HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY
Combined meeting of
Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.,
Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council,
and
Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc.
November 14, 2018
Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Library and Museum
Hyde Park, NY 12538
Minutes

Attendance

Conservancy Members Present
Burke, Kevin, Conservancy Chairman
Daniels, Jane, Conservancy Member
Jacks, Betsy, Conservancy Member
McLaughlin, Jayne, Conservancy Treasurer

Conservancy Members Present by Proxy
Brown, Kristin Cole, Conservancy Member
Griffen, Sara, Conservancy Member
Lanzetta, Cindy, Conservancy Member
Murray, Dennis, Conservancy Member
Yarabek, Stefan, Conservancy Member

Council Members Present
Aldrich, J. Winthrop, Council Member
Downey, Margaret (Meg), Dutchess County Council Member
Elliott, Robert, Westchester County Council Member
Galef, Sandra, Council Member
Head, Betty, Albany County Council Member
McHenry, Barnabas, Council Chairman
Saland, Stephen, Council Member
Smith, Michelle, Putnam County Council Member
von der Heide, Linda, Rensselaer County Council Member
Yaun, Johanna, Orange County Council Member

Council Members Present by Proxy
Ames, Edward, New York City Council Member
Saland, Stephen, Council Member

Council Members Present by Phone
Altieri, Vincent, Rockland County Council Member

Delegates Present
Dunwell, Fran, Joint Co-Delegate for Commissioner, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Call to Order
Chairman Kevin Burke called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Proclamation
Chairman Burke and Chairman McHenry announced a proclamation honoring recently deceased Advisory Board Member Frank Bergman, a representative of the Hudson River Boat and Yacht Club Association. Acting Executive Director Scott Keller noted that Mr. Bergman had been an advisory board member for 11 years, and would be greatly missed, particularly his wisdom about boating on the Hudson River. Chairman Burke read the proclamation and, on a motion from Fran Dunwell (Bob Elliott second), the proclamation was passed unanimously. Althea Malarkey announced that she would read the proclamation at the next meeting of the Hudson River Boat and Yacht Club Association.

Presentations
Chairman McHenry introduced Beth Campochiaro, Trails and Community Outreach Director for the Hudson River Valley Greenway. Ms. Campochiaro gave a presentation on the Greenway’s Trail Program. The presentation is appended to and a part of these minutes.

Agenda Review
Chairman Burke called for changes and additions to the agenda. None were made.

Approval of minutes of September 12, 2018 Combined Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council, Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc. and Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc.
Chairman Burke asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the September 12, 2018 Greenway Joint Meeting. On a motion from Bob Elliott (Jane Daniels second) the minutes of the September 12, 2018 Combined Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council, Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc. and Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc. were unanimously approved.
Approval of minutes of October 11, 2018 Meeting of the Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.

On a motion from Jane Daniels (Betsy Jacks second) the minutes of the October 11, 2018 meeting of the Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc. were unanimously approved.

Minutes of November 5, 2018 Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Grants Committee

On a motion from Meg Downey (Jayne McLaughlin second) the minutes of the November 5, 2018 meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Grants Committee were unanimously approved.

Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.

Call to Order

Chairman Burke called the Conservancy meeting to order.

Elections

Chairman Burke announced nominations of new officers for the Conservancy Board to be voted on. Betsy Jacks was nominated as Vice Chair, Sarah Olson was nominated as Secretary, and Jayne McLaughlin was nominated to continue in her role as Treasurer. On a motion from Jayne McLaughlin (Kevin Burke second) the nominations were unanimously approved. As Chairman Burke is appointed by the Governor, a vote is not required.

Approval of 2017-2018 Audit

Acting Executive Director Scott Keller announced that the auditors had delivered a clean opinion on both companies and the management letters cited no issues.

Adoption of 2018-2019 Budget

Mr. Keller noted that the budget was balanced for 2018-2019 at $14 million, of which $10 million is earmarked for Empire State Trail work. Chairman Burke noted that Scott is doing two jobs, that of Acting Executive Director and Finance Director, and that he does so with great integrity and dependability.

On a motion from Jane Daniels (Betsy Jacks second) the 2017-2018 audit was unanimously accepted.

On a motion from Wint Aldrich (Meg Downey second) the 2018-2019 Budget was unanimously adopted.

