

ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Policy Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary

March 16, 2017

Rondout Municipal Center, Cottekill, NY

Members Present:

Alan Adin	City of Kingston
Ralph Swenson	City of Kingston
Kristen Wilson	City of Kingston
Mike Warren	Town of Marbletown/Supervisors Association
Tom Wilkin	Town of Plattekill
Jeanne Walsh	Town of Rosendale
Carol Hargrove	UCAT
Don Quesnell	UCAT
Ed Pine	Ulster County DPW
Andrew Emrich	Ulster County DPW
Herb Litts	Ulster County Legislature/Town of Lloyd
Diane Beitel	Ulster County Traffic Safety Board
Tom Weiner	NYS Dept of Transportation
Lizy Philip	NYS Thruway Authority
Anne Noonan	Adirondack Trailways

Staff:

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Policy Committee meeting was called to order by Mr. Doyle at 1:00pm. Roll call was conducted by Mr. Doyle.

CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizen comments received.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 13, 2017 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 12/13/17 meeting of the UCTC Policy Committee. Tom Wilkin made a motion to approve the minutes; second by Jeanne Walsh.

No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed; Herb Litts Abstained- Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Slack submitted an article from the AASHTO Journal titled Senate Votes to Repeal FHWA/FTA Rule on Reshaping MPOs. The chairmen on the TMA MPOs submitted letters in opposition to the rule as did NYSDOT.

Additionally, Mr. Slack provided correspondence from NYSDOT regarding the final rule on Transit Asset Management for designated recipients. Under the new FTA rule, designated recipients are required to have an asset management plan in place. Once in place the MPO must pass a resolution recognizing the plan and the measures. UCTC has been working with UCAT on the plan.

No further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2017-01: Approval of the SFY 2017/18 Unified Planning Work Program

(UPWP). The Draft UCTC State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2017/18 UPWP has been completed. Staff presented the draft program to the Technical Committee at its meeting on 2/14; the Technical Committee recommended forwarding the draft to the Policy Committee for approval. The draft 2017/18 UPWP continues work commenced during previous UPWP cycles and adds 2 new projects for future programming and development. A third new project was added to the program after re-evaluation. A full summary of edits to the first draft as well as public comments received under 15 day public review and comment period is provided in the Agenda Supplement.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Ralph Swenson.

Mr. Slack provided a brief overview of the program. A signage and wayfinding study in the Town of Wawarsing was added to the program after the previous meeting of the UCTC Technical Committee when the program was presented.

As part of the 15 day public notice period, two public comments were received and were included in the agenda supplement. One of the comments was from the Village of New Paltz requesting that the funding amount for the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail Streetscape and Gateway Enhancements study be increased to the original amount after funding had been decreased in the development of the program. Council staff felt that the amount programmed is appropriate for the scope of work.

Additional changes were made to reflect comments received from NYSDOT.

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

Resolution 2017-02: Ulster County Transportation Council Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan ("Coordinated Plan")

The Technical Advisory Committee formed for the development of the Coordinated Plan has completed its work and

submits the Final Coordinated Plan to the Technical Committee for review. The primary purpose of a Coordinated Plan is to identify the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes, provide strategies for meeting these needs, and prioritize transportation services for funding and implementation. In addition, the current federal transportation authorization act - Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act - requires UCTC to prepare a Coordinated Plan as a condition of applying for and receiving Federal funds under the Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) program. The Coordinated Plan is therefore intended to act as a blueprint for implementing a range of strategies to improve transportation services in Ulster County. UCTC staff will provide members with an overview of project recommendations and next steps. Draft Resolution 2017-02 formally adopts the plan by UCTC. The full draft plan can be viewed on the UCTC website.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Herb Litts.

Mr. Slack explained the process undertaken in developing the plan.

Mr. Doyle thanked the human service providers and other participants for their aid through the process.

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

Resolution 2017-03: Amendment to the UCTC 2017 – 2021 UCTC Transportation Improvement Program.

At the request of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and Town of Shandaken, an amendment to the UCTC 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program is proposed, as a result of an award through the BridgeNY program. On January 18th, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced \$21.8 million in funding to rehabilitate and replace 17 bridges and culverts across the Mid-Hudson Region. The funding, provided through Round One of the Governor's BRIDGE NY initiative, is part of a \$21.1 billion multi-year capital plan to upgrade critical roads, bridges, and other vital transportation infrastructure across New York State. \$855,000 has been awarded to the town of Shandaken for Peck Hollow Road over Peck Hollow Stream. In accordance with UCTC Operating Procedures, this TIP amendment received 15 day public notice and opportunity for comment; no comments were received.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Jeanne Walsh.

