities

Four Planning Committee meetings and two Policy Board meetings were held during the reporting period. Issues discussed included 2018-2019 Linkage Program solicitation, Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility Of Seniors And Individuals With Disabilities Program Project solicitation, NYSDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan solicitation, establishment of a CDTC Smart Communities task force, CDTC Limited English Proficiency Plan, Complete Streets Workshops solicitation and selection, 2018-2020 UPWP, CDTC’s development of Environmental Justice/Title VI Analysis, CDTC/CDRPC Technical Assistance Program, New York State BridgeNY Program, Statewide Safety Performance Targets, CDTC’s project delivery updates, and NYSDOT’s project delivery schedule.

The Planning Committee approved about 15 TIP amendments; CDTC’s Environmental Justice/Title VI Analysis; CDTC’s Limited English Proficiency Plan; the UPWP progress report for the reporting period from April 1, 2017 - September 30, 2017; 2018-2020 UPWP; and Linkage program funding two new linkage studies - City of Schenectady Craig-Main Complete Streets Study and City of Troy Hoosick Street Parkway Implementation Study.
The Policy Board approved 5 TIP amendments. Additionally, the Policy Board voted to approve CDTC’s Environmental Justice/Title VI Analysis; nominations for the Committee; 2018-2020 UPWP; the UPWP Progress report for the reporting period from April 1, 2017 – September 30, 2017; and recommendation of the evaluation team to fund two new Linkage Studies: City of Schenectady Craig-Main Complete Streets Study and City of Troy Hoosick Street Parkway Implementation Study.

Five special presentations were made during the reporting period. Jen Ceponis of CDTC presented the results of the Regional Trail Perspectives 2016: A Survey of Capital District Trail Facilities. Lindsay Zefting of Alta Planning and Design and Jim Boni of NYSDOT provided a presentation on the Empire State Trail and an update on the trail sections in the Capital Region. Lauren Bailey of CDTA gave a presentation on Taxi Program managed by CDTA; and CDPHP Cycle! launched in July 2017. Chris O’Neill of CDTC presented NPMRDA Travel Time Data for the Rexford Bridge. A presentation on the Capital District Trails Plan was given by Jen Ceponis of CDTC and Michael Allen of Behan Planning and Design.

**TASK 1.61 Certification Review**

As the result of the March 2016 Certification Review, CDTC received two corrective actions – one for TIP fiscal constraint and the other for the Long-range Regional Transportation Plan (LRTP) Financial Plan.

Regarding the TIP fiscal constraint corrective action, our proposal approved at the Policy Board March 2, 2017 meeting was sent to FHWA and FTA on March 8, 2017 to meet the March 30, 2017 deadline. On April 3, 2017 we received a FHWA/FTA March 31, 2017 letter stating that we had “adequately addressed this corrective action.”

At the same time CDTC staff had been working to address the LRTP Financial Plan revision corrective action, for which the FHWA and FTA established a June 30, 2017 deadline. On June 3, 2017 staff emailed and mailed a revised New Visions 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Financial Plan to the FHWA and FTA.

Based on FHWA/FTA comments or requests for additional information, CDTC staff responded to the FHWA/FTA in June 2017, October 2017, and in early and late January 2018; and we met with FHWA/FTA representatives in December 2017. On March 15, 2018 we received a FHWA/FTA letter of the same date stating that we had “adequately addressed this corrective action.”

The next formal USDOT review is scheduled to take place during the Spring of 2020. Self-certification will take place during the development of the 2018-23 TIP.

**TASK 1.64 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance**

CDTC completed the assembling and dissemination of the local government data packages containing results of CDTC's Pedestrian Facility Presence/Absence Inventory (Regional Sidewalk Inventory). All towns, villages, and cities in CDTC’s planning area have received a package. The sidewalk inventory GIS files, data tables and maps can be used by municipalities as a first step in identifying ADA compliance needs for their pedestrian facilities to update or establish required municipal ADA Transition Plans. Many of the municipal members of the ADA Working Group...
have begun developing ADA Transition Plans. FHWA staff has advised that DOT’s methodology can be used at the local level to develop the required self-assessment and inventory of pedestrian facility ADA compliance. The ADA Working Group met in December 2017 and featured a report on Warren County’s ADA inventory data collection efforts as well as the status of municipal ADA transition plan development in the CDTC region. The group decided to continue meeting, at a frequency of twice each year.

Other work completed on this task during the reporting period includes:

- Completed work on collecting sidewalk presence data for all municipalities.
- Staff reached out to Clarkson University regarding the possibility of partnering student interns with local municipalities for evaluating pedestrian facilities for ADA compliance.
- Continued work on master Crosswalk GIS database. Data consolidation of existing data from various GIS layers is underway, including data from the following sources; previous Linkage Studies, NYSDOT 2016 ADA Ratings, NYS Accident Location Information System (ALIS) Intersection database and data from several towns.
- During the reporting period, staff completed a draft of an ADA Self-Analysis for CDTC and began coordinating with the property owner. Staff also scheduled the FHWA Division Office Civil Rights Specialist to present about municipal Transition Plans to the Policy Board at its September meeting.

**TASK 1.65 Unified Planning Work Program Development**

For several months staff worked to develop the new 2018-20 UPWP, which included several new requirements and additions including:
- Reorganization to utilize FTA activity line item codes for all tasks
- Developing a plan to spend FHWA PL carryover balances
- Including more detailed task descriptions (especially for tasks which are not regular, ongoing projects) including major milestones, and start and end dates.
- Endorsements of all new and ongoing shared cost initiatives

In addition to the above changes, staff developed several new tasks including:
- Development of a Regional Safety Plan, a major update of our Regional Trails Plan, and an update of our Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Plan
- Establishment of a Smart Communities Task Force
- Identifying Ladders of Opportunity by organizing local focus groups
- Providing NACTO Guidelines training for our members

Other highlights of the new 2018-20 UPWP include an update of our 2016-21 TIP and an update of our long-range regional transportation plan, New Vision 2040. The new draft 2018-20 UPWP was approved by the Planning Committee at their February 7, 2018 meeting and approved by the Policy Board at their March 1, 2018 meeting. The NYSDOT approved the draft UPWP by letter on March 22, 2018.
During this period staff continued several contracts including 12 related to Linkage studies, the New York State AMPO consultant contract, the I-787/Hudson Waterfront Corridor Study, and Town of Colonie and Town of Malta GEIS efforts.

Financial planning of CDTC activities was also a major effort. Nine FHWA and FTA billings were prepared and submitted to NYSDOT for reimbursement.

Progress of the UPWP was monitored through weekly staff meetings, and monthly staff accounting reports. Management staff reviewed UPWP task resource expenditures, and recommended minor adjustments.

**TASK 1.66 Environmental Justice Compliance and Title VI**

CDTC remains in full compliance with Title VI and Environmental Justice (EJ) requirements, which continue to be a critical component of CDTC’s activities. CDTC continues to collaborate with NYSDOT, CDTA and various federal agencies to meet the requirements and keep informed of recent and proposed federal requirements.

The Environmental Justice/Title VI Task Force met three times during the reporting period. This included one extra meeting to discuss the upcoming focus groups with the consultant for the project. In addition, a group of Task Force volunteers met to rate and rank applications received to conduct the focus groups. The contract was awarded to Sage Shoppes, Inc. The Task Force discussed CDTC’s Regional Safety Plan Request for Proposals (RFP), federal grant funding, workforce and employer outreach and specifically vanpools, progress on receiving responses to the Transportation Gaps Agency Survey, the focus groups RFP, the Volkswagen settlement project solicitation, CDTC’s Albany South Pearl Street truck traffic study, an article about including underserved communities in the mobility innovation economy, Cornell’s Transit Accessibility Evaluation, and regional applications received for the statewide Pedestrian Safety Action Plan solicitation. Members of the Task Force also discussed the final draft of the 787/Hudson Waterfront Corridor Study.

Sage Shoppes began preparing for the focus groups during the reporting period. They reserved locations and invited participants to all but one of the planned focus groups. The Transportation Gaps Agency Survey received 80 responses, and 32 respondents indicated that they would be interested to participate in a focus group.

Staff attended the kick-off meeting for a project undertaken by Cornell University’s Yang-Tan Institute on Employment and Disability to create a Transit Research & Accessibility Center, which was funded by a New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council grant. The project will also develop an online training curriculum about both ADA requirements related to fixed-route transit as well as instructions on using the app to be developed. The next meeting was expected to be in summer 2018 and will seek to include app testing teams.