Update on Empire State Trail

Chairman Burke introduced Andy Beers, Empire State Trail Director, for an update on the Empire State Trail (EST). Mr. Beers announced that the first round of construction projects on the trail had been completed, including a new 5-mile off-road section of the Erie Canalway Trail. He also noted that the private Ralph Wilson Jr. Foundation awarded $6.5 million for a section of empire State Trail from Buffalo to Rochester. Mr. Beers noted that the construction bids for the Albany Hudson Electric Trail would be announced at the end of December.
Hudson River Ports and Waterways Safety Assessment and Hudson River Safety, Navigation, and Operations Committee

Mr. Keller reviewed the activities of the Hudson River Harbor Safety Committee and noted that on October 2, 2018 the first public was held at the Henry A. Wallace Center. This was an important brainstorming session where public input was sought on the direction of the Committee over the next several years.

Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council

Call to Order
Chairman Barnabas McHenry called the Council meeting to order.

Greenway Guides Adoption
Mr. Keller announced that the Town of Rhinebeck adopted the 7 new Dutchess County Greenway Guides.

Request for Designation as a Compact Community
Mr. Keller announced that the Greenway had received a request for designation as a Greenway Compact Community from the Village of Mount Kisco, Westchester County. Chairman McHenry called for a vote, and on a motion from Bob Elliott (Sandra Galef second) the Village of Mount Kisco was unanimously welcomed as a Compact Community.

Hudson River Valley Greenway Grant Awards
Mr. Keller reviewed the Greenway Grant applications recommended for funding by the Greenway Grants Committee.

Greenway Planning Grants Program
The Town of Bethlehem, Albany County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of $10,000 for a Comprehensive Plan Update. The Committee recommends $10,000.

The Town of Marbletown, Ulster County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of $10,000 for a Historic High Falls Hamlet Plan. The Committee recommends $10,000.

The Town of Plattekill, Ulster County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of $10,000 for a Comprehensive Plan Update. The Committee recommends $10,000.

The Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of $10,000 for a Needs Assessment for Rural-Urban Linkages in Albany County. The Committee recommends $10,000.

The Village of Kinderhook, with the Village of Valatie, Columbia County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of $10,000 for a Recreational Resource Inventory, focusing on the Kinderhook Creek. The Committee recommends $10,000.

The Village of New Hempstead, Rockland County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of $10,000 for a Comprehensive Plan. The Committee recommends $10,000.
The Village of New Paltz, Ulster County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of $16,513 for a Reservoir Capacity Analysis. The Committee recommends $15,000.

Chairman McHenry called for a vote on the Greenway Planning and Compact Grants and on the Greenway Community designation. On a motion from Fran Dunwell (Meg Downey second) the grants and the Compact Community designation were unanimously approved.

Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area
Call to Order
Chairman Burke called the National Heritage Area (NHA) meeting to order.

Hudson River Valley Ramble Updates
Scott Keller noted that there were roughly 92,000 participants in 204 events for the 2018 Hudson River Valley Ramble, similar to the 2017 participation numbers.

Hudson River Train Tour App
Mr. Keller announced that a new theme had been added to the app, The Hudson Up Close, a partnership with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation’s Hudson River Estuary Program. The new theme features places where train travelers may access the Hudson, either by boating, swimming, or admiring the view from shore. He also noted that the advertising company hired to produce the video promoting the app, BBG&G, had won two awards for the video.

TAG Awards
Scott Keller announced that the National Heritage Area had partnered with the Preservation League of New York State on their TAG awards, or Technical Assistance Grants. The HRVNHA provided $10,000 towards the grant program, and eight awards were made to organizations in the Hudson Valley, including:

Rensselaerville Library Engineering/Structural Analysis, Rensselaerville Library $3,000

Hudson: Robert Jenkins House Specialized Conservation Study, Hendrick Hudson Chapter NSDAR, Inc., $2,777

Clinton Corners: Creek Meeting House Feasibility/Reuse Study, Town of Clinton Historical Society, $3,000

Pawling: Akin Free Library Engineering/Structural Analysis, Akin Hall Association, $3,000

Warwick: Old School Baptist Meeting House Building Condition Survey, Town of Warwick Historical Society, $3,000

Kingston Library Building Condition Survey, Kingston Library, $3,000

Somers: Elephant Hotel Building Condition Survey, Town of Somers, $3,000

Acting Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Keller welcomed Dara Morin, the new Project Manager for the Empire State Trail. He also thanked the staff for their hard work. His Acting Executive Director's Report is appended to and a part of these minutes.

New Business/Public Comment

Colonel Jim Johnson of the Hudson River Valley Institute announced that the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route panels at West Point would be installed soon. He also noted that a conference was slated for June on the Woodstock Festival.

Priscilla Brendler from Greater Hudson Heritage Network noted that the final Focus on Funding workshop would be held on November 27th. She also noted that their annual conference, held on September 27th at Bear Mountain, was completely sold out, and thanked the National Heritage Area for their sponsorship.

