Public Works and Capital Projects Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME:	June 6, 2018 – 6:00 PM
LOCATION:	COB, 6th Floor, K. L. Binder Library
PRESIDING OFFICER:	Chairman Fabiano
LEGISLATIVE STAFF:	Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT:	Legislators Greene, Nolan, Litts
ABSENT:	Legislator Roberts
QUORUM PRESENT:	Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: SUNY Ulster VP Administration Chris Nguya, Deputy County Executive Marc Rider, Deputy Purchasing Ed Jordan, UC Budget Office Jamine Cupuano, Coordinator Department of Environment Amanda LaValle, DPW Deputy Commissioner Ron Suits, DPW Deputy of Finance Don Quesnell

Chairman Dean Fabiano called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Chairman Fabiano opted to vote on Resolution Nos. 260, 261 and 264 first to accommodate tonight's attendees.

Motion No. 1:	Moved to Approve the Minutes of the May 2, 2018
Motion By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Litts
Discussion:	None
Voting In Favor:	Legislators Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Minutes APPROVED

Department of Environment Amanda La Valle provided an update on the County's energy savings action plan and steps taken when considering roof repairs and or replacement on County owned buildings.

Amanda shared the County's application for the NYS DEC Environmental Excellence Award submitted this past November 2017 yielding a \$250K NYSERDA grant, whereas \$200K will go towards upgrading the Law Enforcement Center lighting, saving 750 KW of energy. Amanda expressed this application was the best way to show the committee that Ulster County is committed to operating the most environmentally responsible government operation possible. Ulster County government strives to implement innovative solutions to reduce the environmental impact of its operations. The culmination of these efforts is the mitigation of all the carbon emissions associated with County government operations. Ulster County is the only

net carbon neutral government operation in NYS. Amanda expressed the County's footprint reduction strategy provides the framework for the County's ongoing work to achieve carbon neutrality in a fiscally responsible way and serves as a model and guide for other local governments to follow. Amanda noted however, there is still a lot of work to be done on the efficiency and conservation side.

The County implemented a five step strategy: (see attached report)

- 1. <u>Avoid & Reduce</u> Right size County government operations, consolidate into more efficient buildings, and improve operational efficiency.
- 2. <u>Energy Efficiency</u> Employ energy conserving technology (LED lighting), upgrade to more efficient HVAC, water bottle filling stations.
- 3. <u>On Site Renewables</u> Build County owned solar installation as appropriate and execute large scale solar power purchase agreements
- 4. <u>Offset</u> Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) and green utility products to offset more emissions associated with over 18 Million Kwh of electricity consumption. Carbon Credits to offset all building heating and cooling, vehicle fuel use and employee commutes
- 5. <u>Monitor & Evaluate</u> Building by building utility tracking. Tracking of unleaded and diesel use.

-Marc Rider expressed when going out for future roofing Request for Proposals (RFP's), he would like to standardize the RFP process to include the cost for a cost benefit analysis for architectural and engineering services. He noted the county may choose <u>not</u> to proceed with the analysis, but will be able to weigh if a solar cost benefit analysis is feasible.

-Legislator Nolan suggested creating a point system for RFP bidders to include/suggest innovative energy reduction – green innovation options, which will then be listed on the contracts for the committee to see when voting on resolutions. Legislator Nolan expressed the thrust of this conversation is to address energy options as early on in the process as possible. Marc Rider will consider where points can fit into the process.

-Amanda LaValle noted another planning example is the County has a RFP out for a NYSERDA Flexible Technical Assistance Program (FlexTech) Study for HVAC master capital projects at the UCLEC and County Office bldg., which then becomes an energy master plan. (FlexTech programs share the cost to produce an objective, site-specific, and targeted study on how best to implement clean energy and/or energy efficiency technologies.) Marc Rider noted down the road DPW Substations can use upgrades.

-Legislator Greene referenced new construction be LEED Silver if possible – ref. Res. No. 383, 2006. Also opportunities for green storm water infrastructure and pervious paving inquires - weight issues/cost benefits, such as the NYS Thruway circle Kingston new parking lot. -Legislator Nolan asked if there is a County SOP - best practices being developed for storm water management for roadways.

Committee discussion ensued.

Resolutions for the June 19, 2018 Session of the Legislature

<u>Resolution No. 260</u>: Approving A Work Order With The Dormitory Authority Of The State Of New York For Construction Management Services Related To The Roof Replacement Portion Of Capital Project No. 524 – Burroughs Renovation – SUNY Ulster

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves a work order with the Dormitory Authority of The State of New York for construction mgmt. services including the replacement of the roof over Lecture Hall 120 in the Burroughs Building. \$150K = \$75K State, \$75K County. A bond resolution will be required.

Discussion:

Chairman Fabiano welcomed and called upon SUNY Ulster VP of Administration Chris Nguya to provide an overview. Chris explained this is a raised roof, one of the college more energy efficient roofs, and is only a small component/footprint – one classroom of the Burroughs 120 building. The college is contemplating additional Burroughs roof repairs as part of next year's Capital Project.

