

**STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS  
TOWN OF LA GRANGE**

**TOWN BOARD MEETING  
January 28, 2015**

**Present:** Supervisor Alan Bell  
Councilman Joseph Luna  
Councilman Edward Jessup  
Councilman Gary Polhemus  
Councilman Andrew P. Dyal

**Recording Secretary:** Christine O'Reilly-Rao, Town Clerk

**Others Present:** Ron Blass, Esq. Van De Water & Van De Water

The regular meeting of the Town Board was held on Wednesday, January 28, 2015, at 120 Stringham Road, Town of LaGrange. Supervisor Bell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Town Clerk led the flag salute.

Mr. Bell asked for a motion to accept the minutes for January 14, 2015. Councilman Jessup moved to do so, seconded by Councilman Dyal. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Hearing:** Saxon Drive Pump Rehabilitation Project (SEE ADDENDUM)

Councilman Luna, seconded by Councilman Jessup moved to open the Public Hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

There were no comments from the public.

Councilman Jessup, seconded by Councilman Luna moved to close the Public Hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bell asked for a motion to accept the amended Map, Plan & Report. Councilman Luna, seconded by Councilman Dyal moved to do so. The motion carried unanimously. An explanation of the estimated cost breakdown for the Map, Plan & Report may be found in the addendum.

**Resolution:** Saxon Drive Pump Station Rehabilitation Project (SEE ADDENDUM)

**Agenda**

Councilman Luna moved to approve the 2014 Budget Transfers and Amendments found in the addendum. Councilman Polhemus seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Councilman Luna moved to re-appoint Tom Olsen and Paul Lent to the Ethics Committee for a three (3) year term, expiring 12/31/17. Councilman Jessup seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Councilman Jessup moved to re-appoint Linda McPhee to the Conservation Advisory Council for a two (2) year term, expiring 12/31/16. Councilman Luna seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Bell asked for a motion to adopt the Freedom Park General Rules and Regulations, Freedom Park Facility Rental Fee Schedule and the Freedom Park Facility Use Permit Application. (SEE ADDENDUM)

Councilman Luna moved to do so, with the stipulation that item #4 on the General Rules & Regulations include the directive to request law enforcement back up in the event of a park attendee being inebriated or on drugs. Councilman Jessup seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Suzanne O'Neil, Race Director for the Walkway Over the Hudson, gave a brief presentation on current plans for the Walkway Marathon event scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup>. (SEE ADDENDUM)

Linda Stow, of the Mid- Hudson Road Runners Club, requested the use of Town Hall on Sunday, March 8th from 8:00 am until 12 noon for the Annual Ed Erichson Memorial Run.

Councilman Jessup moved to approve the request with the stipulation that the Town be provided with the proposed route of the race as well as confirmation that the Fire Department, Sheriff's Department and Highway Superintendent have been notified. Councilman Luna seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Water and Sewer**

No report

#### **Recreation**

No report

#### **Open Space**

Mr. Jessup stated that they are still in discussion regarding the Menken and Suter properties.

#### **Highway**

Mr. Polhemus stated that the Highway department had only two minor repairs to their equipment during the past two snow events. The roads were kept safe throughout the two events. Although salt has been hard to get, Superintendent Kelly was able to get more salt delivered and the Town is in good shape. Mr. Bell added that the Town is in better shape than the County with regard to having enough salt. Mr. Polhemus noted that Mr. Kelly had loaned a plow and a loader to the Town of Milan last week since they had three of five plows out of commission. Even though we were down one plow due to the loan, Mr. Kelly tweaked the plow routes so that the Highway

crew was able to keep Town roads clear and safe. Mr. Luna stated that it was great to see shared services work out so well without interference from the State.

**Business Economic Development**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Jessup will ask the Chairman to provide the Town Board with his recommendations for the appointment of members.

**Town Attorney**

No comment

**Public Comment**

Councilman Jessup moved to open the Public Comment, seconded by Councilman Luna. The motion was carried by all.

