

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL**  
**Technical Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Summary**

February 14, 2017

Rondout Municipal Center, Cottekill, NY

Members Present:

Alan Adin	City of Kingston
Ralph Swenson	City of Kingston
Kristen Wilson	City of Kingston
Mike Warren	Town of Marbletown
Neil Bettez	Town of New Paltz
Tom Wilkin	Town of Plattekill
Jeanne Walsh	Town of Rosendale
James Bruno	Town of Saugerties
Joel Brink	Town of Ulster
David Gilmour	Village of New Paltz
Ed Pine	Ulster County DPW
Diane Beitel	Ulster County Traffic Safety Board
Kathy Nolan	Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee
Tom Weiner	NYS Dept of Transportation
Lizzy Philip	NYS Thruway Authority

Staff:

Dennis Doyle	U.C. Planning Board/UCTC Staff
Brian Slack	UCTC Staff
David Staas	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 10:00am. Roll call was conducted by Mr. Doyle.

**CALL FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Kathy Nolan commented on behalf of a group called the Phonecian Neighbors to express opposition to Catskill Mountain Railroad (CMRR) railyard in Phonecia. CMRR had asked an employee of NYSDOT rail division for an interpretation of the Town's zoning code. The response was submitted as part of a CMRR application to the planning board. The Phonecia Neighbors group objects to NYSDOT submitting an interpretation of a local zoning code. The

group is asking NYSDOT to review the actions taken by the rail division to ensure that local towns and planning boards able to interpret their own zoning rules and regulations.

Mr. Doyle indicated that he, acting as the planning director, had reached out to NYSDOT for an explanation of the letter.

No further comments.

### **APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2016 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 11/17/16 meeting of the UCTC Technical Committee. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Neil Bettez.

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

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A moment of silence was taken in memoriam of Supervisor Jeremy Wilber, Town of Woodstock

Mr. Slack indicated that a letter was received from the Town of Plattekill, thanking UCTC staff for the assistance provided as part of the Rt 32 Bridge replacement planning efforts.

Tom Wilkin expressed appreciation for the signage associated with the Rt 213 detour in Highfalls. Signage was placed indicating what business were open during the detour.

Mr. Doyle noted that both the Town of Rosendale and Marbletown were instrumental in ensuring that signage was included. Additionally, an exhibit of the history of bridges in Highfalls is on display in a gallery along Rt 213.

Supervisor Mike Warren thanked NYSDOT for their efforts throughout the process. Graffiti from the previous structure was included in the exhibit. NYSDOT and the Rondout Valley Business Association provided funds for advertisements for the impacted business during the closure.

Supervisor Jeanne Walsh commented that due to other road closures in the area, the detour route experienced an excessive amount of traffic at times.

Joel Brink asked about the Rt 209 bridge replacements.

Mr. Doyle explained that there are two bridges to be replaced along Rt 209: one project with two spans over the Esopus in the four lane section near the Town of Ulster Town Hall, and the second project in the Hurley flats area near the NYS police station.

Ed Pine explained that the Rt 209 bridges near the Town hall will begin this year doing one span at a time and the bridge in the Hurley flats will begin next year and will use Hurley Mountain Rd as a detour.

Kathy Nolan asked if any changes in bicycle and pedestrian accommodations will be made in association with the work.

Mr. Doyle responded that for the structure in the Hurley flats are, two 8ft shoulders will be added.

Mr. Doyle announced that CSX is proposing to double track from the Kingston railyard north to Mt. Marion. This would impact several intersections in the Town of Ulster including the Boices Lane intersection. Considerations have been given to establishing a quiet zone and closing the Katrine Lane crossing.

Tom Weiner indicated that CSX has submitted an estimate of cost for the preliminary engineering for improvements at the Boices Lane crossing.

Mr. Doyle and Diane Beitzl urged the Boices Lane work to be expedited due to safety concerns.

No further communications or announcements at this time.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Draft UCTC Resolution 2017-01: Approval of the SFY 2017/18 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**. The Draft UCTC State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2017/18 UPWP has been completed. Staff presented the draft program to the Technical Committee. The draft 2017/18 UPWP continues work commenced during previous UPWP cycles and adds 2 new projects for future programming and development. Staff recommends that the UCTC 2017/18 UPWP be adopted under Resolution 2017-01. Once approved by the Technical Committee, the final draft UPWP will be made available for 15 day public review and comment period prior to UCTC Policy Committee review.

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

Mr. Slack provided a brief presentation of the UPWP and the projects programmed to members.

Ralph Swenson expressed support for the Traffic Control Signal Warrant Evaluation project. Tom Weiner commented that the signal at Albany Ave and Clinton should be examined as part of the study to consider the impacts of the intersection improvements at I-587 and Albany Ave.

David Gilmour thanked the Council for consideration of the Walkkill Valley Rail Trail Streetscape and Gateway Enhancements study.

Joel Brink thanked the Council for considering the addition of the Seremma Court intersection to the PIL study.

The 15 day public comment period will take place from February 16<sup>th</sup> through March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**Draft Resolution 2017-02: Ulster County Transportation Council Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (“Coordinated Plan”)**.