Legislator Greene discussed goals and opportunity to super insulate and evaluate the structural integrity same as the Family Court Relocation roof, and potential installation for solar on larger scale RFP projects. Legislator Greene again asking to please keep the committee in the loop. Marc Rider noted the County is working with Tesla – (previously Solar City) on two projects – the landfill in the Town of Ulster, and SUNY Ulster – interconnection study process. With the aging condition of many of the college roofs it made sense to install the solar arrays behind the meters on the ground by the masters garden. The energy generated is being used right by the campus - not going to the grid for the most part as opposed to net metering, making it possible for the college to expand going forward. The state is paying for half of the project. Jamie Cupuano expressed the balance of the Burroughs building roof will be covered in the upcoming Capital Project. Committee discussion ensued.

Motion No. 2:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 260
Motion By:	Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Greene
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 261: Establishing Capital Project No. 527 SUNY Ulster – Classroom Renovations – Amending The 2018-2023 Capital Improvement Program – Amending The 2018 Capital Fund Budget – SUNY Ulster

Resolution Summary: This resolution establishes Capital Project No. 527 SUNY Ulster for the replacement of ADA compliant desks and chairs, ceiling tiles, repairs and upgrades to the HVAC, new paint and other interior renovations including energy efficient upgrades. \$435,284.00 County - A bond resolution will be required.

Discussion:

Chris Nguya provided an overview of the upgrades, noted replacing 40 year old furniture, stained ceiling tiles, modernization, etc. can only help improve the educational delivery/experience for the students. This is the first of multiple phases of improvements going forward.

Legislator Greene for the record confirmed this resolution is not for the creation of student dorms – living quarters. Legislator Greene inquired if the procurement process includes buying local and avoiding the purchase of endangered hardwoods. Jamie noted the Dormitory Authority Agency provides the services to the college for project management services for interior design and procurement services at no cost.

Marc Rider noted the college purchasing department is creating a 1-5 year list of qualified architect's and engineering services for upcoming projects and that some have experience with sustainability practices.

Jamie Cupuano pointed out many of the projects will progress in phases.

Motion No. 3:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 261
Motion By:	Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>**Resolution No. 264</u>**: Capital Project #501 – Chodikee Lake Road Sight Distance Improvement – Review Act (SEQRA) – Classification Of Project As An Unlisted Action, And Approval Of Negative Declaration</u>

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute the short form Environmental Assessment Form (SEAF) and file it with the Capital Project No. 501 in compliance with the provisions of SEQRA as the County decided to move forward with the project alternative requiring the acquisition and demolition of a structure projecting significant cost savings. No financial impact.

Discussion: Legislators Litts and Nolan made the request to be added to the resolution as sponsors. Legislator Litts explained the history of the Chodikee Lake Road safety issues, originally planned as a Type 2 realignment project addressing a safety issue - the scope of the project evolved into property acquisition and structure demolition.

Motion No. 4:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 264
Motion By:	Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 234</u>: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment Causing The Aggregate Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Red Hawk Fire & Security LLC – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment exercising the second option to extend the term of the agreement for annual fire and safety equipment inspections at the Law Enforcement Center. 100% County - Amended Amt. \$24.7K - Total Amt. \$91K - Contract time frame 4/30/18 -4/30/19.

Discussion:

Chairman Fabiano provided an overview of the contract amendment.

Motion No. 5:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 234
Motion By:	Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
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Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED
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<u>Resolution No. 235</u>: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Bergmann Associates – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Bergmann Associates for the design and right-of-way services for the Horsenden Road project between NYS Rt. 32 and the Thruway Bridge in the Town of New Paltz. 91.3K total, 10.5% Federal, 95.5%. County - Contract time frame 7/1/18 - 12/31/19.

Discussion:	None
Motion No. 6:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 235
Motion By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Greene
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 236</u>: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Hubbell, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Hubbell, Inc. for the stabilization of the stream banks and roadway embankment along Bushkill Creek and Watson Hollow Road in the Town of Olive. 100% County \$395K, Time Frame 6/20/18 - 12/31/18.

Discussion:

Chairman Fabiano provided an overview of the contract.

Motion No. 7:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 236
Motion By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Litts
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED
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<u>Resolution No. 237</u>: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Pestmaster Services – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Pestmaster Services for integrated pest management services – which are low impact, low toxic and non-intrusive, low or no odor products for various County buildings, Perrine's Bridge, Pool, SJTUL Park, Fairgrounds, Sophie Finn and UC Highway Substations. 100% County, Time frame 7/1/18 - 6/30/20.

Discussion:

Chairman Fabiano provided an overview of the contract. Legislator Greene confirmed the county's standard practice using pesticides. The pesticide resolution is included in the packet.

Motion No. 8:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 237
Motion By:	Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 238</u>: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Barton & Loguidice DPC – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Barton & Loguidice DPC expanding the scope of services to include development of a Storm Water Pollution Plan and construction inspection services related to the Watson Hollow slope stabilization project. 100% Other, Amended Amount \$97K, Total Amt. \$163K Time frame 6/17/18 - 12/31/18

Discussion:	None
Motion No. 9:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 238
Motion By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Greene
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 239</u>: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Town & County Bridge And Rail Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Town & County Bridge and Rail Inc., for the replacement of roadway signage at various locations. 100% County, \$268.5K Time frame 4/1/18 - 3/31/20.

