

Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council
Technical Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

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

- 1. Introductions** – See attached list.
- 2. Announcements** – Mark DeBald (PDCTC) made the following announcements:
 - **PDCTC Voting Membership**: As per our operating procedures, on April 1st the Town of LaGrange replaced the Town of Pleasant Valley as a voting member and the Village of Fishkill replaced the Village of Wappingers Falls. Each new member will serve a two-year term.
 - **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)**: This federal program provides funding for pedestrian and bicycle facilities, safe routes to school projects, and historic preservation, environmental mitigation, and other infrastructure improvements. Applications are due to the NYSDOT-Region 8 TAP Coordinator (Ms. Carolyn Ryan at Carolyn.Ryan@dot.ny.gov or 845.431.5884) by **June 11, 2014**. See the [NYSDOT TAP website](#) for more information. Information is also posted on the PDCTC website. There is \$2.8 million is available for Region 8. Applications have been submitted to NYSDOT for pre-review by the Villages of Rhinebeck and Wappingers Falls, Town of Red Hook, and City of Beacon. Awards will be announced in the fall.
 - Tom Weiner noted that the Town of Hyde Park intends to apply as well.
 - **Transit Funding**: FTA Section 5310 Program: NYSDOT continues to refine the application process for the MAP-21 FTA Section 5310 program (Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities), which provides capital and operational assistance for projects that expand transportation options for non-profit and public agencies that serve target clients. Our combined TMA (tri-county area) apportionment for FFY 2013 and 2014 is \$666,071. We will issue a public notice when the application period is opened by NYSDOT. The TMA will prioritize the eligible projects.
 - Bob Balkind asked if the Office of the Aging is eligible for this funding. He noted that they are interested in purchasing two 15-passenger vans (about \$80,000) and added that DPW does purchasing for all County departments. Mark noted that they are eligible.
 - **FFY 2013 and 2014 FTA Section 5307 Funding**: No new information to report. New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut are still trying to resolve their issues over the allocations.

- Federal Issues:

- Highway Trust Fund: Based on current spending and revenue trends, the U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that the Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund will run out before the end of FFY 2014. The Highway Account began FFY 2014 with approximately \$1.6 billion in cash. A \$9.7 billion transfer from the General Fund to the Highway Account was processed shortly after the start of the fiscal year (\$10.4 billion was authorized in MAP-21, reduced by sequestration). The cash balance has dropped by nearly \$3.2 billion since the General Fund transfer occurred. As of April 25, 2014, the Highway Account cash balance was \$8.7 billion.
- GROW America Act: The *Generating Renewal, Opportunity, and Work with Accelerated Mobility, Efficiency, and Rebuilding of Infrastructure and Communities throughout America Act*, or GROW AMERICA, is the President's \$302 billion, four year transportation reauthorization proposal that provides increased and stable funding for highways, bridges, transit, and rail systems. The President's proposal is funded by supplementing current revenues with \$150 billion in one-time transition revenue from business tax reforms. This transfer would prevent Trust Fund insolvency for four years and increase investments to meet national economic goals. [As per USDOT, only 8% of core federal transportation funding is under local control].

Highlight: High-performing MPOs will be granted control of a larger portion of funds under two federal transportation programs – the Surface Transportation Program (STP) and the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) – and these MPOs will also receive funds through a \$1 billion set aside under the new Fixing and Accelerating Surface Transportation (FAST) program, which is modeled after the DOE's "Race to the Top" program.

- MAP-21 Reauthorization: On May 15th the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works unanimously approved a six-year measure to reauthorize the highway portion of the current surface transportation bill, MAP-21, upon its expiration September 30th. The MAP-21 Reauthorization Act provides \$265 billion for highway programs over six years and continues the core program structure put in place in MAP-21 including the National Highway Performance Program, Surface Transportation Program, Highway Safety Improvement Program and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program. The bill also creates a new National Freight Program that distributes funding to state transportation departments via formula. Funding is continued at current levels through fiscal year 2020, adjusted for inflation. To pay for the bill, Congress needs to find up to \$18 billion per year to make up for obligations not covered by revenue going into the Highway Trust Fund.

- Training Opportunities:

- Designing Pedestrian Facilities for Accessibility: NYSDOT Region 8 is hosting a free two-day training on **June 10-11** on the construction and maintenance of pedestrian facilities. Experts from FHWA and NYSDOT will provide information and best practices on the physical attributes of pedestrian facilities and applicable laws and regulations. This

training session will also be recorded. Among the topics expected to be covered are: Laws, Regulations, and Pedestrian Characteristics, Transition Plans, Curb Ramps and Other Transitions, Detectable Warning Surfaces, Pedestrian Crossings, Accessible Pedestrian Signals, Street Furniture and Parking, and Work Zones & Maintenance. Please contact Lisa Mondello or Jim Rapoli at Region 8 at (845) 431-5991 to reserve a seat.

