

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

July 27, 2017, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Dutchess Community College, 122 Bowne Hall, 53 Pendell Road, Poughkeepsie

Meeting Summary

1) Introductions

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

2) Presentation: *Driven By Safety: the New York Bicycling Coalition's Education and Advocacy Initiatives- Tom Polk, New York Bicycling Coalition*

Tom described the New York Bicycling Coalition (NYBC)'s work in bicycle education, advocacy, and promotion. He outlined several opportunities for education, including Smart Cycling classes and shorter 'bicycle commuter' trainings tailored to workplaces. He also noted NYBC's education resources, which include a new pocket guide, several online quizzes, and a guide for law enforcement. He added that NYBC is creating bicycle safety videos as well. In terms of statewide advocacy, Tom described campaigns for a three-foot safe passing law and electric bikes, which are currently not regulated (and therefore in a legal gray area) in New York State. Tom also described NYBC's work with the State DOT and DMV to improve bicycle safety in New York, and its promotion of bicycle tourism. He said that NYBC has held several regional meetings with advocates and planners, and is organizing the first statewide Bike Summit on September 15th in Albany. More information is on NYBC's website: www.nybc.net.

3) Project Updates/Group Discussion

Ross Ritter (Town of LaGrange) stated that the repaving on Route 376 looked good; however, the pavement is very poor south of the airport. He also noted that there is a gravel shoulder on part of Titusville Road (near Noxon Rd) that is a hazard. Ross added that archeological work is being done at the Robinson Lane/Lake Walton Rd/Route 376 intersection, as part of the intersection reconstruction.

Kevin Newman (City of Poughkeepsie) stated that the shoulders on Route 9D south of Beacon are washed out and unusable for a bicyclist.

Rich Carling (City of Poughkeepsie) said he is trying to get the City and Town of Poughkeepsie to stripe shoulders or bike lanes on Wilbur Blvd and Hooker Ave. The Town Highway Supervisor was not very interested, but the City seems more receptive. Others suggested reaching out to local elected officials (Town Board or City Common Council members). Rich asked for anyone who would like to work with him on this to talk to him.

Bruce Cuttler (Town of Red Hook) stated that the new sidewalk on Route 9 between Town Hall and the Holy Cow should be done in September. The Town is also working on implementing the [Village to Village Trail](#) (7 miles connecting Red Hook and Tivoli), which will include two miles along a creek.

Bill Trifilo (County DPW) said he is working on installing bus stop signs along all the County transit routes. Also, the [Harlem Valley Rail Trail](#) extension from Millerton to Columbia County is planned for 2018.

Laurie Husted (Bard College) said that planned improvements to a bridge on CR 103 (River Rd) near Montgomery Place were currently on hold, since improvements may be done as part of the [Empire State Trail](#). She also noted that the Village of Red Hook has painted shared lane-use markings (sharrows) on Church St and Prince St for the block nearest the Route 9/Market St intersection.

Bill Johnson (Dutchess County Traffic Safety Board) brought poster-size versions of the '[Watch Out for Me' campaign](#) signs. Similar signs have been installed on County buses. Ozie Williams (County Health Dept) suggested that the campaign signs should be posted at the DMV office to help educate people about yielding for people in crosswalks. Mark Phillips, Jr (County Planning intern) also distributed the [Street Safety Tips brochures](#) to the group.

Karl Beard (National Park Service) noted that the Winnakee-Dutchess Trails Roundtable is considering proposing a county trails committee that would report to the County Legislature, similar to the Ulster County Trails Committee. Participants at the last roundtable heard about the experience in Ulster County and were supportive of the concept.

John Galbraith (sPOKe) said he recently returned from Rwanda and is looking to get back into local bicycle advocacy in Poughkeepsie.

Sharon Kroger (Amenia) noted the importance of community bike shops and suggested that there is a need for more of them.

