

**Dutchess County Transportation Council**  
**Planning Committee Meeting Summary**

**Wednesday, May 22, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – Noon**

**Hyde Park Town Hall (Town Board Room)**  
**4383 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, NY 12538**

**1. Introductions** – See attached list.

**2. Announcements**

Mark Debald (DCTC) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mark began by mentioning that everyone should have received the meeting materials with the meeting notice. Mark thanked the Town of Hyde Park for hosting the meeting and noted that we will continue to rotate future meetings around the county.

Mark indicated that the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) award announcements were made on April 25<sup>th</sup>. One Dutchess County project was approved—a NYSDOT project to construct a roundabout at the intersection of 376/New Hackensack Road/All Angels Hill Road in Wappinger. Mark stated that the new project is included in the Draft FFY 2020-2024 TIP. We hope there will be another TAP solicitation in 2020.

Mark announced that the Cornell Local Roads Program will be holding a workshop on ‘ADA in the Public Right of Way’ on August 7, 2019 at the Dutchess County Dept. of Behavioral & Community Health, 230 North Rd, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. It will provide a focused introduction on the proper design and maintenance of pedestrian access routes in new construction or when existing facilities are altered, taught from the Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG).

Mark noted that there will be a statewide FTA Section 5310 solicitation this summer. This federal transit program provides funding to non-profit human service agencies and local governments to provide mobility assistance to elderly and disabled persons. It can cover capital purchases (with a 20% match) and operating expenses (with a 50% match).

Mark also alerted the Committee to an Administrative Modification (#17-V) that was processed in early May for the current FFY 2017-2021 TIP. The change dealt with a Dutchess County Public Transit project (PIN 8TRD32-Preventive Maintenance), moving \$0.767 million in unspent Section 5307 funds from FFY 2018 to 2019.

Mark updated the Committee on the DCTC’s upcoming voting meeting on June 27, 2019 at Locust Grove Estate in Poughkeepsie.

Old Business:

- a. At our previous meeting, Supervisor Thurston (Town of Wappinger) asked whether a list of grant opportunities and their general deadlines could be developed for members to reference. Mark stated that staff was working on such a list.
- b. Supervisor LaColla (Town of Fishkill) had inquired about the budget impacts to the county from its bus service expansion into the city. The answer we received was as follows: “since the new city routes were absorbed into our system and are not being tracked separately, we cannot easily determine if there was a negative impact. This was due to the fact that Dutchess County Public Transit made other changes at the same time, including a new transit employee contract.”

**3. Public Participation** – Mark opened the meeting for public comment and announcements. None were received.

**4. Draft FFY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

- a. Draft Project Listing: The TIP serves as the five-year capital program that assigns federal highway and transit funds to transportation projects located in Dutchess County. It lists the intended schedule and estimated cost for each phase of a transportation project. Mark noted that the TIP is one of our core documents, since it supports the goals and recommendations of the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). We typically update our TIP every three years. Mark reviewed the current timetable for the new TIP. We expect to begin a 30-day public comment period on May 24, 2019. We would then hopefully approve the TIP and Conformity Statement at our June 27, 2019 meeting. Most of the 14 MPOs in NYS are on track to meet the State’s June 28, 2019 deadline for adoption (less NYMTC and OCTC, given special air quality considerations). Once the MPOs approve their respective TIPs, NYSDOT will assemble them into the Draft Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) during the summer. The TIP/STIP would go into effect on October 1, 2019 – the start of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2020.

The Committee discussed NYSDOT projects. Mark explained that Interstates, as well as State roads, are under NYSDOT jurisdiction. Sandra clarified that projects on these roads are often multi-county projects and may be listed on another MPO’s TIP, based on where most of the work occurs.

Mark reviewed the TIP presentation. The Committee suggested making the presentation simpler and the maps and charts easier to read, focusing on the projects rather than the funding levels, and possibly showing the projects overlaid on the Environmental Justice maps. Sandra clarified that some of the funding targets are not entirely accurate as they don’t include the portion of NYSDOT funding that will be used in Dutchess County. She will provide updated numbers.

The group discussed the National Highway System, and Mark recommended, and Sandra

agreed, that it would make sense to petition FHWA to add Route 199/308 to the NHS to provide an east-west connection in northern Dutchess. Mark explained that this would make those roads eligible for NHPP funding. Since they are State roads, projects on them would be led by NYSDOT.

