

# DUTCHESS TOGETHER

A COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PLAN

2020

DUTCHESSNY.GOV





## COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

MARCUS J. MOLINARO  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

In 2017, with the enactment of the County-Wide Shared Services Initiative law, county executives across the state were mandated to form and lead a panel comprised of all city, town and village executives tasked with creating a county-wide shared services property tax savings plan. With the hard work and dedication of all of our municipalities and participating school districts, Dutchess County submitted a plan for 2018 that identified over \$25.5 million in savings related to 35 projects. These savings targets put Dutchess County in the top five counties in New York State for highest savings reported in the first year, highest savings reported in the out-years, and largest savings per taxpayer, according to the Rockefeller Institute of Government.

Shared services and property tax savings are not new ideas in Dutchess County. The County has always worked hand in hand with our municipalities in an effort to create long-lasting cost savings for our residents. We have reduced the county property tax levy in each of the last six years. Since 2013, our administration and the County Legislature allocated nearly \$11 million through our Municipal Innovation Grant Program to incentivize municipalities to share services, evaluate consolidation opportunities, establish a regional delivery of services, and implement other efficiencies. We have also worked on joint Community Development Block Grant Projects designed to prevent the duplication of efforts.

For 2021, Dutchess County in collaboration with our local municipalities submit the attached plan, which identifies \$133,157 in savings related to the Tri-Municipal Waste Treatment Upgrades and Elimination of Town Sewer Facility and \$249,682 in savings related to a Body Camera System for Sheriff Law Enforcement Officers. We believe this plan creates new opportunities to share services, reduce costs, and improve the services we provide residents.

In addition to the savings identified, the State has promised matching funds, where eligible. This funding will provide further taxpayer relief, and we will continue working with the State to draw down these promised funds.

This plan represents only a small portion of our current efforts to identify efficiencies and reduce the burden on local taxpayers. We will continue to work together as one community, one county, to share services, eliminate duplicated programs, consolidate and provide overall tax savings for the residents of our County, as we have for many years.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "M. Molinaro", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Marcus J. Molinaro  
Dutchess County Executive

# Table of Contents

---

Property Tax Savings Plan Project Summary ..... 1

Financial Summary ..... 2

Project Descriptions ..... 7

Plan Certification..... 9

## 2020 Property Tax Savings Plan Project Summary

---

| Project Number | Initiative   | 2021 Savings |
|----------------|--|--------------|
| 1              | Tri-Muni Waste Treatment Upgrades & Elimination of Town Sewer Facility | 133,157      |
| 2              | Body Camera System for Law Enforcement Officers                        | 249,682      |
| Total Savings  |  | \$ 382,839   |

## Financial Summary

---

The State requires Counties include a summary of projected savings to the average taxpayer, homeowner and business as part of this plan; however, making these projections outside of each municipalities' budget process, is simply inaccurate and projecting countywide tax savings as a percentage of one's individual property tax bill is impossible. Each homeowner and business are taxed based on their own unique assessed valuation and municipal assessed value, which can change year to year. Although the following County-Wide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan Summary document is the prescribed format for submission of the Tax Savings Plan to the Director of the New York State Division of the Budget as required by law, the numbers as presented cannot be accurate.

It is important to note that the State has a critical role in producing meaningful property tax relief. In Dutchess County, nearly 70% of net county costs are for mandated programs and services. The remaining amount is "optional spending," including crucial government functions such as health and mental health services, sheriff road patrols, road repair, snow removal, public transportation, 911 dispatch, and senior services. Dutchess County has been sharing services and containing costs for years, now the State needs to do their share to reduce mandated costs instead of simply blaming others.



