

CDTC's Draft 2007-12 Transportation Improvement Program

April 2007

Background

The Capital District Transportation Committee (CDTC) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) fulfilling federal laws related to coordinated transportation planning in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Schenectady counties of New York. All MPOs are required every two years to adopt new multi-year comprehensive programs of federally-aided highway and transit projects in the metropolitan area.

Federal funding assistance for transportation projects comes primarily from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

This summary document provides highlights of CDTC's draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the period October 2007 through September 2012. The TIP also provides the source of all Capital District projects to be included in the New York State Department of Transportation's State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) that covers the first three years of that period. Projects must be on the STIP to have access to federal funds.

The full TIP document is available on CDTC's web site (www.cdtcmo.org). Comments and questions are welcome at any time, but are requested by June 1 for consideration in making any revisions to the draft before CDTC's approval of the program. The next update to the TIP is scheduled to start in the fall of 2008.

Funding in the TIP

Funding for the TIP is based on the federal authorizing legislation, "SAFETEA-LU". For highway projects, funding estimates are based on SAFETEA-LU apportionments. Available transit funds were obtained from the Federal Register (February 3, 2006).

Using assumptions of future federal resources, a total of approximately \$716M in federal-aid highway resources (including state and local match) is estimated to be available to the CDTC metropolitan area during the seven-year TIP period. (CDTC considers the past year and the cur-

rent year along with the coming five years as the coverage period for the budget of the new TIP.) This includes special earmarks for particular projects, in addition to formula funds that are flexible in nature and can be used on a wide variety of projects. The estimate of available federal transit funds (including match) is \$118 M for the seven-year TIP coverage period. These numbers are higher than, but similar in scale, to those assumed for the 2005-10 TIP.

Major Themes of the 2007-12 TIP Update

For the current update, a review of the costs and schedules of existing projects indicated that funding availability for *additional* projects would be more modest than in 2005. Instead of a broad solicitation of projects, CDTC will issue a "focused" solicitation to eligible sponsors after the TIP is approved in June 2007. The solicitation will be limited to only those projects that meet eligibility requirements for one of two specific fund sources: Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ) and Safety funds from the Surface Transportation Program (STP-Safety).

New Projects in the 2007-12 TIP

By law, to qualify for CMAQ funds, a project must contribute to air quality improvements through transit, bike, pedestrian or traffic flow actions. Additionally, for this update, CDTC split the available CMAQ funds into five categories of projects for inclusion in the 2007-12 TIP:

- 1) **Operations:** \$8M programmed to project RG37A (TMC Operations Center)
- 2) **Bus Replacements:** \$8M programmed to project T17 for the additional cost for hybrid electric buses
- 3) **Alternative Fuel Retrofit:** \$2M set-aside in RG102 for programming later for non-CDTA fleets and off-road vehicles

- 4) **Bicycle-Pedestrian Network:** \$1M set-aside in RG103 for programming later, for implementation of actions recommended in linkage studies
- 5) **Intersections, Queue Jumpers, Roundabouts:** \$5M set-aside in RG104 for programming later.

Many other potential projects will not be put forth because there was no available funding in the most flexible of the federal fund sources, or those typically used for highway maintenance, due to the funding needs of prior commitments.

Public comment on these choices is requested by June 1.

Overall Program Emphasis

The draft 2007-12 TIP includes the continued, carefully-scoped and staged implementation of a number of CDTC's long-standing commitments; a heavy emphasis on system preservation; and a modest number of new projects. In aggregate, approximately \$354 M in matched federal-aid is devoted to pavement and bridge preservation, \$82 M to transit, \$146 M to traffic operation / technology / capacity improvement categories and \$16 M to other highway projects (safety, etc.) Additional projects totaling over \$276 M in state and local funds (the largest component being Thruway Authority reconstruction projects) are shown in the TIP for information purposes.

Batchellerville Bridge

A plan to fund the reconstruction of the Batchellerville Bridge in Saratoga County (project SA104), has been under negotiations for the last few years. As shown in the 2005-10 TIP, project construction has been dependent upon resolving ownership questions and finding funding for the project. The project is an integral element of the CDTC New Vision plan.

Funding has now been identified and ownership issues resolved. The construction phase can now be included in the draft 2007-12 TIP based on an approximate \$35M construction cost.

How to Comment on the Draft TIP

The full text and set of project listings (with an interactive map to locate projects of interest) can be found at CDTC's web site (cdtcmpo.org). Email comments can be provided

at that web site also, or directly to tip@cdtcmpo.org. While the web version is complete and easier to navigate than the print version, print versions have been placed in public libraries for review (see list below).

