



DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2011

Technical Advisory Committee Representatives attending:

Scott Koenig, City of Dover/Public Works (Chair)
Mike Albert for A.M. Townshend, City of Dover, Planning & Insp.
Mary Ellen Gray for Sarah Keifer, Kent County Planning
Cathy Smith, Delaware Transit Corporation
Mark Dixon, Federal Highway Administration
Terry Reilly, Transp. Mgmt. Assoc. DE

Dave Hugg, Town of Smyrna
Greg Oliver, DeDOT Planning
Phil Wheeler, DNREC
Milton Melendez, DE Dept. of Agriculture
Tricia Faust, Dover Air Force Base
Byard O'Neal, DE Motor Transport Assoc.

Members not attending:

David Edgell, Office of State Planning (Vice-chair)
Rick Crawford, Norfolk Southern
Gary Norris, City of Milford
Theon Callender for Mayor Williams, Cheswold, municipal rep.

Tim Riley, Kent Conservation District
Ryan Long, Federal Transit Admin.
Joe Zilcosky, DE Economic Dev. Office

- 1) Introduction of Members & Guests
- 2) Public Comments
- 3) ***ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda***

Ms. Wieczoreck asked that Item 5 be removed from the agenda, as the document was not yet complete.

MOTION By Mr. Oliver to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Mr. Albert. Motion carried.

- 4) ***ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes – December 8, 2010***

MOTION By Ms. Gray to approve the minutes. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Motion carried.

- 5) ***ACTION ITEM: Draft FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program – J Wieczoreck - REMOVED***

- 6) ***ACTION ITEM: Dover Transit Center Neighborhood Plan Final Report – MPO Staff***

Mr. Galvin reported that only hard copies were available due to a problem with the MPO website and the size of the file. He also reported that he hoped to get the document on the Downtown Dover Partnership (DDP) website. Mr. Galvin informed the TAC that the plan would be going to the City Council on February 14th, and the Planning Commission on February 23rd; it would then go to the DDP and the MPO Council for adoption. It was noted that the plan had been presented to DeDOT, who suggested that an area-wide traffic study be conducted. The MPO has begun investigating how that can be done. Mr. Galvin also noted that there are still some typos and mis-spellings in the document.

Ms. Wieczoreck informed the TAC members that if they approve of the Plan, a recommendation that the Council adopt it as part of the Regional Transportation Plan was needed.

MOTION By Mr. Oliver to recommend that Council adopt the Dover Transit Center Neighborhood Plan as part of the Regional Transportation Plan. Seconded by Ms. Gray. Motion carried.

Mr. Wheeler, Ms. Gray, Ms. Smith and Mr. Koenig all asked for CDs of the Plan.

- 7) **Member Agency Reports:**

City of Dover: Public Works – Mr. Koenig reported that Governors Avenue and the first phase of the Transit



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Center were completed. He also noted that a new light at South Street would be implemented soon. Wyoming Mill Road utilities are being relocated, and construction should begin in March or April. The City is expecting a draft environmental assessment for Clarence Street soon. Mr. Koenig said that additional funding – from Federal Highways or some other source - would be needed to complete the Clarence Street project.

Planning – NO REPORT

Kent County: Planning / Soil Conservation – NO REPORTS

Smyrna; Mr. Hugg reported that Smyrna is ready to begin US13 design phases 2 and 3, pending DelDOT financing in October. Smyrna is also looking at an National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) “Our Town” grant to study bringing Smyrna’s downtown over to US13.

Milford; Other Municipalities – NO REPORTS

Dover Air Force Base – Ms. Faust referred to Ms. Smith’s report from DTC and added that the Base is also meeting with DART regarding the Rideshare program. She reported that the AICUZ data is now in digital format and was forwarded to the City of Dover.

TMA DE – NO REPORT

Federal Highway Administration – Mr. Dixon reported that a continuing resolution is expected in March.