Johanna Yaun followed up on her trip with attendees from Orange County and New York City to celebrate the anniversary of the Battle of Saint Quentin Canal.

Future Meetings

There is a schedule change from previous years' Board Meetings. The 2019 Joint Greenway Board meetings will be:

- March 13, 2019
- June 12, 2019
- September 4, 2019
- November 13, 2019

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Campochiaro
Meeting Secretary
The Hudson River Valley Greenway Trails Program

Beth Campochiaro, Trails and Community Outreach Director
Goals of Greenway Trail Program

• Provide physical and visual access to the Hudson River

• Promote and preserve the Hudson’s Valley natural, historic, cultural, recreational, scenic, and agricultural resources through trail linkages

• Contribute to the economic development of local communities

• Promote community driven, voluntary process for establishing trails

• Encourage the development of local trails that link to major trail corridors, forming larger area and regional networks
The Greenway Trail

• The Greenway Act calls for a trail along the Hudson River

• The Greenway Trail System includes:
  – Riverside Trails: 281.54 miles
  – Countryside Corridors: 64.09 miles
  – Connector Trails: 40.90 miles
  – Hudson River Greenway Water Trail: 256 miles
  – State Bike Route 9: 147.00 miles

• All established through locally driven and nominated designations
How the Greenway Helps Trail Groups

• Technical assistance for planning and developing trails

• Funding for Greenway Trail development

• Conferences and workshops for trail groups

• Special events to highlight the trails ex: the Ramble

• Recognize and support local trails through Greenway Trail Designation
• In 2001 the Hudson River Greenway Trail System was awarded funding to establish the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail

• From the Adirondacks to Battery Park in Manhattan (256-miles)

• Goal of providing access points every 10-miles on both sides of the river, and camp sites every 15-miles

• The Great Hudson River Paddle
Greenway Connections Study

• Begun in 2015
• A project to identify likely connections that would complete the trunk line north/south Greenway Trail route from New York City to the Capital region and beyond.
• Route that could take advantage of various regional trail systems throughout the Valley
• Completed in 2018
Empire State Trail

• Through the efforts of the Greenway and NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, a route to connect the Greenway Trail and the Erie Canalway Trail

• 2017 State of the State: Governor Cuomo announces $200 million to fund construction of this trail

• Will be completed in 2020 as longest multi-use state trail in the nation

• 750 miles

• The Greenway is overseeing this project
Greenway Conservancy Trail Grants

• One of the Greenway’s goals is to help create a trail system between NYC and Whitehall
• Connecting downtowns, historic sites, open spaces, access to the river
• Land and Water Trails
• Trails are designated as part of the Greenway System but ownership and management is maintained
• Trail Grants are the main way we can fund projects to further the trail program
• A priority is to connect existing Greenway Trails to the Empire State Trail
Trail Grant Categories

• Construction: Projects to construct trail segments/water trail sites or trail links that further the goals of the Greenway Trail Program.

• Design: Projects to complete feasibility studies, design or plan trail segments/water trail sites or trail links that further the goals of the Greenway Trail Program.

• Rehabilitation/Improvement: Projects, including trail amenities, to improve trails/trail segments/water trail sites that further the goals of the Greenway Trail Program.

• Education/Interpretation: Projects, including but not limited to: trail signs, kiosks, mobile tours, websites or apps, guides, trail mapping, cartography, brochures, conferences, or workshops.
Eligibility

• Municipalities and not-for-profit organizations from within the Greenway area
• Must complete previously awarded Greenway Trail Grants before applying for new funding
• Water Trail Grants:
  • Launch, campsite and day use site owners located along the Hudson River and Champlain Canal, within the designated Greenway Area
  • Must become a designated site (site visit from Greenway staff, application)
• A signed resolution from governing board is required
• Grants are announced in June and will be awarded in November
Evaluation and Scoring

• Applications are reviewed by staff and by a Grants Committee
• Grants Committee makes recommendations to the Board who votes to approve

• Projects that connect to NYS Empire State Trail or other Hudson River Valley Greenway Trail will be given priority

• Rehabilitation/Improvement projects and Education/Interpretation projects on currently designated Greenway Trails given priority

• All projects must address at least one of the Greenway Criteria:
  • Regional Planning, Natural & Cultural Resource Protection, Economic Development, Public Access, Heritage & Environmental Education
Evaluation (continued)

• Construction or Design Projects:
  • Connect communities to the Hudson River or other important resource
  • Include maintenance provisions (We will not fund regular maintenance costs)
  • Encourage stewardship

• Rehabilitation or Improvement Projects:
  • Includes maintenance provisions
  • Encourages stewardship
  • Highlights natural, cultural, historic resources