CDTC continued to demonstrate success in DBE contracting and purchasing. The semi-annual report for October 1 2017 through March 31 2018 was prepared and submitted to NYSDOT. About 10.8% of FTA expenses and 34.7% of FHWA expenses were paid to Women Business Enterprises and/or Disadvantaged Business Enterprises between October 1 2017 and March 31, 2018.
**TASK 1.67  CDTC’s Prospectus: Continuing Operations Plan & Operating Procedures**

Activity was limited to updating the Guide to the Capital District Transportation Committee.

The Prospectus document has been completed for some time now. Now that Congress has passed the FAST Act – the long-term federal transportation bill – work on updating the Prospectus, including a financial operating plan, will begin later this year.

**TASK 1.68  NYSAMPO Administration**

The CDTC continued to participate with the thirteen other New York MPOs in a Statewide Association. The Association facilitates dialogue among MPOs and State and federal agencies through regular meetings of MPO Directors, periodic technical meetings among MPO staff, and through conferences and training. The Association engages more formally with NYSDOT on certain issues such as the development of formulas for distribution of federal planning funds. The MPO Association is also the focal point for the Shared Cost Initiative program – collaborative statewide planning efforts that use pooled State and Federal funds to support planning activities of a mutually beneficial nature.

Staff attended 24 weekly Executive Committee teleconference meetings, 7 biweekly Directors/NYS DOT teleconference meetings, and 1 Directors/NYS DOT in-person meetings at BMTS in Binghamton on October 27, 2017 during this period.

CDTC continues to manage the statewide staff support contract, which is now provided by T.Y. Lin International.

**TASK 1.69  AMPO/NYSAMPO/TRB Committees and Working Groups**

CDTC’s involvement in the national Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) included the following:

- Staff chaired and attended 3 AMPO Policy Committee conference calls on December 11, 2017, January 3, 2018, and March 12, 2018; and 2 in-person meetings of the Committee on October 18, 2017 in Savannah, GA and March 20, 2018 in Washington, DC.
- Staff attended two AMPO Connected and Autonomous Vehicles Working Group meeting: one by phone on November 13-14, 2017, and one in person meeting from March 5-7, 2018. Staff attended one FHWA AV/CV Transportation Scenario Planning Workshop from November 29-30.

CDTC’s involvement in Transportation Research Board (TRB) activities included the following:
- Staff attended the 2018 TRB Annual Meeting and participated on a panel related to Transit Asset Management performance measures.

CDTC’s involvement in the New York State Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (NYSAMPO) included the following:

- See SPR Funded Efforts Task 6.02 for a list of NYSAMPO meetings attended by staff.
• CDTC staff chairs of the NYSAMPO Freight Working Group. The Freight Working Group met twice via web-conference during the reporting period, on January 16, 2018 and March 14, 2018. Staff contributed to the development of the Freight Working Group Work Plan, and also held several small-group organizational meetings. The primary focus of the Freight Working Group is development of the FHWA Freight System Performance Measures and the New York State Freight Plan.

• Staff reviewed and commented on the NYSAMPO GIS Working Group Work Plan for 2018-2019.

• The Safety Working Group (SWG) continued to be a valued forum for safety data and safety planning. CDTC staff chairs the group which had five conference calls and one in person meeting, held jointly with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group. SWG organized Speed Management Training held at the CDTC office, coordinated with NYSDOT and offered comments on the local call for pedestrian safety projects related to the New York State Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, developed an evaluation tool for the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan local call for projects, revised the Syracuse MPO Bicycle Education Public Service Announcements to be aired in a statewide campaign tide to National Bike Month in May and developed a fact sheet related to the New York State Strategic Highway Safety Plan. CDTC staff continued to represent the MPOs on the NYS Pedestrian Safety Action Plan implementation committee, the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee and the NYS Association of Traffic Safety Boards’ Engineering Committee.

• The Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group continues to be the lead on statewide coordination between the MPOs and NYSDOT. Staff represented CDTC at a Working Group meeting in Binghamton in April and again in September. CDTC staff attended an in-person Working Group meeting on March 28th in Schenectady, in conjunction with Walk-Bike New York. CDTC staff contributed to the development of the Working Group’s 2018 Work Plan and NYS MPO Conference planning. The Working Group will work closely with NYSDOT to develop tasks and possible deliverables that will benefit individual MPOs, the NYSAMPO and NYSDOT.

• CDTC staff chairs the NYSAMPO Modeling Working Group, which was tasked with assessing data needs for integrated planning. The Working Group held monthly advisory committee meetings for NYSDOT’s contract with UAlbany’s University Transportation Research Center, which will develop a robust tool for analyzing National Performance Management Research Data Set data. The tool will be available for use by NYSDOT and MPOs.

• Staff chairs the NYSAMPO Climate Change Working Group, which held two conference calls, in November and in March. The Working Group continues to work on its Automated Vehicle Fact Sheet and submitted its 2018 Work Plan.

Staff participated in two NYSAMPO Transit Working Group calls during the reporting period. Topics included the recent 5310 and 5311 solicitations, performance measures, the work group’s work plan, transit fact sheets, and a transit service tool developed by the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council.
TASK 2.16  **STEP Model Development and Maintenance**

Work continued on an update to incorporate the latest Census based CDRPC forecasts of population, households, and employment; incorporate an assessment of declining rates of VMT growth; calibrate model speeds against the NPMRDS data; and incorporate the latest EPA MOVES Model. Extensive STEP Model network updates were completed, including the incorporation of subarea studies into the main network. A new methodology was developed and implemented which uses the ARCVIEW GIS platform to systematically compare traffic counts from the NYSDOT data base with VISUM simulated volumes.

**TASK 2.25  Data Collection**

This continuing project collects and processes travel data for the federal-aid street and highway system. Data collected provides input to Vehicle Miles Traveled forecasting, the maintenance of the Congestion Management System Plan, the STEP model calibration and validation, and individual project level analysis; and is vital to project development work that addresses highway deficiencies and proposed mitigation actions.

Data collection is typically a very intense effort, relying on the help of graduate school interns. Work completed during this reporting period included:

- Queuing observations were conducted at the Wade Road area of NY Route 7.

- Highway condition data was collected for the City of Albany and Albany County.

- In an effort to support shared-parking initiatives, observations of parking patterns were conducted in the Wolf Road corridor and other commercial locations.

- Short 20-minute counts were collected at five locations to support STEP model use.

- Continued to collect sidewalk presence/absence data for the Capital Region. This will support analysis for ADA sidewalk and crossing compliance on the local highway system.

- Continued to collect photographs of completed transportation projects. The goal is to create a catalogue of photographs of planned and completed Transportation Improvement Program projects that can be used to tell the story of development in the Capital District.

- Confirmed trip generation of recently completed development projects in the region’s larger towns. Interns and staff collected peak hour and mid-day traffic data at seven locations in the Towns of Colonie, Bethlehem, Clifton Park, and Malta. Locally-derived trip generation information is particularly helpful in measuring future STEP model traffic.

- New speed limit has been introduced in the “town center” area of the Town of Malta, including speed feedback signs. Speed feedback signs are also being used in other communities. Staff has collected speed limit compliance data at the Malta location and two other locations in Bethlehem and Albany.
• The first New Visions Plan developed an arterial management metric based on driveway spacing and traffic demand. Staff is updating the metric by collecting driveway data using Google Earth mapping and field checks in developing corridors.

**TASK 2.28 Census/Household Travel Survey**

Work completed during this reporting period by Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC) includes:

• CDRPC staff continued to develop a data dashboard which will make the variety of data produced more accessible and useful. The dashboards are being built in Tableau software and will include data currently located in CDRPC’s Community Fact Sheets and Community Growth Profiles. The new dashboards will facilitate data visualizations and allow users to download our data for further analysis.

• Data sets continue to be updated and posted on the CDRPC website as data from secondary sources, including the Census Bureau, Labor Dept., and Comptroller’s office become available.

• CDRPC, in partnership with the Capital Region Chamber, Center for Economic Growth, and the University at Albany collects data necessary to index the region’s cost of living relative to 266 other urban areas across the United States. The composite index showed less than a 1% change in the cost of living between the second and third quarters of the year, from 107.9 to 108.2. The updated data was released in November.

• Commemorating CDRPC’s 50th anniversary, the Fall 207 issue of Capital District Data examined the 1978 Regional Development Plan, the first comprehensive plan for the Capital Region. The article examines four RDP policy goals related to Transportation, Recreation, Environment and Housing, and highlights how these goals are being advanced in the region today.

• CDRPC’s Spring issue of Capital District Data featured trends in median household income on the region and associated disparities along racial and ethnic lines. Capital District Data will also be transitioning to an online platform moving forward.

• CDRPC updating its website, in part, to make our data products more accessible and is providing more regular data updates through Data Blast emails.

