

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Policy Committee Meeting**

Meeting Summary

March 14, 2012

SUNY Ulster, Stone Ridge, NY

Members Present:

+ Sue Ronga	Ulster County DPW
** Ralph Swenson	City of Kingston DPW
**Alan Adin	City of Kingston DPW
**Toni Roser	City of Kingston/Kingston Citibus
+ Kelly Myers	Town of Saugerties
†James E. Quigley III	Town of Ulster
** Joel B. Brink	Town of Ulster
** Bill Gorton	NYS Dept. of Transportation
**Richard Peters	NYS Dept. of Transportation
**Patrick McCarroll	NYS Thruway Authority
**Jack Hohman	NYS Thruway Authority
**Kristen Resnikoff	NYS Thruway Authority
** Jill LaFera-Poppel	Town of Rosendale
* Paul Hansut	Town of Lloyd
** Joseph G. Croce	Town of Plattekill
** Mary Sheeley	Village of Ellenville
** Hector Rodriguez	Town of New Paltz
** Liam Kahn	Town of Woodstock

Others Present:

Edward Pine	Ulster County DPW
Robert DiBella	Ulster County Area Transit
Anne Noonan	Adirondack Trailways
Mark Boungeard	Adirondack Trailways
Barry Hecht	Adirondack Trailways
Greg Swanzey	City of Kingston
John Czamanske	Orange County Transp. Council

Staff:

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

+ Permanent Voting Member

*Current Voting Member (until June 4, 2013)

** Voting Proxy for Voting Member

^Non-Voting Advisory Member

Bold text indicates member at the table with voting privileges

CALL TO ORDER

The Policy Committee meeting was called to order by Mr. Doyle at 10:00am. Those in attendance introduced themselves.

CALL FOR CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Mr. Doyle asked if there were any citizen comments. Greg Swanzy of the City of Kingston Director of Economic Development provided comments. His first comment was in reference to the proposed amendments to the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as detailed in Resolution 2012-03 (item C under New Business). He submitted a letter detailing those concerns, specifically pertaining to the I587 @ Albany Ave and Broadway Intersection (PIN 881126) and the Kingston Area Intermodal Center Project (PIN 8TO449). In both instances, the City would prefer that these projects not be deferred any further than is possible or necessary. He further added that the City of Kingston is submitting an application for TIGER Round IV for a \$15million request for multi-modal connectivity within the City.

There were no further public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 19TH 2011 JOINT TECHNICAL/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Mr. Doyle asked for a motion to adopt the meeting summary from the previous Policy portion of the previous meeting; **motion** made by Sue Ronga; **second** by Joel Brink. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Doyle requested with the Council's permission to take some of the resolutions out of order as presented in the agenda. There were no objections raised. Mr. Doyle moved agenda item (C) to the top of the agenda – **Draft Resolution 2012-03: Amendment to the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**. Mr. Doyle asked if there was any discussion and, barring discussion, requested a motion for approval. **Motion** made by Joel Brink; **second** by Mary Sheeley. Ralph Swenson inquired as to whether there would be an opportunity to re-insert projects or project phases to the TIP at this time, specifically the two PINs that Mr. Swanzy raised through his earlier public comments – I587 and Kingston Intermodal. Mr. Doyle noted that I587 has been moved from 2016 back one year, constituting a relatively minor change. Mr. Doyle then explained that the reason the Kingston Intermodal center is being proposed for deletion is because it does not have a sponsor (neither City of Kingston nor County of Ulster) and the location specified in the original feasibility study is no longer available, therefore has been proposed for deletion at this time. UCTC will be required to prepare a new TIP in September of 2012 and the project may be reconsidered at that time. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

The second resolution that Mr. Doyle requested to take out of order was **Draft Resolution 2012-02: Annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**. Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion purposes. **Motion** made by Mary Sheeley; **second** by Hector Rodriguez. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

Mr. Doyle then proceeded to **Draft Resolution 2012-08: Endorsing New York Works statewide accelerated bridge program for inclusion on the Ulster County Transportation Council's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for information purposes**. Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion purposes. **Motion** made by Hector Rodriguez; **second** by Mary Sheeley. Sue Ronga inquired if the DOT was aware of what projects would occur in Ulster County; Richard Peters replied that that information was not available at this time because they are presently the subject of negotiation between the Governor of New York and the New York State Legislature. The projects will not impact the local federal aid program and, once projects are identified, the State will be reimbursed by the Federal government for them. Mr. Doyle noted that, regarding the choices of projects, particularly as applied to the bridge program, that the Wurts Street Bridge in the City of Kingston is in need of repair and should receive priority if at all possible. Mr. Peters noted that it would be outside of the scope of this program but the State has a consultant on-board that is preparing a preservation plan for the bridge. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

Draft DOT Resolution 2012-09: Endorsing New York Works statewide transportation pavement preservation program for inclusion on the Ulster County Transportation Council's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for information purposes. Mr. Doyle noted that the previous Resolution was for the bridge portion and this is the pavement portion of the program. Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion purposes. **Motion** made by Mary Sheeley; **second** by Susan Ronga. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

Mr. Doyle noted that, before the Council moved forward with the remaining resolutions, he would like to provide an overview on 5307 transit funding. John Czamanske from Orange County Transportation Council was present to assist with explanation of the series of transit resolutions as necessary. One source of transit funding is through the Kingston Urbanized Area while the other is through UZA 89 (the three county TMA referred to as the Mid-Hudson TMA). 5307 is earned by all public carriers in the TMA (including the MTA) as well as private commuter carriers, represented primarily by Shortline and Adirondack Trailways. The three MPOs in the TMA have a methodology for splitting available funds. Public carriers are entitled to the funds that they earn and private carriers are entitled to a portion of funds transferred on the basis of their need for capital costs, providing for their preventive maintenance costs for the region, accounting for approximately \$23m for the region. Some of that money goes to designated public carriers (UCAT, Kingston Citibus, MTA, etc.); other remaining funds go to private

carriers on a formula basis, primarily Shortline and Trailways. These transfers are authorized on a regular basis. These transfers are continually tracked to determine how the money is used.

