

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL**  
**Joint Technical and Policy Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Summary**

September 24, 2013

SUNY Ulster, Stone Ridge, NY

Members Present:

Ralph Swenson	City of Kingston
Alan Adin	City of Kingston
John Dittus	Town of Hurley
Clyde Russell	Town of Hurley
Herb Litts	Town of Lloyd
Kelly Myers	Town of Saugerties
John Valk	Town of Shawangunk
James Quigley III	Town of Ulster
Joel Brink	Town of Ulster
David Bolles	Ulster County DPW
Edward Pine	Ulster County DPW
Andrew Emrich	Ulster County DPW
Robert DiBella	Ulster County Area Transit
Diane Beitzl	Ulster County Safety Officer and Traffic Coordinator
Tom Weiner	NYS Dept of Transportation
Carolyn Ryan	NYS Dept. of Transportation
Patrick McCarroll	NYS Thruway Authority
Kristen Resnikoff	NYS Thruway Authority
Jack Hohman	NYS Thruway Authority
Mark Boungard	Adirondack Trailways
Anne Noonan	Adirondack Trailways
Cindy Lanzetta	Citizen of the Town of Marlborough

Staff:

Dennis Doyle	U.C. Planning Board/UCTC Staff
Brian Slack	UCTC Staff
David Staas	UCTC Staff

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Technical Committee portion of the meeting was called to order by Mr. Doyle at 10:00am. Roll call was conducted by Mr. Doyle.

**CALL FOR CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Mr. Doyle asked if there were any citizen comments. James Quigley commented on the 9/22/13 Wyncoop Road, Route 209 accident, indicating that the Town of Hurley may want to request a study at the intersection. John Dittus noted that the issue was brought up at the 9/23/13 town

board meeting. John Dittus, speaking on his own behalf, indicated that he would like to see the speed limit lowered and a light installed at the location. Mr. Doyle suggested that the town should submit a letter to the Council and NYSDOT formally requesting changes to the intersection. Furthermore, Mr. Doyle noted that the council has a Priority Investigation Location (PIL) study as part of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) which could be used to study the intersection.

Kelly Myers commented that Route 209 has historically been dangerous as SUNY Ulster acts as major trip generator for young drivers who often speed to get to class. Supervisor Myers suggested that the speed should be reduced, monitored and enforced.

Supervisor Quigley stated that after past incidents, the Town has been successful in getting NYSDOT to perform speed studies and then enacting changes to the posted speed limits.

No further citizen comments were submitted.

### **APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 26, 2013 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 6/26/13 meeting of the UCTC Tech Committee. Kelly Myers made a motion to approve the minutes; second by Joel Brink. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Slack reviewed important pieces of correspondence received by UCTC staff as follows:

- Letter of transmittal from Marty Neveu, Acting Director , Statewide Planning Bureau, NYSDOT, accepting the UCTC Federal-Aid Adjusted Urbanized Area Boundary, and Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary
- Letter from Thomas Weiner, Acting regional Planning & Program Manager, requesting resolutions accepting the Proposed Ellenville Urban Cluster from municipalities containing part of the Urban Cluster Boundary.
- Letter from Mike Rizza in reference to the renewal of the lease of the New Paltz Park and Ride commuter parking lot on Route 32.
- Letter from Michael P. Hein, Chairman of UCTC and County Executive approving line item changes in the SFY2013 UPWP.

Mr. Doyle clarified stating that the FHWA Urban Area Boundary is to be adjusted by the area MPO and then approved by NYSDOT and FHWA, while the Urban Cluster Boundary is to be approved by the local municipalities via resolution and then approved by NYSDOT and FHWA.

Mr. Slack then circulated the 4 pieces of correspondence. No further discussion.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2013-06: Apportionment of Federal Fiscal Year 2013 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 Formula Funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley**

**Transportation Management Area (MHVTMA)**: Resolution 2013-06 addresses distribution of FTA 5307 funds in the TMA to the Public Operators within the TMA and the Inter-County Commuter bus services. The preliminary Ulster County share for the public operators is \$515,031 and the Inter-County Commuter bus services is \$1,809,402. In addition, \$3,391,994 in un-programmed FTA Sec. 5307 funds is available for future programming within the TMA. As of the time of agenda publication, the final figures continue to be DRAFT pending alteration of the 2010 UZA 89 Poughkeepsie--Newburgh, NY—NJ boundary, which now includes portions of New Jersey.

