

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
Technical Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Summary**

April 18, 2017

Rondout Municipal Center, Cottekill, NY

Members Present:

Mike Warren	Town of Marbletown
Tom Wilkin	Town of Plattekill
Jeanne Walsh	Town of Rosendale
Vernon Benjamin	Town of Saugerties
Carol Hargrove	Ulster County Area Transit
Don Quesnell	Ulster County Area Transit
Ed Pine	Ulster County DPW
Tom Weiner	NYS Dept of Transportation
Lizzy Philip	NYS Thruway Authority
Anne Noonan	Adirondack Trailways

Staff:

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

Citizens:

Alan Glass  
Darin Morehouse  
Christina Gardiner  
Pete Baker

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Technical Committee meeting was called to order by Mr. Doyle at 10:05am. Roll call was conducted by Mr. Doyle.

**CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS**

No citizen comments were received.

**APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 2017 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 2/14/17 meeting of the UCTC Technical Committee. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Ed Pine.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Doyle announced that Tom Weiner would be retiring in the coming months. Tom Weiner confirmed and indicated that he would be retiring at the end of June. Jim Rapoli will also be retiring at a similar time.

Mr. Doyle noted under the current presidential administration it appears there will be a substantial cut to transit funding.

The MPO rulemaking under Anthony Fox is being rescinded.

The Governor's budget includes provisions for Uber and Lyft. Each ride will be taxed and will provide funds to the general fund. Funding is currently programed for the Empire Trail project. Additional funds in the governor's budget are being programed for the Ashokan trail.

Ulster County is progressing through the design process on the Ashokan rail trail project. Fencing is one of the primary issues being faced as plans along the corridor progress.

The Hudson Valley Rail Trail phase 4 is progressing through Right of Way. Construction is expected to start in October/November. Trail work along SR 209 continues as Ulster County works with Central Hudson to perform the trail work requiring the relocation of utility poles.

No further communications or announcements at this time.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Draft Resolution 2017-07: Establishment of Ulster County Transit Providers' Transit Asset Management Plan Performance Management Targets.** The FTA Transit Asset Management Rule, which became effective on October 1, 2016, requires transit operators to develop and adopt a Transit Asset Management Plan that addresses State of Good Repair for rolling stock, infrastructure, equipment, and facilities. As part of that rule, MPOs are required to agree to and support transit operators' targets or set their own quantifiable targets.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Ed Pine.

Mr. Slack explained the regulation, target setting process and provided a handout summarizing the transit asset management plan. UCAT has supplied performance targets for their system. The resolution presented before the council provides some leniency in wording to allow Kingston Citibus to develop their targets and be considered for adoption without any additional action required from the Council.

Carol Hargrove discussed the UCAT transit asset management plan. The plan includes an inventory of assets purchased with federal funds and the ability of assets to be used beyond their useful life. Other indicators such as ADA compliance and cost per mile and cost per passenger will also be recorded. UCAT will make the transit asset management plan available to members and the public.

Tom Wilkin asked how the useful life is determined.

Carol Hargrove indicated that a number of factors are utilized to determine the useful life of a vehicle including: maintenance cost, mileage, and cost per mile.

Kingston Citibus has not responded to inquiries for their transit asset management plan.

Members recommended establishing two separate resolutions to adopt each provider's transit asset management plan.

The council proposed to amend the resolution to strike reference to multiple transit asset management plans and remove reference to Citibus. Resolution 2017-09 would be created for adoption of the Kingston Citibus transit asset management plan once completed.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion to amend resolution 2017-07 as described. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Mike Warren.

Tom Weiner asked what will happen if nothing is received from Citibus. Mr. Slack responded that UCTC will show due diligence in progressing adoption along as much as the MPO is capable of. Mr. Doyle further commented that UCTC may develop targets that Citibus could consider for adoption.

**No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed –Motion Carried as Amended**  
Modified resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**Ulster County Transit Integration Study – Project Update:** Draft materials pertaining to fact finding and analysis associated with the Ulster County Transit Integration Study have been completed and are presently under review. On April 4, 2017, UCTC staff and TransPro consultant staff met with the Ulster County Executive, Mayor of Kingston and their staffs to review preliminary findings. A summary of that presentation will be provided to the UCTC Technical Committee for their information. Meeting attendees determined that more information would be required pertaining to possible route alternatives before a final proposal could be presented to stakeholders. UCTC has therefore directed TransPro to prepare a draft proposal for additional services as an addendum to the existing contract which expires on June 30, 2017. The addendum will postpone the public involvement component of the study to a later date and require TransPro to perform a detailed route optimization study. Route optimization will explore alternatives to the existing Citibus service and route structure and explore the implications therein applicable to costs, service efficiency and likely impacts to ridership and service area. An amendment to the SFY 2017 UCTC Unified Planning Work Program will be required.

