

ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL Technical Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary

July 12, 2005
Ulster County Community College
Stone Ridge, NY

Members

Present:	Michael Campbell	Village of Saugerties
	Mircea Catona	UC Public Works Department
	Linda Cook**	Town of Hurley
	Dennis Doyle	UC Planning Board
	Nancy Hammond	Town of Lloyd
	Ken Herman**	Town of Marlborough
	Toni Hokanson	Town of New Paltz
	Albert Meyer**	UC Legislator
	Richard Peters	NYSDOT Region 8
	Toni Roser**	City of Kingston City Bus
	Keith Savoury	NYSDOT Region 8
	Charlie Schaller	UC Traffic Safety Board
	Bob Shepard	Town of Lloyd

Staff

Present:	Marianne Davis	UC Planning Board
	Jean Gunsch	Region 8 MPO Staff
	Tom Mank	UCTC
	Bill Tobin	UCTC

Others

Present:	Anne Noonan	Adirondack Transit Lines
	Wally Cook	Town of Hurley
	Gary Mulligan	Arrow Bus Line
	Lori DuBord	Congressman Hinchey's Office
	Mark Sargent	Creighton Manning Engineers

⁺Permanent Voting Member

^{*}Current Voting Member (Until June 4, 2007)

^{**}Voting Proxy

[^]Advisory Member

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Doyle at 10:02 a.m. Those in attendance introduced themselves.

CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Doyle asked for consensus to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2005 Technical Committee meeting. Those in attendance approved the meeting summary as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Tobin announced that the August 2, 2005 Policy Committee meeting needs to be rescheduled for September 27, 2005 at 10:00 am to provide more time to complete the Long Range Transportation Plan. A notice will be mailed to Policy Committee members.
- Mr. Tobin announced that a public information meeting on the Countywide Transit Study is scheduled for July 12, 2005 at the Ulster County Office Building from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- Mr. Mank stated that traffic counts will begin the last week of July 2005 and end by mid August 2005 in support of the UCTC traffic monitoring program.

Mr. Cook asked if he could have a copy of the traffic count report when completed or if the report would be available on the website. Mr. Doyle responded "yes" to both questions and added that the counts will be collected on the same sites every third year. Mr. Tobin added that the Council budgeted up to 90 counts in the current work program (Year 2005). Mr. Doyle stated that the traffic count program can be extended to any Ulster County municipality using the UCTC contract at a \$220 per count location contract amount.

Mr. Peters asked why the counts were being taken during the summer months. Mr. Doyle responded that the availability of the consultants determined the traffic count data collection schedule. Mr. Doyle noted Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council is doing traffic counts around the same time as Ulster County. Mr. Peters stated that summer, winter, Christmas and peak shopping periods are usually avoided as counts may reflect abnormal traffic conditions.

Mr. Cook asked how municipalities could establish their own traffic count program or request counts to be taken. Mr. Doyle invited Ulster County municipalities to contact UCTC staff for assistance and/or direction on the procedures for traffic count data collection.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. FTA Section 5307 TMA Funds "Shift-To-Albany." Mr. Doyle stated that NYSDOT and the FTA have requested the UCTC transfer Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 Transportation Management Area (TMA) funds with administrative responsibilities from Ulster County (UCAT) to the Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) in Albany for the purpose of administration efficiency.

Mr. Doyle added that Council action would be needed authorizing the funds to be transferred to the designated recipient (CDTA). Staff will come back to the Policy Committee in September with a Resolution requesting a transfer of FTA Section 5307 TMA funds to CDTA in Albany. The County has stated that it is agreeable to the transfer and NYSDOT and the FTA are also encouraging the arrangement. Mr. Doyle also said that \$1.7 million would go up for competitive bidding among Dutchess, Orange and Ulster Counties.

Mr. Meyer asked what the money could be used for.

Mr. Tobin stated that FTA Section 5307 TMA funds may be used for financing transit related planning, capital projects, and preventative maintenance.

Mr. Tobin asked if there would be any cost associated with the transfer.

Mr. Doyle replied no but the UCTC would lose a percentage of funds to CDTA to cover administration costs.

Mr. Doyle noted that UCTC staff had recently completed its first TMA certification review. Mr. Doyle said a final TMA report would be formally submitted to the Chair of the UCTC in the coming weeks. The Council will receive a copy of the final report when it becomes available.

