

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

July 28, 2016, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Dutchess Community College, 122 Bowne Hall (1st Floor), 53 Pendell Road, Poughkeepsie

Meeting Summary

1) Introductions

Emily Dozier (PDCTC) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves (see attached list).

2) Presentation: Statewide Pedestrian Safety Initiative – Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP); Tom Benware, NYSDOT Main Office. Website: www.ny.gov/pedsafety

Tom gave a [presentation](#) on the [NYS Pedestrian Safety Action Plan \(PSAP\)](#), which outlines existing pedestrian safety conditions and methods to improve pedestrian safety throughout the State over the next five years. He explained that the plan uses a three-pronged approach to pedestrian safety: Engineering, Education, and Enforcement.

- Engineering: The NYS Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is leading all of the engineering strategies. NYSDOT has already investigated hot spots for pedestrian crashes around the State. Currently, NYSDOT is in the process of providing systemic improvements to State roads in urbanized areas. Systemic improvements on these corridors will take place in two different contexts: Uncontrolled crosswalks and signalized intersections. Recommended improvements at uncontrolled crosswalks may include high-visibility crosswalks, in-street pedestrian signs, and/or raised pedestrian refuge islands. The recommendations for signalized intersections could consist of updating signal timing to provide adequate crossing time, installing signs for ‘No Turn on Red,’ and/or bringing the intersection into ADA compliance. All improvements aim to improve the safety and visibility of pedestrians.

Tom noted that nearly 50% of all of the pedestrian crashes (outside of New York City) occurred in 20 focus communities throughout the State; the City of Poughkeepsie is one of the twenty focus communities that was identified. This means that Poughkeepsie will be receiving more attention and State resources to improve pedestrian safety.

Additionally, next year, NYSDOT will have a solicitation to provide funding for local safety projects, with priority given to the focus communities.

- Education: The NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH) is leading all of the education strategies. This includes developing campaigns that target behaviors identified by the data analysis, reaching out to local partners for educational support, and creating a multi-media marketing plan to enhance visibility of the campaign. The Department of Health has already developed and begun advertising the “See & Be Seen” campaign;

these resources will be available to local municipalities in a toolkit.

- **Enforcement:** The Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) is leading all of the enforcement strategies, including pedestrian safety law enforcement trainings in the focus communities, reaching out to local courts, and an annual enforcement blitz. A law enforcement training and enforcement blitz have already been held this year in the City of Poughkeepsie.

Tom noted that MPO's such as the PDCTC will be a critical partner in this plan, as MPO's will help to identify hot spots, to inform the public on availability of State funding, and to educate the public on State laws related to pedestrian safety.

Karl Beard (NPS) added that he is interested in the social awareness and engagement components of this plan/campaign. He noted that informing the public of their responsibilities as various users of the roadway is a worthwhile effort.

Betsy Brockway (Town of Pawling) added that pedestrian and bicycle safety tips could be added to local driver education classes and tests to start educating the public on these issues as young adults.

Emily distributed copies of some of the "See & Be Seen" education materials and warning cards that police can distribute to pedestrians and drivers at crosswalks.

3) Pedestrian/Bicycle Counts: September 13-15 and 17

Emily announced that the annual pedestrian-bicycle counts will be on September 13, 14, 15 and 17. She distributed a sign-up sheet and asked everyone to volunteer if they can. She also asked for contacts of any groups/organizations that may like to help out. She noted that she already contacted the Mid-Hudson Bicycle Club.

4) Implementation/Local Updates

Kathleen Davis (Town of Hyde Park) announced that Hyde Park received the final piece of funding to build sidewalks on the east side of Route 9 (between Park Plaza and Terwilliger Ln).

Karl Beard (National Park Service) stated that the mountain biking trail through the national park properties in Hyde Park could be constructed in 2017.

Sharon Kroeger brought copies of a 'Share the Road' tips brochure for motorists and bicyclists from Connecticut, developed by the State DOT and local Council of Governments.

Betsy Brockway (Town of Pawling) noted that some business owners don't like the new Share the Road signs on County Route 20 (West Dover Rd)—apparently they don't want to share the road.

Mary Nisley (Town of Poughkeepsie) stated that brush along Route 376 needs trimming/mowing. Emily asked Joe Hurley (NYSDOT-Region 8) if he could forward the phone numbers for the NYSDOT local residencies, since they are the best people to call for maintenance issues. Jane Geisler (Town of Union Vale) added that some signs are covered by vegetation and could use some attention.

Bill Trifilo (County DPW) announced that construction on the Linden Avenue bridge in the Town of Red Hook is complete; there is now a sidewalk on the east side of the bridge and widened shoulders on both sides. Bill also noted that the construction taking place on the DeGarmo Rd bridge in the Town of Poughkeepsie should be complete before school starts.

Anesta Vannoy-Kwame (Town of Fishkill) stated that it is very difficult to cross Route 9D where she lives (near Chiappardi Place). It is near the I-84 interchange and there is also a senior housing development nearby.

Jane Geisler (Town of Union Vale) asked what the process would be to get an in-street pedestrian crossing warning sign on a local road. Joe Hurley (NYSDOT-Region 8) stated that for a local road, the Town can install the sign themselves. For State roads, the municipality would need a permit from NYSDOT.

