



# 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

### MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

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

Anthony DePrima, for Beverly Williams, Mayor, City of Dover, Chairman  
Kennard Potts for Stephen Kingsberry, Director, Delaware Transit Corporation, Vice-Chairman  
Ralph Reeb for Carolann Wicks, Secretary, DelDOT  
Don Mulrine for Mayor Robert Mooney, Town of Camden, for Kent County Municipalities

#### Members not attending:

Elizabeth Olsen, DE Dept. of Safety & Homeland Security, for Governor Minner, State of Delaware  
Brad Eaby, for Brooks Banta, President, Kent County Levy Court  
Letitia A. Thompson, Regional Administrator, Region III, Federal Transit Admin. (FTA)  
Hassan Raza, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Admin. (FHWA)

#### Non-members attending:

Mayor Donald Tinari, Cheswold	Earle Timpson, DelDOT Finance
Melissa Wagner, DelDOT Finance	Harold E. Stafford, Camden citizen
Juanita Wiczoreck, MPO Staff	Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff
Daniel McNulty, MPO Staff	

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

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

4. **ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes/May 2, 2007 and June 7, 2007**

MOTION By Mr. Reeb to approve the minutes of May 2 and June 7, 2007. Seconded by Mr. Potts.  
Motion carried.

5. **ACTION ITEM: Review of Administrative Changes to the FY 2006-2009 Transportation Improvement Program - E. Timpson, DelDOT**

Mr. Timpson reviewed the administrative changes to the TIP necessary due to the FY2008 Bond Bill. These changes do not require an amendment to the TIP. Ms. Wiczoreck noted that, since the MPO is not SAFETEA-LU compliant, no amendments can be adopted at this time. Only two projects will require an amendment: the Carter Road and bridge over Grieco's Canal projects. DelDOT will come

back to the MPO with the amendments once the MPO is in compliance. Mr. DePrima asked why this was an action item; Ms. Wiczoreck explained that with the large number of administrative changes, staff would feel more confident if the Council would review the changes and formally adopt them. It was noted that one change was not on the matrix distributed to the Council; this was a change in the grade-separated intersection at south Frederica and Route 1. The financial split of monies was changed for 2009 and 2010, but the construction year was not affected. She also noted that the Federal Highway Administration has asked that Council endorse the changes.

MOTION By Mr. Reeb that, in the interest of comments from FHWA, Council endorse the administrative changes for the FY06-09 TIP as presented by staff and DelDOT, including the revisions to the south Frederica/Route 1 project. Seconded by Mr. Mulrine. Motion carried.

Mr. Reeb noted that he believed this request was overreaching on FHWA's part, and violates the agreement in place.

6. **ACTION ITEM: Draft Kent County Coordinated Transit/Transportation Plan - K. Potts -DART First State**

Mr. Potts reviewed the history behind this plan, explaining the Federal legislative requirement for agencies providing federally funded transportation services to review and coordinate those services. Mr. Potts also reviewed the three federal programs: 5310,



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5316 and the new 5317. Mr. Potts reported that DTC is now soliciting applications for these funds, but noted that there is not a lot of money. Mr. DePrima asked what results came of this project; Mr. Potts said coordination. Mr. DePrima asked if that was the biggest issue; Mr. Potts said that coordination and evening and weekend services were two of the most noted issues.

**MOTION** By Mr. Mulrine to endorse the Kent County Coordinated Transit/Transportation Plan. Seconded by Mr. Reeb. Motion carried.

Mr. Potts thanked the MPO staff for their help in coordinating this project, noting that they went to considerable effort to engage the participants and arrange meetings.

### **7. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Draft Public Participation Plan to Release for Public Comment - J. Wieczoreck**

Mr. McNulty reviewed the Plan, noting that Mr. Richard Ornauer of the PAC submitted extensive comments on the document. Mr. DePrima suggested releasing the draft for comment as presented here, and include Mr. Ornauer's comments as part of the public process. Ms. Wieczoreck noted that Appendix C would be the regulations, not the summary as included. Mr. Reeb asked if FHWA had reviewed this document; Ms. Wieczoreck said that they had not.

**MOTION** By Mr. Reeb to endorse the draft Public Participation Plan for release to the public with the understanding that the appropriate appendix will be inserted before distribution. Seconded by Mr. Potts. Motion carried.