Discussion:

Chairman Fabiano provided an overview of the private company contract.

Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 239 Legislator Nolan
Legislator Litts
Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan None 4 0 Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 243</u>: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Services, Office Of Interoperable And Emergency Communications, For The 2017 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant – Amending Capital Project 482 – Amending The 2018 Capital Fund Budget – Department Of Emergency Communications / Emergency Management

Resolution Summary: This resolution amends Capital Project 482 – amending the 2018 Capital Fund Budget – Department of Emergency Communications /Emergency Management to make necessary improvements and provide for sustainment of Land Mobile Radio Systems (LMR), implementation and maintenance of components supporting interoperability, continuous training and exercise, sustainment and further development of the governance structure. \$525K 100% State Reimbursement - A bond resolution will be required.

Discussion:

Marc Rider explained the grant will help the County wide Emergency Management modernization /update. Additional Capital Project funding for infrastructure improvements will follow.

Motion No. 11:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 243
Motion By:	Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED
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<u>**Resolution No. 263</u>**: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Department Of Environmental Conservation (DEC) To Accept Grant Funds Under The 2017 Municipal Zero-emission Vehicle (ZEV) & ZEV Infrastructure Rebate Program – Amending The 2018 Ulster County Budget – Department Of Public Works</u>

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement with the NYS DEC to accept a \$7,221.00 grant for the purchase and installation of ZEV charging infrastructure.

Discussion:	None
Motion No. 12:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 263
Motion By:	Legislator Greene
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 266</u>: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Lease Agreement With The Ulster County Board Of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) For Classroom Space At 521 Boices Lane –Ulster County Public Works – Buildings And Grounds

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute a lease agreement with UC BOCES for classroom space at 521 Boices Lane. Five year sublease. \$7.2K State, \$7.2K County

Discussion:

Marc Rider explained OET leases the property.

Motion No. 13:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 266
Motion By:	Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>Resolution No. 267</u>: Amending Capital Project No. 504 – Frost Valley Road S-Turn Reconstruction Project – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Legislature To Execute An Agreement For Grant Proceeds On Behalf Of Ulster County – Amending The 2018 Capital Fund Budget – Department Of Public Works Highways & Bridges)

Resolution Summary: This resolution amends Capital Project No. 504 for the reconstruction project of the Frost Valley Road S-Turn, in the Town of Denning. This road continually has damaged due to flooding.

Discussion:

The Chairman confirmed this resolution authorizes the grant.

Motion No. 14:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 267
Motion By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Greene
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED
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<u>**Resolution No. 269**</u>: Amending Capital Project No. 507 – Horsenden Pavement Overlay In The Town Of New Paltz (PIN 8761.93) – Transportation Improvement Project (TIP) Not On The State Highway System – Amending The 2018 – 2023 Capital Improvement Plan – Department Of Public Works (Highways And Bridges)

Resolution Summary: This resolution amends Capital Project No. 507 as the existing road surface has deteriorated beyond only requiring pavement overlay, thus the project scope has changed to include full depth pavement replacement or rehabilitation between NYS Route 32 and North Putt Corners Road. \$80K, the project may become eligible for NYS Marchiselli Aid. A bond resolution will be required.

Discussion:	None
Motion No. 15:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 269
Motion By:	Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Greene
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

<u>**Resolution No. 271</u>**: Amending Capital Project No. 511, Watson Hollow Slope Stabilization – Amending The 2018 – 2023 Ulster County Capital Improvement - Public Works (Highways And Bridges)</u>

Resolution Summary: This resolution amends Capital Project No. 511 for the Watson Hollow Slope stabilization work - increasing design, construction inspection and construction costs to complete the project. The cost increase is \$182K, increasing the total project cost from \$412K to \$594K. A bond resolution will be required.

Discussion:	None
Motion No. 16:	Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 271
Motion By:	Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
Voting In Favor:	Legislator Fabiano, Greene, Litts, Nolan
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

New Business

-DPW Deputy of Finance, Don Quesnell, advised a late resolution will be forthcoming for work at the S-turn in Frost Valley that will go before the Laws and Rules Committee. The County was delayed receiving a verbal easement agreement in time for resolution deadline.

Legislator Greene noted (45) volunteers turned out for the Ulster County Climate Smart Committee in cooperation with the UC Dept. of Environment, UCEDA, Cornell Cooperative Extension and New Yorkers for Clean Power which hosted a free training for the 2018 Green Business Challenge Volunteer Ambassadors, held on May 24, 2018 at the SUNY/Ulster's Kingston Learning Center, 94 Mary's Ave., Kingston. The goal was to train volunteers to seek businesses that may decide to undertake an energy audit and retrofit, insulate and air-seal their building, switch to LED lighting , solar installations, purchase locally generated renewable energy, electric vehicles and charging stations, composting, reuse food waste, etc.

