

Philipstown Trails Committee
October 18, 7-8:30PM
Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY

1. Welcome & introduction of visitors and new members

Members in attendance: John, Paul, Trace, MJ, Emily, Rebeca, Laura, Pete

Bruce Croushore notified the co-chairs that he has stepped down from the PTC. PTC thanked him for his work. His name will be removed from the website.

2. Update on feasibility study

Rebeca provided an update on the feasibility study. In particular, she identified the following updates to the area under study, which are based on the study's research and feedback process:

- A connection via Gilbo Lane is not being explored
- The marsh route will only be explored in terms of what can be sited on state land, and a connection from a potential marsh route up to Boscobel is not being explored
- The potential path's termini have been updated to be approximately the intersection of Bank St and 9D in Cold Spring and the Philipstown Recreation Center.

3. Debrief on Neighbors & Adjoiners Meeting

The first neighbors and adjoiners meeting took place on October 17. Approximately 15 community members attended. Overall the feedback was positive. There was feedback collected through the Q&A session, written and verbal feedback at the map stations, and through the written survey sheet. Trace will compile the feedback into a spreadsheet.

Reflecting on the community meeting, each PTC member identified one positive thing and one thing to work on:

| Positives | Things to work on |
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| Inclusion of many PTC members as speakers | More time for Q&A |
| Everything else went well | Need to keep the presentation more concise |
| Process allowed for multiple ways to give feedback | Wanted to hear more of the community's feedback and this wasn't possible through the map stations. |
| Did a good job explaining how the proposed project is for residents, and showing it in many ways | Participants wanted to know more about the technical details (like what a sharrow is). Spend less time on the "user types." |
| Overall happy with the meeting | Wanted to see people's words written onto the large maps at the stations |

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| Great attendance of both community members and the PTC | Less time on the user groups slide |
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PTC members also reflected on feedback provided at the October 17 meeting and how we can address it. For instance, someone had asked about projecting the path's future usage. Is that possible? Could the consultant compare the proposed path to another, existing path to make a projection? Some members responded that such a projection is difficult to make. Instead, some suggested that usage be described in terms of "use cases," for instance, describing how the path could be used to go short distances from home to work, from school to the library, from the grocery store to home, etc. Members also discussed how it makes sense to describe the path in terms of usage to connect to certain nearby places, rather than in terms of the entire north/south route. For instance, at the meeting someone told the story of how students used to walk to school in Garrison, and that this is something that residents are interested in being able to do again. Members also suggested that the maps could better call out town landmarks (Food Town, Post Office, etc.), to help people orient when looking at the maps.

The group reviewed some takeaway feedback from each of the map stations:

- Station A: There was concern about whether the path on the Foundry Brook Bridge could fit into the ROW on the southern end.
- Station B: Some attendees were in favor of the marsh route option and connecting to Constitution Marsh. A participant had asked if the feasibility study will look at cost as a factor in determining the favored route.
- Station C: There was concern expressed about the bald eagle's nest.
- Station D: Participants were supportive of creating ways to walk to school. They relayed a feeling that the traffic light in front of the Garrison School isn't safe now for crossing. Someone also notes that there is a piece of land owned by the town at Castle Rock, which might be useful for the potential path.

There was also discussion about the paper survey, and whether to add a question asking for feedback about the project's potential phasing.

4. Planning of Next Community Meeting

It was agreed that no updates would be made to the slide deck or the printed maps for the next community meeting, so that attendees received the same information at all meetings.

5. Subcommittee updates

Trace gave an update about the walkability audit planned for Cold Spring Village. She will continue to work on the plan and timing. There was general interest from the group in participating in the audit activity.

6. Announcements

Pete gave an update on progress and discussions around access to the Audubon Center at Constitution Marsh.