CDTA COMMITTEE AGENDA
Strategic and Operational Planning Committee
Thursday, September 23, 2021 | 12:00 PM | Microsoft Teams Meeting & 110 Watervliet Avenue

Committee Item                                  Responsibility
Call to Order                                    Mike Criscione
Approve Minutes of Thursday, August 26, 2021   Mike Criscione

Administrative Discussion Items
- Albany Intermodal Update                      Ross Farrell
- Red Line BRT Refresh                          Ross Farrell/
                                               Jeremy Smith

Next Meeting: October 21, 2021 at 12:00pm via Microsoft Teams and 110 Watervliet Ave.

Adjourn                                          Mike Criscione
Capital District Transportation Authority
Strategic and Operational Planning Committee
Meeting Minutes – August 26, 2021 at 12:00pm; via Microsoft Teams and 110 Watervliet Ave.

In Attendance: Mike Criscione, Pat Lance, Joe Spairana; via MT: Jayme Lahut, Mark Schaeffer, Peter Wohl, Denise Figueroa; Carm Basile, Amanda Avery, Mike Collins, Chris Desany, Lance Zarcone, Jaime Kazlo, Thomas Guggisberg, Phil Parella, Vanessa Salamy, Jon Scherzer, Dave Williams, Ross Farrell, Sarah Matrose, Gary Guy; via MT: Jeremy Smith, Stacy Sansky

Meeting Purpose
Regular monthly meeting of the Strategic and Operational Planning Committee. Committee Chair Mike Criscione noted that a quorum was present. Minutes from the June 24, 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Consent Agenda Items

Approve Budget Adjustment
- We are proposing an adjustment to the FY2022 operating budget that was approved in March. The adjustment comes about due to changes in revenue sources and the impact of our new Collective Bargaining Agreement, which took effect in June.

- The State announced that we would receive an additional $2.6 million (6.9%) in STOA. Our member counties restored $480,000 in assistance which had been held back during the COVID-19 pandemic. The total revenue increase is $3.2 million.

- In April, the Board approved a new Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Amalgamated Transit Union. The corresponding expense increases from the CBA are included in this budget adjustment. There is a wage and FICA increase of $3 million, and a $200,000 increase to the pension. We also recommend modifying the fuel line ($200,000 reduction) and increasing the parts line ($200,000). The total expense increases are $3.2 million.

- The Committee recommends a $3.2 million budget increase to the FY2022 operating budget. The revised FY2022 operating budget will be $104,209,892 and will be recommended to the board for approval.

Administrative Discussion Items
ACEC Award for River BRT –
- We were nominated for and received an award from the American Council of Engineering Companies of New York for our work in developing the River BRT. Selection criteria included considerations for originality, innovation, public perception, social impact, economic development, and sustainability. The award was presented to the Committee.
**OGS Universal Access and Aligning Service with Demand -**

- Lance Zarcone gave a presentation on the rollout of our new universal access program and adjusted service plan for meeting the needs of returning State workers. The history and purpose of the program were discussed, along with details of the new infrastructure, and descriptions of new and existing route adjustments. This is being rolled out in phases between August and September.

**September 2021 Service Adjustments -**

- Ross Farrell gave an overview of the service changes being rolled out in August and September. Details of high school / middle school services and OGS State Worker access were discussed in detail in prior presentations. We are reinstating routes that connect the region to colleges and universities. We are also making minor adjustments to run times on select routes (224, 354, 452, 286) to meet on-time performance goals more effectively.

**Next Meeting**
Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 12:00pm via Microsoft Teams and at 110 Watervliet Ave.
**Background**

**Location**
- Site of existing Greyhound/Trailways bus station and adjacent OGS parking lots
- Southeast corner of Downtown Albany next to I-787

**History**
- Concept began as result of convention center proposal
- Included in ESD/CREDC Upstate Revitalization Plan
- After convention center site moved proposal adjusted to support redevelopment of surround district
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Background

Partnership Project

- Albany Parking Authority
- City of Albany
- Capitalize Albany
- CDTA
- Greyhound
- Trailways
- NYS Empire State Development
- NYS Department of Transportation
- NYS Office of General Services
- Federal Transit Administration / Federal Highway Administration
Supporting Redevelopment

- Support mixed use development and new extension of Downtown Albany
- Reinforce downtown as regional destination
- 2017 ESD Study – Residential, retail/restaurants, movie theatre, hotel
- Consolidation of existing surface lots
- Reduction in parking demand & supply
- Universal access for all tenants

Project Features

Facility
- 885 space parking garage
- Regional transit center
- All CDTA services
- Greyhound, Trailways, & other regional and intercity bus operators
- Retail, public space & parking management offices
Project Features

Facility
- 30+ CDTA bus routes
- Connection to BusPlus system
- New bike/ped connections
- Car rental, carshare, bikeshare, microtransit, & electric scooter
- Electric vehicle & bus charging

Project Phases

Phase 0 – Conceptual Design, ROW, Environmental Clearance
Phase 1 – Preliminary and Final design, Bidding, Land Acquisition
Phase 2 – Building demolition + site preparation
Phase 3 – Building construction + site improvements
Phase 4 – Offsite improvements: Street + community connections
BusPlus Red Line Upgrades

1. Purchase of 60-foot articulated buses
   - $5.1 million for 6 buses

2. Intersection/Roadway Reconstruction
   - Phase 1: ~$6.9 million; Phase 2: TBD
   - Transit & pedestrian infrastructure upgrades
   - Phased implementation with start in Schenectady

3. Station/Shelter & Amenities Refresh
   - ~$2.5 million
   - Transit & pedestrian infrastructure upgrades
   - Phased implementation

Majority of funding via CDTC BRT Setaside
Benefits to Red Line

- Match level of transit & pedestrian infrastructure applied to Blue Line and planned for Purple Line stations while integrating new mobility services
- Enhance passenger amenities and improve waiting experience
- Provide increased passenger capacity on buses
- Improve image/brand of BusPlus + comfort/convenience of BRT

Red Line Articulated Buses

- Provides additional 50% capacity with little increase in operating costs
- Red Line highest ridership before Covid-19
- Most resilient route in the system; largest gains in ridership over since the spring
- Purple Line proposed for all articulated buses
- Current artic fleet: 9 local + 1 Red Line
- 6 additional Red Line artic
  - First 4 ordered in May 2021 and operational in January 2022
  - Last 2 ordered in January 2022 and operational in October 2022
Transit/Ped Infrastructure Upgrade

Phase 1 - Schenectady
- Stations = Gateway Plaza, Steuben, Division, Woodlawn, and Niskayuna
- Full intersection and roadway reconstruction
- Addition of carshare, bikeshare, other mobility options
- Design in early 2022; construction in 2023
- Project Partners: City of Schenectady & Metroplex

Phase 2a - Colonie
- Stations = New Karner, Village Center, & Colonie
- Scope TBD
- Design in mid to late 2022; Construction in late 2023
- Project Partner: Village & Town of Colonie, NYSDOT

Phase 2b - Outer Albany
- Stations = West Mall, N. Allen, N. Manning, & Quail
- Scope identical to Schenectady
- Design in late 2022; Construction in spring 2024
- Project Partner: City of Albany
Station Shelter & Amenity Upgrades

Pylon Replacement
- Furnish and install new pylons
- Removal of existing pylons
- Additional room for infrastructure
- Allows for additional amenities

Shelter Upgrades
- Replace branding panels
- Light replacement – upgrade to new LED
- Add lean rails

Station Shelter & Amenity Upgrades

New Amenities
- Heated sidewalks
- Infrared shelter heaters
- Solar panels
- USB outlet for charging