

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

Wednesday, October 26, 2016, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.  
Dutchess County Central Services (1<sup>st</sup> Floor), 27 High Street, Poughkeepsie, NY

**1. Introductions** – See attached list.

**2. Announcements**

Mark Debald (PDCTC) announced that the Dutchess County Legislature approved a county-wide Complete Streets Policy.

Mark noted that application period for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program had closed on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. These programs support bicycle and pedestrian projects, as well as other transportation-related projects to enhance air quality. The Region 8 TAP/CMAQ target is approximately \$6.4 million, but applicants should not shy away from large, transformative projects. There will be one review team for applications in Orange, Ulster, Dutchess and Columbia and a separate team for projects in the Mid-Hudson South area. Martin Evans will serve as the Region 8 TAP Coordinator and Emily Dozier (PDCTC) will serve as the PDCTC representative on the review committee.

Mark indicated added that NYSDOT has not yet made awards for the BRIDGE NY program, though we expect announcements by the end of the year. Overall, approximately 280 applications were received statewide, with a total of \$200-million in new money available statewide for the rehabilitation and replacement of local bridges and culverts.

Lastly, Mark noted that the MTA/Metro-North railroad had recently issued a Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) concerning the re-activation of the Beacon/Maybrook Line into some type of public use. Submissions are due November 18, 2016. Supervisor LaColla (Town of Fishkill) indicated that there was a great deal of interest about this RFEI and that the Town was exploring options for the rail line, in conjunction with the City of Beacon, Scenic Hudson, and possibly Dutchess County. Supervisor LaColla noted that the RFEI requires a though-out business plan to demonstrate viability.

**3. Public Participation** – Mark opened the meeting for public comment or general announcements; none were received.

**4. Mid-Hudson Valley TMA:**

- a. Draft Regional Transit Study Scope: Mark (PDCTC) reviewed the draft scope of work for the Regional Transit Study, which was provided in the meeting notice. Mark noted that the study has three main objectives:

- Identify ways to better coordinate and connect existing transit systems internally, between the three counties, and externally, between the three counties and the Albany and New York City metropolitan areas.
- Develop strategies to improve transit operations within the TMA, by addressing unmet regional needs and service gaps, reducing redundant services, and improving transit efficiencies.
- Determine how the various transit systems can better connect major urban and employment centers (e.g. Beacon, Kingston, Middletown, Newburgh, and Poughkeepsie) to one another and to major transportation facilities such as train stations, park-and-ride lots, and airports (Albany, NYC metro area, and Stewart).

Mark stressed that the regional transit study was not meant to serve as an internal transit development plan for each county, but rather focus on how the counties connect to each other within the Hudson Valley and beyond. Cynthia Ruiz (DC Public Transit) stated that the study should include the active participation by agencies that serve disabled populations and that the project consultant should also address Title VI concerns within their work; Mark stated that he would add those suggested changes to the scope. Supervisor Figliozzi (Pleasant Valley) recommended that the scope include an analysis of commuting data to help determine where workers were travelling to, which might increase demand for transit; Mark will add this data analysis to the scope.

- b. Mark reminded the Committee that the TMA will undergo an in-person certification by FHWA and FTA next year. The certification process is used to ensure that the three MPO's (PDCTC, OCTC, and UCTC) are meeting federal planning requirements and occurs every four-years. Our previous certification was completed in 2013, the results of which are posted on our website:

<http://www.co.dutchess.ny.us/CountyGov/Departments/TransportationCouncil/tcMHVTM A 2013Report.pdf>

5. **Dutchess County High-End Speeding Analysis** – Mark updated the Committee on the high-end speeding analysis that staff is conducting. This project uses a program developed by UCTC that pulls speed data from the traffic count program. Though the count program originally focused on collecting traffic volume data, we now collect data on vehicle speeds and classifications. Recognizing the value of such information to our communities, we initiated an analysis of the speed data to identify potential speeding issues on county and local roads. The analysis seeks to identify road segments with high percentages of 'high-end' speeders: defined by staff as those travelling 10 mph or more over the posted speed limit. By highlighting road segments with high-end speeding, we hope to assist elected officials, law enforcement agencies, and highway departments with their efforts to target speed enforcement, implement traffic calming measures, and allocate resources to reduce speeding and improve traffic safety in the county. Mark noted that we had hoped to discuss the data at this meeting, but staff noticed some anomalies with the speed limits, so we decided to delay release until the data was verified. The full report will be issued before our November 30, 2016 meeting.

- 6. FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** – Mark stated that the STIP was officially approved by FHWA and FTA on October 21, 2016. We will process an Administrative Modification to move DPW’s CR 93 (Myers Corners Rd.) realignment project (PIN 8755.45-CR 94 to Route 376) and either the Mansion St. or Washington St. bridge (City of Poughkeepsie) back into the four-year STIP. Upon FHWA approval, we will also add \$3.5 million in repurposed earmark funding for the Harlem Valley Rail Trail project. Commissioner Balkind (DCDPW) requested a copy of the approved FFY 2017-2021 TIP, which was subsequently provided by Mark via email and posted on the PDCTC website.

Pending the outcome of the BRIDGE NY program, we will issue a call for projects for the STBG Off-System Bridge Funding: an FHWA program that provides federal funds for 80 percent of the costs associated with the rehabilitation and/or replacement of county and locally-owned bridges that are not located on a federal-aid eligible road (see bridge rating sheet distributed with the meeting notice). A total of \$3.6 million in federal funding (i.e. combined total project cost of \$4.5 million) is available to Dutchess County.

- 7. Project Updates**

Arlington Pedestrian Study – Emily Dozier (PDCTC) stated that the study was progressing on schedule and that she had made a presentation to the Business Improvement District (BID) in September, reviewing data on existing conditions and outlining some of the preliminary recommendations to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety and mobility in the study area. One of the main focuses of the study is to improve pedestrian operations on Main St. in the Town of Poughkeepsie and better connect it to Raymond Ave.

Emily Dozier (PDCTC) announced that the Dutchess County Legislature approved a county-wide Complete Streets Policy in October. The new policy applies to transportation-related elements of projects involving County property (including roads, parks, and buildings), as well as public and private projects over which the County Department of Public Works has permitting authority. The policy was developed by the Complete Streets Committee based on national best practices.

Traffic Count Program – Mark noted that the PDCTC has finished its 2016 count program, completing approximately 250 counts for the year.

Mark mentioned that staff was in the early stages of developing the 2017-2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Mark noted that upcoming planning projects will include a City of Poughkeepsie Downtown Parking Study, Village of Millerton Pedestrian Plan, and possibly a Village of Pawling Pedestrian Plan.

- 8. Public Participation** – Mark opened the meeting for public comment.

- 9. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, November 30, 2016 at 10 a.m.

Attendance List

	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Phone
1	Mark	Debald	PDCTC	845-486-3600
2	Emily	Dozier	PDCTC	845-486-3600
3	Tom	Weiner	NYS DOT	845-431-5723
4	Mark	Figliozi	Town of Pleasant Valley	845-635-3598
5	Bob	LaColla	Town of Fishkill	845-831-7800
6	Emily	Svenson	Town of Hyde Park	845-489-2286
7	Cynthia	Ruiz	DCPT	845-473-8521
8	Bob	Balkind	DCDPW	845-486-2085
9	Anesta	Vannoy	NAACP	845-234-9038
10	Martin	Evans	NYS DOT	845-431-5811