

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Policy Committee Meeting**

Meeting Summary

February 25, 2020

Rondout Municipal Center, Cottekill, NY

Voting Members Present:

Kristen Wilson	City of Kingston
Nicole Farmer	NYS DOT Region 8
Amy McKenzie	NYS DOT Region 8
Lizy Philip	NYS Thruway Authority
Neil Bettez	Town of New Paltz
Tom Wilkin	Town of Plattekill
Michael Baden	Town of Rochester
Jeanne Walsh	Town of Rosendale
Vernon Benjamin	Town of Saugerties
Leanne Thornton	Town of Saugerties
John Morrow	Town of Ulster
Edward Pine	UC DPW

Others Present:

Anthony Mignone	RCAL
Peter Humphries	Town of Hurley
Herb Litts	Ulster County Legislature
Diane Beitel	UC Traffic Safety Board
Mary Smith	Woodstock Complete Streets

Staff:

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

CALL TO ORDER

Policy Committee Call to Order – Introductions & Roll Call (10:00am)

CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mike Baden commented that he witnessed a UCAT bus passenger nearly getting hit after alighting and crossing the road on Route 209. Supervisor Baden suggested that the council look into the implementation of flashing red lights and stop signs similar to a school bus for all public transit vehicles.

Neil Bettez requested a resolution expressing appreciation for the increase in express service from Kingston to NYC but there are concerns that this expanded service is coming at the cost of service in New Paltz and Rosendale. Jeanne Walsh expressed similar concerns.

Mr. Doyle responded that there do not appear to be any changes being made to service. Furthermore, there is a substantial amount of service in the Rt 32 corridor and suggested that passenger ticketing should be examined to better understand demand and service needs.

John Morrow stated that he felt it was premature to issue such a resolution without additional information.

Mr. Doyle explained that Trilways will have to respond to an RFP for commuter bus services in the area which may result in a change of carrier depending upon the reward. The RFP from the state has yet to be issued and UCTC will be able to review the RFP prior to issuance.

No further comments.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 18, 2019 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 9/24/19 meeting of the UCTC Policy Committee. Tom Wilkin made a motion to approve the minutes; second by Mike Baden.

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

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Slack provided communication from NYSDOT announcing section 5310 FTA grant program. The allocation for Ulster County is \$220,000 and \$650,000 for operations in the TMA. Deadline for submission is March 16th.

No further communications.

NEW BUSINESS

UCTC Resolution 2020-01: Adopt the Ulster County Transportation Council's SFY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program. The Draft UCTC State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is available for review. Staff will present the draft program and request input and comment. The draft 2020 UPWP continues work commenced during previous UPWP cycles, revises several projects included on the previous program, and adds 2 new projects for future programming and development.

The draft 2020 program, as written, comprises an FHWA budget of \$1,131,892 and an FTA program budget of \$128,800. This program provides an FHWA un-programmed balance (savings) of \$300,043 and an FTA un-programmed balance of \$18,026.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion; Mike Wilkin made a motion; Ed Pine.

Mr. Slack provided a brief overview of the comments received and revisions made. The majority of comments came from NYSDOT planning division in main office. A response sheet was circulated to members detailing the comments and revisions made. No public comments

were received during the public comment period. Four comments were received from trail advocates following the comment period in favor of the UPWP.

No further discussion. All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried

UCTC Resolution 2020-02: Amendment to the UCTC Federal Fiscal Year 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Delete PIN 875771 and Amend Costs to PIN

805111. At the request of the Ulster County Department of Public Works, UCTC Resolution 2020-02 seeks to delete PIN 875771: Cape Avenue/Beerkill Bridge Rehabilitation, Village of Ellenville and utilize \$0.896m in federal aid toward construction costs on PIN 805111: County Rtes 7&8 Shoulder Widening. The addition or removal of any project to the UCTC TIP that utilizes federal transportation aid constitutes an amendment to the TIP and therefore requires both Technical and Policy Committee approval as well as 15 day public comment period.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion; Tom Wilkin made a motion; Mike Baden second.

Mr. Slack explained that Ulster County intends to utilize local funds to undertake the project. No public comments were received.

No further discussion. All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried

OTHER/OLD BUSINESS

Commuter carrier services RFP Mr. Doyle explained that the commuter routes currently operated by Adirondack Trailways in the region will be opened up to a competitive bid process rather than as a sole source following requirements from FTA. A similar competitive bid process has occurred in the past in Rockland County. Currently Trailways commuter operations are reported to the NTD and used in generating funding in the region. Trailways does receive a portion of this funding for operating expenses but has not received the funding for the past two years from the FTA. Funds from 2019 onward will be distributed based upon the competitive bid award. UCTC staff will keep the council apprised as development occurs regarding the RFP and commuter carrier services.

Project Updates

Connect Mid Hudson project update - Project ongoing.

Kingston Traffic Signal Warrant Analysis – Nearing completion

Kingston Wayfinding Study – Project complete. Final materials to be added to UCTC website

UCAT Electric Bus Procurement – Preferred vendor identified. Award not issued.

Ulster County Road Safety Plan – Data collection ongoing. Working on normalizing data.

Ellenville Wayfinding Study – Public presentation made last night. Nearing 50% complete.

Wallkill Valley Rail Trail Opportunities Study – Public input phase will begin shortly.

ADA Sidewalk Inventory – Desktop digitization nearing completion. Rating continues.

Opportunity to coordinate with RCAL.

MHVTA Congestion Management Process – Tech memo 1 complete. Non-motorized component completed. Micro level analysis is being undertaken.

No further discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 -DS