Legislator Greene acknowledged Melinda Herzog from Cornell Cooperative Ext. for her work researching and work pulling information together for restaurants and large food waste generators.

A Green Business Challenge Launch will be held on Wednesday, June 27th at 7:30 AM at the Best Western in Kingston. This challenge is a project of the UC Climate Smart Committee, sponsored by the Executive, UC Department of the Environment and the UC Office of Economic Development. The committee received the flyer for the Challenge Launch.

Marc Rider conveyed the County Executive's appreciation to Legislator Greene, this committee, and the Legislature for their partnership and innovation of the Green Challenge. Also The Reese Group added a solar array on their building.

The Highland Rotary Club invited Legislator Greene to speak at their next monthly meeting.

Chairman Fabiano thanked Marc Rider and his staff for attending tonight's meeting and helping the committee better understand the projects – thus allowing the resolutions to move forward.

Adjournment

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

Motion Made By:Legislator LittsMotion Seconded By:Legislator NolanNo. of Votes in Favor:4No. of Votes Against:0

<u>TIME:</u> 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted: Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Staff Minutes Approved: July 11, 2018

Amanda la Valle

Note: Application document compiled April 2017. DEC Environmental Excellence Award was received by Ulster County and announced November 2017.

NYS DEC Environmental Excellence Award Application

ULSTER COUNTY: NET CARBON NEUTRAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Project Summary

Ulster County is a mid-sized county with a population of 180,000 located in the Hudson Valley. The County enjoys a diverse landscape with remarkable natural features including the Hudson River, the Shawangunk Ridge, and the Catskill Mountains. In addition, it is the host to two City of New York water supply reservoirs as well as significant acreage in both the City of New York Water Supply Watershed and the Catskill Park.

The County government has approximately 1,200 full time employees and an operating budget of \$325 million. Like all other municipal governments, we provide a wide variety of diverse services to the community,- such as road and bridge maintenance, social, law enforcement, and public health services. The majority of these services are funded through county property and other tax dollars.

Ulster County is committed to operating the most environmentally responsible government operation possible. Although, running a County government operation which mitigates its entire greenhouse gas emissions and minimizes environmental impacts across many facets of its operation may seem like a dream to some, Ulster County is proud to have achieved this goal. Ulster County has undertaken a deep and expansive examination of our government operations and strives to implement innovative solutions to reduce the environmental impact of our operations. The culmination of these efforts is the mitigation of all the carbon emissions associated with county government operations. We believe Ulster County is the only net carbon neutral government operation in New York State; we are not aware of another government that has accomplished such an ambitious goal.

General Project Description

Municipal governments provide a wide variety of important and necessary services, but in so doing, consume valuable resources. Municipal government operations require the use of energy, equipment, and supplies on a daily basis. The use of resources comes at costs to both the environment and to taxpayers, and local government operations contribute to Greenhouse Gas (GHG) production. Ulster County, under the leadership of County Executive Mike Hein, has sought ways to substantially reduce the environmental footprint and increase the sustainability of county government operations while seeking and designing projects that:

- Demonstrate measures which are replicable by other municipalities, businesses and the public;
- Support infrastructure for further deployment of sustainable technologies across the community;
- Create valuable educational opportunities which cultivate community-wide sustainable practices and awareness; and,
- Demonstrate fiscally responsible government practices by implementing measures which result in taxpayer and operational savings.

Ulster County's commitment to energy conservation, efficiency, renewable energy generation as well as purchasing renewable energy and offsetting over 100% of all direct and indirect carbon emissions has resulted in what we believe to be <u>the first and only Carbon Neutral</u> <u>county government in New York State</u>. Ulster County has received state and national recognition for its commitment to environmental stewardship.

The Ulster County Department of the Environment

The Department was established in 2008 and with its creation Ulster County embarked on an innovative way to meet the challenges of our contemporary environmental problems. The Department of the Environment is one of only a handful across County government in NYS and it has a unique role within Ulster County government. It is responsible for coordinating programs and activities related to the environment across county departments and agencies. Those Departments and Agencies include but are not limited to: UC Health Department, UC Planning Department, UC Information Services, UC Purchasing Department, UC Department of Public Works , Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County, and UC Soil and Water Conservation District..

The Department of the Environment is responsible for working with all the involved departments to increase efficiency and efficacy of projects with a variety of environmental implications. Department of the Environment responsibilities include supervising select environmental compliance responsibilities, providing a forum for the Coordinated Departments to share information on environmental projects, providing technical assistance to County departments, and helping County departments characterize and address existing environmental

needs. This helps the County to prevent duplication of services and ensures the County is balancing stewardship with financial accountability.

Carbon Footprint Reduction Strategy

The Ulster County Footprint Reduction Strategy, provides a framework for the County's ongoing work to achieve carbon neutrality in a fiscally responsible way and serve as a model and guide



for other local governments to follow in the pursuit of carbon neutrality as well as taxpayer and operational cost savings.

