# Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail – Master Plan/Generic Environmental Impact Statement FEAF PART 1 ATTACHMENT

## **Section A. Project and Sponsor Information**

**Property Owners and Contacts:** 

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New York City Department of Environmental Protection Charles Laing Recreation and Property Manager NYCDEP Natural Resources Division 71 Smith Avenue Kingston, NY 12401 845-340-7218 claing@dep.nyc.gov

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Lease land from Midtown Trackage Ventures LLC:
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City of Beacon

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### **Section B. Government Approvals**

#### B. Government Approvals, Funding, or Sponsorship ("Funding includes grants, loans, tax relief, and any other forms of financial assistance.) **Government Entity** If Yes: Identify Agency **Approval Required Application Date** (Actual or Projected) City Council, Town Board, **Resolution of Support** TBD City of Beacon or Village Board of endorsing the Master Trustees Plan **Resolution of Support** Village of Cold Spring TBD endorsing the Master Plan Town of Fishkill Resolution of Support TBD endorsing the Master Town of Philipstown Resolution of Support TBD endorsing the Master Plan City, Town or Village City of Beacon Site Plan approval TBD Planning Board or Commission Village of Cold Spring Site Plan approval TBD Town of Fishkill TBD Site Plan approval Town of Philipstown Site Plan approval TBD N/A City Council, Town or Village Zoning Board of Appeals Other local agencies Metro North Railroad Board Approval, entry TBD permit County agencies Regional agencies New York City Department of Potential Easement or TBD **Environmental Protection** Agreement State agencies **NYS OPRHP** Cooperative agreement TBD TBD State Historic Preservation Section 14.09 Review Office - OPRHP

	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation	Potential tidal and freshland wetland permits; Article 15, Stream bank or Bed Disturbance; SPDES with a SWPP and Erosion and Sedimentation Control Certification	TBD
	NYS Department of State	LWRP Consistency Review; Coastal Zone Management Approval and Federal Consistency Determination	TBD
	NYS Department of Transportation	Highway Work Permits	TBD
Federal agencies	Army Corps of Engineers	Likely Wetland Permits	TBD

Section B.i.iii. LWRP City of Beacon.

### Section C. Planning and Zoning

### C.2.a. Adopted Land Use Plans

Village of Cold Spring Comprehensive Plan, January 10, 2012

http://coldspringny.gov/pages/ColdSpringNY\_BComm/village\_board\_drafts/12-07-

2011 adopted comprehensive plan.pdf

Page 25:

## 1.7 Objective: Improve walkability in the Village.

- 1.7.1 Recommendation: Complete a map of missing and substandard sidewalks so that a system of continuously linked walkways can be created throughout the Village.
- 1.7.11 Recommendation: Install appropriately designed signs, kiosks or maps showing how sidewalks link to trails, such as Bull Hill, Breakneck Ridge, and the proposed Greenway.

### 1.13 Objective: Make the Village safer and more accessible to bicyclists.

- 1.13.1 Recommendation: Install "Shared Road" signs on Fair, Main, and Chestnut Streets and Morris Avenue
- 1.13.3 Recommendation: Support the creation of a map of recommended bike routes and of bike racks in the Village and town.

## 2.3 Objective: Develop a RiverWalk to improve access to the river for pedestrians and bicyclists.

- 2.3.1 Recommendation: Support the development of signage and a map for multiple paths through the Village from the West Point Foundry Preserve (WPFP) to Mayor's Park and the proposed Greenway Trail at the north end of the Village.
- 2.3.3 Recommendation: Conduct a feasibility study to create a segment of the RiverWalk Loop from Dockside with a causeway just west of and parallel to the railroad tracks to cross the tracks at Little Stony Point, or crossing at an alternate location, such as the Wood Dock area and connecting with other paths, contingent on funding from grants or other non-Village sources:
- Going south, returning to Main Street in the Village;
- Going north, connecting with the proposed Greenway Trail and leading to Breakneck trailheads.

#### City of Beacon Comprehensive Plan December 2007

http://www.cityofbeacon.org/pdf/Beacon Comprehensive Master Plan.pdf

#### Page 93: Goal

Community services for all age groups should be provided consistent with the economic growth of the City and its available resources. Regional facilities should be encouraged to locate in the City. Develop a recreational open space system of sufficient size and locational qualities to meet the complete range of recreational needs for the people.

