

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
Technical Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Summary**

May 1, 2018

Rondout Municipal Center, Cottekill, NY

Members Present:

Alan Adin	City of Kingston
Megan Stone	City of Kingston
Ralph Swenson	City of Kingston
Kristen Wilson	City of Kingston
Shannon Harris	Town of Esopus
Mike Cafaldo	Town of Esopus
Marybeth Majestic	Town of Gardiner
John Dittus	Town of Hurley
Don Laferd	Town of Marbletown
Neil Bettez	Town of New Paltz
Vernon Benjamin	Town of Saugerties
Joel Brink	Town of Ulster
Tim Rogers	Village of New Paltz
Andrew Emrich	Ulster County DPW
Ed Pine	Ulster County DPW
Bob Sudlow	Ulster County Executive Office
Kathy Nolan	Ulster County Legislature
Diane Beitel	Ulster County Traffic Safety Board
Don Quesnell	UCAT
Nicole Farmer	NYS Dept. of Transportation
Amy Mackenzie	NYS Dept. of Transportation
Lizy Philip	NYS Thruway Authority
Mark Boungeard	Adirondack Trailways
Barry Hecht	Adirondack Trailways
Fred Mastroianni	GPI
Anthony Mignone	RCAL
Nick Mercurio	Public

Staff:

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

**CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Nick Mercurio provided comments expressing concerns over the number of bicycle and pedestrian crashes in New York State and in Ulster County. Mr. Mercurio urged Ulster County to support 3-foot safe passing legislation that is in the State Legislature.

No further comments.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 31, 2018 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 1/31/18 meeting of the UCTC Technical Committee. Motion made by Joel Brink; second by John Dittus.

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

#### **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Slack noted that the TMA members have submitted comments on the draft report of the Mid-Hudson TMA 2017 FHWA/FTA Certification Review. The Certification Review document is not being circulated at the request of FHWA/FTA review members as the document is still in draft form. Once the comments are received the report will be submitted to members for review.

Mr. Doyle further explained that one of the corrective actions related to the Congestion Management Process (CMP) and noted that the TMA has already addressed the issue by developing a workplan and continues to enact the work plan as part of the CMP update.

Mr. Slack circulated correspondence from NYSAMPO regarding the Performance Management Agreement Notice which will be discussed further in the agenda.

Mr. Slack Provided an overview of the new USDOT BUILD Transportation Program which is a replacement for the TIGER grant program.

Kristen Wilson explained her experiences with the TIGER application process. The application is challenging, requires a cost benefit analysis, and requires a large project minimum. Rural areas accounted for 60% of the previous awards.

Traffic Counts will be performed by UCTC. Members are encouraged to let staff know if there are any counts needed. Vehicle classification, speed and volume counts are available to be performed in addition to the standard count rotation as part of the program.

No further communications or announcements.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Draft UCTC Resolution 2018-05: Amendment to the UCTC Federal Year (FFY) 2017 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add New NYSDOT PIN 893294: Route 209/Catskill Branch RR Crossing Surface Replacement as Shown in Attachment 1.** At the request of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), an amendment to the UCTC 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is proposed in order to program a new project on the UCTC TIP. NYSDOT PIN 8932.94 programs \$0.180m in Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program Rail funds for the purpose of replacement of surface materials at the Catskill Branch Railroad crossing on US 209 in the

Town of Ulster. The project seeks to leverage timing of the pending closure and detour associated with the replacement of the nearby Route 209 bridge and will coordinate project construction timelines, thereby diminishing inconvenience to the travelling public. UCTC TIP Modification and Amendment Procedures stipulate that any new project or project phase to be added to the TIP requires Technical Committee Approval, 15 day public comment period, and Policy Committee approval prior to adoption. In an effort to expedite the referenced project to meet critical project deadlines, UCTC initiated public comment on April 19<sup>th</sup> with a deadline of May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Ed Pine second by John Dittus.

This project takes advantage of the closure of Route 209 for bridge work rather than having a separate closure. The council is asked to consider the resolution bearing in mind that the public comment period is ongoing.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**Draft UCTC Resolution 2018-06: Apportionment of Unallocated Federal Fiscal Year 2014 and 2015**

**Federal Transit Administration Section 5307/5340 Capital Funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley**

**Transportation Management Area.** In November of 2017, UCTC in conjunction with Dutchess County Transportation Council and Orange County Transportation Council, in their cooperative functions representing the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area, issued a call for projects for unallocated Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 funds. Three applications were received and reviewed by the MPOs with input and oversight from NYSDOT Region 8 Transit staff. The TMA selected one project for full funding, one project for partial funding, and one project for funding contingent on further study. In addition, discretionary funding was made available to public transit providers within each county for regional transit innovation or planning projects of their choice. Award details and project descriptions are provided in Attachment 1 of Draft Resolution 2018-06, which authorizes distribution of the awards to the respective applicants.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by John Dittus second by Vernon Benjamin.

Mr. Slack provided an overview of the funding source, need to program projects, call process, and application review associated with the resolution.

UCAT submitted an application for bus storage facilities pending further study.

Adirondack Trailways submitted an application to enlarge the existing maintenance facility in Kingston.

DC Transit submitted an application for additional facilities and service. The capital component of this application was awarded.

