

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Policy Committee Meeting**

Meeting Summary

June 25, 2019

Rondout Municipal Center, Cottekill, NY

Members Present:

Joel Brink	Town of Ulster
Bill McKenna	Town of Woodstock
Herb Litts	Ulster County Legislature
Alan Adin	City of Kingston
Greg Krupp	City of Kingston
Lizy Philip	NYS Thruway
William Murray	Village of New Paltz
Edward Pine	UC DPW
Lance MacMillan	NYSDOT Region 8
Jeanne Walsh	Town of Rosendale
Anthony Mignone	Resource Center for Accessible Living
Dan Coots	NYSDOT Region 8
Amy McKenzie	NYSDOT Region 8
Andrew Emrich	UC DPW
Ryan Beezner	UC DPW
Tom Wilkin	Town of Plattekill
Shannon Harris	Town of Esopus
Vernon Benjamin	Town of Saugerties
Glen Gidaly	Barton and Loguidice
Neil Bettez	Town of New Paltz
Michael Baden	Town of Rochester

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 10:05am. Roll call was conducted by Mr. Slack; 10 voting members confirmed present.

CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizen comments received.

APPROVAL OF THE April 23, 2019 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 2/26/19 meeting of the UCTC Policy Committee. Tom Wilkin made a motion to approve the minutes; second by Joel Brink.

No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed – Town of Woodstock abstains. Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Slack circulated several letters and correspondence that have crossed his desk, notably:
Town of Marlboro to NYSDOT re: upcoming Rte 9W paving project encouraging NYSDOT to implement recommendations of the 2018 UCTC plan prepared by BFJ;
Town of Esopus to Ed Goff regarding need for safety studies in Port Ewen;
Local citizen in the hamlet of Kerhonkson regarding traffic conditions on Minnewaska Trail Road.

NEW BUSINESS

UCTC Resolution 2019-09: Support New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Targets for Safety Performance Measures

Tom Wilkin made a motion to begin discussion; second by Bill McKenna. Mr. Slack explained Resolution 2019-09 updates Safety Performance Measures based on new targets adopted by NYSDOT for 2019; original targets were approved by UCTC under Resolution 2017-12.

Safety Performance Management (Safety PM) is part of the overall Transportation Performance Management (TPM) program, which FHWA defines as a strategic approach that uses system information to make investment and policy decision to achieve national performance goals. The Safety PM Final Rule supports the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), as it establishes safety performance measure requirements for the purpose of carrying out the HSIP and to assess fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.

The Safety PM Final Rule establishes five performance measures as the five-year rolling averages to include:

1. Number of Fatalities
2. Rate of Fatalities per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
3. Number of Serious Injuries
4. Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT
5. Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Non-motorized Serious Injuries

The Safety PM Final Rule also establishes the process for State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to establish and report their safety targets, and the process that FHWA will use to assess whether State DOTs have met or made significant progress toward meeting their safety targets. NYSDOT has closely coordinated the establishment of safety targets with the 14 MPOs in NYS through the NYS Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations. Through that process, NYSDOT has requested all MPOs

to adopt the NYSDOT targets in an effort to establish uniformity during the initial reporting period.

Mr. Benjamin inquired as to how other crash types are accounted for; the information is available to UCTC for review but is not part of the FHWA Safety Performance Measure. This information will be reviewed in an upcoming crash analysis being conducted by UCTC and is typically compiled in each Long Range Transportation Plan. Mr. Slack further explained that investments in the transportation system should be selected in a manner that will help improve safety performance across these target areas.

All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried

UCTC Resolution 2019-10: Amendment to the UCTC Federal Fiscal year (FFY) 2017-2021 TIP to Add New PIN 875913 as Shown in Attachment 1.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion; Alan Adin made a motion; Bill McKenna second. Mr. Slack circulated copies of a public comment from a local citizen relevant to the discussion.

Mr. Slack explained that this TIP amendment was made at the request of New York State Department of Transportation Region 8 and the City of Kingston, seeking to amend the 2017-2021 TIP in order to revise an existing project description, cost and schedule. PIN 875913 programs \$0.427m in federal STP Flex dollars for the purpose of constructing a sidewalk along Route 32/Boulevard from Klingberg Avenue to Amy Kay Parkway, City of Kingston. This amendment changes the project sponsor from the City of Kingston to the NYSDOT as provided in the Empire State Trail Work (EST) Agreement between the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, The New York State Department of Transportation, and the City of Kingston. The amendment will allow the City of Kingston and NYSDOT to advance the project schedule from 2024 to 2019 in order to expedite project construction as part of the Empire State Trail (EST). It is anticipated that pairing this project with ongoing EST work will also decrease the total costs of design and construction and eliminate redundant or duplicative efforts. City of Kingston will be responsible for the required 20% local share.

Mr. Doyle indicated that this project is one component of the larger and more extensive improvements being constructed by NYSDOT in this corridor associated with the Empire State Trail. Mr. Slack noted that a public meeting was held by NYSDOT regarding the Empire State Trail design last weekend.