- b. Fiscal Constraint Analysis: USDOT defines this as having a TIP/STIP where the amount of total FHWA funding programmed in each year does not exceed the total planning targets for that year. Mark reminded the Committee that FHWA, FTA and NYSDOT consider TIP years beyond the first four years as informational only. Mark stated that we received our highway and transit targets earlier this year, and successfully shaped the TIP to fit available funding. Mark reviewed the funding picture of the Draft TIP, noting that it currently programs over \$50 million in FHWA and FTA funding over the five-year period (this may increase if we add Section 5337 funding for MTA). FHWA funding makes up 58% or \$29.4 million of this total, while the FTA program totals 42% or \$21.3 million of the TIP. However, Mark cautioned that the current federal transportation bill, the FAST Act, expires in 2020, so future funding levels are uncertain.
- c. Orphan Area Conformity Determination: As mentioned previously, the DCTC will need to demonstrate conformity for the TIP based on the 1997 ozone standard. This is being done in conjunction with OCTC and NYMTC as part of the Poughkeepsie Ozone Non-attainment Area. Mark noted that this requirement stems from the South Coast II decision and subsequent EPA guidance. The guidance applies to 'orphan areas' such as ours and requires us to demonstrate conformity for the 1997 ozone standard of 0.080 parts per million (ppm), even though we currently meet the more stringent 2015 standard of 0.070 ppm. A significant component of the guidance is the removal of the need for orphan areas to use a regional emissions model. We worked with the ICG, NYMTC, and OCTC on the draft determination statement, which will likely be issued for public comment when the draft TIP is issued in late May. It would also need to be adopted at the June 27, 2019 meeting. The statement is less onerous than previous determinations (our last one was done in 2012), since a regional emissions analysis is not needed.
- d. Public Comment Period: Draft documents are posted on the [DCTC website](#). The formal comment period starts May 24<sup>th</sup> and runs through June 24<sup>th</sup>. A public meeting will be held on June 5 at 6 pm at the Adriance Library in Poughkeepsie (Charwat meeting room).

## 5. FFY 2019 FTA Funding

- a. Draft Resolution #19-06 (Apportionment of FFY 2019 FTA S.5307 funds in the MHVTMA): This resolution seeks approval for the allocation of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 formula funds in the three-county Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area (TMA). This action is a routine occurrence that takes place after the FTA apportions 5307 funds to the TMA.

FTA Section 5307 funds flow to the TMA, responsibility for which is shared by the Dutchess,

Orange, and Ulster County Transportation Councils. The three Councils must agree to the TMA allocation prior to distributing the transit funds to their respective transit operators. The OCTC and UCTC must approve similar resolutions. The funding allocations are based on 2016-2017 operating statistics and 2010 Census data. This funding supports capital projects and operating assistance.

For FFY 2019, Dutchess County Public Transit will receive a total of \$2,049,396, while the Metropolitan Transportation Authority will receive a total of \$3,135,240. Mark noted that the Inter-County Commuter Bus Services includes Leprechaun Lines' Poughkeepsie-White Plains service.

- b. Draft Resolution #19-07 (Apportionment of FFY 2019 FTA S.5339 funds in the MHVTMA): This resolution seeks approval for the allocation of FFY 2019 FTA Section 5339 formula funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area (TMA). These funds stem from federal authorizations to our urbanized area under the Bus and Bus Facilities Program.

FTA Section 5339 funds flow to the TMA, responsibility for which is shared by the Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster County Transportation Councils. The three Councils must agree to the TMA allocation in order to distribute the funds to their respective public bus operators. The OCTC and UCTC must approve similar resolutions. The funding formula is based on vehicle fleet sizes. Dutchess County Public Transit will receive a total of \$848,986 for FFY 2019. This funding is primarily for bus and equipment purchases.

## 6. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- a. SFY 2018-2019 Year-end Reconciliation: Mark reminded the Committee that MPOs are required to produce a year-end reconciliation report at the close of the UPWP – our annual statement of work. The UPWP provides a description and budget for planning activities to be carried out during the State Fiscal Year (April 1- March 31). We expect to finalize our quarterly billing by the end of this month, which will allow us to complete the report. Mark distributed a handout summarizing the UPWP expenditures. He noted that we have some PL savings that will need to rollover into the current 2019-2020 program (shown as about \$350,000 on the handout, though this may change).
- b. SFY 2019-2020 Budget Amendment #19-01 (PL Carryover Funds): Mark alerted the Committee to a looming federal rescission, which will negatively impact New York State and MPOs. The FAST Act contains a \$7.6 billion rescission that will take effect in FY 2020. The actual rescission will take place on July 1, 2020. The rescission applies to unobligated balances of contract authority apportioned under Title 23 USC (i.e. the highway program). In New York, this may require the state to reduce its obligation of new federal-aid highway projects by approximately \$371 million. Some programs like the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) and Surface Transportation Block Grant Program are immune to the rescission. This means smaller programs such as TAP/CMAQ, Off-System Bridge, and Metropolitan Planning (PL) may feel the brunt of the pull-back. For the MPO, this means we