Additionally, an innovative transit project fund was established for future use to encouraged transit development.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**Draft Resolution 2018-07: Amendment to the 2018 UCTC Unified Planning Work Program.**

UPWP Project 44.23.02-03: Route 9W Corridor Study commenced in March 2017 with

anticipated date of project completion March 31, 2018. The project was on schedule through January 2018 and staff anticipated full completion prior to the close of the State Fiscal Year. As such, the project was not included in the 2018 UPWP. Additional project needs were later identified after detailed review of the draft plan. UCTC staff in consultation with NYSDOT staff and the Technical Advisory Committee determined that additional, minor tasks would be preferred in order to successfully close the project. Project consultants BFJ Planning were asked to provide a scope of work for additional tasks to include:

1. Preparation of 7 examples of streetscape improvements and driveway consolidations to raise awareness of access management
2. Attendance at an additional meeting
3. Preparation of Rte 9W conceptual drawings to show the proposed lane reconfiguration of the study area
4. Undertake capacity and Level of Service analysis for 3 segments on the study area to determine potential impacts of any lane configuration.

The cost proposal submitted by BFJ to perform these additional tasks was \$10,885. UCTC therefore requests an amendment to the 2018/19 UPWP to re-program project 44.23.02-03: Route 9W Corridor Study to the 2018 UPWP and transfer the necessary funds from the unprogrammed balance as shown in Attachment 1 of Resolution 2018-07. Amendment to the UPWP adding a new project requires approval by the Technical Committee, 15 day public comment and review period, followed by UCTC Policy Committee approval.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Shannon Harris second by John Dittus.

Mr. Slack explained that work was anticipated to be completed for the Route 9W corridor study and therefore there was no need to continue programming the project on the UPWP. Additional work is required and requires a resolution to add the project back to the UPWP to fund the work.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**Draft Resolution 2018-08: Performance Management Agreement between the Ulster County Transportation Council, New York State Department of Transportation, and Ulster County Area Transit and Kingston Citibus.**

Draft Resolution 2018-08 seeks to address the planning requirements identified in the final rule on metropolitan and statewide planning published in the Federal Register on May 27, 2016. This final rule addresses changes to the metropolitan planning process stemming from Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21) and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST) including Performance Based Planning and Programming. It provides that States, MPOs, and providers of public transportation must jointly agree upon and develop specific written provisions for cooperatively developing and sharing information related to transportation performance data, the selection of performance targets, the reporting of performance targets, the reporting of performance to be used in tracking progress toward attainment of critical outcomes for the region of the MPO, and the collection of data for the State asset management plan for the National Highway System (NHS). The Chair of the MPO, NYSDOT, and both public transit providers must be signatories to this resolution.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Joel Brink second by Kristen Wilson.

Mr. Slack explained that performance based planning is increasing in interest. This resolution aims to ensure that information is shared between relevant parties and allows for data to be used from agencies in establishing performance measures.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**Draft Resolution 2018-09: Amendment to the UCTC Federal Fiscal Year 2017 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program Document Narrative to Address Safety Performance Targets as Shown in Attachment 1.**

Draft Resolution 2018-09 seeks to address the planning requirements identified in the final rule on metropolitan and statewide planning published in the Federal Register on May 27, 2016. This final rule addresses changes to the metropolitan planning process stemming from Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21) and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST) including Performance Based Planning and Programming. The final rule provides that updates and amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program completed after May 27, 2018 must be compliant with the updated metropolitan and statewide planning rule addressing FHWA safety performance measures and targets. This resolution seeks to address that provision by amending the UCTC TIP to include language that addresses Safety Performance Targets as shown in Attachment 1.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Joel Brink second by Ralph Swenson.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**OTHER/OLD BUSINESS**

**NYSDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Call for Local Projects.** The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is pleased to progress the local call for pedestrian safety projects included in the Statewide Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) that was announced in June of 2016. The local call for pedestrian safety projects includes \$40,000,000 in federal Highway Safety Improvement Program funds for systemic pedestrian safety projects on local and county urban roads and streets. NYSDOT has distributed funds using a fair share distribution in the region with the award in Ulster county at approximately \$0.530m. The City of Kingston was the sole application with an application of roughly \$0.714m. From that application \$0.530m in eligible components will be awarded.

NYSDOT has also identified and will be implementing improvement on state owned facilities.

**No further discussion.**

**UCTC 2017 Transportation Improvement Program – Block Program Bridge and Paving PINs.** The 2017 – 2021 TIP included two new “block program” PINs utilizing surplus allocations of STP FLEX and STBG Off-System Bridge funds. Funds in FFYs 17 & 18 were distributed last year. UCTC will be performing a call for projects for the remaining funds. Currently UCTC staff is awaiting the award of BRIDGE NY funds as the funds are 95% Federal through BRIDGE NY vs 80% through the UCTC block program.

Mr. Doyle briefly explained the eligibility criteria and encouraged members to apply.

Marybeth Majestic noted her interest in the funds and that funding request have increased as they have gone through.

**No further discussion.**

Mr. Doyle and the Council recognized the service provided by Ralph Swenson to the City of Kingston and the Ulster County Transportation Council in light of his recent retirement announcement.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Vernon Benjamin second by Shannon Harris.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at approximately 11:10 am

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