Public Works and Capital Projects Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: LOCATION: PRESIDING OFFICER: LEGISLATIVE STAFF: PRESENT: ABSENT: QUORUM PRESENT:

March 6, 2019 – 6:00 PM COB, 6th Floor, K. L. Binder Library Chairwoman Laura Petit (left 6:40 PM) Nettie Tomshaw Legislators Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Bartels None Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Deputy County Executive Marc Rider, DPW Commissioner Thomas Jackson, DPW Finance Don Quesnell, DPW Brendan Masterson, SUNY Ulster VP of Administration Jamie Capuano

Chairwoman Petit called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Note: Chairwoman Petit left the meeting at 6:40 PM due to a prior commitment in district.

Motion No. 1:	Moved to Approve the Minutes of the February 6, 2019
Motion By:	Legislator Greene
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
Discussion:	None
Voting In Favor:	Legislators Petit, Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Bartels
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Minutes APPROVED

Resolutions for the March 19, 2019 Session of the Legislature

<u>Resolution No. 20</u>: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Cellco Partnership D/B/A Verizon Wireless – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves a county contract license agreement with Cellco Partnership D/B/A Verizon Wireless for the placement of an antenna on the Golden Hill water tower to help out reception on Rt. 32 and Rosendale. 100% Revenue, 2.9K /month, 173,880.00 total, Agreement Term 9/1/19 - 8/31/24 (Note – last month the committee postponed this resolution pending additional information from Verizon)

Discussion:

Deputy County Executive Marc Rider asked the committee to withdraw the resolution at this time until his office decides the course of action/level of repair the water tower will require prior to signing a contract with Cellco to place an antenna on the water tower.

Motion No. 3:	Motion to Withdraw Resolution No. 20
Motion By:	Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By	: Legislator Litts
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Voting In Favor:	Legislator Petit, Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Bartels
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution Withdrawn by Sponsors
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Resolution No. 96: Establishing Capital Project No. 535 Body Camera Purchase And Amending The 2019-2024 Capital Improvement Program And The 2019 Capital Project Fund - Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This resolution establishes Capital Project No. 535 for the purchase of body camera's amending the 2019-2024 Capital Improvement Program and Capital Project Fund. This project will upgrade the current system and add additional units to outfit Corrections and Criminal Officers in the line of duty. \$320.8 K, \$69.8K NYS Reimbursed, A Bond Resolution will be required.

Motion No. 4:	Motion to Discuss & ADOPT Resolution No. 96
Motion By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Fabiano

Discussion:

Deputy County Executive Rider provided an overview whereas there was a small pilot program and this would be the first full rollout to purchase body cameras. This initiative was implemented by the previous Sheriff and County Executive to purchase cameras for both corrections and road patrols. This resolution covers enough body cameras to cover all shifts, but not every person to take home. The entire committee request their name be added as sponsors. Legislator Nolan noted the signature date of the contracts state 1/1/0001.

Voting In Favor:	Legislator Petit, Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Bartels
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 98</u>: Adopting And Issuing A Negative Declaration Under 6 NYCRR Part 617 State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) By The Ulster County Legislature For The Construction Of A Public Safety Training Facility In The Town Of Ulster – Capital Project No. 483- Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: This resolution adopts and issues a Negative Declaration under SEQRA by the UC Legislature for the construction of a public safety training facility in the Town Of Ulster – Capital Project No. 483. No financial impact.

Motion No. 5:	Motion to Discuss & ADOPT Resolution No. 98
Motion By:	Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By:	: Legislator Fabiano

Discussion:

The Planning Department provided additional information late yesterday afternoon. Chairwoman Petit confirmed we are upgrading the current fire training center and the existing manmade retention pond although mapped as a "wetland" will be used as a retention pond. Legislator Nolan noted there are no toxic materials going in the pond. Legislator Greene confirmed there will not be any firefighting foams used and all water runoff will be captured – closed system.

Voting In Favor:	Legislator Petit, Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Bartels
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 106: Approving The Work Order With The Dormitory Authority Of The State Of New York (DASNY) To Provide Design Services For The Gym Wall Repair (Replacement) Project, Related To Capital Project No. 466 SUNY Ulster– Gym Wall Repair (Replacement) – Ulster County Community College

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves a work order – project mgmt. agreement with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) for design services for the gym wall repair/replacement at SUNY Ulster. \$27.5K Budgeted Capital Project No. 466, Serial Bonds previously authorized.

