



Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

P.O. Box 383, Dover, Delaware 19903

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

<http://www.doverkentmpo.org>

DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2012

PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Dwight Meyer, Chair	Michael Gumrot, Vice Chair
Dr. Carlton Cannon	Phyllis B. Collins
David Fry	Dr. Daniel Houghtaling
James Webster	

MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:

James Brown	Kevin Yingling
Edmund Maron	Prameela Kaza

NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

T. William Brockenbrough, DelDOT	Rich Vetter, MPO Executive Director
Kate Layton, MPO Staff	James Galvin, MPO Staff
Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff	

1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda

MOTION By Mr. Webster to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Fry. Motion carried.

4. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes August 21, 2012

MOTION By Mr. Webster to approve the minutes. Seconded by Ms. Collins. Motion carried.

5. ACTION ITEM: FY2012-2015 TIP Amendment (Addition of column for FY2016 funding) – R. Vetter

Staff noted that this amendment was necessary because the MPO is not doing a new (FY2013-16) TIP this year, but FY2016 funding must be added to the FY12-15 TIP. Mr. Galvin reported that this document incorporates all administrative modifications and previous TIP amendments. The document is on the website and the public comment period is open.

Mr. Fry was not happy with the document, citing grammatical and typographical errors. He said there was a lot of information but he wasn't impressed, and felt there were problems with the project descriptions. Mr. Vetter reported that this amendment was required by the federal agencies just three days before the end of the federal fiscal year. He noted that staff was aware of the typographical errors and reported that TAC members had also made comments.

Mr. Meyer felt there was a lot of information, for just about anything someone could ask about.

MOTION By Ms. Collins to recommend Council adopt the TIP amendment with corrections as noted. Seconded by Mr. Webster. Motion carried with one veto (5:1).

6. Presentation: Revised DelDOT Traffic Impact Study (TIS) Regulations – T.W. Brockenbrough, DelDOT

Mr. Brockenbrough gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the proposed TIS regulations. He reported that the comment period for the revised regulations ended on October 20th. Details of the regulations are on DelDOT's website. He reviewed the definition of TIS, noting that the similarity between TIS and other tools (with similar acronyms) has been confusing. DelDOT hopes to clear up the confusion with the new regulations. Additional problems surface with the different county requirements for intersection and road studies. The new regulations include an Infrastructure Fee Program that would have to be approved by the legislature if the regulations are adopted.



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7. Discussion Item: Regional (Metropolitan) Transportation Plan (RTP) Update – J. Galvin

Mr. Galvin reported that the document sent out for this discussion was a one-page summary of what has been done to update the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The MPO has consulted with both DeDOT and WILMAPCO, because spending will be leveling out over the next 20 years. There was some discussion concerning subdivisions and improvements that developers are required to either build or contribute money towards. Mr. Galvin also reported that the prioritization working group would meet soon. There are new projects to be added to the MTP list and those projects will have to be prioritized. Although work on the prioritization methodology had begun earlier in the year, it was postponed while DeDOT explored the possibility of software to assist in the process. He noted that the TAC had a discussion as to whether or not the MPO should use the old prioritization process used for the last MPO Plan, and just add the new projects, or start over and use the new process on the entire list. He asked for input from the PAC, but there was no further discussion.

8. Discussion Item: U.S. Route 13 Corridor Study (Town of Smyrna) – R. Vetter

The Smyrna US13 study draft report has been submitted to the Town. The report is similar to the Transit Design Book that was done for the Dover Transit Center area. The town is reviewing the study and, if adopted, it will be an amendment to the comprehensive plan and adopted in the Spring. They are looking at pedestrian connections, land use themes and a new esthetic for Smyrna.

9. MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Meyer reported that development is still ongoing on Brenford Road, traffic is more congested all the time. He was glad that it was “on the radar” in the TIP and CTP. He also said that the intersection of Woodlytown Road and Irish Hill Road was bad at night. Caesar Rodney High School has 2700 students, but was built for 1600. The school district held a referendum that passed, and a new building has been approved.

Ms. Collins reported that a pedestrian was hit crossing US13 in front of DE State University last week. It was not a student, it was a person who was attending the homecoming game. DSU has distributed a pedestrian survey; only 80 responses have been received. There was some discussion concerning a pedestrian bridge proposal that was not implemented; cost, aesthetic reasons, limited access issues, no connection to buildings.

Mr. Webster reported that the new Dover High School is coming along.

Mr. Gumrot reported that the Milford Bypass was just repaved north of the intersection; there was some buckling in one area of the road. He asked about the Route 1/Route 30 intersection. Mr. Vetter said it was scheduled for construction this calendar year.

10. Staff Reports –

10.1 Progress & Financial Reports – Rich Vetter

10.2 Other Project Updates/Activities – MPO Staff

10.3 Correspondence, Publications/Reports/Outreach – K. Layton

Ms. Layton reported on the RTP (MTP) presentations she would be giving for Smyrna, Kent County Levy Court and the City of Dover. She asked the PAC members to let her know if there were any groups or organizations that she should contact for other presentations. She announced that there would be a public workshop on the MTP on November 14th. It is being advertised on Comcast Xfinity, in the Delaware State News and on the MPO website. She reported that the Bike Summit went well, and Secretary Bhatt introduced a new education program for bicyclist and driver rules and responsibilities. The Data Book will be published later this year.

10.4 Discussion of December meeting date

Ms. Layton asked if the 6:00 PM start time was working for everyone; consensus was to keep the 6:00 PM time. The PAC members also decided to hold their December meeting on Tuesday, December 18th, at the Kent County Administration Building

11. ADJOURN

MOTION By Ms. Collins to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.