State of Delaware: DelDOT Planning – Mr. Oliver noted that Secretary Wicks resignation, effective March 18, was reported in the newspapers. He had no further report.

DTC – Ms. Smith reported that on March 9th a public hearing on service changes will be held at DelDOT. It will take place in the Felton-Farmington room from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM. In particular, Route 106 must change because buses can no longer go onto the Air Base. The bus will stop at the Visitors’ Center entrance. The stop will be facilitated by the guard. Ms. Smith said that the Air Base will install a bus stop, but Ms. Faust said that the Air Base has not agreed to the installation. Ms. Smith reported that Paratransit buses are still allowed on site, but all 60 drivers must be vetted by the Air Base. The union will not allow all the drivers to be investigated. Ms. Faust said that DTC is working with Security to resolve the issue. Ms. Smith also reported that the Route 301 will have a schedule change to correct timing problems in connection with SEPTA and Amtrak trains.

There was some further discussion concerning Base housing and the fact that after active military, retired military, and relatives of military personnel, housing is made available to the public. There was also discussion concerning security and background checks of the union drivers.

Ms. Wieczorek asked about construction of the building at the transit center. Ms. Smith did not have any updates on the building. Ms. Wieczorek said she would e-mail John Eustace about the project.

DNREC – Mr. Wheeler reported that Delaware adopted the California low emissions vehicle regulations, to take effect in 2014. Although there was no comment prior to adoption, the National Auto Association has expressed its objection concerning cost. Ms. Wieczorek asked if the states surrounding Delaware already use the regulation. Mr. Wheeler said that yes, Pennsylvania and Maryland adopted the regulation. He also noted that Delaware needs this regulation to meet Air Quality Standards. Delaware’s version does not include an electric vehicle requirement.

Agriculture; Statewide Planning / DEDO – NO REPORTS

Delaware Motor Transport Association; – NO REPORTS

Federal Transit Administration; Norfolk Southern – NO REPORTS

8) Staff Report –

8.1 Outreach Activities – K. Layton

Ms. Layton reported that the MPO is working with Greg Hughes of DE Government Information Center (GIC) on the MPO website. His department also works with municipalities on their websites. She reported that the newsletter would be printed in a couple of weeks, and if anyone preferred to receive it via e-mail to let her know. Ms. Layton also noted that hard copies of the Data Book were available. Ms. Layton announced that the TIP Tour would be held on April 9, 2011 and asked members to contact her if they wished to attend. She also reported on other upcoming outreach events for the spring.

8.2 Transportation Studies – J. Galvin

Mr. Galvin reported that the Data and Demographics Committee met on February 24th to work on the population and



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household projections. The employment projections would be addressed next.

Mr. Galvin also reported that the TIP Prioritization work group, which called for volunteers at the last TAC meeting, has not yet met. The MPO is waiting for information from DelDOT, who is also working on this issue.

Mr. Galvin reported that the MPO is also waiting for information from DelDOT to work in-house on a northern Kent County Traffic Study from DE 42 and Messina Hill Road west.

8.3 Regional Bicycle Plan – J. Wiczoreck

Ms. Wiczoreck reported that the working group met on January 25 and March 1 to review a list of recommendations and priority rankings to decide if the process should compare projects or rank them as stand-alone. The Plan should be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

Ms. Wiczoreck said that the Unified Planning Work Plan (UPWP) draft would be finished soon. She also noted that the New Partners for Smart Growth conference was a very helpful event. Subjects covered included land use, transportation, environmental and housing, with discussions on sustainability and reducing energy consumption. She announced that the UPWP would have funding to send a local government representative to the conference, which will be held in San Diego, CA, in February.

8.4 UPWP Progress & Financial Reports – J. Wiczoreck

8.5 Correspondence & Publications/Reports – J. Wiczoreck

Ms. Wiczoreck announced that she would be retiring at the end of June 2011.

9. Next Meeting: April 13, 2011

MOTION By Mr. Oliver to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Gray. Motion carried.