Motion No. 6:	Motion to Discuss & ADOPT Resolution No. 106
Motion By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Litts

Discussion:

This is one of three resolution design work orders this month with the Dormitory Authority at SUNY Ulster that was previously approved last year under a master agreement. SUNY Ulster VP of Administration Jamie Capuano explained there was a 21-day State amendment on this to redo the gym wall. DASNY has purposed to take off the bricks, add flashing and secure the wall. If the State budget stays enacted they should start construction in May.

Legislator Greene for the record confirmed this is not a resolution for student living quarters.

Voting In Favor:	Legislator Petit, Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 107</u>: Approving The Work Order With The Dormitory Authority Of The State Of New York (DASNY) To Provide Design Management Services Of A DASNY Term Consultant For Design Services And Use DASNY Staff To Manage Construction For The Phase 1-Window Replacement Project For Jacob Hardenburgh Hall, Related To Capital Project No. 486 SUNY Ulster – Window Replacement Project – Ulster County Community College

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves a work order – project mgmt. agreement with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) for design mgmt. services of a DASNY term consultant for design services and staff to manage construction for the phase 1-window replacement project for the Jacob Hardenburgh Hall at SUNY Ulster. \$300K Budgeted Capital Project No. 486, Serial Bonds previously authorized.

Motion No. 7:	Motion to Discuss & ADOPT Resolution No. 107
Motion By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Greene

Discussion:

Legislator Nolan asked for a window count and confirmed they will be energy efficient. Jamie Capuano emailed the information on 3/13/19 stating there are (33) curtain windows that are approximately 70 SF. The north side of the building will be worked on first.

Voting In Favor:	Legislator Petit, Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Bartels
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 108</u>: Approving The Work Order With The Dormitory Authority Of The State Of New York (DASNY) To Provide Design Management Services Of A DASNY Term Consultant For Design Services And Use DASNY Staff To Manage Construction For The Hardenburgh And Vanderlyn Halls Door Replacement Project, Related To Capital Project No. 493 – SUNY Ulster – Door Replacement Project – Ulster County Community College

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves a work order – project mgmt. agreement with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) for design mgmt. services of a DASNY term consultant for design services and use DASNY staff to manage construction for the Vanderlyn Halls Door Replacement project at SUNY Ulster. \$153K Budgeted Capital Project No. 493, Serial Bonds previously authorized.

Discussion:

Legislator Nolan asked for a door count. Jamie Capuano emailed the information on 3/13/19 stating there are (138) doors noting this is the number of individual doors and some openings on campus consist of four doors (two exterior and two interior). Handicap accessibility will also be improved. The doors will have new locks installed for security.

Motion No. 8:	Motion to Discuss & ADOPT Resolution No. 108
Motion By:	Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Petit, Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Bartels
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 109</u>: Establishing Capital Project No. 534 – Reconstruction Of Various Roads In Ulster County – Department Of Public Works (Highways And Bridges)

Resolution Summary: This resolution establishes Capital Project No. 534 for the reconstruction of various Ulster County roads – Chip seal in Denning, Shandaken, Wawarsing, Marbletown, Shawangunk and Hardenburgh. \$425K. A Bond Resolution will be required.

Motion No. 9:	Motion to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 109
Motion By:	Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Fabiano

Discussion:

Commissioner Jackson introduced Brendan Masterson, DPW Field Operations Manager who replaced Joe Whittaker and will oversee the reconstruction work.

Voting In Favor:	Legislator Petit, Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	5
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 111</u>: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Seneca Pavement Marking, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Seneca Pavement Marking, Inc. to paint traffic lines on various County roads. 100% County – rates expected to exceed \$50K

Motion No. 10:	Motion to Discuss & ADOPT Resolution No. 111
Motion By:	Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Litts

Discussion:

Legislator Nolan confirmed the County doesn't bid on or use centerline road/lane warning		
rumble strips to alert d	rivers when they are drifting – county roads are narrow and not high speed.	
Brendan Musterson no	oted state road rumble strips have been breaking down from wear –	
underperforming.		
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Petit, Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Bartels	
Voting Against:	None	
Votes in Favor:	6	
Votes Against:	0	
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED	
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<u>Resolution No. 113</u>: Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Request That The New York State Department Of Transportation Abandon Certain Highway Lands Along US Route 209 In The Town Of Wawarsing, Hamlet Of Napanoch – Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairwoman of the Ulster County Legislature to request that the NYS Department of Transportation abandon a portion of land depicted in the aerial GIS MAP & Sketch of the requested area in the Town of Wawarsing, Hamlet of Napanoch, located on a portion of US Route 209 – SH No. 141, Map No. 42.5. No Financial Impact.

