

Dutchess County Transportation Council
Planning Committee Meeting Summary

Wednesday, June 28, 2017, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

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

1. Introductions – See attached list.

2. Announcements

- Mark Debald (DCTC) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mark began by announcing that everyone should have received the spring/summer edition of the DCTC newsletter, an agenda for the meeting, a summary of the previous Planning Committee meeting, and material on the DCTC's Off-system Bridge call for projects. Mark notified the Committee that Shelby Frangk had been promoted to Planner, and has shifted over to managing the County's agricultural and open space program. Mark noted that the County is recruiting for a new Junior Planner.
- USDOT is reviewing its existing policy statements, guidance documents, and regulations to identify unnecessary obstacles to transportation infrastructure projects. As part of this review, the Department invites affected stakeholders and the public to identify non-statutory requirements that the Department imposes and that should be removed or revised. Comments are due on or before July 24, 2017. Link: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-06-08/pdf/2017-11791.pdf>
- Mark reported that the federal budget for FFY 2017 was approved last month. This sets the stage for FTA to issue its allocations of Section 5307 and 5339 funding to the Urbanized Area and NYSDOT to calculate sub-allocations to the three counties in the TMA. Given the move to a single bus operator in the county, we will not do a sub-allocation to the City of Poughkeepsie.
- Mark alerted the Committee to news from NYSDEC. Volkswagen has agreed to settle allegations that it violated the federal Clean Air Act by selling vehicles with "defeat devices" that allow vehicles to exceed air pollution limits. In October 2016, the first partial settlement was approved by a federal court, requiring Volkswagen to pay \$2.7 billion into an environmental trust fund, and the second partial settlement requires an additional \$225 million. In total, New York State expects to receive \$127 million to be used for mitigation projects to offset the excess air pollution emitted by some Volkswagen vehicles. Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) mitigation projects will include replacing or repowering older diesel vehicles and the advancement of zero emission vehicles. DEC is working with other state agencies to develop a mitigation plan for NOx reduction projects.

- NYSDOT recently issued a call for projects for the FTA Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility for Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities) Program, which provides federal funding to improve transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities. In particular, the program supports transportation services that go beyond those already required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. An email was sent on Monday to our public information list. Applications are due August 21st. Mark stated that likely applicants, including the Office for the Aging, will be contacted. Cynthia mentioned that the County's Commissioner for Special Needs (Toni Ciarfella) is working with NY511 on a new rideshare portal for Dutchess County residents with special needs.
- Mark reminded the Committee to review traffic count notices in order to deal with any issues with planned roadwork or mowing. The notices are sent by our contractor, Tri-State Data, approximately two weeks in advance. There was one recent report of tire damage recently. The protocol is to contact us, verify that it is our contractor, and then the contractor's insurance will cover the damage.
- Emily provided an update on the DCTC-sponsored Bicycle Skills Rodeos to be held on Saturday, July 8 and Saturday, August 5 at the Walkway Over the Hudson, and asked for help with outreach. Cynthia asked Emily if she wanted flyers on the buses; Emily gave Cynthia flyers to post. Ray Oberly (Town of Clinton) noted that he sent the flyer to all of the churches in his town. Mark Figliozzi (Pleasant Valley) suggested that reflectors/flashing lights should be addressed, due to visibility issues at night.

3. Public Participation – Mark opened the meeting for public comment or general announcements.

- Aileen Rohr (Town of Hyde Park) asked about the Pavement Conditions Rating Project. Mark said it is going well. DPW has two interns doing most of the work. They completed 17 communities last year, and this year they plan to finish the other 13 by the end of July. Mark said the project would be done regularly to keep it current. Bob LaColla (Town of Fishkill) noted that Red Hook, Town and City of Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, Pawling, and Beacon are pursuing a one-year pilot GIS program that might expand to include other GIS data such as infrastructure elements. Ray asked if dirt roads could be included in the pavement rating project. Mark said he would ask the Cornell Local Roads Program. Bob L. suggested that the Town could apply the scores to dirt roads.
- Aileen asked about funding for median improvements. Bob Mannix stated that most median maintenance projects go on the TIP in in the multi-county list. However, if a Town is interested in a new median, or converting a striped median to a physical median, they should reach out to the Region 8 Traffic & Safety Division (Adam Levine).
- Aileen asked about visibility on Violet Avenue (Route 9G). Bob M. suggested she reach out to the Region 8 Traffic & Safety Division (Adam Levine). Cynthia noted a visibility issue for buses on Route 55 in Beekman near the Stop & Shop. She will follow up with Adam Levine.

