

Planning Committee Meeting (Virtual)

Wednesday, October 29, 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 November 3rd for funding to improve transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities. About \$600,000 is available in the three-county region. Applicants should reach out to DCTC for a letter of support. Note: the application deadline was subsequently extended to December 5th.
 - b. The Draft FFY 2026-2029 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) will soon be available for public comment.
 - c. The DCTC is processing an administrative modification to PIN 8393.27 (a project to resurface Route 376 from Route 82 to Boardman Rd), moving the design phase of the project to 2026. Mark Debald (DCTC) noted that the DCTC approved this project in the new 2026-2030 TIP.
3. **Partner Updates**
 - a. Karen Smythe (V/Red Hook) noted that the Village of Red Hook is applying for a [Greenway Grant](#) to fund a master plan to improve the pedestrian experience in the village's central business district. Emily added that DCTC is happy to provide a letter of support.
 - b. Herb Litts (GPI) shared that the start date for [Bridge NY](#) applications, which offers bridge and culvert funding, may be postponed due to the federal shutdown. Mark noted that we haven't been officially notified of this, but will share information once received.
4. **Old Business**
 - a. Mid-Hudson Valley TMA Federal Certification Review: DCTC, OCTC, and UCTC form the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area (TMA), a designation assigned to urban areas with a population of more than 200,000 people. TMAs undergo a formal federal certification review every four years. The certification ensures that we are following federal guidance and addressing key planning factors.
 - i. FHWA & FTA want public feedback on how DCTC is carrying out the metropolitan planning process. A [public survey](#) is available until Oct. 31st on the DCTC website (also

available as a [pdf](#)).

- ii. Gautam Mani (FHWA) provided a brief preview of some of the recommendations from the review, including coordinating housing studies and incorporating the environmental review process into large planning studies. He commended the DCTC for the implementation of our project selection framework, the attention paid to the role of tourism in the region, recent trail planning efforts, and the success of our Transportation Resilience Improvement Plan, [Resilient Ways Forward](#).

5. New Business

- a. Transportation Plan update: We are nearing the public launch of the updated website for the 2026 version of our long-range transportation plan, [Moving Dutchess Forward](#). The Plan will serve as our new strategic vision for the DCTC, looking ahead to 2050 to set long-term goals for our transportation system and priorities for federal funding. The launch will include an online survey (available in Spanish and in a printed version), videos, and fact sheets.
 - i. Public Engagement: Highland Planning, our outreach consultant, is assisting with public engagement for the new Plan. Recent highlights include:
 - Draft Public Engagement Plan in-progress
 - Highland Planning hired several Ambassadors – residents with a range of skills and experience – to help strengthen the public engagement process.
 - In-person outreach will start after the website launch. We plan to attend various events around the county, including the Beacon Farmer’s Market in December. We also hope to partner with the County Health Department and table at events with their Mobile Health Unit.
 - ii. The first piece of the plan, Learn, will be published as part of the launch. This section describes trends related to various topics. We will then develop and publish the second section, Assess, in early Spring 2026 - which like the Learn section – will be accompanied by a video and fact sheet. This will be followed by the policy focused piece, Advocate, and then the final section, Invest, which details our investment strategy along with recommended transformative projects.
 - The Assess section of the Plan will analyze data to understand barriers to safe access, reliable access, and basic needs, and outline our role in helping address these issues.
 - a. Barriers to Safe Access: This section will look at crashes - type, location, and impact on pedestrians and bicyclists – and safety improvements that can help address hotspots and systemic locations. The analysis and recommendations will draw directly from our [Safety Action Plan](#) that is currently in-development.
 - i. Karen asked if this section will address locations that are not crash hotspots because people avoid them due to feeling unsafe. Emily noted that this is part of the proactive approach to address systemic safety needs.
 - b. Barriers to Reliable Access: From addressing traffic congestion to sidewalk gaps, it is important that people can rely on whatever mode they use to make their trips. We will work with County Planning to develop this analysis, which relies

heavily on GIS mapping.

