

**Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council**  
**Planning Committee Meeting Summary**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2015**

**Dutchess County Planning Department (Main Conference Room)**  
**27 High Street (2nd Floor), Poughkeepsie, NY**

**1. Introductions** – See attendance list.

**2. Announcements**

Mark thanked the attendees for accommodating the schedule change due to inclement weather. Mark announced that the Congressional Budget Office issued an update on the status of the Highway Trust Fund (HTF), which is supported by federal gas taxes. These tax rates have not changed since 1993 and are part of the reason why the HTF is insolvent. Discussions on increasing the federal gas tax could help the federal deficit in transportation. Also, the President unveiled a \$478 billion six-year transportation bill that included tax reforms to help fund transportation projects.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recently issued [\*\*A Resident's Guide for Creating Safer Communities for Walking and Biking\*\*](#) - a resource for bikers and pedestrians in their communities. A link to the report is provided on our website. Communities interested in promoting walking/biking, such as Hyde Park, have used the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) as a funding source for bicycle-pedestrian projects. The U.S. DOT Secretary also issued a challenge to mayors across the U.S. to focus on pedestrian safety. From an agency standpoint, this is a priority, but Congress may need convincing.

FTA Section 5310: Mark stated the program's pool of funding is used to support capital purchases and operational expenses for human service agencies/non-profits to purchase buses for client transportation. This client base focuses on senior and disabled populations. NYSDOT normally has an annual call for projects. This year's call is delayed because of software issues experienced by NYSDOT, which is working on a new on-line application process. The three-county Transportation Management Area (TMA) of Dutchess, Ulster, and Orange has available funding of over \$666,000.

The 2015 PDCTC meeting schedule and new voting membership lists were distributed.

**3. Public Participation** – Mark opened the meeting for public comment on the announcements; no comments were received.

**4. PDCTC SFY 2015-2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** – The UPWP is a federal requirement for all Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). It serves as a statement of work for the MPO for the upcoming State Fiscal Year (4/1/15-3/31/16). It establishes the

planning budget for the MPO, as delineated in the Draft UPWP handout. The handout outlines each task and budget. Staff challenges for the upcoming year have prompted us to basically maintain last year's planning program. However, we have two major planning projects this year: 1) an update to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (*Moving Dutchess*), and 2) completion of the Upper Route 9G Corridor Management Plan for the Red Hook/Tivoli area.

Mark reviewed the eight major project categories for the 2015-2016 UPWP, to include a summary of the time accounting project codes. Highlights included the Long Range Transportation Planning categories (both system and project levels). The system level task will be mostly consumed by the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update (currently titled *Moving Dutchess 2*): a 25-year strategic look at the transportation priorities for the County. The new MTP will set transportation priorities for the MPO, and include estimates for budget and transportation needs for the next 25-years. This plan will be system preservation focused. The new MTP will use a 2040 horizon year. Orange and Ulster and Orange counties are also updating their Metropolitan Transportation Plans, using the same horizon year.

Two new tasks in the Draft UPWP are Regional Freight Planning and Regional Transit Planning. The freight and transit plan recommendations stem from recommendations in our recent federal certification report, which advised us to review freight and transit issues in our three county area (Ulster, Orange, and Dutchess). The Regional Transit Plan will be a higher priority for Dutchess County, since transit funding is more readily available for regional transit projects. We will look at the priorities for transit capital and operational improvements for the transit region and MTA/Metro North Railroad (e.g. intermodal centers, park-and-ride facilities, bus vehicle replacements, rail links, and ferry operations.) We anticipate NYSDOT's Statewide Freight Plan work to begin soon and hope to feed that effort into our Regional Transit Plan.

For the Long Range Transportation Planning (Project Level) task, Mark spoke about the Upper Route 9G Corridor Management Plan. This will be safety and operational study of NYS Route 9G from CR 78 to Route 199, CR 103 Annandale Road through Bard College, and CR 78 through the Village of Tivoli. An Advisory Committee representing that region has been established that will guide the study. Work is also finishing up on the City of Poughkeepsie's Waterfront TOD. The Transportation Safety and Security Planning task has been moved to Long Range Transportation Planning (Project Level); this task includes the safety assessment work we've done for local communities, in conjunction with DCDPW, local law enforcement, and highway departments.

