

ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL Policy Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary

May 3, 2005
Ulster County Community College
Stone Ridge, NY

Members

Present:	Elliot Auerbach**	Village of Ellenville
	Steve Finkle**	City of Kingston
	Richard Gerentine ⁺	UC Legislature
	Gregory Helmoortel ⁺	Town of Saugerties
	Jack Hohman**	NYS Thruway Authority – NYC Division
	Albert Meyer**	UC Legislature
	Jill Ross-Schmelz**	NYS Thruway Authority – Albany Division
	Bob Shepard*	Town of Lloyd
	Bob Yerick*	Village of Saugerties
	Frederick J. Wadnola ⁺	Town of Ulster
	Jeremy Wilber*	Town of Woodstock

Staff

Present:	Marianne Davis	UC Planning Board
	Dennis Doyle	UC Planning Board
	Jean Gunsch	UCTC - Poughkeepsie
	Tom Mank	UCTC - Kingston
	Bill Tobin	UCTC – Kingston

Others

Present:	Mircea Catona	UC Public Works Department
	Ron Epstein	NYSDOT - Albany
	Nancy Hammond	Town of Lloyd
	Ken Herman	Town of Marlborough
	Cynthia Ruiz	Ulster County Area Transit
	Keith Savoury	NYSDOT Region 8
	John Valk, Jr.	Town of Shawangunk

⁺Permanent Voting Member

*Current Voting Member (Until June 4, 2005)

**Voting Proxy

[^]Advisory Member

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Doyle at 10:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Doyle stated that the Policy group has achieved a quorum.

CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS

No Citizen comments were received.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Gerentine asked for approval of the March 21, 2005 minutes.

Mr. Yerick requested a correction be made on page 4 of the meeting minutes to accurately state Mr. Dennison's comments associated with land use planning in the Village and Town of Saugerties and Mr. Yerick's response to that comment. No other corrections were suggested for the minutes.

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Ms. Ross-Schmeltz and seconded by Mr. Finkle. All were in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Gerentine asked for announcements. Mr. Tobin announced the following:

A UCTC Technical Committee meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, June 2, 2005 at 10:00 am at the Ulster County Community College. It has been determined that a Technical Committee meeting is needed to discuss the Draft Long Range Transportation Plan before it goes out for public review and comment.

Future 2005 UCTC meeting dates are as follows:

June 2, 2005	at 10:00 a.m. (Technical Committee)
July 12, 2005	at 10:00 a.m. (Technical Committee)
August 2, 2005	at 10:00 a.m. (Policy Committee)
November 1, 2005	at 10:00 a.m. (Technical Committee)

Staff provided a Long Range Transportation Plan progress update. Staff noted that the draft long range plan would be presented to the UCTC Technical Committee on June 2 prior to a request for taking the Draft Plan out for public review and comment. The Council is encouraged to attend the June 2nd Technical Committee meeting to offer comments associated with the plan.

Staff provided an update on the Countywide Transit Study project. The Transit Advisory Committee approved the Transit Systems Integration Analysis scope of work and decided to wait until the completion of the current countywide study before continuing additional transit planning efforts.

A Saugerties Area Mobility Analysis (SAMA) Committee kick off meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2005. A SAMA Committee was formed for the purposes of guiding the Saugerties Route 32/212/9W Corridor Alternatives study approved in the 2005 UCTC work program. SAMA Committee representation includes Village and Town municipal officials and Citizens, as well as NYSDOT, UCTC, and the Thruway Authority.

Mr. Gerentine asked if casinos would be considered in the Saugerties study process. Mr. Tobin responded that casino development would be considered in the overall study.

A Ulster and Delaware Railroad Corridor Rail-With-Trail (RWT) Committee kick off meeting is scheduled. A RWT Committee was formed for the purpose of guiding the Rail-With-Trail study approved in the 2005 UCTC work program. RWT Committee representation includes Ulster County municipal officials, UCTC staff, NYSDOT, Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Railroad Administration. A kick off meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2005 at the Olive Free Library, West Shokan, NY.

An Ulster County Traffic Operations and Public Safety (TOPS) Committee meeting has been scheduled. The TOPS Committee was formed last August to help improve coordination between local emergency responders and traffic operations professionals. Committee membership ranges from local fire and police departments to CSX, NYSDOT, and the Federal Railroad Administration. The TOPS is providing an advisory role to the Ulster County CSX Railroad Corridor Advanced Train Detection, Pedestrian Crosswalk, and Quiet Zone study. The next TOPS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 12, 2005 at the Ulster County Office Building, Kingston, NY.

