



# Public Works & Transportation

## BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft

Committee Chair: Erika Pierce

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.  
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor  
White Plains, NY 10601  
[www.westchesterlegislators.com](http://www.westchesterlegislators.com)

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Tuesday, June 13, 2023

3:00 PM

Committee Room

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### CALL TO ORDER

Joint with Parks & Recreation committee.

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting.

*With a quorum present, Chair Pierce called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.*

*Others in Attendance: BOL: Legislator James Nolan; Committee Coordinators: Jill Axelrod and Beth LoBello; Glendalys Salgado; Law Dept.: David Vutera; CE's Office: Peter McCartt; Clean Path NY: Luke Falk, Gordon Gray, Phil Toia, Joe Leary, Ed Birdie, and Amy Varghese; DelBello Donnellan Weingarten Wise & Wiederkehr, LLP: Janet Giris*

**Present:** Committee Chair Pierce, Legislator Barr, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

**Absent:** Legislator Smith

### MINUTES APPROVAL

#### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[2023-254](#)      **ACT-Grant Easements to Clean Path New York LLC**

Guests: Law Dept.: Associate County Attorney David Vutera; Office of the County Executive: Peter McCartt; Director of Energy Conservation and Sustainability; representative from Delbello Donnellan Weingarten Wise & Wiederkehr, LLP

*Chair Pierce referenced an article from the New York Times entitled "Why the U.S. Electric Grid Isn't Ready for the Energy Transition," which focuses on a lack of transmission lines in the United States, and the role of the transmission lines in our ability to connect with the wind, solar, and other power that we so desperately need. Mr. McCartt said that to bring renewable energy to Westchester, there are several transmission projects, and Clean Path NY is one of them.*

Three representatives from Clear Path NY presented to the committees: Luke Falk, COO, Energy Re, Gordon Gray, Vice President, Transmission-Invenenergy, and Phil Toia, President, NYPA Development. Mr. Falk gave an overview of the project, and said the easement is needed so they can construct a 9,000 linear foot stretch of the project at Croton Point Park. He said they are committed to entering into a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) with the unions to make sure that good jobs and good benefits emerge from the project. He said they have a "Disadvantaged Communities" framework to make sure they are doing local hiring outreach and the like.

Vice-Chair Woodson Samuels said that he would like to further discuss the issue of job creation and the economics of the project with the Economic Development committee and Labor sub-committees. He would like to know the number of jobs created in the County, as well as what steps they have taken so far to connect with labor unions in crafting the PLA. Mr. Falk said they would make themselves available at any time. He did not have the specific numbers for jobs, but said they use a DOE model that helps translate the amount of labor effort into full time equivalent employees. The raw data indicated 10 and a half thousand FTE or equivalents attributable to both the generation and the transmission development and operations. They worked with NYSERTA to estimate 8300 jobs, most in the construction phase.

Vice Chair Woodson Samuels that there is a concern for environmental justice and communities that are disproportionately impacted. Mr. Falk said that the overtone of the project is remediating historic environmental justice issues, and they need local insight to make good on that. Chair Pierce said the Environment committee could meet to discuss that.

Legislator Nolan said he would like to set up a meeting with the building trades and Clear Path NY to discuss ways to become more energy efficient.

Chair Pierce asked how much pipe will be in Westchester County, and how long it will take to build the County segment. Mr. Falk said roughly 10 miles in Westchester. The entire project of 178 miles is roughly a 30-month mobilization, but that will be segmented. He said he will get back to her.

Mr. McCartt said they did a study of the historical aspects of Croton Point Park and reached out to indigenous people and native tribes to make sure nothing was being disturbed. Mr. Gray reiterated that they met with the Native American Nations several times to ensure that they had cleared the proposed route from any significant cultural resource. Chair Pierce asked if there was a document memorializing that, and if so, it be forwarded to the committee. Mr. Falk said he would get it to her.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried unanimously.

## **II. OTHER BUSINESS**

## **III. RECEIVE & FILE**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Barr, the Committee adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

DRAFT