

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
Policy Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Summary**

December 18, 2019

Rondout Municipal Center, Cottekill, NY

Voting Members Present:

John Schultheis	City of Kingston
Lance MacMillan	NYSDOT Region 8
Amy McKenzie	NYSDOT Region 8
Lizy Philip	NYS Thruway Authority
Tom Wilkin	Town of Plattekill
Michael Baden	Town of Rochester
Jeanne Walsh	Town of Rosendale
Vernon Benjamin	Town of Saugerties
Ashley Slovensky	Town of Woodstock
Edward Pine	UC DPW

Others Present:

Toni Roser	UCAT
Ryan Beesmer	UC DPW
Glenn Gidaly	Barton and Loguidice
Katherine Blaustein	Barton and Loguidice
Herb Litts	Ulster County Legislature

Staff:

Dennis Doyle	U.C. Planning Board/UCTC Staff
Brian Slack	UCTC Staff
David Staas	UCTC Staff

**CALL TO ORDER**

Policy Committee Call to Order – Introductions & Roll Call (10:00am)

**CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Herb Litts commented that he has heard concerns about the safety of State Route 299 from Lilly Lake Road to North Chodikee Lake Road. Several crashes have occurred in the area and a request was made to examine the area and consider the possibility of a left-hand turn lane or other treatments to improve safety.

Lance MacMillan requested a letter from the Town, Legislature, or any constituents.

Mike Baden commented that the roadway surface condition on the Kingston Rhinecliff Bridge has deteriorated substantially.

John Schultheis commented that variable message signage indicates that potholes on the bridge were being filled today.

Jeanne Walsh commented that chunks of concrete have been coming off the Keator Avenue Bridge following snow plowing operations. Discussions about replacement of the bridge have occurred but considerations should be given to repairs.

No further comments.

## **APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2019 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 9/24/19 meeting of the UCTC Policy Committee. Vernon Benjamin made a motion to approve the minutes; second by Tom Wilkin.

**No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed - Motion Carried.**

## **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Slack provided communication from the New York State association of Planning Organizations indicating that the Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation and NYSDOT are proposing that rather than listing each individual parks award project on the TIP, that the projects should instead be grouped and listed individually on the STIP. This would help streamline the amendment process and aid in TIP performance. UCTC staff have responded in favor of the proposal provided the timely dispersal of information regarding projects continues.

Lance MacMillan indicated that NYSDOT was cautiously optimistic that another award of harsh winter repaving funds would be made available in the coming year.

No further communications.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **UCTC Resolution 2019-20: Endorsement of Safety Performance Targets Established by Ulster County Area Transit in its Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan.**

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 5329(d), FTA must promulgate a rule to implement the statutory requirements for Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans (PTASP). Under the proposed rule, each operator of public transportation that receives Federal financial assistance under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 is required to develop and implement an Agency Safety Plan based on the principles of Safety Management Systems (SMS). Each transit operator is required to develop an Agency Safety Plan within one year after the effective date of a final rule. MPOs are required to set initial safety targets no more than 180 days after receipt of the transit safety plans from the providers, which include the providers' targets.

The PTASP rule requires the State or transit agency who drafted the safety plan to make its safety performance targets available to States and MPOs to aid in the planning process, and to coordinate with States and MPOs in the selection of State and MPO safety performance targets. MPOs will integrate transit agency performance targets and performance plans into their planning documents, including the TIP, by certain dates set in the FTA/FHWA planning rules. States will incorporate transit agency safety performance targets into their STIP. The safety performance targets will help States and MPOs to develop their investment priorities for

upcoming transit projects within their jurisdictions for at least the upcoming four years. States, MPOs and transit agencies should coordinate with each other throughout this planning process.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion; Mike Baden made a motion; Vernon Benjamin second.

Mr. Slack provided a brief overview of the resolution and explained that the MPO needs to endorse the targets set forth by UCAT.

No further discussion. All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried

**UCTC Resolution 2019-21: Distribution of the FFY 2019 Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 Small Urbanized Area Apportionments Attributable to the Kingston**

**Urbanized Area.** The Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities program (49 U.S.C. 5339) makes Federal resources available to States and designated recipients to replace, rehabilitate and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities including technological changes or innovations to modify low or no emission vehicles or facilities. Funding is provided through formula allocations and competitive grants. A sub-program provides competitive grants for bus and bus facility projects that support low and zero-emission vehicles.

Draft Resolution 2019-21 seeks approval of the apportionment of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339 formula funds to the designated recipient in Ulster County -- Ulster County Area Transit. For FFY 2019, \$340,649.91 is available.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion; Ed Pine made a motion; Mike Baden second.

Mr. Slack explained the source of the funds and the need for a resolution to distribute the funds to UCAT. The funding amount is comparable to prior year apportionments but there is only one provider this year as Kingston Citibus no longer exists.

Toni Roser provided some details regarding the use of funds for bus purchases.

No further discussion. All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried

**OTHER/OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Doyle asked Staff to provide an overview of the Upcoming Unified Planning Work Program.

Mr. Staas provided a brief description of the possibility of an intersection study at I-87 Exit 20 SB in Saugerties to address safety concerns identified in prior Road Safety Assessment work.

Ed Pine Suggested the relocation of the exit.

Mr Doyle responded that a substantial amount has been invested in the cashless tolling infrastructure at the current location. The option was suggested in meetings with the Town of Saugerties, NYSDOT, and the NYSTA.

The Town of Ulster has previously discussed the need for a corridor study along Route 9W between Albany Ave and Route 199.

Mobility Management and Rail Crossing safety studies are also being considered.

A draft UPWP will be made available for the January Technical Committee meeting.

Staff continue to work on the City of Kingston Intersection Signal Warrant Study, a bus storage facility project, the Walkill Valley Rail Trail opportunities project, Congestion Management Plan, Ulster and Delaware Corridor project, Countywide Safety Action Plan, and the Kingston and Ellenville/Wawarsing Wayfinding projects.

No further discussion.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:45**