



Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

P.O. Box 383, Dover, Delaware 19903

(302) 760-2713 FAX: (302) 739-6340

<http://doverkentmpo.org>

DOVER/KENT MPO COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF JANUARY 2, 2008

Kent County Administrative Complex / Room 220

Dover/Kent MPO Council Members and /or Representatives thereof attending:

Brad Eaby, for Brooks Banta, President, Kent County Levy Court, Chairman
Don Mulrine for Robert Mooney, Town of Camden, for Kent County Municipalities, Vice-Chairman
Anthony DePrima, for Carleton Carey, Mayor, City of Dover,
Kennard Potts for Stephen Kingsberry, Director, Delaware Transit Corporation,
Elizabeth Olsen, DE Dept. of Safety & Homeland Security, for Governor Minner, State of Delaware
Ralph Reeb for Carolann Wicks, Secretary, DelDOT
Tashia Clemons for Hassan Raza, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Admin. (FHWA)

Members not attending:

Letitia A. Thompson, Regional Administrator, Region III, Federal Transit Admin. (FTA)

Non-members attending:

Jeff Niezgoda, DelDOT
Sarah Keifer, Kent County Planning
Maria Andaya, DelDOT
Griffin DuBeuil, private citizen
Alan Marteney, Century Engineering
Brian Citino, Dover Post
Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff

Bobbie Geier, DelDOT Planning
Richard L. Ornauer, PAC
Debbie Pfeil, URS Corp.
Frances Holmes, private citizen
Mayor Carleton E. Carey, Sr., Dover
Juanita Wieczoreck, MPO Staff
Josh Waltz, MPO Staff

1. Introduction of Members and Guests
2. Public Comments
3. **ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda**

MOTION By Mr. Mulrine to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Potts. Motion carried.

4. **ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes/November 7, 2007**

MOTION By Mr. Mulrine to approve the minutes. Seconded Mr. DiPrima. Motion carried.

5. **ACTION ITEM: Draft DE 8 Concept Plan and Operations Study – J. Wieczoreck**

Ms. Wieczoreck reviewed the history of the project and its goals. She then noted the highlights of the report, which had been sent to the Council members for review. She noted that SHPO had questions concerning the cultural resource inventory and impact section, and that the consultant, JMT was working with them to make clarifications. She also reported that there needed to be more coordination with DelDOT concerning NEPA. Mr. DePrima asked if

the consultant was aware of the standards, and Ms. Wieczoreck answered affirmatively. It was also noted that although the consultant has been fully paid, they are cooperating with the MPO to finish the study.

MOTION By Mr. DePrima to table this issue pending resolution of the above issues. Seconded by Mr. Mulrine. Motion carried.



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6. **ACTION ITEM: Draft FY 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program – J. Wieczoreck**

Mr. Waltz and Ms. Wieczoreck reviewed the proposed list of projects for the FY 2009-1012 TIP, comparing it to funding levels in the 2006-2009 TIP. Changes were made based on availability of funds; some projects were changed to years beyond the 4-year TIP and were not shown in the list. There was considerable discussion concerning projects that were changed. Mr. DePrima was frustrated that Dover was not consulted in the process and

wanted to know where the money for project previously funded had gone; Mr. Eaby felt that getting more information in a timely manner was important. It was suggested that Ms. Wieczoreck be involved in the process in future. Mr. Reeb pointed out that having to choose between one project or another could put Ms. Wieczoreck in conflict with Council members. He also noted that DelDOT has specific and sole jurisdiction in this matter.

MOTION By Mr. DePrima to approve the draft list of projects for further analysis for the 2009-2012 TIP. Seconded by Mr. Mulrine. Motion carried.

7. **PRESENTATION: Long Range Regional Transportation Plan/Kent County Comprehensive Plan Update**

7.1 **Land Use Plan Update – S. Keifer, Kent County Planning Department**

Ms. Keifer gave a Powerpoint presentation reviewing the work done to date on the Kent County Comprehensive Plan. She reviewed elements of the plan and the public outreach that had been undertaken to get public feedback. Ms. Keifer reported that growth was greater than predicted; from 2000 to 2006 more subdivisions were approved than ever before. She also noted that the majority of development was occurring in the growth area. It was also noted that some roads have been reclassified, but not upgraded to meet that classification. Ms. Keifer offered to return when the Comprehensive Plan is finalized.

