

Dutchess County Transportation Council
Planning Committee Meeting Summary

Wednesday, December 4, 2019
10:00 a.m. – Noon

[East Fishkill Town Hall](#)
(Town Board Room)
330 Route 376
Hopewell Jct., NY 12533

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 East Fishkill for hosting the meeting.

Mark noted that the two-year terms for our two rural/non-urban members (currently the Towns of Clinton and Milan) will expire at the end of the year. The Dutchess County Mayors and Supervisors Association will need to nominate two members. Also, effective January 1, 2020, the Town of Union Vale and the Village of Wappingers Falls will replace the Town of Pleasant Valley and the Village of Pawling, respectively, for a one-year term. Dick Thurston (T/Wappinger) and Nick D’Alessandro (T/East Fishkill) stated that they would follow up with the Mayors and Supervisors Association about rural members.

Mark further noted that the results of the recent local elections will impact our voting membership, with changes occurring in the Town of Fishkill and City of Beacon.

Mark noted that the President signed into law the continuing resolution (CR) that will provide funding for federal agencies through December 20, 2019. The bill also repeals the \$7.6 billion cut in highway contract authority that had been scheduled for July 1, 2020. Mark reminded the Committee that this rescission would have not only impacted construction funding, but also our unobligated planning funds.

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

4. Old Business

- a. Mark reported that the following two resolutions were approved by mail ballot on November 27, 2019, with 13 votes in favor and none against:

- i. Resolution #19-09 (2020 NYSDOT Safety Targets), which supports NYSDOT’s 2020 statewide highway and non-motorized performance measures for their Highway Safety Improvement Program, and the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee for their Highway Safety Strategic Plan. Mark noted that the establishment or endorsement of safety measures is a federal requirement for MPOs.
 - ii. Resolution #19-10 (Poughkeepsie Ozone Non-attainment Area Conformity Statement), which approves the conformity statement done for the area as a result of OCTC’s adoption of a new long-range plan.
- b. [FFY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#)
- i. Local project status update from Town of East Fishkill for PIN 8761.95 – Carol Dr bridge replacement: Mark noted that [a TIP strip](#) was distributed with the meeting notice and stated that this discussion was part of our on-going efforts to work with local sponsors and help them with delivery of local federal-aid projects. At previous meetings, we’ve had the City of Poughkeepsie review their projects and have received an update from the City of Beacon. Today’s discussion continues this process with the Town of East Fishkill, which has one local federal aid project on the TIP. This is an STBG-Off System bridge-funded project.

Town of East Fishkill engineer Scott Bryant reviewed the project. He stated that because of a necessary change in the type of support structure for the new bridge (26 ft wide piles), they cannot stay within the existing right-of-way as previously thought. They have met with the three adjoining property owners; two are supportive, and the third is unsure. The appraisals and that property owner’s ultimate position could impact the schedule and budget of the project. The ROW acquisition involves narrow strips along the road and includes temporary acquisition for bridge rerouting during construction as well. The ROW acquisition and revised design increase the budget estimate to \$2.7 million (from \$1.35 million). Mr. Bryant stated that they were still anticipating construction in 2021, but ROW could delay that. The Town expects to submit a revised design report to NYSDOT by the end of December, work on right-of-way in the first half of 2020, and submit Plans, Specs & Estimates by June 2020. DCTC asked if shoulders are included in the design. Mr. Bryant will send plans and budget details to DCTC.

Mark noted that there may be an opportunity to shift Off-System bridge funds from the City of Poughkeepsie’s Garden St bridge project, or to make a request from Region 8 for statewide funds.

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

- a. Mark stated that the 14 MPOs across the state received federal planning targets in November. A copy was included in the meeting packet and distributed at the meeting. Mark noted that NYSDOT uses a population-based formula to sub-allocate the annual planning funds, which stem from two programs: the FHWA's Planning Program (PL) and FTA's Metropolitan Planning Program (MPP). For SFY 2020-2021, which starts April 1, 2020, the DCTC is estimated to receive \$549,328 in FHWA PL funds and \$130,166 in FTA MPP funds. This represents a total of \$679,495, which is about a one percent increase (+\$8,509) from the previous SFY. Combined, our allocation represents about two percent of the State's total allocation, with most funds (almost 65%) going to NYMTC – the NYC metro area's MPO.

Mark also 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.