- FHWA Everyday Counts/High Friction Surface Treatments Webinar: NYSDOT Region 8 will host a FHWA webinar on High Friction Surface Treatments on **June 26, 2014 from 2-4 p.m.** at NYSDOT Region 8, 4 Burnett Blvd., Poughkeepsie, NY - 3rd Floor Classroom. Contact: Irene Hanson (845) 431-5722/Irene.Hanso@dot.ny.gov. As part of the safety focus area of the Every Day Counts initiative, FHWA is promoting site-specific applications of high-quality, durable aggregates using a polymer binder that restores and maintains pavement friction where the need for a safer pavement surface is the greatest. The webinar will present information on HFST and how this technology can help improve safety at curves, intersections, ramps, and bridges.

3. Public Participation

Marlene Stein (MTA) noted that MTA's Capital Plan is expected to be approved in September.

4. Draft Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan

Jennifer Coccozza (PDCTC) gave a presentation on the current update to the Coordinated Plan and reviewed some of the issues brought up at three forums held in February and April. The last Coordinated Plan was done in 2008. To be eligible for FTA Section 5310 funds, projects must be consistent with the Coordinated Plan. One of the members mentioned that the Office for the Aging's senior summer picnics would be a good venue for more input.

5. Project Updates

- Pine Plains Pedestrian Plan: The Town Board appointed a volunteer *Walks Initiative Task Force* and *Trails & Bikeway Committee* to work with the County Planning Department to improve walking and biking in Pine Plains. For the *Walks Task Force*, this means completing a pedestrian plan for the Town Center. For the *Trails Committee*, this means completing a Town-wide Trail and Bikeway Plan. The inventory was completed last summer and a joint survey has been developed to gather public feedback. The survey was released over the Memorial Day weekend and is available in paper and online form (see the [PDCTC website](#)). Responses are due July 11th.
- Beacon Main Street Parking Analysis: Based on local concerns about parking capacity and utilization along the Main Street corridor in the City of Beacon and a request from the City, we are conducting a parking analysis for Beacon. The Main Street Parking Analysis will include an assessment of existing parking conditions (i.e. capacity and utilization) and estimates of future parking needs based on planned projects in and around the Main Street

corridor. The analysis will assess future parking needs for the next ten years (2025). The analysis will identify recommendations to improve parking conditions and pedestrian connections, and if necessary, lessen the impact of parking on vehicular and non-vehicular safety and mobility along the corridor. The proposed study area would cover the 0.85 mile segment of Main Street from Route 9D (Wolcott Ave/North Ave) to the west and Churchill St to the east.

- Upper Route 9G Corridor Management Plan (CMP): Based on local concerns about transportation safety along the Route 9G corridor in the Town of Red Hook and Village of Tivoli, the PDCTC intends to complete a Corridor Management Plan (CMP) focused on the four-mile segment of Route 9G from CR 78 (Broadway/West Kerley Corners Rd) in the Village of Tivoli/Town of Red Hook to Route 199 (West Market Street) in the Town of Red Hook. In addition to this priority corridor, the CMP will also evaluate overall safety and operations on two secondary corridors in the area: the section of CR 78 (Broadway) from the Hudson River to Route 9G in Tivoli and CR 103 (Annandale Rd) from Route 9G to Route 199 (West Market St) in Red Hook.

The CMP will identify short- and long-range recommendations to improve vehicular and non-vehicular safety and mobility along the corridor. It will also evaluate the impacts of development proposals and local land use laws on future operations and safety, and in turn, provide ways to mitigate these impacts. The project would build upon previous PDCTC studies, including the Village of Tivoli Streetscape Plan, Route 9 Land Use & Transportation Study in Poughkeepsie and CR 93 (Myers Corners/Middlebush Rd) Corridor Management Plan (CMP) in Wappinger. As with those studies, the Upper Route 9G CMP will include an assessment of current traffic and safety conditions, estimates of future growth, and suggested changes to roadway characteristics, intersection configurations, and safety and traffic flow improvements, as well as pedestrian, bicycle and transit improvements. An Advisory Committee has been established, as well as a preliminary scope identifying key intersections for analysis.