Additionally, a portion of 5307 funds is held back on an annual basis for competitive use eligible to both public and private carriers through application. The following series of Resolutions applies to these various transfers and allocations of 5307 funds. Mr. Czamanske added that the three MPOs create resolutions for those funds annually and, once the Federal government appropriates funds for 2012, there will be additional resolutions therein.

Draft Resolution 2012-01: Transfer of FTA Section 5307 funds to CDTA. Mr. Doyle explained that the funds will be used for commuter routes in Ulster County and for the purchase of 2 buses. CDTA has agreed to manage the funds while NYSDOT has agreed to provide the necessary accounting associated with the transfer and within all necessary State and Federal guidelines. Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion purposes.

Motion made by Hector Rodriguez; **second** by Mary Sheeley. Kelly Myers asked where specifically ADK Trailways would be serving in the county and if additional routes would be added. Mr. Doyle explained that the funds would subsidize existing routes and that no additional routes would be added but it does provide new equipment for existing routes, specifically Kingston to New York City. **No additional discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

Draft Resolution 2012-04: Re-Allocation of Previously Allocated Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Formula Funds – MTA 3 Bridges to Port Jervis line signalization. Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion purposes. **Motion** made by Liam Kahn; **second** by Mary Sheeley. James Quigley asked whether signalization was included as part of the upgrade of the Port Jervis line after Hurricane Irene; Mr. Czamanske noted that the signal upgrade has been a long-standing pre-existing condition in addition to repairs made post-Irene. These signals will allow the line to operate at a higher speed. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

Draft Resolution 2012-05: Re-Allocation of Previously Allocated Federal Transit Administration FFY 2009 Section 5307 Formula Funds. Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion purposes. **Motion** made by Mary Sheeley; **second** by Joseph G. Croce. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

Draft Resolution 2012-06: Allocation of Previously Unallocated Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Formula Funds for Various Transit Projects. Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion purposes. **Motion** made by Mary Sheeley; **second** by Liam Kahn. Mr. Rodriguez asked for a further explanation of how the LINK funds would be used. Mr. Doyle noted the funds will be for a new bus. Mr. Brink noted that the Rt. 32 & 199 park and ride facility in Saugerties is in need of repair. Mr. Doyle noted that that lot will not be included in this resolution but DOT will be looking to address the concerns raised by Mr. Brink through their regular operating funds. Mr. Quigley asked if these funds would increase the TIP. Mr. Doyle noted that this resolution

will in effect add money and projects to the TIP. Miss Myers asked when the projects be implemented. Mr. Doyle noted that negotiations are ongoing with FTA regarding the transfer and other administrative work will need to be performed; however, the work should nonetheless be able to proceed during the 2012 construction season, although all entities involved will have to wait and see how smoothly the transfers go. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

Draft Resolution 2012-07: Request administrative transfer of Section 5307 funding from the Federal Transit Administration to the Federal Highway Administration.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion purposes. **Motion** made by Mr. Rodriguez; **second** by Miss Ronga. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

Mr. Doyle raised one additional item to the Council that requires consensus. The lead consultant involved in the Saugerties Area Mobility Study (2006) has identified one additional, final bill that was recently submitted. This is presently under consideration of the County comptroller and contract management officials. The amount is approximately \$5,000 and it was indeed for work performed. Mr. Doyle requested permission to amend the UPWP in order to allocate the appropriate funds to pay the bill. **Motion** made by Mr. Rodriguez; **second** by Miss Ronga. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROJECT UPDATES

Brian Slack announced that NYSDOT has been notified by the NYSDEC that the UCTC region is in compliance/attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as defined under the Clean Air Act (CAA).

Sweta Basnet requested that members submit traffic count requests to her by email as necessary in preparation for 2012 traffic monitoring. She also noted that the Travel Time Survey is complete and PIL data has been received by UCTC; staff is presently processing this information.

Regarding the ongoing Transit Development Plan, Mr. Slack noted that progress is ongoing. UCAT and Citibus have been working closely with consultants and Technical Memo #3 will be submitted during March. This memo will provide a significant amount of data pertaining to service provision. He also noted that a series of public meetings will be arranged during the month of April; those events will be in both Kingston and New Paltz.

Mr. Slack noted that the 3rd Quarter UCTC Financial report summary is available in the meeting agenda supplement; a full report was made available to members.

Finally, Mr. Slack noted that the Council will endeavor to meet bi-monthly with the Technical Committee henceforth, but does not want to meet at a frequency that is burdensome or redundant, therefore discretion will be used by staff in scheduling as

necessary. The next Technical Committee meeting will be scheduled in May 2012; a date will be set as soon as possible.

Mr. Doyle thanked Council members for attending and the various staffs of members present for their flexibility in programming the resolutions above.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Doyle requested a motion to adjourn. **Motion** made by Mary Sheeley; **second** by Liam Khan. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:00am.

DRAFT