

**ULSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
Technical Committee Meeting**

Meeting Summary

November 12, 2015

SUNY Ulster, Stone Ridge, NY

Members Present:

Alan Adin	City of Kingston
Mike Warren	Town of Marbletown/Supervisors Association
Gail Gallerie	Town of New Paltz
Tom Wilkin	Town of Plattekill
Joel Brink	Town of Ulster
Alex Wade	Village of Saugerties
Carol Hargrove	Ulster County Area Transit
Edward Pine	Ulster County DPW
Andrew Emrich	Ulster County DPW
Tom Weiner	NYS Dept of Transportation
Kristen Resnikoff	NYS Thruway Authority
Mark Boungard	Adirondack Trailways
Barry Hecht	Adirondack Trailways
Glenn Gidaly	Barton and Loguidice
Tom Baird	Barton and Loguidice

Staff:

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Technical Committee meeting was called to order by Mr. Doyle at 10:00am. Roll call was conducted by Mr. Doyle.

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 27, 2015 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for discussion of the minutes from the 8/27/15 meeting of the UCTC Technical Committee. Motion made by Joel Brink; second by Tom Wilkin. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Slack announced that applications for the 2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) are due on Friday, November 20, 2015.

No further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

UCTC 2017 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update. The TIP is routinely updated every 2-3 years in order to bring the program in-line with updated fiscal planning targets. The planning targets for the 2016-21 TIP/STIP update process remain essentially unchanged from the previous update. UCTC has been tasked by NYSDOT Region 8 to review its local highway program based on compliance with fiscal constraint. The local portion of the regional TIP must be constrained in order for the statewide “roll-up” of the STIP to meet federal fiscal constraint requirements. A Subcommittee to the UCTC Technical Committee was therefore formed and tasked with reviewing the local FHWA program and making recommendations regarding projects to be advanced in the TIP update. Local projects currently programmed on the UCTC 2014-18 TIP are considered draft, “first cut” submissions that are subject to revision during the MPO TIP update process. The UCTC TIP Subcommittee met on October 29th to review the local program and will present its findings and recommendations. A preliminary estimate of the UCTC program needs to be submitted by Region 8 by November 24, 2015, at which point the program will be reviewed by NYSDOT asset teams for compliance with guidance. The full, final UCTC 2017-21 TIP will not need to be approved by the UCTC Policy Committee until June 30, 2016.

Mr. Slack provided a review of the TIP update process.

The planning targets for the TIP update remain relatively unchanged from previous years. The Surface Transportation Program (STP) allocation for local highway and bridge projects in Ulster County is 10.3 million dollars for 2017-2021. This allocation does not include discretionary funding sources, earmarks, and other competitive fund sources. Additionally, 3.6 million dollars in STP off system has been programmed which can be used on bridges which are off of the federal aid system.

A draft program was circulated to members as part of the agenda packet.

In order to reach fiscal constraint the following projects were removed in the 2017 -2021 TIP updated:

- PIN 875994 – Lucas Ave Signalization project – removed as project is no longer needed.

Existing project funding amounts were updated with a 2% per year inflation factor.

As part of the update, four projects are recommended to have phases postponed beyond the 2021 horizon year. These projects include:

- PIN 875710 – Abeel St: Hudson to City Line; City of Kingston –Construction and construction inspection moved beyond 2021
- PIN 876027 – Abeel St Dock Street to Hudson Street; City of Kingston - Construction and construction inspection moved beyond 2021
- PIN 875993 –Leggs Mill Road/Seremma Court Intersection Improvements; Town of Ulster - Construction and construction inspection moved beyond 2021
- PIN 875992 – CR 14 (Western Ave/Plattekill Rd) Repaving in the Town of Marlborough – ROW acquisition, construction, and construction inspection moved beyond 2021

Joel Brink indicated that the Supervisor of the Town of Ulster still had concerns relating to the intersection.

Mr. Doyle responded that he had been in contact with the supervisor and that the intersection will continue to be looked at but the construction phases will remain beyond the 2021 horizon year.

By deferring these major phases to the outlying years reduces the program demand by 9.984 million, allowing funds to be used for other projects.

After meeting all of the remaining project needs, 3.3 million in STP Flex and 1.5 million in STP off system funds are available for programming. The draft TIP proposes to utilize these funds in block programmed projects for pavement rehabilitation and complete streets, and element specific work for off system bridges respectively. These funds would be available to local municipalities that have faced greater challenges with maintaining infrastructure with the limitations imposed by the tax cap. These projects have been developed as a direct result of conversations occurring at previous council meetings.

Supervisor Mike Warren asked what the timetable for the TIP update process.

