

ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Policy Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary
March 11, 2015
SUNY Ulster, Stone Ridge, NY

Members Present:

Ralph Swenson	City of Kingston
John Dittus	Town of Hurley
Mike Warren	Town of Marbletown/Supervisors Association
Howard Baker	Town of Marlborough
Greg Helsmoortel	Town of Saugerties
James Bruno	Town of Saugerties
Joel Brink	Town of Ulster
Alex Wade	Village of Saugerties
Bob Dibella	Ulster County Area Transit
Edward Pine	Ulster County DPW
Andrew Emrich	Ulster County DPW
Diane Beitel	Ulster County Safety Officer and Traffic Coordinator
Kathy Nolan	Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee
Tom Weiner	NYS Dept of Transportation
Kristen Resnikoff	NYS Thruway Authority
Mark Boungard	Adirondack Trailways
Barry Hecht	Adirondack Trailways
Cynthia Ruiz	Dutchess County Public Transit
Steven Gayle	Resource Systems Group

Staff:

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Policy Committee meeting was called to order by Mr. Doyle at 10:00am. Roll call was conducted by Mr. Slack.

CALL FOR CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Mr. Doyle asked if there were any citizen comments.

No citizen comments were submitted.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 23, 2014 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 9/23/14 meeting of the UCTC Policy Committee. Joel Brink made a motion to approve the minutes; second by Greg Helsmoortel. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Slack reminded members that the NYS Thruway Authority still has bridge panels available for reuse from the Tappan Zee Bridge replacement.

Members are encouraged to consider using the panels to aid in local bridge replacement and reconstructions.

No further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2015-01: Amendment to the UCTC 2014 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program. Resolution 2015-01 was originally approved by the UCTC Technical Committee on November 25, 2014 as Resolution 2014-11. The resolution establishes PIN 878049, programming federal Transportation Enhancement Program funds for the City of Kingston to construct pedestrian and bicycle facilities on the Broadway Corridor from Broadway at St. James Street to Foxhall Avenue. Streetscape improvements and enhancements will include facilities such as sidewalks, curbing, bike lanes, pedestrian bumpouts, lighting, benches and trees. The total project cost is \$3.250m, utilizing a local share of \$1.249m. In accordance with UCTC Operating Procedures, the resolution was made available for 15 day public notice and comment period; one public comment was received and is included in the packet materials for Committee member review.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Ed Pine; second by Ralph Swenson.

Mr. Slack explained that public comments were included in the agenda packet. The single comment received was in support of the project.

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

Resolution 2015-02: Approval of the Final Draft UCTC 2015/16 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The final draft was approved by the UCTC Technical Committee on 2/11/15 and made available for 15 day public comment. No comments were received. The final draft 2015/16 UPWP continues work commenced during previous UPWP cycles and adds 4 new projects for future programming and development. The UCTC 2015/16 UPWP will be adopted under Resolution 2015-02. Comments were received from NYSDOT and minor corrections were made to update the affected tables.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Greg Helmsmoortel; second by Howard Baker.

Howard baker asked if this was the final version of the document.

Mr. Slack indicated that the document is based upon the anticipated funds which will not be finalized until reimbursements from the previous year are completed. Any changes will be minor and can be performed as modifications.

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

Resolution 2015-03: Allocation of Previously Unallocated Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Formula Funds for Various Transit Projects. Section 5307 funds apportioned to Mid-Hudson Transportation Management Area (UZA 89) have been reserved and are available for future programming through either competitive solicitation or as determined beneficial for the TMA by the 3 MPOs. A total of \$2,911,480 in FFY2012 funds are available. These funds will expire at the end of this FFY and transit agencies will need to include the funding in their FTA applications by the end of March. Resolution 2015-03 details the proposed use of these funds, distributing \$720,000 to UCAT for equipment purchases, \$500,000 to Metro-North RR for operation of the Newburgh-Beacon Ferry in 2015 and 2016, and \$1,691,480 for Dutchess County Transit to partially cover bus replacement for 15 medium-duty buses to be replaced with 15 heavy-duty buses in 2016.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Joel Brink; second by Ralph Swenson.