• CDRPC responded to between 60-85 data requests from public and private entities including local governments, nonprofits, and professional organizations.

• Participated in Census trainings and are coordinating with federal, state and local officials on the 2020 Census. A plenary session on the Census was also included in CDRPC’s Spring Workshop.

• Several presentations were made during this reporting period regarding regional trends.
• Updated the CDRPC website with current ACS data and updated existing links to make legacy data more accessible. In addition, CPI/PPI and Employment/Unemployment data was updated as of March 2018.

• CDTC staff reviewed Federal Registers regarding policy changes affecting the PSAP and TAZUP program for the 2020 Census.

**TASK 2.29 Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**

Visualizing information is an integral part of nearly every project and GIS is highly utilized to create maps necessary for meetings and reports. In the Capital District, work under this task is a joint CDTC/CDRPC effort.

During the last six months, CDTC’s GIS tasks that were completed or are underway include:

• Performed GIS management activities, including data backups and database maintenance. Provided GIS/GPS technical support, training and assistance to staff and interns. Shared GIS data files and information with staff, municipalities and consultants. Coordinated GIS setups for staff and interns. Updated CDTC’s GIS User Guide and basemap layer documentation.

• Viewed a GIS webinar.

• Downloaded/Received various updated and new GIS files/databases and web services, including; 2017 NYS orthoimagery, October 2017 & January 2018 NYS Roads, 2016 NYSDOT RIS (Roadway Inventory System), 2016 NYS owned Tax Parcels, 2016 NYS Tax Parcel Centroids, Agricultural Districts, NYS Thruway data, 2017 Rensselaer County Tax Parcels, January 2018 CDTA Transit Routes and Stops, October 2017 & January 2018 NYS civil boundaries, and October 2017 & January 2018 SAM Address data.

• Responded to various data/map requests internally and externally

• Managed and coordinated repair and maintenance of GPS/GIS equipment.

• Provided Environmental Justice and Environmental Mitigation mapping for the South Pearl Street Truck Study.

• Updated CDTC’s ArcGIS Online Mapping Applications and other mapping content on CDTC’s website.

• Attended the NYS GIS Conference.

• CDTC Staff updated the Environmental Mitigation map series and GIS layers used for Environmental Mitigation mapping and analysis.

• Created new GIS data and performed updates to existing major GIS databases, including trails, sidewalks and crosswalks.
CDRPC’s GIS tasks that were completed or are underway include:

- CDRPC staff continued to update and maintain its GIS, utilizing the system for internal project analysis, and to providing GIS products and services to local governments, agencies and citizens on request. The online, interactive CDRPC Census Mapper application is being actively used by the public. The application is designed to query and display a collection of demographic and socio-economic data in the Capital Region and allows users to create thematic maps, compare side by side maps, contrast demographic change over time and determine the population within a defined radius. The mapper can be accessed at http://maps.cdrpc.org.

- CDRPC staff continued to develop a data dashboard which will make the variety of data produced more accessible and useful. The dashboards are being built in Tableau software and will include data currently located in CDRPC’s Community Fact Sheets and Community Growth Profiles.

**TASK 2.30 Routine Highway Condition Inventory**

CDTC continued to collected data for its Highway Condition Inventory. Survey crews were organized and staff participated in field work.

Staff continued to build, update and maintain master databases and maps for Routine Highway Condition Inventory.

The 2017 Albany City database was created and updated. Field scoring was completed and data post-processing and mapping was completed.

The 2017 Albany County field scoring was completed and data post-processing and mapping was completed.

The 2017 Non-State Federal Aid Inventory was created and updated and field scoring was completed.

New CDTC staff were field trained on NYSDOT’s Windshield Survey Scoring method.

**TASK 2.31 Traffic Volume Report**

CDTC is now utilizing the NYSDOT Traffic Data viewer as its primary source for traffic volume data. An ArcGIS database is in development which will contain all the currently available roadway feature data and traffic volume data for all public roads.

**TASK 3.02 Safety Planning**

CDTC remains active in safety planning and continues to serve as chair of the NYSAMPO Safety Working Group. Activities completed or underway in the last six months include:

- CDTA issued a Request for Proposals to undertake a Regional Safety Action Plan and Safety Engineering Services. VHB was selected as the primary consultant along with subconsultants
River Street Planning and Development. A project initiation meeting and two meetings with the Regional Safety and Operations Advisory Committee have been held. Presentations were given to all of CDTC’s Advisory Committees and Working Groups about the Regional Safety Plan.

- Staff spent significant time summarizing crash data for the Regional Safety Action Plan. Data from the Institute for Traffic Safety Management and Research continues to spend time developing a regional profile of Capital Region Fatal and Serious Injury Crash data to be used in regional safety planning efforts.

- CDTC coordinated with NYSDOT to promote the local call for pedestrian safety projects related to the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. Staff participated in the NYSDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Local Call for Projects Webinar to learn the program requirements and provided crash data packages to potential sponsors upon request.

- Staff continues to serve on the NYS Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) Implementation Committee which continues to support education, enforcement and engineering initiatives to reduce pedestrian fatalities and serious injuries in New York State.

- Staff represented NYSAMPO on the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee and the NYS Association of Traffic Safety Boards, serving as Engineering Committee chair. Several meetings were held.

- Through the NYSAMPO Safety Working Group, staff has been working with the MPO in Syracuse to bring a series of Bicycle Safety Public Service Announcements to a statewide audience during bike month in May 2018. Several teleconference calls were held.

- Staff is coordinating with NYSDOT on its Data Integration Project in which SIMS/PIES/ALIS are to be replaced with a new data application.

- Staff continued to utilize safety data from the Accident Location Information System (ALIS) in CDTC Linkage Program planning studies and the Regional Safety Action Plan.

- Staff participated in training webinars on Incorporating Safety Performance into Planning and Evaluation Practices for the Highway Safety Improvement Program.

- CDTC staff is now participating in the FHWA Quarterly Calls for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Focus Cities and States as well as the NYMTC Safety Advisory Working Group monthly teleconference calls providing various updates on bicycle and pedestrian related safety planning.

- Staff attended the bi-monthly Albany County Traffic Safety Board Meetings to continue networking and coordinating on local safety initiatives.

- Staff hosted and attended NHI training on Speed Management.

- Staff attended the New York State Highway Safety Symposium in Niagara Falls, NY.
TASK 3.03 Energy, Climate Change Initiative, Air Quality and Environment

The CDTC and A/GFTC are not required to make a transportation conformity determination under the new 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS.

CDTC staff has been invited by the NYS DEC to participate in a series of discussions between Northeast States, hosted by The Georgetown Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI), on planning for a low-carbon transportation system. CDTC staff attended the first meeting in Washington, DC in April and another meeting in New York City in September. CDTC invited NYS DEC staff to lead a discussion on this project as a plenary session at the NYSAMPO Conference in June. Staff will continue to engage with NYS DEC and serve as a liaison between the TCI group and NYSAMPO. As part of the TCI low-carbon transportation initiative, CDTC attended a “practice” listening session at NYSDOT in March.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) Central Avenue LED Lighting project moved forward as the RPI Lighting Center finalized the financial arrangements with National Grid to execute the project. A short list of LED light fixtures was identified and NYSDOT worked to resolve potential radio interference with the LED fixtures. The installation process is likely to occur in the fall/winter of 2017.

CDTC Staff updated the Environmental Mitigation document.

TASK 3.05 Infrastructure Planning

A critical element of infrastructure planning calls for a comprehensive analysis of financial impact and need. Beginning in September, staff developed a detailed financial analysis and plan for highways, bridges, and other infrastructure elements. The effort concluded in March, 2018 with a letter from USDOT approving the plan. The infrastructure needs analysis is part of a larger financial plan developed for New Visions 2040.

Beyond financial planning, the following work was completed or initiated:

- In June 2015, CDTC published the report Identification of Bridge Preservation Candidates, Treatments, and Costs for Locally-Owned Bridges. Since the study was completed, Planning Committee discussions have occasionally revisited the issue of preservation cost reliability of projects currently on the TIP. In response, staff took the opportunity to examine the issue by comparing the costs developed by CDM to subsequent engineering costs prepared for the TIP. A memorandum was prepared summarizing those findings, and shared with the Planning Committee.

- Initial steps were taken to update the Local Bridge Preservation Assessment that was first completed under the direction of CDTC’s Planning Committee in 2014. Staff is reviewing the previous scope of work with an eye toward identifying some additional work that could strengthen the first generation product. In the coming weeks, the Bridge Group will be invited to review and discuss a possible scope for this new effort.
CDTC continues to collect pavement and bridge condition information, some from field work and some from NYSDOT RIS data files. Additional mapping and analysis will begin to supplement information used in the development of New Visions 2040. Pavement data will be used to design, test, and evaluate pavement strategies.