There are five main aspects to the program: emissions reduction, energy efficiency, onsite renewable generation, emission offsets, and monitoring/evaluation. The model is intended as a framework that stresses the fundamentals, such as "don't use more energy than you have to," and "use energy efficiently if you must." Then moves to the use of renewable energy (preferably as close to the demand source as possible). As a last step it moves to using products such as Renewable Energy

Credits (RECs) and Carbon Credits to mitigate for unavoidable emissions. All the while, use and progress must be monitored and evaluated. A longer document detailing this strategy is attached to this application.

Examples of How Ulster County Has Implemented the Strategy

 Right size County government operations, consolidate into more efficient buildings, improve operational efficiency

- Employ energy conserving technology (LED lighting), upgrade to more efficient HVAC, water bottle filling stations
- •Build County owned solar installation as appropriate and execute large scale solar power purchase agreeements
- •Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) and green utility products to offset more emissions associated with over 18Million Kwh of electricty consumption
- Carbon Credits to offset <u>all</u> building heating and cooling, vehcile fuel use and employee comutes
- •Building by building utility tracking
- Tracking of unleaded and diesel use

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Innovation, Sustainability and Partnership

We believe our efforts to reduce our GHG emissions and operate a carbon neutral government demonstrates a comprehensive examination of sustainability across our operation, and our implementation demonstrates remarkable innovation in local government. In addition, we have worked with partners across our community, including most recently the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency on both a solar landfill project and expansion of the municipal composting operation, to further implement projects to both improve the sustainability of the County's operations and provide important opportunities for the community.

Renewable Energy- Ulster County purchases over 100% of green electricity from sustainable sources through a combination of renewable energy certificates and utility green power products. In addition, the County is embarking on a utility-scale solar project at the SUNY Ulster Community College and at the former landfill site in the Town of Ulster, in partnership with Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency, which will ultimately generate 20% (over 2.4 million kwh of renewable energy per year) of the County's electricity. As of April 2017, all permits have been approved and ground breaking is imminent.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) named Ulster County as one of the leaders in green power use and environmental sustainability, most recently ranking the County as the 26th largest green power user on their "Top 30 Local Government" list, which represents the 30 largest green power users among local governments in the Nation. In addition the County was recognized as a 2015 Green Power Purchasing leader by US EPA.

Green Infrastructure & Stormwater Infrastructure - Green Infrastructure demonstrations which include native plant rain gardens for stormwater management are located at the Ulster County Office Complex and SUNY Ulster Extension Center. In addition, as part of Ulster County's S.T.R.I.V.E. Project (Shared Taxpayer Relief through Innovative Visions in Education) at the SUNY Ulster Center, the County Executive secured \$439,000 in grant funds for the County's Green Infrastructure Project to renovate the former Sophie Finn Elementary School in the City of Kingston. The funding allowed the County to incorporate green infrastructure design elements into the new SUNY Ulster Kingston Center such as: porous asphalt for the parking lot, permeable block pavers for courtyard areas, a greenwall, rain gardens and bioretention areas, providing infiltration for stormwater and improving water quality.

Food Service Waste Reduction Act - The County Legislature enacted and the County Executive signed a local law known as the "Food Service Waste Reduction Act" which prohibits all food service providers from using polystyrene foam, promoting the use of materials that are better and safer for the environment.

Compost- In late 2016, Ulster County was awarded a \$261,000 grant from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (2016) to expand and improve the operation and commercial viability of the composting facility at the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCCRA) in Kingston, NY. This funding will provide compost bins for commercial customers, identify and map food service operations and institutional generators within the UCRRA service area,

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purchase and install a bagging machine to increase the marketability of finished compost, and establish a pilot organics recovery program at the Ulster County Law Enforcement Center.

Superior Practices

We believe there are two aspects which distinguish Ulster County's efforts as a superior practice. First, although there are some other municipalities which purchase renewable energy, it is often a small percentage of their total usage. And no community, that we are aware of, takes the bold additional step of off-setting all their carbon emissions to be carbon neutral.

Second, Ulster County's efforts to reduce and conserve energy go above and beyond pilot programs or those which merely exhibit a new technology and are much more far reaching and effective. Several examples are listed below.

Green Fleet Policy- The County has developed a A Sustainable Green Fleet Policy which requires: a comprehensive inventory of vehicles, fuel monitoring (including total fuel, average mpg, miles driven, vehicle function, estimated emission per mile), right-sizing & strategic deployment of more efficient and sustainable fuel vehicles, that 5% of the fleet will be Green Vehicles by 2020, after 2020, 20% of new passenger vehicle purchases will be Green Vehicles, employee education on ecodriving techniques, and annual reporting. The policy stresses fuel conservation, fuel efficiency and the use of renewables.

As of April 2017, the County has deployed seven plug in hybrid sedans and an all electric vehicle in the fleet. In addition, the County legislature has authorized the purchase of 11 additional plug in hybrid sedans in 2017. We are on track to have more than 20 vehicles that meet the policy's definition of a green vehicle in the fleet fulfilling the Green Fleet 2020 policy goal a full three years early.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations- In 2015, Ulster County installed a network of nine charging stations at County owned facilities which is the greatest number of municipal electric vehicle charging sites in the State of New York, including NYC. The County has been awarded additional funding from the NYS DEC and will install six additional stations in 2017. The stations are offset by 100% renewable energy and are available to Ulster County fleet vehicles as well as employees, residents and the general public (free of charge for non-commercial use, courtesy of the Ulster County Regional Chamber of Commerce). In 2016, the County hosted 1388 electric vehicle charging sessions of which 1,008 were public (non-fleet) vehicles. These sessions, which are powered by renewable energy, resulted in the avoided consumption of 1,178 gallons of gas.