Motion No. 11:	Motion to Discuss & ADOPT Resolution No. 113
Motion By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Litts

Discussion:

Deputy County Executive Marc Rider and Commissioner Jackson provided an overview of the process of abandonment of the state highway shoulder maintenance jurisdiction – per highway law. NYSDOT has deemed it is no longer needed for highway purposes but would require a Resolution from the County to abandon the easement. The White Wolf Restaurant owner would like to expand/build on the property, and per Marc Rider the property has no real benefit to the County. Committee discussion ensued to better understand the process requested by the municipality on behalf of White Wolf Restaurant. Once the State abandons the land it is turned over to the County.

In turn the County will create a resolution of abandonment which will then allow the property to fall to the property owner to build on.

Commissioner Jackson confirmed per highway law the land must revert to the original adjoining property owners, easing Chairwoman Petit and Legislator Green's concern for setting a precedent of gifting County land.

Voting In Favor:	Legislator Petit, Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Bartels
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 121</u>: Establishing A Solid Waste Planning Commission Pursuant To Ulster County Charter § C-11K To Review County Plans For Solid Waste Management And Recommend Alternative Means Of Solid Waste Disposal

Resolution Summary: This resolution as amended "in bold type" establishes a Solid Waste Planning Commission to review Ulster County plans for Solid Waste Mgmt.- to recommend alternative means of solid waste disposal. No Financial Impact.

Motion No. 12:	Motion to Discuss Resolution No. 121 as Amended
Motion By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Fabiano

Discussion:

Chairwoman Petit called upon Legislature Chairwoman Bartels who provided the history and an overview of the amended proposed resolution. The Legislative body has the approval authority over the Local Solid Waste Mgmt. Plan and over any UCRRA bonding exceeding \$500K. Chair Bartels expressed being at the table at the forefront of the process providing policy guidance will be a win win for everyone. Chairwoman Bartels also discussed the makeup of the members and recommends the committee schedule field trips. The UCRRR hired Cornerstone for a fee of \$145K to create the plan.

Although Legislator Petit had to leave the meeting early due to a prior commitment, she shared her concerns regarding how much solid waste tonnage stated on the resolution and how the agency hasn't recognized in recent years that solid waste is every component of the waste stream, including compost and recycling. She also stated she would prefer that no one from the agency be on the committee. Although Chairwoman Petit expressed she opposes the resolution put forth before the committee, she had to leave before a vote came to the floor. Committee discussion ensued. Legislator Greene fully supports the resolution. Legislator Fabiano confirmed Chairwoman Bartels will contact Legislator Petit to discuss further.

(Note: At the March 19, 2019 Legislative Session an amendment was approved changing the first Whereas to read: the residents and business of Ulster County currently generate approximately 120,000-130,000 tons of municipal solid waste annually)

Motion No. 13: Motion By: Motion Seconded By	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 121 as Amended (tonnage) Legislator Litts : Legislator Greene
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Bartels (Petit left the meeting before the vote was taken)
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	5
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED AS AMENDED

New Business

Legislature Litts spent the day at the NYS Legislature promoting how "Local Roads Matter" by supporting an annual \$150 Million increase in CHIPS Base and the Restoration of \$65 Million for Extreme Winter Recovery Added to the CHIPS base.

(see attached literature NYSCHSA/NYSAOTSOH 2019 Grassroots Advocacy Day)

Legislature Litts asked that the County Executive's office follow the Legislature's lead by writing a letter to Albany requesting an increase of TIP funding and restore our Extreme Winter Recovery fund. Deputy County Executive Rider concurred. Legislator Litts will write a letter of support to Governor Cuomo in the hopes all Legislator's will sign on to it. (see attached letter)

Another area of cost savings would be to designate low volume roads as "minimal maintenance roads", which would alleviate the municipality from having to maintain year-round.

