



HHFT Visitation Data Committee Meeting

Date: June 12, 2024

Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Location: (Zoom)

MINUTES

A meeting of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, Inc. Visitation Data Committee took place on June 12, 2024 over Zoom.

Committee Members Present: Henry Feldman (VCS), Jeff Robins (Philipstown), James Labate (VCS), Mayor Chris Winward (Nelsonville), Town Supervisor Ozzy Albra (Fishkill), Town Planning Board Chair Jon Kanter (Fishkill), Sarah Mencher (Beacon), Zack Smith (Beacon)

Committee Members Not Present: Phil Cotennec (Philipstown), Greg Totino (Fishkill), Amber Grant (Beacon)

VDC Consultant Present: Georges Jacquemart (BFJ Planning)

HHFT Staff Present: Amy Kacala, MJ Martin

Guests Present: Chelsea Anderson, About the Work (AtW)

Meeting called to order by Chelsea Anderson at 6:35pm.

Agenda

- AtW reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

Charge of the Committee

- AtW provided a refresher on the VDC's charge. Committee member introductions were made.

Reviewed VDC meeting schedule (June 2024- August 2024)

- The DGEIS public comment period moved to early fall, this schedule ensures the VDC will conclude its work before the environmental review public comment period



- Documentation to be reviewed will fall under three topics - pedestrian study, visitation projection and traffic study. BFJ Planning will draft a majority consensus memo outlining each data topic to share with municipal boards and the public.

Data Topic 1: Pedestrian Study

- About the Work and BFJ Planning presented the draft majority consensus memo summarizing findings and recommendations from the committee on the pedestrian counts related to existing conditions. Memo was distributed to committee members in advance of the meeting.
- VDC discussed content and format of memo
- Recommendations from VDC for refinement:
 - Add video captures/photos with captions documenting the crowded conditions on peak weekends in Cold Spring and along Route 9D
 - Add a user-friendly, easy to digest summary of information to the beginning of the memo, suitable for all potential readers
 - Add footnotes with links to relevant studies/documentation

Action Item

- BFJ Planning will revise the memo to include the agreed upon items recommended by the VDC. The document will be distributed for final VDC review before the next meeting on June 25, 2024.

Other Items Discussed

- Questions on the Alternative Route Analysis and the new Alternative Route 6 along the west side of MNR tracks in the VCS; Alternate is being explored
- Questions on additional/on-going data collection. Data collection for the DGEIS has concluded
- Questions on MNR stance on Shoreline Trail. MNR is actively reviewing the design documentation for Shoreline Trail and HHFT is regularly in communication with representatives

The meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Chelsea Anderson, About the Work