Biodiesel- All Ulster County Area Transit (UCAT) public transit buses have been converted to biodiesel, which reduced Greenhouse Gas emissions (CO2E) by over 50,600 kg in 2015.

Interior and Exterior LED Lighting Upgrades – Ulster County has completed LED retrofits (over three thousand bulbs) at County facilities. These improvements reduce the County's annual electricity demand by approximately 500,000 kwh.

Measurable Environmental, Economic and Social Benefits

In order to track our achievement of carbon neutrality and our progress at reducing our energy consumption, all energy consumption is monitored and tracked in a software package by the UC Department of the Environment. Electricity use, natural gas, heating oil, propane, unleaded gasoline, petro-diesel, and biodiesel are all tracked by department, building or function as appropriate. The annual GHG emission is calculated by aggregating all of this data and using NYSERDA and/or EPA conversion factors. For our baseline GHG inventory which was conducted in 2012, we emitted 13,777 MT of CO2E.



Ulster County's 2012 Baseline Green House Gas Inventory Summary-

Although the County has made significant strides in reducing energy consumed by buildings and improved the efficiency of the fleet, we see only a small decrease in emissions in the last three years. This is due to a major infrastructure improvement initiative. The increase in construction has increased fuel use for many pieces of heavy equipment. However, we are confident without the conservation and efficiency efforts, we would have experienced a substantial increase in GHG emissions over the same time period.

As a carbon neutral government operation, we must use renewable resources for any energy consumed and/or ensure that a product such as a Renewable Energy Credit (REC) or carbon credit is procured to off-set any unavoidable greenhouse gas emission.

The County currently consumes slightly in excess of 12 million kwh of electricity per a year. In 2016, we purchased RECs in excess of 18 million kwh of electricity. (Data is also submitted to EPA and included on the Green Power Partnership website https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partnership-top-30-local-government)

In addition, the County also purchases carbon credits to offset emissions associated with the heating and cooling of buildings, the county fleet operation (this includes over 400 pieces of

achieved its net carbon neutrality while increasing services, making historic investments in our roads and bridges and lowering property taxes. The 2017 Ulster County Property Tax Levy is lower than it was in 2010.

The County remains committed to staffing a county level Department of the Environment. County staffing allows for us to leverage additional funding opportunities, including grants and other programs and identify other efficiencies and savings across all County Departments. Since the department's inception in 2008, it has been responsible for bringing in over \$3.7 million dollars of grant and program opportunities. Additionally, programs such as the purchase of RECs and Carbon Credits have been offset through energy conservation opportunities making these investments cost neutral to our taxpayers.

Other Details

Select list of relevant awards, grants and designations

- Ulster County was prominently featured in National Geographic magazine's December 2016 issue. The issue's pull-out, full color map of Ulster County entitled "Dreaming Green" highlights some of the County's environmental achievements;
- First Municipality in to become a NYSERDA Clean Energy Community, received a \$250,000 grant award from NYSERDA which is slated to be used for energy efficiency improvements to the UC Law Enforcement Center;
- Awarded the Bronze-Level Certified Climate Smart Community by the NYS
 Department of Environmental Conservation (one of three municipalities, and the
 only county, in the state to reach this level which is the highest that has been
 achieved to date through the program);
- Ulster County was awarded \$261,000 from the NYS DEC (2016) to work with the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCCRA) in Kingston, NY to expand and improve the operation and commercial viability of the composting facility as well as start a food waste collection program at the UC Law Enforcement Center;
- In October 2016, the "White House" recognized Ulster County for its commitment to reducing Green House Gas Emissions with the deployment of alternate fuel vehicles as well as expanding the County's charging station network.
- 2015 Recipient of a U.S. EPA Green Power Leadership Award
- Included in the EPA 2016 Green Power Leadership Club (GPLC) and included (26th) in the EPA's list of the top 30 local government green power purchasers;
- 2015 National Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties for County Resiliency and Sustainability for the "Carbon Footprint Reduction Program;" and,
- The Hudson Valley Trail Network, which Ulster County hosts sections of, was the most recent inductee into the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's Rail-Trail Hall of Fame;

highway equipment, transit buses, and passenger vehicles), as well as the greenhouse gas emissions associated with employee commutes to and from their jobs. Ulster County purchased

In 2015, the county emitted 13,236 MT CO2E all of which was mitigated through the purchase of renewable energy or carbon offset credits. In 2016, all electricity consumption was again mitigated through REC procurement and 10,500 MTCO2E of Climate Action Reserve verified carbon offset were purchases in 2016 (executed purchase order included in supporting documentation).

