## **Ulster & Delaware Corridor Advisory Committee**

**DATE & TIME:** April 24, 2025 at 5:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Legislative Chambers, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chair Collins

**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Michael Tierney, Legislative Support Specialist **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Legislators Kovacs, McCollough, Nolan, Sperry

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Legislators Uchitelle, Walls

**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator Joe Maloney, Legislator Aaron Levine, Legislator Eric Stewart, Meg Carey, Ken Harris, Harry Jameson, Kudakwashe Mvronda, Ernie Hunt, Jodi Hickey, Jackie Hinly, Marcia Roosa, David Hilliard, John Prestopino, Earl Pardini, Josie Pardini, Russ Bonk. Ken Anello, Bryan Blas, Ryan Lennox, Michael J. Marnell, Harrison Balduf, Dan Turgis, Val Nigrom Vinny Nigro, Larry Roth, Tony Bochino, Angela Bochino, Keisha Hoerrner, Steve Rice, Douglas Nikkila, Karl Beard, Kevin Smith, Paul Alexander, Nick Mercurio, Andy Mossey, Jurgen Benalk, David Hayes, Robin Panico, Michael Chrobot, Ralph Durham, Roger Gibson, Maxanne Resnick, Duncan Schmitt, Susan Auchincloss, Lou Kleppner, Betsy Blair, Phil Cosme

Chair Collins called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Chair Collins stated that the Committee received resolutions from the Traffic Safety Board and Trails Advisory Committee in support of the Compromise Plan put forward in the March 20, 2025 meeting.

Chair Collins stated to the Committee that the committee received a counterproposal from CMRR in response to the compromise put forth by Chair Collins. Legislator Kovacs asked if President Hunt could present to the Committee, the Committee agreed.

Chair Collins gave the floor to President Hunt to present on Catskill Mountain Rail Road's proposal to extend the rail line from 8.33 to 8.55 while deferring a final decision on the status of the remaining Undesignated Segment from MP 8.55 to MP 10.01.

Legislators discussed the merits of this proposal. Legislator Maloney stated that he believed the process of determining the use of the Corridor was being influenced too much by Chair Collins with too little influence from the public. Members of the Committee disputed this analysis and pointed to multiple meetings that included opportunities for public comment.

Motion No. 1 Moved to Table proposal put forward by Catskill Mountain

Railroad

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan Seconded By: Legislator Collins

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Collins, McCollough, Nolan

**Voting Against:** Legislators Kovacs, Sperry

Votes In Favor: 3 Votes Against: 2

**Disposition:** Motion Defeated

For the remainder of the meeting the Committee decided to allow public comment.

Ernie Hunt spoke in favor of extending the rail.

Kevin Smith spoke in favor of the compromise proposed by Chair Collins.

Betsy Blaire spoke in favor of the compromise proposed by Chair Collins.

Larry Roth spoke in favor of extending the rail.

Kim Conolly spoke in favor of rail with trail.

Stephanie Robinson spoke in favor of rail with trail.

Howard Cohen spoke in favor of the compromise proposed by Chair Collins.

Ryan Lennox spoke in favor of extending the rail.

Steve Rice spoke in favor of extending the trail.

Phil Cosme spoke in favor of extending the rail.

Nick Mercurio spoke in favor of extending the trail.

Earl Pardini spoke in favor of extending the rail.

Patty Goodwin read a comment on behalf of Joel Blustein, a resident of 28a, who expressed concerns of the impact of the rail on his business.

Kudakwashe Mvronda spoke in favor of extending the rail.

Lee Kalish spoek in favor of the compromise proposed by Chair Collins.

Meg Carey spoke in favor of extending the rail.

David Barra spoke in favor of the compromise proposed by Chair Collins.

Harry Jamison spoke in favor of extending the rail.

Duncan Schmidt spoke in favor of the compromise proposed by Chair Collins.

Harrison Balduf spoke in favor of extending the rail.

Keisha Horner spoke in favor of the Compromise proposed by Chair Collins.

Helen Chase spoke in favor of extending the rail.

Adjournment Motion Made By: Motion Seconded By: Legislator Sperry Legislator Nolan

**Votes in Favor:** 5 0 **Votes Against:** 

TIME: 6:19 PM

**Respectfully Submitted:** Michael Tierney, Legislative Support Specialist

Approved: April 24, 2025