

ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Policy Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary
September 29, 2015
SUNY Ulster, Stone Ridge, NY

Members Present:

Ralph Swenson	City of Kingston
Alan Adin	City of Kingston
Paul Hansut	Town of Lloyd
Mike Warren	Town of Marbletown/Supervisors Association
Gail Gallerie	Town of New Paltz
Tom Wilkin	Town of Plattekill
Robert Gallagher	Town of Rosendale
Vernon Benjamin	Town of Saugerties
Joel Brink	Town of Ulster
Jeremy Wilber	Town of Woodstock
David Gilmour	Village of New Paltz
Alex Wade	Village of Saugerties
Edward Pine	Ulster County DPW
Diane Beitzl	Ulster County Traffic Safety Board
Kathy Nolan	Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee
Tom Weiner	NYS Dept of Transportation
Kristen Resnikoff	NYS Thruway Authority
Steven Gayle	RSG
Bill Kemble	Daily Freeman

Staff:

Dennis Doyle	U.C. Planning Board/UCTC Staff
Brian Slack	UCTC Staff
David Staas	UCTC Staff

CALL TO ORDER

The Policy Committee meeting was called to order by Mr. Doyle at 10:00am. Roll call was conducted by Mr. Slack.

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 26, 2015 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 5/26/15 meeting of the UCTC Policy Committee. Mike Warren made a motion to approve the minutes; second by Tom Wilkin. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed - Motion Carried.**

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Slack circulated the several pieces of correspondence as outlined below:

- UCTC host agency federal agreement approval letter from NYSDOT.

- Correspondence from the Broadway Campus Medical Village initiative to repurpose the existing Kingston Hospital
- Letter from DOT regarding UCAT operations along route 9W
- Letter from CDTA regarding the transfer of funds for capital costs of contracting associated with Adirondack Trailways.

No further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2015-17: Adopt the Ulster County Transportation Council Year 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan – Rethinking Transportation. The Final Draft UCTC Year 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan, titled Rethinking Transportation, will be presented to UCTC Policy Committee members for final approval. Federal regulations require that each MPO shall develop a long range transportation plan (LRTP) from which the transportation improvement program (TIP) shall be derived. The UCTC last adopted a LRTP in 2010 with a horizon date of 2035; UCTC has updated its LRTP to year 2040 based upon new data collected and forecasted. Rethinking Transportation sets the planning and programming priorities for the entire UCTC metropolitan planning area transportation system. Transportation engineering and consulting firm RSG along with Fitzgerald Halliday, Inc were the consultant team hired by UCTC to assist in the development of the LRTP. A public presentation on the draft plan was made on August 20th at the Ulster County Legislative Chambers; 10 people attended. The public comment period was opened on August 19th and closed on September 18th; all comments have been included in an appendix to the report with responses where appropriate. Minor revisions and public comments are currently being processed. The current draft is available online at No major changes are anticipated at this time.

Steven Gayle presented the Final Draft UCTC Year 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan.

Mr. Doyle stated that a number of projects identified as long term priorities have come out of studies conducted by UCTC at the request of member agencies. Mr. Doyle further emphasized the importance of the Long Range Plan as it can be useful in non-traditional fund source applications.

Vernon Benjamin asked about the transportation implications related to the development and expansion of alternative fuel infrastructure.

This topic is discussed in the infrastructure section of the report.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Alex Wade; second by Gail Gallerie.

No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.

Resolution 2015-18: Amendments to the UCTC Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add Local National Recreational Trail Program Awards Under PINs 876135, 876137, and 876138 per New York State Office of

Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation as Shown in Attachment 1. NYSDOT has requested to add various project PINs to the UCTC 2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program in order to program National Recreational Trail Program awards to local sponsors. The National Recreational Trail Program is administered by the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation using Federal transportation funds which are required to be programmed on the TIP. Resolution 2015-18 programs PIN 876135: Kingston Rail Trail East Chester St to East Strand; PIN876137: Town of New Paltz Wallkill River Rail Trail Program; and PIN876138: Town of New Paltz Wallkill Valley Rail Trail.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Mike Warren; second by Ed Pine.

Tom Weiner explained that even though the funding amounts are low by transportation project standards, the project must still follow the guidelines associated with federal aid funded transportation projects. NYSDOT is responsible for the NEPA sign off.