Geoff Gray-Cornelius (County Planning) stated that work is continuing on the Arlington Pedestrian Plan in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Data collection was completed earlier this summer and staff is now preparing draft recommendations for a presentation to the local Business Improvement District (BID) members in September.

Ross Ritter (Town of LaGrange) noted that he was in Great Barrington, Mass recently and noticed a campaign for pedestrians to 'stop, look, and wave' to get drivers' attention at crosswalks. He said that drivers there seemed to yield regularly for pedestrians.

Emily also added updates from a few BPAC members who were unable to attend:

The City of Poughkeepsie has begun a 'Complete Streets' project for Market Street. This will involve a temporary demonstration project and a detailed design for implementation.

The Dutchess County Traffic Safety Board is holding a bicycle safety rodeo on August 6th in Millerton on the Harlem Valley Rail Trail (near 25 South Center St) from 9:30-11:30 a.m. There will also be an educational table and helmet check at the Amenia trailhead parking lot. Volunteers are needed—contact Bill Johnson (845-486-3603).

John Galbraith of sPOKe (formerly Poughkeepsie Bicycle Advocates) noted that the Re-CYCLE project is going well. They fix up used bikes and distribute them to people in need every 4th Thursday of the month from 4-7 pm at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church on Catherine Street at Mill Street in Poughkeepsie. More information is available on Facebook and at

http://stjohnselc.org/wp/community_events/poughkeepsie-bike-rescue/. Johnny is also looking for someone to take over leading the monthly 8 Ward Bicycle Tour in Poughkeepsie, as he is moving to Rwanda for a year. Finally, Johnny has been talking to Bikeway about ways to promote bicycle tourism in Poughkeepsie, by creating a bicycle station with showers, lockers, etc. near the train station.

5) Announcements

Emily made the following announcements:

a. Funding

- NYSDOT has said there will be a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding solicitation soon, possibly by the end of the summer. This is a good program for pedestrian and bicycle projects. The PDCTC will forward more information when available.
- Hudson Valley Greenway has [Greenway Trail Grants](#) available for trail construction, planning, design, improvement, or education. This is a new program, with up to \$40,000 available for projects. Applications are due September 9th.
- Applications for Community Development Block Grants ([CDBG](#)) funding will be available in August and due in October. This is a great source for local sidewalk projects, but the area must be income-eligible. Contact the County Planning Department (486-3600) for more information.

b. Trails: The next [Winnakee-Dutchess Trails Roundtable](#) meeting is September 22, from 4-5:30 p.m. at the Farm and Home Center on Route 44 in Millbrook.

c. Other announcements/updates

- The [Walk-Bike NY Conference](#) will be held September 16-17 in Syracuse. It is a great conference! Emily will be presenting on the PDCTC's local sidewalk studies.
- The [Scenic Hudson Farmland Cycling Tour](#) is September 17 in Red Hook. Sign up soon—space is limited.
- The PDCTC reserved funding in our 2017 budget for a possible bicycle skills course, similar to the one we held several years ago. Let Emily know if you are interested or have suggestions for locations.

6) Follow up items

1. Ped/Bike Counts: Sign up to help! Also, forward Emily ideas/contacts of any groups or organizations that may like to help out.
2. Bicycle Skills Course (2017): Let Emily know if you are interested or have suggestions for locations.

3. Review & send updates for the online [bicycle parking finder](#) to Emily.
4. Send Emily ideas for future presentations.

7) Next Meeting: October 27, 3-5pm, DCC, Bowne Hall



Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council

Date: July 28, 2016

Time: 3:00-5:00 pm

Location: DCC, 122 Bowne Hall

Name	Organization/Municipality	Email	Phone
Betsy Brockway	Town of Pawling resident	betsy.brockway5@gmail.com	845-855-5395
Kevin Newman	City of Poughkeepsie Resident	slowrider@bicycle.bigk12603.com	845-559-7008
Shelby Tompkins	Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council	stompkins@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
William Trifilo	Dutchess County Department of Public Works	wtrifilo@dutchessny.gov	845-486-2936
Geoff Gray-Cornelius	Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council	gcornelius@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
Joe Hurley	NYS DOT Region 8	joseph.hurley@dot.ny.gov	845-437-3320
Emily Dozier	Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council	edozier@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
Kathleen Davis	Town of Hyde Park	recdirector@hydeparkny.us	845-229-8086
Anesta Vannoy-Kwame	Southern Dutchess NAACP	sdnaacp@gmail.com	845-287-9853
Tom Benware	NYS DOT Main Office (Albany)	Thomas.Benware@dot.ny.gov	(518) 485-0976
Karl Beard	National Park Service, Rivers & Trails Program	karl-beard@nps.gov	(845) 229-9115 x2034
Ross Ritter	Town of LaGrange Resident/Bikeway	rritter@homesteadfunding.com	914-456-6493
Mary Nisley	Town of Poughkeepsie resident	mary.nisley@pobox.com	845-471-8257
Sharon Kroeger	Wassaic Historic Agricultural Crossroads	generalstoresk@optonline.net	(845) 373-7735



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Name	Organization/Municipality	Email	Phone
Jane Geisler	Town of Union Vale resident	n/a	845-677-9909