Staff will meet with NYSDOT bridge and pavement staff to discuss performance targets and various management strategies and evaluation tools.

In the coming weeks, staff will take the first steps toward developing an “infrastructure report card”, a task identified as part of New Visions 2040. This effort will result in a formal presentation to the Planning Committee and Policy Board later this year.

A scope of work related to infrastructure will be developed in some detail for the New Visions update effort.

**TASK 3.07  Regional Operations and Congestion Management**

The Regional Operations and Safety Advisory Committee will serve as the Advisory Committee for the development of the Regional Safety Action Plan. Two meetings of the Committee were held during this period. The committee will discuss national system performance measures and provide input for the development of CDTC targets. NPRMDS data for CDTC corridors will be presented and reviewed using the new Web-tool developed by NYSDOT under contract with the UAlbany AVAIL team.

**TASK 3.11  I-787 Livable Corridor Study**

A draft report was completed for public review in March 2018 after many months in development. The final public meeting was held on March 13th signaling the opening of a one-month public comment period. A response to comments will be developed in May and the final report will be completed in June 2018.

Staff also participated in the public workshop related to the Albany Skyway project, intended to repurpose a very low traffic volume I-787 ramp into a linear park.

**TASK 3.77  New Visions Plan**

The New Visions 2040 Plan was completed in September 2015. Work to implement the plan is distributed throughout the UPWP.

At the time of adoption, the New Visions 2040 Plan did not contain a detailed financial analysis, largely because of the uncertainty of future federal and state transportation funding and policy. In a very technically intense and time-consuming effort, CDTC developed a financial plan derived from: (1) the financial analysis included in the adopted 2040 Plan; (2) the extensive budget review completed for the 2030 Plan; (3) CDTC’s Infrastructure White Paper; (4) CDTC’s Local Bridge Preservation Report; (5) NYSDOT’s External Version of the Draft Asset Management Plan; and (6) CDTC’s Highway Condition Projection Model results. The plan was reviewed by both the Planning Committee and Policy Board, and accepted by USDOT in a letter to CDTC dated March 15, 2018.
One major new task relates to performance measures. Staff participated in numerous training opportunities on performance measures and began to establish baseline measurements. This will be a major task in the coming year.

CDTC staff is participating in a NYSERDA Study to examine the role of scenario planning in understanding the potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Study will utilize a metropolitan planning tool known as Rapid Policy Analysis Tool (RPAT), which was developed by Resource Systems Group (RSG) under contract with FHWA. The project objective is to implement two RPAT models calibrated to CDTC and ITCTC travel data. The goal is to then use the calibrated model to run up to five policy sets to determine the most effective means for reducing transportation GHGs. Staff attended one in person meeting and two phone meetings for this Study during the reporting period. Staff compiled data for input into the RPAT Model, including a GIS categorizing of TAZs into 13 RPAT place types.

**TASK 3.90  Transition to Performance-based Planning & Programming**

- Staff attended 2018 Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting and participated on the Performance Based Planning and Programming panel.

- Staff participated in the FHWA Level of Service in the New World of Performance Measurement and Performance Based Planning and Programming requirements webinars.

**TASK 4.07  Human Service Agency Transportation/ADA**

CDTC’s Regional Transportation Coordination Committee (RTCC) met in November and again in March. The primary topics discussed were the FTA Section 5310 solicitation, a senior transportation guidebook, a “Tools of the Trade” symposium for 2018, and an update of the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for the Capital District. Some attendees also expressed interest in attending or providing assistance for the focus groups progressed under the Environmental Justice / Title VI task.

CDTC convened its rating and ranking committee for the 2017 FTA Section 5310 grant applications solicited by NYSDOT. Staff from CDTC, NYSDOT Region 1, the NYS Department for Aging, and the NYS Department of Health comprised the committee. Staff submitted the committee’s results to the NYSDOT Public Transportation Bureau staff in mid-October 2017. This will be followed by programming recommendations to the CDTC Planning Committee and Policy Board.

Staff attended and presented at a board meeting of the Albany Guardian Society, which approved funding to layout and print a senior transportation guide. CDTC staff compiled information for senior transportation providers during the reporting period. Staff will confirm listings with providers and then forward to the Albany Guardian Society for layout and printing.

Staff began preparations for a 2018 “Tools of the Trade” human services transportation symposium to be held at The Crossings in Colonie on May 24th. In addition, staff reached out to CDRPC to put together the data tabulations and maps for the update of the Coordinated Plan.
TASK 4.17  Complete Streets/Arterial Management

CDTC’s Complete Streets Advisory Committee (CSAC) met in November 2017 and March 2018. Topics discussed include upcoming paving and signal projects, TIP project tracking, regional complete streets guidelines, and the solicitations for CDTC’s complete streets workshop series. The group agreed that tracking of complete streets elements within TIP projects will be a staff task, to be reported to the Advisory Committee at meetings. Project sponsors will not regularly present on their projects to the Advisory Committee.

Staff, with input from the Complete Streets Advisory Committee, continued development of the 2018 Complete Streets Workshop Series. The primary goal of the Workshop Series is to assist local governments in developing and implementing Complete Streets policies. CDTC issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consultant services to develop and implement the Complete Streets Workshop Series on October 10, 2017 with a November 13, 2017 submission deadline. The consultant selection committee met on December 19, 2017 and selected the team led by Planning 4 Places, with sub-consultant Sam Schwartz Engineering. CDTC, on behalf of local governments, will administer the consultant contract for the workshop series and will serve as project manager.

CDTC staff sent out a local government solicitation package on January 3, 2018 with submission deadline of March 2, 2018. The package included information for potential Workshop Series hosts, including application details, and descriptions of the four (4) different workshop types (Basics, Policy Development, Implementation, & County/Region-wide). When completing the application to host a workshop, the applicants proposed a workshop type and committed to assist with meeting logistics, including securing a meeting space and ensuring key stakeholders will be in attendance. The applications were reviewed by a regional agency selection committee with representatives from CDTC, CDTA, NYSDOT Region 1, and CDRPC. The selection committee met on March 30, 2018, and selected applications from the City of Watervliet, Town of East Greenbush, Town of Niskayuna, and Village of Scotia. The workshops will be held between May and September 2018.

TASK 4.21  Freight Planning

The Freight Advisory Committee (FAC) held two meetings during the reporting period. The November 15, 2017 featured a speaker from the Owner Operator Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA), an international trade organization dedicated to the interests of truck drivers; the February 21, 2018 meeting featured a presentation on the Area 3 Halfmoon Industrial Complex project, located in Saratoga County. CDTC continues to encourage participation on the FAC, particularly from private sector freight interests.

Staff continues to promote the projects in the Regional Freight Plan (March 2016), and responds to freight-related data and planning information requests on an as-needed basis. Staff chairs the NYSAMPO Freight Working Group. Staff continues to participate in all available FHWA Talking Freight Seminars, and any other freight-related training opportunities. Staff, by request, presented about CDTC’s Freight Planning initiatives at the October 11, 2017 Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force and the December 20, 2017 FHWA Talking Freight Seminar. Staff also held information sharing sessions and best practices with The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) and South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO)
Staff continued to participate in development of the New York State Freight Plan, including providing information to the project team, and reviewing/commenting on all draft Freight Plan documents. Staff provided recommended freight-related projects in the CDTC region to NYSDOT for their consideration.

Staff continued development of the City of Albany: South Pearl Street Heavy Vehicle Travel Pattern Study, a joint effort of the Freight and Environmental Justice tasks. The study seeks to understand heavy vehicle travel patterns along S. Pearl St., and investigate recommendations to mitigate the negative impacts.

Staff has continued to develop a mutually beneficial working relationship with the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI). Staff is participating in RPI’s Collaborative Approaches to Energy Efficient Logistics in the Albany - New York City Corridor project, funded by the US Dept. of Energy.

Staff completed the CDTC Freight Program Assessment, a bi-annual Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirement.

Staff, with guidance from the Freight Advisory Committee, initiated a project to develop freight-related land development model ordinances and regulations. During development of CDTC’s Freight Plan (2016), the lack of local guidance, in the form of model regulations and best practices, was noted. The Freight Plan recommended developing a program to help educate local officials about freight movement, with the goal of creating more informed, coordinated decision-making at the local level. During the reporting period, staff researched freight and goods movement related land use ordinances and controls, developed a survey that was sent to all regional municipalities to better understand their needs, and compiled the results. The initial product will be a short handbook with model ordinances, regulations, and/or best practices for freight-related land development.

