



Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

P.O. Box 383, Dover, Delaware 19903 (302) 387-6030 FAX: (302) 387-6032

<http://doverkentmpo.org>

DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 8, 2009

Technical Advisory Committee Representatives:

Scott Koenig, City of Dover/Public Works (Chair)
David Edgell, Office of State Planning (Vice-chair)
Greg Oliver, DeDOT Planning
Milton Melendez, DE Dept. of Agriculture
Bill Osborne, Transp. Mgmt. Assoc. DE

Mayor Donald Tinari, Cheswold, municipal rep.
Tim Riley, Kent Conservation District
Cathy Smith, DE Transit Corporation
Louis Lombard, Dover Air Force Base

Members not attending:

Kwame Arhin, Federal Highway Administration
Gary Norris, City of Milford
Rick Crawford, Norfolk Southern
Phil Wheeler, DNREC
Anne Marie Townshend, City of Dover/Planning/Insp.

Byard O'Neal, DE Motor Transport Assoc.
Heather Kenton, DE Economic Dev. Office
Keith Lynch, Federal Transit Admin.
David Hugg, Town of Smyrna
Sarah Keifer, Kent County Planning

Non-members attending:

Richard Kautz, Sussex County Planning
Carol Bason, Univ. of DE, Coop. Ext.
Brett Taylor, DeDOT
Jim Galvin, MPO Staff
Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff

Adrienne Lombard IDEA Institute
Virginia Thomas, Univ. of DE, Coop. Ext.
Juanita Wiczoreck, MPO Staff
Kate Layton, MPO Staff
Bruce Gowan, Univ. of DE, Coop. Ext.

The meeting was held in the Council Chambers at Camden's Town Hall.

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

MOTION By Mr. Riley to approve the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Motion carried.

4. ***ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes/February 11, 2009***

MOTION By Mayor Tinari to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Motion carried.

5. ***PRESENTATION: Use of Community Viz in Sussex County – R. Kautz, C. Bason, V. Thomas, B. Gowan***

Mr. Kautz introduced the University of Delaware consultants that developed the Community Viz program for Sussex County. They reviewed the program, explaining that it was designed to be flexible and easy to use. The county was broken into 100 acre grids, and land-use designations were then assigned. The grids are different from the usual planning models, which are built on parcels and zoning. The grids are more generic and can have different zoning within an area. The consultants explained the various layers that were built into the program, noting that values could be added or changed easily. Mr. McGowan noted that this is a work in progress, and that there is a teaching element to the program. Mr. Osborne felt that the program had huge potential. It was also noted that the TAZ information is incorporated into the program. Mr. McGowan stated that an educated populace was needed, and the program was designed to be a generic "what if," plan to take out to the public, not a sophisticated traffic analysis tool. He made the analogy that it was like using a box of crayons. Mr. Kautz explained that the program cost \$900 for two licenses, and could only be used with ARC GIS. TAC members felt this was a very interesting program that could be used in many different situations.

6. ***ACTION ITEM: North Dover Study Recommendation Revision – J. Wiczoreck***

Ms. Wiczoreck 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



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was used for environmental education. The area includes a heron rookery and endangered species. DSU staff expressed concern over traffic and pollution impacting the area with the road configuration that was suggested. The consultant reworked the roadway configuration 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.

MOTION By Mr. Edgell to recommend Council approve both alternate road configurations in the event of future construction. Seconded by Mr. Riley. Motion carried.

7. ACTION ITEM: Draft FY 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – J. Wieczoreck

Ms. Wieczoreck reported that the list of projects enclosed for the TIP was the same as the February meeting. The entire document was too large to e-mail. She also noted that the MPO Council approved the list of projects at their March meeting, and no further action was needed on this item.