need to protect our unprogrammed PL savings backlog by amending the 2019-2020 UPWP to program those funds. We would need to do this before October 1, 2019, so Mark proposed we address this at the June 27, 2019 meeting. For the time being, we could place the funds in our consultant budget for long-range planning tasks. This doesn't necessarily mean we have to spend the funds, since they will be considered obligated (i.e. protected) once we program them in the UPWP.

## 7. MTP Update

Mark stated that we are starting to review best practices and will begin the process of updating our long-range plan later this year. Mark distributed a handout outlining long-range plans that we have reviewed from MPOs in Buffalo, Chicago, San Diego, and Columbus, Ohio. They tend to be highly visual; some are digitally-focused (existing online rather than in pdf's); many use infographics to convey key data; and some focus on broader policies and put the details in appendices. Sandra asked if we would use a consultant. Mark stated that we would likely produce the main document in-house, but use a consultant for community engagement, and possibly for creating a digital plan. He noted that we need more current, high-quality photos.

## 8. Project Updates

- a. 2019 Traffic Count Program: Our annual count program is underway. We have had two issues so far with the tube nails puncturing vehicle tires. Mark stated that anyone affected should contact DCTC so we can have the contractor pay for any damage.
- b. Arlington Main Street Redesign Initiative: This project will create a Complete Streets design concept for CR 114 (Main Street) in the Arlington area of the Town of Poughkeepsie. We have selected the consultant and are currently in contract negotiations. We hope to start this summer.
- c. Route 9/44/55 Analysis: Mark stated that we will be interviewing finalists next week and hopefully have the consultant selected by the end of the month.
- d. Village of Pawling Pedestrian Plan: Mark stated that this project is on track for completion this summer. Emily stated that there is a presentation of the final draft plan on Monday, July 17, 2019 at 7 pm at the Pawling Village Hall.
- e. Mid-Hudson Valley Regional Transit Plan: The Connect Mid-Hudson plan is continuing to move forward. The consultants have been inventorying regional capital assets and should post the draft existing conditions report on the website soon.
- f. Safety Assessment, Slate Quarry Rd, Town of Clinton: We are putting together a team for this project and plan to do the assessment this summer.

**9. Upcoming Meetings:**

- a. Transportation Council – Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. at Locust Grove Estate, Poughkeepsie, NY. The Council will vote on five resolutions, all of which were attached to the meeting packet.

**Attendance:** 05/22/19

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Address or Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Don Beer	Town of Poughkeepsie	<a href="mailto:dbeer@townofpoughkeepsie-ny.gov">dbeer@townofpoughkeepsie-ny.gov</a>	845-790-4736
Joe Chenier	City of Poughkeepsie	<a href="mailto:jchenier@cityofpoughkeepsie.com">jchenier@cityofpoughkeepsie.com</a>	845-451-4058
Mark Debald	DCTC	<a href="mailto:mdebald@dutchessny.gov">mdebald@dutchessny.gov</a>	845-486-3600
Emily Dozier	DCTC	<a href="mailto:edozier@dutchessny.gov">edozier@dutchessny.gov</a>	845-486-3600
Michael Grattini	Dutchess County Public Transit	<a href="mailto:mgrattini@dutchessny.gov">mgrattini@dutchessny.gov</a>	845-473-8521
Sandra Jobson	NYS DOT	<a href="mailto:sandra.jobson@dot.ny.gov">sandra.jobson@dot.ny.gov</a>	845-431-7930
Robert Mortell	NYMTC	<a href="mailto:Robert.mortell@dot.ny.gov">Robert.mortell@dot.ny.gov</a>	845-431-5710
Ray Oberly	Town of Clinton	<a href="mailto:townsupervisor@townofclinton.com">townsupervisor@townofclinton.com</a>	845-266-5721
Hans Priebe	Creighton Manning	<a href="mailto:hpriebe@cmellp.com">hpriebe@cmellp.com</a>	845-475-1696
Aileen Rohr	Town of Hyde Park	<a href="mailto:arohr@hydeparkny.us">arohr@hydeparkny.us</a>	845-224-5111 x8