• Education or Interpretation Projects:
  • Educates trail users through interpretation and enhances trail experience
  • Innovative/new technology
Additional Criteria

• Intermunicipal or Partnerships

• Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation/Alternative Transportation
  • Provide a non-motorized route between communities or to resources
  • Provide non-motorized links to public transportation

• Project is found in a local, regional or statewide plan

• Project will preserve, enhance or educate about biodiversity

• Incorporates local community participation (volunteer labor, public outreach)

• Comply with ADA

• Align with goals of Regional Economic Development Councils
Contact Information

- Beth Campochiaro
- Beth.Campochiaro@hudsongreenway.ny.gov
- 518-473-3835
Empire State Trail (EST)
Andy Beers and Paul Glesta have been joined by Dara Morin, the new EST Program Manager. Dara is providing invaluable project management and relieving some of the burden on Andy and Paul. All three continue working on the Empire State Trail. A website for the trail is available at Empire State Trail link. We have released an Empire State Trail Plan, an Empire State Trail Design Guide, and an Empire State Trail User Projection.

The Albany Hudson Electric Trail continues into the final planning stages with the release of an Overall Trail Alignment, a final environmental impact statement (FEIS), a trail maintenance plan, and a final concept plan. Visit Albany Hudson Electric Trail link for more information.

The Maybrook Trailway (previously called Beacon Line Rail Trail), running from Brewster to Hopewell Junction is being constructed by Metro North Railroad. A final concept plan has been released for this segment of the trail as well. Visit Maybrook Trailway link for more information.

The NYS Department of Transportation has released a draft concept plan for the on-road routes. It is available: NYS DOT Empire State Trail link.

Success Files on PBS
The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area (NHA) is being featured on the PBS short-series Success Files hosted by Rob Lowe as of September 24th. The show delivers cutting edge educational content for a short form documentary series. A 3 to 5-minute show on the NHA will run through September 2019 and is anticipated to reach 60 million households. In addition to the educational segment covering the NHA, we have received a one minute commercial about the Hudson River Valley Ramble which is on our Ramble website. In addition, we will be receiving the raw footage from the film shoots, including drone footage that should provide us with a promotional tool we have not had before.

Hudson River Safety, Operations, and Navigation Steering Committee
The Hudson River Safety, Operations, and Navigation Steering Committee held a public meeting and information gathering session on October 2. The purpose of the meeting was to bring stakeholders together to hear about what the Steering Committee has accomplished so far and to solicit input on topics of interest to the larger group. Issues
of most importance identified by the larger group (# of votes) included: Anchorages (28), Oil Spill Response & Recovery (16), Harbor Surge Barrier (15), Boater Safety (14), Champlain Hudson Power Electric Project (12), Real-Time Information (12), and Commercial-Recreation Interactions (10). The Steering Committee will use these results to guide further discussions.

**American Indian and Dutch Heritage**

Working with Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation staff, the Dutch Consulate, Conservancy Member Stefan Yarabek, and Allison Jungkurth, a graduate student at NYU, we have 1) created a webpage for Dutch Heritage on our NHA website [HRV NHA Dutch Heritage link](#), 2) are allowing NHA event submitters to select a Dutch theme for their event, and 3) created a draft combined American Indian and Dutch Heritage Map Guide similar to the others in our series. We have received a draft of the map/guide and are seeking a technical writer to create text friendly to the average reader.

**Hudson River Train Tour App**

Development of the app for use by Amtrak and Metro North riders in nearing completion. We launched the app on May 17th at the New York by Rail trade show at Penn Station. In process is to add the ability to navigate away from an audio page to another page and still have the audio play. Last week we launched a new theme, The Hudson Up Close, in partnership with the Hudson River Estuary Program. This theme identifies forty-three sites where the user may get on, in or be by the river. A marketing campaign was launched in May and concludes in November.

Working with Sound & Story Project of the Hudson Valley, we are also adding eight new stories by the end of the year, including Washington Irving, Sing Sing Prison, Revolutionary War, Dutch History in the Hudson Valley, Hudson River Greenway Water Trail, the Roosevelts, Lighthouses of the Hudson, and Hudson River School Painters. All staff participated in testing the app.

In August we began to receive analytics on usage from OnCell. As of November 9 the most popular themes have been What’s Out the Window, Nature & Culture, and Voices of the Hudson. The top three pages have been Glacial Lake Albany, Sing Sing prison, and Castleton Bridges. We have had users from Italy, Canada, the Netherlands, England, New Zealand, and at least nineteen states. Usage patterns show a definite spike on weekends, with little use during the week. In speaking with a Westchester County commuter, she was unaware of the app, despite our promotional campaign in Grand Central. Once I pointed out to her we had a presence, she noticed it. We will work with the vendor to try to capture commuter attention in a different way.