Legislator Litts also noted, per current law any project with funding exceeding \$250K must go out to bid. They are trying to up the amount to \$500K whereas bridge work can then be done in house saving taxpayers money.

Adjournment

Deputy Chair Fabiano asked if there was any other business, and hearing none;

Motion Made By:Legislator GreeneMotion Seconded By:Legislator NolanNo. of Votes in Favor:5No. of Votes Against:0

<u>**TIME:</u>** 7:00 PM Respectfully submitted: Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Staff Minutes Approved: April 3, 2019</u>

Mail - ntom@co.ulster.ny.us



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ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

TRACEY A. BARTELS. Chairwoman

DAVID B. DONALDSON Vice Chair



P.O. Box 1800 KINGSTON, NEW YORK 12402 Telephone: 845 340-3900 FAX: 845 340-3651 JONATHAN HEPPNER Majority Leader KENNETH J. RONK, JR. Minority Leader VICTORIA A. FABELLA Clerk

March 7, 2019

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo Governor of New York State NYS State Capitol Building Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

We, the below signed members of the Ulster County Legislature, write to respectfully request your reconsideration of certain provisions in your FY 2020 Executive Budget.

Arguably the most equitably distributed of all state funding, CHIPS dollars provide vital assistance to municipalities facing aging and deteriorating infrastructure. Like many rural counties in New York, Ulster maintains an extensive system of roads and bridges. Roughly the size of Rhode Island, and comprising 423 miles of county roads, 158 county bridges and an additional 1,542 miles of City, Town and Village roads, Ulster County is acutely aware of the costs of maintaining critical infrastructure. We have committed millions of dollars in the past few years to county road and bridge repair and replacement projects. Additionally, we actively encourage shared services models among our local municipalities.

As you are aware CHIPS funding has remained at 2013 funding levels making it increasingly difficult to keep up with, let alone get ahead of, infrastructure needs. On top of that, we feel the elimination of Extreme Winter Recovery funding makes it nearly impossible for counties and local municipalities to plan and implement responsible long term repair and replacement plans in the face of costs associated with unanticipated extreme weather events.

We are respectfully requesting the following considerations as you continue to move through the FY2020 Budget process:

- Increase CHIPS funding by \$150 million annually
- Restore \$65 million in Extreme Winter Recovery funding
- Fully fund PAVE NY
- Designate revenue allocations which guarantee parity between statewide and MTS systems

Additionally, as you move through the Legislative Session, we encourage you to consider the enactment of legislation creating a process to designate low-volume roads as minimum maintenance, as well as legislation amending Highway Law § 10-c (4)(e) to increase the competitive bidding threshold for CHIPS work from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

We appreciate your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Herbert Litts, III, District 9

Laura Petit, Chair Public Works & Capital Projects Committee

Cc: NYS Senators Amedore, Metzger, Seward & Skoufis and NYS Assemblymembers Cahill, Jacobson, Miller & Tague, Acting County Executive Reiter

local roads matter!



2019 TALKING POINTS SUPPORT an annual \$150 Million Increase in CHIPS Base SUPPORT Restoration of \$65 Million for Extreme Winter Recovery Added to CHIPS Base

NYS INFRASTRUCTURE IS LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Local roads and bridges account for eight-seven percent (87%) of NYS roads, and more than half of its bridges. Yet the state spends less than five percent of its capital construction program supporting this huge local system.
- Thirty-four percent (34%) of local bridges are deficient and forty eight percent (48%) of road pavements are rated fair or poor. Drivers on local roads contribute nearly half of the gas taxes collected in this state.
- NYS Comptroller DiNapoli estimates that local governments spend about \$1 billion a year on road and bridge infrastructure which leaves an unfunded \$1.3 billion annual need.

CHIPS

- Last year, over 142 legislators actively advocated for increased CHIPS funding levels.
- The Assembly One-House Budget last year proposed a CHIPS increase of \$81.8 million.
- The Senate Democrat Budget Proposal last year called for the restoration of Extreme Winter Recovery (EWR) funds and recommended a CHIPS increase of \$150 million.
- The enacted Budget last year included NO increases in CHIPS base funding levels.
- NYSCHSA and NYSAOTSOH request that CHIPS base levels be increased by \$150 million annually to meet the well-documented need to better maintain local transportation systems. This will bring annual CHIPS funding to a more effective level of \$588 million.

