

RESOLUTION 2013-05

ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

To Define the Urbanized Area Boundary and Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary for the Ulster County Transportation Council

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC) has been designated by the Governor of the State of New York as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) responsible, together with the State, for the comprehensive, continuing, and cooperative transportation planning process for the Kingston Urbanized Area and a portion of the Poughkeepsie—Newburgh, NY—New Jersey Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, the United States Census Bureau (Census) defines an Urbanized Area as an “urban area with 50,000 residents or more;” and

WHEREAS, the UCTC Urbanized Area Boundary was first established through UCTC Resolution 2003-05 on August 28, 2003 and developed around the Kingston Urbanized Area based on Census 2000 population figures; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the Poughkeepsie—Newburgh, NY—New Jersey Urbanized Area also lies within the south-eastern portion of Ulster County as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, Federal transportation legislation allows State and local officials to cooperatively adjust or “smooth” the Census-defined Urbanized Area boundaries to facilitate the transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, the adjusted Urbanized Area boundary must encompass the entire Census-designated Urbanized Area and is subject to approval by the Secretary of Transportation under 23 USC 101(a)(36) -(37) and 49 USC 5302(a)(16) - (17); and

WHEREAS, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) guidance states that adjusted Urbanized Area boundaries: (1) must encompass the entire Urbanized Area or urban cluster area as designated by the Bureau of Census; (2) should be one single, contiguous area; (3) should encompass areas outside of municipality boundaries that have urban characteristics with residential, commercial, industrial, or national defense land uses that are consistent with or related to the development patterns with the boundary; and (4) should encompass all large traffic generators that are within a reasonable distance from the urban area (e.g., fringe area public parks, large places of assembly, large industrial plants, etc.)...including transportation terminals and their access roads (e.g., airports, seaports); and

WHEREAS, the following FHWA Programs distinguish between urban and rural areas and are therefore affected by Urban Area boundary designation: (1) the Highway Functional Classification System; (2) the Highway Performance



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Monitoring System (HPMS); (3) Surface Transportation Program (STP) Funds distribution and related apportionment formulas (23 USC 133(d)(3)(B) and 23 USC 104(b)(3); and (4) The Outdoor Advertising Control Program (23 USC 131); and

WHEREAS, Section 134(b)(1) of Title 23 U.S.C. defines a Metropolitan Planning Area as “the geographic area determined by agreement between the metropolitan planning organization...and the Governor” in which the metropolitan transportation planning process must be carried out; and

WHEREAS, the UCTC Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary was established under Resolution 2003-05 as the “entirety of Ulster County;” and

WHEREAS, Census 2010 population figures have resulted in minor changes to the Census 2000 Kingston Urbanized Area, including expansion of the Kingston Urbanized Area north into a portion of Greene County comprised of seven Census-designated census tracts located in the Town of Catskill.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Transportation Council approve the adjusted Urbanized Area Boundary as identified in Attachment 1; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Transportation Council approve the Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary as the entirety of Ulster County as well as the seven Census-designated census tracts located in the south-eastern portion of the Town of Catskill, Greene County as identified in Attachment 1.

CERTIFICATE, the undersigned, duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Ulster County Transportation Council, certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by a vote on **[INSERT DATE OF POLICY MEETING]**.

Date

By _____
William J. Gorton, P.E., Acting Secretary,
Ulster County Transportation Council



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ATTACHMENT 1

2010 Proposed FHWA Urban Area Boundary

