

**Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council
Council Meeting
April 25, 2013
Locust Grove Estate
2683 South Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601**

PUBLIC SESSION

Lt Governor Duffy and Co-Chairs Murray and Schleifer opened the public meeting

Sustainability Plan Update

Lindsay Robbins from NYSERDA presented an overview of the Sustainability Planning process. She reminded the Council that the Cleaner Greener Communities program provided the regions with the resources they need to undertake the sustainability planning process. Phase 1 of the program is wrapping up—distributing \$10 million around the state to develop regional plans. Phase 2 includes up to \$90 million for projects that implement the plan.

David Church and Thomas Madden provided an update on the Mid-Hudson Region's Sustainability Plan. Chris St. Lawrence moved, and Ned Sullivan seconded a motion to consider the plan. A discussion followed which included the following points:

- Len Schleifer conveyed the Council's appreciation that the planners aligned the plan with the REDC plan.
- Ned Sullivan noted that it is a well-developed plan, well aligned with the REDC strategic plan.
- Chris St Lawrence discussed his concerns with the plan; and he addressed the topic of flow control and why that issue is important in Rockland County.
- Al Samuels noted that the plan should mention the benefits of the Tappan Zee Bridge. He also asked if the plan addresses the issue of relicensing of Indian Point. Lindsay Robbins stated that the issue that is outside the realm of the plan and it did not address it.
- Marcus Molinaro stated that Dutchess County sees this plan, even with its imperfections, as a basic set of principles to guide our actions moving forward.
- James Taylor commented that he believe the plan is an outstanding start with its target, goal, and vision.
- Len noted that sustainability is an important factor in economic development and attracting a strong workforce, and that a strong plan demonstrates the region's commitment to the issue.

The Council voted to endorse the Sustainability Plan as follows:

Yes: Cora Edwards; Ken Kleinpeter ; Eileen Mildenberger; Robin Douglas; Ned Sullivan; Marcus Molinaro; James Taylor; Len Schleifer ; Dennis Murray; James Bernardo; Annie Huang;

Anthony Ruggiero. **No:** Al Samuels; Paul Ryan. **Abstained:** Chris St. Lawrence; Jonathan Drapkin

Path Through History

Mark Castiglioni presented on the status of the Path Through History Program and Mary Kay Vrbra discussed regional tourism initiatives.

With no public comments, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:00pm.