**TASK 4.22 Security Planning**

The role of CDTC in security planning continued through involvement with Local Emergency Planning Committees at the county level.

In November, CDTC staff participated in a Saratoga County Traffic Planning Committee Tabletop Exercise. Over 40 emergency service providers and officials conducted a “real time” workshop simulation of an emergency closure of the Northway between Exit 16 and Exit 17. The group had to assess which responders would arrive at different times as the simulated emergency progressed and what the most appropriate actions would be. CDTC provided a traffic simulation of the traffic patterns that would result as the simulated event progressed, using the CDTC STEP Model.

**TASK 4.23 Every Day Counts Initiative**

CDTC staff continues to receive, review, and distribute the “EDC News” email sent by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Center for Accelerating Innovation and other relevant
correspondence and emails to staff and NYSAMPO Directors. Staff also attended several EDC webinars.

**TASK 4.60   Capital Coexist**

Staff continues to maintain the Capital Coexist website. CDTC honors requests for printed materials such as the activity and comic books as well as posters, palm cards, reflective zipper pulls and clip-on blinking lights.

Staff provided Capital Coexist education materials at the Schenectady County Bike Fest in the City of Schenectady in partnership with Yates Elementary School.

As part of Capital Coexist’s education efforts, CDTC purchased a series of webinars from the Association for Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) for the “Capital Coexist 2018 Education Series”. CDTC served as a host site for 12 APBP webinars and invited members of various advisory committees to attend at no cost. CDTC will also host and/or provide registration information to members on related Pedestrian & Bicycle Information Center, Institute of Transportation Engineers, and FHWA webinars.

As part of this program and Capital Coexist promotion activities, CDTC staff attended, promoted, and distributed materials for Walk to School Day on October 4th. In late March, CDTC began promoting the 3rd Annual Bike to School Day Challenge and ordered materials to distribute to registered schools, including LED bike lights, reflective safety vests, and LED flashlights.

In December 2015 CDTC launched the “Traffic Safety Ambassador Program” (mini-grants) providing $20,000 in Federal funding, annually, toward bicycle and pedestrian safety education and training. The objective of the program is to achieve the following New Visions 2040 goals:

- Improve bicycle and pedestrian safety by reducing the number of vehicle crashes involving bicyclists and pedestrians, and

- Increase the number of bicycle and pedestrian trips (especially commuting trips) in the Capital Region

The 2017 mini-grant recipients are the City of Cohoes, Capital Roots with Albany PAL, Hudson Crossing Park, Seton Health Foundation, the NY Bicycling Coalition, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield, Schenectady County Environmental Advisory Council, and Troy Architectural Program. The planned projects and programs included pop-up events, bike demonstrations, and walking school buses.

CDTC increased the mini-grant program funding to $25,000 and released a solicitation for 2018 Traffic Safety Ambassador Grants in November. CDTC received 11 project proposals in January and the evaluation committee, consisting of NYSDOH, NYSDOT, and members of the CDTC Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, chose 8 projects. A total of $24,655 was awarded and projects includes bike skills training, bike voucher programs, intersection enhancement demonstrations, and other pop-up types of bike events and demonstrations.
Articles about the 2017 and 2018 mini-grant programs, and Capital Coexist Bicycle and Pedestrian Education Series were in both Winter and Spring newsletters.

**TASK 4.67 Bike/Pedestrian Planning**

Bicycle and pedestrian planning continued to receive substantial attention consistent with Policy Board direction. The CDTC Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) met six times during the reporting period to discuss all aspects of bicycle and pedestrian projects, programs, and policies. Meetings featured presentations on various topics including the Troy Bike Plan, New York Bicycling Coalition’s bike safety education program, the Black Bridge Trail Connection project, Capital Roots’ bike demonstration projects, and the Delaware Avenue Complete Streets Study. Work completed by the staff includes the following:

- Continue to manage Trail Map requests and Map Distribution database. Worked with bike/pedestrian staff on several data collection and mapping initiatives. Attended Bike/Pedestrian Task Force meetings. Responded to several trail data requests.

- Provided Sidewalk Inventory Status & Map updates to the Bicycle/Pedestrian Task Force.

- Continue to enhance and update existing trail and pedestrian facilities GIS databases for use in future trail mapping and bike/pedestrian related projects

- Began documenting the presence/location of bicycle infrastructure (bicycle lanes, sharrows, etc.) in the region.

- Debriefed on the 2017 NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide training and discussed plans for 2018 training, at CDTC.

- CDTC staff attended data package demonstrations by Strava and Ride Report and received quotes on bicycle and pedestrian trip data for Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady counties.

- Met with Albany County Department of Health to coordinate and discuss their upcoming mini-grant program and April Complete Streets Workshop, which CDTC will participate in.

- CDTC staff attended the Albany County public workshop for the Helderberg Rail Trail on November 13th.

- CDTC staff attended the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail public meeting on December 13th.

- CDTC staff met with Guilderland to discuss their trail plans and potential on-road bicycle connections to surrounding trails.

- Submitted newsletter articles on CDTC’s NACTO training event, bicycle demonstration projects, and CDPHP Cycle!
• Met with CDTA and CDPHP Cycle! to discuss results of the 2017 inaugural season and how to use the data collected.


**TASK 4.68 Regional Trails Plan**

The Capital Region has over 100 miles of multi-use trails. Some of these trails were measured for use and conditions in 2006 in the Regional Trails Perspective. In 2016, CDTC completed and released the 2016 Regional Trail Perspectives which estimates trail visits on 9 multi-use trails in the region and summarized opinions of trail users and adjacent property owners.

The data collected will be used to update the 2007 *Tech Valley Trails* greenway vision. CDTC released a request for proposals in August for consultant services to develop a Capital Region Greenway & Trails Plan. This project includes 5 tasks:

- Regional Greenway & Trails Vision
- Regional economic impact analysis of greenways and trails
- Best Practices for Trail Management & Maintenance
- Branding and marketing plan for the Capital Region trail system
- Drone imagery & videography

CDTC chose a consultant team led by Behan Planning and the project kicked-off in late October. The project website is [www.cdtcmpo.org/trails](http://www.cdtcmpo.org/trails), and includes pages that summarize the 2016 Regional Trail Perspectives data, an overview of the Capital District Trails Plan, and outreach tools such as a Wikimap and online survey. Staff provided GIS data files to project consultant.

CDTC staff and Behan Planning staff presented on the project at the March Policy Board Meeting. Between February and March, 4 stakeholder meetings were held (1 in each county). The information and feedback received through the online tools and stakeholder meetings were summarized and digested to develop draft vision maps. A draft regional economic impact analysis report was submitted in March and the other drafts are anticipated to be completed in late Spring/early Summer before the Regional Trail Summit planned for July 2018.

**TASK 4.90 Project Delivery & Tracking**

Staff continues to collect information on the progress of locally sponsored federal aid projects which is included in a tracking spreadsheet presented to the Planning Committee at each meeting. Ahead of each Planning Committee meeting several local project sponsors are asked to prepare verbal project briefs for projects currently in the design phase for discussion at the meeting. Information gathered has expanded since this task’s inception to include three preliminary steps prior to the local hiring of a consultant to provide reminders to sponsors when consultant aid is not yet available.
During this reporting period, staff has developed a Sponsor Presentation Schedule to ensure that consistent and comprehensive data is being collected on all local TIP projects. Once a year each sponsor will be asked to provide some basic information on their active TIP projects, and may be asked to give a brief verbal presentation on the project to the Planning Committee. The schedule will begin to be implemented during the next reporting period at the May 2 2018 Planning Committee meeting.

**TASK 4.97 Transportation Improvement Program Development & Maintenance**

Development and maintenance of CDTC's TIP requires a high level of staff time. CDTC staff put significant time into maintaining the 2016-21 TIP and maintaining the fiscal constraint it had achieved during the previous reporting period:

- **E-STIP Maintenance**: CDTC staff worked with NYSDOT Region One and CDTA on a regular basis to make changes to the current TIP & STIP. 64 projects received changes to their listings in the TIP & STIP.

- Approximately 15 TIP projects received amendments.

- CDTC staff worked with NYSDOT staff and some members to add projects to the TIP outside the TIP update process. This includes projects cited in the State.

- **Revised Transit Funding Estimates and Programming**: In recent federal fiscal years (FFY), notice of actual transit funding was not made available until several months into the FFY. This, with the lead time required for TIP amendments and the lead time required for the accurate writing of an application to FTA for a grant for transit funding, made it difficult for CDTA to spend all transit funds in the year that they first become available. Therefore to prevent or reduce this difficulty during this FFY, the Planning Committee approved updated transit funding estimates prepared jointly by CDTA staff and CDTC staff. Coupled with that, transit programming on the TIP was significantly changed, similar to a TIP update for one year. CDTC staff assisted with the preparation of amendment documentation for CDTA to present to the Planning Committee.

