

Planning Committee Meeting (Virtual)

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

10:00 a.m.

— Meeting Summary —

1. **Introductions** – Emily Dozier (DCTC) welcomed everyone to the meeting, led introductions (see attached list), and briefly reviewed the meeting ground rules. The meeting was also recorded.
2. **Announcements**
 - a. [Funding Opportunities](#)
 - i. [5310 Program](#): Applications are due December 5th for funding to improve transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities. Around \$600,000 is available in the three-county region. Applicants should reach out to the DCTC for a letter of support.
 - ii. [Transportation Alternatives Program \(TAP\)](#): Funding is available for active transportation projects and programs. Final applications are due March 12, 2026, though mandatory pre-review applications are due on January 15, 2026.
 - For 2026, the maximum award has been raised to \$7 million.
 - Due to uncertainty about future CMAQ funding, it was not included in this round.
 - Previous applicants were encouraged to apply. The Town of Poughkeepsie is exploring another request for funding to support sidewalks on Spackenkill Road, a project based on a DCTC study.
 - b. The [Draft FFY 2026-2029 State Transportation Improvement Program \(STIP\)](#) is available for comment through December 10, 2025.
 - c. DCTC Voting Membership:
 - i. Non-urban appointments (Clinton & Red Hook) end December 31, 2025.
 - ii. Village of Fishkill starts on January 1, 2026.
 - iii. New Beekman & LaGrange Supervisors also start on January 1, 2026.
 - d. Federal Reauthorization Update: [IIJA \(aka BIL\)](#) expires on September 30th, 2026 and Congress is looking at reauthorization. There is interest in consolidating some discretionary programs and shifting more funding towards formula programs. The reauthorization will likely be more of a ‘traditional highway bill’ that focuses on roads and bridges, with greater flexibility and authority for states. Funding focused on climate justice and non-motorized transportation is unclear (TAP, CMAQ, CRP, etc.). DCTC will continue to update the Committee as the reauthorization process continues.
 - i. Michael Welti (T/Poughkeepsie) asked if these changes would affect the current round of TAP funding; Mark Debald (DCTC) confirmed that we don’t expect any changes, since

the funding is already committed.

3. Partner Updates

- a. Dana Hopkins (All Abilities) was recently asked about free transportation options for people with disabilities in Dutchess County, not including Medicaid or private agencies. Yalitza Benitez (DCPT) stated that Public Transit offers reduced rates (75 cents for fixed route and \$3.50 for ADA paratransit) for people with disabilities.

4. Old Business – none

5. New Business

- a. 2026 Transportation Plan update: The Plan will serve as the strategic vision for the DCTC, looking ahead to 2050 to set long-term goals for our transportation system and priorities for federal funding.
 - i. Public Engagement and Outreach: We have officially launched the website for our 2026 update of [Moving Dutchess Forward](#), which includes a map viewer, public survey, and fact sheets. We will hold in-person pop-ups at the Beacon Farmer's Market (Sun., Dec 14th) and the Millerton Farmer's Market (Sat., Dec 20th). Our first virtual public meeting will be held on December 17th. The registration link can be found on the website and the event recording will be posted to the Resource Library page. The public survey will be open through January and be available in Spanish; printed copies are available on request.
 - We are working with County Communications to spread the word – a press release and social media post will go out shortly. We are grateful for everyone's help in raising awareness about the Plan and sharing the survey. We welcome any suggestions for future outreach events.
 - ii. Content: We have published the first piece of the Plan, Learn, which looks at various trends (population, travel behavior, economics, etc.) and their impacts on the future of transportation in the county.
 - We are developing the second section, Assess, which explores barriers to safe access, reliable access, and basic needs, and outlines our role in helping address these issues. We hope to have this content posted to the website by late winter, to be accompanied by a video and fact sheet.
- b. On-Call Consultant Task: As requested by the City of Beacon, we are working with Creighton Manning (our on-call consultant) to develop a sidewalk inventory with information on conditions and associated infrastructure (e.g., curb ramps, crosswalks, and pedestrian signals). The inventory will be in a GIS database. It is intended to assist the City with capital programming by identifying sidewalk gaps and potential improvements.
 - i. Emily clarified that this project is distinct from DCTC's pedestrian plans, as it is smaller in scope and focused primarily on data collection. Ben Swanson (C/Beacon) expressed thanks on behalf of the City.
 - ii. DCTC has some capacity to help with local requests, so other communities interested in

on-call support can always reach out to our team.

6. Planning Updates

- a. [Safety Action Plan](#): We are in the final stages of the Transportation Safety Action Plan. We are finalizing the desktop reviews, which provide safety improvement suggestions at 31 locations (one per municipality & one County road), seven concept renderings based on the recommendations from field investigations, a policy-based Behavioral Countermeasure Report that looks at speeding, aggressive driving, and other issues, a proactive Systemic Countermeasure Report to help prevent crashes before they occur, and then the final Safety Action Plan. These documents will be posted on the webpage once completed and incorporated into the safety analysis for Moving Dutchess Forward.
 - i. Karen Smythe (V/Red Hook) asked if there were any presentations planned to explain the plan to municipalities. Emily replied that we intend to present to the Mayors and Supervisors Association, the Police Chiefs Association, and Highway Superintendents, and that we'd be happy to set up other presentations as needed.
- b. [Coordinated Plan](#): This study focuses on the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities. The Existing Conditions Report will be posted soon and we are working on the Gaps and Needs Assessment. Public feedback gathered in the fall will be combined with the data analysis to outline the main unmet transportation needs, plus strategies to fill those gaps. We will then go out for a second round of outreach in the spring to share the draft plan and show how public input shaped the initial recommendations. Recommended projects and services included in the final plan are eligible for FTA Section 5310 funding.
 - i. Lisa Kaul (DC Legislature) asked if bus service/frequency to major anchor institutions like hospitals would be included within the Gaps and Needs Assessment (she also noted that bus service to the Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital is relatively infrequent). Yalitza (DCPT) clarified that direct access to Mid-Hudson Regional via Route C is not as frequent, but there is hourly service near the hospital via Route J. Emily added that this kind of analysis will be included in Moving Dutchess Forward as part of understanding access to basic needs. The [Plan's map viewer](#) (Barriers to Basic Needs map) shows the location of health care destinations which will be overlayed with the bus service frequency layer. The map shows 2021 data currently but will be updated next year.
- c. [Traffic Count Program](#): The 2025 traffic count program is complete. Volunteer pedestrian and bicycle counts have been added to the [Traffic Data Viewer](#) and we are currently reviewing the vehicle traffic counts done by our consultant, which will be added to the viewer when ready. Please check out the Traffic Data Viewer and reach out to us if you have any requests for next year.

7. Next Meeting:

- a. Planning Committee (Virtual) – Wed., January 28, 2026 at 10 am (No December meeting)

11/25/2025 Meeting Participants:

Name	Organization	Email	Phone
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