



# ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **The Administrative Services Committee Of The Ulster County Legislature, In A Bi-Partisan Effort And With The Support Of The County Executive, Addresses The Need For Comprehensive Management Of County Vehicles**

Kingston, NY (February 19, 2009) – Legislator Jeanette Provenzano, Chairwoman of the Administrative Services Committee, announced a resolution creating a Fleet Management position. The resolution was passed unanimously in Committee at a recent meeting. The resolution will now get forwarded to the Legislature’s Human Development and Personnel Committee and the Ways and Means Committee, for their review and approval, before being sent to entire Legislature for a vote.

The Administrative Services Committee members have been dealing with concerns surrounding take home vehicles as well as purchasing issues for the past year. “It became obvious day by day that the only solution to the problem was to hire someone specifically to develop a plan and process,” stated Provenzano. “This was a bi-partisan effort and Chairwoman Provenzano (D – Dist 6) praised individual members of the Committee: Roy Hochberg (D- Dist. 3), Alan Lomita (D-Dist. 7), Philip C. Terpening (D- Dist. 7), Laura Petit (R- Dist. 7), Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr. (R-Dist. 8) and Vice Chairman Paul J. Hansut (R- Dist. 11) for their support.

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David B. Donaldson, Chairman of the Legislature, commended Legislator Provenzano for her leadership and persistence surrounding the pursuit of a solution to the issues that have arisen over County vehicles. “I am very pleased with the work done by the Administrative Services Committee with regard to this matter and it is especially gratifying to know it was a bi-partisan effort that will result in cost savings to the taxpayers”, said Donaldson.

In addition to meeting with her Committee, Legislator Provenzano felt it important to have a discussion with County Executive Michael Hein to gain insight into the workings of a Fleet Manager. The new Fleet Manager position was requested by the Purchasing Department, which is now part of the Executive Branch.

Hein said that, “The Committee’s vote, Tuesday night, is a great example of the spirit of bi-partisan collaboration and cooperation with the Executive Branch that I had hoped would emerge under our new Charter form of government. These times demand that we put our differences aside and that we redouble our efforts to work together to serve the interests of the people of Ulster County. When we have a Fleet Manager and a fleet management system in place, we will be able to manage County vehicles in a way that will result in much greater efficiency, resulting in savings to taxpayers.”

The Fleet Manager would be responsible to plan, coordinate and direct the operation, utilization, storage, repair, replacement and disposition of all county vehicles. (S)he would also be responsible for preparing annual budget requests and equipment specifications, compliance with State and Federal regulations and all requirements regarding proper use of County vehicles, including take-home vehicles.