There were no comments.

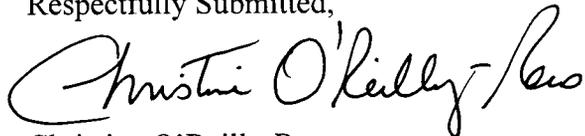
Councilman Jessup moved to close the Public Comment, seconded by Councilman Dyal. The motion was carried by all.

Supervisor Bell asked for a motion to adjourn to Executive Session in order to discuss a personnel issue regarding job performance.

Councilman Jessup moved to do so at 7:29 pm, seconded by Councilman Polhemus. The motion was carried by all.

Councilman Dyal, seconded by Councilman Polhemus moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm. The motion was carried by all.

Respectfully Submitted,



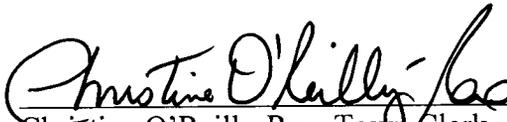
Christine O'Reilly-Rao  
Town Clerk

**ADDENDUM**

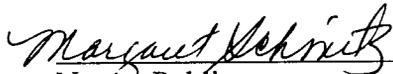
- Affidavits of Posting & Publication: Public Hearing Saxon Drive Pump Station Rehabilitation
- Memo: Saxon Drive Pump Station Rehabilitation Funding
- Resolution: Saxon Drive Pump Station Rehabilitation
- 2014 Budget Transfers & Amendments
- Freedom Park: Rules & Regulations, Facility Rental Fee Schedule, Facility Use permit application
- Press Release: Walkway Over the Hudson Marathon

STATE OF NEW YORK            )  
  ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS        )

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Town of LaGrange, Dutchess County, New York, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 15th day of January 2015, I duly caused a copy of the Notice of Public Hearing for the Saxon Drive Pump Station Rehabilitation Project to be conspicuously posted on the sign-board maintained by the Clerk's Office at 120 Stringham Road, Town of LaGrange.

  
Christine O'Reilly-Rao, Town Clerk

Sworn to before me this 29<sup>th</sup> day  
of January 2015

  
Notary Public

**MARGARET SCHMITZ**  
**NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF NEW YORK**  
**No. 01SC6220139**  
**Qualified in Dutchess County**  
**My Commission Expires April 12, 2018**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**

that the Town Board of the Town of LaGrange, Dutchess County, New York, will meet at the Town Hall, 120 Stringham Road, La Grangeville, New York, on the 28th day of January, 2015, at 7:00 o'clock P.M., Pre-vailing Time, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the proposed increase and improvement of the facilities of the Titusville Sewer District in said Town, at an updated estimated cost of \$360,000 for the replacement of a pumping system and controls, plus emergency generator, at the Saxon Drive facility, inclusive of design, engineering and other professional fees, at which time and place said Town Board will hear all persons interested in the subject thereof concerning the same.

Dated: La Grangeville, New York  
January 14, 2015

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Christine O'Reilly-Rao,  
Town Clerk 267973

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION  
FROM



**RITA LOMBARDI**

\_\_\_\_\_ being duly sworn says that he/she is the principal clerk of **THE  
POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL**, a newspaper published in the County of Dutchess and the State of New York, and the  
notice of which the annexed is a printed copy, was published in the newspaper on the date (s) below:

Ad Number:	Start Date:	Run Dates:
0000267973	01/17/2015	01/17/15

*Rita Lombardi*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Sworn to before me, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 2015

*Rose Ann Simpson*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Signature

My Commission Expires 1/4/2018

ROSE ANN SIMPSON  
Notary Public - State of New York  
No. 01SI6215893  
Qualified in Dutchess County  
My Commission Expires January 04, 2018



## TOWN OF LAGRANGE

120 Stringham Road  
LaGrangeville, New York 12540-5507

*Administrator of Planning & Public Works*  
845-452-8562 ~ 845-452 7692 fax ~ [wlivigni@lagrangenyc.org](mailto:wlivigni@lagrangenyc.org)