## **Objectives and recommendations**

E. Greenways. Continue to develop Greenways along the Hudson River and Fishkill Creek for public recreation, and provide linkages to trails towards the Hudson Highlands and the slopes of Mount Beacon. Improve boat access to Fishkill Creek and the Hudson River. Determine the future use of the railroad tracks along Fishkill Creek for vehicles capable of utilizing the tracks or for a bicycle and pedestrian path, and implement the decision.

## Page 129: Goal

Develop an integrated and efficient transportation system consistent with City land use patterns and objectives and the regional transportation plan to assure the effective and economic movement of people and goods within and through Beacon, including public transportation, pedestrian and bicycle systems.

#### **Objectives and recommendations**

D. Bikeways. Develop a bikeway system connecting greenways, community facilities, recreation areas, schools and Main Street.

Town of Fishkill Comprehensive Plan September 2009 – refers to partnering with City of Beacon to connect to trails...

http://www.fishkill-ny.gov/uploads/3/8/0/7/38072219/tof\_comprehensive\_plan - adopted\_9-23-09.pdf

## Page 17: Goal: C. CONNECT PEOPLE AND PLACES. . .

- 2. Objective: Connect neighborhoods with paths, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes to encourage walking and bicycling and reduce traffic congestion.
  - g. Encourage the provision of on-street bike lanes and marked bike routes on collector roads and State and County highways consistent with any applicable NYS DOT standards for bike lanes and curbs.
- 3. Objective: Create a greenway trail along the Fishkill Creek to connect parks, neighborhoods and other important sites in the Town, and enhance opportunities for recreation and alternative ways of getting around.
  - d. Work with the City of Beacon to extend the Fishkill Creek Trail to the Hudson River.
  - f. Connect the Fishkill Creek Trail with the Greenway Trail along the Hudson River and the County Rail Trail in East Fishkill.
- 4. Objective: Connect the community with a town-wide network of hiking trails and bicycle paths that link residential neighborhoods, parks, shopping areas, and regional trails.
  - a. Create and adopt a hiking, biking and walking trails map as an official Town map and display it in Town Hall for use by the public and the Planning Board during the review of subdivision and site plan applications. Begin by mapping existing trail easements as the basis for creating a network of connected trails throughout the Town. Identify where trails should ideally be located, and ensure that new trails connect with existing trails on Stony Kill Farm, Mount Gulian, Scenic Hudson Land Trust lands, and other properties, and with regional trails including the Greenway and Blueway Trails and the County Rail Trail.
- 6. Objective: Apply traffic calming measures to reduce speeding and create a safe environment for pedestrians and bicyclists where necessary and appropriate.

## Page 24. Goal. G. CREATE GREAT PLACES FOR PEOPLE. . .

- 2. Objective: Design parks as lively community gathering places with a variety of activities for people of all ages and strong connections to the surrounding neighborhoods.
  - c. Wherever possible, provide opportunities for visual and physical public access to the Hudson River.
  - d. Continue to develop a network of trails and greenways throughout the Town, wherever possible.

Town of Philipstown – Comprehensive Plan March 2006 http://philipstown.com/town-code/comprehensive-plan

Chapter 2, Page 1: Goal 1. Conserve Philipstown's rural, historic and river-community character

d) Facilitate visual and physical access to the Hudson River

Goal 4) Expand recreational opportunities to offer a wider variety and greater capacity to meet current and future demand

- c) Explore opportunities to combine recreation with municipal, private, and non-profit development projects
- f) Work with Putnam County Division of Planning & Development and NY Department of

Transportation (DOT) to plan for appropriate road improvements along Route 9D to develop additional biking opportunities in the town

- g) Develop trail networks, including identifying bike trail opportunities to connect different areas of town, developing linkages for the north-south Greenway Trail and the east-west Northern Putnam Trail, and maintaining the existing horse trail network and consider additional horse trails where appropriate.
- h) Improve riverfront access using the Putnam Riverfront Alliance inventory of access points (appendix H). Riverfront plans should be developed closely with the Village of Cold Spring, Philipstown, Putnam County and all other stakeholders.