Ms. Hokanson suggested putting the TMA Certification Review on the UCTC's web site to conserve paper.

Mr. Tobin acknowledged Ms. Hokanson's comments stating staff will try to have this arranged for review by the public. Mr. Tobin also stated staff is developing project web pages for each UCTC project currently underway (e.g. Saugerties Area Mobility Study, Ulster and Delaware Rail Trail Feasibility Study, Railroad Corridor Quiet Zone Study, Transit studies, etc.).

b. Projects Update. Mr. Doyle asked for a status on UCTC projects.

Mr. Tobin gave a brief update on planning work program projects as summarized below:

- Saugerties Area Mobility Analysis is well underway and a review of proposals submitted will be performed in August. A consultant may be selected before the end of August but no later than the end of September.
- Quiet Zone RFP (request for proposals) is advertised for public review until July 18. A sub-committee of the Ulster County Traffic Operations and Public Safety Committee will review proposals submitted and make a selection.
- Rail Trail RFP is currently advertised until August 4. A subcommittee will evaluate proposals in August.
- Route 32 at Fair Street intersection alternatives analysis study is underway. Mr.

Schaller asked if the project could be extended south to the Law Enforcement Center and stated that Washington Avenue would also be impacted. Mr. Doyle responded that the jail had its own study done but UCTC staff could look at extending the limits of the study.

- Mr. Doyle asked Mr. Peters about the status of the Route 209 Corridor Transportation and Land Use study. Mr. Peters stated he was not familiar with the status or progress of the Route 209 study.
 - Mr. Tobin asked Mr. Peters for the status of the Saugerties Origin and Destination (O/D) study. Mr. Peters stated he was not familiar with the status or progress of the Saugerties O/D study.
- c. Draft 2006 Meeting Schedule. Mr. Tobin informed the Council that the 2006 schedule also contains the remaining 2005 meetings. Mr. Tobin reminded those in attendance to note the next Policy Committee meeting has been rescheduled for September 27, 2005.
- d. Year 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan. Mr. Tobin gave a presentation summarizing the overall UCTC Long Range Transportation Plan effort.

Mr. Doyle stated that Plan addresses most of the public's comments except widening corridors (adding capacity) and west side Hudson River passenger rail service.

Mr. Doyle stated that commercial aviation was looked at in Kingston in the late 1980s early 1990s. A study was performed and Kingston can accommodate smaller jets. The Village of Ellenville has also been considered for commercial aviation.

Mr. Cook asked about the comments on bicycle routes.

Mr. Doyle stated that no County roads have designated as Bike Routes.

Ms. Cook stated the wording makes it look like there will never be any bike routes.

Mr. Doyle stated that changes in the wording will be modified to indicate bicycle routes will be permitted on county roads as long as county roads meet minimum safety standards.

Mr. Doyle said that consultants are working with NYSDOT to get numbers for financial forecasts. Staff also needs county and local numbers and what the county spends on CHIPS (Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program).

Mr. Peters stated that NYSDOT can provide the consultant the state and federal CHIPS financial forecasts.

Mr. Meyer stated that slide 20 erroneously mentions the Wallkill Rail Trail and should be Route 209 Delaware & Hudson.

Mr. Doyle stated that staff is planning to present the final draft Long Range

Transportation Plan to the Policy Committee for adoption on September 27, 2005.

- e. NYS DOT Construction and Maintenance Update. Mr. Savoury provided a summary of ongoing and planned Ulster County construction and maintenance projects. In addition to the regular duties and responsibilities of NYS DOT maintenance personnel (mowing, incident management, etc) a summary of current capital projects was presented.

Mr. Savoury stated that transportation related information could be viewed at www.travelinfony.com (Central/Eastern Region).

Mr. Doyle asked about the status of Route 9W project in the Town of Esopus.

Mr. Peters stated it was moving along and believed construction would begin in 2006. He also stated that the project would be done in two parts due to the relocation of Town Hall.

Mr. Doyle stated people might be interested in the design process of 9W and what is planned for the Port Ewen area. Mr. Savoury said he could ask the project engineer to do a presentation of the 9W Port Ewen study at a future UCTC meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Mr. Tobin thanked Mr. Keith Savoury for providing a NYS DOT projects update.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.