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DATE: January 21, 2015  
TO: Supervisor Bell & Town Board  
CC: Christine Toussaint, Comptroller  
FROM: Wanda Livigni  
RE: Titusville Sewer District – Saxon Drive Pump Station Rehabilitation Funding

Gentlemen,

As I had stated at the January 7, 2015 Town Board meeting, I am respectfully requesting that the Saxon Drive Project's cost be increased to a total of \$360,000 (from \$238,000 previously approved on 10/24/12). The increase is based on the actual bids the Town Board previously rejected (August of 2014) and is detailed in the revised Map and Plan Report dated January 15, 2015 (attached). I had also stated at that same meeting that there would be no borrowing required to get this project complete. Therefore, please find the attached spreadsheet that details the financing of the project with funds currently available.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Saxon Drive Pump Station Rehabilitation Project Financing**

Requested 2015 Project Cost (as per M&PR dated 1/15/15)	\$360,000.00
<u>Soft costs spent prior to 2015 (CPL &amp; VDW) and ALREADY PAID</u>	<u>-\$23,308.50</u>
TOTAL remaining to be paid	\$336,691.50
Remaining balance in TSD - excess facility per Comptroller 1/14/15 to be spent first	\$231,000.00
Remainder to be paid as needed out of a portion of the unencumbered TSD fund balance as per Comptroller 11/21/14	\$105,691.50



January 15, 2015

Mr. Alan Bell, Supervisor  
and Town of LaGrange Board  
120 Stringham Road  
LaGrangeville, New York 12540

**Re: Town of LaGrange  
Titusville Sewer District – Map, Plan Report  
Replacement of Saxon Drive Pumps, Controls, and Generator**

Dear Supervisor Bell and Members of the Town Board:

Pursuant to the Town's request, this map, plan, report describes the proposed improvement work to be included within a funding resolution for the existing Titusville Sewer District. The improvements are to be completed in accordance with the procedures of Town Law Section 202-b.

The proposed project to be completed is recommended and necessary repair and maintenance work to respond to Dutchess County Department of Health Correspondence. A specific description of work follows.

#### **Area to be Served: Map**

The proposed improvement work will serve the existing Titusville Sewer District in the Town of LaGrange. The existing District currently serves residential and commercial properties in the western portion of the Town of LaGrange.

#### **Plan**

The proposed Titusville Sewer District repair work includes the replacement of the existing pumps, wet well, control system, emergency generator, including valves, crane and other appurtenances which are undersized and prone to frequent failures due to the age of the equipment. The Town is proposing to install a modified pumping system with integrated controls and a new emergency generator with automatic transfer. The Town is also proposing to install clean out manholes along the force main to allow for improved routine maintenance of the force main. Completion of the above work will improve operating performance and reliability.

## Report

The Total Estimated Improvement Cost for the proposed Titusville Sewer District improvements is \$360,000 as itemized on the attached table. The current cost estimate represents an increase from the original MPR of \$122,000 based on actual bids received.

The project is proposed to be funded by moneys currently available to the district so there will be no change to the existing benefit unit assessment or operating costs to the district.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Clark Patterson Lee



Greg W. Bolner, P.E.  
Principal Associate

### Attachments

cc: Christine O'Reilly-Rao, Town Clerk  
Wanda Livigni, Administrator of Public Works  
Ronald Blass, Jr., Van DeWater & Van DeWater  
Steven Mance, Environmental Consultants

Town of LaGrange  
Titusville Sewer District  
Saxon Drive Pump System Replacement  
Estimated Improvement Cost