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

Resolution 2015-04: Apportionment of Federal Fiscal Year 2013 Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Formula Funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley. Resolution 2015-04 identifies FFY 2013 FTA Section 5307 funds apportioned to Mid-Hudson Transportation Management Area (UZA 89) and outlines the distribution of those funds to eligible recipients within the TMA. For areas with populations of 200,000 and more, the formula is based on a combination of bus revenue vehicle miles, bus passenger miles, fixed guideway revenue vehicle miles, and fixed guideway route miles as well as population and population density.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Greg Helmsmoortel; second by Ed Pine.

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

Resolution 2015-05: Apportionment of Federal Fiscal Year 2014 Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Formula Funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley. Resolution 2015-04 identifies FFY 2014 FTA Section 5307 funds apportioned to Mid-Hudson Transportation Management Area (UZA 89) and outlines the distribution of those funds to eligible recipients within the TMA.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Greg Helmsmoortel; second by Howard Baker.

Ed Pine asked how long the funds would be available for.

Mr. Doyle explained that the 2012 funds are available until the end of FFY 2015. Under Map-21, 2013 funds are available for 5+1 years.

Barry Hecht provided some background information to the NY and NJ allocation process and indicated that an agreement will need to be reached between the two states for the 2015 funds.

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

Resolution 2015-06: Apportionment of FFY2013 FTA Section 5339 Formula Funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley TMA. The FTA Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facility Program provides capital funding to replace, rehabilitate and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities. Resolution 2015-06 identifies FTA Section 5339 funds apportioned to the Mid-Hudson Transportation Management Area (UZA 89) for FFY2013 and outlines the distribution of those funds to eligible recipients within the TMA. This distribution is in-line with a proposed methodology agreed upon by Ulster County Transportation Council, Poughkeepsie-Dutchess Transportation Council and Orange County Transportation Council staff in full consultation with state and federal agencies.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Greg Helmsmoortel; second by Joel Brink.

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

Resolution 2015-07: Apportionment of FFY2014 FTA Section 5339 Formula Funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley TMA. Resolution 2015-07 identifies FTA Section 5339 funds apportioned to the Mid-Hudson Transportation Management Area (UZA 89) for FFY2014 and outlines the distribution of those funds to eligible recipients within the TMA. This distribution is in-line with a methodology agreed upon by Ulster County Transportation Council, Poughkeepsie-Dutchess Transportation Council and Orange County Transportation Council staff in full consultation with state and federal agencies. Each MPO has reached full agreement on these distributions and each will pass identical resolutions in support before distributions can be made final.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Joel Brink; second by Ed Pine.

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

Resolution 2015-08: Allocation of Previously Unallocated Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Formula Funds for Various Transit Projects: Section 5307 funds apportioned to Mid-Hudson Transportation Management Area (UZA 89) have been reserved and are available for future programming through either competitive solicitation or as determined beneficial for the TMA by the 3 MPOs. A total of \$3,405,712 in FFY2013 funds are available. Resolution 2015-08 details the proposed use of a portion of these funds, distributing \$1,757,044

to Dutchess County Transit to partially cover bus replacement for 15 medium-duty buses to be replaced with 15 heavy-duty buses in 2016.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Ed Pine; second by Howard Baker.

Mike Warren asked what happens to the remaining unallocated funds.

Mr. Doyle responded stating that funds remain in an unallocated regional balance available on a competitive basis within the TMA.

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

Resolution 2015-09: Amendment to the UCTC 2014 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program to Add New Projects. Resolution 2015-09 creates PIN 8463.17, Route 213 Over Rondout Creek (Eddyville) Bridge MBC. This NYSDOT project will utilize \$5.227 in Federal STP Flex and State Dedicated Funds to perform work on the Route 2013 Bridge over the Rondout Creek.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Greg Helsmoortel; second by Joel Brink.

Tom Weiner noted that the TIP strip needs to be updated to reflect the 20% state match for construction, detailed design. An inspection phase needs to be added at \$400,000 STP Flex and \$100,000 in SDF.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion to amend the resolution as described. Motion made by Greg Helsmoortel; second by Howard Baker.