- CDTC staff compared TIP balances by FFY to directions received by FHWA regarding fiscal constraint, for the purpose of evaluating CDTC’s compliance, and how to maintain compliance. Considering several options, it was decided by CDTC staff and Region One staff, with no objection from the Planning Committee, to utilize balances from the previous FFY as shown in TIP Summary Table 4 (Fiscal Constraint). CDTC staff made the necessary adjustments to its TIP data to update Table 4.

- Staff worked with NYSDOT to solicit for local pedestrian safety projects to be funded from a statewide set aside of Highway Safety Improvement Program funds. The solicitation was issued in October 2017 with a March 9, 2018 deadline. Four project proposals were received and will be evaluated in April and May 2018.
TASK 5.05  **Westmere Corridor Study**

This study is complete.

TASK 5.19  **Albany Shaker Road Corridor Study**

Staff created Environmental Justice and Environmental Mitigation maps for the Study area. A second public meeting was held in November. Proposals for improvements in the corridor were developed. A final draft report was prepared and sent out for review by the Steering Committee.

TASK 5.20  **Freemans Bridge Road Complete Streets Feasibility Study & Policy**

The Freemans Bridge Road Complete Streets Concept Plan will analyze existing conditions and research alternatives for future roadway design and land use controls that will enable safe, attractive, and comfortable access and travel for all users of Freemans Bridge Road. Using a Complete Streets design approach, the Study will consider the convenient access and mobility on the road network for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and public transportation users. The purpose of the study is to develop recommendations for alternative design concepts that will create a more welcoming built environment.

During the reporting period, the Study Advisory Committee (SAC) met on March 5, 2018, and a corridor business and property owners meeting was held on March 20, 2018. The project team developed/refined initial corridor concepts, and coordinated with NYSDOT Region 1 to address any concerns/issues along Freemans Bridge Rd., a NYSDOT roadway. The project team is starting to develop the draft-final concept plan.

TASK 5.51  **Provision of Technical Services**

The CDTC staff routinely provides ‘on-call’ technical assistance to various public agencies and communities in the region. The CDTC response to requests for technical assistance during the last six months was, once again, fairly extensive.

- Modeled on the Town of Colonie Airport GEIS process, staff previously developed a mitigation cost approach for the Town of Malta to use to evaluate the impact of development projects in the town. Under a fully-executed contract, staff reviewed and calculated mitigation costs for seven land development projects over the last six months. Four of the projects required field work and follow-up meetings with Town planners.

- Continued GEIS contractual work for the Town of Colonie by completing traffic and mitigation cost reviews for ten land development projects in the Airport and Boght GEIS areas. Each review takes between three and five days to complete, and in some cases requires some field work.

- Continued to serve on the advisory committee for the update of the Airport Area GEIS. The committee is expected to meet four times over the course of the year.
TASK 5.52  Provision of Community Services

CDTC staff continues to provide traffic data and other limited technical assistance to businesses, developers, consultants, students, and community groups to support economic development in the region as follows.

- Continued contact with a representative of the Save Historic Slingerlands group.

- Follow-up with the Delaware Avenue Neighborhood Association for information on traffic calming, and CDTC’s role in neighborhood planning.

- Responded to four requests from developers, real estate firms, and consultants for traffic and land use data. Followed-up on a previous request was from a mid-west traffic engineering firm representing a “well-known” retailer interested in locating in the town of Colonie – additional traffic and land use data was provided.

- Responded to nine requests by developers, real estate brokers, and consultants for traffic count information and growth forecasts for development sites in Saratoga and Albany counties.

- Staff supported a Highway to Boulevards committee coordinated by the Tri-State Transportation Campaign to develop a toolkit for highway to boulevard projects using the I-787 Corridor Study as one of the case studies.

- Staff is assisting the Town of Clifton Park by participating on a committee to update zoning in the Town Center from the Northway to Route 9.

- Supported the University at Albany Geography and Planning Department’s Planning Studio project on the Menands Comprehensive Plan by providing an overview of recently completed Linkage Program plans and the I-787/Hudson Waterfront Corridor Study.

TASK 5.53  Technical Assistance Program

CDTC and CDRPC issued a solicitation for Technical Assistance projects that are small scale and short duration with a March 9th deadline. Six applications were submitted and the staff of both organizations will review the applications and select projects and budgets in Spring 2018.

TASK 5.60  Transit Planning Support

CDTC continued to support transit planning at CDTA on as needed basis and holds quarterly meetings to review the status of CDTA’s transit planning and project development activities.

Staff coordinated with CDTA on the Transit Asset Management performance targets for FFY 2019.
TASK 5.61  **Project Development Support**

CDTC continues to provide on-going assistance to NYSDOT Region 1 and other capital project sponsors in developing traffic forecasts and compiling other information for project development and design. Specific support ranges from analysis of Maintenance and Protection of Traffic plans related to bridge or lane closures to sketch planning analysis of traffic diversions from alternative roadway routings. Few examples include:

- CDTC provided conducted a diversion analysis for three alternatives considered for the Route 787 Cohoes Blvd Safety Project, PIN 1051.81.
- CDTC provided 2039 traffic forecasts for the project: NY 146/NY 146A Intersection: Safety Improvements, SA304 (PIN 1085.43).

**TASK 5.62  New Scotland Zoning Refinements and Site Design Guidelines**

This project is complete.

**TASK 5.63  Regional Travel Demand Management Initiative**

Bike to Work Day is an annual event held each spring throughout the country that promotes bicycling as a fun way to commute to work. Staff began organizing this year’s competition which will be held on May 18th. Staff presented to the Walk/Bike New York conference in March on the Capital Region Bike to Work Day Workplace Challenge. Staff maintained and updated the Capital Moves website and iPool2 database with the current vanpool groups to remain in compliance with Federal Transit Administration regulations for transit formula funding. Staff coordinated transit trip requests from iPool2, performed Guaranteed Ride Home registrations, and responded to numerous transit and park-and-ride information requests via phone and website contact forms.

**TASK 5.64  Stillwater Route 4 Zoning and Site Design Standards**

This project is complete.

**TASK 5.66  Saratoga Springs Bicycle, Pedestrian & Public Transit Master Plan**

This study is complete.

**TASK 5.67  Linkage Program Administrative and Technical Support**

Linkage Study progress was monitored through monthly updates of the “Status of Linkage Program Studies.” The table includes an estimate of the number of months needed to complete the study. Additional tasks related to Linkage Program administration include:

- A solicitation for Linkage Program planning projects was issued in October 2017 with a December 15th deadline. Eight proposals were received and evaluated by a team consisting of staff from CDTC, CDRPC, NYSDOT and CDTA. Two planning studies were selected for funding: Troy Hoosick Street Parkway Implementation Study and Schenectady Craig/Main Complete Streets Study.
• Staff updated the Linkage Program Interactive Map on the CDTC website.

• Staff updated the Linkage Program Administration Guidelines to include new community in-kind match documentation requirements, definition of a draft and final report, and updated scope of work requirements.

• Two Linkage Forum meetings were held, in December and March, with presentations on the I-787/Hudson Waterfront Corridor Study and CDRPC’s Regional Economic Development Plan and Tableau Dashboard.

• Staff continues to maintain the Linkage Program Interactive Map on the CDTC website.

• Updated Master Linkage GIS file.

• Updated Environmental Justice and Environmental Mitigation Documentation template for Linkage Studies.

• Created Environmental Justice and Environmental Mitigation mapping for the following Linkage Studies; Malta Route 9 Reconfiguration Feasibility Study, Freemans Bridge Road Complete Streets Feasibility Study & Policy, Albany Shaker Road Corridor Study, Patroon Creek/Washington Avenue Corridor Study and Bethlehem Delaware Avenue Complete Streets Feasibility Study.

CDRPC continues to participate on the Regional Linkage Coordination Forum, which involves the sharing of information and experiences between communities that have received Linkage grants and regional and state agencies involved in land use and transportation.

TASK 5.68 CarShare

CDTC continues to provide technical assistance and support to Capital CarShare by funding marketing efforts. CDTC staff facilitated collaboration between Capital CarShare and CDTA to improve operational efficiencies. CDTC processed monthly reimbursements for Capital CarShare, which currently has a fleet of 7 vehicles and over 240 members. CDTC staff attended a press event in Troy in late October that announced the expansion of service there.