Description	Units	\$/Unit	Quantity	Cost
Booster Pump System	L.S.	\$ 65,000	1	\$ 65,000
Electrical & Controls	L.S.	\$ 30,000	1	\$ 30,000
Installation & Site Work	L.S.	\$ 35,000	1	\$ 35,000
Emergency Generator	L.S.	\$ 75,000	1	\$ 75,000
Miscellaneous Piping, Valves, and Meter	L.S.	\$ 25,000	1	\$ 25,000
Remove Existing Pumps and Equipment	L.S.	\$ 15,000	1	\$ 15,000
Sewer Cleanout Manholes	Each	\$ 11,000	2	\$ 22,000
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$ 267,000</b>
Contingency	%	20%		\$ 53,000
<b>Subtotal of Contact Cost</b>				<b>\$ 320,000</b>
Design Evaluation, Approvals, MP&R, Bidding & Construction Support				\$ 30,000
Legal & Bonding				\$ 10,000
<b>Total Estimate of Cost</b>				<b>\$ 360,000</b>

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE AND  
IMPROVEMENT OF THE FACILITIES OF THE  
TITUSVILLE SEWER DISTRICT IN THE TOWN  
OF LAGRANGE, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK  
AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$360,000

Councilman Luna offered the following resolution which  
was seconded by Councilman Jessup, who moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of LaGrange has  
received a plan and report prepared by Clark Patterson Lee  
(the "Report"), and dated January 15, 2015, which describes  
the proposed increase and improvement of the facilities of  
the Titusville Sewer District including replacement of  
pumping system and controls, plus emergency generator at  
the District's Saxon Drive facility; and

WHEREAS, according to the Report, the estimated cost  
of such increases and improvements of the facilities of the  
Titusville Sewer District is \$360,000, including  
professional and design costs; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of LaGrange  
accepted such Report and a public hearing on the Report and  
the proposed increase and improvement of the facilities of  
the Titusville Sewer District was duly noticed for, and  
conducted on, January 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., prevailing  
time; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 202-b of the Town Law, the Town Board has found it to be in the public interest to increase and improve the facilities of the Titusville Sewer District in said Town at a maximum estimated cost of \$360,000 consisting of the increases and improvements described in the Report.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED as follows:

1. The increase and improvement of the facilities of the Titusville Sewer District in the Town of LaGrange, Dutchess County, New York, consisting of the aforesaid improvements and costs identified in the Report, is hereby authorized at a maximum cost of \$360,000.00, which sum includes capital costs and associated engineering and legal expenses.

The foregoing resolution was voted upon with all councilmen voting as follows:

Supervisor Bell	AYE
Councilman Luna	AYE
Councilman Jessup	AYE
Councilman Polhemus	AYE
Councilman Dyal	AYE

DATED: La Grangeville, New York  
January 28, 2015

  
CHRISTINE O'REILLY-RAO Town Clerk

2014 BUDGET AMENDMENTS

<u>Manchester Water District</u>		
Inc. Appropriated Fund Balance (599)	91,177.61	
Inc. Power & Pump, Contractual (8320.04)		91,177.61

<u>Town Center Water District</u>		
Inc. Appropriated Fund Balance (599)	15,593.48	
Inc. Power & Pump, Contractual (8320.04)		15,593.48

2014 BUDGET TRANSFERS

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMT.</u>
General Fund:	Serial Bond, Interest (9710.07)	Tax Collection, Personal Services (1330.01)	146.16
	Serial Bond, Interest (9710.07)	Engineer, Contractual (1440.04)	2,875.00
	Serial Bond, Interest (9710.07)	Public Works, Personal Services (1490.01)	346.76
	Serial Bond, Interest (9710.07)	Buildings, Personal Services (1620.01)	1,595.00
	Serial Bond, Interest (9710.07)	Zoning, Personal Services (8010.01)	8,827.78
	Serial Bond, Interest (9710.07)	Planning, Personal Services (8020.01)	132.73
	Parks, Personal Services (7110.01)	Parks, Contractual (7110.04)	3,399.99
	Unemployment Insurance (9050.08)	Health & Medical Insurance (9060.08)	2,508.29
Highway: General Repairs, Personal Services (5110.01)	Machinery Repairs, Personal Services (5130.01)	5,600.77	