Ray wanted to know if funding was available to install electric car charging stations. Mark suggested NYSERDA funding. Bob LaColla asked MTA about the status of the Beacon Line project; James Moreno (Metro-North Railroad) said it was still under review.

4. Off-System Bridge Call for Projects

On June 14, 2017, staff issued the official call for projects for the Off-System Bridge Program. This federal funding program is administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), through the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and DCTC. The program provides federal funds for 80 percent of the costs associated with the rehabilitation and/or replacement of county and locally owned bridges that are not located on a federal-aid eligible road. A total of \$3.6 million in federal funding is available to Dutchess County under this program.

A list of eligible bridges was provided in the notice. Approximately 145 county and local bridges are eligible for this program (about 40 percent of all bridges in Dutchess County), with the majority (96 bridges or 66 percent) under DCDPW jurisdiction. Funding will be competitive and will require separate applications for each proposed project. All projects will require a local government sponsor. If an application requires coordination with another agency, we will need a letter of support from that agency with your application. As with many federal highway programs, this program requires a 20 percent local match, so sponsors must be prepared to commit to this local share for all proposed projects. Sponsors should not assume that the state provide 95 percent of the match. Sponsors should target construction for the 2019-2020 timeframe. Marchiselli funding might be available on a case-by-case basis.

DCTC staff, in consultation with NYSDOT-Region 8 and the Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development, will calculate a Bridge Priority Index to help prioritize projects, followed by a qualitative assessment of each eligible project. Projects will be presented to the Planning Committee for their review and a prioritized list of projects will then be matched to available funding. Once the selection process has been completed, the DCTC will coordinate with NYSDOT to add selected projects onto the FFY 2017-2021 TIP. Applications are due July 28.

Mark added that pedestrian/bicycle-only bridges are not eligible—the bridge must carry vehicle traffic. Also, abandoned bridges cannot be rehabilitated, but instead must be replaced. Bob L. wanted to know if the funding could be used for design only. Mark said he would have to check. It may be possible if the sponsor can demonstrate that they have funding available for construction. Mark emphasized that since this is federal funding, the projects must follow the federal-aid process.

5. FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The Transportation Council periodically updates the TIP to add new projects, remove existing projects, or change a project's cost, schedule, or scope. Major changes are classified as Amendments and require that the Transportation Council hold a 15-day public comment period prior to action; minor changes, such as a schedule change or small cost change, are classified as Administrative Modifications.

- a. TIP Amendment #17-03: On June 8, 2017, staff mailed ballot materials for Resolution #17-06, which sought approval of Amendment #17-03. The ballot was approved on June 23, 2017, by a vote of 13-0-0. The Amendment added funding for a bridge replacement on Route 115 over the Little Wappinger Creek in the Town of Pleasant Valley (PIN 800908), pedestrian improvements on Route 9 in the Town of Hyde Park (PIN 876190), pedestrian safety and accessibility improvements at various intersections in the Village of Red Hook (PIN 876148) and along Route 9D at various locations in the Village of Wappingers Falls (PIN 876174), and resurfacing state highways in Dutchess County in need of corrective pavement treatment (PIN 881321).
- b. TIP Administrative Modification #17-E: Admin Mod 17-E involves changes to a number of City of Poughkeepsie bus projects. Given that the City is ending bus operations on July 1, 2017 (end of this week), they have requested a number of changes to their TIP projects. Many of these are being consolidated under existing DCPT projects. Given the pending consolidation of the City of Poughkeepsie bus system with Dutchess County Public Transit (DCPT), we'd like to make the following changes to their associated TIP projects:
 - 8TD007 – Purchase four heavy-duty buses [Change sponsor to DCPT]
 - 8TD008 – Purchase one support vehicle [Combined with DCPT project 8TRD88]
 - 8TRD47 – ITS Equipment [Combined with DCPT project 8TD011]
 - 8TRD62 – Bus Shelter [Combined with DCPT project 8TRD99]
 - 8TRD89 – Purchase two heavy-duty buses [Combined with DCPT project 8TRD92]
 - 8TRD90 – Purchase two replacement batteries for hybrid buses [Change sponsor to DCPT]

The City will still have open FTA grants for two PINS, so these should stay as City projects, but with cost changes:

- 8TRD31 – Preventive Maintenance [Change FFY 2017 cost to \$0.161 FTA, \$0.020 State, and \$0.020 Local]
- 8TRD50 – Operating Assistance [Change FFY 2017 cost to \$0.465 FTA and \$0.0465 Local]

Cynthia made some suggestions for wording changes to 8TRD31.