The Technical Advisory Committee formed for the development of the Coordinated Plan has completed its work and submits the Final Coordinated Plan to the Technical Committee for review. The primary purpose of a Coordinated Plan is to identify the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes, provide strategies for meeting these needs, and prioritize transportation services for funding and implementation. In addition, the current federal transportation authorization act - Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act - requires UCTC to prepare a Coordinated Plan as a condition of applying for and receiving Federal funds under the Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) program. The Coordinated Plan is therefore intended to act as a blueprint for implementing a range of strategies to improve transportation services in Ulster County. Draft Resolution 2017-02 formally adopts the plan by UCTC.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion. Motion made by Tom Wilkin; second by Joel Brink.

Jeanne Walsh asked how coordination will be occurring.

Mr. Doyle indicated that the plan establishes a framework and priorities to allow for funds to be utilized. UCTC will continue to aid the plan towards implementation.

Mr. Slack provided a brief presentation and outlined some of the key findings and recommendations of the project.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**Draft Resolution 2017-03: Amendment to the UCTC 2017 – 2021 UCTC Transportation Improvement Program**.

At the request of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and Town of Shandaken, an amendment to the UCTC 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program is proposed, as a result of an award through the BridgeNY program. On January 18th, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced \$21.8 million in funding to rehabilitate and replace 17 bridges and culverts across the Mid-Hudson Region. The funding, provided through Round One of the Governor's BRIDGE NY initiative, is part of a \$21.1 billion multi-year capital plan to upgrade critical roads, bridges, and other vital transportation infrastructure across New York State. \$855,000 has been awarded to the town of Shandaken for the Peck Hollow Road Bridge over Peck Hollow Stream.

Additional details with the specifics of the programming will be made available as part of the 15 day public comment period.

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

Kristen Wilson asked if and when another round of BridgeNY funding would be available.

Tom Weiner responded that there will be a call for projects through the program every 2 years.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration pending additional details.

**Draft Resolution 2017-04: UCTC Title VI (Civil Rights) Plan:** Resolution 2017-04 establishes an official Title VI Plan which recognizes UCTC's commitment to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, its metropolitan transportation planning process on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or economic status, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations. The Plan sets forth an official policy of UCTC compliance with Title VI and the process by which members of the public may submit complaints if they feel they have been discriminated against.

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

Ralph Swenson asked if there was coordination with local municipalities in establishing the plan.

Jeanne Walsh explained that the plans are typically applied to each fund source and are unique for each agency.

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

Resolution to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for consideration.

**UCTC 2017 Transportation Improvement Program – Block Program Bridge and Paving PINs.** The 2017 – 2021 TIP included two new “block program” PINs utilizing surplus allocations of STP FLEX and STBG Off-System Bridge funds. These funds were made available to eligible Ulster County municipalities through direct solicitation to the MPO in December 2016. UCTC will provide an overview of the recommended program of projects utilizing the funds.

Mr. Doyle announced that Wolven Bridge and Fantinekill Bridge were selected for the bridge component. These projects will be programmed as a sub pin under the block program, allowing for the new projects to be programmed administratively.

Ralph Swenson asked how projects were prioritized and how the selected projects

Mr. Staas responded that a priority was established utilizing the Local Bridge Priority Index used in the BridgeNY project selection.

Mr. Doyle announced that Hurley Ave, Horsenden Road, and Lucas Ave, were selected for the paving component.

Tom Weiner asked Andrew Emrich to reach out to Martin Evans as there may be some issues with adding in shoulders under this program.

Mr. Slack thanked all applicants

**No further discussion.**

**FFY 2016 Annual Obligation Report:** Federal regulations require an annual listing of transportation projects, including pedestrian and bicycle facilities, which Federal transportation funds have been obligated in the preceding year; 2016 report will be available for review.

Mr. Staas provided a cursory overview of the obligation amounts and stated the report will be available at the next meeting.

**OTHER/OLD BUSINESS**

- TAP  
Tom Weiner indicated that 2017 awards should be issued shortly.
- Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area Regional Transit Plan Meeting with TMA members is scheduled for the February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- FFY 2016 Unallocated 5307 and 5339 funds in the Kingston Small Urbanized Area  
A discussion will occur between the designated recipients and once a decision is made it will be brought before the Council for consideration.
- Route 32 Bridge over NYS Thruway (Plattekill) replacement  
A public meeting was held. Consideration will be given to reducing the speed along the detour route during the time of the detour.

**No further discussion.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tom Weiner announced that NYSDOT is undertaking a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) to provide a systemic approach to pedestrian safety in the urbanized area along state routes. The same systemic approach will be applied to local roads in the future. Funds will not be coming out of the regional allocation.

Members are encouraged to start considering TAP, HSIP, and BridgeNY applications.

Jeanne Walsh noted that there are concerns about vehicle speeds and bicycle facilities along Route 32.

Neil Bettez indicated that a speed limit reduction request was submitted to NYSDOT.

Kathy Nolan announced that there is grant funding available for EV charging stations through the state.

**No further discussion.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at approximately 12:00 pm

-DS