



Ulster County Transportation Council

Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive
Chair

June 17, 2020 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Wallkill Valley Rail Trail Community Opportunity Plan Virtual Public Information Meeting June 29, 2020 - 7:00 PM

Ulster County Transportation Council (UCTC), in partnership with the Village of New Paltz, Wallkill Valley Land Trust, Historic Huguenot Street, and the Ulster County Planning Department is developing a *Wallkill Valley Rail Trail Community Opportunity Plan* for a key section of the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail within the Village of New Paltz. This effort includes development of an existing conditions report and a community-driven ‘vision and concept plan’ with cost estimates for potential improvements. The UCTC, guided by the project’s Technical Advisory Committee and project consultants, is pleased to present the draft vision and concept plan for questions and community feedback. This meeting was preceded by a presentation of the existing conditions report last year and several on-site walks with the public.

The purpose of the detailed Opportunity Plan is to evaluate current trail conditions and develop conceptual options that improve the function, safety, usability, and aesthetics along the heavily used part of the trail within the heart of the Village of New Paltz, which has been designated part of the NYS Empire State Trail. The Opportunity Plan focuses on how to reimagine and optimize this important community asset from Plains Road north to Huguenot Street, approximately 1.5 miles, with a focus on the area from Plains Road to Mulberry Street.

The Opportunity Plan focuses on improving the overall function, safety, accessibility, and aesthetics of the trail. Recommendations include: creating a consistent trail width and trail surface, improving drainage, enhancing the safety of road crossings, providing wayfinding signage, and creating additional connections that take advantage of existing community assets. The recommendations were developed in consultation with the public that included conversations and feedback provided during public meetings and trail walks held in 2019. The public is once again encouraged to provide comment and feedback on the draft concept and vision plan before it is finalized.

Key Information

Virtual Public Meeting via Zoom Scheduled for Monday June 29th 7:00 – 8:00pm

Log In Information and Review Documents Available at the Project Website:

<https://tinyurl.com/WVRT-2020Study>

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