**PARKS & RECREATION**

**Town of LaGrange Parks & Recreation Department**  
120 Stringham Road  
LaGrangeville, NY 12540  
845-452-1972 [www.lagrangeny.org](http://www.lagrangeny.org)

**Changing Lives...Inspiring Play...Fostering Teamwork!**

## **FREEDOM PARK: GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Town of LaGrange takes pride in our parks. Any behavior which prevents the comfortable enjoyment of the park will not be tolerated and may result in suspension and loss of future use privileges. All rules will be enforced.

- No dogs allowed in any part of the park unless service dog.
- No littering. Please place garbage in provided receptacles or carry out.
- Motor bikes, ATV's, snowmobiles, scooters and other motorized recreational vehicles are prohibited. No skateboarding.
- Persons under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be permitted entrance or will be asked to leave.
- Fishing is not allowed at Freedom Lake. Fishing is allowed in the stream.
- Hostile or aggressive behavior toward a staff member or patron may result in ejection from facility and possible request for law enforcement intervention.
- Use of our beachfront is by membership pass or day pass.
- No propane grills allowed unless with pavilion rental and by special permit.
- New York State Law mandates that all children under 14 years of age must wear protective headgear while riding a bicycle. Please help us to comply with this law on all town property.
- All rules of sanitation and health as prescribed by law for public places must be observed.
- The Town of LaGrange, the Recreation Director and/or Park Caretaker reserve the right to amend these rules as needed.

Please note: Separate and specific Rules & Regulations for Freedom Lake exist and must be adhered to.



**PARKS & RECREATION**

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120 Stringham Road  
LaGrangeville, NY 12540  
845-452-1972 www.lagrangeny.org

**Changing Lives...Inspiring Play...Fostering Teamwork!**

**TOWN OF LAGRANGE FREEDOM PARK FACILITY RENTAL FEE SCHEDULE**

Rental Fee \$\_\_\_\_\_ must accompany application. See Below

Checks made payable to: **Town of LaGrange**

<b>Main Pavilion/Kitchen</b>		<b>Ballfield Pavilion</b>	<b>Swim Package Fees</b>	
(1 to 50 people)	\$175.00	\$60.00	(1-25 people)	\$75.00
(51 to 100 people)	\$270.00	\$105.00	(26-50 people)	\$125.00
(101 to 200 people)	\$385.00	\$155.00	(51-75 people)	\$200.00
(201 to 300 people)	\$490.00	\$205.00		
(Over 300 people)	\$690.00	\$265.00		

*(More than 75 swimmers requires special permission from the Recreation Director)*

**\$175.00 Cleaning Charge, if applicable:**

This fee must be paid ten (10 ) business days after your usage if you have left the facility in unsatisfactory condition. It is the responsibility of the applicant to complete a checklist with the Park Caretaker at the conclusion of the event. If the facility is not left in satisfactory condition, you will be charged time/materials to return the facility until original condition. No future reservation can be made until the fee is paid. \_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

I understand I am responsible for my set up and clean up. \_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

Reservations are made after completed facility use form and payment are received. The Town reserves the right to reject any application and to adjust the fees in their discretion. \$40.00 cancellation fee. No refunds 6 weeks or closer to event.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Rec. Dept. Authorized Signature

Date



**PARKS & RECREATION**

**Town of LaGrange Parks & Recreation Department**  
120 Stringham Road  
LaGrangeville, NY 12540  
845-452-1972 www.lagrangeny.org

**Changing Lives...Inspiring Play...Fostering Teamwork!**

**2015**

**TOWN OF LAGRANGE FREEDOM PARK FACILITY USE PERMIT APPLICATION**

Reserved use of the Freedom Park Pavilions is available by this permit to Residents and/or Organizations from the Town of LaGrange. Proof of residency is required. No proxies. No dogs allowed in the park other than service dogs.

