

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
Technical Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Summary**

February 14, 2017

Rondout Municipal Center, Cottekill, NY

Members Present:

Alan Adin	City of Kingston
Ralph Swenson	City of Kingston
Mike Warren	Town of Marbletown
Marybeth Majestic	Town of Gardiner
Neil Bettez	Town of New Paltz
Joel Brink	Town of Ulster
Don Quesnell	Ulster County Area Transit
Ed Pine	Ulster County DPW
Herb Litts	Ulster County Legislature
Diane Bietle	Ulster County Traffic Safety Board
Bob Mannix	NYS Dept of Transportation
Gary Raylinsky	NYS Thruway Authority
Anne Noonan	Adirondack Trailways
Barry Hecht	Adirondack Trailways

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**

No citizen comments were received.

**APPROVAL OF THE April 18, 2017 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 4/18/17 meeting of the UCTC Technical Committee. Motion made by Mike Warren; second by Ed Pine.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Slack noted that long time NYSDOT RPPM and close UCTC colleague Mr. Richard Peters recently passed away after a short illness. Doyle requested a brief moment of silence to honor his memory.

Diane Bietle, UC Safety Officer noted that she has received multiple complaints regarding the Boices Lane/CSX Rail crossing in the Town of Ulster. The complaints indicate that warning lights and gates have been dropping prior to any advance signal change, causing cars to continue to enter the intersection while gates are dropping.

Mr. Doyle responded that a UCTC PIN utilizing HSIP Rail funds was programmed on the TIP as a result of the Boices Lane Rail Safety Study conducted by UCTC around 2013. Mr. Slack noted that a PIN existed to conduct the work but the PIN dropped off of the TIP between the 2014 and 2017 iteration. The project was originally programmed and managed by NYSDOT Central office.

Bob Mannix requested that UCTC staff forward the PIN so that NYSDOT could look it up.

Mr. Doyle noted that it may be appropriate to submit a written request for the project status to NYSDOT.

Mr. Slack circulated other correspondence, including notification regarding FTA 5310 funding, release of the NYS Strategic Highway Safety Plan, as well as an update pertaining to the Volkswagen Settlement: NYS seeking ideas for environmental mitigation projects. Mr. Slack circulated a draft response letter and asked for final comment from members by Sept. 1.

Finally, Mr. Slack circulated an updated UCTC Policy Committee Roll Call Roster for the 2017 – 2019 membership period and asked members to review and provide updates as needed.

No further communications or announcements.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Draft UCTC Resolution 2017-11: Amendment to the UCTC Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add New NYSDOT PIN 881282.**

New York State Department of Transportation has requested that UCTC add a new project to the 2017 Transportation Improvement Program. The project programs bridge maintenance work on three bridges carrying UC 209 in the Town of Ulster – US 209 over Esopus Creek (BIN 1040790); US 209 over INT87 (BIN 1040802) and US 209 over Esopus Creek (BIN 1040811). This PIN was transferred from the STIP Multi-County Project Listing and therefore constitutes a new project on the UCTC TIP. Several additional changes to fund source and cost were also made. Under UCTC Operating Procedures new projects must be recommended by the UCTC Technical Committee and are subject to 15 day public review and comment period prior to final consideration by the UCTC Policy Committee.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Joel Brink; second by Mike Warren.

Mr. Slack introduced the resolution and provided a brief description of the project and the need for an amendment to the TIP. An ad has been submitted to Ulster Publishing with a comment period deadline of September 15.

**No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**  
Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**Addition to the UCTC Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add New UCAT and Citibus State of Good Repair Transit PINs for Illustrative Purposes**

On July 19th, 2017, the New York State Department of Transportation notified Ulster County and the City of Kingston of awards of \$1,551,311 and \$411,918, respectively, under Governor Cuomo's Public Transportation Modernization and Enhancement Program. The awards were issued as part of a statewide \$124 million program. The Program authorized pursuant to the five-year State Transportation Plan, provides 100% State capital funding to upgrade and enhance public transportation services in Ulster County and the City of Kingston. The funding can be used to support the purchase of new clean-fueled buses; deployment of new technologies and passenger amenities, including WiFi; automated fare collection; traveler information systems; and investments in facilities and equipment to maintain and enhance system safety.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Joel Brink; second by Mike Warren.

