

ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Technical Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary
January 29, 2019
Rondout Municipal Center, Cottekill, NY

Members Present:

Alan Adin	City of Kingston
Kristen Wilson	City of Kingston
Karen Winkle-Gorsline	Town of Esopus
Al Lanzetta	Town of Marlborough
Neil Bettez	Town of New Paltz
Mike Baden	Town of Rochester
Vernon Benjamin	Town of Saugerties
James Quigley	Town of Ulster
Sajaa Amed	UCAT
Ed Pine	Ulster County DPW
Don Quesnell	Ulster County DPW
Herb Litts	Ulster County Legislature
Dania Anziani	NYS Dept of Transportation
Nicole Farmer	NYS Dept of Transportation
Sandra Jobson	NYS Dept of Transportation
Amy Mackenzie	NYS Dept of Transportation

Staff:

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Technical Committee meeting was called to order by Mr. Doyle at 10:00am. Roll call was conducted by Mr. Slack.

CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizen comments received.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 27, 2018 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 11/27/18 meeting of the UCTC Technical Committee. Motion made by Neil Bettez; second by Ed Pine.

No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

No communications or announcements at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Draft UCTC Resolution 2019-01: Approval of the SFY 2019/20 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The Draft UCTC State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019/20 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is available for review. Staff will present the draft program and request input and comment. The draft 2019/20 UPWP continues work commenced during previous UPWP cycles, revises several projects included on the previous program, and adds 6 new projects for future programming and development.

The draft 2019/20 program as written comprises an FHWA budget of \$1,158,298 and an FTA program budget of \$58,226. This program provides an FHWA un-programmed balance (savings) of \$91,296 and an FTA un-programmed balance of \$51,324.

UCTC staff recommends reducing the draft FHWA program by approximately \$250,000 in order to increase the un-programmed balance to approximately \$350,000; therefore, the Technical Committee will be asked to provide input on final project inclusion and budget revision. It is not anticipated that the FTA program as written will require further revision. After appropriate revisions are made, staff recommends that the Draft UCTC 2019/20 UPWP be approved by the Technical Committee and made available for 15 day public review and comment period prior to UCTC Policy Committee review.

Mr. Slack first gave an overview of projects from the UPWP completed in the prior year. Projects anticipated in the 2019/2020 program include:

- Kingston Signal warrant analysis
- TMA Congestion Management Plan
- Walkill Valley Rail Trail Opportunity Plan
- Ellenville Wayfinding Plan
- Countywide Road Safety Plan
- Marlboro Hamlet Strategic Engagement Process

New projects include:

- Trail Intersection Safety Study
- Kingston Parking Management program
- Ulster and Delaware Corridor revitalization study
- Additional funds for the Long Range Transportation Plan

Projects that will not be pursued in 2019/2020 include:

- New Paltz Connector Proposal
- Ulster County DPW signage inventory
- New Paltz Bike/Ped Plan

Further refinements are being made to the final figures in the document but substantial changes are not anticipated.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Al Lanzetta; second by Alan Adin.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

Draft Resolution 2019-02: Amendment to the UCTC 2017 – 2021 UCTC Transportation Improvement Program. At the request of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), Ulster County Department of Public Works, and the Town of Woodstock, an amendment to the UCTC 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program is proposed, as a result of awards through the 2018 BridgeNY program. As a result of the 2018 BridgeNY call for projects, on November 13th, 2018, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced \$262 million in awards to repair and replace 165 local bridges and culverts in 95 communities across NYS. Two awards were within Ulster County: Rehabilitation of the bridge carrying County Route 18 over the Shawangunk Kill Creek, Town of Shawangunk (Ulster County DPW); and Replacement of the bridge carrying Mink Hollow Road over Beaver Kill, Town of Woodstock (Town of Woodstock). Additional project details are shown in Attachment 1 of Resolution 2019-02.

In accordance with UCTC Operating Procedures, amendments to the TIP require 15 day public notice and comment period prior to Policy Committee approval.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Kristen Wilson; second by Ed Pine.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

UCTC 2020 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update. The TIP is routinely updated every 2-3 years in order to bring the program in-line with updated fiscal planning targets. UCTC has been tasked by NYSDOT Region 8 to review its local highway program based on compliance with fiscal constraint. The local portion of the regional TIP must be constrained in order for the statewide “roll-up” of the STIP to meet federal fiscal constraint requirements. A Subcommittee to the UCTC Technical Committee has been formed and completed its initial review of existing projects and provided UCTC staff with recommendations for revisions. UCTC staff will provide the Technical Committee with an update of progress to date.

Mr. Slack explained that funding amounts were reduced over prior years. As a result, several projects are proposed to be dropped in order to meet the financial targets. Following the project removals, the remaining core projects leave the TIP overprogrammed in STP-flex and STP-off system funding. The majority of the remaining projects are in design or are in progress.

Sandra Jobson expressed concerns over the need to obligate projects in the year in which they are programmed. Roll in funds from unobligated phases can no longer be relied upon and may be recouped if they are not advanced. Additionally, there were concerns over the bubble of funding in 2021.

Mr. Doyle explained that this bubble can be attributed to a single project: County Route 7/8 shoulder paving. This project has received strong support and demand from the public and the County is reluctant to delay or remove the project.

Sandra Jobson encouraged the council to make sure that the project was scheduled appropriately and consider moving it to 2021.

Mr. Doyle further stated that the funding amounts will likely need to be increased and that right of way presents a scheduling difficulty as there are over 60 properties that are impacted. The County would consider utilizing local funds as an overmatch to meet the funding shortfalls.

Supervisor Bettez suggested that consideration should be given to phasing the project to make it more feasible given the financial constraints.

Mr. Doyle noted that due to the amount of right of way required for the project does not lend itself to phasing at this point in the project.

Mr. Slack commented that the funding targets from NYSDOT have been uncertain and changed throughout the TIP update process.

Sandra Jobson indicated that the region is waiting for the final allocation amount to come down from the main office.

Discussions continued into specific projects to determine funding needs and mechanics.

Supervisor Quigley request that the transportation council should come to the Town Supervisor Association meeting to provide insights as to what resources are available local municipalities with local owned bridges.

Mr. Doyle discussed the importance of advancing in progress projects and ensuring that funding is available to complete the project.

No further discussion.

Other/Old Business

- Connect Mid Hudson Transit Plan
 - Market analysis is complete and was circulated to members
- Congestion Management Process
 - CMP document will be bought before the council at future meetings
- FFY18 Obligation Report
 - The obligation report has been completed and will be published on the UCTC website.
- Seremma Court crash analysis
 - Mr. Staas examined the Seremma Court intersection and noted a decline in crashes following the stop sign installation. There was a brief uptick in crashes after the initial installation. There have been no crashes at the location in 2018 through September.

- Transpiration Alternatives Program
 - No announcements have been made

No further discussion.

MEETING ADJOURNED at approximately 11:15 am.
-DS