- *Walk Bike Dutchess* implementation: Since PDCTC approval in March, staff met with DPW to discuss ways we can coordinate to implement some of the recommendations in the Plan. Discussion items included:
 - Project Coordination: DPW develops its list of planned capital projects 1-2 years ahead. DPW will forward its capital projects list to PDCTC to review for potential walking/bicycling elements or other issues. In the late winter/early spring, PDCTC will email the list of planned capital projects to local officials (Mayors, Supervisors, & Highway Superintendents) asking for input/feedback on the projects, including any walking/bicycling elements. In the same email, PDCTC will ask local officials for information about their planned road projects for the upcoming year, and will share this information with DPW.
 - Quarterly Coordination meetings: DPW staff and Planning/PDCTC staff will meet quarterly to discuss planned and current projects that affect County roads. Water &

Wastewater Authority staff is willing to participate if they have a project or longer-term plans involving County roads.

- CDBG Coordination: Planning/Community Development staff will include DPW in CDBG application review meetings, and send DPW the list of infrastructure projects once it is approved.
- DPW Bond Projects:
 1. PV-15, CR 72 (North Ave) near Sherow Rd: Depending on ROW and wetland impacts, DPW may widen the east shoulder of the bridge and road to create a 4'-6' shoulder. The entire road will be shifted east. Based on discussions, DPW will consider widening both shoulders.
 2. RH-18, CR 79 (Linden Ave) over Sawkill Creek: DPW intends to replace the existing sidewalk along the east side of the bridge. If ROW is not too constrained, the design can incorporate a wide shoulder adjacent to the sidewalk to allow for a bike lane over the bridge. PDCTC staff expressed support for a wide shoulder in addition to the sidewalk replacement, if feasible.
 3. S-37, CR 19 (Bulls Head Rd) over Wappingers Creek: The design will consider widening of the south shoulder of the bridge and road to create a 4'-6' shoulder. Based on discussions, DPW will consider widening both shoulders.
 4. PO-15X, CR 28 (New Hamburg Rd) over Wappinger Creek: If the consultant's recommendation is to simply repair steel bridge elements and repaint the bridge, there will likely not be the opportunity to add a widened shoulder or sidewalk. If the consultant recommends a superstructure replacement, there would be an opportunity to add a wide shoulder. Due to the rural nature of the approach roadways the cost of a curbed sidewalk across the bridge may not be warranted. If a sidewalk were constructed, bicycles would be forced to use the travel lane since the sidewalk is typically built with only a 1' offset from the travel lane to the face of curb. Based on discussions, DPW will share design concepts with PDCTC staff, and will consider a shared-use path for walking and bicycling on one side of the bridge.

Emily Dozier (PDCTC) added that she is working on project recommendation maps to illustrate the locations of the recommendations in the Plan, by municipality. These maps will be provided to the municipalities for reference. She is also updating the formatting and adding images to the Plan chapters. Updated chapters will be posted on the website this summer:

www.dutchessny.gov/WalkBikeDutchess.

Bicycle parking racks are available for pick-up at the County Transit facility for those municipalities that requested them. Letters were sent by County Transit on May 20th. We hope to have more racks available to municipalities next year. Let Emily know if you are interested. The next meeting of the Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee is July 31st. Contact Emily if you would like to be added to the email list.

- TIP Viewer Update: the PDCTC's TIP Viewer application has been updated to reflect project changes made since last May. Please visit the site on our website at <http://geoaccess.co.dutchess.ny.us/tip/>
- Traffic Count Program: Emily noted that the PDCTC is about halfway through the 10 weeks of traffic counts, which began in April and should end in July/August. All affected municipalities should receive notification prior to the count tubes being installed. If there are any questions or issues, contact Emily.

6. Public Participation – Mark asked if there were any announcements from the group; there were none.

7. Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at Dutchess County Planning. [Note: this meeting was subsequently cancelled.] The Executive Committee might meet in October, pending a resolution on the regional transit funding impasse.

Attendance List

Meeting: PDCTC Technical Committee Date: 5/28/2014

	First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Phone Number
1	Robert	Balkind	DCDPW	845-486-2925
2	Don	Beer	Town of Poughkeepsie	845-790-4736
3	Fred	Bunnell	Public/Resident	845-452-7030
4	Carol	Campbell	Town of Pleasant Valley	845-635-3598
5	Jennifer	Cocozza	PDCTC	845-486-3617
6	Mark	Debald	PDCTC	845-486-3600
7	Emily	Dozier	PDCTC	845-486-3600
8	Paul	Hesse	City of Poughkeepsie	845-451-4046
9	Wanda	Livigni	Town of LaGrange	845-452-8562
10	Ray	Oberly	Town of Clinton	845-266-5096
11	Cynthia	Ruiz	DCPT	845-473-8521
12	Marleen	Stein	MTA HQ	212-878-7080
13	Tom	Weiner	NYS DOT	845-431-5723
14	Barbara	Zulauf	Town of Beekman	845-249-8448