

ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
**Policy Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Summary**  
December 13, 2016  
Rondout Municipal Center, Cottekill, NY

Members Present:

Alan Adin	City of Kingston
Ralph Swenson	City of Kingston
Kristen Wilson	City of Kingston
Mike Warren	Town of Marbletown/Supervisors Association
Neil Bettez	Town of New Paltz
Tom Wilkin	Town of Plattekill
Jeanne Walsh	Town of Rosendale
Vernon Benjamin	Town of Saugerties
Joel Brink	Town of Ulster
Ed Pine	Ulster County DPW
Andrew Emrich	Ulster County DPW
Diane Beitel	Ulster County Traffic Safety Board
Todd Westhuis	NYS Dept of Transportation
Tom Weiner	NYS Dept of Transportation
Lizy Philip	NYS Thruway Authority
Alex Berardi	Adirondack Trailways

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. Doyle.

**CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Jeanne Walsh announced that the Town of Rosendale and the Town of Marbletown received the Extraordinary Partnership Award presented by the New York Secretary of State, recognizing their efforts in establishing the Rondout Municipal Center.

The Town of Rosendale also received a grant from Hudson River Valley Greenway for \$10,000 to implement some of the recommendations from the UCTC Finding Rosendale study.

Joel Brink asked commented that the all way stop added at the Seremma Court and Leggs Mills Road intersection has been effective and asked if the County intended to keep the signage in place.

Mr. Doyle indicated that there were no plans to remove the sign, but concerns of traffic backing up to the railroad tracks remain. The intersection may be studied as part of the Road Safety Assessment project.

Concerns were also raised regarding the railroad crossing and surrounding signals at Boices Lane in the Town of Ulster. Trains have been observed to stop, blocking the crossing for extended periods of time, causing significant issues.

Mr. Doyle has talked with NYSDOT and noted that over \$1m in funds were being programmed for improvements at the intersection. Tom Weiner stated that he would find out more information regarding the schedule.

Vernon Benjamin expressed gratitude to NYSDOT for continuing the paving work along route 212 into the Town of Saugerties which started at the behest of Jeremy Wilber.

### **APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2016 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 9/21/16 meeting of the UCTC Policy Committee. Tom Wilkin made a motion to approve the minutes; second by Joel Brink. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed - Motion Carried.**

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No communications were received.

**No further discussion.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Resolution 2016-15: Amendment to the UCTC 2017 – 2021 UCTC Transportation Improvement Program.**

At the request of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Program and Project Management Bureau, an amendment to the UCTC 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program is proposed, described as “ROUTE 28/ESOPUS CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT - FLOOD MITIGATION BIN 1091290 - HAMLET OF MT. TREMPER, TOWN OF SHANDAKEN, ULSTER COUNTY. The project utilizes federal National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funds in the amount of \$26.320million and a required 20% state match of \$6.580million in NYS Bridge Initiative PIT Bond funds, for a project total of \$32.9million. The project will include full structural replacement of the bridge and include significant lengthening and increase in elevation of the existing span in an effort to mitigate future impacts from flooding and debris. In accordance with UCTC Operating Procedures, the aforementioned TIP amendment was advertised and open to 15 day public notice and comment period ending 12/07/16.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Joel Brink.

Tom Weiner explained that the project will be funded in part through Personal Income Tax (PIT) bonds. Disaster relief funding for the bridge was not available due to the cap on FEMA funds.

No public comments were received as part of the public comment period.

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

**UCTC 2017 Transportation Improvement Program – Block Program Bridge and Paving PINs.** The 2017 – 2021 TIP included two new “block program” PINs utilizing surplus allocations of STP FLEX and STBG Off-System Bridge funds. These funds will be made available to eligible Ulster County municipalities through direct solicitation to the MPO. UCTC will provide an overview of the funds available and answer any questions members may have. Deadline for applications is December 2, 2016 (revised from Nov. 25).

Ulster County was the only respondent to the UCTC bridge call for projects and submitted applications for 3 bridges: Wolven, Cantine, and Fantinekill bridges.

The pavement project call received applications from Ulster County and the City of Kingston. Applications will be reviewed by the executive committee for selection.

Funds for these calls were assigned as a block program to allow for awarded projects to be created via and Administrative Modification.

Kristen Wilson indicated that with the CFA award, the City of Kingston could still utilize additional funding for the project.

**No further discussion.**

**Ulster County Transportation Council Coordinated Human Service/Public Transit Transportation Plan update.** UCTC has nearly completed the update of its Coordinated Plan. The primary purpose of a Coordinated Plan is to identify the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes, provide strategies for meeting these needs, and prioritize transportation services for funding and implementation. In addition, the current federal transportation authorization act - Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act - requires UCTC to prepare a Coordinated Plan as a condition of applying for and receiving Federal funds under the Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) program. The Coordinated Plan is therefore intended to act as a blueprint for implementing a range of strategies to improve transportation services in Ulster County. UCTC staff will provide members with an update of project progress.

Mr. Slack presented an overview of the project and the suggested strategies stemming from the plan. The plan recommends the formation of a transit coordination committee. UCTC should consider reactivating the Transit subcommittee to help enact other polices in the Coordinated Plan.

Mr. Doyle stressed that in order to utilize 5310 funds; grants must be consistent with the Coordinated Plan which needs to be adopted by UCTC.

Supervisor Mike Warren suggested that an opportunity for funding may exist at the New York Secretary of State for coordinating services.

**No further discussion.**

**Town of Marlborough Route 9W Corridor Study – UPWP Modification**

The Marlboro Route 9W Corridor Study will evaluate the current traffic levels, existing pedestrian and bicycle accommodations, and visual character of the corridor and hamlet areas and adjoining land use. The project was originally programmed for approximately \$72,000 which is below all of received bids for the project. The consultant fee amount programmed in the UPWP needs to be increased to \$94,800. Additional funds will come from the unprogrammed balance of PL funds.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Kristen Wilson.

Ralph Swenson asked how this study differs from the previous 2008 Marlborough study. Mr. Doyle responded that the current study is focused on the area north of the hamlet compared to the 2008 study that focused on the hamlet itself.

BFJ was selected to be the consultant for the project.

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

**OTHER/OLD BUSINESS**

- FTA FFY 2016 5307 & 5339 funds attributable to the Kingston Urbanized Area
  - Approximately \$900,000 in funds have been attributed to the Kingston Urbanized area that need to be divided between the designated recipients before the funds can be utilized.
  -
- 2017 UPWP Call for Planning Projects –deadline December 9th.
  - Four applications were received and will be reviewed by staff for eligibility and priority. A draft UPWP is expected for the next Technical Committee meeting in February.
- Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area Regional Transit Planning Draft RFP
  - Efforts continue to begin a regional transit study. TMA members are currently working on establishing what specific funding sources will be used. The project will be hosted by OCTC.
- 2016 NYSDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Solicitation.
  - Earliest date for award announcement is expected to be in January.

- UCTC Financial Summary
  - SFY 2015- full year financial report was provided to council members

Mr. Doyle asked if NYSDOT would consider examining the possibility of a berm along route 28 in Boiceville for hazard mitigation to reduce the flooding issues along the roadway. While the Route 28 flood mitigation bridge replacement allows for the bridge to remain open during storm events, the road itself is still often underwater.

Next meeting of the Technical Committee will be scheduled for February

**No further discussion.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at approximately 11:15 am.

-DS