

## Philipstown Trails Committee

Minutes of meeting, Tuesday, May, 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM via Zoom

### Attendees:

*PTC Members:* Tracy Danicich, Rebeca Ramirez, Laura Bozzi, John Pavlik, Jennifer Wagner, MJ Martin, Jason Angell, Shamala Kandiah Thompson, Paul Thompson, Bruce Croushore, Jenny Kempson, Marianne Sullivan, Jeff Mikkelson, Pete Salmansohn, Howard Kaplowitz, Emily Cheadle.

*Visitors:* Ethan Timm, Eliza Starbuck, Jack Goldstein

### 1. Welcome and introduction of visitors and new members

### 2. Feasibility study update (Laura/Rebeca)

- Dan Biggs of Weston and Sampson provided some ideas for the committee to consider. He is informing us on what's allowed in the right of way – we know that it is dangerous to walk along the road. We are considering asking DOT to help us explore what is possible. Jason will research how the Town can help.
- We plan on meeting with OSI & with Manitou School.

### 3. Fjord Trail update & process learnings for PTC

MJ Martin made a presentation on the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail. She described the existing conditions and the project's goals, including creating safe and convenient access, protecting habitat, spreading visitation, featuring resident-relevant programming, benefiting local economies, and serving as a recreation destination for visitors. She explained that the main trail as proposed will be ADA accessible and will include restrooms and other amenities. She explained that permitting and review processes are underway.

Jack Goldstein, Chairman of the Cold Spring Planning Board, raised concerns regarding the potential negative impact on the Village of Cold Spring posed by the proposed project as well as the process behind its development.

Both Pete Salmonsohn and Ethan Timm raised concerns on the impact and safety of the planned parking scheme on 9D by Breakneck. In response, the following was shared as additional information by Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail:

Breakneck Connector will implement a five-point strategy of traffic calming improvements in the mile area north of the tunnel. This includes:

1. A new "Welcome to Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve" gateway sign on the hill as drivers descend toward Breakneck southbound, signaling the entry to a recreation use area.
2. Vegetated bump-outs to buffer the parking area against traffic and provide a safe space for pedestrians to gather as they wait to cross the road.
3. New crosswalks to control and direct street crossing behavior which is currently chaos.
4. Sidewalks to provide a safe walking route to the nearest crosswalk for those exiting their cars.

5. Formal parallel parking spaces, which will remove the opportunity for unsafe and illegal nose-in parking.

With this package of improvements installed, DOT will lower the speed limit to 40 mph, which will help safety as well.

**4. Complete Streets subcommittee update** - Postponed: will present update at June meeting.

**5. Continued discussion of our PTC Guiding Principles**— Paul has been working on. Paul, Rebeca and Marianne will help fine tune them in the next few weeks and bring a revised draft to the PTC.