

Ulster & Delaware Corridor Advisory Committee

DATE & TIME: May 8, 2025 at 2:00 PM
LOCATION: Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Collins
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Michael Tierney, Legislative Support Specialist
MEMBERS PRESENT: Legislators Kovacs, McCollough, Nolan, Sperry, Uchitelle, Walls
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Minority Leader Kevin Roberts, Legislator Manna Jo Greene, Legislator Aaron Levine, Legislator Joe Maloney, Harry Jameson, Larry Roth, Ken Drao, Robin Drao, Meg Carey, Earl Pardini, Russ Bonk, Ken Anello, Samuel Egan, Austin McKay, Hannah Kiersted, Laura Petit, Tim Weidemann, Harrison Balduf, Alexander Gaudinier, Kudakwashe Mvronda, Helen Chase, Ryan Lennox, Phil Cosme, Keisha Hoerrner, John Moore, Karl Beard, Irwin Rosenthal, Doris Rosenthal-Goldberg, Kellee Esposito, Joel Bluestein, Kevin Smith, Patty Goodwin, Andy Mossey, Steve Schallenkamp, Shannon Ryan, Lee Kalish, Howard Cohen, Rosemary Quinn, Nick Mercurio,

Chair Collins called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

Motion No. 1	Moved to Approve April 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes
Motion By:	Legislator Sperry
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Uchitelle
Voting in Favor:	Legislators Collins, Kovacs, McCollough, Nolan, Sperry, Uchitelle, Walls
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	7
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Minutes Approved

Legislator Kovacs questioned the transparency of holding a meeting in the afternoon compared to the normal schedule and was concerned members of the public may not be able to attend. Chair Collins stated that this time was when all members were available. Legislator Maloney stated that the Committee was rushed and spoke to his perception of a conflict of interest on the Committee.

Legislator Nolan disputed the assessment of Legislator Maloney, stating that it was the actions of the Catskill Mountain Railroad what spurred this Committee into action by applying for the NYSDOT PFRAP grant without the County's approval. Legislator Nolan also stated that this Committee has heard from engineers, and this compromise includes aspects of CMRR's proposal, including the Madden building as a shared use facility. Legislator Nolan stated that a terminal at Basin Road is too close to the Route 28 Ashokan Rail Trail trailhead to be a useful or well utilized parking area.

Legislator Greene voiced her concern that this compromise could damage the business of CMRR.

Motion No. 2

Motion to recommend to the Ulster County Legislature that the Catskill Mountain Rail Road be offered an extension to their operating permit to go beyond Route 28a a distance far enough to clear the road's right of way in order disembark passengers.

Motion Made By:

Legislator Sperry

Motion Seconded By:

Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor:

Legislators Collins, McCollough, Nolan, Sperry, Uchitelle, Walls

Voting Against:

Legislator Kovacs

Votes in Favor:

6

Votes Against:

1

Disposition:

Motion Approved

Motion No. 3

Motion to recommend to the Ulster County Legislature that the Ashokan Rail Trail be extended East in the direction of the City of Kingston to Connect to the Extended Permit Area for the Catskill Mountain Rail Road, and at the point of connection, Trail plus Rail should co-exist, and recommend that the County construct a trailhead and appropriate visitor facility with restrooms to serve both trail and rail users, and for the County to take any action necessary to secure rights of way along the Undesignated Corridor.

Motion By:

Legislator Sperry

Motion Seconded By:

Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor:

Legislators Collins, McCollough, Nolan, Sperry, Uchitelle, Walls

Voting Against:

Legislator Kovacs

Votes in Favor:

6

Votes Against:

1

Disposition:

Motion Approved

Motion No. 4

Motion to recommend to the Ulster County Legislature that the section of the undesignated corridor from the proposed intersect West to the Ashokan Rail Trail be designated as Trail Only and the Section of the Corridor now containing the CMRR be designated Rail with Trail.

Motion By:

Legislator Nolan

Motion Seconded By:

Legislator McCollough

Voting in Favor:

Legislators Collins, McCollough, Nolan, Sperry, Uchitelle

Voting Against:

Legislators Kovacs, Walls

Votes in Favor:

5

Votes Against:

2

Disposition:

Motion Approved

With recommendations for the use of the undesignated section of the Ulster & Delaware Corridor made, Chair Collins stated the business of the Committee has concluded and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Sperry
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

TIME: 2:55 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Michael Tierney, Legislative Support Specialist

Approved: