

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
Technical Committee Meeting**

**A G E N D A**

**Thursday, May 10, 2012**

**10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

SUNY Ulster College

Clinton Hall, Howard St. John Conference Room

Cottekill Road, Stone Ridge, NY

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. Call for Citizen Comments
3. Approval of the February 9, 2012 Technical Committee meeting summary
4. New Business

**a) Administrative Amendment to the UCTC Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Treat Utility Costs for Vehicle Fuel as a Capital Maintenance Expense.** The Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012 (Pub. L. 112-055) permits the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to treat fuel costs for vehicle operations as a capital maintenance item for grants made in FY 2012 & 2013 under the Urbanized Area Formula Program 5307 funding.

**Recommended Action:** *For information and discussion purposes only. (20 minutes)*

**b) 2010 Census Urbanized Areas:** The Census Bureau designates a new list of Urbanized Areas (UZAs) every 10 years, following the conclusion of each decennial census. The designation of UZAs by the U.S. Census Bureau has significant implications for the metropolitan planning process. Those implications of the new boundaries as well as important FHWA deadlines will be reviewed and discussed.

**Recommended Action:** *For information and discussion purposes only. (20 minutes)*

**c) FFY 2011-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):** The following items of relevance will be discussed by NYSDOT and UCTC staff:

- NY Works Projects
- NYSDOT SFY 2012-2016 capital program update
- FFY 2012 projects status

**Recommended Action:** *Information and discussion only (20 minutes).*

**d) 2012 UCTC Traffic Monitoring Program (TMP) and Travel Time Survey:** The TMP helps Ulster County elected officials and technical staff monitor traffic volume trends and make informed decisions about how and where Federal, State and local funds are programmed. The TMP also supports the region's Congestion Management System program whereby traffic count data helps analyze and monitor regional (Dutchess, Orange and Ulster Counties) traffic volumes, trends and forecasts. Similarly, the purpose of the Travel Time Survey is to collect reliable Global Positioning System (GPS)-based travel time data on major roadways in the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area (TMA) in support of the TMA's Congestion

Management Process (CMP) and other transportation planning activities. A brief overview of these programs will be provided by UCTC staff.

Recommended Action: *Information and discussion only (20 minutes).*

**e) Draft UCTC FFY 2011 Annual Federal Aid Obligation Report:** Federal regulations require an annual listing of bridge, highway and transit projects, including pedestrian and bicycle facilities, which Federal transportation funds have been obligated in the preceding year. The full report can be found online at

[http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/planning/uctc/tip/2011\\_obligation\\_report.pdf](http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/planning/uctc/tip/2011_obligation_report.pdf)

Recommended Action: *For information and discussion purposes only. (10 minutes)*

**f) UPWP Project Updates:** The SFY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program includes a number of projects in support of the Year 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan's goals and recommendations. Projects to be implemented during SFY 2012 will be briefly presented and reviewed for discussion and input.

Recommended Action: *For information and discussion purposes only. (10 minutes).*

**g) Next Policy Committee Meeting:** The next meeting of the UCTC Policy Committee is scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

5. Other/Old Business

6. Announcements/Project Updates (10 minutes)

7. Call for Citizen Comments

8. Adjournment

## Agenda Supplement

### Agenda Item 4a New Business (20 minutes)

#### **Administrative Amendment to the UCTC Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011-2015**

#### **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Treat Utility Costs for Vehicle Fuel as a Capital Maintenance Expense**

The Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012 (Pub. L. 112–055) permits the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to treat fuel costs for vehicle operations, including utility costs for the propulsion of electrical vehicles, as a capital maintenance item for grants made in FY 2012 under the Urbanized Area Formula Program, up to a total of \$100,000,000. FTA announced this provision and its implementation in the FTA Fiscal Year 2012 Notice of Apportionments, Allocations, and Program Information, published in the Federal Register on January 11, 2012 (Vol. 77, No. 7 1786–1856). Recipients are reminded that this provision does not provide any additional funding but rather how they may use a portion of their USA's Section 5307 program apportionment. Funds granted under this provision will be treated as an alternative use of the eligible recipient's formula funding

Recommended Action: *For information and discussion purposes only. (20 minutes)*

### Agenda Item 4b New Business (20 minutes)

**2010 Census Urbanized Areas:** The Census Bureau designates a new list of Urbanized Areas (UZAs) every 10 years, following the conclusion of each decennial census. The designation of UZAs by the U.S. Census Bureau has significant implications for the metropolitan planning process. Those implications of the new boundaries as well as important FHWA deadlines will be reviewed and discussed. Refer to map of Census 2010 UAs on page 6 and Table 4c below.

