



Ulster County Transportation Council

Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive
Chairman

DATE: December 9, 2020
TO: All UCTC Members
FROM: Dennis Doyle, Director

Notification of Funding Availability for Local Bridge Projects

Ulster County Executive Patrick K. Ryan, Chairman of the Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC), is pleased to announce the availability of \$1.999 million federal funding for local bridge projects in Ulster County. Pursuant to the 2020 – 2024 UCTC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), UCTC is soliciting proposals for bridge repair projects utilizing the UCTC's share of federal Surface Transportation Program "Off System" Bridge Repair funds.

Eligible Applicants

Any city, county, town, or village within the Ulster County Metropolitan Planning Area with eligible facilities that are authorized to receive and administer State and federal transportation may apply.

Eligible Projects and Funding Availability

UCTC is soliciting projects under the following funding category:

- **Proposals to rebuild, rehabilitate, preserve, or deice off-system bridges.** An off-system bridge is a highway bridge located on a public road that is not a Federal-aid highway.

A map of all eligible bridge facilities is available on the UCTC website.

Funding sources are detailed in the 2020 – 2024 UCTC TIP under UCTC Project PIN 8BLK06 "Block Program for Off System Bridges to Include Element Specific Projects". **A 20% local match will be required for all project proposals. Applicants may apply for up to the total amount of federal funding available in each FFY and may submit more than one proposal. Due to time constraints, projects should not include Right of Way acquisition. Past awardees will be expected to provide evidence of project progress on any open awards.**

Application Process

Municipalities with candidate projects that meet FHWA and UCTC project eligibility criteria must complete and submit applications (one application per project proposal) by close of business **January 15, 2021**.

Applications should include cover letter signed by the chief elected official or equivalent and contain basic details of the proposal, including project description, costs, and a brief statement of need. Affirmations must also be provided indicating that the applicant understands the 20% local match requirement as well as other key scheduling components. All awardees will be required to enter into a

State-Local Agreement (SLA) as detailed in Chapter 4 of the NYSDOT Procedures for Locally-Administered Federal Aid Projects manual and be expected to obligate funds for construction in the calendar year from which they are drawn from. The applicant will be expected to work with NYSDOT Region 8 staff through execution of the SLA; assistance from UCTC will be provided as needed. **Any cost overruns will be the sole responsibility of the applicant if other federal funds cannot be identified.**

Detailed application instructions and forms can be found online at
<http://ulstercountyny.gov/planning/transportation-improvement-plan/tip-call-for-projects>
Applications and cover letter signed by the Chief Elected Official should be emailed to
uctc@co.ulster.ny.us **by 5:00pm on January 15, 2021.**

Project Evaluation Process

A subcommittee of the UCTC Technical Committee will be formed to review submissions and screen them for basic eligibility and consistency with the Year 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Applications will be awarded based on the following criteria:

- **Cost/Benefit Ratio:** Quantifiable project benefits divided by the annualized cost of the project; information will be subject to verification by the UCTC TIP Subcommittee.
- **Regional Benefit:** As described here, the UCTC TIP Subcommittee will consider NYSDOT's "Preservation First" framework when considering regional benefit of project proposals. This strategy focuses on preventive, corrective and demand work using Asset Management principles and data driven decision making. The highest priority is to preserve the functionality of the existing highway system in a manner that provides a regional benefit to all users of the system.
- **Project Delivery:** Ability of the project sponsor to deliver the project on schedule. Past awardees will also be expected to provide evidence of project progress on open awards.

Additional criteria for selection of bridge projects are provided in the Program Overview document.

Questions pertaining to the application process may be submitted to UCTC staff prior to the deadline:

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