### **8. ACTION ITEM: Proposed Estimated Households/Population per County Census Division - J. Wieczoreck**

Mr. DePrima asked staff if Kent County agreed with these numbers; Ms. Wieczoreck said that they did. She reported that MPO staff met with Kent County, Smyrna and Dover personnel to work on this project. The TAC has reviewed the numbers, and all agreed that this is appropriate and reflects to the best of their ability what is in the County. She asked that Council endorse these numbers so the process can move forward.

**MOTION** By Mr. Reeb to adopt the figures as presented with today's date. Seconded by Mr. Mulrine. Motion carried.

### **9. DISCUSSION: Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update/Kent County Comprehensive Plan Update - J. Wieczoreck**

Ms. Wieczoreck reported that she had hoped to do the MPO MTP update with the Kent County Comp Plan update, but there is a delay in the transportation modeling. Mr. Reeb reported that DeIDOT is pushing hard to try to coincide with Kent County's needs. Ms. Wieczoreck noted that the Fire Companies want wider roads. DeIDOT has formed a committee, facilitated by the University of Delaware, to review this issue. The Fire Companies are asking for 22 foot wide streets with no on-street parking. The committee is working with them to establish a compromise, which will then be incorporated into the subdivision street standards.

### **10. DISCUSSION: Air and rail service to Kent County - R. Mooney. Tabled due to Mayor Mooney's absence.**

### **11. Municipalities Report – D. Mulrine, A. DePrima, Mayor Tinari**

Mr. Mulrine reported that Camden's draft Comprehensive Plan will be presented to Town Council in September, then to the State.

Mayor Tinari reported that the Town of Cheswold is involved with the airport and property purchases. The airport has the potential to be an asset. There is now a fully staffed police department, and they hope this will slow traffic through town. Cheswold is still fighting some law suits. He also asked for help in improving two roads: School Lane and Fulton Street. Discussion ensued that confirmed that the streets are not eligible for DeIDOT assistance, but are eligible for community transportation funds through their local legislators. Mayor Tinari asked if the roads could be given to the State; Mr. Reeb said that they would have to be improved to State standards first.

Mr. DePrima reported that the City of Dover traffic light upgrades are moving ahead. Work is moving forward on the Eden Hill Farm medical center.

### **12. TAC Report – J. Wieczoreck – NO REPORT**

### **13. PAC Report – D. McNulty**



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Mr. McNulty reported on the PAC's efforts to rewrite the MPO mission statement. Council had some concerns about using the word "ensure" in the statement. Mr. Reeb suggested that the statement list the noted items as goals. It was also suggested that there be more definition as to what is meant and how to get there. Mr. Potts suggested that the statement read "meet transport needs" instead of "to the benefit of." Mr. Reeb felt the efforts were in the right direction, and asked that the PAC work on this again. Mr. DePrima suggested that Mr. Reeb talk to the PAC about this.

### **14. Project Update:**

#### **14.1 DE 8 Concept Plan and Operations Study - J. Wiczoreck**

Ms. Wiczoreck reported there was a public workshop in August for this project. The next Project Advisory Committee meeting will take place on September 26 or 27. Suggestions have included new connections to Gateway West and sidewalks. The medians at Saulsbury and Mifflin Roads have been commented on favorably. She also reported that there is no money left in this project. The consultant is working on finishing it.

#### **14.2 North Dover Study - D. McNulty**

Mr. McNulty reported that he is still contacting business owners in the area. Ms. Wiczoreck noted that the consultant on this project is working on modeling the area. Mr. DePrima offered a contact name for the new owners at Dover Mall. There was also discussion concerning doing a Traffic Impact Study (TIS) for the proposed Civic Center, but there is no money in the MPO project budget for this. Mr. DePrima suggested contacting the Civic Center Corporation for funding and "piggy-backing" on the work the MPO is doing, if that is acceptable to DelDOT. Ms. Wiczoreck was asked to facilitate this.

### **15. Executive Director's Report**

#### **15.1 UPWP and Financial Reports**

#### **15.2 Correspondence**

#### **15.3 Emerging Issues**

Ms. Wiczoreck noted that conditions at the MPO offices at the Blue Hen Corporate Center are deteriorating. The elevator no longer works and the owners have made no effort to follow through on their stated intention to move all second-floor tenants to the first floor. Mr. Reeb suggested that the smaller house at Eden Hill, now owned by DelDOT, would make be a good location for the MPO when the contractor vacates the property.

Ms. Wiczoreck reminded Council that the MPO would be co-sponsoring the Council on Transportation Meeting at DelTech after the Council meeting.

### **Next Meeting /November 7, 2007 – Blue Hen Corporate Center**

MOTION By Mr. Mulrine to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Reeb. Motion carried.