

Poughkeepsie 9.44.55

Advisory Committee Meeting #2

Date: Friday, November 15, 2019 at 1:30 PM

Location: Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce, 1 Civic Center Plaza #400, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Attendees: See attached scanned sign-in sheet

OVERVIEW

Mark Debald welcomed attendees to the second Advisory Committee meeting for this planning effort. Following introductions, Mr. Sargent led a presentation that covered the following material:

- Previous Studies
- Public Involvement
- Existing Conditions
- Traffic Forecasting
- Next Steps

See the attached presentation for further details. Discussion amongst Committee members occurred throughout the meeting to provide input on various items. The following is a summary of that discussion, including key action items in **bold**.

DISCUSSION

Previous Studies

- Mr. Sargent provided a high level overview of previous planning studies and initiatives undertaken in the area, focusing on items that referenced the Interchange or Arterials. Mr. Sargent reviewed the following studies:
 - City of Poughkeepsie Transportation Strategy (1997)
 - City of Poughkeepsie Comprehensive Plan (1998)
 - Arlington District: A Vision for Revitalization (1999)
 - Town of Poughkeepsie Comprehensive Plan (2007)
 - Main Street Economic Development Strategy / City Center Revitalization Plan (2014)
 - Walk Bike Dutchess (2014)
 - City of Poughkeepsie Waterfront Redevelopment Strategy (2015)
 - Moving Dutchess 2 (2016)
 - Arlington Town Center Pedestrian Plan (2017)
 - City Center Connectivity Project (2018)
 - Downtown Parking Improvement Plan (2018)
 - Poughkeepsie Innovation District (2019)
- The Committee generally agreed with the characterization of the issues addressed within each of the documents relative to the study area. It was noted that a second piece of the Poughkeepsie Innovation District document referred to the Arterials, which had not been highlighted. It was also noted that the Town's Comprehensive Plan designates Arlington as a key Town Center. **The summary of previous studies will be updated to include relevant references from the Poughkeepsie Innovation District and Town of Poughkeepsie Comprehensive Plan documents.**

Public Engagement

- Consultant and DCTC staff provided an update on activities to date:
 - Finalizing the project logo
 - Launching the project website (poughkeepsie94455.com),
 - Publishing an inaugural fact sheet
 - Holding a pop up event at the City's First Friday on October 4, 2019.
 - Attendees at the pop up participated in two activities to assess priorities and understand existing issues at the Interchange and Arterials.
- Ms. Brockhaus provided an overview of the recently launched interactive mapping tool (<http://fhiplansurvey.com/Poughkeepsie/>), available via the project website. The tool allows the community to provide location specific concerns and ideas for the study area. The group discussed marketing of the tool.

Marketing – Mapping Tool

- **Town of Poughkeepsie will add a link to the Town website and distribute electronically via an email about the planning study.**
- **City of Poughkeepsie will publicize the tool via its Facebook page and e-newsletter.**
- **DCTC/County Planning will distribute a link to the tool to the DCTC public information email list, the Dutchess County Planning Federation email list and through the Dutchess County Facebook page.**
- **The Bridge Authority will publicize the tool via its website.**
- **Consideration will be given to large-scale banners at toll booths or flyer distribution at toll booths.**
- **DCTC to engage Ulster County to solicit input from commuters.**
- **Upcoming stakeholder interviews will all include calls for participation.**

Stakeholder Interviews

- **Stakeholder Interviews are scheduled for November 20-21 and December 2, 2019.** Meetings include:
 - Economic Development and Tourism
 - Dutchess County Public Transit
 - The Poughkeepsie Alliance
 - Hudson River Housing & Family Partnership
 - Congressional, State, County, and Local Elected Officials
 - City and Town Departments and Boards (includes Emergency Personnel)
 - MASS Design
 - Poughkeepsie and Arlington School Districts

Existing Conditions

- The consultant provided an overview of existing conditions analysis underway, including data collection, traffic analysis and crash analysis. The group generally agreed with the methodologies recognizing that the analysis was in progress. There was a question about crash rates and Mr. Nadolny confirmed that comparisons to statewide crash rates will be provided. The group also discussed a comment from the NYSDOT Region 8 Regional Planning and Program Manager about assessing potential traffic changes on Route 9 outside the study area (including at Washington St/North Rd and South Ave/Academy St) resulting from interchange alternatives. **It was decided that the Origin-Destination information and qualitative assessments will be used to assess**

any potential changes in travel patterns on the intersections north and south of the Route 9/44/55 interchange.

Traffic Forecasting

- The consultant proposed a 0.5% per year growth rate, based on a review of historical growth and pending projects. The group agreed 0.5% per year was reasonable. The group also discussed the merits of a ten-year versus 20-year growth projection for modeling. **It was agreed that the project will use a 20-year planning horizon, or 2040.**

NEXT STEPS

- Advisory Committee to meet approximately every two months. The next meeting will be held mid to late January. The project team will continue developing the Existing Conditions Report to be done in January with the expectation of a public meeting in February 2020. **DCTC with assistance from Advisory Committee members will solicit input from the public using the online mapping tool.**