

Meeting Minutes
Policy Board Meeting
September 20, 2023 at 10:00 AM
Legislative Statutory Committee Room
OC Government Center
255 Main Street, Goshen, NY

Join Zoom Meeting Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81970952090?pwd=UGtRb3d5YXg3eTdNZ3dEWHpBcDc2Zz09>
Dial-in Number: (646) 876-9923
Meeting ID: 819 7095 2090
Passcode: 748595

Previous Policy Board Meeting Recordings Link:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLTwjp62_3OioTvLPGLF7YEmpzdJW4_j8C

Meeting Participants (In-Person)

| Name: | Organization: |
|--------------------|--|
| *Alan Sorensen | Orange County Department of Planning |
| Stacy Butler | Orange County Department of Planning |
| Lauren Bennett | Orange County Department of Planning |
| Raina Tawil | Orange County Department of Planning |
| *Sandra Jobson | NYS Department of Transportation, Region 8 |
| *Charles Carnes | Town of Crawford |
| *Michael Sweeton | Town of Warwick |
| *Scott Manley | Town of Newburgh |
| *Jacob Tawil | City of Middletown |
| *Jason Morris | City of Newburgh |
| *John Revella | Village of Walden |
| *Anthony Cardone | Town of Monroe |
| *Gary Spears | Town of Deerpark |
| *Joshua Wojehowski | Town of Cornwall |
| *Laura Ripley | NYS Thruway Authority |
| *Michael Weeks | MHE, Rep. City of Port Jervis |

Meeting Participants (Virtual)

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Rob Parrington | Orange County Department of Planning, representing Orange County Transit Operators |
| Ryan McGuire | Orange County Department of Public Works |
| Travis Ewald | Orange County Department of Parks & Recreation |
| Alexandra Fairley | NYS Department of Transportation |
| Lisa Cataldo | NYS Department of Transportation, Main Office |
| Ali Mohseni | Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC) |
| Michael Amabile | Creighton Manning |

Lance MacMillan NYS Department of Transportation, Main Office
*Gedalye Szegedin Village of Kiryas Joel
David Lake Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC)

*Voting Member (or proxy to voting member)

Call to Order

Mr. Alan Sorensen called this meeting to order.

Introductions / Quorum Determination

Introductions were made from 0:00:12.240 through 0:02:18.010. A quorum was present.

Call for Citizen Participation

0:02:18.010,0:02:26.580

Alan Sorensen: Ok. Moving on, I'd like to call for Citizen Participation. Are there any comments from the public at this time?

None

Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2023 and August 15, 2023

0:02:29.820,0:02:41.3600

Alan Sorensen: Hearing none, I'd like to move on...and ask for the Approval of the meeting minutes? And it's for two months, May and August.

0:02:41.360,0:02:42.360

John Revella: *Motion*

0:02:42.360,0:02:43.361

Alan Sorensen: Ok, John. A second?

0:02:43.361,0:02:44.040

Scott Manley: I'll second.

0:02:45.060,0:02:53.120

Alan Sorensen: Scott thank you. Questions, comments, revisions? I'll call the question. All those in favor?

0:02:53.120,0:02:54:908

(All): *Aye*

0:02:54:908, 0:02:55:100

Alan Sorensen: Anyone opposed?

0:02:55.120,0:02:58.568

Anthony Cardone: I have to abstain from (voting), the meeting I was not at.

0:02:58.568,0:03:00.120

Alan Sorensen: Ok.

0:03:00.120,0:03:01.120

Gary Spears: Same with myself.

0:03:01.120,0:03:02.120

Alan Sorensen: Alright.

0:03:02.120,0:03:04.140

Anthony Cardone: Happy to help.

Laughter

0:03:04.920,0:03:06.320

Alan Sorensen: Ok, thank you. Motion passes.

Communications & Announcements

0:03:07.357,0:03:09.720

Alan Sorensen: Communications and announcements: we had a correspondence from...

0:03:19.680,0:03:22.600

Lauren Bennett: That goes under the Resolutions...

0:03:25.600,0:03:27.600

Alan Sorensen: It is nothing there to report. Anything else for Announcements?

0:03:29.200,0:03:31.200

Lauren Bennett: No.

Reports & Actions on Old Business

0:03:31.200,0:03:43.9200

Alan Sorensen: Moving on, Reports and Actions on Old business. Any other member reports?