Recommended Action: *For information and discussion purposes only. (20 minutes)*

**Table 4b: Census Urbanized Areas and MPO/TMA Designation – Schedule of Activities**

Date	Activity
8/24/2011	U.S. Census Bureau published the final criteria for the defining of urbanized areas (UZAs) and urban clusters (UCs) in the Federal Register
March 26, 2012	Census Bureau posted on their webpage and sent a press release to notify the public.
Early 2012 (approx. 6 weeks after list of UZAs is published)	USDOT (FHWA/FTA) publishes the new list of Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) in the Federal Register.
March 26, 2012	Census Bureau releases TIGER/Line shapefiles with UZA and UC boundaries
Spring 2012	HEPGIS includes UZA and UC boundaries, including the ability to download shapefiles
Before Oct 2012	States should revise their intra-State formulas for PL funds allocations to MPOs
Early 2013 (12 months after list of UZAs is published)	New MPOs must be designated by Governor(s).
Mid 2013 (18 months after list of new TMAs is published)	New TMAs must have a Congestion Management Process (CMP)
Early 2016 (4 years after list of UAs is published)	New MPOs must have a formally adopted Long-Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and

	Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
<b>Before next regularly-scheduled MTP update, after October 1st, 2012, or within 4 years of the designation of the new UZA boundary, whichever occurs first</b>	Existing MPOs must expand their Metropolitan Planning Areas (MPAs) to include all territory in Census 2010 UZAs (if necessary).
<b>June 2014</b>	If an Adjusted UZA is not accomplished by June 2014 that FHWA will consider the original 2010 Census UZA boundaries as the official boundaries in place for the 2014 HPMS data submission

**Agenda Item 4d  
New Business (20 minutes)**

**2012 UCTC Traffic Monitoring Program (TMP):** The TMP helps Ulster County elected officials and technical staff monitor traffic volume trends and make informed decisions about how and where Federal, State and local funds are programmed. The TMP also supports the region's Congestion Management System program whereby traffic count data helps analyze and monitor regional (Dutchess, Orange and Ulster Counties) traffic volumes, trends and forecasts. A brief overview of the 2012 program will be provided.

Recommended Action: *Information and discussion only (20 minutes).*

**Agenda Item 4e  
New Business (10 minutes)**

**Draft UCTC FFY 2011 Annual Federal Aid Obligation Report:** Federal regulations require an annual listing of bridge, highway and transit projects, including pedestrian and bicycle facilities, which Federal transportation funds have been obligated in the preceding year. An obligation is the U.S. Department of Transportation's legal commitment to pay the Federal share of a project's cost. Projects for which funds have been obligated are not necessarily initiated or completed in a given program year and the amount of the obligation in a single year will not necessarily equal the total cost of the project.

**Summary of UCTC 2011 Federal Obligations**

	<b>Obligated Funds</b> (millions of dollars)	<b>Unobligated Funds</b> (millions of dollars)	<i>Row totals</i>
<b>FHWA</b>	\$3.295	<b>\$(0.994)</b>	\$4.289
<b>FTA</b>	\$4.997	<b>\$(2.527)</b>	\$7.524
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$8.292</b>	<b>\$(3.521)</b>	\$11.813

The full report can be found online at  
[http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/planning/uctc/tip/2011\\_obligation\\_report.pdf](http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/planning/uctc/tip/2011_obligation_report.pdf)

Recommended Action: *For information and discussion purposes only. (10 minutes)*

**Agenda Item 6  
Announcements/Project Updates (10 minutes)**

**Transit Development Plan (TDP):** Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates along with Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. are working as the consultants on the project. To date, three Technical Memorandums have been delivered to the Technical Advisory Committee along with a project Milestones/Deliverables Calendar and three project Newsletters. Technical Memorandum 3

