

Planning Bus Rapid Transit for the Capital District

Welcome to the second newsletter for the Capital District Transportation Authority NY5 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. Our goal with this newsletter is to keep you informed as the Route 5 BRT project starts to take shape.

New Happenings

A recent new development is the Schenectady Transit Oriented Development Study. The objective of this project is to promote transit supportive land use in the Nott Street and Steuben Street area near the BRT stations and build on the transit investments to create economic opportunities for the surrounding neighborhoods. The study will also:

- ★ evaluate options to connect neighborhoods to downtown Schenectady, including the potential to connect new streets, such as Craig Street to State Street; and
- ★ identify pedestrian improvements, revitalization opportunities and urban design techniques that will improve the neighborhood quality of life by enhancing the physical environment and creating economic opportunities.

This study has broad regional support and will likely serve as a precedent for other similar types of projects in the NY 5 Corridor and Region.

On-Going Projects

Work and progress continues with the on-going projects supporting the Route 5 BRT service as it moves from conceptual design to implementation.

Station Planning and Design

- ★ Detailed station planning is in progress.
- ★ CDTA staff and members from the consulting team had a series of meetings with local and state officials to determine final locations for each station.
- ★ In some cases, the team is working with local jurisdictions and developers to secure space for station structures.

Operations and Management Plan

- ★ Draft schedules for the BRT service are being analyzed and evaluated.
- ★ We have maintenance plans for the new hybrid-electric vehicles.
- ★ CDTA is working with the consultant team to examine management and operation techniques used in BRT systems operated by peer agencies for transferable lessons.

Be Involved and Stay Informed

As the BRT service moves forward there will be increasing opportunities to learn about our efforts and get involved. One-page electronic newsletters will continue to be sent out every other month providing news on project status and upcoming meetings and events.

If you would like more information about this project or have additional questions, please contact **Kristina Younger** at CDTA (518-437-6582) or **Bethany Whitaker** at Nelson Nygaard (802-658-3247 or bwhitaker@nelsonnygaard.com).

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