0:03:43.920,0:03:51.780

None

0:03:51.780,0:03:54.960

Alan Sorensen: I'm going to move on to New Business.

New Business*OCTC Resolution 2023-07: OCTC Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 23-04*

0:03:59.100,0:05:00.000

Alan Sorensen: The first item is the Orange County Transportation Council Resolution 2023-07. This is for TIP Amendment, and this was introduced in July Planning Committee meeting. Action includes three (3) Transit projects: The purchase of two (2) additional ADA buses to prepare Transit service in Orange County, the purchase of seventeen (17) Dial-A-Ride buses for Demand Response Services (DRS) in Urban Areas in Orange County, [including the] Towns of Monroe, Wallkill, Warwick, Highlands and Newburgh; Additional PIN for the purchase of thirteen (13) 30' and 35' buses for Fixed-Route services in three (3) municipalities: the City of Middletown, Newburgh, and the Village of Kiryas Joel.

This action went out for 14-day public comment on July 19, 2023 through August 1, 2023 and received one comment from Burton Thelander. [Lauren] Do you want me to respond, or do you want the response to Burt?

0:05:08.360,0:05:11.440

Lauren Bennett: I can just...do you want me to read the public comment in there?

0:05:11.440,0:05:12.560

Alan Sorensen: Sure.

0:05:12.560,0:05:43:500

Lauren Bennett: So he said, *"I have attended the OCTC meetings virtually during the public comment section and I reviewed the above proposed purchase buses two (2) buses...for Orange County Transit System use. My recommendation related to this bus purchase proposal is that the County consider purchasing hybrid buses or perhaps considering purchasing EV buses to reduce and eliminate the use of fossil fuels in our public transportation system. There's ample evidence that these fossil fuels in our transportation system contributes to carbon dioxide reduction. Thank you for considering my public comment."*

0:05:44.460,0:06:07.560

Alan Sorensen: So, we received Mr. Thelander's comment and, that's it. So now we're going to move on to Orange County Transportation Council Resolution... let me go back. I am just going to need a motion on the first one [OCTC Resolution 23-07]?

0:06:05.560,0:06:06.560

Charles Carnes: So moved.

0:06:06.560,0:06:07.560

Alan Sorensen: Alright, second?

0:06:07.560,0:06:08.560

Jacob Tawil: I will second.

0:06:08.560,0:06:09.596

Alan Sorensen: Ok. All those members in favor?

0:06:09.596,0:06:11.040

(All): *Aye*

0:06:08.560,0:06:09.596

Alan Sorensen: Opposed?

None

0:06:11.040,0:06:13.040

Alan Sorensen: Ok, alright thank you.

OCTC Resolution 2023-08: OCTC Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 23-05

0:06:16.260,0:07:18.572

Alan Sorensen: Alright, next Resolution is Orange County Transportation Council Resolution 23-08. This is for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment; Again, this was introduced at the August 15, [2023] Planning Committee meeting. The action includes two (2) new Bridge NY projects, Town of Wallkill for rehabilitation of the structure that carries Midway Road over the Wallkill River, to replace the deck of that existing structure. And then, we have PIN 876300 Orange County replace the deck on the existing structure that carries Bloomingburg Road over the Platekill Creek in the Town of Wallkill, Town of Mamakating, and the Village of Bloomingburg in Sullivan County.

The action went out for a 14-day public comment period from September 1, 2023, through September 14, [2023] and did not receive any public comment. So, I will ask for a motion on that Resolution?

0:07:18.572,0:07:20.360

Jacob Tawil: I'll make it.

0:07:20.360,0:07:23.360

Alan Sorensen: Jacob, ok. A second?

0:07:23.360,0:07:24.360

Jason Morris: Second.

0:07:24.360,0:07:25.873

Alan Sorensen: Jason, thank you.

0:07:25.873,0:07:29.916

Any discussion? Hearing none, I'll call the question.
All those members in favor?

0:07:29.916,0:07:30.416

(All): *Aye*

0:07:30.480,0:07:32.787

Alan Sorensen: Anyone opposed?

None

0:07:32.787,0:07:33.287

Alan Sorensen: Ok, motion carries.

