



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 COUNTY MPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 8, 2008

Technical Advisory Committee Representatives attending:

Scott Koenig, City of Dover/Public Works (Chair)
Michael Albert for A.M. Townshend, City of Dover
Phil Wheeler, DNREC
Louis Lombard, Dover Air Force Base

David Hugg, Town of Smyrna
Greg Oliver, DelDOT Planning
Cathy Smith, Delaware Transit Corp.
Bill Osborne, Transp. Mgmt. Assoc. DE

Members not attending:

David Edgell, Office of State Planning (Vice-chair)
Tashia Clemons, Federal Highway Admin.
Gary Norris, City of Milford
Keith Lynch, Federal Transit Admin.
Sarah Keifer, Kent County Planning

Tim Riley, Kent Conservation District
Jack Taylor, DE Motor Transport Assoc.
Heather Keegan, DE Economic Dev. Office
Milton Melendez, DE Dept. of Agriculture
Rick Crawford, Norfolk Southern

Non-members attending:

Annalynn Smith, Parsons Brinckerhoff
Bobbie Geier, DelDOT
Scott Muir, Norfolk Southern
Ric Kautz, Sussex County Planning
Juanita Wiczoreck, MPO Staff
Kate Layton, MPO Staff

David Reisch
Kim Gomes, Wolf Block
Chip Golden, Norfolk Southern
Jim Galvin, MPO Staff
Mayor Carleton Carey Sr., City of Dover

The meeting was called to order without a quorum and began with Item #5, a presentation by Norfolk Southern.

1 (5). *PRESENTATION: Norfolk Southern Operations and Infrastructure Needs – S. Muir, Norfolk Southern*

Mr. Muir gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the history of Norfolk Southern, the current status of the infrastructure and operations, and future needs. He discussed the need for a partnership between the State, Norfolk Southern and businesses using the rail lines to improve and expand the infrastructure. TAC members had questions concerning existing businesses and track restrictions.

2 (1). **Introduction of Members & Guests, New Employees**

3 (2). **Public Comments**

4 (3). *ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda*

MOTION By Mr. Hugg to approve the agenda with the change in order. Seconded by Mr. Wheeler. Motion carried.

5 (4). *ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes/ August 13 and September 3, 2008 Meeting*

MOTION By Mr. Osborne to approve the minutes of the meetings. Seconded by Mr. Wheeler. Motion carried.

6. *ACTION ITEM: Draft Regional Transportation Plan Update: Proposed Project List – J. Wiczoreck*

6.1 **Cost and Revenue Estimate Review**

6.2 **Final Project List Recommendation**

There was some discussion concerning the process and list ranking. There was also discussion concerning Statewide projects and new projects that may occur. However, the committee decided to let the process and list stand as presented by staff. Ms. Geier noted that the list will be revisited every four years, and amendments can be made at any time.

MOTION By Mr. Hugg to approve the proposed project list. Seconded by Mr. Lombard. Motion carried.

7. **Member Agency Reports:**



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City of Dover / Planning - NO REPORT

Public Works – Mr. Koenig reported that the Eden Hill Medical Center grand opening was held on October 1, 2008. Construction has begun on the residential component, and plans for the next medical building are underway. Other projects in Dover are the Kent County Court House, Bayhealth and South Governors Avenue. The City of Dover Comprehensive Plan has public hearings scheduled for November.

Kent County / Planning / Soil Conservation – NO REPORTS

Dover Air Force Base – Mr. Lombard reported that the Air Force Technical committee completed their review of the AICUZ (Air Installation Compatible Use Zone). The data has been significantly adjusted due to the increase in the C-17 fleet and an entirely new AICUZ study is being generated by a consultant. It will hopefully be out in the next calendar year. He also noted that the Air Base has some concerns with the planned wind farm due to radar issues with the turbines used that may impact the DAFB area.

Municipalities / Smyrna - Mr. Hugg reported that the corridor improvement project in Smyrna is underway. North Elementary School in Smyrna is one of four schools statewide participating in Safe Routes to School. He also reported that DelDOT repaved Commerce and Main Streets.

Milford – NO REPORT

Norfolk Southern / Delaware Motor Transport Association - NO REPORTS

Federal Highway Administration / Federal Transit Administration - NO REPORTS

TMA DE – Mr. Osborne reported that Philly Carshare abandoned their Delaware carshare program. The Wilmington carshare pilot has not been profitable. He also noted that DNREC is working on a sustainable energy utility component on transportation. It is a Statewide effort, a non-partisan rewrite of the energy plan. The goal is to finish the plan before the elections in November.

State of Delaware: DelDOT Planning – NO REPORT

DTC – Ms. Smith reported that a public hearing was held in September for statewide service. The only comments for fixed route service was on the Harrington-to-Dover route. Written and web comments are being accepted. She also reported that ridership for Saturday service has dropped, but the pilot was successful and the service will continue. Mr. Koenig asked for figures on ridership and Ms. Smith said she would have them for the December meeting. She also noted that Resort ridership was record-breaking.

DNREC – Mr. Wheeler reported that the 8-Hour SIP has been submitted to EPA. DNREC is still awaiting approval.

Agriculture / Statewide Planning / DEDO – NO REPORTS

Sussex County – Mr. Kautz reported that the Sussex County Comprehensive Plan has been submitted for certification.

8. Project Updates –

8.1 North Dover Study – J. Wieczorek

8.2 Transportation Studies – J. Galvin

Mr. Galvin reviewed the Transportation Study Proposal Nomination process for submitting and ranking projects for MPO funds. It is anticipated that these proposals will be reviewed by an Ad Hoc committee once a year.

8.3 Public Outreach – K. Layton

Ms. Layton reported that the next newsletter could be out in November. She also noted events that the MPO participated in: the Amish Bike Tour, Smyrna Safe Routes to School, The Big Boys Toys event, AQ partnership meetings and the Harriet Tubman Highway Workshop. Ms. Layton also noted that the MPO plans a 30 second spot on Comcast for public outreach on the Regional Transportation Plan.

9. Staff Report – J. Wieczorek

9.1 UPWP Progress & Financial Reports

9.2 Correspondence & Publications/Reports

10. Next Meeting: December 10, 2008

Mr. Kautz was asked to give a presentation on Community VIZ, a land use planning model and comprehensive plan tool.

The meeting was adjourned informally without a quorum due to early departures.