All in favor; none opposed. Carried

UCTC Resolution 2019-11: Amendment to the UCTC Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Amend Ulster County Area Transit PIN 8TRU50 as Shown in Attachment 1.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion; Michael Baden made a motion; Joel Brink second. Mr. Slack explained at the request of Ulster County Area Transit, UCTC Resolution 2019-11 seeks to amend the 2017-2021 TIP in order to revise project costs to be in line with UCAT's

2019 FTA grant application. The amendment reduced Operating Assistance for FFY19 from \$1.200m total project cost to \$0.600m total project cost. FTA rules require public operators to provide a 50% match for Operating costs.

UCTC TIP Amendment Procedures stipulate that changes to project phases in excess of \$500,000 constitute a full amendment. UCTC TIP Operating Procedures stipulate that amendments to the TIP require 15 day public notice and comment period prior to Policy Committee approval. No public comments were received.

All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried

Mr. Doyle requested permission to take agenda item F out of order; none opposed.

UCTC Resolution 2019-14: Amendment to the UCTC Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add Transportation Alternative Program Awards as Shown in Attachment 1.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion; ; Alan Adin made a motion; Joel Brink second.

Mr. Slack explained at the request of the Town of Lloyd, Town of New Paltz, City of Kingston, and NYSDOT Region 8, Draft Resolution 2019-14 programs new Transportation Alternative Program awards as shown in Attachment 1.

UCTC TIP Amendment Procedures stipulate that new projects to be added to the TIP constitute a full amendment. UCTC TIP Operating Procedures stipulate that amendments to the TIP require 15 day public notice and comment period prior to Policy Committee approval. No public comments were received.

All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried

UCTC Resolution 2019-12: Adoption of the Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC) Federal Fiscal Year 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Slack provided a brief presentation on the 2020 TIP; it was the same presentation provided on June 12th for the necessary public meeting.

Mr. Slack explained UCTC updates the TIP every 2-3 years in accordance with federal rules and regulations. The Preliminary Draft UCTC TIP was revised and updated based on TIP/STIP Policy Guidance and Instructions issued by NYSDOT in September 2018. In accordance with those instructions, UCTC staff, working closely with members of the UCTC TIP Subcommittee, developed a list of recommended projects for inclusion in the 2020-2024 program based directly on local sponsor input and available federal funds. Those recommendations were then presented to the Technical Committee at its January meeting for preliminary review and again at the March meeting for preliminary review.

That draft program has similarly been reviewed by NYSDOT and entered in draft format into NYSDOT's accounting software in order to confirm that the UCTC local program conforms to

local planning targets. The draft 2020-2024 TIP programs over \$28.5 million in Federal Transit Administration funds and nearly \$59 million in Federal Highway Administration funds for a variety of local and state transportation projects over the 5-year Transportation Improvement Programming period. In accordance with UCTC Operating Procedures, the TIP is required to be presented to the public and be available for 15 day public review and comment period. The public review period will commence on Thursday May 30th and will end on Friday June 14th. A public meeting has been scheduled for June 12th.

A copy of the Draft 2020 – 2024 UCTC TIP was circulated for Technical member review and approval.

Mr. Slack circulated copies of a public comment from a local citizen relevant to the discussion.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion; Ed Pine made a motion; Jeanne Walsh second. All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

UCTC Resolution 2019-13: Amendment to the Ulster County Transportation Council State Fiscal year (SFY) 2019/20 Unified Planning Work Program to Program Funds As Shown in Attachment 1.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion; Ed Pine made a motion; Bill McKenna second. All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Mr. Doyle explained that the NYSDOT Policy and Planning Division notified the New York State Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations that a federal rescission of FHWA and FTA funds would be likely to occur in FFY19. If such a rescission were to occur, any un-programmed funds presently in savings by MPOs would be subject to possible revocation. As such, statewide MPOs have taken the necessary steps to fully program 100% of available federal funds in an effort to shield funds from possible rescission.

Draft Resolution 2019-13 amends the SFY19/20 Unified Planning Work Program and outlines how remaining UCTC FHWA and FTA savings (unprogrammed balance) will be distributed among new and existing projects.

UCTC Operating Procedures stipulate that amendments to the UPWP require 15 day public notice and comment period prior to Policy Committee approval. No public comments were received.

All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

OTHER/OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Doyle and Mr. Slack provided a brief overview of the regular two-year member turnover and the process by which voting proxies can be designated

Supervisor Harris reiterated her concern regarding traffic conditions on Rte 9W in Esopus and also in the hamlet of Port Ewen as detailed in resolution and correspondence to the NYSDOT. Regional Director MacMillan provided a brief overview of the process for requesting

engineering and speed studies within towns and hamlet areas by the NYSDOT and the likely turnaround time required to satisfy those requests.

A variety of other informal, transportation-related concerns were brought to the Regional Director's attention prior to adjournment.

MEETING ADJOURNED at approximately 11:30am. -BS