

**TO: Ulster County Highest Elected Officials**  
**FROM: Dennis Doyle, Director, Ulster County Transportation Council**  
**DATE : March 6, 2025**  
**RE: UCTC 2026 TIP Update – Expression of Interest for Federal Transportation Aid**

The Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC) is conducting an update of the Transportation Improvement Program/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (TIP/STIP) covering federal fiscal years 2026-2030. UCTC has evaluated the funding needs of existing projects already on the UCTC TIP and allocated additional federal funds as needed using current fiscal funding targets.

UCTC is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) letters from Ulster County municipalities regarding how best to utilize the remaining federal transportation funds. The following funding amounts for federal fiscal years 2026-2030 are estimated to be available for future programming:

Federal Fund Source	Estimated Available to UCTC
STBG Flex <sup>i</sup>	\$1.219m
STBG Off System Bridge <sup>ii</sup>	\$12.507m
Carbon Reduction Funds – Medium Urban <sup>iii</sup>	\$0.956m (+ \$0.445m suballocation)
Carbon Reduction Funds – Large Urban <sup>iv</sup>	\$0.789m
Highway Safety Improvement Program <sup>v</sup>	\$0.373m

**Funding Objectives.** Projects addressing a proven safety need/benefit will receive the highest priority. UCTC will evaluate all projects based on their ability to meet one or more of the following additional objectives: transportation connectivity; transportation resilience; and system preservation. Applicants should describe how their project proposals will meet these funding objectives.

Funding for STBG Off-System Bridge projects will be evaluated using NYSDOT Bridge New York parameters. Culverts are **not** eligible.

**Eligibility.** Funds may be programmed for new projects or to those already programmed on the UCTC TIP based on federal program eligibility. New projects to be administered by a municipality, if selected, must conform to all federal eligibility rules as referenced. Projects proposed on the state or county system by local municipalities must have statement of support from the NYSDOT Regional Director or Ulster County Commissioner of Public Works, as applicable. A local match of between 5 and 20% may be required depending on the fund source. Some restrictions apply to Medium Urban funds which cannot be used outside of the Kingston Urbanized Area (see Figure 2 in the 2025 Unified Planning Work Program for map of Kingston Medium Urban Area).<sup>vi</sup>

**How to Apply.** Interested municipalities should submit a brief Expression of Interest (EOI) letter regarding the potential project(s). Letters should be on municipal letterhead with signature from Highest Elected Official; no resolution is required at this time. Funds may be combined across programs. Federal funding requested must not exceed dollars available; total funds requested should be sufficient to complete the proposed project; a minimum

20% local match will be required. In addition to describing how the project will meet the funding objectives (see above), EOI letters should include the following: i) description of the project; ii) location; iii) need; iv) ownership including any right of way needed; v) status of any plans engineering design, etc.; vi) federal funds source and amount requested and source of project estimate; viii) project schedule; and ix) relationship, if any, to other community projects or plans. Funding should conform to all applicable rules regarding the specific program, which are cited below for reference. Off System Bridge project proposals must include a Bridge Identification Number.

The UCTC Technical Committee will evaluate expressions of interest and determine eligibility and next steps. If funds are provided, UCTC will assist municipalities to develop a project proposal and state and local agreement with NYSDOT. Federal transportation funds are “first instance” funds and therefore available for reimbursement only after the municipality has met all necessary requirements for federal aid.<sup>vii</sup>

Questions and EOIs may be submitted to Brian Slack, Principal Transportation Planner [bsla@co.ulster.ny.us](mailto:bsla@co.ulster.ny.us) or by mail to the address shown below in the footer, ATTN: Brian Slack, UCTC.

**Deadline for submission is applications is March 28, 2025.**

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*The Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC) is the state designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Ulster County and a portion of the Poughkeepsie-Newburgh Urbanized Area. The UCTC was designated by the Governor of New York as the MPO for the Kingston Urbanized Planning Area on April 30, 2003. The UCTC was formally organized with the adoption of Operating Procedures on June 4, 2003. The purpose of the UCTC is to build a consensus on local and regionally significant transportation, transit and non-motorized improvements.*

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<sup>i</sup> STBG Flex Program. <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure-investment-and-jobs-act/stbg.cfm>

<sup>ii</sup> Off-System bridges

<https://ulstercountyny.gov/sites/default/files/documents/planning/Ulster%20County%20Off%20System%20Bridges.pdf>

<sup>iii</sup> Carbon Reduction Program [https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure-investment-and-jobs-act/crp\\_fact\\_sheet.cfm](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure-investment-and-jobs-act/crp_fact_sheet.cfm)

<sup>iv</sup> Carbon Reduction Program [https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure-investment-and-jobs-act/crp\\_fact\\_sheet.cfm](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure-investment-and-jobs-act/crp_fact_sheet.cfm)

<sup>v</sup> Highway Safety Improvement Program. <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure-investment-and-jobs-act/hsip.cfm>

<sup>vi</sup> Kingston Medium Urban Area shown in pink at <https://uctc.ulstercountyny.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Draft-UCTC-2025-UPWP.pdf#page=9>

vii NYSDOT Local Projects Manual. <https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/operating/opdm/local-programs-bureau/locally-administered-federal-aid-projects>