IMPACTS OF INCREASES IN LOCAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

- CHIPS and PAVE NY funding is distributed to every municipality; and BRIDGE NY project awards are distributed equitably throughout the state.
- Each \$150 million increase in funding for local roads, bridges and culverts results in up to 4,200 highway construction-related jobs.
- Efficient transportation systems provide economic and social opportunities and benefits that result in better accessibility to markets, employment and additional investments.

EXECUTIVE BUDGET INCLUDES NO INCREASES TO CHIPS AND MARCHISELLI

- Despite the demonstrated need, the Executive Budget proposes NO base aid increases in the CHIPS and Marchiselli programs and holds for the *seventh* consecutive year the CHIPS base level at \$438 million.
- The 2% property tax cap and the potential AIM aid cuts to municipalities proposed in the Executive Budget further constrain the ability for local governments to address the critical needs of their transportation systems.
- The last time that the CHIPS base level was increased was when the Legislature championed a \$75 million addition back in 2013.

EXTREME WINTER RECOVERY

- The Executive Budget does not re-appropriate \$65M for Extreme Winter Recovery.
- So far, this winter season has been extraordinarily challenging for local highway departments.
- Overtime hours for snow removal and the resulting labor costs is straining operating budgets and, due to extreme cold, equipment breakdowns and malfunctions are more frequent.
- Local highway departments plow not only the huge local road system, but also over a quarter of the NYSDOT roads.
- The deep freezing and thawing conditions this winter has led to severe damage from flooding and will certainly create more potholes in roads that will need to be repaired in the spring.
- NYSCHSA and NYSAOTSOH urge a \$65M appropriation to help local governments recover from the extraordinary costs of extreme weather and that the funding be added to the CHIPS base.

DESPITE A \$2.3 BILLION REVENUE SHORTFALL, CHIPS INCREASE IS AFFORDBALE

- The Governor and Comptroller announced that personal income tax collections were down, causing a projected \$2.3 billion fiscal short fall for this current state fiscal year.
- The state has \$4 billion in unspent reserve funds that it collected over the past few years from bank settlements.
- Most economists believe the real cause of the gap was the sharp decline in the stock market in December.
- The Assembly Speaker stated he expects bounce back the coming year and to be near higher prior projections.
- The state can afford to increase CHIPS funding by \$150 million; CHIPS is bonded so the cost to the state budget is limited to the annual debt service payments; about 10% of the total bonded.

NYSDOT-MTA PARITY

- The Dedicated Highway and Bridge Trust Fund (DHBTF) which funds the NYSDOT and local CHIPS capital programs is insolvent. According to the Executive Budget the DHBTF will average nearly a half billion-dollar deficit annually from 2018 2022.
- Sixty-five percent of New Yorkers drive to work daily, six percent take buses and eighteen percent take subways and/or rail. With 7 out of 10 New Yorkers driving to work, the \$3 billion collected from driver automobile fees and gas taxes should go toward maintaining the state's roads and bridges.
- In 2018, only \$1.8B of these driver fees were deposited into the DHBTF.
- The congestion pricing proposal directs all of the fees collected (\$1.5 billion annually) to the MTA.
- All transportation infrastructure throughout the state is in need of enhanced state investment.
- NYSCHSA and NYSAOTSOH request the significant long-term capital needs of the statewide highway system be considered alongside MTA capital funding considerations.

PAVE NY

- PAVE NY directs \$100 million annually to local governments by formula for road paving-related projects.
- NYSCHSA and NYSAOTSOH urge PAVE NY be fully funded in this budget and each year thereafter.

Year	Amount \$ Available	Applications	Funded
2016	\$200M	Round I:	
	(\$20M dedicated to culverts)	229 bridges, 366 culverts	93 bridges, 39 culverts
2018	\$250M	Round II:	
	(\$50M dedicated to culverts)	259 bridges, 514 culverts	86 bridges, 79 culverts

BRIDGE NY

- The need for additional bridge and culvert funding is clearly justified, NYSCHSA and NYSAOTSOH request that consideration be given to continuing BRIDGE NY beyond Phase II funding.