TASK 5.69 Bikeshare

CDTA launched CDPHP-branded regional bikeshare program, CDPHP Cycle mid-summer in 2017. CDTA has assumed further planning responsibility.

TASK 5.70 Albany Patroon Creek/Washington Avenue Corridor Study

CDTC and the City of Albany are studying a segment of Washington Avenue roughly bounded by NY-85, I-90, the Harriman Campus and the University at Albany’s Uptown Campus. This particular area has had and continues to undergo development such as private dormitories, hotels and other commercial uses, leading to increases in vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Due
to the width of Washington Avenue and the locations of the campuses in this area, pedestrians seek to cross at unsignalized locations, creating potential conflicts between pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The consultant selection committee for the study selected a team led by Creighton Manning Engineering. Data collection, a site visit, and the first public meeting were held during the reporting period. Staff created Environmental Justice and Environmental Mitigation maps for the study area. Staff conducted an observation of pedestrian travel patterns after a snowfall.

**TASK 5.71  Albany Complete Streets Policy and Design Manual**

This project is complete.

**TASK 5.72  Malta Route 9 Reconfiguration Feasibility Study**

MJ Engineering submitted the final draft document. Staff reviewed and submitted final edits. CDTC compiled final report. Prior to the final public meeting, met with Town Planning Director, Supervisor, and other town officials to discuss findings of the study. Joint Town Board/Public meeting was held on March 26, 2018. Final report was compiled, printed, and distributed to the Town Board and Advisory Committee.

The Study is complete.

**TASK 5.73  Schodack Zoning Code Amendments and Site Design Guidelines**

This study is complete.

**TASK 5.80  City of Albany Waterfront Multi-Use Path Connection Feasibility Study**

The primary purpose of this project is to examine alternatives and methods for connecting the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail and the Albany County Rail Trail in a way that best accommodates all users.

During the reporting period, the project consultant delivered several versions of the draft-final plan, which was reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), CDTC, the City of Albany, and/or NYSDOT as needed. The final report was accepted by the City of Albany in January 2018. This project is complete.

**TASK 5.81  Bethlehem Delaware Avenue Complete Streets Feasibility Study**

CDTC assisted the Town of Bethlehem with development of a complete streets feasibility study on Delaware Avenue from Elsmere Avenue to the Normans Kill Bridge to develop concepts for future roadway improvements based on a complete streets framework. Roadway improvement strategies evaluated include access management, bicycle, pedestrian and transit user improvements, and a road diet on Delaware Avenue.

During the reporting period, one Study Advisory Committee meetings was held in November. Public comments on the draft final report were accepted. The consultant (Creighton Manning Engineering) developed responses to the comments, and prepared a final study report for
dissemination. At their December 13, 2017 meeting, the Bethlehem Town Board unanimously passed a resolution adopting the study findings, and requested NYSDOT take the necessary steps to implement a road diet for Delaware Avenue during a future pavement preservation project.

The study is complete.

**TASK 5.82 Schenectady Urban Bike Infrastructure Master Plan**

The City adopted the Bicycle Infrastructure Master Plan in December 2017. This study is complete.

**TASK 5.83 Troy Bicycle Facilities Guidelines**

CDTC contracted with Parks & Trails New York to develop a detailed set of bicycle facility guidelines to create a cohesive bicycle network throughout the City. The city passed a Complete Streets policy in the summer of 2014 and is looking to provide a well-designed bicycle network in urban neighborhoods and identify safety-enhancing bicycle facility designs. Key project elements include developing a roadway hierarchy related to bicycle facility types and identifying standards and guidelines for bicycle facilities in the City including bike parking.

CDTC staff coordinated and attended 5 Study Advisory Committee meetings, conducted surveys at various events, including the Troy Waterfront Farmers Market, planned a pop-up bikeway demonstration that coincided with the Collar City Ramble in September, and attended the public meeting in November.

The final plan was delivered in January and presented to the Troy City Council in February. As per the City’s recommendation, maintenance of the project website has been transferred from Parks & Trails New York to Transport Troy. The project is now complete.

**TASK 5.86 Clean Communities**

The U.S. Department of Energy’s (USDOE) Clean Cities Program is a voluntary, locally-based government and industry partnership to advance economic and energy security by reducing the use of petroleum fuels in vehicles. Clean Cities carries out this mission through a network of more than 100 volunteer coalitions which develop public/private partnerships to promote alternative fuels and vehicles, fuel blends, fuel economy, hybrid vehicles, idle reduction and VMT reduction. CDTC is in its fourteenth year leading the coalition in the Capital District, and is the only MPO in New York to directly host the Clean Communities Program. CDTC entered directly into a contract with USDOE in January 2017 for $45,000 between January 1 and February 28, 2018.

CDTC submitted its request for a 2018 contract in January. It has received its Statement of Project Objectives (SOPO) for February 2018 – January 2019 from the Department of Energy. CDTC will receive $45,000 in exchange for the deliverables outlined in the SOPO.
Efforts focus on alternative fuels and coalition meetings provide a forum for CDTA, the Albany County Airport Authority, local governments, and private sector entities to jointly explore new technologies. In addition, CDTC’s involvement will assure coordination with regional planning and programming activities, including TDM, transit, and ridesharing efforts. In 2017 Clean Communities will add Smart Cities projects and technologies to its portfolio of petroleum and emission reduction strategies.

CDTC staff participates in USDOE monthly conference calls with other Clean Cities coordinators. Other Clean Cities activities and tasks completed during this reporting period include:

- Capital District Clean Communities (CDCC) held two quarterly meetings, one in December which featured a showing of the movie PUMP, and one in March which featured a presentation by Drive Electric Hudson Valley.

- CDCC continues to track the VW Settlement, providing updates and information to stakeholders as requested.

- CDTC staff performed outreach to various fleets in the Capital Region, mostly focusing on municipalities interested in the NYSDEC ZEV Rebate program.

- CDTC staff continues to participate in the Northeast Diesel Collaborative, led by CALSTART, which meets regularly via web conference.

- CDTC staff coordinated and moderated a session on Smart Cities for the CDRPC Local Government Workshop in October.

- CDTC staff continues to meet with NYSDEC to discuss low carbon transportation strategies and potential for coordination. As part of this initiative, CDTC attended a “practice” listening session at NYSDOT in March.

- CDTC presented at the Adirondack North Country’s Clean Energy Conference in Glens Falls in October on electric vehicle infrastructure planning.

- CDTC staff and NYS Clean Cities coordinators provided recommendations to NYSDOT for potential corridors for designation under FHWA Clean Corridors program, which opened for new nominations in September. The I-495 (Long Island Expressway) was the only new corridor designated in New York through the program in 2017.

- CDTC staff submitted its final 2017 contract deliverables, including a summary of its Smart Cities activities. CDTC launched its own SMART Communities Task Force in March 2018 to continue these activities.

- CDTC worked with the Clean Energy Communities Coordinator at CDRPC on various EV planning initiatives around the region. CDTC staff presented at an EV Workshop they coordinated at Johnston Supply in Troy in January.
• CDTC staff is working on compiling video of EV drivers and local officials to highlight EV initiatives and the movement towards Smart Cities in the Capital Region.

• CDTC staff submitted updates to the USDOE Alternative Fuel Station Locator.

• Staff submitted 2 alternative fuel price reports.

• Staff submitted the 2017 fleet data to DOE for its Annual Report.

• Staff advertised that it is accepting nominations for the Northern Stars of the Northeast fleet recognition program.

• Staff attended and participated in various webinars about alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies throughout the reporting period.

• CDTC staff coordinated with various organizations and entities to develop project proposals and submit applications related to electric vehicle and infrastructure deployment to NYSERDA.

• As part of the implementation of the I-90 EVSE Study, which was completed in 2016, CDTC staff has been working with 4 Capital Region communities and CDTA to install 5 Level 2 charging stations. Staff assisted the Cities of Saratoga Springs and Troy, Schenectady County, and CDTA to identify locations and install 5 EV charging stations. The stations were installed in 3 of the 5 proposed locations. The remaining stations will be installed by CDTA by June 2018. A ribbon cutting is planned for Earth Week in Troy.

• CDCC continues to maintain their websites, Facebook and Twitter accounts.

• CDTC staff has been working with Energetics Inc. and other Clean Cities Coalitions on Workplace Charging outreach. As part of this project, CDTC staff planned and coordinated the “Drive Green Eat Clean” ride and drive event at the Honest Weight Food Coop in October. Staff attended the wrap-up presentation at NYSERDA in January.

