

Dutchess County Transportation Council

Planning Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 26, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Virtual Meeting

Meeting Summary

1. Introductions – See attached list.

2. Announcements

- a. Mark Debald (DCTC) welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting, mentioning that everyone should have received the meeting materials with the email notice. Mark asked attendees to let him know if the call quality and format was acceptable. As mentioned at previous meetings, MS Teams will likely be used through the end of year.
- b. Mark announced that Dan Suraci, a Principal at Urban Cycling Solutions and a Complete Streets expert, will be offering a free online training course on complete Streets on September 25th from 12-1:30 p.m. Though the webinar will look at examples within the City of Poughkeepsie, it is open to anyone who is interested. The training is funded by the NYS Dept of Health and Dan has done similar trainings around the Hudson Valley.
- c. Mark alerted the Committee to an email from Herb Litts from GPI engineering about the potential availability of a pedestrian bridge for re-use by another agency of municipality. The pedestrian bridge, located at the Woodbury Commons/Thruway toll plaza, is destined to be removed due to cashless tolling. The bridge could be used for other applications.
- d. Emily Dozier (DCTC) stated that the Maybrook Trailway project, which is part of the Empire State Trail and will extend the Dutchess Rail Trail from Hopewell Junction to Putnam County, is making good progress and should be done by the end of the year. However, it is not open to the public—it is an active construction site and citations will be given to people trying to use it. Construction photos and project updates can be found at maybrookrailway.org.

3. Public Participation – Mark opened the meeting for any comments or announcements from attendees; none were noted.

4. Old Business

- a. Mark updated the Committee on State projects underway or recently completed in Dutchess County:
 - i. Salt Point Turnpike over Little Wappinger Creek Bridge Replacement--substantial completion expected end of this summer.
 - ii. PSAP Dutchess County--substantial completion expected end of this year.
 - iii. Route 52 at TSP Park & Ride Lot Expansion--substantial completion expected

- early next year.
- iv. I-84 Paving from TSP to Bowen Road Overpass--substantial completion expected end of this year.
 - v. Route 44 paving project--substantially completed.
 - vi. Route 376 intersection at DC Airport project--should go into construction next year and be completed by end of 2022.

Mark asked Sandra Jobson (NYSDOT) if there were any projects he had missed; she confirmed that there were not. Emily clarified that the Route 376 intersection project is a CMAQ-funded roundabout at the 5-way triangular intersection.

Emily noted that the City of Poughkeepsie had not been notified of the schedule for the PSAP work, and asked Sandra about the communication process for that project. Sandra stated that notifications are the job of the contractor and she would need to look into what process they used. Jay Baisley (Town of Poughkeepsie) noted that the paving project on 44 had good communication, but that the Town was also not made aware of the schedule for the PSAP work until a couple of weeks after it was underway.

- b. Ray Oberly (Town of Clinton) thanked staff for the recently completed CR 19 (Slate Quarry Rd) safety assessment report and asked about next steps to address crashes into a resident's fence along that road. Mark noted the need to continue to advocate for improvements, and that County Public Works would be the responsible agency.
- c. Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan: Mark reminded members that this plan update is ongoing, and that staff is working to send a survey out to relevant agencies.

5. New Business

- a. FFY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #20-02
 - i. Mark noted that an email ballot was sent to voting members last week to approve TIP Amendment #20-02, which adds two new State projects: repaving sections of Route 44 in the Town of Washington and Village of Millbrook, and repaving sections of Route 52 in the Towns of Fishkill and East Fishkill. Funding for these additions comes from a statewide reallocation of federal funds for NYSDOT projects in our region.
 - ii. A 15-day public comment period was initiated on August 11, 2020, and no comments have been received to date.
 - iii. Sandra noted the need to get these projects approved quickly. Mark stated that it was a fast email approval process, with ballots due August 31st. Sandra thanked the Council for getting ballots in quickly.
 - iv. Nicholas D'Alessandro (Town of East Fishkill) thanked NYSDOT for moving forward on the Route 52 paving project.
- b. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
 - i. Mark reviewed staff's progress on the plan to date, reminding the Committee

where we are in the process.

