



Ulster County Transportation Council

Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive
Chairman

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PUBLIC MEETING

“Kingston Traffic Signal Evaluation”

Public Invited To Learn About the Results of a Detailed Analysis of City of Kingston Traffic Signals

Ulster County Executive Patrick K. Ryan, Chairman of the Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC), is pleased to invite the public to attend a public meeting to discuss the results of a systematic evaluation of traffic conditions associated with selected signalized intersections throughout the City.

The meeting will be held from 6:30 to 8:00pm on Tuesday, November 19th at the Ulster County Restorative Justice and Community Empowerment Center, located at 733 Broadway in Kingston.

The study evaluated traffic signals at selected locations, primarily in the Uptown area, to understand if their continued operation was needed from a traffic and pedestrian safety standpoint. The Study was conducted by UCTC at the request of the City of Kingston whose engineering and public works departments participated in the effort.

A detailed field assessment, crash history analysis, and existing traffic, pedestrian and cyclist volumes were compiled for each location. This information was used to determine worst-case traffic operations. The data for each signal was analyzed in accordance with the eight factors used to justify the installation of a signal (“signal warrants”) as provided for in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (“MUTCD”).

Intersections that were evaluated include:

1. Washington Avenue/Linderman Avenue (Pre-Timed Traffic Signal)
2. Washington Avenue/Pearl Street (Pre-Timed Traffic Signal)
3. Washington Avenue/Main Street (Traffic Signal set to Flash)
4. Wall Street/Pearl Street (Pre-Timed Traffic Signal)
5. Fair Street/Pearl Street (Pre-Timed Traffic Signal)
6. Clinton Avenue/St. James Street (Traffic Signal set to Flash)
7. Clinton Avenue/Franklin Street (Traffic Signal set to Flash)
8. Clinton Avenue/Henry Street (Traffic Signal set to Flash)

All of the signals noted above were determined to not meet the minimum traffic and safety warrants recommended by the MUTCD. This suggests that their continued operation is not necessary. The Study also provides recommendations for the traffic control devices that should replace these signals should the City decide that they can be removed. These measures include use of appropriate regulatory and

safety features such as stop signs, warning lights, improved cross walks and lighting, curb bump-outs, and other engineering improvements.

Regardless of the decision on whether a signal is to be removed, recommendations for improving the safety and function of selected intersections were developed, including alterations in settings of required yellow change and red clearance times, minimum required pedestrian crossing times, and overall time of day coordination.

It is important to note that the Federal Highway Administration has determined that removal of unwarranted traffic signals at intersections with high accident rates located in urban areas has been shown to cause a statistically significant decrease in all types of crashes.

A copy of the draft Project Brief can be found at the link below

<https://ulstercountyny.gov/transportation-council/active-studies/kingston-traffic-signal>

The Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC) is the state designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Ulster County and a portion of the Poughkeepsie-Newburgh Urbanized Area. The UCTC was designated by the Governor of New York as the MPO for the Kingston Urbanized Planning Area on April 30, 2003. The UCTC was formally organized with the adoption of Operating Procedures on June 4, 2003. The purpose of the UCTC is to build a consensus on local and regionally significant transportation, transit and non-motorized improvements through the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process.
