

Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting

Thursday, April 27, 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. **DCTC Local Projects**
 - a. Dover Plains Pedestrian Plan: Emily noted that this study was just completed; it was presented to the Town Board on 4/26 and adopted via a Town Resolution. This was DCTC's 7th pedestrian plan (see others on DCTC's Publications page). Let Emily know if your community is interested in a pedestrian plan.
 - b. Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail Feasibility Study: The study will evaluate the access, 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. DCTC completed interviews with potential consulting firms and will select a firm in early May.
 - c. Spackenkill Road Sidewalk Feasibility Study: Tara noted that the Town requested DCTC to look at feasibility of installing a sidewalk between Croft Rd (west of the Middle School) and just east of Spackenkill High School. DCTC has met with the Town and the School District and is working with a consultant on a concept plan. DCTC is planning outreach to students and the school community as well as residents, and then will refine the concept plan.
3. **Presentation: NYSDOT Pedestrian/Bicycle Projects** – Moe Islam, NYSDOT Region 8 Bicycle-Pedestrian Coordinator (see link to recording on the BPAC webpage).

Moe discussed four projects at a high level: The Route 82 bridge over the Rail Trail in East Fishkill (in design), which includes a planned roundabout at the Route 82/Beekman Rd intersection; the Route 9 bridge over Wappinger Lake in the Towns of Poughkeepsie and Wappinger (under construction); the Route 376/All Angels Hill Rd roundabout in the Town of Wappinger (completed); and the Route 376/Hooker Ave roundabout in the Town of Poughkeepsie (in early design).

Moe stated that he is fairly new at the job and was not involved in the two bridge projects. Previously, the Bike/Ped Coordinator was often not consulted. However, Region 8 is working to improve this, so that he is involved earlier and in more projects. However, in some projects,

ped/bike improvements are not possible to add due to the scope and/or budget (especially for maintenance or resurfacing projects).

Moe explained that Region 8 includes Columbia, Dutchess, Ulster, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester counties, so there are a lot of projects at any given time. Emily asked what the best process would be for someone interested in an improvement on a State road or intersection; Moe said they can reach out directly to him (mohammed.islam@dot.ny.gov) or the Traffic & Safety Team (which he is part of). Emily also showed the group how to search NYSDOT's [local projects](#) webpage to find out more about State projects in our area.

4. Partner Reports

- a. County DPW: [Northside Line](#): Emily noted that the first part of Phase 1 (from Parker Ave to Cedar St) will be opening in May with a ribbon cutting in June; the rest of Phase 1 (north to Hudson Heritage) will open around October. Phase 2 (connecting to the Marist Campus) is in final design.
- b. [County Transit](#): Emily noted that Transit is working on new bus stop shelters and upgrades to various bus stops, but recent bids came back about twice as high as their estimated cost.
- c. Traffic Safety Board: [Watch Out For Me campaign](#): Emily shared the webpage, which includes videos, brochures, posters and curricula. Recent projects have included ads on County Transit vans, a decal on the Lakeview Arms apartments bus stop shelter, and training health educators at Nuvance Heath on crosswalk education, so they can help spread the message.
- d. Roundtable projects/updates:
 - i. Nancy shared updates from her work with the College Hill Coalition, including a tree planting for Arbor Day, weekly Wednesday gardening days (9am, May 10-October), an event for I Love My Park Day, and making the cisterns into interactive performance spaces, and painting murals on the water tanks. Emily asked about a connection from the Rail Trail; Nancy said there was discussion of this several years ago but nothing recently.
 - ii. Steve shared his work planning bike rodeos (safety events) with the Hyde Park School District PTAs and Bill Johnson from the County's Traffic Safety Board. Emily encouraged others to reach out to [Bill](#) if they are interested in a bike rodeo. Steve also shared a [survey](#) that he developed about bicycling needs in Hyde Park.
 - iii. Lisa shared that there is a new trails map for the Red Hook trails, including the new trail connecting to the west recreation park. This will be posted online and at trail kiosks. Emily noted that these trails are also on the [County's Parks & Trails app](#).
 - iv. Hael shared that the Newburgh Transportation Advisory Committee is starting its [monthly Critical Mass rides](#) on the last Friday of the month. They sometimes ride across the bridge to Beacon. They start at the Safe Harbors green.

