

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Policy Committee Meeting**

A G E N D A

**December 15, 2021
10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**In Accordance with NYS Legislation (S.50001/A.40001), UCTC Meetings will be Held
Virtually to Reduce the Risk of COVID-19 Spread.**

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://ulstercountyny.zoom.us/j/87643342041?pwd=V0N4OTd1U0h0a0RrcUNySm9NNW1DUT09>

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- 1. Policy Committee Call to Order – Welcome & Introductions (10:00am)**
- 2. Call for Citizen Comments**
- 3. Approval of Policy Committee meeting summaries**
 - a) June 29, 2021 Policy Committee meeting summary – Previously Tabled**
 - b) August 24, 2021 Policy Committee meeting summary**
- 4. Communications and Announcements**
- 5. New Business**
 - a) UCTC Resolution 2021-11: Apportionment of Federal Transit Administration American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Section 5307/5340 Formula Funds Attributable to the Kingston Urbanized Area.**

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), which President Biden signed on March 11, 2021, includes \$30.5 billion in federal funding to support the nation’s public transportation systems as they continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and support the President’s call to vaccinate the U.S. population. The relief funds will be distributed at 100-percent federal share allocated by statutory formulas to urbanized, rural and tribal governments.

The Urbanized Area Formula Funding program (49 U.S.C. 5307) makes federal resources available to urbanized areas and to governors for transit capital and operating assistance in urbanized areas and for transportation-related planning. An urbanized area is an incorporated area with a population of 50,000 or more that is designated as such by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Funding is made available to designated recipients that are public bodies with the legal authority to receive and dispense federal funds. Governors, responsible local officials and publicly owned operators

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of transit services shall designate a recipient to apply for, receive, and dispense funds for urbanized areas pursuant to 49USCA5307(a)(2). The governor or governor's designee acts as the designated recipient for urbanized areas between 50,000 and 200,000.

As shown in Attachment 1 of **Resolution 2021-11, \$1,310,895** in FTA 5307/5340 funds were apportioned to publicly-owned operators of transit service within the Kingston Urbanized Area in **FFY 2021**.

Ulster County, operator of Ulster County Area Transit (UCAT), is the only publicly owned transit service within the Kingston Urbanized Area. As such, Draft Resolution 2021-11 allocated 100% of available funds to Ulster County.

Eligible activities include: planning, engineering, design and evaluation of transit projects and other technical transportation-related studies; capital investments in bus and bus-related activities such as replacement, overhaul and rebuilding of buses, crime prevention and security equipment and construction of maintenance and passenger facilities; and capital investments in new and existing fixed guideway systems including rolling stock, overhaul and rebuilding of vehicles, track, signals, communications, and computer hardware and software. In addition, associated transit improvements and certain expenses associated with mobility management programs are eligible under the program. All preventive maintenance and some Americans with Disabilities Act complementary paratransit service costs are considered capital costs.

For urbanized areas with populations less than 200,000, operating assistance is an eligible expense.

Recommended Action: Discuss Resolution 2021-11 and consider approval (30 minutes).

b) Resolution 2021-12: Amendment to the UCTC Fiscal Year 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add New UCAT Project PINs 8TU009 and 8TU010 as Shown in Attachment 1.

In February of 2021, UCTC in conjunction with Dutchess County Transportation Council and Orange County Transportation Council, in their cooperative functions representing the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area, issued a call for projects for unallocated Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Urbanized Area Formula Funding program (49 U.S.C. 5307) attributable to the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area. Five applications were received and reviewed by the MPOs with input and oversight from NYSDOT Region 8 Transit staff. The TMA selected two projects for full funding and one project for partial funding. Award details and project descriptions were approved by the UCTC Policy Committee via Resolution 2021-06, which authorizes distribution of the awards to the respective applicants.

Ulster County Area Transit (UCAT) submitted a total grant request of \$5 million (80/20 federal/local share), which included architectural and engineering design work for a new bus storage facility and the purchase of electric buses and associated support equipment. The TMA approved the total grant request.

Project costs and schedules are detailed in Attachment 1. Projects will utilize FTA Urbanized Area Formula Funding program (49 U.S.C. 5307) attributable to the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area requiring a 20% match. Source of matching funds include Ulster County and New York State Department of Transportation.

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Recommended Action: Discuss Resolution 2021-12, review any public comments submitted, and consider approval (30 minutes).

6. Other/Old Business

- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)
- UCTC TIP Update and Call for New, Locally-Sponsored, Federal Aid Projects
- FFY 2021 TIP Performance and Obligations

7. Adjournment.

The UCTC Technical Committee is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 10am.

Happy New Year!