Commitment and Leadership

Ulster County has demonstrated its firm commitment to its carbon neutrality efforts through its press releases and outreach as well as a dedicated department which coordinates these efforts. The Ulster County Executive, Mike Hein, is proud of the achievements of his administration and frequently highlights the County's success in integrating environmental responsibility in a fiscally responsible manner in county government operations. A sample of the outreach materials and publicity around these efforts is included as supporting documentation. Additionally, the staffing and role of the Department of the Environment as discussed previously in this application, further illustrates the County's commitment to providing environmental leadership.

Transferability to other Users

Ulster County considers the transferability to other users, especially municipalities, fundamental to our efforts. In addition, we believe our approach towards achieving a carbon neutral government operation is eminently replicable by others. Whether it is a town that installs an electric vehicle charging station or another County which looks to purchasing RECs, our efforts are strengthened and validated by increasing the success and participation of all. In addition, since we take on a wide variety of project within our "Carbon Footprint Reduction Strategy" we provide for not only specific examples which can be replicated but an overall approach which can be tailored to other users. We accomplish this through public events, educational workshops for individuals and municipalities, presentations, and direct outreach to municipalities on any of our efforts. Examples of various outreach and education efforts are included in the supporting documentation.

Funding Sources

Key to Ulster County's success is a clear understanding that as a municipal government you don't have to choose between being environmentally and fiscally responsible. Ulster County has

ADOPTED LOCAL LAWS PART I

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2016	Title	URL
Local Law No. 5 of 2016	A Local Law Prohibiting The Sale And Use Of Sky Lanterns In Ulster County	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/360430233.pdf
Resolution No. 447	Establishing A Policy To Require Annual Public Reporting Of Building Energy Consumption And Benchmarking Information For County Owned Buildings	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/284527030.pdf
2015	A. T 1 T	
Local Law No. 3 of 2015	A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 9 of 2008 (A Local Law Prohibiting Smoking Upon All Real Property Owned Or Leased By The County of Ulster)	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/179384126.pdf
Local Law No. 4 of 2015	A Local Law Regulating The Use of Polystyrene Foam Disposable Food Service Ware By Food Service Establishments In Ulster County	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/185187381.pdf
Local Law No. 6 of 2015	A Local Law Establishing a Tobacco Retail License And Reducing Youth Exposure To Tobacco	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/188048364.pdf
Local Law No. 9 of 2015	A Local Law Establishing A Sustainable Green Fleet Policy	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/205254639.pdf

Resolution	Establishing	
No. 43A	Policy For Use Of The Environmental Remediation Fund	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/186074427.pdf
Resolution No. 332	Establishing A Policy For Use of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations On Ulster County Property	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/203719895.pdf
2014		
Local Law No. 6 of 2014	A Local Law To Establish A Sustainable Energy Loan Program In The County Of Ulster County	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/166341401.pdf
Resolution No. 394	Establishing The Ulster County Solid Waste Management Improvement Commission	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/174639796.pdf
2012		
Local Law	A Local Law Of	
No. 6 of 2012	The Country Of Ulster, New York Known As The "Hydraulic Fracturing Brine Prohibition Act"	http://ulstercountyny.gov/sites/default/files/Local_Law_No6_of_2012.pdf
Local Law No. 10 of 2012	A Local Law Amending Local Law Number 9 of 1991, Ulster County Solid Waste Management Law	http://ulstercountyny.gov/sites/default/files/Local_Law_No10_of_2012.pdf
Resolution No. 74	Prohibiting The Leasing Of Any County-Owned Lands, Including But Not Limited To County Parks For High-Volume Chemical Slick-	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/234886227.pdf

	Water Hydraulic- Fracturing To	
	Extract Natural Gas	
2011		
Resolution No. 159	Requiring That Certain Publications Shall Be Printed On At Least 30% Recycled Content Paper	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/234737327.pdf
Resolution	Climate Smart	۲
No. 184	Community Pledge For The County Of Ulster	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/234738029.pdf
2010		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Local Law No. 4 of 2010	A Local Law Amending Local Law Number 8 of 1991 As Amended By Local Law Number 8 of 2007 Ulster County Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Law	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/391570715.pdf
Resolution No. 282	Requiring The Purchase And Use Of Green Cleaning Products In All County Facilities	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/232866410.pdf
Resolution No. 283	Requiring The Purchase And Use Of Low Or No Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) Paints And Coatings In All County Facilities	E003 judo
2000		
2009 Local Law No. 4 of 2009	A Local Law Requiring Non- Toxic Landscape Maintenance On Land Owned Or Leased By The County of Ulster,	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/391570749.pdf
	With Exceptions And Waivers In Appropriate Circumstances	

2008		
Local Law No. 9 of 2008	A Local Law Prohibiting Smoking Upon All Real Property Owned Or Leased By The County of Ulster County	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/391570776.pdf
Resolution No. 378	Adopting County Of Ulster Energy Policy	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/231760346.pdf
2006		
Local Law No. 3 of 2006	A Local Law To Adopt Countywide Notification Requirements For Commercial And Residential Lawn Pesticide Applications	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/391570803.pdf
Resolution No. 383	Establishing High Performance Green Building Standards For	
	County Of Ulster New Construction Projects	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/391570359.pdf
2005		
2005 Resolution	Purchase And Use	/
No. 177	Of Renewable Wind Energy For Ulster County	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/227728733.pdf
2004		
Resolution No. 218	Resolution Designating Ulster County As An Energy Smart Community	http://ecode360.com/documents/UL2774/public/226606164.pdf
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This is an invitation for local businesses to save money while acting locally to address the global challenge of reducing greenhouse gas emissions that affect