5. Funding, Events & Announcements

- a. Bike Rodeos
 - i. 4/14: Violet Ave ES, 3:30-7

- ii. 4/27: Netherwood ES, 3:30-7
 - iii. 4/30: Walkway (Poughkeepsie side), 12-3 (see attached flyer; also emailed)
 - iv. 5/3: North Park ES
 - v. 5/13: Dover HS, 2-6pm
 - vi. 5/24: Overlook ES, 4-7:30
- b. County Health Fair: 4/29 at DCC, Falcon Hall, 11-2. Emily noted that it will include a child passenger seat check, touch a bus activity, and interactive crosswalk education.
 - c. [I Love My Park Day](#): 5/6, 9-12; Locally, this includes County Park cleanups at the DRT/Walkway and Wilcox Park (see attached flier; also emailed).
 - d. [Winnakee Land Trust Trails Roundtable](#) (4/18); recording to be posted on website. Emily noted that the recent roundtable was on trail easements.
 - e. [Hudson River Valley Greenway](#) (HRVG) [2022 Hudson River Valley Greenway Trail Visitation Report](#). Emily shared the report, which includes ped/bike counts on the Walkway and the DRT at Hopewell Junction. Future counts will enable an estimate of use for the entire Empire State Trail.
 - f. [Bikeway's Noah's Ride](#) – May 21, Freedom Park, LaGrange
 - g. PTNY [Cycle the Hudson Valley bike tour](#) – July 29-August 5
 - h. [T-Mobile Hometown Grants](#) – current round due June 30. Emily noted that Towns with up to 50,000 population are eligible, and the grants are up to \$50,000 to build, rebuild, or refresh community spaces. Municipalities and non-profits can apply.
 - i. [Hudson Valley Greenway: Community and Trail Grants](#) – due May 5
 - j. League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly Business, University, & Community [submissions open](#) (due 6/15, 8/10, 8/30, respectively)
 - k. Federal infrastructure funding – [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law programs](#)
 - l. [Extreme Terrain Clean Trail Grant Program](#) – small grants for trail improvements

6. Follow-up Items

- a. [Bike Dutchess](#) 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.
- c. See our [BPAC webpage](#) for meeting summaries, recordings, and presentations, as well as a link to sign up for our email list.

7. Next Meeting: July 27th, 2:30 pm

- a. Scenic Hudson will hopefully present on bike/ped elements at their planned headquarters on Parker Avenue in the City of Poughkeepsie.
- b. Meeting schedule: January, April, July, October; last Thursday, 2:30 – 4:00pm

April 2023 BPAC Meeting Participants:

Name	Organization	Email
Emily Dozier	DCTC	edozier@dutchessny.gov
Tara Grogan	DCTC	tgrogan@dutchessny.gov
Moe Islam	NYS DOT- Region 8	mohammed.islam@dot.ny.gov
Nancy Foster	Walkway Ambassador	nancyfoster@optonline.net
Steve Jones	Hyde Park Climate Smart Communities	stbjones@gmail.com
Yvonne Caruthers	City of Beacon resident	ybcaruthers@proton.me
Alana Sawchuk	Dutchess County Comptroller's Office	asawchuk@dutchessny.gov
Hael Stewart-Fisher	Newburgh Transportation Advisory Committee	haelfisher@gmail.com
Lisa Whalen	Town of Red Hook Trails Committee	ejw44@hvc.rr.com

Bike Safety Day for Kids Walkway Over the Hudson

Sunday April 30 2023, 12 noon to 3pm

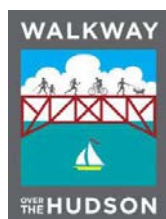


East Side Entrance – Free!

Activities include:

- ✚ Bike Safety Inspection
- ✚ Helmet Fitting and Adjustment – Free Helmets Available
- ✚ Safety Quest on the Dutchess Rail Trail
- ✚ Prizes for Safe Riders!

Sponsors:



BIKEWAY
Bicycles & Mobility

**Nuvance
Health**



I LOVE MY PARK *days*

2 SPRING CLEAN-UP ACTIVITIES TO CHOOSE FROM

DUTCHESS RAIL TRAIL

East Parking Lot 61 Parker Ave Poughkeepsie, NY

WILCOX MEMORIAL PARK

Disc Golf Course Rt. 199 Milan, NY

SATURDAY
May 6, 2023
9am - Noon

WHAT TO BRING

- ✓ Rakes
- ✓ Work Gloves
- ✓ Bug spray/Sunscreen
- ✓ Dress for the weather

WHAT IS PROVIDED

- ✓ Work Vests
- ✓ Trash bags/Trash pickers
- ✓ Water/Snacks

REGISTER AT:

[Ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day](https://ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day)

Parks & Trails New York's

I LOVE MY PARK *days*

