

# Dutchess County Transportation Council

## Planning Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 22, 2021

10:00 a.m. via Teams

### Meeting Summary

1. **Introductions** – Mark Debald (DCTC) welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced himself and attendees. See attached list.
2. **Announcements**
  - a. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA): Transportation accounts for about \$550 billion of the \$1.2 trillion proposed Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. That includes a reauthorization of the FAST Act as well as new funding. The new money would be used for transit, passenger rail, bridges, and electric vehicle infrastructure.
  - b. TAP/CMAQ: We are now close to the submission deadline for TAP/CMAQ. A few interested municipalities likely have or will soon submit applications. The due date for applications is Wednesday, September 29, 2021.
3. **Public Participation** – Mark provided an opportunity for members to share announcements or questions; there were none.
4. **Transportation Management Area (TMA) Federal Certification Review**

The Federal Certification Review is required for all TMAs. Dutchess County is part of the Mid-Hudson Valley TMA. The review assesses how the MPOs carry out the federal transportation planning process in the region, and ultimately help our communities. To that end, Maria Chau (FHWA) and Jennifer Terry (FTA) asked the committee six questions via a roundtable discussion. The group discussed challenges related to outreach, DCTC's work with communities on important projects, and our regional planning work with Orange and Ulster counties. A public virtual roundtable meeting will be held via Zoom on September 22, 2021, at 4 p.m. A summary of the roundtable discussion will be included in the certification report.
5. **Old Business**
  - a. *Moving Dutchess Forward*: Mark noted that the plan website ([movingdutchessforward.com](http://movingdutchessforward.com)) has been modified based on the feedback received during the 30-day public comment period and discussions at the July 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. A printable, pdf version of the long-range plan was also created and is available upon request. The site was also updated with a final version of the [Air Quality Conformity Statement](#) as well. Mark will also work with the Town of Wappinger to make a presentation at an upcoming Town Board meeting.
  - b. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): We are trying to increase our rate of obligation of projects for the federal fiscal year that starts each October 1<sup>st</sup>. There have been some schedule changes for projects to 'right-size' the TIP so it accurately reflects project schedules, scopes, and costs. Mark also noted that the online [TIP viewer](#) has been updated to reflect the recent changes. There will also likely be a call for TIP

projects next year, as part of the statewide update of the STIP.

## 6. New Business

- a. Mark noted that the DCTC is looking into rebranding itself in 2022. This consultant supported project will include a new logo and design aesthetic for the organization.
- b. Mark also alerted the Committee that the DCTC will issue a call for planning proposals in fall/winter 2021.
- c. One recommendation in *Moving Dutchess Forward* is to conduct a study of transportation infrastructure vulnerability and climate resiliency – we have begun work on a request for information (RFI) to accomplish this task. We are particularly interested in our vulnerability to flooding, given recent storms (see our [Flood Vulnerability](#) map). Dick Thurston (T/ Wappinger) shared that he sees the need to revisit how often bridges and culverts are inspected. Ray Oberly (T/ Clinton) suggested including climate change and rising water levels (including for creeks), and how that affects flooding.
- d. We are in the early stages of trying to automate pavement scoring. There will likely be an RFI. Ray Oberly asked about dirt roads. Mark suggested that the RFI could ask for best practices for rating dirt roads.
- e. A safety assessment will be scheduled in mid-October in the Town of Clinton at CR 14-Hollow Road east of Route 9G. As shown in *Moving Dutchess Forward*, this location is the [highest-crash segment](#) for County roads, based on our analysis of crash rates. Mary Aldrich (DCDPW) asked if this would result in federally funded projects. Mark said it could, but such a decision would depend on the scale of recommendations.

## 7. Project Updates

- a. For [Poughkeepsie 9.44.55](#), DCTC sent over 4,000 postcards, participated in Poughkeepsie's National Night Out event, held a second virtual public meeting, and received some great feedback on the design concepts for the 44/55 arterials. The 9.44.55 interchange was also covered by the [Albany Times Union](#).
- b. Traffic Count Program: Trail counts have been completed and traffic (vehicle) counts are underway. Email notifications are being sent to municipalities in advance of the counts; please [email Tara](#) if you know of any roadwork or other events that may affect the counts so she can adjust the schedule as needed.

## 8. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. (virtual)

**9/22/2021 Meeting Participants:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Address or Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
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