## County-Wide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan Summary

|   |                         |                               |                              |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>County of Dutchess</b>                   |                         |                               |                              |
| <b>County Contact:</b> Jessica White        |                         |                               |                              |
| <b>Contact Telephone:</b> 845-486-2010      |                         |                               |                              |
| <b>Contact Email:</b> jwhite@dutchessny.gov |                         |                               |                              |
| <b>Partners</b>                             |                         |                               |                              |
| <b>Row 1 – 2 Cities in Dutchess County</b>  |                         |                               |                              |
| <b>Participating Cities</b>                 |                         | <b>Panel Representative</b>   | <b>Vote Cast (Yes or No)</b> |
| 1.  | City of Beacon          | Mayor Lee Kyriacou            | YES                          |
| 2.  | City of Poughkeepsie    | Mayor Robert Rolison          | YES                          |
| <b>Row 2 – 20 Towns in Dutchess County</b>  |                         |                               |                              |
| <b>Participating Towns</b>                  |                         | <b>Panel Representative</b>   | <b>Vote Cast (Yes or No)</b> |
| 1.  | Town of Amenia          | Supervisor Victoria Perotti   | YES                          |
| 2.  | Town of Beekman         | Supervisor Mary Covucci       | YES                          |
| 3.  | Town of Clinton         | Supervisor Raymon P. Oberly   | YES                          |
| 4.  | Town of Dover           | Supervisor Rich Yeno          | YES                          |
| 5.  | Town of East Fishkill   | Supervisor Nick D'Alesandro   | YES                          |
| 6.  | Town of Fishkill        | Supervisor Ozzy Albra         | YES                          |
| 7.  | Town of Hyde Park       | Supervisor Aileen Rohr        | YES                          |
| 8.  | Town of LaGrange        | Supervisor Alan Bell          | YES                          |
| 9.  | Town of Milan           | Supervisor Alfred Lo Brutto   | YES                          |
| 10.   | Town of North East      | Supervisor Christopher Kennan | YES                          |
| 11.   | Town of Pawling         | Supervisor James Schmitt      | YES                          |
| 12.   | Town of Pine Plains     | Supervisor Darrah Cloud       | YES                          |
| 13.   | Town of Pleasant Valley | Supervisor Frank Susczynski   | YES                          |
| 14.   | Town of Poughkeepsie    | Supervisor Jon J. Baisley     | YES                          |
| 15.   | Town of Red Hook        | Supervisor Robert McKeon      | YES                          |
| 16.   | Town of Rhinebeck       | Supervisor Elizabeth Spinzia  | YES                          |
| 17.   | Town of Stanford        | Supervisor Wendy Burton       | YES                          |
| 18.   | Town of Union Vale      | Supervisor Betsy Maas         | YES                          |





## County-Wide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan Summary

|   |   |  |                                  |
|---|---|--|----------------------------------|
| 19.   | Town of Wappinger   | Supervisor Richard Thurston  | YES                              |
| 20.   | Town of Washington  | Supervisor Gary Ciferri  | YES                              |
| Use Additional Sheets if necessary                              |   |  |                                  |
| <b>Row 3 – 8 Villages in Dutchess County</b>                    |   |  |                                  |
|   | <b>Participating Villages</b>   | <b>Panel Representative</b>  | <b>Vote Cast<br/>(Yes or No)</b> |
| 1.  | Village of Fishkill   | Mayor James J. Miccio  | YES                              |
| 2.  | Village of Millbrook  | Mayor Mike Herzog  | YES                              |
| 3.  | Village of Millerton  | Mayor Debra Middlebrook  | YES                              |
| 4.  | Village of Pawling  | Mayor Robert Liffland  | YES                              |
| 5.  | Village of Red Hook   | Mayor Edward Blundell  | YES                              |
| 6.  | Village of Rhinebeck  | Mayor Gary Bassett   | YES                              |
| 7.  | Village of Tivoli   | Mayor Joel Griffith  | YES                              |
| 8.  | Village of Wappingers Falls   | Mayor Matthew Alexander  | YES                              |
| Use Additional Sheets if necessary                              |   |  |                                  |
| <b>Row 4 – 14 School Districts and BOCES in Dutchess County</b> |   |  |                                  |
|   | <b>Participating School Districts,<br/>BOCES, and Special Improvement<br/>Districts</b> | <b>Panel Representative</b>  | <b>Vote Cast<br/>(Yes or No)</b> |
| 1.  |   |  |                                  |
| 2.  |   |  |                                  |
| 3.  |   |  |                                  |
| 4.  |   |  |                                  |
| 5.  |   |  |                                  |
| Use Additional Sheets if necessary                              |   |  |                                  |
| <b>Row 5</b>  |   |  |                                  |
|   | <b>2020 Local Government<br/>Property Taxes</b>   | <b>The sum total of property taxes levied in the year 2020<br/>by the county, cities, towns, villages, school districts,<br/>and special improvement districts within such county.</b> |                                  |
|   |   | \$884,060,468  |                                  |
| <b>Row 6</b>  |   |  |                                  |