- ii. Plan title, color scheme, and logo update:
 - a) Mark reported to the Committee that a title has been selected for the new plan: *Moving Dutchess Forward*. He noted that we see this title as an evolution of our previous plan title, *Moving Dutchess*, and feel the 'Forward' piece adds a future looking connotation. Mark stated that we hope to keep using this title in plans and make the Plan a living document, which will be helped by its digital nature. Mark added that the tagline is 'Planning For Our Transportation Future.'
 - b) Mark also shared the Plan's new color scheme. The colors provide a bridge between the blue-themed Dutchess County colors and the purple-themed PDCTC colors that we used for many years.
 - Mr. Oberly advised that we should be careful not to overuse the darker colors, as that can make it harder to read for older residents.
 - c) Mark also unveiled the Plan's logo which was just selected the day before.
- iii. Project website development: Mark stated that our consultant is refining the website framework and we're building on best practices from other MPOs.
- iv. Photo submissions: Since we want to create a visually interesting plan, we are assembling a range of photos for the website. Mark asked that if any members have web-worthy photos that might work for our plan, please feel free to submit to us. We are especially interested in using photos with people in them.
- v. Virtual public engagement tools: Mark noted that we are also exploring a variety of ways to engage the public with the planning process, notably with virtual tools.
- vi. Goal 2 discussion:
 - a) Mark reminded the group that Goal 2 is to "Provide safe and convenient access for all people to housing, jobs, goods, services, and recreational amenities, regardless of age, ability, race, income, location, or mode of transportation." Mark noted that we wanted to present some of our thoughts on how we're approaching Goal 2 – noting that this is a work in progress.
 - b) Safety discussion: Emily reviewed staff's crash analysis work. Ray asked whether we distinguish by severity; Emily explained that we do by looking at injury/fatality crashes specifically. Maria Chau (FHWA) asked whether we had calculated a county-wide fatality rate; Emily explained that we have not, but it is something we'd like to do. Maria said she is looking forward to the maps that will accompany this work.
- vii. Next steps: Mark stated that over the next few weeks staff will work with our public engagement consultant to finalize design elements and build the website, and we will be spending time developing the Plan's interactive mapping element.

c. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Micro-Level Analysis of Dutchess County

- i. Mark noted that as specified in the Mid-Hudson TMA's CMP, each MPO is to

conduct a micro-level screening of identified congested locations to note specific issues and make preliminary recommendations.

- ii. Dylan Tuttle (DCTC) and Emily reviewed findings for the four Dutchess County locations identified in our initial screening of the Mid-Hudson region (presentation appended to minutes). All of our CMP documents can be found on our website under [Regional Transportation Planning](#).

6. Project Updates

- a. [Mid-Hudson Valley TMA Regional Transit Study](#)
 - i. Mark notified the group that the draft final report is being revised by the consultant based on comments provided by the three Mid-Hudson MPOs.
- b. [Poughkeepsie 9.44.55](#)
 - i. Mark updated the group on this plan, stating that the project team is finalizing an online public engagement presentation reviewing the interchange design concepts. The presentation will be made available in September.
- c. [Arlington Main Street Redesign Initiative](#)
 - i. Mark noted that we will be holding an Advisory Committee meeting this afternoon to review the revised design proposals and prepare an online presentation for the public.
- d. Traffic counts
 - i. Mark noted that we will be begin conducting the 2020 count program in September, likely the week of September 14th. Luckily, this year’s program is on the lighter side, so we expect to complete our planned schedule this year, despite the pause caused by COVID.

7. Final announcements – none were noted.

8. Next Meeting: Wed., September 23, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Participants:

Name	Organization	Email	Phone
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Ray Oberly	Town of Clinton	townsupervisor@townofclinton.com	845-266-5721
Sandra Jobson	NYS DOT	sandra.jobson@dot.ny.gov	845-431-5723
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Betsy Maas	Town of Union Vale		-
Greg Totino	Town of Fishkill		-

Mary Aldrich	DCDPW	maldrich@dutchessny.gov	-
Nick D'Alessandro	Town of East Fishkill		-