

Dutchess County Transportation Council
Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting

April 28, 2022, 2:30 p.m.
(via Microsoft Teams)

Summary

- 1) **Introductions:** Emily Dozier (DCTC) welcomed everyone to the meeting (see attached list).
- 2) **Presentation:** Draft *Bike Dutchess* application – Emily Dozier
Emily showed the group the updates to the ‘Bike Parking’ application, which include renaming it ‘Bike Dutchess’ and adding several features and more functionality. These include, among others:
 - Adding the Empire State Trail
 - Enabling bike route types to be toggled on/off
 - Adding links to resources for various routes
 - Enabling GPX (map) files of the routes to be saved
 - Adding fix-it stations
 - Adding scenic, historic, and habitat points, and public parking and restrooms near routes
 - Adding bus and train lines
 - Including an elevation profile tool

The group agreed that it was a great improvement. Emily noted that she and others worked with the Town of NorthEast to add scenic, historic, and habitat points near bike routes in their town. If other municipalities are interested in doing this, reach out to Emily.

The group discussed the need for more fix-it stations. Steve Jones noted that they cost \$900-1500. Steve asked how local routes can be added to the map. Emily noted that if the route is part of a printed map or brochure, or adopted officially, it can probably be added—just send the information to Emily. Emily will send the link to the group once the app is live.

3) DCTC Updates/Announcements

- a. [Poughkeepsie 9.44.55](#): Emily stated that the planning study is done. However, the Advisory Committee will continue to meet to work on implementing the study’s recommendations.
- b. 2022-23 Planning projects:
 - Dover Plains pedestrian plan – DCTC kicked off this study in April and met with the local Task Force to refine the study area and focus areas. We will be collecting sidewalk, crosswalk, and other data in May.
 - Rhinebeck Route 9 Complete Streets evaluation – This study will evaluate potential walking and bicycling improvements north and south of the Village core. We had a site visit with the Mayor and Village Engineer in April.
 - Spackenkill Rd sidewalk feasibility analysis – This project has not started yet, but we will be working with the Town of Poughkeepsie, NYSDOT, and local stakeholders to evaluate the feasibility of a sidewalk along Spackenkill Rd, particularly near the high school.

4) Partner Reports/Roundtable

- a. Local projects/updates:
 - Ross Ritter noted that construction has begun at the Route 376/All Angels Hill Rd roundabout. The paving on Route 376 is still in poor shape. He also noted that a section of Overlook Rd near Route 55 was patched, but the patching did not include the shoulders, leaving a lip and debris in the shoulder.
 - Colleen Dorney said that Tourism is interested to hear about local bike routes to access key destinations, avoiding major roads. Steve sent her some ideas in Hyde Park. Colleen also asked for feedback on where to distribute their Bicycle Tours brochures. The group suggested bike rental places and bike shops, diners, farmers markets, and local rides/events. The local chamber buildings already carry the brochures.
- b. County DPW: DPW staff were not on the call, but Emily noted that Phase I of the Urban Trail (from Cedar Ave to Parker Ave) will start construction in May. See the [website](#) for more information. She also noted that county Planning/DCTC is working with DPW to implement the first part of the Arlington Redesign Initiative, which includes the Main St/Grand Ave intersection. They are reviewing consultant proposals for the design work. She is also working with DPW to fill some of the sidewalk gaps on Innis Ave in the Town of Poughkeepsie.
 - Nancy noted that the Walkway held a virtual lecture on the Urban Trail as part of their Great Connector series -- see the [recording on YouTube](#).
 - Steve noted that the website Contact Us page has an error. Emily will let the project manager know.
- c. Traffic Safety Board - [Watch Out For Me campaign](#): Emily noted that the walking, bicycling, and driving safety videos developed by Forge Media (a Poughkeepsie youth arts program) are done and posted on the [County's YouTube channel](#). One has been distributed via Facebook and Twitter. She will send an email out to the BPAC and other partners to help distribute them.
 - Steve Jones noted that Hyde Park is working with the Traffic Safety Board on a series of three bicycle rodeos at elementary schools. The first was held at Netherwood Elementary and was very successful. Steve shared [photos](#) of the event. Anyone who is interested in a similar event can reach out to Bill at the [Traffic Safety Board](#).

5) Funding, Events & Announcements

- a. [Walk-Bike NY conference](#) – This will be held May 3-4 in Rochester. Emily will be presenting on the [Watch Out For Me campaign](#).
- b. [NY Bicycling Census](#) – This closed April 22nd; we could ask for a summary of the data for our next meeting.
- c. [Winnakee Land Trust Trails Roundtable](#): The April roundtable had a great presentation by Dutchess Tourism. See the website for a recording.
- d. [Hudson Valley Greenway: Planning and Trail Grant Applications](#) – applications are due May 6th.
- e. Federal infrastructure funding – the [Safe Streets & Roads for All](#) program will be unveiled soon. This program supports safety action plans or projects to implement an adopted safety plan.
- f. Empire State Trail printed maps are [available by request](#).
- g. Other announcements/events:

- i. May 14, Ride for Mental Health, 10am at Walkway lot (Poughkeepsie): This will be a short ride through the City of Poughkeepsie. Emily will forward a flyer when available.
- ii. May 22, [Noah's Ride](#), LaGrange: This is organized by Bikeway. Ross encouraged people to participate.
- iii. June 4, [National Trails Day](#)
- iv. June 26, [Discover the Hudson Valley Ride](#): this is a Bike NY ride, which starts and ends at Waryas Park in Poughkeepsie.
- v. August 5-8, [Appalachian Trail conference](#), SUNY New Paltz. This conference includes events in Dutchess county as well.
- vi. Job openings:
 1. Ithaca's Center for Community Transportation is looking for a [Bike Share Director](#).
 2. Ulster YMCA is looking for a part time bike mechanic – contact [Tom Polk](#).

6) Follow-up Items

- a. Bike Dutchess app: send any suggestions, as well as bike rack & fix-it station locations (photo and description) to Emily. If a municipality would like to build out their local scenic, habitat, or historic sites, reach out to Emily. She will send the link out once the app is live.
- b. Contact Bill Johnson if you would like to hold a bike rodeo/safety skills event.
- c. Send Emily ideas for future BPAC presentations or site visits.

7) Next Meeting: July 28th, 2:30 pm

Meeting schedule: January, April, July, October; last Thursday, 2:30 – 4:00 pm (typically)

[Sign up to receive news and announcements about the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee!](#)

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Time: 2:30 pm

via Microsoft Teams call/online meeting

Name	Organization/Municipality	Email
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Michael O'Brien	Town of East Fishkill	michaelbpobrien@gmail.com
Nancy Foster	Walkway Ambassador	nancyfoster@optonline.net
Ross Ritter	Bikeway/LaGrange resident	rritter@homesteadfunding.com
Steven Jones	Hyde Park Climate Smart Communities Task Force	stbjones@gmail.com