- c. TIP Viewer 2.0

Mark provided an overview of the newly updated TIP Viewer application. The application can be found at <http://geoaccess.co.dutchess.ny.us/tip/>.

6. NYSAMPO Conference Review

Mark provided a brief summary of the NYSAMPO conference that was held in Syracuse last week, including a presentation by Dr. Alain Kornhauser from Princeton on automated vehicles. The key takeaway was the incoming age of automated vehicles. The committee discussed the potential repercussions of automated vehicles, and what it would mean for disabled residents and special needs residents. It was also noted that millennials are driving less than previous generations. Mark will post links to some of the presentations on the DCTC website when available.

7. DCTC Logo

Based on comments from our last Planning Committee meeting, we are working with the Department's graphic designer to refine options for a new logo. Updated concepts will be provided at our next meeting.

8. Project Updates

- a. **Performance Measures:** On May 20, 2017, the FHWA final rulemaking on national performance measures took effect. The rulemaking sets forth measures that State DOTs and MPOs will use to report on the following characteristics within their jurisdiction:
 - The performance of the Interstate and non-Interstate National Highway System (NHS) to carry out the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP);
 - Freight movement on the Interstate system; and
 - Traffic congestion and on-road mobile source emissions for the purpose of carrying out the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program.
- b. **Safety Performance Measures** – Mark reviewed NYSDOT's fact sheet on safety performance measures (attached).
- c. **FTA Transit Asset Management Rule** – The transit rule became effective on October 1, 2016, and requires operators to develop a Transit Asset Management Plan for their systems. The Plan must address the State of Good Repair for rolling stock, infrastructure, equipment, and facilities. Based on discussions across the state, and in keeping with the practice for other performance measures, we will likely pursue the first option of agreeing to program investments that support the targets of local transit operators (DCPT and MTA).
- d. The **Village of Millerton Pedestrian Plan** is underway. Data collection was completed in May. Emily informed the committee that the second Task Force meeting was to be held

later that evening (June 28, 2017). There will be a local public outreach event over the summer.

- e. **Main Street Safety Assessment** (City of Poughkeepsie): fieldwork was done in late April, and a draft report was sent to the team for review in June. Emily received feedback from the team and will send a revised draft to the team shortly. The City will then be asked to provide a formal response which will be incorporated into the final report.
- f. **City of Poughkeepsie Downtown Parking Improvement Plan**: The contract is finalized and work will begin in July, with data collection occurring in September. Nelson/Nygaard will serve as the project consultant and the Advisory Committee will have its first meeting in mid-July.
- g. **City transit service**: The County’s new service in the City of Poughkeepsie starts on Saturday July 1, 2017. The County will be using new buses for the expanded service. Cynthia brought schedules/brochures for the new routes. Cynthia noted that Town of Hyde Park residents who live along the new “CJ” bus route should be made aware that they have two months to demonstrate the demand for the bus in that part of Hyde Park, or else the route may be changed.

9. Public Participation

- Mark stated that based on comments at our last meeting, he reached out to Central Hudson to see if they could participate in one of our meetings to discuss coordination. Aileen said that the Town of Hyde Park has an annual coordination meeting with Central Hudson. She will provide Mark with her contact.
- Aileen noted that three municipalities (City of Poughkeepsie, and Towns of Hyde Park and Rhinebeck) are working on a streamlined planning process, with funding from the County’s shared services program.

10. Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 23, 2017 at 10 a.m. at Dutchess County Planning.

Attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Address or Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Ray Oberly	Town of Clinton	N/A	845-266-5721
Bob Mannix	NYS DOT R-8	BoB.Mannix@dot.ny.gov	845-431-7904
Danielle Mass	NYSBA	dmass@nysba.ny.gov	845-691-7245
Barbara Zulauf	Town of Beekman	supervisor@townofbeekmanny.us	845-724-5300 ext.225
Don Beer	Town of Poughkeepsie	dbeer@townofpoughkeepsie-ny.gov	845-790-4736
Mark Figliozzi	Town of Pleasant Valley	pvs@pleasantvalley-ny.gov	845-635-3598

Emily Dozier	DCTC	edozier@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
Bob LaColla	Town of Fishkill	supervisor@fishkill-ny.gov	845-831-7800 ext.3309
Cynthia Ruiz	Dutchess County Public Transit	cruiz@dutchessny.gov	845-473-8521
Aileen Rohr	Town of Hyde Park	arohr@hydeparkny.us	845-229-5111 ext.8