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #'s: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Requested Use: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours: From: \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Be advised: Park gates open at 7:30am and Park closes at Dusk!**

Please check facilities being requested: MAIN PAVILION/KITCHEN \_\_\_\_\_ BALLFIELD PAVILION \_\_\_\_\_

BANDSHELL ONLY \_\_\_\_\_ PARK GROUNDS ONLY \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Function: \_\_\_\_\_

Bounce House \_\_\_\_\_ Tent \_\_\_\_\_ Dance Floor \_\_\_\_\_ Petting Zoo/Pony Rides \_\_\_\_\_

Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_ Removal Plan \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate of Insurance from additional vendors may be required.

Will Town roads be used? (I.e. road race) \_\_\_\_\_ If so, LaGrange Town Board authorization is required first. A guideline sheet for road use will be provided.

Will alcoholic beverages be provided? \_\_\_\_\_

Name the person responsible to monitor alcohol consumption: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization's insurance carrier \_\_\_\_\_ or self-insured \_\_\_\_\_

**Businesses & organizations must provide a *Certificate of Insurance* naming the "Town of LaGrange as additionally insured" with this application. Submitted \_\_\_\_\_**

Will an admission fee be charged? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Will your group be selling anything at this event? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No If yes, do you have prior park approval? \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate number of persons attending: \_\_\_\_\_

**Facility Rental Fees:** See current Facility Rental Fee Schedule for a full list of fees.

**Cleaning Charge**

This fee must be paid ten (10 ) business days after your usage if you have left the facility in unsatisfactory condition. It is the responsibility of the applicant to complete a checklist with the Park Caretaker at the conclusion of the event. If the facility is not left in satisfactory condition, you will be charged time/materials to return the facility until original condition. No future reservation can be made until the fee is paid. \_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

I understand I am responsible for my set up and clean up. \_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

The applicant shall indemnify and hold the Town of LaGrange , its employees, agents and representatives harmless from all suits, actions, claims of any kind, including attorney's fees brought on account of any personal injuries, property damage or damages of any kind, or violations of any rights, suffered by any persons or property in consequence of neglect in safeguarding contract work , or on account of any act or omission by applicant or its employees, volunteers or participants. In addition, applicant shall indemnify and hold the Town of LaGrange, its employees, agents and representatives harmless from any claims or amounts arising from violation of any law, and for any agents, or assigns related to the performance of this agreement and shall be responsible for all damages, costs, expenses and fees including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees associated therewith.

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Facility Use Rules and Guidelines associated with my rental of the facility, I have the authority to act in behalf of the above-named organization and I accept responsibility for actions and behavior of all participants.

**I have received a copy of the rules and regulations for using the facility and agree to adhere to same.**

**Applicant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Main Pavilion Use:** \_\_\_Approved \_\_\_Disapproved / **Ballfield Pavilion Use:** \_\_\_Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recreation Dept. Authorized Signature**

**Date Received:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amt Paid \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cash** \_\_\_\_\_ **Check #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Copy of Insurance supplied from outside vendors:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Checklist Received:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** / **Any unusual cleaning or damage?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No**

If yes, please document (written & photos) and attach documents to application,

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 18, 2014

Contact: Elizabeth Waldstein-Hart, Executive Director, Walkway Over the Hudson 845-454-9649  
Steve Densmore, Media Relations, Walkway Over the Hudson, 845-234-8713

## **Walkway Marathon Event to Launch June 13<sup>th</sup>, Features Dutchess, Hudson Valley Rail Trails**

POUGHKEEPSIE—Nearly 1500 runners are expected to converge on Dutchess County on Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> for the first annual Walkway Marathon race series, which is being presented in partnership with Dutchess County Government, and will feature a marathon, half-marathon and the already established Treetops to Rooftops 5K event.