Tom Weiner noted that the 2017-2021 TIP will not go into effect until October of 2016

Additionally, two projects will have phases rolled into 2017 as part of the TIP update process. By rolling funds from 2016 into 2017, funds programmed in the previous fiscally constrained 2014-2018 TIP can be added into the new 2017-2021 TIP without counting against the allocated amount.

As part of the update PIN 846317 - Route 213 Extension/Tongore Creek Bridge will be moved in to 2017 and then used as an offset for PIN 875990 - South Putt Corners Road PIN 875620 – Sawkill Road Bridge, and PIN 875879 – Denning Road Bridge.

Tom Weiner Clarified that phases for the PIN 846317 - Route 213 Extension/Tongore Creek Bridge will first be reduced, used as an offset for projects in 2016, and then rolled from 2016 into 2017 for projects utilizing the offset.

This draft of the TIP does not include the program from NYSDOT or the transit providers. A final draft version of the TIP will likely be presented before the Technical Committee in June of 2016.

Tom Weiner also commented on the need to have the program balanced between each year of the program.

Currently, approximately \$100 million is available as part of the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). Applications are due by the end of November 2015. In the beginning of January, a call for projects beyond preservation is expected to occur and be awarded on a competitive basis.

Glen Gidaly expressed concerns over repaving projects with shoulder expansions potentially leading to an increase in motorist speeds along the roadway.

Mr. Doyle noted that staff has performed accident analysis on country roads examining the rates of bike/ped accidents. This analysis has since been used to determine areas where shoulder expansions should be considered for safety improvements.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion for consensus regarding the preliminary draft of the 2017 -2021 TIP update. Motion made by Gail Gallerie; second by Alex Wade. **No further discussion. All in favor, none opposed -- Motion Carried.**

FFY 15 UZA 89 \$5307/5340 Allocation

Every year the TMA region receives section 5307 and 5340 monies for transit services within the TMA. Funding is then sub allocated to each operator utilizing a formula agreed upon by the TMA member agencies. The 2015 allocation amount for Adirondack Trailways came in substantially lower than previous years, despite having an increase in service. The overall allocation to the TMA has increased over previous years leading to further confusion.

Mr. Doyle stated that the MPO is now examining the possibility of a hold harmless clause in order to protect providers against such shortfalls. Unallocated funds may need to be utilized to cover this shortfall. Additionally the TMA is working to implement a regional transit program in an effort to anticipate the “lumpy” needs associated with transit projects.

Barry Hecht expressed confusion as to how the allocation amount was arrived at and encouraged council staff to reexamine the formula utilized.

City of Kingston Broadway Corridor Conceptual Design Study. The City of Kingston and UCTC are completing the Broadway Corridor Conceptual Design Study. Titled “Building a Better Broadway,” the recommendations in this effort include lane reconfiguration, pedestrian and transit improvements, and traffic signal optimization. Project staff will provide members with a comprehensive overview of this important project and discuss what changes to the roadway are likely to take place and how they will benefit the public.

Mr. Slack provided an overview of the project and the steps taken to arrive at the recommendations established in the report.

The project, undertaken with consultants VHB and Planning 4 Places, provided a recommendation of a road diet combined with retiming of signals, the addition of a 2-way cycle track, and aesthetic streetscape improvements along the Broadway corridor in the City of Kingston. Recommendations are expected to reduce of crashes along the corridor, reduce speeds while improving travel time, and provide facilities for all modes of transportation.

A phased approach to implementation is recommended until parking issues can be addressed along the Eastern end of the corridor.

Carol Hargrove asked if considerations were given for transit.

Mr. Doyle responded that transit was considered and would stop in the lane for boarding and alightment.

Supervisor Warren observed that having progressive signals will allow drivers to drive at a lower peak speeds and focus their attentions on the businesses in the area rather than focusing on beating lights while driving along the corridor.

Mr. Doyle noted that contrary to what may have been reported, the cycle track is a small component of a much larger project and only constitutes about 20% of the budget.

It was also noted that the Kingston High School intends to relocate pick up and drop off of students from in front of the school to the back of the building by 2017 as part of the redesign.

It is also important to note that this project is handed off to the City of Kingston and implementation is a decision made at the local level.

OTHER/OLD BUSINESS

- UCTC Year 2040 LRTP is complete
- UPWP 2016/17 Call for Projects –Deadline November 20, 2015

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tom Weiner announced that NYSDOT has scheduled a public meeting for the I-587 @ Albany Ave and Broadway Intersection project for December 3, 2015.

No further discussion.

Mr. Doyle requested a motion to adjourn; motion made by Alex Wade; second by Ed Pine.

MEETING ADJOURNED at approximately 12:12 pm

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