**Great Hudson River Paddle**

The Great Hudson River Paddle was held from August 1-5. Initially scheduled to be a trip from Albany to Poughkeepsie, dangerous weather conditions resulted in a Coeymans to Poughkeepsie trip. The vendor is pleased with the event, and continues to
host overnight events promoting the Greenway Water Trail. Overall nineteen participants and ten staff participated, including our own Cody Arana.

**New Greenway Website** [Hudson River Valley Greenway link](#)

The Greenway, in coordination with NYS Information Technology Services, launched our new website on June 26th, fully three months ahead of schedule. The entire process from first meeting to launch, including staff training took six weeks, a new record for any state agency. The site looks fantastic, featuring many new photos, is now mobile responsive, and is nearly 100% accessible. Feedback to date has been extremely positive. Dan Jeanson, Beth Campochiaro, Shannon Day, and I worked diligently to make this happen. We continue to work to bring the website up to 100% accessibility.

**Staff Activities**

The entire Greenway staff, led by **Shannon Day**, organized and staffed the Hudson River Harbor Safety Committee meeting and breakout session detailed earlier. The conduct of the meeting was praised by many members of the Steering Committee, as well as US Coast Guard Captain of the Port of New York Jason Tama. What was anticipated to be a potentially contentious meeting, ran smoothly thanks to our staff.

Trails and Community Outreach Director **Beth Campochiaro** and Assistant Event Coordinator **Cody Arana** finished working on the 2018 Hudson River Valley Ramble. Featuring nearly 200 events this year, the Ramble was a great success.

Beth also worked on reviewing trail designations, preparing Board and Grants Committee meeting minutes, attended Partners Restoring the Hudson conference call, the Green NY Forum on Sustainability, NYS Trails Council, and a SCORP planning meeting with Scott Keller.

Project Director **Dan Jeanson** is leading the effort to complete the Hudson River Line Mobile App described earlier, including much of the work on the new theme, The Hudson Up Close. Dan also attended the mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council quarterly meeting, a Dutchess Trails Roundtable, and made a presentation on the Greenway and NHA to a SUNY Albany Parks Planning Class.

Dan and Cody also attended the Greater Hudson Heritage Network Annual Conference.

Grants and Finance Coordinator **Shannon Day** organized the final Conservancy Board meeting regarding the AHET SEQR process, worked with the Chamber regarding Open FOIL Workflow Application and will attend a training on the new program on 11/13, continued to work with NYS Archives to establish a records retention schedule, underwent financial system training to assist with entering invoices, worked with Ted Spiegel and Maar Printing to finalize 2019 HRVG calendars.

Assistant Event Coordinator **Cody Arana** began training on the Content Management Software for the new website, tested a repair to a glitch in the Hudson River Trail Tour app, and attended an Oil Spill Risk Assessment Workshop, and writing and publishing our newsletters.
Scott Keller conducted a debrief on the Hudson River Paddle, participated in a Land Use and Scenery Working Group meeting for the 2020 update the Hudson River Estuary Program’s (HREP) Action Agenda, hosted a Teaching the Hudson Valley meeting, participated in the Preservation League of New York’s Technical Assistance Grant review, and attended the quarterly HREP Management Committee meeting.

As always, the entire staff participated in reviewing grants applications for Greenway Council Planning grants and to test the Train Tour app. Beth, Dan and Shannon are working with communities and non-profits to resolve expired grants. Our staff works with these grantees to extend grant performance times, complete grant projects, or return funds that will not be used.

Teaching the Hudson Valley
Annual Program Report from THV Program Manager Debi Duke
Michael Zwelling has taken over Teaching the Hudson Valley and is working to learn all about the program. Michael, Chief of Interpretation Scott Rector, and THV intern Tisha Dunstan met to discuss operations and direction for the program in late October.
## Grants Program Update

### Grants Completed Since the September 12, 2018 Board Meeting

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<tr>
<th>Grant Type</th>
<th>Grantee</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Awarded</th>
<th>Match</th>
<th>Award Date</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
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<td>Henry W. DuBois Road Improvements</td>
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<td>12-Sep-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compact</td>
<td>Town of Poughkeepsie</td>
<td>Comprehensive Plan Update</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>12-Sep-18</td>
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<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Village of Greenwich</td>
<td>Showing off the Battenkill</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>12-Sep-18</td>
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<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Village of Whitehall</td>
<td>Comprehensive Plan</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>12-Sep-18</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
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