Mr. Doyle explained the process and stressed the importance of improvements for the riding public.

Carol Hargrove echoed comments from Dennis and noted that integration will likely result in a reduction of headways for riders in the City of Kingston.

Mr. Slack Stressed the importance of existing employee positions and working with the union to ensure that their concerns are met. Outreach directly with Citibus and UCAT employees is being

considered prior to a broader public outreach. A contract extension through the end of August will likely be needed to complete the study.

Mr. Doyle further discussed the implication section 13c for transit employees. Under the regulation employees are guaranteed positions substantially similar to their existing positions. Route optimization will also be a key component of the study and as such the consultant will be further engaged for route optimization work. It is anticipated that all drivers will have the opportunity for employment due to the expanded service if a merger would occur.

Mr. Doyle requested that the technical committee reach a consensus to add an additional \$52,000 in unprogrammed funds to the study for route optimization work.

**No objections received.**

**No further discussion.**

**UCTC 2017 Transportation Improvement Program – Block Program Bridge and Paving PINs.** NYS Department of Transportation Local Project Unit has submitted Initial Project Proposal (IPP) forms to local sponsors; this is the first step necessary before UCTC can program new bridge and paving project PINs on the Transportation Improvement Program. UCTC staff and NYSDOT will provide a summary of any necessary TIP actions that may be required and address any questions that may arise between UCTC, local project sponsors and NYSDOT regarding next steps.

Mr. Slack indicated that NYSDOT had developed IPP forms to the local project sponsors. Once forms are completed by local sponsors, projects will be added to the TIP through administrative modifications.

Mr. Doyle encouraged municipalities to think about large infrastructure projects that may be needed while infrastructure programs are developed at the state and federal level.

Mr. Slack expressed gratitude to the Local Projects unity and Marty Evans for their work to create the IPPs.

Mr. Doyle thanked Tom Weiner for the addition of STP off system bridge funding which made this program possible.

**No further discussion.**

**Resolution 2017-08: Distribution of the FFY 2014 Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 Small Urbanized Area Apportionments Attributable to the Kingston Urbanized Area.**

On April 13th MPOs received correspondence from NYSDOT Assistant Commissioner for Policy and Planning Ronald Epstein notifying direct recipients of an additional sub-allocation of SUZA 5339 funds for FFY14; this letter supersedes previous notifications from 8/28/14, 1/25/16 and 2/23/16. Resolution 2017-08 seeks approval for the apportionment of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339 formula funds to the two designated recipients in Ulster County: City of Kingston (Kingston Citibus) and Ulster County (Ulster

County Area Transit). A combined total of \$165,348.22 is available to DRs in the Kingston Urbanized Area. A portion of those funds was previously released in 2014 and split under UCTC Resolution 2016-13.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Jeanne Walsh.

This resolution adds additional funding from the small urbanized area. Applications are due by August 24<sup>th</sup> to utilize the funds. The MPO is programming the funds to facilitate the distribution of funds. UCAT will be the sole application for all of these funds after discussions between Mr. Doyle and the City of Kingston.

**No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed –Motion Carried**  
Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

#### **OTHER/OLD BUSINESS**

- Count Locations
  - Mr. Doyle asked members to consider count locations that they may need. Classification, speed, volume and bicycle counts are available under the new contract.
- 2 Year Voting Member Turnover June 4, 2017
  - Jeanne asked that the turnover reflect the election cycle. This would require a change to the UCTC operating procedures.
- Olive Mt. Tremper Local Flood Analysis
  - Mr. Slack asked if NYSDOT had given any consideration to the flood analysis and potential for a berm along Route 28. Tom Weiner indicated that initial reviews were positive and discussions with the MPO will continue.
- TAP
  - Tom Weiner indicated that the announcement will be made soon.
- Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area Regional Transit Plan
- Critical Urban Freight Corridors
  - MPOs have been asked to identify corridors that are vital to freight movement within the urbanized portions of their planning areas. MPO staff will recommend Rt 28, 209, and a section of 32 to added.

**No further discussion.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at approximately 11:38 am  
-DS