

Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting

Thursday, July 31, 2025, 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. **Presentation:** Destination Dutchess' [Bike Tour Guide](#) update - Colleen Dorney & Kristina Mukherjee

Colleen & Kristina reviewed some changes they are considering for an update of Destination Dutchess' [Bike Tour Guide](#), including a new route in Hyde Park and an adjusted route in Pawling; changes to how the routes are described (more descriptions of road and traffic conditions instead of easy/moderate/advanced); and links to online routing tools like Strava. They also plan to use the term 'routes' instead of 'tours'.

The group provided feedback, including using various online platforms, including Ride with GPS; providing options for off-road and on-road segments; show links to trail systems (using Dutchess County's Parks & Trails app); and adding locations of resources like bike repair stands. Attendees also suggested reaching out to the Mid Hudson Bicycle Club and Fats in the Cats mountain biking club. Kristina asked for any high-resolution images of bicycling in Dutchess. She plans to finalize the brochure in the next month or so.

3. Partner Reports & DCTC Studies

- a. Beacon-Newburgh Bike Share study: Thomas Wright gave an update on this study of a bike share system between Newburgh and Beacon, which is funded by NYSERDA (see slides). It is part of a larger ['Regional Connector' plan](#) to improve access between the two cities. They will be submitting a plan to NYSERDA in August and then applying for pilot implementation funding in the fall/winter. A consultant team from WXY Studio is writing the plan. Thomas highlighted the study goals, outreach, and recommendations. The pilot would include e-bikes and some pedal bikes, with docked stations at key destinations, including the Beacon train station. It would be operated by a third-party operator and would require subsidy. Thomas will share the final plan when it is finalized.
- b. Emily provided an update on the [Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail](#) Feasibility Study. The draft recommendations report was just posted to the website, which outlines the pros, cons, and estimated costs of a Rail to Trail option and Rail with Trail option. The report recommends the Rail to Trail option. There will be a public meeting at noon on August 20th to review the report and get input.

- c. County Public Works: Emily shared that DPW is finalizing a complete streets redesign for Annandale Rd through Bard College, though no funding has been identified for implementation. DPW was recently awarded funding to improve the Main St/Grand Ave intersection in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Finally, DPW is planning to start construction next year on sidewalk and crosswalk improvements on Maple Ave in Millerton.
- d. Traffic Safety Board: [Watch Out For Me campaign](#): Emily shared a poster and rack card to help promote the [Watch Out for Me videos](#). Both are in English and Spanish. Emily will share them with the group and encouraged everyone to share them widely.
- e. [Safety Action Plan](#): DCTC has worked with municipalities to identify local priority locations. There will be virtual public and stakeholder meetings on August 19th (3pm stakeholders; 5pm public).
- f. The group discussed issues with speeds of e-bikes and other motorized micromobility devices. Rob highlighted his cycling advocacy group, [Bike Poughkeepsie](#).
- g. [Pedestrian/bicycle counts](#): DCTC will organize volunteer ped/bike counts in September. Municipalities and others can request locations for manual/volunteer or camera counts (which are done by a contractor). Ebikes and other mobility devices can also be counted.

4. Events, Funding & Announcements

- a. [Hudson Valley Greenway: Community and Trail Grants](#)
- b. [Federal grants](#)
- c. [T-Mobile Hometown Grants: up to \\$50,00 for community spaces](#)
- d. [Rugged Ridge Trail Access Program: up to \\$5,000 for land conservation and trail access](#)
- e. [Extreme Terrain Clean Trail Grant Program: \\$250 grants for trail improvements](#)
- f. Other announcements/events:
 - [Cycle the Hudson Valley](#) (Albany to NYC): August 4-9
 - PTNY's [Empire State Greenways Conference](#): October 15-17, Kingston

5. Follow-up Items

- a. [Bike Dutchess](#) app: send Emily bike rack/fix-it station locations (photo and description) and any suggestions for improvements.
- b. See our [BPAC webpage](#) for meeting summaries, recordings, and presentations, as well as a link to sign up for our email list.
- c. Let Emily know if you have a presentation idea!

6. Next Meeting: October 30, 2025, 2:30 pm

- a. Meeting schedule: January, April, July, October; last Thursday, 2:30 - 4:00

July 2025 BPAC Meeting Participants:

Name	Organization	Email
Emily Dozier	DCTC	edozier@dutchessny.gov
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Rob Cerrato	Bike Poughkeepsie	robcerrato@gmail.com
Erik Dighton	Town of Wappinger Resident	
Colleen Dorney	Destination Dutchess	colleen@dutchesstourism.com
Steve Herschbein	Town of Beekman Resident	
Evelina Knodel	Dutchess Outreach	evelina.knodel72@gmail.com
Bill Johnson	Dutchess County Traffic Safety Board	wjohnson@dutchessny.gov
Sarah Lohmar	WXY Studio	
Gerry Matusiewicz	Shorewalkers Club	
Kristina Mukherjee	Destination Dutchess	kristina@destinationdutchess.com
Michael O'Brien, Pat Manning, & Maria Mahoney	Town of East Fishkill	michaelbpobrien@gmail.com , econdevdirector@eastfishkillny.gov
Ross Ritter	Resident	rritter@homesteadfunding.com
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Thomas Wright	Beacon Greenway Trails Committee	wright@atlaseast.com
Tracy Wright-Mauer	Vassar College/City of Poughkeepsie Resident	trwrightmauer@vassar.edu