



# 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 MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2009

### PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS & ALTERNATES:

Dwight Meyer, Vice Chair  
Richard Ornauer  
Dr. Daniel Houghtaling  
James Brown

James Webster  
Michael Gumrot

William Saunders  
Arley Cooper, Jr.

### MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:

Horace Cook, Chair  
Guy Veach

Prameela Kaza

Dr. Carlton Cannon, Alt. at large

### NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Miranda Marquez, Dept. of Labor, DHSS  
Bridget Lane (PAC candidate)  
Kate Layton, MPO Staff

Anthony Aglio, DeIDOT  
Juanita Wieczoreck, MPO Staff  
Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:20 PM at the Harrington Senior Center.

### **1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS**

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Ornauer announced that Mr. Gumrot was promoted to Assistant State Coordinator for AARP.

### **3. PRESENTATION: Delaware Bike Summit - Anthony Aglio and Kate Layton**

Mr. Aglio distributed material about DeIDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian programs. He then reviewed the program and its multiple components: School Safety fairs, Bike to Work day, DE Bicycle Council, Resort Bicycle program, Bike Share program, Bike Rodeo, and Safety Check points. He noted that an important element is safety education. Mr. Aglio also reported that although there are designated bike routes in the State Plan, there is no money allotted to build facilities. Bicycle facilities are "tagged" onto other projects in the corridor when possible.

Ms. Layton said that 250 attendees are expected for the April 24<sup>th</sup> Bike Summit at DeITech. She also informed the PAC members that the summit is being paid for by corporate sponsors: Valero, engineering firms, Bike DE, White Clay Bike Club, and Bethany Cycle and Fitness. Locally and nationally known speakers will be present at the summit.

Ms. Layton explained that the expectation was that the summit would be an exchange of ideas, with the hope that, when there is funding, those ideas would be implemented. She noted that many strategies do not have a huge cost associated, such as bicycle parking and striping roads for bike lanes.

### **4. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda**

MOTION By Mr. Ornauer to approve the agenda. Seconded by Dr. Houghtaling. Motion carried.

### **5. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes / February 24, 2009**

MOTION By Mr. Ornauer to approve the minutes. Seconded by Dr. Houghtaling. Motion carried.



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### **6. ACTION ITEM: North Dover Study Recommendation Revision – J. Wieczoreck (enclosure)**

Ms. Wieczoreck explained that this item was back on the agenda due to concerns from Delaware State University's Agricultural Sciences department. The original recommendations were based on DSU moving the aquaculture ponds; the MPO was informed that this was no longer a consideration. Additionally, there were concerns about a wooded area that was used for environmental education. The area is the site of a heron rookery and is inhabited by endangered species. DSU staff expressed concern over traffic and pollution impacting the area with the road configuration that was suggested. The roadway was reworked to go around the ponds and to have less impact on the woodland area. If DSU does not go ahead with its plan for a shopping center at the intersection of College Road and US13, there is no conflict; if they do move forward with the shopping center, the new access road will be necessary, and the Agricultural Sciences department will have to appeal to DSU leadership for any further considerations of the area.

She noted that the blue route on the map was adopted by Council, but will be modified to show the two options shown on the map.

**MOTION** By Mr. Ornauer to recommend Council adopt the revised map to reflect both options for future consideration. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot.

Before the vote, Mr. Meyer noted that a change in DSU administration could change everything.

Motion carried with one abstention.

### **7. ACTION ITEM: Draft FY 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program – J. Wieczoreck (on website)**

Ms. Wieczoreck reported that the Council approved the TIP project list at their March meeting pending no negative comments. However, the Milford SR1/NE Front Street grade-separated intersection project was added to the TIP, but was not in the Regional Transportation Plan. The Plan was published for a 30 day comment period, and the new project was added. The MPO received 4 e-mails in favor of the project. The project is Air Quality exempt and regionally significant.

**MOTION** By Mr. Ornauer to recommend Council give final approval to the draft FY10-13 TIP pending federal approval of conformity analysis and determination. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.

### **8. ACTION ITEM: Proposed Revision to the Draft 2009 Update to the Regional Transportation Plan – Inclusion of SR1/NE Front St. (DE 14) Grade Separated Intersection –D/KC MPO**

Ms. Wieczoreck reported on the projects which would be moved to the aspirations list with the new project added.

**MOTION** By Mr. Ornauer to recommend Council approve the addition of the SR1/NE Front Street grade-separated intersection to the Regional Transportation Plan. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.

### **9. ACTION ITEM: Draft FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program – J. Wieczoreck**

Ms. Wieczoreck explained that this document was not the full program. She did not yet have the amount of total funds available from prior years from DelDOT. Also, federal rules have changed, and the match can no longer include staff time from DelDOT. She reviewed the projects in the work program and noted that one new project is for a regional bicycle plan.



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MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to recommend Council approve the list of projects for the UPWP as written without

costs associated. Seconded by Mr. Webster. Motion carried.

## **10. DISCUSSION ITEM: Update on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding – List of Projects**

Ms. Layton reviewed the list of projects in line for stimulus money. She reported that Mayor Mooney of Camden and the MPO Council had attended a League of Local Governments meeting, and many of the small municipalities are unhappy. They do not feel that enough money is available to them.

Ms. Wieczoreck noted that the stimulus money is subject to federal rules that are out of the State's control. The "use it or lose it" timeline is not negotiable. She also noted that the money is split into eligible programs, which means that there is not a lot of money in each category. Ms. Layton reported that only 30% of Delaware roads are eligible for the federal money, which is then further split into categories by population. There was some further discussion, noting that Kent County projects are not necessarily a high priority on a Statewide basis, and are therefore not far enough along to qualify for stimulus money.

## **11. Staff Report –**

- 11.1 UPWP Progress & Financial Reports**
- 11.2 Other Project Updates/Activities**
- 11.3 Correspondence & Publications/Reports**
- 11.4 Public Outreach – K. Layton**

## **NEXT MEETING: June 23, Annual PAC Workshop, Dover. Location TBD.**

Ms. Layton led discussion considering where to have the annual workshop. Ms. Wieczoreck announced that it would be on the regularly scheduled PAC Tuesday night, June 23. Ms. Wieczoreck noted that the Festival Buffet Room could be hard to find for attendees new to Dover Downs. Consensus was that Dover Downs would be a good choice, particularly with the variety of food available.

MOTION By Mr. Webster to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:00 PM. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.