Congestion Management System (CMS) update. A certification review process, led by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), is scheduled for the first week of May 2005. FHWA staff will be meeting with UCTC staff in Poughkeepsie and in Ulster County to discuss in part progress on the development and implementation of a coordinated three county (Dutchess, Orange, Ulster) CMS plan. In addition to meetings and interviews, a public informational meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 3, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Marlboro High School Media Center, Marlboro Central School District, 50 Cross Road, Marlboro, NY 12542. Staff continues to work with Dutchess and Orange County MPOs to develop a three county CMS strategies report.

Mr. Doyle announced that certain Ulster County municipal members will rotate UCTC voter membership beginning on June 4th to allow other municipalities a two-year voting seat. Staff will be sending out notices to affected voting members. Mr. Tobin reminded all Ulster County permanent and rotating voting members that they still have a voice in all regional and local transportation planning matters and are urged to continue participating in future meetings.

Mr. Gerentine stated he received a letter from Mr. Dolaway, Town of Wawarsing Supervisor, regarding the status of the Kerhonkson Bridge. The bridge is currently listed on the Ulster County TIP but would rather see it be funded earlier than the Spring of 2007.

Mr. Doyle stated that the County and NYSDOT recognize the bridge, owned by the County, is in very poor condition and are working together to try and move the project to an earlier bid letting date. The County is hoping to have design work finalized and approved early next year to allow for a TIP amendment and earlier bid letting date.

NEW BUSINESS

5a. Resolution 2005-04: Modification of the Methodology for the Distribution of Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Capital Funds in the Poughkeepsie-Newburgh Transportation Management Area.

Mr. Gerentine introduced, Mr. Epstein, Director of NYSDOT Transit Service Bureau.

Mr. Epstein provided the Council with an overview of the FTA Section 5307 Transportation Management Area funds distribution methodology.

Mr. Valk asked if regional funding stopped at the municipal boundary.

Ms. Ruiz stated that capital funds could go toward a study of coordinated services within Ulster County and the region.

Mr. Valk stated that neither Ulster nor Orange Counties are serving his region. He asked if they were looking to upgrade service to serve all areas of the county.

Mr. Epstein stated "yes" in the long run.

Mr. Meyer asked if Lester Lines was included.

Mr. Epstein stated that they were now using the name Hudson Transit.

Ms. Ruiz responded that UCAT has taken over that route.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2005-04 was made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Wadnola. All were in favor.

5b. Resolution 2005-05: Apportionment of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 funds among Dutchess, Orange and Ulster Counties.

Mr. Doyle state that an amendment is needed to show current available funds. Mr. Doyle handed out a revision to the distributed funds originally shown in the Resolution.

Ms. Ruiz commented that when the budget is made for Federal funds we apply for the full amount even if the full amount is not currently available.

Ms. Ruiz stated that Dutchess County has agreed to come up with the required 1% for transit enhancement. Private operators are shown for full disclosure requirements and explained in the footnote.

Mr. Gerentine called for a vote on the resolution. A motion to adopt Resolution 2005-05 was made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Wadnola. All were in favor.

Mr. Finkle noted that there was a typo on the amendment. Mr. Tobin stated staff will make the correction before the document becomes permanent record.

5c. Resolution 2005-06: Final Draft FFY 2006-2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Mr. Tobin presented an overview of the eight (8) new projects selected for the UCTC's first TIP. He explained that NYSDOT ran the program previously which was the reason older projects were still listed. Mr. Tobin also noted Technical Committee recommends

adoption of the TIP.

Mr. Finkle asked if these were the original eight (8) projects selected.

Mr. Tobin affirmed that projects 4-8 were from the original eight highest scoring projects. The first three (3) projects (paving and bridge projects) advanced to the top of the list based upon a staff recommendation and "fix it first" philosophy.

Mr. Finkle added that he thought it was a fair process of selecting the projects.

Mr. Gerentine asked if there were any further comments and asked for a vote.

Mr. Finkle made a motion to adopt the TIP and Resolution 2005-06 and Mr. Meyer seconded that motion. All members were in favor.

Mr. Gerentine thanked Mr. Doyle and Mr. Tobin for all the work put toward the MPO development efforts. Mr. Gerentine also thanked Mr. Epstein and NYSDOT staff for their efforts.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

A consensus was reached to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 am.