The Inter-departmental Project Coordination task is a new task in the Draft UPWP. This task covers our work for project review between Planning divisions and other county departments, specifically DPW. Mark mentioned that the referral process may be restructured to focus on County concerns only, but that municipalities' legal responsibilities to solicit Planning review and clearance will not change.

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is the five-year capital program of federally funded highway, transit, and pedestrian projects in Dutchess County. Plans are in place to start the TIP update process (i.e. 2017-2021 TIP) this summer, with guidance from NYSDOT. One of

the focus areas for the new TIP will be on out year projects. The uncertainty of federal transportation funding could result in constraints on project plans. The Highway Trust Fund runs out in May, 2015 and is impeding project construction schedules. Funding announcements this summer will likely be for current programs. If additional funding is allocated, a Call for New Projects will be issued. Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) reminded that the last several years projects have been rolled into the current TIP and the new TIP could require some smoothing out of old projects. Old project delays have to be reconsidered with an inflation factor.

Recent federal guidance fine-tuned the Planning Emphasis Areas for MPO's. These are special subject areas to focus in on. Historically it has been transit oriented, but updates have been made reference Ladders of Opportunities and a focus on regional planning. Our Draft UPWP notes our regional planning efforts, and does not have stand-alone task for these PEAs.

The NYS Association of MPOs (NYSAMPO) is an organization of the 14 MPO's across the state. It meets periodically and sponsors a series of working groups to share best practices and coordinate with NYSDOT and federal agencies. Mark provided a fact sheet handout on Electric Vehicles/Charging Networks and the MPO Role. Frank Castella (Regional Chamber of Commerce) noted that the Chamber is working with local organization to obtain funding through NYSERDA to implement this effort, perhaps Beacon and Hyde Park. Ray Oberly suggested that if charging stations materialize, we inform 911 of the existence/locations so that they can prepare for electrical fire training.

Mark reviewed the UPWP budget, outlining sources of funding and noting that we usually do not spend all our programmed funds. The UPWP is subject to a 30 day public comment period that is scheduled to begin on February 5, 2015. Post this comment period, the UPWP is slated for adoption by resolution at the March 12, 2015 Council meeting.

**5. FFY 2013 & 2014 FTA Section 5307/5339 Funding** – The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) allocates funding to urbanized areas. Based on census data, the Poughkeepsie Newburgh urbanized area includes Dutchess, Ulster, and Orange Counties in New York and Passaic County in New Jersey. Due to the nature of our two-state urbanized area, we required interstate agreements to allocate our transit funding. This delayed the distribution of FFY 2013 and 2014 funding. Mark presented the two year allocation schedule for both the Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program and the 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Program (including the PDCTC sub-allocations to Dutchess County and the City of Poughkeepsie.) All three MPOs have agreed upon and must approve this allocation that will then become a variety of resolutions at our council meeting. In response to questions, Mark stated Section 5339 is a re-designated funding source and each year's fund balance is cumulative.

The unallocated 2012, 2013, and 2014 funds stem from an agreement amongst the three MPOs, when the urbanized area decided to set aside a percentage of the funds for regional transit priority projects that promote inter-county connections, such as the Newburgh-Beacon Ferry and Park-and-Ride facilities in Orange and Ulster Counties. Since the 2012 unallocated fund has an expiration date of September 2015, the TMA has agreed to allocate the funds as

follows:

1. \$1.691 million to DC Public Transit to purchase 15 heavy duty buses.
2. \$720,000 for Ulster County Area to purchase 4 medium duty buses.
3. \$500,000 for MTA Metro North for support of the Newburgh-Beacon Ferry.

DC Public Transit's bus purchase is a \$6-million dollar project that would use 5339 funding and 5307 funding, including \$1.75 million of the FFY 2013 unallocated funds. Mark fielded questions about the buses including a local match inquiry to which Mark responded yes about 10 percent. Aileen questioned how municipalities access this funding. Mark explained the "Call for Projects" process and noted the immediate need in Dutchess County is bus replacement, which feeds into regional transit planning. Although a "Call for Projects" is not active at this time, the regional inter-mode transit tourist center that Hyde Park talked about in the past would be a worthy project for submission. All recommendations need to be approved by Council through resolutions. During TMA discussions, Ulster County raised concerns about how we prioritize this regional pool of funding. Consequently, there is some hesitation from Ulster County on allocating the \$1.75 million from the 2013 pool of money for Dutchess County. The Ulster County MPO may not approve this. Aileen suggested that a connection to New Paltz might assist Ulster. Others felt park-and-rides were needed because some are currently leased.

