



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF ULSTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE MIKE HEIN



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ULSTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE MIKE HEIN SECURES AN ADDITIONAL \$8.3 MILLION TO REPAVE ROUTE 28

Kingston, NY (December 1, 2009) -Ulster County Executive Mike Hein is pleased to announce that because Ulster County has been diligent in completing engineering and preliminary work needed to utilize over \$27 million dollars in other stimulus funding awarded to the county to date, and because of aggressive advocacy, millions of additional dollars are coming to Ulster County.

Governor Paterson has approved and certified County Executive Hein's request, made through the Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC), for an additional \$8.26 million in federal stimulus funds to repave Route 28. The new funding will be used to resurface over 23 miles of roadway and shoulders from Route 375, in West Hurley to Route 28A, in Boiceville and from Route 214, in Phoenicia to the Delaware County line. Construction work is expected to begin in the spring of 2010.

The project was originally proposed as part of the UCTC's request for federal infrastructure funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Funding was competitive and limited and only \$2.2 million was initially allocated.

County Executive Hein recognizes the Route 28 corridor is a critical transportation link for the region and an economic lifeline for the tourism industry. He asked Governor Paterson to place this project on a priority list should any additional ARRA funding become available. He also asked the New York State Department of Transportation to include the project in its listing of ready to go infrastructure projects as ARRA close out deadlines approached.

“Route 28 is not only the gateway to the Catskills; it is the key driver of economic development for every community that it passes through. I fought hard for this additional funding and as both County Executive and Chairman of the Transportation Council, I was able to successfully advocate for the interests of the people of Ulster County,” said County Executive Hein. “I would also like to recognize all the Town Supervisors, County Legislators and private sector individuals who helped promote this project. Thanks to a common vision and purpose, we will have a safer, more accessible and more prosperous Route 28 corridor.”

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