

Planning Committee Meeting (Virtual)

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

10:00 a.m.

— Meeting Summary —

1. **Introductions** – Mark Debald (DCTC) welcomed everyone to the meeting, led introductions (see attached list), and briefly reviewed the meeting ground rules. The meeting was recorded, as agreed upon at previous meetings.
2. **Announcements**
 - a. [Funding Notices](#)
 - i. NYSDOT Funding Notices
 - [Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan \(RwDSAP\)](#): NYSDOT's call for safety projects, focused on reducing roadway departures, is still open. \$90 million is available statewide with a target of \$2 million for Dutchess County. Applications are due June 13th. Please contact us with any questions about the call or visit the [NYSDOT website](#) for more information.
 - ii. Federal Funding Notices
 - [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\)](#)
 - a. This national call offers funding for planning, implementation, and supplemental planning/demonstration projects. The DCTC is currently developing a SS4A compliant Safety Action Plan; once complete, municipalities can use its data analysis and recommendations to apply for SS4A implementation funding. Information about our Safety Action Plan is on the [DCTC website](#).
 - b. Karen Smythe (Village of Red Hook) asked for clarification on the opportunity for implementation funding. Mark confirmed that priority locations identified in the Safety Action Plan would be eligible for implementation funding, as well other locations that would benefit from systemic improvements.
 - [Low or No Emission Program \(Buses and Bus Facilities\)](#): This is a national funding opportunity for zero emission bus purchases and related bus facility improvements via the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Dutchess County Public Transit applied last year and plans to apply again this year. Further information can be found on the [FTA website](#).
 - b. Federal Policy Updates
 - i. No updates. We will inform the committee if/when federal policy changes impact our work at the MPO level.

3. Partner Updates

- a. Chris White (City of Beacon) asked MTA representatives on the call for an update on the Beacon Newburgh Ferry service, which has been suspended for a few months. Tiana Grimes (MTA) replied that they are waiting on grant funding and will circle back with further information.

4. Old Business

- a. [Draft FFY 2026-2030 TIP](#)
 - i. We are in the process of updating our Transportation Improvement Program (TIP or Capital Program), which identifies federally funded projects in Dutchess County for the next five Federal Fiscal Years, starting October 1, 2025.
 - ii. New TIP projects include the Main St/Grand Ave intersection redesign (County DPW), Beekman St Complete Streets/pedestrian and bicycle improvements (City of Beacon), Route 82/376 intersection improvements (Town of East Fishkill), and Parsonage St Bridge Replacement (Town of Rhinebeck).
 - iii. As part of the FFY 2026-2030 TIP process, we received concurrence on the 'exempt' status of new projects from the Interagency Consultation Group (ICG) – meaning the proposed projects will not worsen regional air quality.
 - iv. The [draft TIP narrative](#) is available for review (also available in the posting for today's meeting on the County Calendar). A 15-day public comment period will run from June 9 to June 23; we will also hold a virtual public meeting during that time.
 - v. We will seek adoption of the TIP and FFY 2023-2027 TIP Amendment #23-05 (see below) at the upcoming in-person Policy Board meeting on June 25th at 1:30 p.m. at the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library. If a voting member cannot attend, please let us know who they have designated to attend on their behalf.
 - vi. Karen Smythe (Village of Red Hook) asked if the policy board meeting will be open to non-voting members. Mark confirmed that the meeting is open to the public.
- b. [FFY 2023-2027 TIP Amendment #23-05](#)
 - i. This amendment covers a new NYSDOT Route 9 repaving project (NHPP funds), the purchase of 15 heavy duty buses (DCPT – FTA 5307 funds), and the purchase of scheduling software and automated vehicle location (AVL) equipment (DCPT – FTA 5339 funds).

5. New Business

- a. Federal transit funding: We recently received our funding allocations from the FTA for FFY 2025. Given regional population changes, it appears that funding amounts to the Poughkeepsie-Newburgh Urban Area have decreased from FFY 2024. The amount of 5310 funding (used to enhance mobility for people with disabilities and older adults) remains the same. However, 5307 (Urbanized Area Formula) funding decreased by 25% and 5339 (Buses and Bus Facilities) funding decreased by 30%. Suballocations to transit operators will be finalized this summer.

- b. Transportation Plan update: The Long-Range Plan is a core MPO product that is updated every five years. It looks ahead 25 years to set long-term goals for DCTC and the county's transportation system. The 2021 Plan, [Moving Dutchess Forward](#) (MDF), is a completely online product. The 2026 update will review current trends to anticipate how we can position ourselves to meet future challenges. The DCTC has selected a consulting firm to conduct public engagement services for the Plan update. The planning process will last approximately a year, with the goal to complete the update by summer of 2026. Mark encouraged meeting attendees to review the [Moving Dutchess Forward](#) website ahead of the Policy Board meeting.

6. Planning Updates

- a. [Coordinated Plan](#)
 - i. The Coordinated Plan focuses on closing transportation gaps for older adults and people with disabilities. The first Advisory Committee meeting was held on May 21st. Next steps include community outreach and working on the existing conditions report. Any questions or ideas for good outreach events this summer can be directed to Nina, the project manager.
 - ii. Karen Smythe (Village of Red Hook) asked whether youth are included as a mobility challenged population. Nina clarified that while the plan is focused on other populations that are eligible for specific federal funding (FTA 5310), the goal is to build a plan that can then support strategies for other community needs.
- b. [Safety Action Plan](#): We are in the final stages of the data analysis piece of the study and have a draft list of priority locations for safety improvements. The list of local priority locations has been vetted by the municipalities, and we're meeting with NYSDOT to align priority locations. A countermeasure toolkit is also in development. Afterwards, we will host a virtual public meeting to discuss the findings.
- c. [Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail Feasibility Study](#): The feasibility study is nearly complete. We are reviewing a first draft of the final recommendations report. After the report is finalized, we'll meet with the Advisory Committee to get feedback. Previous reports and key materials can be found on the [study website](#).
- d. [Traffic Counts](#)
 - i. DCTC is piloting camera counts with new cameras capable of capturing speed and vehicle type/class data. We are coordinating closely with the Department of Public Works, and moving forward, the contractor will need a permit to place a camera on a County road. Nina will reach out to municipalities later this summer about pedestrian and bicycle counts.
 - ii. Karen Smythe (Village of Red Hook) asked about the goal and time frame of the camera counts. Nina clarified that the cameras count the number of cars passing and their speed, but not as a means for speeding enforcement. The cameras will be taken down after the pilot.

7. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. Policy Board (In-Person) – June 25, 2025 at 1:30 pm, Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library
- b. Planning Committee (Virtual) – July 30, 2025 at 10 am

5/28/2025 Meeting Participants:

Name	Organization	Address or Email	Phone
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