2012-14 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM ADDENDUM

PROPOSED CHANGES FOR 2013-14

As Recommended by the Policy Board
on March 7, 2013
Our current Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) identifies transportation planning activities that are undertaken by either the CDTC staff, CDTC’s member agencies, or by consultants during the two years, beginning on April 1, 2012 and ending on March 31, 2014. This comprehensive work plan is meant to coordinate all federally-funded transportation-related planning activities in the region.

Every year the UPWP is reviewed and updated, with the mid-term update usually being more administrative and less substantive. On November 15, 2012 we received a letter from the NYS Department of Transportation describing the guidelines for this mid-term update and informing us that the final Policy Board approved update was due no later than March 15, 2013. In order to meet this deadline, we need our Policy Board to approve the UPWP update at their March 7, 2013 meeting.

For this UPWP mid-term update, we have reviewed and updated the attached table and we have added the following activities for FFY 2013-2014:

1. **Task 3.77 New Visions**: Increased support of our New Visions long range plan update. This year we will begin working on our New Visions Plan update, which is due in 2015. There are new requirements to engage the public and measure their interest when developing this plan which will add some expense to the update. We propose hiring a consultant to assist us in the marketing effort, to add survey capability to our website, and to develop a promotional video. This increased support would cost approximately $115,000.

2. **Task 5.60 Public Transit Planning**: We also propose hiring one transportation planner. This planner will be working on the New Visions Plan update, and will receive training to perform some of the transit planning duties of Deb Stacey, who retired in May of last year. This cost is approximately $110,000.

3. **Task 5.63 TDM Supporting new modes of transportation**: Many U.S. cities have implemented or are planning to implement new programs for sharing bicycles and cars. Since the first U.S. bike-share system in 2008, 30 U.S. cities have started bike shares, and many others have plans in the works. Forty-seven cities in the U.S. currently have car sharing programs. In our region, CDTA and CDTC have completed a car sharing program feasibility study and have begun the work of creating a separate small entity to pilot a new program in downtown Albany. The City of Albany and CDTC are currently progressing a bicycle sharing program linkage study which will determine its feasibility and develop guidelines for the next steps. We propose spending approximately $100,000 ($50,000 for car share and $50,000 for bike share) for planning and promoting these 2 programs in our area, with the goal of eventually implementing these
programs in all our major cities, i.e. Saratoga Springs, Schenectady, and Troy. The approximate cost is $100,000.

4. **Task 2.25 Collection of Transportation Data:** The purchase of traffic congestion management data from a company which uses methods for measuring traffic congestion on every road at any time by monitoring cell phones. The tool will be capable of monitoring operating speeds and related congestions delay and reliability measures for Interstates, other principal arterials, and other federal aid roadways in the Capital District. We would use this data in the development of the New Visions long range plan and to assist our Operations Committee in their analysis of local traffic issues. The Genesee Transportation Council (GTC - the Rochester MPO) recently contracted with a vendor for 2 years-worth of data for their roadways. We would work with GTC and learn from their process before purchasing this data. This purchase would cost approximately $75,000.

5. **Task 5.XX New Scotland Hamlet Zoning Refinements and Site Design Guidelines:** CDTC will assist the town of New Scotland with the development of zoning refinements and site design guidelines for the Hamlet of New Scotland. This project will implement recommendations in the Master Plan for the Hamlet of New Scotland. Zoning refinements will strike a balance between the study area’s significance as the town’s largest commercial zone, the importance of commercial development as a central component of a sustainable tax base, and the community’s clear wishes for development in size and character that is in keeping with community character and the highly scenic nature of this area of town. Illustrated design guidelines will accompany the zoning changes to help regulate site design and protect the character of the community.

Consultant Total: $70,000 ($52,500 federal, $17,500 local cash match, $5,000 CDTC Staff technical assistance)

6. **Task 5.XX Saratoga Springs Bicycle, Pedestrian and Public Transit Master Plan:** CDTC will assist the city of Saratoga Springs with the development of a bicycle, pedestrian and public transit master plan. The project will assist the City with implementing its recently enacted Complete Streets policy and various local plans including the City’s Comprehensive Plan, the Downtown Transportation Plan and the Route 50 Southern Gateway Study. The effort will produce mapping, policy recommendations, short and long term capital solutions as well as programmatic activities (education, encouragement, etc.) Consultant Total: $60,000 ($45,000 federal, $15,000 local cash match, CDTC Staff Technical Assistance: $5,000)
7. **Task 5.XX Stillwater Route 4 Zoning and Site Design Standards:** CDTC will assist the town of Stillwater with the development of zoning district revisions and site design guidelines for the Route 4 corridor. The project will assist the Town with implementing the Route 4 Corridor Plan as well as several other local plans. The goal will be to promote walkable mixed-use development where there is existing development and preserve rural and historical areas north of the Village and near the Saratoga Historic Battlefield.

Consultant Total: $90,000 ($67,500 federal, $22,500 local cash match)

The Unified Planning Work Program identifies transportation planning activities that are to be undertaken in the Capital District with Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and other federal planning funds. The intent of the comprehensive work plan is to coordinate all federally-funded transportation-related planning activities in the region. In the course of developing the 2013-4 addendum for the previously approved 2012-14 UPWP, one task was left out. CDTA is planning to progress a conceptual study of the potential for BRT service in the River Corridor of the Region. The development of a capital and operational plan will follow, if BRT service is determined to be feasible and cost-effective.

**Task 5.92 River Corridor BRT Conceptual Design Assessment:** The Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) will be conducting a conceptual design study for a bus rapid transit line that connects the cities of Albany and Troy as well as other communities along the Hudson River. This corridor currently services over 2 million riders per year which warrants Bus Rapid Transit service as outlined in CDTA's Transit Development Plan. The study will include the following:

- BRT routing and station locations
- Transit Priority Infrastructure such as queue-jump lanes and transit signal priority
- Overall operations plan for BRT and underlying local services
- Conceptual design of stations including pedestrian connections and on-street amenities such as real-time passenger displays
- Capital and Operating Cost Estimates
- Potential impacts on land-use and development patterns
- Demand Estimation and Projected Ridership Increases
- Public and Stakeholder Input

Budget: The study will be largely completed by CDTA Planning Department with assistance from other members of the authority as well as planning staff from the Capital District Transportation Committee (MPO). Consultant assistance will be needed and estimated to cost $75,000.

New Computer Hardware and Software. We propose purchasing a large screen monitor and PC to project presentations onto the conference room wall. This would replace the
laptop and projector used on the white wall, and would significantly improve the images projected onto the screen. We would also purchase ADOBE Pro software for our PC’s. This would give us the ability to edit and format .pdf files. Finally we would purchase the equipment to install wifi in our offices, so that visitors and guests can access the internet on their portable computers. These purchases would cost approximately $10,000.

The total cost of these expenditures is as follows:

1. New Visions Development $225,000
2. Car and Bike Share $100,000
3. Traffic data $75,000
4. Computer Hardware and software $10,000

Total $410,000

Budget for 2011-12
The two primary sources of federal planning funds supporting UPWP activities are FHWA’s Metropolitan Planning (PL) funds and FTA’s Metropolitan Planning Program (MPP) funds. Staff activity is primarily matched by NYSDOT in-kind services that exceed $500,000. Uniquely, CDTC planning work is supported through additional resources including FHWA SPR funds, FHWA STP funding for specific project development work, funds from Albany County, Town of Colonie, and the City of Albany for specific technical services, local cash contributions for Linkage Studies, and funds from the Department of Energy. The proposed CDTC task budget for 2013-14 is shown on the attached tables.