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## Media Release

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For Immediate Release
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## **Town Parking/Traffic Flow Reconfigured**

Due to on-going concerns for safety of pedestrians, bicycles and vehicles using the Town Hall parking lot, and after consulting with officials from New York State Department of Transportation, Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development, and town engineers, the Town Board will be closing the south entrance/exit to town hall parking. The northern entrance/exit will remain open and traffic flow and public parking within the lot reconfigured, to facilitate safer passage of pedestrians to and from Town Hall.

Public parking remains in the town hall parking lot with accessible parking located on the immediate north side of Town Hall.

Employee parking will be located to the east of the public lot. Supervisor Sue Crane discussed the planned changes at recent Town Board Meetings. We are grateful for work currently underway by the town Highway Department to additionally lay out the driveway to the new highway garage located on the town campus east of town hall parking." "For some time, we have been advised by transportation officials, to consider closing one of the two entrance/exit curb cuts to Town Hall parking to improve safety of employee and visitors, including drivers, bikers, pedestrians and physically challenged citizens who regularly visit Town Hall for meetings and town services" said the Supervisor. "We will be blocking the southern entrance to vehicular traffic for the immediate months ahead, first with traffic cones. This will enable visitors to visually become accustomed to the change when entering and accessing the parking. In the spring, a more

permanent reconfiguration will occur including sidewalks and street trees. This comes at a time when are looking forward to sidewalks to be constructed on the east side of South Broadway from Town Hall to Hardscrabble Plaza, made possible from a federal grant through the Transportation Alternatives Program. "
"Town Hall is truly a multi-purpose building in the community. It is the location of our Town Court House, Justices and their Clerks offices; Town Clerk services and town/county tax collection; Water Department, Recreation Department;
Assessor services; Building/Zoning Departments offices; meeting space for town boards and committees and all town business offices. In addition the Town Hall is the location of regularly scheduled exercise/fitness classes for Senior Citizens, various ad hoc inter-municipal meetings and conferences with consultants."
"It is our intention for the Red Hook Town Hall to continue as a welcoming center for town business and activities, open, safe and convenient to all," said Supervisor Crane.