## County-Wide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan Summary

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>2020 Participating Entities Property Taxes</b>                                   | <b>The sum total of property taxes levied in the year 2020 by the county, any cities, towns, villages, school districts, and special improvements districts identified as participating in the panel in the rows above.</b> |
|   | \$227,531,383   |
| <b>Row 7</b>  |   |
| <b>Total Anticipated Savings</b>  | <b>The sum total of net savings in such plan certified as being anticipated in calendar year 2021 and annually thereafter.</b>  |
|   | 2021: \$383K, Annually: \$383K  |
| <b>Row 8</b>  |   |
| <b>Anticipated Savings as a Percentage of Participating Entities property taxes</b> | <b>The sum total of net savings in such plan certified as being anticipated in calendar year 2021 as a percentage of the sum total in Row 6, and annually thereafter as a percentage of the sum total in Row 6.</b>         |
|   | 2021: 0.2%, Annually: 0.2%  |
| <b>Row 9</b>  |   |
| <b>Anticipated Savings to the Average Taxpayer</b>                                  | <b>The amount of the savings that the average taxpayer in the county will realize in calendar year 2021 and annually thereafter if the net savings certified in the plan are realized.</b>                                  |
|   | 2021: \$3, Annually: \$3  |
| <b>Row 10</b>   |   |
| <b>Anticipated Costs/Savings to the Average Homeowner</b>                           | <b>The percentage amount a homeowner can expect his or her property taxes to increase or decrease in calendar year 2021 and annually thereafter if the net savings certified in the plan are realized.</b>                  |
|   | 2021: 0.2%, Annually: 0.2%  |





## County-Wide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan Summary

### Row 11

#### Anticipated Costs/Savings to the Average Business

The percentage amount a business can expect its property taxes to increase or decrease in calendar year 2021 and annually thereafter if the net savings certified in the plan are realized.

2021: 0.2%, Annually: 0.2%

### CERTIFICATION

I hereby affirm under penalty of perjury that information provided is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. This is the finalized county-wide shared services property tax savings plan. The county-wide shared services property tax savings plan was approved on 12/22/2020, 2020, and it was disseminated to residents of the county in accordance with the County-wide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Law.

Marcus J. Molinaro

County Chief Executive Officer

(Print Name)

DocuSigned by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Molinaro", written over a blue DocuSign signature line.

7F889A0FDB4C4DF...