7.2 **Long Range Regional Transportation Plan Update – R. Geier, DelDOT**

A Powerpoint presentation was shown illustrating work on the RTP update that is also being used for the mobility element for the County Comprehensive Plan. These findings were developed using the employment and population projection data. DelDOT ran the TRANPLAN travel demand model to compare a scenario based on the population distribution recently adopted by the MPO Council to a scenario in which more population is shifted to the town areas in the County's proposed land use map. Ms. Geier also distributed maps illustrating the changes. She noted that the modeling shows a slight improvement in emissions.

8. **PRESENTATION: Transportation Enhancement Program – J. Neizgoda, DelDOT**

Mr. Neizgoda presented a summary of the Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) and an update of the 47 active projects. His Powerpoint presentation highlighted completed projects as he pointed out some of the more interesting project challenges. He explained that TEP projects are non-traditional projects that the Department of Transportation would not normally do. He also noted that Delaware is unique in how TEP projects are funded and managed, in that many states do not add any funds to the federal money allotted for these projects.

9. **Municipalities Report –**

Mr. Mulrine had no report.

Mr. DePrima reported that there would be a two-week break from the intersection signal upgrade work in Dover. The project will resume at the New Street and Loockerman Street intersection and then move to Loockerman Street



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and Legislative Avenue. Mr. DePrima then introduced Mayor Carey to the Council. Ms. Wieczoreck asked about the Clarence Street project. Mr. DePrima reported that the project was being modified due to economic issues and federal requirements for re-alignment.

10. TAC Report – J. Wieczoreck

Ms. Wieczoreck reported that the TAC had some concerns with the TIP and would be inviting a representative from DelDOT finance to their next meeting to answer their questions. Mr. DePrima asked what the concerns were, and Ms. Wieczoreck explained that they were the same concerns he had regarding where the funding for projects had gone.

11. PAC Report – J. Wieczoreck

Ms. Wieczoreck reported that the PAC TIP Tour will be held in March. She also reported that the PAC currently has no chair. Mr. Ornauer resigned as chair when he began working as a contractor for the MPO in Mr. McNulty's office. Ms. Wieczoreck noted that the PAC was again having attendance problems. Mr. Eaby asked her to pass on the names of PAC appointees from the County who are not attending meetings.

Mr. Ornauer reported that the PAC was concerned with the traffic at North and West Streets and the railroad cars adjacent to future housing. He stated that the PAC would like DelDOT to evaluate one-way pairs for these streets. He also asked that someone from DelDOT come to the next PAC meeting to discuss the freight cars on New Burton Road and the hazards they create. Mr. Reeb said that he would need that request in writing. Ms. Wieczoreck asked if the Chair would like to direct staff to do this; Mr. Eaby said yes. Mr. Potts said he believed the railroad cars at New Burton Road are empty. It was noted that the State does not control the private railroad.

Mr. Reeb said that WILMAPCO serves dinner to their PAC. Mr. Eaby thought that should be explored. Mr. Reeb also suggested that staff poll the PAC members and see if a change of time would work.

12. Project Update:

12.1 North Dover Study

The consultant has finished creating the SYNCHRO modeling. They have distributed trips along some new connections but are waiting for a similar distribution from DelDOT's travel demand model for comparison. A meeting with the business people within the study area is being planned.

12.2 2009 Unified Planning Work Program

Ms. Wieczoreck reviewed the projects in the draft UPWP.

13. Executive Director's Report

13.1 UPWP and Financial Reports

13.2 Correspondence

Next Meeting /March 5, 2008 – D/KC MPO Conference Room / Blue Hen Corporate Center

MOTION By Mr. DePrima to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Potts. Motion carried.