

**Supporting The Poughkeepsie – Highland Railroad Bridge Project Under The Federal Transportation Equity Act**

The Arts, Education, Tourism and Community Relations Committee (Chairman Zimet and Legislators Bischoff, Cahill, Lomita, Sheeley, Felicello and Harris) and Legislators Aiello, Alfonso, Bartels, Berardi, Busick, Cummings, Dart, Distel, Donaldson, Every, Fabiano, Gerentine, Gregorius, Kraft, Liepmann, Loughran, McAfee, Noonan, R.A. Parete, R.S. Parete, Provenzano, Roberti, Rodriguez, Shapiro, Stoeckeler and Terpening offer the following:

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the citizens of Ulster County to establish a pedestrian rail trail across the Hudson River on the former Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge, and

WHEREAS, such a rail trail would be a positive economic and tourism asset to the Hudson Valley and could eventually link existing and proposed rail trails in both Dutchess and Ulster Counties, and

WHEREAS, the Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge is owned by A Walkway Over the Hudson, a New York State not-for-profit corporation which is actively pursuing the establishment of a pedestrian rail trail across the Hudson River on the former Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge (now referred to as “the Project”), and

WHEREAS, Walkway Over the Hudson has indicated it needs the help of various governmental entities to complete “the Project” pursuant to the Federal Transportation Equity Act, and

WHEREAS, both the Hudson Valley Regional Council and the City of Poughkeepsie have indicated a general desire to act as a municipal sponsor for “the Project,” and

WHEREAS, the Arts, Education, Tourism and Community Relations Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval.

RESOLVED, that Ulster County hereby endorses “the Project” to establish a pedestrian rail trail across the Hudson River on the former Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Ulster County hereby supports either the Hudson Regional Council and/or the City of Poughkeepsie as the municipal sponsor(s) for “the Project” to coordinate the activities and contributions of the various governments and their agencies and those of private individuals and not-for-profit organizations that may wish to participate in “the Project,” and

**Resolution No. 92 March 8, 2006**

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor George E. Pataki, Comptroller Alan Hevesi, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, Senate Minority Leader David A. Paterson, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Paul A. Tokasz, Assembly Minority Leader Charles Nesbitt, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin Cahill, Clifford Crouch, Daniel Hooker and Thomas Kirwan, the New York State Association of Counties, the Ulster County Department of Planning and Development, the City of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, the Town of Lloyd, Hudson Valley Regional Council, Fred Schaeffer, Esq., of Walkway Over the Hudson, Congresswoman Sue Kelly and Congressmen Maurice Hinchey and John E. Sweeney,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 29                      NOES: 0  
(Legislator Liepmann left at 7:30 PM)  
(Absent: Legislators Aiello, Alfonso and  
Gerentine)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:  
NONE

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