Mr. Doyle asked Donald Quesnell, UCAT Assistant Director, to briefly summarize UCAT's planned use of the funds. Mr. Quesnell noted several capital improvements to the UCAT system. Mr. Doyle requested City of Kingston officials present to please provide details as to how the funds are being considered for use.

Doyle noted that this TIP action is for illustrative purposes only. The creation of individual PINs is necessary to allow NYSDOT transit staff to administer the funds and improve transparency. The awards are 100% State funds and do not include Federal allocations and are therefore not subject to UCTC TIP Amendment Procedures.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**Draft Resolution 2017-12: Support New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Targets for Safety Performance Measures.** Safety Performance Management (Safety PM) is part of the overall Transportation Performance Management (TPM) program, which FHWA defines as a strategic approach that uses system information to make investment and policy decision to achieve national performance goals. The Safety PM Final Rule supports the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), as it establishes safety performance measure requirements for the purpose of carrying out the HSIP and to assess fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.

The Safety PM Final Rule establishes five performance measures as the five-year rolling averages to include:

1. Number of Fatalities
2. Rate of Fatalities per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
3. Number of Serious Injuries
4. Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT
5. Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Non-motorized Serious Injuries

The Safety PM Final Rule also establishes the process for State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to establish and report their safety targets, and the process that FHWA will use to assess whether State DOTs have met or made significant progress toward

meeting their safety targets. NYSDOT has closely coordinated the establishment of safety targets with the 14 MPOs in NYS through the NYS Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations. Through that process, NYSDOT has requested all MPOs to adopt the NYSDOT targets in an effort to establish uniformity during the initial reporting period.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Joel Brink; second by Mike Warren.

Mr. Slack reviewed the general requirements of the Safety performance measure and statistics for New York State and Ulster County. Compared against the trends seen across the state, the crash rates seen in Ulster County are lower with the exception of non-motorized targets where Ulster County is slightly elevated.

Mike Warren observed that the non-motorized crashes do not use a rate calculation and therefore would expect to be elevated in the Hudson Valley where a higher rate of cycling is observed.

Mr. Doyle further observed that an increase in cyclists may not lead to an increase in crashes as increased VMT could also cause additional crashes.

Mr. Doyle referenced projects undertaken by UCTC to improve safety such as road safety assessments, corridor studies, and crash rate analysis.

Discussion continued relating to the statistics.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

## **OTHER/OLD BUSINESS**

- Transit Allocation 5307/5339

Draft allocation amounts have been devolved. There is a substantial decrease in the allocation amount as NTD numbers from Coach USA were disallowed due to improper reporting. Additional revisions will occur once NY and NJ reach an agreement.

Barry Hecht further explained that the reporting error occurred as statistics were reported to NJ as they were previously headquartered in NJ while most of the service occurs in NY. NJ Transit was unable to explain the statistics during an audit and were therefore disallowed.

UCTC staff has encouraged the statistics to be reported through NYSDOT.

A call for projects will be issued for unallocated TMA funds.

- Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area Regional Transit Plan RFP will be issued shortly.
- 2 Year Voting Member Turnover June 4, 2017
- BridgeNY SFYs 2018 and 2019 with a minimum of \$250 million to be available

- PaveNY

Bob Mannix indicated that BridgeNY and PaveNY will be announced with pending dates

- 2017 TAP Solicitation – fall 2017
- Release of remaining UCTC pavement and bridge funds – early winter 2017
- Unified Planning Work Program Call for Projects.

**No further discussion.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at approximately 11:40 am

-DS