



Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

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

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

DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF AUGUST 26, 2008

Public Advisory Committee Members & Alternates attending:

Horace Cook, Chair
James Webster
Richard Ornauer

Dwight Meyer
Peter K. Schaefer
Arley Cooper, Jr.

Dr. Carlton Cannon, Jr.
Michael Gumrot
Dr. Daniel Houghtaling

Members not attending:

James Brown, Vice Chair
Diana Welch

Prameela Kaza
William Saunders

Chandra Aleong

Non-members attending:

Mark Luszcz, Assist. Chief Traffic Engineer, DelDOT
Juanita Wieczoreck, MPO Staff
Kate Layton, MPO Staff

Bobbie Geier, DelDOT Planning
Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff

The meeting was held at the Newman Lee-Urban VFW Post 8801 in Smyrna. It was called to order at approximately 7:10 PM.

1. **Introduction of Members & Guests; welcome new members, new staff**
2. **Public Comments**
3. ***ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda***

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

4. ***ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes***

It was noted that the minutes from February 2008 should have been included here. They will be presented at the next meeting.

4.1 April 2008

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to approve the April minutes. Seconded by Mr. Meyer. Motion carried.

4.2 June 2008

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

5. ***PRESENTATION: Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan – R. Geier, DelDOT***



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Ms. Geier distributed hard copies of her PowerPoint presentation. She explained that this plan was more about process, as DelDOT's work is affected by the decisions of others. That ever-changing cycle determined that the process became more important than a plan. She reviewed the priorities and the separate components of the plans. She noted that subarea plans and funding strategies are big issues.

There was some general discussion about funding from the General Assembly and ways to leverage funding for transportation projects.

6. **PRESENTATION: DelDOT Roundabout Program – M. Luszcz, DelDOT**

Mr. Luszcz gave a PowerPoint presentation explaining the Roundabout Program. He began by explaining the differences between a traffic circle and a roundabout. He also showed slides of Delaware's existing roundabouts, explaining the criteria that determined where a roundabout would be a better choice than a traffic signal. He noted that roundabouts have proven successful in other states. One of the more compelling reasons for roundabouts is a significant reduction in serious accidents. Mr. Luszcz also reported that there are 19 more roundabouts being considered for area roads, including Barratts Chapel Road.

Mr. Ornauer made the point that the Mifflin Road Roundabout was the first in Delaware. Mr. Luszcz granted that it was the first, but due to its small size, was really a "mini" roundabout. The other roundabouts being constructed are at least 400' across.

7. **ACTION ITEM: Annual Meeting – deferred until later in the meeting.**

8. **ACTION ITEM: Draft Regional Transportation Plan Update – J. Wieczoreck** **8.1 Proposed Project List Priority**

Ms. Wieczoreck reviewed the list, which was sorted by score and project category. Dr. Houghtaling noted some errors in the math formulas used, and asked that they be corrected. There was discussion to clarify certain projects. Mr. Ornauer said that he believed that alternative transportation modes and studies should be given more emphasis.

Action was tabled pending corrections to the document.

9. **ACTION ITEM: Federal Funding Letter from DelDOT – J. Wieczoreck (enclosure)**

Ms. Wieczoreck reviewed the letter and details of the programs being funded.

MOTION By Mr. Ornauer to recommend Council concur with the use of federal funding by DelDOT.

Seconded by Mr. Meyer. Motion carried.

10. **Project Updates** **10.1 North Dover Study**



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Ms. Wieczorek reported that meetings with the business owners in the North Dover Study area were well-attended and productive. A public meeting for residential owners was not well attended. A meeting with DelDOT staff is planned to discuss the plans produced by the consultant. While DelDOT Planning approves the plan, the Transportation Solutions section is not convinced it is the best solution to the problems. DelDOT's support is needed to move forward.

11. **STAFF REPORTS – Juanita Wieczorek**

11.1 **Financial Reports**

11.2 **Correspondence & Publications/Reports**

7. **ACTION ITEM: Annual Meeting – deferred from earlier in the meeting**

At this time Ms. Wieczorek took over as Chair.

7.1 **Elections**

MOTION By Dr. Houghtaling nominating Horace Cook as Chair. Seconded by Mr. Schaeffer. Motion carried.

MOTION By Mr. Ornauer to close nominations. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.

Mr. Cook was elected by acclamation.

MOTION By Mr. Ornauer nominating Dwight Meyer as Vice-Chair. Seconded by Dr. Houghtaling. Motion carried.

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to close nominations. Seconded by Mr. Cooper. Motion carried.

Mr. Meyer was elected by acclamation.

7.2 **Final UPWP Report – not complete as some projects still have outstanding invoices.**

Staff noted that Mr. Brown had missed the last two PAC meetings due to health issues. Consensus was to send a card from the PAC and MPO staff.

It was suggested that Blue Water Wind be asked to give a presentation at the next PAC meeting. Mr. Cook asked that presentations be kept short.

12. **Next Meeting: Oct. 21, 2008**

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