



**Human Services Transportation Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
Monday August 4, 2025 at 2:00 PM**

1. Attendance

Name	Title	Representing
Carrie Ward	Principal Transportation Planner	Transportation Council
Martin Hull	Director of Regional Planning	Transportation Council
Adam McCarvill	Transportation Planner	Transportation Council
Ethan Townsend	Transportation Planner	Transportation Council
Stephen Farina	Intermodal Transportation Specialist	Public Transportation Bureau at NYSTA
Michelle Abel	Associate Executive Director	Catholic Charities Tri-County Services
Angelina Searles	Director	Town of Colonie Senior Resources Department
Judy Dahoda-Taylor	Deputy Director	Saratoga County Office for the Aging
Mark Castiglione	Director	Capital District Regional Planning Commission
William Fitzgerald	Transportation Analyst	NYS DOT Region 1 – Planning and Programming
Matt DeSimone	Transportation Analyst/Sustainability Coordinator	NYS DOT Region 1 – Planning and Programming
Leah Rye	Administrative Specialist	Transportation Council

2. Welcome/Introductions

Carrie Ward started the meeting at 2:05 PM and asked those attending (both virtually and in person) to introduce themselves.

3. Public Comment

(no comments)

4. Acceptance of [prior meeting notes](#)

Carrie Ward shared the prior meeting notes on the screen for everyone to see. Carrie reminded everyone that she does send these notes out via email, and shared that the group will no longer be approving meeting notes at subsequent meetings because meeting notes must now be submitted earlier. As such, if anyone ever sees something in the notes that is not correct, please let Carrie know ASAP and she will make the change.

5. Discussion on the impact of federal policy and funding changes on human services for people with disabilities – Kathryn Carroll

Kathryn Carroll was scheduled to provide a presentation to the group but was not able to attend this meeting.

6. NYSDOT solicitation for FTA Section 5311 Formula Grants for Rural Area Program

Applications for these grants were due in February 2025. Carrie Ward shared that the most recent update she had heard on this was that awards were expected in June. UPDATE: Award letters are tentatively planned for distribution towards the end of September.

7. NYSDOT solicitation for FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

Stephen Farina indicated that the solicitation is expected to be released this fall.

8. [Most Integrated Setting Coordinating Council](#)

Carrie Ward shared that this Council generally meets quarterly. The next planned meeting is September 12th. This is the effort where state agencies meet with each other and communicate about the best ways for people with disabilities to live in the most integrated settings possible, and how state policies may impact that.

9. [Master Plan for Aging](#) finalized

Martin Hull shared that the Department of Health has put together a Master Plan for Aging, which was a response to what was perceived as a siloed approach at the state level to providing services for aging people. The way it was put together was by soliciting proposals from stakeholders and the public. About 100 of those were chosen to be part of the plan. The proposals were divided into nine categories or pillars: 1) Informal Caregiver and Workforce Support in Modernization of Community-Based Network Service; 2) Modernization and Financial Stability of Healthcare Residential

Facilities and Community-Based Aging Network Service Providers; 3) Prevention and Wellness Promotion; 4) Housing Access and Community Development; 5) Affordability of Basic Necessities; 6) Access to Services in and Engagement with Historically Underserved Communities; 7) Social Engagement of Older Adults; 8) Combating Elder Abuse: Ageism, Ableism and Stigma; 9) Technology Access and Development.

Mark Castiglione noted that a transportation subcommittee had been formed for the development of this plan. Carrie indicated that technology was discussed in the transportation subcommittee, such as using technology instead of transportation (i.e. ordering your medications online for delivery), but also the use of technology in the provision of transportation.

Mark Castiglione shared that one of the things that he found interesting was that at one time, the Department of Health had a key policy to support aging in place almost exclusively as the strategy to serve older populations. Some planners indicated that this may not be the only solution, and it also may not be the most economically viable, so the Department moved away from it as the exclusive strategy, but still mentioned a variety of things to facilitate aging in place in addition to more housing choice.

10. Olmstead Plan Update status

Carrie Ward shared that the idea from this plan is to ensure that people with disabilities have meaningful opportunities to live, learn, work and enjoy life in the most integrated settings appropriate to their needs. An update to the Olmstead Plan is currently in the works, and it includes a transportation committee. Each committee is supposed to come up with at least one S.M.A.R.T. (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound) goal. The current goal under consideration by the transportation group is to address stigma associated with using transit, and also to address or provide travel training. There has been a lot of discussion about providing more van-type specialized transportation services, but that may be less achievable. There's also been some discussion about people having a hard time walking to where they need to go, even when they live or at some point in the day are close to services.

Reducing stigma would be accomplished through an educational program or approach. Matt DeSimone noted that useful measures for this could be surveys as well as ridership numbers.

11. [Rensselaer](#), [Menands](#), [Wilton](#), [Clifton Park](#), Albany County pedestrian infrastructure Transition Plans

Carrie Ward shared that since the last HSTAC meeting, the Town of Wilton's Town

Board has adopted their transition plan. The public review period for the Village of Menands' transition plan has ended, and it is up for adoption at tonight's Village Board meeting. We should be starting the Albany County transition plan soon. It will be on Albany County roadways and the sidewalks that exist on those roadways.

12. [Capital Region Vision Zero Safety Action Plan](#)

Carrie Ward shared that there will be a virtual public meeting tomorrow (August 5th) at 5:30 PM ([Virtual Meeting Announced to Share Feedback on Draft Conceptual Solutions for Green Island and Watervliet – Capital Region Transportation Council](#)) to discuss concepts for Green Island and Watervliet. In Green Island we're looking at lower Hudson Avenue and adding an additional crosswalk. That will also be incorporating some changes that NYSDOT is progressing for the Green Island bridge (a widened sidewalk on the north side of the bridge).

In Watervliet we're looking at the block bounded by Broadway, 15th Street, 2nd Avenue, and 16th Street. We're looking at formalizing some of the striped bike lanes on 2nd Avenue, and operational changes to 15th Street near Broadway. Past planning work has investigated better connecting residents to the waterfront via a tunnel under 787, which will be reflected in concepts.

The Transportation Council's Planning Committee is expected to approve a Vision Zero policy statement for the region and to release the overall draft plan for public review at its Wednesday morning (August 6th) meeting. Those materials are up on our website with the materials for the Planning Committee meeting.

13. In Motion: The Plan to 2050

The Planning Committee is expected to release the draft In Motion: The Plan to 2050 (the metropolitan transportation plan) for public review on Wednesday (August 6th). On Thursday (August 7th) there will be a virtual webinar on In Motion from 12-1 PM. On August 12th there will be an In Motion open house public meeting from 4-6 PM at the Delaware Avenue branch of the Albany Public Library. Written comments on the draft plan will be accepted through September 3rd. On September 4th, the Policy Board will be meeting to formally adopt the plan. Visit www.inmotionplan.org for more information.

14. News Around the Table

Mark Castiglione shared that CDRPC will be updating some of the housing reports that they did last year with more current data in the coming weeks. The reports contain data on who lives in housing, how much housing costs, housing affordability, etc.

Carrie Ward indicated that she had looked at AARP as a possible group that could speak to recent federal changes, but they did not yet have anything compiled. Another

presentation topic that she's been looking at for this group is alternative funding sources or foundations. If anyone has any ideas about people or other organizations that could speak to that for us, please let her know.

Meeting ended at 2:35 PM.

Next Meeting – Monday, November 3 at 2pm