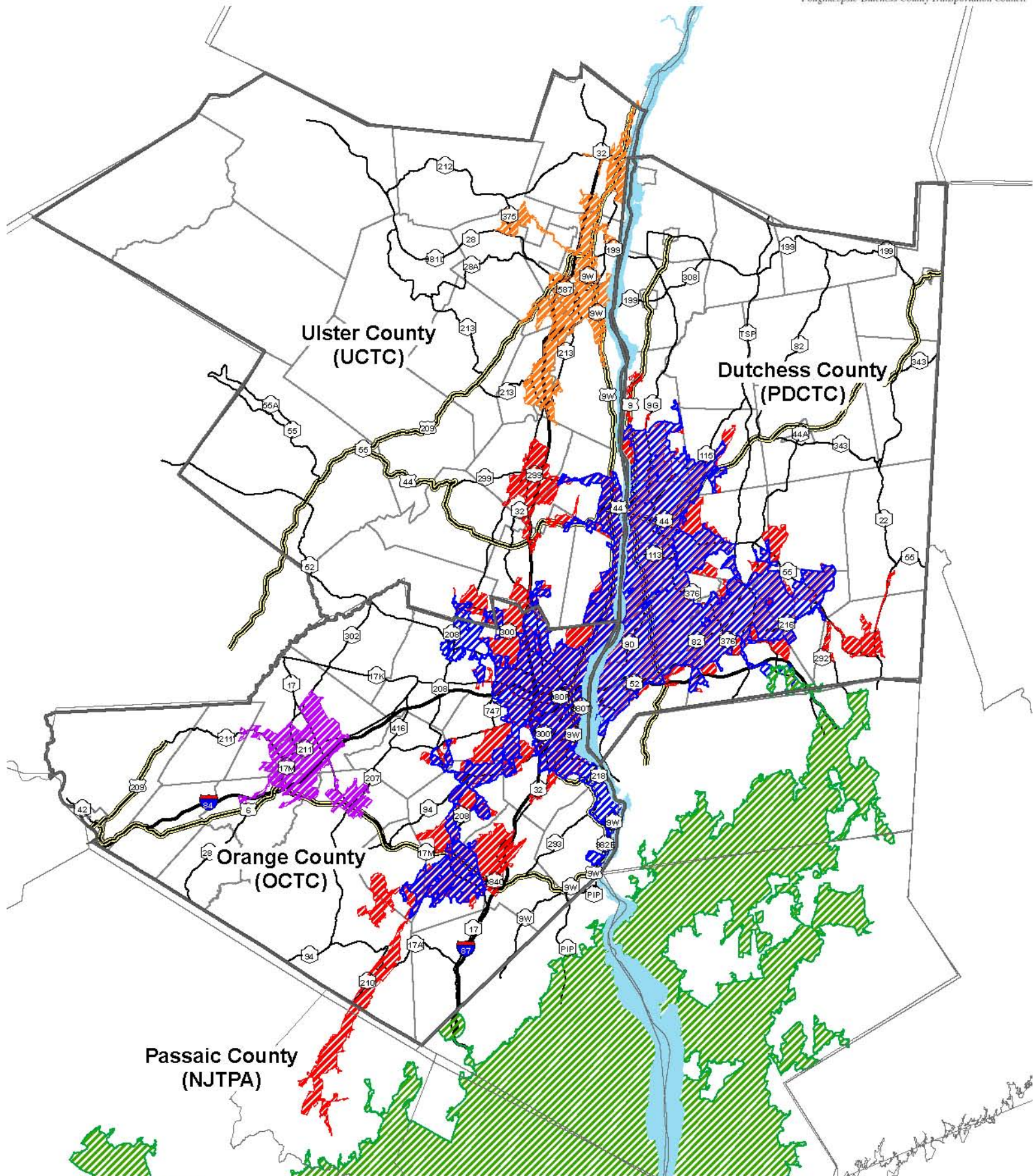
was delivered in April and reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee. The memo offers detailed analysis and assessment of each Citibus and UCAT route, including a “peers analysis” that compares local transit services with those from comparable areas across the region. Three community outreach meetings were held on April 18 and 19, including two open forum informational kiosks at Kingston Plaza and SUNY New Paltz as well as an evening public meeting held at Kingston City Hall. The next deliverable is Technical Memo 4: Assessment of Need and Identification and Evaluation of Alternatives, scheduled for delivery in May. The Draft and Final Implementation Plans are anticipated to be delivered in July. The project is presently on schedule for an August 2012 completion.

MHV TMA Travel Time Survey: The MHV TMA Travel Time Survey is complete. Data including survey videos, GIS information spreadsheet data have been received. The final report with the maps and the final presentation is available on the UCTC website at <http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/planning/tdoc.html>. These data are presently being compared with Priority Incident Location (PIL) data by staff in an effort to identify and measure correlations between highly-congested areas and frequent accident occurrence.

Fourth Quarter Financial Report: A Fourth Quarter Financial Report is enclosed for your information and reference. UCTC saw a slight decline in reimbursable expenses from the previous quarter, yet activity continues to be brisk due to two active projects. The fourth quarter of FY 2011-12 has approximately \$82,235 in reimbursable expenses. Contractual activity related to the Transit Development Plan and Traffic Monitoring Program continues to drive that activity. In the fourth quarter, Ulster County paid \$29,102 for work done on the Transit Development Plan and \$1,245 for work performed on the Traffic Monitoring Program. At the end of the fourth quarter, UCTC had expended 70% of its budget for operational expenses, and 45% for contractual activity.

Upcoming UCTC Meetings. A Policy Committee meeting has been scheduled for **June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012**. For more information, contact Brian Slack.

# Mid-Hudson Valley Urbanized Areas



-  Poughkeepsie-Newburgh NY-NJ UA (2010)
-  Poughkeepsie-Newburgh NY UA (2000)
-  New York-Newark NY-NJ-CT UA (2010)
-  Middletown UA (2010)
-  Kingston UA (2010)