Goal 8) Improve safety and aesthetics of roads

e) Proactively engage the county and state in road issues

Putnam County – found a Planning Study that includes Route 9D through Village of Cold Spring but not directly related to the HHFT project. <a href="http://www.putnamcountyny.com/planningdept/planning-study/">http://www.putnamcountyny.com/planningdept/planning-study/</a>

Dutchess County - none found

C.2.b. Local or Regional Special Planning Districts

Remediation Sites – See map (from pages 14 and 15 of the Draft HHFT Master Plan)

Additional responses:

Scenic Area of Statewide Significance <a href="http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/consistency/scenicass.html">http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/consistency/scenicass.html</a>

Hudson River National Heritage Area http://www.nps.gov/hurv/index.htm

Bird Conservation Area (master plan)

Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats

http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/consistency/scfwhabitats.html#hudson

Hudson River Estuary Habitat Restoration Plan

http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation\_hudson\_pdf/hrhrp.pdf

Draft Hudson River Estuary Action Agenda 2015-2020 <a href="http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5104.html">http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5104.html</a>

#### C.3.Zoning

C.3.a. ...located in a municipality with an adopted zoning law or ordinance

**Town of Philipstown** - <a href="http://philipstown.com/government/building-department/zoning-maps">http://philipstown.com/government/building-department/zoning-maps</a> Rural Conservation Zoning District, Scenic Protection Overlay District.

Town of Fishkill - in Comprehensive Plan. http://www.fishkill-

ny.gov/uploads/3/8/0/7/38072219/tof comprehensive plan - adopted 9-23-09.pdf
Zoning Map 2012 <a href="http://www.co.dutchess.ny.us/CountyGov/Departments/Planning/fishkill.pdf">http://www.co.dutchess.ny.us/CountyGov/Departments/Planning/fishkill.pdf</a>
Planned Industry (PI), Hudson River Waterfront Recreation District, Multi-Family Residential District (RMF5), Residential 2 acres (R-2A) and Residential 4 acres (R-4A) Districts; proposed recreation zoning district (2009).

City of Beacon – <a href="http://www.cityofbeacon.org/Pdf/ZoningMap.pdf">http://www.cityofbeacon.org/Pdf/ZoningMap.pdf</a>

Waterfront Park, Waterfront Development, Light Industrial, Fishkill Creek Development, and One Family Residential (R1-80) Districts.

Village of Cold Spring – <a href="http://coldspringny.gov/Pages/ColdSpringNY">http://coldspringny.gov/Pages/ColdSpringNY</a> ZBA/zoning district map.pdf Office-Light Industry Zoning District (I-1) (sidewalk along the road).

## C.4.b. Police or other public protection forces

NYS State Park Police, Putnam County Sheriff, NYS Police - Troop K; Village of Cold Spring, Town of Fishkill and City of Beacon Police; NYC DEP Police, Metro North Police and DEC ENCON/Forest Rangers; Dutchess County Sheriff; the Military Academy has sent Rangers for night time rescues on the ridge

## C.4.c. Fire protection and emergency medical services

Local fire departments: North Highlands, Cold Spring, Dutchess Junction and Beacon; Beacon Volunteer Ambulance; Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance.

## Section D. Project Details and Section E. Site and Setting of Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is the adoption of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Master Plan/Generic Environmental Impact Statement. The Preliminary Draft Master Plan contains multiple proposed alternative trail alignments for multiple segments of the trail including an initial preferred alternative. The FEAF Part 1 is being filled out based on general information about the trail corridor and not any one specific alignment or trail segment. Although with the action of adopting a Plan, Sections D and E are not required to be filled in, some answers were provided through the use of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's Environmental Resource Mapper and some were manually answered based on the project information to date.

The detailed information about the proposed and potential development, though, is limited as a final preferred alternative and in depth analysis of each segment of the trail has not been completed. The questions are answered to the extent known to assist in the analysis of the alternatives. Some sections of trail may have environmental review completed as part of the GEIS while others may require detailed Environmental Assessment Forms to be filled out in the future as the Final Master Plan is implemented.

#### Section F. Additional Information

## Attached maps:

- 1. Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Project Location Map
- 2. Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Preliminary Draft Master Plan Preliminary Preferred Alignment Map