OCTC Resolution 2023-09: Adoption of the Air Quality/Transportation Conformity Determination for the PM_{2.5} Maintenance Area and Poughkeepsie-Newburgh Ozone Nonattainment Area (PONA)

0:07:36.280,0:07:51.400

Alan Sorensen: Alright, we have Resolution 2023-09: Adoption of Air Quality Transportation Conformity Determination for the Particular Matter (PM) 2.5 Maintenance Area, Poughkeepsie-Ozone Non-Attainment Area, I'll ask Lauren to explain.

0:07:51.400,0:10:56.220

Lauren Bennett: Yeah, so this we introduced at the last meeting in August. It's for the PM 2.5 Maintenance Area and then also for the Poughkeepsie Newburgh Ozone Non-Attainment Area or 'PONA.' Dutchess [Transportation Council, (TC)] adopted their PONA Resolution yesterday and I believe NYMTC will be adopting theirs tomorrow. This is being triggered by NYMTC's Amendment to their Transportation Improvement Program, (TIP), as well as OCTC- we are adopting our new Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). We relied on an old...a previous Regional emissions analysis and we are well, including the NYMTC region, we are well within our conformity budget.

This went out for 30 days of public comment between August 17th and September 15th. We did receive one public comment, which I'll read into the record. It says: *"Good afternoon, I'm a member of the Pathways Committee in the Vision Hudson Valley and have frequently participated in OCTC meetings. I have reviewed the above document determination and I'm grateful for the opportunity to provide comment suggestions. The Long-Range Transportation Plan was addressed in page 15, as was the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP); several bullets describe efforts to promote replacement rehabilitation, alternative travel modes and increase efficiency of the transportation system. This section is silent on the value of non-motorized transportation options, such as trails, use of railroad grades to develop trails, and create alternative transportation options that do not require use of fossil fuels, and the economic value such developments bring to Orange County. This section is also silent about the recent Bikeway Vision proposal by the Planning Department. I suggest these alternative transportation options that the Planning and OCTC have actively considered should be identified in the Conformity Determination."*

And we did write a response to that. For the Bikeway Vision, that was presented, it is still a draft, OCTC has not adopted it yet- so it's not a policy document- that's why it's not included. And the

other section on... it does not specifically say in the Conformity Determination that we...the value of non-motorized transportation options and fossil fuels, but I just remind the Council that this- it's not a policy document. For the Conformity Determination, we're really looking at the projects on the TIP, and what we're adopting in the LRTP, and policy documents to make sure that it aligns with the Emissions Budgets that we have and whatnot. So, the LRTP does support this, and I believe it's in the draft as well, so in a way it is supporting but it's not specifically outlined.

The Determination that went out has been updated in three (3) places that was included in the email; we just changed tenses. So, it went from 'we will go out,' to 'we went out.' And, we also added Appendix B. Burt's comment is now included in Appendix B. The Resolution is a going to Appendix C.

0:10:57.060,0:11:02.040

Alan Sorensen: Lauren, thank you. Questions, comments?

0:11:02.320,0:11:04.320

Anthony Cardone: Yeah, you understand that?

Laughter

0:11:07.880,0:11:08.880

Alan Sorensen: That's really good there, Tony. So, I will ask for a motion?

0:11:10.880,0:11:11.880

John Revella: Move.

0:11:11.880,0:11:13.080

Tony Cardone: Second.

0:11:15.080,0:11:17.320

Alan Sorensen: Tony. All those members in favor?

(All): *Aye*

0:11:20.720,0:11:22.800

Alan Sorensen: Thank you. Ok.

Now, I am tempted to ask to move the next four (4) Resolutions as a block, I might be violating some policies, so I would not do that. Only because we excessively discussed these at the Planning Committee meeting, so I will briefly just read them:

OCTC Resolution 2023-10: Apportionment of Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Federal Transit Administration Section 5307/5340 Formula Funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area

0:11:39.600,0:11:51.560

Orange County Transportation Council 23-10: Apportionment of Federal Fiscal funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area (MHVTMA). I'll ask for a motion?

0:11:51.560,0:11:52.140

Michael Sweeton: I will move.

0:11:52.140,0:11:53.880

Alan Sorensen: Second?

0:11:53.880,0:11:54.880

Jason Morris: Second.

0:11:54.880, 0:11:57.800

Alan Sorensen: Jason, ok. Okay, any discussion?

