

# Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council

Transportation Update: July - September 2009

## Council Actions

The [Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council \(PDCTC\)](#) approved four measures over the summer:

- 1) Apportionment of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009 [Federal Transit Administration \(FTA\)](#) Section 5307 Formula Funds in the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area (TMA) - The Council approved the distribution of \$17.6 million in federal transit funding to the three counties (Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster) and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). The majority of these funds will support capital equipment purchases such as new buses and support vehicles.
- 2) Distribution of FFY 2009 FTA Section 5307 Formula Funds in Dutchess County - The Council approved the sub-allocation of almost \$2.5 million in transit funding within the PDCTC planning area.
- 3) Amend the Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) [2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#) - The Council approved an amendment to four highway projects:
  - PIN 875870 (Washington Street Signals, City of Poughkeepsie): Removed from TIP.
  - PIN 876013 (Salt Shed, Town of Poughkeepsie): Removed from TIP.
  - PIN 875942 (Bedell Road, Town of Poughkeepsie): Removed from TIP.
  - PIN 876025 (Dutchess Rail Trail Stage 3): Programmed an additional \$3.4 million to cover cost increases.
- 4) Adoption of the September 2009 [Air Quality Conformity Determination Statement](#) for the Poughkeepsie Ozone Non-attainment Area - The Council approved a new conformity statement for a major update to the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council's (NYMTC) 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

## American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009

The PDCTC continues to monitor progress on transportation projects funded by the [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009](#) ("ARRA"). Over the summer, four more ARRA projects in Dutchess County were certified by the Governor: 1) Bridge replacement on CR 2 (Leedsville Rd) over the Mill Creek in the Town of Amenia (Dutchess County DPW), 2) Bridge replacement on CR 41 (Crum Elbow Rd) over the Fallkill Creek in the Town of Hyde Park (Dutchess County DPW), 3) Installation of stormwater separators on Route 9 at the Wappinger Creek in the Village of Wappingers Falls (NYSDOT), and 4) Fairview Ave pavement rehabilitation in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

On the transit side, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) awarded ARRA grants totaling almost \$6.5 million for the Dutchess County LOOP and City of Poughkeepsie bus systems, thus satisfying the deadline of obligating 50% of ARRA transit funds by September 1, 2009. These funds will support the purchase of 10 new buses (4 of which will be hybrids) for the LOOP and City of Poughkeepsie bus systems, in addition to new farebox and maintenance equipment. More information about local ARRA projects is available on the PDCTC's website: [www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm](http://www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm).



## 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Having amended the TIP to reflect changes to projects for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009, the PDCTC has now begun the process of updating projects for FFY 2010, which may prove more difficult given the financial challenges facing many public entities and the limited amount of federal funding available for projects. Beyond the fiscal situation, another issue will be the ability of local project sponsors to perform the work needed to progress programmed projects on time. These and other issues related to the TIP will be discussed at future Technical Committee meetings.

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# PDCTC

*Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council*

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### Our Organization

Established in 1982, the **Poughkeepsie - Dutchess County Transportation Council** serves as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Dutchess County. Federal regulations require that all Urbanized Areas (U.S. Census defined metropolitan areas with over 50,000 people) be represented by a MPO, which is responsible for ensuring that Federal transportation dollars are committed through a locally driven, comprehensive planning process.

### Voting Members

William R. Steinhaus	County Executive
Matt Alexander	Village of Wapp. Falls
Jeffrey Burns	Town of Clinton
Chris Colsey	Town of Wappinger
Pompey Delafield	Town of Hyde Park
Stan Gee	NYSDOT
Steve Gold	City of Beacon
John Hickman, Jr.	Town of East Fishkill
Patricia Myers	Town of Poughkeepsie
Joan Pagonis	Town of Fishkill
Frank Suszczynski	Town of Pleasant Valley
David Tetor	Town of Stanford
John Tkazyik	City of Poughkeepsie
Jon Wagner	Town of LaGrange
Jay Walder	MTA

### Upcoming Meetings

October 28 -Technical Committee

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## Federal Rescission

The [Federal Highway Administration \(FHWA\)](#) has moved ahead with plans to rescind (i.e. take back) over \$8.7 billion in un-obligated Federal-aid highway funds across the fifty states. The funds were rescinded on September 30, 2009 under the provisions of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and may impact a variety of programs including Metropolitan Planning. For New York, the total rescission could affect almost \$407 million in highway funding. This total includes proposed rescissions for Urbanized Areas with populations over 200,000; the Poughkeepsie-Newburgh Transportation Management Area expects to have almost \$750,000 rescinded. At the time of writing, the rescission had not been repealed. Specific impacts on our program will be detailed in future newsletters.

## CR 93 CMP Kicks Off

The CR 93 (Middlebush Road/Myers Corners Road) Corridor Management Plan (CMP) has begun! The [Town of Wappinger](#) asked Dutchess County Public Works (DPW) for assistance dealing with congestion on the corridor. The project was brought to the PDCTC and placed on its work program. In 2008, the PDCTC released a Request for Proposals and in 2009 a team led by [Wilbur Smith Associates](#) was selected to assist with the Plan.

The project's goal is to identify and recommend land use and transportation policies and projects that will improve vehicular and non-vehicular travel on CR 93. The team is currently analyzing the existing conditions on the corridor and will then study what the corridor may look like in the future. Based on these analyses, a variety of transportation and land use strategies will be developed to address congestion, safety, access, and other issues.

The PDCTC has convened an Advisory Committee with representatives from the Town of Wappinger, NYSDOT (Region 8), Dutchess County DPW, the [Village of Wappingers Falls](#), and the [Wappingers Central School District](#) to provide guidance throughout the project. The first Public Meeting is planned for **Wednesday, November 18, at 7 pm** at the Town of Wappinger Town Hall (20 Middlebush Road). This will be a great opportunity to discuss current issues related to the corridor and share your vision for its future. If you would like to be added to the project's mailing list or have other questions, please contact Emily Dozier at [edozier@co.dutchess.ny.us](mailto:edozier@co.dutchess.ny.us).

## Walking-Bicycling Survey

The PDCTC has created an easy-to-use online survey on walking and bicycling issues, which will help us design a new walking/bicycling map and website. We would like as much feedback as possible, so please take the survey and encourage your friends and co-workers to do so as well. It is available online at [www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm](http://www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm)

Would you like to receive this update via email rather than standard mail? If so, send an email to [pdctc@co.dutchess.ny.us](mailto:pdctc@co.dutchess.ny.us) with Newsletter Subscription in the subject line.