Tom Weiner explained that this was part of a competitive BRIDGE NY program, providing funding for bridges off of the National Highway System (NHS). This was the only award in the Ulster County. The goal is to have the project completed in 3 years

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

Resolution 2017-04: UCTC Title VI (Civil Rights) Plan: Resolution 2017-04 establishes an official Title VI Plan which recognizes UCTC's commitment to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, its metropolitan transportation planning process on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or economic status, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations. The Plan sets forth an official policy of UCTC compliance with Title VI and the process by which members of the public may submit complaints if they feel they have been discriminated against by the UCTC.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Kristen Wilson.

Mr. Doyle explained that if a complaint is filed, it first comes to council staff. If the issue is not resolved, it is then escalated to the chairman who is then charged to appointing a committee to review the claim and make a decision.

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

Resolution 2017-05: Distribution of the FFY 2016 Federal Transit Administration Section 5307/5340 Urbanized Area Apportionments Attributable to the Kingston Urbanized Area.

This resolution seeks approval for the apportionment of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 formula funds to the two designated recipients (DRs) in Ulster County: City of Kingston (Kingston Citibus) and Ulster County (Ulster County Area Transit). \$937,151 is available to DRs in the Kingston Urbanized Area in FFY2016.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Kristen Wilson; second by Tom Wilkin.

Mr. Doyle provided an overview of the process of distributing the urbanized area apportionment and stated that the City of Kingston and Ulster County reached an agreement distributing the funds utilizing a 50/50 split.

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

Resolution 2017-06: Distribution of the FFY 2015 and FFY 2016 Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 Small Urbanized Area Apportionments Attributable to the Kingston Urbanized Area.

This resolution seeks approval for the apportionment of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015 and FFY 2016 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339 formula funds to the two designated recipients in Ulster County: City of Kingston (Kingston Citibus) and Ulster County (Ulster County Area Transit). A combined total of \$360,698.34 is available to DRs in the Kingston Urbanized Area. A portion of those funds was previously released in 2016 and split under UCTC Resolution 2016-13.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Kristen Wilson; second by Herb Litts.

Mr. Doyle explained that since 5339 funds are limited to capital projects, and there are no capital needs for the Kingston Citibus system at this time, funds are being allocated to UCAT. The funds previously allocated to Citibus through Resolution 2016-13 were used to purchase a response vehicle.

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

FFY 2016 Annual Obligation Report: Federal regulations require an annual listing of transportation projects, including pedestrian and bicycle facilities, which Federal transportation funds have been obligated in the preceding year; 2016 report will be available for review

Mr. Staas explained that the rate of funding obligate to programmed amount was 79%.

Mr. Doyle asked how the multi-county projects are reported.

Tom Weiner responded that multi-county projects are reported in Mid-Hudson South and their obligation report.

Mr. Doyle continued to stress the importance of advancing projects that are programmed as not advancing currently programmed projects makes it difficult to make the case for additional funding.

Mr. Doyle thanked NYSDOT for the efforts of the local projects unit and credited them with helping to advance projects.

Tom Weiner commented that federal officials monitor the obligation of funds and utilize it as a performance metric. NYSDOT has made it a priority to establish accurate cost estimates and ensure that project sponsors are informed while undertaking projects.

No further discussion.

OTHER/OLD BUSINESS

- 2016 NYSDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Solicitation.
 - An award announcement is expected soon.

- Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area Regional Transit Plan
 - Efforts continue to begin a regional transit study. UCTC has programmed \$42,000 in funds for the study as part of the UPWP. The project will be hosted by OCTC.

- Block Program Bridge and Paving PINs.
 - The City of Kingston and Ulster County have been awarded funds as part of the UCTC solicitation for projects. Currently work is being undertaken with the local projects unit to program the funds.

Mr. Slack announced that UCTC has processed twelve TIP amendments this year. A listing of TIP amendments is available on the UCTC website. Not all changes to the TIP require Policy Committee approval and can be completed administratively.

No further discussion.

MEETING ADJOURNED at approximately 2:00 pm.

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