

Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting

Thursday, January 26, 2023, 2:30 pm via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Summary —

- **1. Introductions** Emily Dozier (DCTC) welcomed everyone to the meeting and led introductions. (see list below).
- **2. Presentation:** Dutchess County Public Works Pedestrian/Bicycle Projects Matt Dutcavich, County DPW (see link to recording on the BPAC webpage).

Matt discussed three pedestrian projects that the County DPW is leading: the Northside Line trail in the City and Town of Poughkeepsie, the Innis Avenue (CR 75) sidewalk improvements in the Town of Poughkeepsie, and the Maple Avenue (CR 62) sidewalk improvements in the Village of Millerton. For each, he described the key features, schedule, and anticipated cost, as well as some challenges. The group discussed each project. Emily noted that the Millerton improvements are an outgrowth of DCTC's 2018 Pedestrian Plan for the Village. DCTC and DPW also worked together on the Innis Ave project and continue to coordinate on ped/bike improvements on County roads, including a current project to improve the Main St/Grand Ave intersection.

3. DCTC Local Projects

- a. <u>Dover Plains Pedestrian Plan:</u> Emily noted that the study's Task Force is meeting January 30th to review the draft Plan. It will then be finalized. This is DCTC's 7th pedestrian plan (see others on DCTC's <u>Publications page</u>).
- b. <u>Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail</u> Feasibility Study: The RFP for this study is currently out to bid (due February 16th). The study will evaluate the alignment, crossings, environmental issues, potential phasing, and other elements to see how the former Beacon Line (from the City of Beacon waterfront to Hopewell Junction) could be converted into a rail trail.

4. Partner Reports

a. Traffic Safety Board: Emily noted that Bill Johnson, the County's Traffic Safety Board Administrator, has several bike rodeos planned for the spring. Bikeway staff were interested in collaborating; Emily will put them in touch with Bill. Emily also shared the <u>Watch Out For Me campaign webpage</u> and encouraged the group to share the videos, posters, and other educational materials.



- b. <u>County Transit</u>: Emily noted that Transit is working on new bus stop shelters and upgrades to various bus stops.
- c. NYSDOT (<u>local projects</u>; questions from group): Emily stated that Mo Islam, the NYSDOT Region 8 Ped/Bike Coordinator, wasn't able to attend but will be presenting at April's meeting. She asked for any questions related to State roads. Ross noted that the pavement and shoulders on Route 376 between the RADD auto repair and Diddell Rd is in bad shape, and is a key link to the Dutchess Rail Trail. Emily will ask Mo about this.

d. Roundtable: projects/updates

- i. Ross mentioned Noah's Ride, which Bikeway is planning for May 21 in the Town of LaGrange.
- ii. Michael O'Brien announced that the Hopewell Depot received a Greenway grant to create a self-guided tour at the Depot. Work should start this summer.
- iii. Ross asked about the Route 82 bridge; Michael did not have an update. Emily asked Mo Islam to discuss this project on the April BPAC call.
- iv. Michael O'Brien announced that the curfew on the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge walkway/bikeway was lifted, so it is now open 24/7. This sets a precedent for the Bridge Authority to consider opening other walkway/bikeways 24/7, if there is demand.

5. Funding, Events & Announcements

- a) Winnakee Land Trust Trails Roundtable (1/17); recording posted on website
- b) Hudson Valley Greenway: Community and Trail Grants due February 3rd
- c) Federal infrastructure funding <u>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law programs</u>
- d) <u>Extreme Terrain Clean Trail Grant Program</u> small grants for trail improvements
- e) Harlem Valley Rail Trail: grant received for planning the Philmont to Chatham segment
- f) New Cycle the Hudson Valley bike tour (Parks & Trails NY) July (Troy to NYC)
- g) League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly Community, Business, & University submissions open (due 2/15, 3/1, 8/10, respectively)

h) Other announcements/events:

- Ethan noted that Bikeway is planning a ride on Route 17K in Orange County;
 Emily will put him in touch with Jessica Ridgeway at the Orange County
 Transportation Council.
- b. Ross described the potential for trails in several large parcels now owned by the Town of LaGrange between Wappinger Creek and Titusville Rd.
- c. Kathleen asked about a potential sidewalk on Market St in Hyde Park to connect Hackett Hill Park to existing sidewalk at the apartments on Lambert Ln (1400 ft east) and/or the Town center (3700 ft west). Emily noted that DCTC did a Pedestrian Plan for Hyde Park in 2013 and could possibly assist with evaluating one of those segments, if requested by the Town.



6. Follow-up Items

- a. <u>Bike Dutchess</u> app: Emily shared the app with the group and asked them to send her bike rack/fix-it station locations (with a photo and description) and any suggestions for improvements.
- b. Send Emily ideas for future presentations.

7. Next Meeting: April 26th, 2:30 pm

- a) NYSDOT presentation on State road projects with ped/bike elements; Scenic Hudson discussion of bike/ped elements at their planned headquarters on Parker Avenue.
- b) Meeting schedule: January, April, July, October; last Thursday, 2:30 4:00pm

January 2023 BPAC Meeting Participants:

Name	Organization	Email
Karl Beard	National Park Service (retired)	karl.kd2fx@gmail.com
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