8. ACTION ITEM: Proposed Revision to the Draft 2009 Update to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) – Inclusion of SR 1/NE Front St. (DE 14) Grade Separated Intersection –D/KC MPO

Ms. Wieczoreck reported that this project was a TIP submittal, but was not included in the RTP. Since Council had not yet given final approval to the Plan, adding this project is not an amendment. Ms. Wieczoreck noted that incorporating this project into the list of projects in the Plan moves the bottom 6 projects on the list down to the aspirations list. Mr. Edgell expressed concern that there were no Milford or Smyrna representatives at the meeting, as some of the projects moved to the aspirations list were in Smyrna. He felt that supporting this project could be seen as favoring Milford over Smyrna. It was noted that DelDOT supports this project, and Mr. Koenig stated that Dover had no objections to the project. It was also noted that all US13 pedestrian projects were Transportation Enhancement projects, and should be removed from this list.

MOTION By Mr. Oliver to recommend Council approve the changes to the project list for the RTP. Seconded by Mr. Osborne. Motion carried.

9. ACTION ITEM: Draft FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program – J. Wieczoreck (enclosure)

Ms. Wieczoreck reported that the MPO is still waiting to hear from DelDOT as to funds available from previous years. She asked the TAC to recommend approval of the Work Program projects, pending funding available. She noted that there was one new project in the program: the regional bike plan, which is in the RTP for the end of FY2010. She also noted that the match on federal funds has not yet been determined.

MOTION By Mr. Edgell to recommend Council approve the projects as presented pending funding available. Seconded by Mr. Osborne. Motion carried.

10. DISCUSSION ITEM: Update on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding/Projects – Brett Taylor, DelDOT

Mr. Taylor distributed materials documenting the projects that would be funded through this program. He explained the requirements and procedures that determined which projects in the State were eligible for the funds. He also noted that the State must replace projects that are federally funded through the ARRA with new projects. Mr. Taylor reported that some states are unable to use the ARRA funds, which will then be redistributed to states that have eligible and ready projects. DelDOT over-programmed the ARRA project list in the event that Delaware receives additional federal funds.

11. Member Agency Reports:

City of Dover: Planning / Public Works

Kent County: Planning - NO REPORT

Soil Conservation – NO REPORT

Milford; Smyrna; NO REPORTS

Other municipalities - NO REPORT

Dover Air Force Base – NO REPORT



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Other Municipalities – NO REPORT

Norfolk Southern / Delaware Motor Transport Association – NO REPORTS

Federal Highway Administration / Federal Transit Administration – NO REPORTS

TMA DE – Mr. Osborne noted that there is transportation money in the Energy Bill stimulus package. Ms. Smith noted that it is for existing capital equipment to improve fuel efficiency and reduce environmental impacts. Mr. Osborne reported that the TMA is working on this issue, as there is a new sustainable utility in Dover with a transportation component.

State of Delaware: DelDOT Planning – NO REPORT

DTC – Ms. Smith reported that Kent County ridership has increased 12.5%. She noted that there is a correlation between ridership to gas prices.

DNREC / Agriculture / State Planning / DEDO- NO REPORTS

12. Staff Report –

12.1 Outreach Activities – K. Layton

Ms. Layton reported that the TIP Tour went well, with approximately 16 attendees. The MPO will have a table at the 55+ Expo and Old Dover Days, and will participate in the April 24th Bike Summit. She also reported that the newsletter was delayed and would be out later than expected.

12.2 Transportation Studies – J. Galvin

Mr. Galvin reported that there is ARRA funding for supplemental multimodal transportation projects, with no match required. He noted that this might be an opportunity for a Dover project. He also reported that the MPO will apply for an EPA grant that supports technical assistance to guide local planning boards.

12.3 UPWP Progress & Financial Reports – J. Wiczoreck

12.4 Other Project Updates/Activities – J. Wiczoreck

12.5 Correspondence & Publications/Reports – J. Wiczoreck

13. Next Meeting: June 10, 2009

MOTION By Mr. Riley to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Oliver. Motion carried.