Mr. Slack noted that funding amounts have not been finalized as NYSDOT and NJDOT have not agreed on the distribution of the funds. As such, the numbers in the resolution are not final and the resolution should continue to be tabled until final numbers are reached.

Bob Dibella noted that UCAT had recently executed a grant that was originally going to use section 5307 funds from UZA 89 and instead switched the grant to the Kingston UZA. In doing so, this switch has avoided the immediate need for UZA 89 funds in 2014. UCAT will not need UZA 89 Funds until 2015.

Mr. Doyle indicated that although UCAT may not immediately need the funds, private carriers such as Adirondack Trailways and Coach also utilize these funds. Mark Boungard stated that Adirondack Trailways recently submitted a grant for 2012 UZA 89 funds.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for to table the resolution. Motion made by John Valk; second by Kelly Myers.

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

**Resolution 2013-10 Amendment to the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011 – 2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Delete Existing Projects Identified in Attachment 1.**

New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) staff submitted a request to delete two rail safety projects from the UCTC TIP as illustrated in Attachment 1 of the Resolution. Both projects are located in the Town of Ulster. NYSDOT has indicated that the projects are no longer desired and should be removed in an effort to maintain fiscal constraint and positive fiscal performance for the MPO. The projects were not included in the NYSDOT program that was developed for the 2014 – 2018 TIP. Public comments received have been included in the Agenda Supplement on Page 3.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by John Valk; second by Joel Brink.

Supervisor Quigley commented, stating that according to the previous supervisor, these projects were part of a quiet zone study. Mr. Doyle indicated that the intersections in question were part of the quiet zone study but were not part of the quiet zone implementation plan. The projects to be deleted from the TIP are Safety Improvement Projects.

Supervisor Quigley further inquired if the nature of the work would reduce the noise at the intersection. Mr. Doyle responded stating that, to the best of his knowledge, the projects were for safety improvements and would not necessarily reduce the blowing of whistles.

Supervisor Quigley asked if deleting the projects from the 2011 – 2015 TIP would preclude the projects from being brought back if the Town chose to pursue quiet zone work. Mr. Doyle indicated that the intersections are not considered to be a safety priority by NYSDOT. Future applications combining both the quiet zone and safety work may be beneficial.

Carolyn Ryan indicated that if the projects were being deleted because of no need, in order to reinstate the projects need would have to be reestablished. Mr. Doyle observed that the 2014-2018 TIP did not have these projects listed as it was adopted and that this resolution removing them from the 2011-2014 TIP is a matter of fiscal performance.

Based upon the resolution description in the agenda packet, Supervisor Myers suggested that the resolution be reworded to indicate that the projects were only being removed due to fiscal constraint. Upon further review of the resolution, there was no language indicating the projects were no longer desired or needed, but instead only indicated that they were being deleted due to fiscal constraint.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration

**2013 UCTC Unified Planning Work Program Budget Revisions.** UCTC Operating Procedures allow the Chairperson to approve, on behalf of the Council, changes to individual line items in the UPWP budget, which do not exceed 25% of that budgeted amount. Changes outlined on page 3 of the Agenda Supplement include minor adjustments in available funds for selected projects.

These changes amount to increasing the \$48,000 set forth in the UPWP to \$68,000 for the Broadway Corridor study in order to meet the goals of the project. This increase in funds will be offset by a reduction of funds for the Rosendale circulation study from \$44,000 to \$35,000 and a decrease in the Ulster and Delaware Rail Corridor Plan from \$40,000 to \$29,000. Mr. Doyle stated that the decrease in the Ulster and Delaware Rail Corridor Plan would be made up with alternative funding sources. These revisions have resulted in no net increase in the UPWP budget. The Chairman of UCTC has approved the budget revisions which were presented for informational purposes.

**No further discussion.**

**Resolution 2013-11 Designation of the New York State Department of Transportation as the Designated Recipient for FTA Section 5310 Funds Programmed by the Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC) Under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21).**

This resolution will allow the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to continue to serve as the designated recipient of FTA Section 5310 funds, so as to expedite the

obligation of said funds. In doing so, UCTC maintains a fair amount of oversight in distributing the funds by participating in the awards process and administration of the funds.

Mr. Doyle explained that this resolution transfers some of the administrative responsibilities to NYSDOT and that all New York MPOs have been requested to designate NYSDOT as the designated recipient for FTA Section 5310 funds. The council still maintains control through the TIP and can disapprove projects if needed.