Comments received and possible proposed changes to the draft TIP will also be discussed at CDTC's Planning Committee meetings on Wednesday, April 4, 2007 at 9:30 AM and Wednesday, May 2, 2007 at 9:30 AM at the CDTC Offices. Public comment will also be accepted and considered at the May meeting. Public comment is welcome at CDTC's scheduled Policy Board meeting on June 7, 2007, but will be too late to be incorporated into the TIP at that time.

Subsequent to adoption, CDTC's TIP will be incorporated by the New York State Department of Transportation into the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) to take effect October 1, 2007 and cover the first federal fiscal years (2008 through 2010).

The following table lists the existing and new projects for which the federal funding commitment between October 2007 and September 2012 is expected to exceed \$5.0M. (Additional commitments not shown below are scheduled for the period prior to October 2007; project phases scheduled for beyond September 2012 are also not shown.)

**All Federal-Aid Projects
with Total Funding Over \$5.0M for
October 2007 to September 2012
(Amounts are in Millions of Dollars)**

TIP #	Brief Description	Total Funds
RG28	Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)	5.710
RG37A	TMC Operating Costs	17.500
RG105	Safety Set-Aside for Non-State Roads	7.520
T9	Facility Improvements	6.250
T14B	Transit Operations Support for Saratoga	7.045
T17	Transit Bus Replacement	45.183
T57	Preventive Maintenance	34.000
A198	NY 7 Bridge over I-87 (Exit 6)	29.178
A240	I-87 Exit 3 or 4 Airport Connector	44.000
A433	CR 53 (Old School Ro) Bridge over CSX	6.600
A435	ITS Transit Signal Priority	5.119
A438	19th Street Reconstruction	7.990
A440	Delaware Avenue Reconstruction	7.887
A448	US 9 Bridge over Country Road	5.124
A449	NY 378 Bridge Over Hudson River Shore	6.261
A451	I-787, NYS TWY Exit 23 to South Mall	16.478
A452	I-87, from Western Ave to Sar. Co. Line	31.525
A483	Dunn Memorial Bridge	6.887
A484	I-787, Clinton Avenue Monodeck:	10.652
R155	NY 2, from 11th Street to Pawling Ave	8.100
R173	I-90 Exit 8 Connector Phase 2: ITS Demo	11.500
R186	NY 7 Bridge over Hoosick River	7.886
R188	NY 40 Bridge over Hoosick River	10.818
R245	NY 2 Reconstruction	6.293
R254	Broadway Reconstruction	6.625
R265	South Rensselaer County Port Connector	6.150
SA104	Batchellerville Bridge Reconstruction	39.848
SA108 & S96	Balltown Road Corridor Improvements	20.996
SA109 & S120	Glenridge Road Reconstruction	14.523
SA152	NY 9N Bridge over the Hudson River	7.855
SA198	NY 9P over Saratoga Lake Outlet	12.681
SA206	I-87 Bridge over Mohawk River	11.044
SA228	Commercial Access Highway Improve.	10.000
SA233	NY 50 Bridge over I-87	12.358
SA234	NY 9P Bridge over I-87	9.384
SA236	I-87, Saratoga County Line to Exit 10	9.066
S124	I-890, from Campbell Road to Exit 26	10.037
S165	Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail	5.250
S170	Western Gateway Transportation Center	6.821
S171	Rehabilitation at Lock E-8	29.370
S177	Erie Boulevard Reconstruction	11.500
S178	NY 7 Bridge Over I-890	7.243
S183	I-890, Thruway Exit 25 to NY 337	16.478

**Public Libraries With a Copy of the Draft TIP
(availability expected by April 13, 2007)**

Albany Public Library - Main Branch
161 Washington Ave
Albany NY 12210

Bethlehem Public Library
451 Delaware Ave
Delmar NY 12054

Clifton Park Halfmoon Public Library
475 Moe Road
Clifton Park NY 12065

Cohoes Public Library
169 Mohawk St
Cohoes NY 12047

East Greenbush Community Library Association
10 Community Way
East Greenbush NY 12061

Guilderland Free Library
2228 Western Ave
Guilderland NY 12084

Menands Public Library
6 Lyon Avenue
Menands NY 12204

North Greenbush Public Library
141 Main Avenue
Wynantskill NY

Rensselaer Library
810 Broadway
Rensselaer NY 12144

Saratoga Springs Public Library
49 Henry Street
Saratoga Springs NY 12866

Schenectady County Library
Liberty & Clinton Streets
Schenectady NY 12305

Troy Public Library
100 Second St
Troy NY 12180

Waterford Public Library
117 3rd Street
Waterford NY 12188

Watervliet Public Library
1501 Broadway
Watervliet NY 12189

William K Sanford Library
492 Albany-Shaker Rd
Loudonville NY 12211