All in favor of amending resolution 2015-09, none opposed -- Amendment Carried

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

Resolution 2015-10: Amendment to the UCTC 2014 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program to Add New Projects. Resolution 2015-10 creates PIN 8761.21, Hudson Valley Rail Trail West (Phase 4). This Ulster County project will utilize FHWA Transportation Alternative Program funds to construct a trail that will begin at New Paltz Road and proceeds 0.5 miles on abandoned RR corridor, then along NYS Route 299 for approximately 0.74 miles and ends at South Street with a new trailhead, parking and signage in the Town of Lloyd. TAP funds require a 20% local match.

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

Two comments were received, both in support of the project. A RFQ has been issued for the project.

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

Resolution 2015-11: Amendment to the UCTC 2014 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program to Modify Cost, Schedule and Project Description. Resolution 2015-11 amends the UCTC TIP to include new project phases under UCAT PIN 8TRU64. The Amendment adds \$0.720m in federal 5307 funds for the purchase of 4 buses.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Howard Baker; second by Joel Brink.

Bob Dibella noted that the project description in the TIP Strip should read 6 busses instead of 4. The number of busses listed in the resolution (6) is correct.

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

Resolution 2015-12: Amendment to the UCTC 2014 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program to Add New UCAT Transit Project. Resolution 2015-12 amends the UCTC TIP to include new project UCAT PIN 8TRU84. The Amendment adds UCAT's 5339 allocation from the Mid-Hudson TMA for FFY13 and FFY14. No public comments were received.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Greg Helmsmoortel; second by Ralph Swenson.

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

Resolution 2015-13: Amendment to the UCTC 2014 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program to Modify Cost, Schedule and Project Description. Resolution 2015-13 amends the UCTC TIP to include new project phases under PIN 8TRU75. The Amendment adds \$5.417 in FTA 5307 funds attributable to Inter-County Commuter Bus Services in Ulster County (Adirondack Trailways) for FFYs 2013, 2014 and 2015. All funds have been programmed in FFY2015. FFY2016, 2017 & 2018 allocations are "block programmed" as estimates on the TIP to act as placeholders in anticipation of future allocations. Sub-allocations are limited to no more than the operator's vehicle maintenance expenses, as reported to the National Transit Database (NTD).

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Ralph Swenson; second by Joel Brink.

Mr. Doyle noted that in the past Capital Cost of Contracting funds have been transferred to CDTA, taking a 10% administrative fee.

Mike Warren asked if there was capacity within the county to perform the work rather than having to transfer funds to CDTA. The administrative fee is quite large considering the amount of funds being processed.

Mr. Doyle indicated that there is ability and capacity to process and administer these funds within the county. The state has urged the continued transfer of these funds to CDTA for administration.

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

UCTC Year 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan: UCTC has begun a full update of its Long Range Transportation Plan. The Year 2040 LRTP will have a 25 year planning horizon and will examine all elements of the surface transportation system. Resource Systems Group, a transportation, planning and engineering consultant firm, has been hired to assist staff with the completion of this important MPO document and planning process. Steven Gayle, Professional Transportation Planner at RSG, will be on hand to present the financial planning component of the LRTP. Prior to joining RSG, Steven was the Executive Director of the Binghamton (NY) Metropolitan Transportation Study.

Steven Gayle provided a presentation to policy committee members regarding the long range transportation plan process and development.

OTHER/OLD BUSINESS

UCTC FFY 2014 Obligation Report was presented to the Technical Committee on 2/11/15 and is now available online.

Update of UCTC Operating Procedures. A first-draft of proposed modifications to the UCTC Operating Procedures was circulated at the September 23rd Tech/Policy meeting. Comments on this draft were provided by members at the November 24th Technical Committee meeting. Final revisions were made; the Final Draft UCTC Operating Procedures were approved by the Technical Committee at the February 11th meeting. The final draft has been made available for 45 day public review and comment period ending March 30, 2015; all comments received during this time will be made available prior to presentation to the Policy Committee at its May meeting.

No further discussion.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion to adjourn; motion made by Howard Baker; second by Ed Pine.

MEETING ADJOURNED at approximately 12:00 pm.

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