None

All those members in favor?

0:11:57.800,0:11:59.820

(All): *Aye*

OCTC Resolution 2023-11: Apportionment of Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 Formula Funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area

0:11:59.820,0:12:11.120

Alan Sorensen: Next, OCTC Resolution 23-11: Apportionment of Federal Fiscal....Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 Formula Funds. I will ask for a motion?

0:12:11.120,0:12:12.000

John Revella: So move.

0:12:12.000,0:12:13.000

Alan Sorensen: Second?

0:12:13.000,0:12:14.300

Scott Manley: Second.

0:12:14.300,0:12:18.160

Alan Sorensen: Ok. Discussion? Hearing none, all those members in favor?

0:12:18.160,0:12:19.160

(All): *Aye*

0:12:20.160,0:12:22.160

Alan Sorensen: Any opposed?

None

0:12:22.640,0:12:23.040

Alan Sorensen: Motion carries.

OCTC Resolution 2023-12: Apportionment of Federal Transit Funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area

0:12:23.040,0:12:31.080

Alan Sorensen: Orange County Transportation [Council] Resolution 23-12: Apportionment of Federal Transit... this is the ARPA [American Rescue Plan Act] funding. I'll ask for a motion.

0:12:31.080,0:12:32.100

John Revella: So move.

0:12:32.100,0:12:33.320

Alan Sorensen: Second?

0:12:33.320,0:12:36.336

Anthony Cardone: Second.

0:12:36.320,0:12:39.240

Alan Sorensen: Ok. Discussion? Hearing none. All those members in favor?

0:12:39.240,0:12:41.240

(All): *Aye*

0:12:41.240,0:12:42.760

Alan Sorensen: Motion carries.

OCTC Resolution 2023-13: Apportionment of Federal Transit Funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) of 2021 in the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area

0:12:40.763,0:12:50.000

Alan Sorensen: Orange County Transportation Council, Resolution 23-13; this is for the apportionment of the CRRSAA funds. Motion?

0:12:50.000,0:12:50.920

Jason Morris: Move.

0:12:50.920,0:12:52.920

Michael Sweeton: Second

0:12:52.920,0:12:53.440

Alan Sorensen: Tony, ok.

0:12:53.440,0:12:54.440

Tony Cardone: No, that was Mike.

0:12:54.440,0:12:59.440

Alan Sorensen: Mike, that was Mike, got it.

0:12:59.440,0:13:00.320

Tony Cardone: Raise your voice a little louder.

0:13:03.320,0:13:06.000

Alan Sorensen: Discussion? Hearing none, all those members in favor, please say 'aye'?

0:13:06.000,0:13:07.240

(All): *Aye*

0:13:07.260,0:13:53.325

Alan Sorensen: Alright please don't go anywhere. I've been saving. I just wanted to give Lauren an opportunity to address the Council.

0:13:14.100,0:13:20.320

Lauren Bennett: Yes, this is my last OCTC meeting. I've been with you guys for eight (8) years now. It's been a pleasure helping out with the OCTC. It really has been an amazing opportunity for my career. I've really loved working with all of you, love improving transportation in Orange County, so I'll be moving to a different capacity but, you know, I still live in Orange County so...you'll just be getting letters from me. Just kidding. I really, really enjoyed working with you all.

0:13:53.325,0:13:55.468

(All): *Clapping* Great job, Lauren.

0:13:59.280,0:14:21.780

Alan Sorensen: Just want to say, you're certainly going to be missed and we wish you all the best. And I know you'll be very successful in your next career move and hopefully in some small way, your time here I think will help serve you as you move forward. Of course, and your outstanding work ethic as well.

0:14:21.780,0:14:23.001

Lauren Bennett: Thank you.

0:14:23.001,0:14:25.160

Raina Tawil: She said she's going to come visit Alan, to help me out. So, we're happy about that.

0:14:25.160,0:14:27.180

Laughter

0:14:27.180,0:14:30.120

Alan Sorensen: And with that, last motion to adjourn?

0:14:30.120,0:14:34.280

Jacob Tawil: So moved.

0:14:35.280,0:14:47.920

Alan Sorensen: Okay. I want to thank all the Council Members for attending in-person today. It's really appreciated. I think that we have a lot of business and discussion, it's nice to get some of this off our plate, so thank you.

This meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.