- c. **Barrers to Basic Needs:** People make trips for access to essentials: housing, jobs, goods and services, education, and recreation. We will use a map-based analysis to assess access to basic needs across the county. We are working with County Planning on this section as well, given their work on housing availability and affordability.
 - All of the analyses will be available to explore on the Plan's [Map Viewer](#) application.
- b. **Congestion Management Plan (CMP):** Together with OCTC & UCTC, we are updating the [2020 analysis](#) that forms our regional Congestion Management Plan. The analysis uses a tool from the AVAIL Labs at the University of Albany and assesses congestion across different measures: excessive delay, travel time reliability, etc. Emily shared some preliminary data showing hotspots across the county. The TMA is also investigating non-recurring congestion from special events.
 - i. Karen commented that the hotspot in Red Hook matches the local experience of travel time reliability. Chris White (C/Beacon) noted that Beacon's most chronic congestion, between the train station and I-84, is reflected on the map and that despite the efforts of NYSDOT to retune the signals, they have not found a solution. The group also discussed changes since the pandemic; Emily noted that the team can review and draw comparisons between 2018 and 2023 data.
- c. [Poughkeepsie 9/44/55](#): After a fatal crash at the Smith School crosswalk, the DCTC is discussing potential improvements with NYSDOT and the City of Poughkeepsie, including recommendations from our 9.44.55 study.

6. Planning Updates

- a. [Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail Feasibility Study](#): The final report has been posted to the DCTC [Publications page](#), along with the final fact sheet. There is excitement about moving this project forward. Chris added that the City of Beacon met with the County Executive and followed up with a request to the Governor's office for funding.
- b. [Safety Action Plan](#): The Countermeasure Toolkit is now posted on the website. We are finalizing the desktop review of locations suggested for safety improvements (1 per municipality & 1 County road) along with concept renderings based on the recommendations developed from the seven field investigations. The final advisory committee meeting is scheduled for November 18th. By the end of the year, DCTC hopes to have a final report accompanied by appendices with more detailed information.
- c. [Coordinated Plan](#): This study focuses on the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities. The existing conditions report is underway, and we have finished the first round of community engagement, which included interviews with key agencies and providers and public listening sessions at the North East-Millerton Library, Red Hook Friendship Center, and Town of Poughkeepsie Senior Center. The listening sessions have

been particularly helpful in understanding the daily lives of seniors across the county and identifying transportation gaps and needs.

- d. [Traffic Count Program](#): The 2025 traffic count program is almost complete, with a couple counts to be recollected by the consultant. A team of volunteers successfully conducted manual counts at 21 locations across the county in September. All our counts will be added to the [Traffic Data Viewer](#).

7. Next Meeting:

- a. Planning Committee (Virtual) – Tuesday, November 25, 2025 at 10 am

10/29/2025 Meeting Participants:

Name	Organization	Address or Email	Phone
Mark Debold	DCTC	mdebald@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
Emily Dozier	DCTC	edozier@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
Nina Leonard	DCTC	nleonard@dutchessny.gov	845-486-3600
Chris White	C/Beacon	cwhite@beaconny.gov	845-838-5009
Shelly Johnston	Creighton Manning Engineering	sjohnston@cmellp.com	518-689-1814
Stephen Gill	DC DPW	sgill@dutchessny.gov	845-486-2928
Gautam Mani	FHWA	gautam.mani@dot.gov	
Herb Litts	GPI	hlitts@gpinet.com	845-741-1997
Luis Nobondo	Hudson River Housing	lnobondo@hudsonriverhousing.org	
Jesse Vogl	LaBella	jvogl@LaBellaPC.com	
Allyce Braddy	NYMTC	allyce.braddy@dot.ny.gov	845-431-5936
Sandra Jobson	NYS DOT	sandra.jobson@dot.ny.gov	845-475-5867
Shawn Jackson	NYS DOT	Shawn.Jackson@dot.ny.gov	
Rosemary Grabowska	Resident, C/Poughkeepsie		
Karen Smythe	V/Red Hook	mayor@redhooknyvillage.org	845-758-4715