12/22/2020

(Signature)

(Date)

## County-Wide Shared Services Tax Savings Plan

**Project Name:** Tri-Municipal Treatment Upgrades & Elimination of Town Sewer Facility 

**Municipalities Participating:**

Village of Wappingers Falls, Town of Wappinger, and Town of Poughkeepsie

**Project Description:**

Tri-Municipal Wastewater (WWTP) serves the Towns of Poughkeepsie (POK) and Wappinger (WAPP), and the Village of Wappingers Falls (VWF), or 24.2% of the County. The WWTP wants to add flow from WAPP and eliminate a redundant sewer district. This requires a new digester, flow splitter and clarifiers for a total of \$2.1 million of work needed at the WWTP to prepare it to take additional flow. It also requires \$6.2 million in work in WAPP to pipe the additional flow through VWF to the WWTP. WAPP has received a \$2.5 million grant from NYS to do this work. The first phase is the digester which costs \$195,643. Sludge digestion is operated as a batch system and wasted to the digester until the tank is completely filled. It's then aerated and cycled between the gravity belt thickener and digester before finally being sent to the belt filter press. To increase efficiency, a continuous feed system would be implemented. Its 4 digestors would be piped to create 2 in-series and 2 tank digestors with continuous aeration, accelerating the process and increasing capacity. This extra capacity of the digestors is necessary to accommodate future increases in the plant permitted capacity and allow the facility to take on additional flow from the municipalities as well as the County Airport. Utilizing the WWTP with a direct discharge to the Hudson River will remove the nutrient loading from Wappinger Creek and Lake both of which contain elevated levels of nutrients causing algae during the summer.

**Savings Methodology:** Plant staff is currently being paid roughly \$70 per hour/week. Operators claim it currently takes 80 hours per week to process sludge from digester to composting. With an estimated 25% (20 hours) reduction in process time,  $\$70 \text{ per hour} \times 80 \text{ hours per week} \times .25 \times 52 \text{ weeks} = \$72,800$  saved per year.

Labor costs alone will decrease from \$291,000 annually to \$218,200 annually. This methodology does not include the unforeseen upkeep problems that our current outdated plants are beginning to face.

It is anticipated that the remaining time would be used for other proactive projects which would address the plant's continued commitment to responsibly overseeing how to address the sewer needs for its constituents.

|                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
|                           | 2021              |
| <b>Projected Savings:</b> | <b>\$ 133,157</b> |

## County-Wide Shared Services Tax Savings Plan

**Project Name:** Body Camera System for Law Enforcement Officers

**Municipalities Participating:**

Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, Cities of Poughkeepsie and Beacon, Towns of East Fishkill, Fishkill, Hyde Park, Pine Plains, and Poughkeepsie, Villages of Fishkill, Millbrook, Millerton, Red Hook, Rhinebeck, and Wappingers Falls

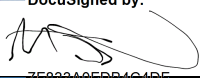
**Project Description:**

In response to Executive Order No. 203, Dutchess County formed a collaborative to enact necessary and needed police reforms. An early recommendation of the group, was to require law enforcement officers to utilize body worn cameras. It was the belief of the group that the cameras would improve accountability, transparency, and the quality of community interactions. The County and the Sheriff's Office as well as other local agencies have been taking early steps to evaluate purchasing and requiring the use of body cameras for officers. To aid in this effort and reduce overall costs, a joint purchase of cameras as well as shared data storage is being pursued.


|                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
|                           | 2021              |
| <b>Projected Savings:</b> | <b>\$ 249,682</b> |

We, the municipal leaders of Dutchess County, recognize the importance of shared services, the elimination of duplicative services, consolidation, and improved efficiencies in an effort to reduce the burden on property taxpayers, and have worked diligently to this end for many years, as evidenced by the County's Municipal Innovation Grant Program and annual County-Wide Shared Services Summit.


As required by the 2020-2021 New York State Budget, we have developed a County-Wide Shared Services Property Tax Savings plan. The below signed parties do hereby certify the attached plan, as prepared by Dutchess County and its two cities, twenty towns, and eight villages.

DocuSigned by:  
  
 7F833A0FDB4C4DF...

Marcus J. Molinaro  
 Dutchess County Executive

DocuSigned by:  
  
 ED0A8015091E415...

Robert J. Rolison  
 Mayor, City of Poughkeepsie

DocuSigned by:  
  
 00CF8CA7FB1244E...

