



Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

P.O. Box 383, Dover, Delaware 19903
<http://www.doverkentmpo.org>

(302) 387-6030 FAX: (302) 387-6032

DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Public Advisory Committee Members & Alternates in attendance:

Horace Cook, Chair
James Webster
Arley Cooper, Jr.

Dwight Meyer, Vice Chair
William Saunders
James Brown

Prameela Kaza
Michael Gumrot
Guy Veach

Committee members not attending:

Dr. Carlton Cannon, Alt. at large
Dr. Daniel Houghtaling

Richard Ornauer

Non-members in attendance:

Hon. Win Abbot, Council member, Clayton
Hon. Brian Bushweller, State Senator
Dawn Hopkins, DelDOT Public Relations
Katie Connolly, Sun Pile Driving Equipment
Jim Galvin, MPO Staff
Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff

Hon. Bruce Ennis, State Senator
Louise Holt, DelDOT Public Relations
Beth Webb, Emeca/SPE USA
Juanita Wieczoreck, MPO Staff
Kate Layton, MPO Staff

The meeting was held in the Kenton Ruritan Club and called to order at approximately 6:30 PM, allowing members and guests to eat dinner first.

1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

3. *ACTION ITEM:* Approval of Agenda

MOTION By Mr. Cooper to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.

4. *ACTION ITEM:* Approval of Minutes / December 16, 2008

MOTION By Mr. Meyer to approve the minutes. Seconded by Ms. Kaza. Motion carried.

5. *ACTION ITEM:* FY2010 TIP Submittals – Jim Galvin, MPO Staff

- 5.1 Milford, SR1 and NE Front Street
- 5.2 DE 8 Concept Plan and Operations Study
- 5.3 North Dover Study

Mr. Galvin reviewed the FY2010 projects. Material was distributed explaining the scoring, and a discussion followed reviewing and explaining the project scoring. The scores were agreed upon as follows:

Milford: 2.59 / DE 8: 2.87 / North Dover Study E&W: 2.72

MOTION By Mr. Meyer to recommend Council approve the projects with staff recommendations as presented.

Seconded by Ms. Kaza. Motion carried.

6. *ACTION ITEM:* Draft FY 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program – J. Galvin



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Staff explained that only the Milford project was new and added to this list.

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to recommend Council approve the list as recommended by staff. Seconded by Mr.

Mr. Veach. Motion carried.

7. ACTION ITEM: Proposed amendments to FY06-09 Transportation Improvement Program – DeIDOT

The committee reviewed the proposed stimulus money amendments to the FY2009 TIP.

MOTION By Mr. Meyer to recommend Council approve the amendments as recommended by staff.
Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.

8. Staff Report – J. Galvin

- 8.1 UPWP Progress & Financial Reports**
- 8.2 Other Project Updates/Activities**
- 8.3 Correspondence & Publications/Reports**
- 8.4 Public Outreach – K. Layton**

Ms. Layton reported that the TIP Bus Tour was scheduled for April 4th. The bus will be provided by Hilton. A list of locations to be visited will be available soon.

There was discussion concerning the future Transit Center. Intra and inter-state bus service will be handled; there will be a waiting area, vending machines and a ticket booth. City Cab, which now houses the Greyhound Bus line, will also occupy space at the Transit Center. EZ Pass administrative offices, the MPO and possibly the City of Dover ambulance service will also be housed at the Center.

Mr. Cook noted his concerns again about West Street, Eden Hill and the railroad tracks. He was particularly concerned about passenger vehicles unable to see over the rise at the railroad crossing and the fact that there is no space for left turns. He would like to ask DeIDOT to make it a “NO LEFT TURN” intersection. Mr. Galvin noted that West Street improvements are in the Regional Transportation Plan, but not in the TIP. Senator Bushweller said that he believed making the street one-way southbound was being considered. It was also noted that left turning vehicles caused significant traffic back ups, and that there was a traffic signal at Queen Street to make left turns easier. Mr. Cook reiterated that it was a safety issue and that left turns should be cut out and West Street made one-way southbound.

Mr. Galvin distributed the MPO’s “aspirations” list of projects – those that did not make it into the TIP or CTP.

Ms. Layton introduced Senators Bushweller and Ennis before continuing with the Staff reports.

Ms. Layton reported that the Bike Summit on April 24th will have experts in bike planning, pedestrian friendly communities and healthy bike initiatives. It will begin at 8 AM. Committee members asked if Anthony Aglio and Jennifer Baldwin from DeIDOT could come to the April 21st meeting.

9. PRESENTATION: Conversation between PAC members and members of Delaware General Assembly regarding transportation issues.

- 9.1 Introductions**
- 9.2 Presentation from Kate Layton of MPO**
- 9.3 Discussion of transportation issues**



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Senator Bushweller introduced himself as “the new man on the block.” He noted that he would be working to get Kent County its fair share of transportation money. He felt that the majority of the money is concentrated elsewhere in the State. Senator Bushweller also noted that he would depend on Senator Ennis and look to the MPO to solve transportation issues in Kent County.

Senator Ennis also said he was disappointed in the portion of stimulus funds being used in Kent County. He noted that \$70M is being allocated to pavement projects – but he did not know of a list of such projects in Kent County. The senator also mentioned the Transit Center and Route 10 and Sorghum Mill Road as the only other projects in Kent County.

There was some discussion concerning other projects in Kent County that could satisfy the federal requirement for a 90-day turnaround time; however, some of those projects had not yet acquired Right-of-Way (ROW), and stimulus money cannot be used for ROW.

There was continued discussion of possible projects for the stimulus money. Ms. Kaza asked if there was a match required for the stimulus funding; Senator Ennis said there was not, the idea is to get people to work.

Mr. Cook asked why Delaware did not get its fair share from the federal programs; Senator Bushweller replied that Delaware actually doesn't do badly because of Dover Air Force Base; Delaware is getting its fair share of funds; Kent County getting less money is a State issue, not federal. Senator Ennis noted that Secretary Wicks of DelDOT says that these projects are the only ones that meet the federal requirements for the stimulus money.

There was general discussion concerning municipal streets and possible alternate ways to get projects funded. There was also discussion as to exactly how much Delaware's shortfall would be.

Ms. Wiczoreck was asked about using stimulus money for the Carter Road project; she noted that the use of stimulus money is very well defined and that different categories of the money limit the use even further. DelDOT is constrained as to how they can use the money. She asked Senator Ennis if the legislature is looking to find alternate funding sources for the Transportation Trust Fund; Senator Ennis said that they weren't, they were only looking to fill the deficit.

Discussion followed concerning speeding in developments, and traffic calming devices such as speed bumps, speed tables, and rumble strips.

Committee members questioned how Levy Court allows development, leaving DelDOT to make improvements after the fact. Some felt that the developer and the farmer who wanted to develop land should not be assessed for the improvements made to the property, with smaller development coming in later and not paying for the improvements. One suggestion was to assess everyone developing property, like the school districts do. Senator Ennis felt an alternative, to assess all developers and not the taxpayers should be considered.

The committee members thanked the senators for attending the meeting.

MOTION By Mike Gumrot to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:00 PM. Seconded by Ms. Kaza.
Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: April 21, Milford or Harrington. Location to be determined.