

Adopting The Ulster County EMS Stabilization And Enhancement Plan And Amending The 2025 Ulster County Budget To Support And Enhance The Provision Of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) – Ulster County Department Of Emergency Communications/ Emergency Management

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Hansut and Legislators Clinton, Hewitt, Levine, Maloney, McCollough and Walls), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Collins, Hansut, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts, and Uchitelle)

Legislator Jason J. Kovacs offers the following:

WHEREAS, Ulster County recognizes that a stable, responsive, and sustainable Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system is vital to the health, safety, and welfare of all County residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, data and stakeholder feedback demonstrate that existing EMS services in certain areas of the County are strained due to staffing shortages, limited financial resources, uneven Advanced Life Support (ALS) coverage, and response time challenges; and

WHEREAS, the March 26, 2024 EMS Services Delivery Report prepared by Ulster County identified systemic challenges in EMS service delivery, including increased response times, coverage gaps, financial instability among providers, and workforce shortages, and recommended the development of a comprehensive stabilization and enhancement plan; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County seeks to implement an EMS stabilization and enhancement plan developed by the Ulster County Department of Emergency Management; and

WHEREAS such plan is designed to:

- Strengthen existing EMS jurisdictions,
- Support EMS Agencies in accordance with the Ulster County EMS Stabilization and Enhancement Plan,
- Expand Advanced Life Support (ALS) coverage to historically underserved communities, and
- Incentivize improved response performance through accountability-based funding; and

WHEREAS, the EMS stabilization and enhancement plan establishes two principal appropriations:

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- \$2,003,222 in financial assistance to existing EMS jurisdictions, municipal providers, and nonprofit EMS agencies to support and enhance basic and advanced life support services; and
- \$2,700,000 to contract with existing ALS anchor agencies to extend ALS services across underserved regions of Ulster County utilizing the County's Ambulance Service Operating Certificate; and

WHEREAS, the plan includes detailed eligibility criteria, performance-based funding mechanisms (Critical Response Incentive (CRI) payments), financial disclosure requirements, agency rostering mandates, and compliance monitoring procedures to ensure the responsible use of County funds; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature, pursuant to Ulster County Charter §C-11, is the legislative, appropriating and policy-determining body of the County; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the Ulster County EMS Stabilization and Enhancement Plan (dated April 23, 2025) is attached hereto and made a part of this Resolution by reference; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature hereby adopts the Ulster County EMS Stabilization and Enhancement Plan, as set forth in the attached document, to serve as the County's framework for EMS service stabilization and enhancement for fiscal year 2025; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2025 Ulster County Operating Budget is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
AA.9900.9900-3700.9990 (Rev.#)	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$4,703,222.00
AA.3020.1801-4300.4505 (App.#),	Professional Services Other	\$4,703,222.00

and, be it further

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RESOLVED, that all necessary agreements, contracts, and documents with EMS agencies and ALS anchor agencies to carry out the objectives of the Plan shall be subject to approval by the Ulster County Legislature; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that all agencies receiving funding under this Plan shall comply with all applicable reporting, performance, and financial transparency requirements, and that disbursement of funds shall be contingent upon continued compliance; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Emergency Communications/ Emergency Management shall administer and oversee the implementation of the EMS Stabilization and Enhancement Plan, including monitoring agency compliance, reporting quarterly to the Legislature's Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, and reallocating funding where necessary to ensure EMS coverage; and, be it further

RESOLVED, if Federal funding for County year 2025 and or 2026 is reduced to below 90% of budgeted anticipated revenues for the respective fiscal year the County shall evaluate the continuance of this program; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately,
and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 21 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislators Corcoran and Kitchen)

Postponed in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on March 5, 2025
without consent

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety as amended on May 6, 2025

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Passed Committee: Ways and Means on May 15, 2025

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$4,703,222.00 – ADDITIONAL 2025 FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATION

\$4,703,222.00 – ADDITIONAL 2025 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 20th Day of May in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 23rd Day of May in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.

[s] Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
23rd Day of May 2025.

[s] Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Approved by the County Executive this
29th Day of May 2025.

[s] Jen Metzger
Jen Metzger, County Executive