No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.

Resolution 2015-19: Amendments to the UCTC 2014 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program to Modify Costs, Schedules and Project Descriptions to Ulster County Area Transit PINs 882324 as Shown in Attachment 1. Draft Resolution 2015-19 amends the UCTC TIP to modify costs, schedules and project descriptions to NYSDOT PIN 882324: The Amendment programs FTA funds to block-program funding for the UCAT Ulster County to Poughkeepsie Train Station bus service through the life of the TIP.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Mike Warren; second by Joel Brink.

Mr. Slack continued to explain that the funds are to be used for service along the 9W corridor from the city of Kingston to Poughkeepsie Train Station.

No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.

2015/16 Unified Planning Work Program Minor Budget Revisions. UCTC Operating Procedures allow minor budget revisions to be approved by the Chairperson on behalf of the Council and the Administration Committee in instances where changes to individual tasks do not exceed 25% of the budgeted amount. Staff has identified the need to make such adjustments to two ongoing projects – Building a Better Broadway and Finding Rosendale. Final budget adjustments and communication with project consultants is ongoing regarding those adjustments; any required adjustments will be reported to the Policy Committee in detail at the 9/29/15 meeting.

This item is being provided for informational purposes as the funding change is below 25% of the budgeted amount.

Additional funds will be programmed from the UCTC un-programmed balance.

Products from the Finding Rosendale Project will be used as part of an application to the CFA program.

No issues were raised by members regarding the funding change.

No further Discussion.

Development of the Draft UCTC 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program. UCTC updates the TIP every 2-3 years in accordance with federal rules and regulations. Work has begun on the 2017-2021 program.

Mr. Weiner indicated that funding projections are flat compared to previous years and provided an overview of the TIP update process and guidelines. The program must meet all targets and must be fiscally constrained. The MPO needs to establish what projects will be chosen based upon priorities established in the LRTP. NYSDOT needs all of the projects in by November 24th with the local program supplied from the MPO by the first week of November. The final TIP will not need to be passed until October of 2016

Mike Warren asked what could be done to address missing sidewalk infrastructure along Route 209. Tom Weiner responded that the project sounds like it would be beyond preservation but may be eligible for discretionary funding sources.

Mr. Doyle asked the council for volunteer to participate on a TIP subcommittee to provide guidance through the TIP update.

Members from the Town of Woodstock, Town of New Paltz, Town of Marbletown, City of Kingston, and Ulster County volunteered to participate as members of the subcommittee.

A number of projects on the existing program facing shortfalls will be considered as part of the TIP update.

No further Discussion.

2016/17 Unified Planning Work Program Call for Planning Projects. Staff will begin developing the 2016/17 Unified Planning Work Program this November. The annual Call for Planning Projects application form is now available for review. Members are encouraged to discuss possible projects for inclusion in the 2015/16 UPWP.

Applications are due by Friday November 20th for consideration. Members are encouraged to reach out to staff to help refine ideas. Transportation components of local planning projects are eligible. Studies can be performed anywhere within the Metropolitan planning area and are not limited to projects on federal aid eligible roadways.

Tom Weiner encouraged the Town and Village of New Paltz to consider an application relating to congestion along Route 299.

No further discussion.

OTHER/OLD BUSINESS

Ulster Count Park and Ride - Lot expansion projects in Saugerties and the Town of Ulster nearing completion. Park and ride data to be conducted after completion.

UCTC 2-Year Voting Member Rollover - Complete

Project Updates – Project updates following the agenda supplement were supplied.

Mr. Doyle encouraged local municipalities to consider a developing a shared services type agreement to aid one another and take on some transportation projects utilizing local funds

Mike Warren commended the county for the removal of multiple county bridge projects during the last TIP rescission and advancing the projects utilizing local funds.

Jeremy Wilber expressed gratitude to NYSDOT and the council for the work performed along Route 212 in the Town of Woodstock.

Kathy Nolan thanked council staff, RSG, and the council for work relating to the Long Range Transportation Plan.

Alex Wade thanked NYSDOT for completing work on the signal in the center of the village.

No further discussion.

MEETING ADJOURNED at approximately 11:35 am.

-DS