- b. Mark reviewed [the draft task listings](#) for the 2020-2021 UPWP, which were included in the meeting packet and distributed at the meeting. He explained that the 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.
- c. 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 after our January 22, 2020 Planning Committee meeting. Our goal is to have a draft UPWP ready for the January meeting.
- d. The group discussed several potential projects. Mr. Thurston noted that Wappinger has approached NYSDOT about a roundabout at Route 9D and CR 92/34 (Chelsea Rd), and is also interested in expanding sidewalk coverage along Route 9, Route 9D, and CR 28 (New Hamburg/Old Hopewell Rd) in the Town. He expressed disappointment that NYSDOT's Route 9 bridge rehabilitation project over Wappinger Lake will not include a sidewalk, though it has been designed to incorporate a sidewalk on the west side in the future.

Mr. D'Alessandro discussed the Town's continued desire for transportation improvements in the Hopewell Hamlet, and the group discussed possible funding avenues for the project, including CMAQ and STBG-Large Urban. Mr. Thurston asked about detour plans for the County's CR 28 (Old Hopewell Rd) project; Mark said he would contact DPW's project manager.

6. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update

- a. Mark reviewed the strategic goals and ongoing planning process for the MTP, asking the group for any feedback on staff's work thus far.
- b. Mark also discussed the [Public Engagement Services RFP](#) that the DCTC re-issued for the MTP. The original RFP, which seeks consultant support for public outreach (both in person and online) and graphic/web design services, closed on November 1, 2019, but we only received one proposal. We therefore reissued the bid with a new closing date of December 20, 2019. It's our hope that we'll receive a good response with the re-bid.

7. Project Updates

- a. [Traffic Count Data Viewer](#) – Over the past six months we've been working with OCIS on a new and improved version of our traffic data application – the former iteration was a relatively simple database app with no visuals. It's worked for many years, but lacks a mapping interface, which is the current state of practice. Accordingly, OCIS has developed a new Traffic Data Viewer (<https://gis.dutchessny.gov/trafficdata/>) that shows vehicle volumes via a mapping portal. Visitors can search counts by municipality, year, road name, or road class. Besides volumes, the Viewer provides data on speeds and heavy vehicles, and a range of tools to analyze, chart, and export data. It also allows visitors to fully customize how data is displayed on the map and to export maps as needed. Dylan Tuttle (DCTC) provided an orientation of the new tool.

Bob LaColla (T/Fishkill) recommended including a way to provide feedback on the tool or contact the DCTC with traffic data questions. (This was added to the application on 12/11/2019.)

- b. [Poughkeepsie 9.44.55](#): The consultant team is diligently working on the draft existing conditions report, which will include an analysis of the data collected to date for the study. We held an Advisory Committee meeting on November 15th and a series of stakeholder interviews on November 20-21. The interviews were well attended by the various interest groups. We have also unveiled a virtual mapping tool on the project website: <https://www.poughkeepsie94455.com/> (click the top banner to begin using). We're excited to use this kind of application for a project, and encourage members to mention it to your constituents as you see fit (e.g. newsletters, social media posts, web posts, etc.), since many of us travel these facilities. The tool has also been publicized through the Poughkeepsie Journal and multiple local agencies' social media outlets and listservs. Emily Dozier (DCTC) provided an orientation of the online tool.
- c. [Arlington Main Street Redesign Initiative](#): The [online survey](#) will be active until December 9, 2019 and we have received about 160 responses to date. Our consultant, MJ Engineering, is continuing to work on the existing conditions report.

8. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. Planning Committee: Wed., January 22, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (Location TBD)
- b. Voting meeting: Wed., March 4, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. (Location TBD-possibly Locust Grove)

Attendance:

Name	Organization	Address or Email	Phone
Mark Debald	DCTC	mdebald@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
Emily Dozier	DCTC	edozier@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
Dylan Tuttle	DCTC	dtuttle@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
Robert Mortell	NYMTC	robert.mortell@dot.ny.gov	845-431-5710
Dan Coots	NYS DOT	dan.coots@dot.ny.gov	845-431-7930
Ally Fairley	NYS DOT	alexandra.fairley@dot.ny.gov	845-431-2730
Richard Thurston	T/Wappinger	rthurston@townofwappingerny.gov	845-453-3235
Herb Litts	GPI	hlitts@gpinet.com	845-741-1997
Nicholas D'Alessandro	T/East Fishkill	dalessandron@eastfishkillny.org	845-221-4303
Scott Bryant	T/East Fishkill	bryants@eastfishkillny.org	845-221-2428
Robert LaColla	T/Fishkill	blacolla@fishkill-ny.gov	845-831-7800