CLIMATE CHANGE

2018 Ulster County Green Business Challenge

<u>The Goal:</u> 100 Ulster County businesses, organizations, or municipalities will complete an energy retrofit, install solar or other renewable energy, or implement another action that will both save money and significantly reduce carbon emissions. Help is available from a team of trained volunteer Ambassadors, local Green Business Leaders and area experts.

The purpose of the Ulster County Green Business Challenge is to help Ulster County businesses, organizations and municipalities to reduce greenhouse gas emission to mitigate climate change, and to reap considerable savings doing so. We also want to support our <u>local</u> green building contractors, renewable energy providers and other businesses that implement sustainability practices.



Green Business Challenge Launch

Weds., June 27, 7:30 a.m. Building Ulster County Together: Green Business Challenge Breakfast and Vendor Show, featuring case studies by local Green Business Leaders at the Best Western Plus Kingston Hotel and Conference Center, 503 Washington Ave., Kingston. Breakfast from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m., followed by in-depth presentations on each climate action and a chance to speak with vendors, presenters and GBC Leaders and Ambassadors.

Cost: \$20 for breakfast; scholarships available to GBC Ambassadors and Steering Committee. Vendor table: \$30. Click <u>here</u> to <u>register:</u> <u>www.eventbrite.com/e/building-ulster-county-together-</u> <u>green-business-challenge-launch-tickets-46543044499</u>

The Green Business Challenge is a project of the Ulster County Climate Smart Committee and is sponsored by Ulster County Executive, Michael Hein, the Ulster County Department of the Environment and the Ulster County Office of Economic Development.

GREEN BUSINESS CHALLENGE ACTIONS Here is list of actions that can be taken:

- 1) Energy Audit: Undertaking an energy audit is usually the first step because that will help GBC participants to understand and prioritize the most effective actions to take, however the audit must be followed by one or more of the following actions:
- 2) Energy Retrofit: Undertake an energy retrofit, which can include: Air-sealing and insulation; Installing ground-source (geothermal) or air-source heat pump for heating and cooling; switching to LED lighting: interior, exterior or municipal street lighting
- 3) Install a solar array or other renewable energy system to generate your own power: Wind or small, lowimpact hydroelectric would also qualify.
- 4) Purchase 100% renewable energy from a LOCAL source of renewable energy, such as a Community Solar Project or hydroelectric facility.
- 5) Purchase an electric vehicle or install one or more electric vehicle charging stations. Switching to EV fleets is a great way to improve transportation, especially if combined with renewable energy generation
- 6) Restaurants and other food waste generators implement food waste reuse with Food Bank of the Hudson
- Valley and/or composting via local haulers who will take it to the UCRRA or other composting facilities.
- 7) These actions fit a broad range of businesses and are relatively the easiest to implement, but any other action that reduces energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, or otherwise addresses climate change is welcome.

FINANCING All projects are eligible for financing from one source or another-- very important to businesses.

Pace Financing: Ulster County is a member of the Energy Improvement Corporation (EIC) and offers <u>PACE</u> <u>financing</u>. Energize NY PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) provides low cost, long-term alternative to traditional loans to fund clean energy projects in commercially owned buildings.

Local banks and credit unions also offer financing for energy improvements and other climate solutions, as does the **Ulster County Revolving Loan Fund**.

NYSERDA (New York State Energy Research & Development Authority) www.energy.gov/savings/existingfacilities-rebate-program_See also: www.energytaxsavers.com

Community Solar (CS): Businesses with large, flat roof areas or property that is suitable for a large ground array can explore becoming a partner in a Community Solar development, which could net the building owner significant savings and revenue. This 918 Ulster Community Solar project on Ulster Avenue in Town of Ulster is owned by SMCBC, LLC., a local real estate company in Kingston. It generates about \$30,000/year revenue. The developers of this project are a good source of information for business development of community solar.



Locally-generated Hydroelectric Power: <u>Natural Power</u>: Sarah and Harry Terbush of Windsor Machinery run three local hydroelectric plants in the Central Hudson service area and are now selling Hydroelectric Power from their Wallkill Power Plant. Until recently their hydropower could only be sold to Central Hudson, but now they can sell directly to the customer and are proud to supply clean, renewable energy at a lower cost than Central Hudson. They have enough locally-generated hydropower for approximately 200 customers -- get yours today!! See <u>NaturalPowerGroupInc.com</u> or e-mailed them at: <u>NaturalPowerGroupInc@gmail.com</u>.

<u>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</u> Participating businesses, organizations and municipalities will be acknowledged for the contribution to this important, if ambitious, challenge with a Pride of Ulster County award, and more!

For further information, please contact:

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