

Dutchess County Transportation Council
Planning Committee Meeting Summary

Wednesday, January 22, 2020
10:00 a.m.-noon

[Poughkeepsie Town Hall](#)(Main Conference Room)
1 Overocker Rd, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

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 Poughkeepsie for hosting the meeting.

Mark noted that the Dutchess County Mayors and Supervisors Association has nominated the Towns of Clinton (Supervisor Ray Oberly) and Pine Plains (Supervisor Darrah Cloud) as our two rural/non-urban voting members. They will serve two-year terms ending December 31, 2021. Mark reviewed the 2020 membership list that was distributed at the meeting. Mark stated that he would like to schedule an MPO 101 presentation for new members – possibly on Feb. 26th at the Dutchess County Planning Department office.

Mark reviewed the 2020 meeting schedule – highlighting the March 4, 2020 DCTC voting meeting at 1:30 p.m. at Locust Grove.

Mark noted that USDOT recently announced the 2020 round of funding for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grants. These competitive grants support very large projects with a national or regional economic vitality objective. The minimum award for a “small” project is \$5 million and a “large” project \$25 million; the award may cover a maximum of 60% of the total project cost. Projects that leverage a public-private partnership approach receive priority. For more on INFRA grants visit the [INFRA Grant homepage](#). Sandra Jobson (NYSDOT) noted that these projects often need to be shovel-ready, and that the applications are a huge amount of work. She noted other funding sources that may be more applicable to local projects, including Bridge NY. Mark asked whether Bridge NY would be solicited this year; Sandra was unsure.

Sandra and Mark discussed the timeline for adding new projects to the TIP. Mark noted that we would likely have STP Large Urban funding available in 2024; Sandra suggested that the group start thinking about possible projects now, so that the project can be selected and any right-of-way or engineering concerns addressed in time for the project to be obligated quickly once funding becomes available.

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

4. Old Business

- a. Functional Classification (FC): Mark noted that staff has completed its review of roadway function classifications across the county. Mark reviewed some highlights of the Functional Classification process, noting that a road’s functional class should be an accurate reflection of the role that road plays in the transportation network. Mark reviewed a list of state and county highways that we will seek to change, noting one change from previous lists: NYSDOT did not feel the proposed change for Route 376 from a Major Collector to a Principal Arterial was warranted, so that will not be pursued.

Mark, Sandra, and Emily Dozier (DCTC) discussed the reasoning behind the functional class changes, and the potential impact of a change on required design standards for future work (in particular, lane and shoulder widths). Mark and Sandra will both revisit the guidance on functional class to verify design standard requirements. Sandra will also take a close look at the proposed State road changes.

- b. FFY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- i. Mark briefly updated the Committee on the status of the City of Beacon’s two TIP projects: 8757.30 – Fishkill Ave reconstruction; and 8757.80 – Teller Ave reconstruction. They have received authorization to proceed and will be going out to bid soon, which means that the construction phases can be obligated.

Sandra asked about the status of the other TIP project due to be obligated for construction in 2020 (the City of Poughkeepsie’s Pedestrian Safety Action Plan project, 8762.03). Mark stated that the project was on schedule. Sandra noted that if these projects stay on track, the Council could have 100% obligation for the year, which is a high priority for our federal partners.

- ii. Mark also noted that we will issue an Amendment for a new transit project. Dutchess County Public Transit is repurposing FFY 2020 FTA Section 5339 funds from 8TRD.90 into a new project to rehabilitate the garage facility, which will include replacing exterior windows and siding, adding insulation, renovating interior rooms, and repairing the building’s foundation. This will require a 15-day public comment period, which will likely start in mid-Feb. Mark noted that the Council will be asked to approve the Amendment at the March 4, 2020 meeting.

5. Draft SFY 2020-2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- a. Mark reviewed [the draft 2020-2021 UPWP](#) that was included in the meeting packet and

distributed at the meeting. He explained that the former Planning Emphasis Areas were based on federal guidance, which recently changed such that these categories are no longer required; however, we have shifted the tasks into other categories. Mark stated that NYSDOT had reviewed the first draft and provided comments.

Ray Oberly asked about the Regional Freight Planning task, and whether the MPO had looked at Hudson River freight. Mark stated that the MPO had not, but that river freight was discussed in the recently released NYSDOT Statewide Freight Plan, and the three MPOs of the Mid-Hudson Transportation Management Area (TMA) are having preliminary conversations about developing a regional freight plan. Sandra asked about the status of the TMA's Congestion Management Process. Mark, Emily, and Dylan Tuttle (DCTC) discussed the project, noting that the first two analysis documents would be discussed at an upcoming TMA meeting, and would be sent to partner agencies for comment.

Mark noted that DCTC approval of the new 2020-2021 UPWP will be an agenda item at our March 4, 2020 voting meeting. Prior to that meeting, we will hold a 30-day public comment period, starting on or about January 29, 2020. He asked for any comments from the Committee by January 28th.

- b. Mark reviewed the 2020-2021 UPWP budget and noted that the annual planning funds stem from two programs: the FHWA's Planning Program (PL) and FTA's Metropolitan Planning Program (MPP). Mark indicated that we have approximately \$730,912 in PL backlog funds that are fully programmed in the current UPWP. Whatever amount remains unspent after March 31, 2020 will be programmed in the 2020-2021 UPWP. Moving forward, we intend to fully program our PL backlog in order to protect our funds from future rescissions.

6. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update

- a. Mark reviewed the goals of the MTP and noted that staff are addressing research questions for each goal. We intend to write technical memos for each topic, which will then be condensed into sections of the plan. Ray Oberly (T/Clinton) asked about manufacturing and shipping, and the group discussed challenges and opportunities related to this sector.
- b. Emily Dozier (DCTC) reviewed the tech memo on freight issues, noting four relevant trends: dominance of trucking, growth in local/on-demand deliveries, development of automation and other technologies, and the expansion of air freight. The group discussed the findings. Richard Thurston (T/Wappinger) and Nick D'Alessandro (T/East Fishkill) described ways in which freight access can be a barrier for economic growth in their communities, including inadequate port facilities on the river, single- vs. double-deck rail capacity, and congestion on the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge and I-84/Route 9D interchange. They recommended speaking directly to companies. The group agreed that they are seeing local impacts from on-demand deliveries (Amazon, etc). Ray Oberly and

Betsy Maas (T/Union Vale) also discussed the potential for drone delivery in rural areas and the possible role of small private airports in the future of freight.

- c. Mark updated the group on our consultant search for public engagement services for the MTP, noting that we will hold interviews with finalists on Tuesday, January 28, 2020.

7. Project Updates

- a. [Poughkeepsie 9.44.55](#): The consultant team is finalizing the first draft of its existing conditions report, which will include an analysis of the data collected to date for the study. The virtual mapping tool on the project website (<https://www.poughkeepsie94455.com/>) is still open and we have asked various agencies to promote the tool. We have also encouraged members to mention it to their constituents (e.g. via newsletters, social media posts, web posts, etc.).
- b. [Arlington Main Street Redesign Initiative](#): The [online survey](#) was closed on December 9, 2019 and we received close to 200 responses. Our consultant, MJ Engineering, is finalizing the existing conditions report and has begun work on preliminary design concepts.

8. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. MPO 101 Presentation: Wed., February 26, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (Location TBD)
- b. Voting meeting: Wed., March 4, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. (Location: Locust Grove, 2683 South Road-Route 9, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601)

Meeting Attendance: January 22, 2020

Name	Organization	Address or Email	Phone
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