ADDITIONAL HIGHWAY SAFETY, COST SAVING/FLEXIBILITY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SUPPORT Part II of the Executive Budget TED Article VII bill which would increase penalties for assaulting highway workers and implement a public education and outreach program on the importance of highway work zone safety.

SUPPORT the enactment of legislation creating a process to designate low-volume roads as minimum maintenance. When a road can be designated as "minimum maintenance" it gives a town the ability to determine and set the standards of maintenance for that section of highway and properly match the maintenance to the road's usage.

SUPPORT enactment of legislation amending Highway Law § 10-c (4)(e) to increase the competitive bidding threshold for CHIPS work from \$250,000 up to \$500,000. This bill allows more opportunities for local governments to minimize the costs of their local transportation projects on behalf of local taxpayers.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Local Roads Matter!





The New York State Courty Co-basted by Nighway Superstanderta Association, Inc.



1015 Automation of Town Superintendents of Highwaya, Irc.

SUPPORT AN ANNUAL \$150 MILLION INCREASE IN CHIPS AND THE RESTORATION OF LAST YEAR'S **\$65 MILLION EXTREME WINTER RECEOVERY FUNDING**

Dear Legislator:

The New York State County Highway Superintendents Association (NYSCHSA) and the New York State Association of Town Superintendents of Highways (NYSAOTSOH) appreciates your continued recognition that Local Roads Matter! Local governments are responsible for 87% of New York State's highway mileage and more than half of all its bridges. A safe and efficient statewide highway infrastructure is necessary for trade, economic development and revitalization, our schools, businesses, health and hospital facilities, emergency responders, and the traveling public.

NYSCHSA and NYSAOTSOH urge the Legislature to make more state funding and resources available at levels that more closely reflect the critical needs of local roads and bridges. This year the Executive Budget proposes no increase in the base level for the Consolidated Local Streets and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS). The last time that the CHIPS base level was increased was when the Legislature championed a \$75 million increase in 2013. In addition, the Executive Budget does not renew \$65 million for Extreme Winter Recovery (EWR) funding that was added by the legislature in the 2018-2019 state budget. This funding is essential to help local governments recover financially from the devastating effects of harsh winters and severe weather events so prevalent in the Northeast.

Funding Increases Needed for Local Transportation Infrastructure

Local highway departments continue to struggle to meet the needs of their systems under current funding levels. The Executive Budget proposes that CHIPS be funded at \$438 million for the seventh consecutive year. To be clear, pavement and bridge conditions in our state are getting worse.

NYSDOT estimates 1075 local bridges will become deficient within the next five years if proper preventive maintenance treatments are not applied in a timely manner. Failure to do preventative maintenance would eventually require costlier actions to restore conditions. For the same time period, an additional 687 local bridges will transition into the "poor" category. These bridges are already showing signs of significant deterioration. The poor category is the population of bridges most likely to have load postings, red structural flags, and/or unplanned closures.

Local Roads Matter! We urge that you and your colleagues make adequately funding our local transportation system a top budget priority. We know that you recognize the importance of a well maintained and functioning transportation system that promotes mobility, job creation and economic development in our communities. Increases in base funding for CHIPS is desperately needed. A \$150 million increase in funding for local roads, bridges and culverts could result in up to 4,200 highway construction-related jobs fueling local economies.

As public officials charged with ensuring the maintenance of the local highway and bridge system and the safety of the traveling public, we stand ready as always to work with our State elected representatives to meet this tremendous obligation to our mutual constituents.

Sincerely,

Dennis Davis, President NYSCHSA

tuck & Mako

Patrick Mahar, President NYSAOTSOH

local roads matter!

NYSCHSA / NYSAOTSOH 2019 GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY DAY

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Local Roads Matter!

- SUPPORT \$150 million increase in the CHIPS base funding level; to \$588 million.
- Restore \$65 million Extreme Winter Recovery Funds and add to CHIPS base

SIGN IN SHEET

Public Works & Capital Projects Committee Date: <u>March 6, 2019</u>

Committee Members: Laura Petit, Chairwoman Dean Fabiano, Deputy Chairman Manna Jo Greene Herbert Litts III Kathy Nolan Tracey A. Bartels

Guests:

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT OR ORGANIZATION
Marra Rider	4 Specubre's office
Tom Jackson	DPW
Brenden Mersterson	DPW
Don Quésnell	DPW
Jamic Capiano	UCCC
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