• Staff presented at the New York State Conservation Commission Meeting in Kingston on November 17th. The presentation focused on low-carbon transportation, including EVs, alternative fuels and smart mobility and how CDTC/CDCC is planning for a low-carbon transportation system.

• CDTC staff planned and attended a tour of Plug Power’s fuel cell manufacturing facility in Latham for its stakeholders. About a dozen stakeholders attended the February 15th event.

**TASK 5.89  New Visions Guidebook/Training**

Materials related to best practice land use planning tools have been developed and will be posted on CDTC’s website in 2018. This task is complete.
TASK 5.90 Public Participation

CDTC provided opportunity for public participation through the Policy Board, Planning Committee, advisory committees and task forces, Linkage Study outreach, and Capital Coexist programs. Public engagement also occurs via the CDTC website, social media, newsletters, and direct mailings.

During this period, CDTC staff completed the following:

- The CDTC website continues to evolve as a new text editor was launched with many new updates. Unfortunately, a problem with the web host resulted in a significant failure of the website and a great deal of content was lost. Staff is working with the web consultant, Tailwind Associates, to reinstall the site, back up and debug the website and begin the process of reloading content.

- Began the development of a website operations plan.

- CDTC began updating its social media policy, which guides the use of sites such as Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. CDTC staff updates Instagram, Facebook and/or Twitter accounts almost every day with public meeting notices, project updates, requests for public comment, and other announcements and information related to transportation in the Capital Region. Following the launch of the new CDTC website, social media staff has made a concerted effort to drive traffic to the website with links to various calendar postings and reminders on content that we regularly offer such as maps and the newsletter as a way to bolster community awareness of the open resources CDTC has to offer the public.

- CDTC used social media to promote several transportation safety campaigns supported by NHTSA. CDTC staff began promoting Bike to Work Day and Bike to School Day via Facebook and Twitter. Public meetings and surveys for Linkage Studies are promoted via social media, as well as upcoming transportation-related events and projects news.

- CDTC also supports other state and local agencies through social media such as NYSDOT, NYSDEC, CDTA, CDRPC, etc. For example, the new season rollout of CDPHP Cycle! by CDTA has received a fair amount of coverage on our social media pages and on our website.

- December 2017 and March 2018 newsletters were printed and distributed to the approximately 1,500 address USPS and email mailing list. All staff contributed articles.

- The Planning Committee approved an update to the CDTC Limited English Proficiency (LEP) policy.

TASK 5.91 Bus Rapid Transit Planning

CDTC staff continued to support CDTA’s project development for the Washington/Western and River Corridor BRT systems. Now that both projects have entered the design phase, CDTA staff has taken the lead.
TASK 6.01  **NYSAMPO Shared Cost Initiatives**

This fund source is used by NYSAMPO to fund the consultant support contract and several training initiatives.

Staff continued to review and approve consultant support invoices. Staff also worked with other MPO Directors to manage this consultant effort.

TASK 6.02  **State Planning Research (SPR) Funded Efforts**

*I-787/Hudson Waterfront Corridor Study:* A draft report was developed and made available for public review following a March 13th public open house. The project objectives of the study are as follows:

- Identify life-cycle costs for I-787, and feasible strategies (with respect to transportation and access needs) that have the potential to reduce maintenance costs over time.

- Identify strategies that would improve transportation, community, and environmental compatibility.

- Integrate recommendations from previous studies, and fresh ideas through an involved stakeholder process.

- Identify access improvements to support multi-modal transportation objectives, as well as waterfront revitalization and economic development opportunities such as downtown and brownfield redevelopment.

- Identify steps that lead agencies will need to take toward implementation.

See UPWP Task 3.11 for more detailed information.

**NYSAMPO Working Group Support:** The primary goal of the working groups is to cooperatively identify and address opportunities and issues of statewide significance as they relate to New York’s 14 MPOs. NYSDOT is also a participant. Below is a summary of the activity of the 8 working groups for the last 6 month period:

- Bicycle/Pedestrian Working Group – 1 teleconference meeting on December 12, 2017 and in-person meeting on March 28, 2018

- Climate Change Working Group – 2 teleconference meetings on November 29, 2017 and February 28, 2018

- Freight Working Group – 1 teleconference meeting on March 14, 2018

- GIS Working Group – no meetings this period

  o Updated the work plan and identified training opportunities for SFY 2018-2019, development of a Complete Streets factsheet with the Bike/Ped Working Group
  o Developed a fact sheet related to the New York State Strategic Highway Safety Plan
  o Held an NHI Speed Management training course.
  o Coordinated with NYSDOT on the local call for projects related to the New York State Pedestrian Safety Action Plan.

Transit Working Group – 1 teleconference meeting on January 25, 2108

Transportation Systems Management & Operations Working Group – 2 teleconference meetings on December 20, 2017 and March 13, 2018

In addition, all the Working Groups produced draft 2018-19 Work Plans, revised the draft version, and submitted the final version for MPO Directors’ approval on March 9, 2018.

Travel Demand Modeling Working Group –6 web-conference meetings
  o Continued work as advisory committee for UAlbany AVAIL research on use of NPMRDS data set

**TASK 6.03 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act**

This effort has concluded.

**CDTC’s Internship Program**

CDTC continues to offer internships to graduate students who are pursuing a career in transportation planning or engineering. CDTC's program encourages the exchange of knowledge between the classroom and CDTC. The program is designed to help students develop skills, abilities, and experience at both the technical and personal level. In return, CDTC benefits from good quality work that supports CDTC's ongoing planning program. During the last six months, CDTC employed one intern from the University at Albany GIS Program to help with the ADA sidewalk inventory, various Linkage studies, and traffic data collection. The program will continue through the spring and summer with the hire of one or two new interns.

**Computer Support Services**

Keeping CDTC’s computer capabilities current requires a fair amount of staff time. Computer-related tasks completed during the period include:

*Backup of Individual PC’s:* A centralized process to regularly backup CDTC staff individual PC’s was continued.

*Fiber Optic Internet Readiness:* Staff evaluated existing network equipment for the purpose of determining CDTC’s ability to use Internet in excess of 100 megabits per second. The evaluation
resulted in the knowledge of the maximum speed existing equipment would allow, what would be needed to upgrade to exceed the current maximum, and the rough cost to do so.

*Incorporation of New UPWP Codes in CDTC Administrative Software:* CDTC’s custom administrative software needs to be altered to accommodate UPWP codes that include three digits past the decimal. This process was started and substantial work was accomplished during this period. It will be finished early in the next period so it can be used in the new SFY.

**PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED**

Balancing the annual fiscal constraint requirements with federal project obligation performance measures has become more difficult. The result is more TIP amendments.

Maintaining MPO relevancy is continuing to be a challenge. Decreased local planning funds and resources and less federal funding are threatening trends.

**MEMBERSHIP CHANGES**

Planning Committee Changes
- Jaime O’Neill replaces Anthony Tozzi as the Town & Village representative for the Town of Malta
- Michael Canavan replaces Peter Osborn as the Albany Division Administrator representative for the Federal Highway Administration

Policy Board Changes
- Michael Canavan replaces Peter Osborn as the Albany Division Administrator representative for the Federal Highway Administration
- Peter Barber Supervisor of the Town of Guilderland & Jack Conway Supervisor of the Town of East Greenbush have replaced Steven Tommasone Supervisor of Town of Rotterdam and Kevin Tollisen Supervisor of the Town of Halfmoon as the Town & Village representatives
- Andrew Joyce Chair of the Albany County Legislator has replaced Sean Ward
- Michael Stammel Chair of the Rensselaer County Legislator has replaced Stan Brownell
- Mark Castiglione has temporarily replaced Michael Stammel as the representative on Policy Board until CDRPC’s Board has designated a new representative
- Meg Kelly Mayor of the City of Saratoga Springs has replaced Joanne Yepsen
- Steven McLaughlin has replaced Kathleen Jimino as the Rensselaer County Executive
MEETINGS HELD
October 4th - Planning Committee
October 10th - Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
November 1st - Planning Committee
November 14th - Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
November 15th - Freight Advisory Committee
November 16th - Regional Transportation Coordination Committee
November 17th - Complete Streets Advisory Committee
December 6th - Linkage Forum
December 7th - Policy Board Meeting
December 12th - Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
December 12th - Regional Operations and Safety Committee
December 21st - Clean Communities Meeting
January 3rd - Planning Committee
January 9th - Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
January 30th - Regional Operations and Safety Committee
February 7th - Planning Committee
February 13th - Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
February 21st - Freight Advisory Committee
March 1st - Policy Board Meeting
March 6th - Complete Streets Advisory Committee
March 8th - Community Planners Forum
March 13th - Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
March 14th - Smart Cities Task Force
March 15th - Clean Communities Meeting