Representatives from the Walkway Over the Hudson organization, Dutchess County Government, Marist College and several other partnering organizations unveiled plans for the new premier running event on Tuesday, during a press conference held at Walkway State Park's eastern entrance. The event, which will serve as one of the Walkway organization's primary fundraisers for 2015, will feature marathon and half-marathon routes that begin at Marist College, include a significant stretch of the William R. Steinhaus Dutchess Rail Trail in Dutchess County, cross over the Walkway Over the Hudson, with a turnaround on the Hudson Valley Rail Trail in Ulster County.

"The Walkway Marathon represents an exciting new regional running attraction that highlights and utilizes some of the Hudson Valley's greatest recreational assets—our remarkable new rail trail network and Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park. In particular, it showcases the recently-completed Dutchess Rail Trail and we are pleased with the commitment and cooperation from County Executive Marc Molinaro and Dutchess County Government in bringing this race to fruition," said Walkway Executive Director Elizabeth Waldstein-Hart. "We are fortunate to be working with many other committed partners as well—such as Marist College, New York State Parks, Ulster County and the Town of Lloyd, Dutchess Tourism, Mid-Hudson Road Runners Club, the City and Town of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce and several others—in making the dream of a Walkway Marathon become a reality."

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro said, "We are absolutely thrilled to be working in partnership with the Walkway Over the Hudson to bring this race series to Dutchess County and the Hudson Valley region. With spectacular venues like the William R. Steinhaus Dutchess Rail Trail and the Walkway Over the Hudson as well as Marist College and the Hudson Valley Rail Trail, this is certain to become a 'must run' event for marathon enthusiasts from all over. We have a full spectrum of community partners committed to making this a destination event for our region that will increase exposure, tourism interest as well as provide another important health and recreational event opportunity."

"We are excited to partner with the Walkway Over the Hudson for what I am sure will become one of the premier events in the Hudson River Valley. The Walkway Marathon gives us the opportunity to showcase our beautiful campus to runners, visitors and guests throughout the region. The course presents a unique opportunity for runners to start and finish the marathon from one of the most scenic stretches of the Hudson River," said Tim Murray, Athletic Director at Marist College.

The Walkway Marathon and Half-Marathon races will build upon the well-established Mid-Hudson Road Runners Club Treetops to Rooftops 5K race that has been attracting hundreds of area runners to Walkway State Park annually for the last four years.

Keith Axelrod, President of Mid-Hudson Road Runners Club (MHRRC), said, "During last year's Treetops to Rooftops 5k race, Race Director and MHRRC Board Member Sue O'Neil suggested adding a Marathon and Half Marathon. I immediately realized it would be a great idea to utilize the Walkway and the Rail Trails as well as Marist College to make it a great regional running event. Our members have been asking to bring back a full marathon and this is the perfect opportunity to do so. We are excited to help coordinate the three race event."

Runners interested in registering for any of the Walkway Marathon races scheduled for Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> can do so by visiting the Walkway Marathon website at [WalkwayMarathon.org](http://WalkwayMarathon.org). Registration will officially open on Tuesday, December 2, 2014.

Roger Robinson, a longtime columnist with Running Times Magazine, embraced the idea of the Walkway Marathon, adding that the event will help solidify the long-term alliance between running and linear parks. "Runners back in the 1960s were the first in the world to use disused railroads and old canal tow-paths for recreational exercise. The much bigger sport today continues to be active in the development of linear parks as safe and scenic places to run. With miles of trail, and the unique asset of the Walkway Over the Hudson, this race will be a leader in the ongoing alliance between running and the environment," Dr. Robinson said.

Organizers also plan to pursue "green certification" for the race from Athletes for a Fit Planet, making it one of the first green Marathons in New York State. Sustainable practices, such as shuttling runners using Dutchess County Government's public transit system's hybrid buses, and race bibs and other elements made from recycled materials will be followed wherever possible.

Walkway thanked lead race sponsors Royal Carting and Health Quest during the press conference for their pledges of support for the new recreational venture. Additional sponsorships are available and interested parties can contact Walkway Development Manager Ellen Henneberry at (845) 454-9649.

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