**6. FFY 2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** – In November it was thought to be beneficial that the Local Projects Unit (LPU) of NYSDOT-Region 8 would sit with local project sponsor to review the status of federally funded, near term local highway projects. We looked to formalize this review process and thought the Planning Committee meeting would be a good forum. Mark presented and explained the Local Highway Projects Review Sheet, which outlined the status of all projects. Of the 11 LPU selected projects from the sheet, most are DC DPW Highway projects. The City of Poughkeepsie and Town of Pawling projects do not have representation at today's meeting, nor is the Town of Beekman's Highway Garage (a congressional earmark through SAFETEA-LU) project. Updates will be obtained from them independently. Mark turned the meeting over to LPU for updates. Tom Weiner explained that NYSDOT-Region 8 gets graded on project performance and delivery, and also on STIP performance (e.g. what we obligate -vs- actual delivery).

Martin Evans (NYSDOT-Region 8 LPU) explained the unit's intention to reduce review times to 30 days. We need to meet with local sponsors, learn more of their needs and form a better expected schedule to which we can align departmental resources. Our experience at other MPO's has been to invite as many as eight sponsors to the meeting, allowing for a 15-20 minute interview of each sponsor. This results in a better understanding of their project's status. The one issue we have with DC DPW's projects is the ten year P.E. review. Mike Kowalczyk (FHWA) is here to address this. Mark noted the projects of interest near term included:

**City of Poughkeepsie:** PIN 8757.82 – Creek Rd. at Smith St. and Little George St. Intersection Reconstruction.

**Town of Pawling:** PIN 8760.31 – Old Route 55 Roadway Resurfacing.

**Town of Beekman:** PIN 8760.47 – Expansion of the Town Highway Garage.

**Dutchess County:**

PIN 8755.38 – CR 9 (Beekman Rd.) from CR 10 (Sylvan Lake Rd.) to TSP.

PIN 8755.41 – CR 21 (Noxon Rd.) from Route 55 to CR 49 (Titusville Rd.).

PIN 8755.86 – CR 93 (Middlebush Rd.) from Pleasant Ln. to Cameli Dr.

PIN 8755.91 – CR 14 (Hollow Rd.) over the Little Wappinger Creek (Bridge C-19, BIN 3342820).

PIN 8757.26 – CR 78 (Broadway) over the Stony Creek (Bridge RH-25, BIN 1047720).

PIN 8757.27 – CR 31 (Palen Rd.) over the Fishkill Creek (Bridge E-9, BIN 3343120).

PIN 8757.37 – CR 24 (Chestnut Ridge Rd.) over the Coopertown Brook (Bridge D-32, BIN 3342950).

PIN 8758.69 – CR 21 (Noxon Rd.) at CR 49 (Titusville Rd.) Intersection.

Mark closed the meeting, but invited attendees to participate in the LPU project review if they so desired. All NYSDOT-Region 8 meeting attendees, the FHWA representative, Mark Debald (PDCTC), and Bob Ballkind (DCDPW) reviewed and updated the status of the above referenced projects.

**7. Public Participation** – No comments were received.

**8. Upcoming Meetings:**

- Planning Committee: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.
- **Council: Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.** (Location TBD).

**Meeting Attendance List**

	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
1	Don	Beer	Town of Poughkeepsie	845-790-4736
2	Mark	Debald	PDCTC	845-486-3600
3	Martin	Evans	NYSDOT	845-431-5811
4	Joseph	Mangi	Public Transit	845-473-8645
5	Bryan	Roberts	Winnakee Land Trust	845-853-5029
6	Frank	Castella Jr.	DC Reg. Chamber of Commerce	845-454-1700x1008
7	Ray	Oberly	Town of Clinton	845-266-5096
8	Michael	Kowalczyk	FHWA	518-431-8892
9	Aileen	Rohr	Town of Hyde Park	845-229-5111
10	Wanda	Livigni	Town of LaGrange	845-452-8562
11	Tom	Weiner	NYSDOT	845-431-5723
12	Bob	Balkind	DC DPW	845-486-2925
13	Patsy	Longbard	DC Planning and Development	845-486-3600
14	Jim	Morano	Metro North ( via teleconference)	845-



Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council

Date: February 4, 2015

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Dutchess County Planning Department (Main Conference Room), 27 High Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Name	Organization	Address or Email	Phone
MARK DEBACO	PDCTC	mdebac@ Dutchessny.gov	486-3614
DON BEEB	T of POK	dbeeb@TOWNOFPOUGHKEEPSIE-NY.GOV	790-4736
TOM WEINER	NYS DOT	THOMAS.WEINER@DOT.NY.GOV	431-5723
MARTIN EVANS	NYS DOT	MARTIN.EVANS@DOT.NY.GOV	431-5811
Ray Oberly	Tn of Clinton	oberlyr@optonline.net	845-266-5096
Joseph Maggi	Public Transp	jmaggi@ Dutchessny.gov	845-473-8645
BRYAN ROBERTS	Winnakee Land Trust	ROBERTS.BRYANR@gmail.com	845-853-5029
FRANK CASTELLA JR	DCRCOC	FRANK@DCRCOC.ORG	454-1700 Ext 1008
Michael Kowalczyk	FHWA	michael.kowalczyk@dot.gov	518-431-8892
Aileen Rohr	Town of Poughkeepsie	aileenrohr@gmail.com	845-229-5111
Nando Livigni	T/LaGrange	nlivigni@LaGrangeNY.org	845-452-8562
Bob Balkind	D.C. DPW	rbalkind@dutchessny.gov	845.486.2925

PLEASE SIGN-IN

## **Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council (PDCTC)**

### **2015 Meeting Schedule**

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at 10:00 a.m. at the Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development, 27 High Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Planning Committee meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, except for November. The Planning Committee typically does not meet in March, July, or December.

January 28, 2015	Planning Committee
February 25, 2015	Planning Committee
March 12, 2015	Council (Location TBD)
April 22, 2015	Planning Committee
May 27, 2015	Planning Committee
June 24, 2015	Planning Committee
August 26, 2015	Planning Committee
September 23, 2015	Planning Committee
October 28, 2015	Planning Committee
November 24, 2015	Planning Committee
Early-December 2015	Council (Location TBD)

**Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area (TMA)**  
**FTA Transit Funding (FFY 2013 & 2014)**

<b>FTA Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program</b>	<b>FFY 2013</b>	<b>FFY 2014</b>		<b>FFY 2013</b>	<b>FFY 2014</b>
<b>Public Operators</b>					
Dutchess County	\$1,893,385	\$1,854,692	→		
Orange County	\$3,082,246	\$3,220,379			
Ulster County	\$514,272	\$466,678			
Metropolitan Transportation Authority	\$3,007,787	\$2,859,771			
New Jersey	\$417,214	\$412,386			
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$8,914,904</b>	<b>\$8,813,906</b>			
<b>Inter-County Commuter Bus Services</b>					
Dutchess County	\$181,920	\$161,414			
Orange County	\$5,820,795	\$6,333,567			
Ulster County	\$1,809,402	\$1,804,101			
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$7,812,117</b>	<b>\$8,299,082</b>			
<b>Unallocated (Available for future TMA Programming)</b>	<b>\$3,405,712</b>	<b>\$3,254,736</b>			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,132,733</b>	<b>\$20,367,724</b>			

**PDCTC Sub-allocation<sup>1</sup>**

DC Public Transit	\$1,365,099	\$1,257,331
City of Poughkeepsie	\$528,286	\$597,361

<b>FTA Section 5339 Bus &amp; Bus Facilities Formula Program</b>	<b>FFY 2013</b>	<b>FFY 2014</b>		<b>FFY 2013</b>	<b>FFY 2014</b>
<b>Public Operators</b>					
Dutchess County	\$807,649	\$815,993	→		
Orange County	\$703,296	\$729,008			
Ulster County	\$323,819	\$324,375			
Metropolitan Transportation Authority	\$0	\$0			
New Jersey	\$36,928	\$36,154			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,871,692</b>	<b>\$1,905,530</b>			

**PDCTC Sub-allocation<sup>2</sup>**

DC Public Transit	\$690,173	\$697,303
City of Poughkeepsie	\$117,476	\$118,690

<sup>1</sup> PDCTC FTA Section 5307 sub-allocation based on passenger miles.

<sup>2</sup> PDCTC FTA Section 5339 sub-allocation based on fleet size.