4) Announcements

Emily Dozier (DCTC) made the following announcements:

Paving: The Governor announced a road [paving initiative](#); in Dutchess it includes the Taconic State Parkway as well as Route 9D from just north of Hudson Avenue to just north of Dogwood Lane, and Route 376 from just south of Red Oaks Mill Road to Sheldon Drive.

Pedestrian Plan: DCTC is working with the Village of Millerton on a [Pedestrian Plan](#); there is an open house on Thursday, August 3rd from 6-8 pm. Emily passed around a flyer.

Ped/Bike Counts: DCTC's annual traffic count program will include bicycle counts on three streets using bicycle-specific tubes, and pedestrian and bicycle counts at 16 locations on rail trails, paths, and streets using video. The counts will be done in August.

Ross asked if volunteers will still be doing manual ped/bike counts in September. Emily said yes—she will forward information to potential volunteers in August.

Skills Rodeo: DCTC is holding a second [Bicycle Skills Rodeo](#) on Saturday, August 5th at the Walkway parking lot (Poughkeepsie side). It is from 8:30-10:30 am and free to attend. Emily distributed flyers and asked for help with outreach.

Funding: The Hudson River Valley [Greenway Grant Program](#) and the [Greenway Conservancy Trail Grant Program](#) are both due September 8th. The Trail Grant program has up to \$40,000 available for trails, with priority for projects that connect to the Empire State Trail.

Walkway: A welcome center is being built on the west side of the Walkway. There is a construction zone with signs asking bicyclists to dismount. However, there have been some issues with people bicycling through the construction zone. She reviewed the signage with the Park Manager and made several suggestions. Emily asked the group for input on how to improve the signage and safety through the area.

Events:

- ~~[Bicycle Skills Rodeo](#) August 5th, 8:30-10:30 am (Walkway parking lot, Poughkeepsie)~~ [cancelled due to forecast; may be rescheduled]
- [Winnakee-Dutchess Trails Roundtable](#): next meeting September 21, 4pm, Wallace Center
- New York Bicycling Coalition statewide [Bike Summit](#): September 15, Albany NY

5) Follow up items

- Review & send updates to the [County bicycle parking map](#) to Emily.
- Send Emily ideas for future presentations.

6) Next Meeting: October 26, 3-5pm, DCC, Bowne Hall

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Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting

Date: July 27, 2017

Time: 3:00-5:00 pm

Location: DCC, 122 Bowne Hall

Name	Organization/Municipality	Email	Phone
Karl Beard	National Park Service, Rivers & Trails Program	karl-beard@nps.gov	(845) 229-9115 x2034
Rich Carling	Bike Friendly Poughkeepsie - Bike Lanes	parkwood43@aol.com	
Bruce Cuttler	Red Hook Greenways and Trail Committee	bcuttler@frontiernet.net	(845) 758-0828
Emily Dozier	Dutchess County Transportation Council	edozier@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
John Galbraith	sPOKe Poughkeepsie	jmgbike@gmail.com	(845) 797-2508
Laurie Husted	Bard College	husted@bard.edu	(845) 758-7180
Bill Johnson	Dutchess County Traffic Safety Board	wjohnson@dutchessny.gov	(845) 486-3603
Sharon Kroeger	Town of Amenia Resident & CAC member	generalstoresk@optonline.net	(845) 373-9201
Kevin Newman	City of Poughkeepsie Resident/Adventure Cycling Association	slowrider@bicycle.bigk12603.com	845-559-7008
Mark Phillips, Jr	Dutchess County Planning & Development	mphillips@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
Tom Polk	NYBC	tom@nybc.net	845.417.1280
Ross Ritter	Town of LaGrange Resident/Bikeway	r Ritter@homesteadfunding.com	914-456-6493
William Trifilo	Dutchess County Department of Public Works	wtrifilo@dutchessny.gov	845-486-2936
Ozie B. Williams	Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health	owilliams@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3542