Mr. Doyle further noted that for the past 5 years no applications have been submitted for these funds in Ulster County and funds have been returned to the State.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Ralph Swenson; second by John Valk.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration

## **OTHER/OLD BUSINESS**

**Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)**- The Transportation Alternatives Program is a new program set forth under MAP-21, replacing the existing Transportation Enhancements program from SAFETEA-LU. If municipalities were unable to apply this year for TEP funding, Mr. Slack encouraged applications for Transportation Alternatives in the spring of 2014. The Transportation Alternatives program will have less available funds than the TEP program which will make the program more complete.

Mr. Doyle noted that as Ulster County has a large amount of trail infrastructure, the Council would hope that NYSDOT would continue to allocate funds toward trails projects despite other categories now being eligible for funding.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROJECT UPDATES**

Mr. Slack reviewed the following ongoing projects:

- **44.22.03: Traffic Monitoring Program** - Analysis of 2012 count data is currently ongoing. There were significant differences in count data from 2009 to 2012 in some areas of the County. Staff has been in contact with NYSDOT staff in an effort to account for the variances in the data. Due to discrepancies, Staff is working to publish the counts in the most responsible manner. Woodstock and Hurley have experienced substantial increases while New Paltz has experienced decreases in volume.
- **44.26.15: Initiate a Study of the Need and Location for an Intermodal Facility to Serve the Greater New Paltz Area** – A Technical Advisory Committee has been formed including UCAT, Adirondack Trailways, the Town, and SUNY New Paltz. Mr. Doyle asked NYSDOT to encourage SUNY New Paltz to continue participating in the project. The project website is available at [http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/planning/npaltz\\_ifp.html](http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/planning/npaltz_ifp.html)

- 44.23.02-01: Initiate a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Demonstration Project – The Contract with Alta Planning is nearing completion and is to be followed by a kick-off meeting shortly after. The project will take place in the Town and Village of New Paltz, Town of Shawangunk, and the Town of Lloyd. The project should commence in August/September.
- 44.23.02-03: Boices Lane Rail Safety Study – This 2012 project is nearing completion and is expected within the next few weeks. UCTC Staff are currently awaiting revisions to the final recommendations at which point a presentation will be made to the Town of Ulster. Mr. Doyle thanked the Town of Ulster, Supervisor, Highway Superintendent, and County DPW for their participation in the project. NYSDOT is currently working on creating an IPP for the project.
- 44.23.02-05 Kingston Broadway Corridor Study – RFP is to be issued within the next several days.
- 44.23.02-04 Rosendale Circulation Study – RFP is currently under development
- 44.23.02-06: Analysis of Priority Investigation Location (PIL) Data among Congested Roadway Segments in Ulster County – Project will undergo development once above projects have been started.

No further discussion.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion to adjourn; motion made by Kelly Myers; second by Ralph Swenson.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at approximately 11:00am.

---

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ADJOURNED; BREAK FOR POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

---

**POLICY COMMITTEE CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Doyle called the UCTC Policy Committee to order at approximately 11:00am.

**CALL FOR CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Mr. Doyle asked if there were any citizen comments.

No citizen comments were submitted.

**APPROVAL OF THE JULY 23 2013 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 7/23/13 meeting of the UCTC Policy Committee. Kelly Myers made a motion to approve the minutes; second by Joel Brink. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Resolution 2013-10 Amendment to the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011 – 2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Delete Existing Projects Identified in Attachment 1.**

New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) staff submitted a request to delete two rail safety projects from the UCTC TIP as illustrated in Attachment 1 of the Resolution. Both projects are located in the Town of Ulster. NYSDOT has indicated that the projects are no longer desired and should be removed in an effort to maintain fiscal constraint and positive fiscal performance for the MPO. The projects were not included in the NYSDOT program that was developed for the 2014 – 2018 TIP. Public comments received have been included in the Agenda Supplement on Page 3.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of Resolution 2013-10. John Valk made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-10; second by David Bolles.

Kelly Myers requested that the minutes reflect that the projects are being deleted as a result of fiscal constraint and not that the projects are unwanted or not necessary.

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

### **Resolution 2013-11 Designation of the New York State Department of Transportation as the Designated Recipient for FTA Section 5310 Funds Programmed by the Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC) Under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21).**

This resolution will allow the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to continue to serve as the designated recipient of FTA Section 5310 funds, so as to expedite the obligation of said funds. In doing so, UCTC maintains a fair amount of oversight in distributing the funds by participating in the awards process and administration of the funds.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of Resolution 2013-11. Joel Brink made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-11; second by John Valk. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

No further discussion.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion to adjourn; motion made by Joel Brink; second by David Bolles.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at approximately 11:05am.

-DS