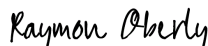
Lee Kyriacou  
 Mayor, City of Beacon

DocuSigned by:  
  
 F0378C94570C4C0...


Victoria Perrotti  
 Supervisor, Town of Amenia

DocuSigned by:  
  
 59EA672C886E44B...

Mary Covucci  
 Supervisor, Town of Beekman

DocuSigned by:  
  
 2F395C0FF5FD469...

Raymon P. Oberly  
 Supervisor, Town of Clinton

DocuSigned by:  
  
 45A5F30A27B34F5...


Rich Yeno  
 Supervisor, Town of Dover

DocuSigned by:  
  
 30A30E7097FD40F...

Nicholas D'Alessandro  
 Supervisor, Town of East Fishkill

DocuSigned by:  
  
 4DF3A2E48E8D43B...


Ozzy Albra  
 Supervisor, Town of Fishkill

DocuSigned by:  
  
 30E720BE3ABD438...


Aileen M. Rohr  
 Supervisor, Town of Hyde Park

DocuSigned by:  
  
 F3EE65BA430T4D4...

Alan E. Bell  
 Supervisor, Town of Lagrange

DocuSigned by:  
  
 7FCE0FB06C4F41F...

Alfred Lo Brutto  
 Supervisor, Town of Milan

DocuSigned by:  
  
 8CDB6C411E8EF45B...

Christopher Kennan  
 Supervisor, Town of North East

DocuSigned by:  
  
 8475226FB45C48E...

James Schmitt  
 Supervisor, Town of Pawling

DocuSigned by:  
  
 A39CFB014259499...

Darrah Cloud  
 Supervisor, Town of Pine Plains

DocuSigned by:  
  
 76A9E3E3D51A430...

Frank Susczynski  
 Supervisor, Town of Pleasant Valley

DocuSigned by:  
  
 B14DBC1F490E4A8...

Jon J. Baisley  
 Supervisor, Town of Poughkeepsie

DocuSigned by:  
  
 47997DD080494DD...

Robert McKeon  
 Supervisor, Town of Red Hook

DocuSigned by:  
  
 AE262DA7A88F41E...

Elizabeth Spinzia  
 Supervisor, Town of Rhinebeck

DocuSigned by:

*Wendy Burton*

F1F38C1B7FF347E...

Wendy Burton  
Supervisor, Town of Stanford

DocuSigned by:

*Betsy Maas*

FA989F37F997417...

Betsy Maas  
Supervisor, Town of Union Vale

DocuSigned by:

*Richard L. Thurston*

CEFDA506D9AB420...

Richard L. Thurston  
Supervisor, Town of Wappinger

DocuSigned by:

*Gary Ciferri*

715719DAA2DE4CE...

Gary E. Ciferri  
Supervisor, Town of Washington

DocuSigned by:

*James J. Miccio*

81F059A90DD486...

James J. Miccio  
Mayor, Village of Fishkill

DocuSigned by:

*Mike Herzog*

78CB8E64296D43D...

Mike Herzog  
Mayor, Village of Millbrook

DocuSigned by:

*Debra Middlebrook*

997FC6C1010D4CA...

Debra Middlebrook  
Mayor, Village of Millerton

DocuSigned by:

*Robert J. Liffland*

48C0191A3345487...

Robert J. Liffland  
Mayor, Village of Pawling

DocuSigned by:

*Ed Blundell*

B895801173BE411...

Edward Blundell  
Mayor, Village of Red Hook

DocuSigned by:

*Gary Bassett*

9ABDB88BAD1F442...

Gary Bassett  
Mayor, Village of Rhinebeck

DocuSigned by:

*Joel Griffith*

71712101B23F4A7...

Joel Griffith  
Mayor, Village of Tivoli

DocuSigned by:

*Matthew Alexander*

A97FA488992B471...

Matthew Alexander  
Mayor, Village of Wappingers Falls

DUTCHESSNY.GOV

