



Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

P.O. Box 383, Dover, Delaware 19903

(302) 387-6030 FAX: (302) 387-6032

<http://www.doverkentmpo.org>

DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 2012

PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Dwight Meyer, Chair
David Fry

Michael Gumrot, Vice Chair
Prameela Kaza

Phyllis B. Collins
James Webster

MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:

Dr. Carlton Cannon
Dr. Daniel Houghtaling

James Brown
Kevin Yingling

Edmund Maron

NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Rich Vetter, MPO Executive Director
Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff

Kate Layton, MPO Staff

1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS
2. PUBLIC COMMENTS
3. *ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda*

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

4. *ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes June 26, 2012*

MOTION By Ms. Kaza to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.

5. Annual Meeting
 - 5.1 Election of Chairperson
 - 5.2 Election of Vice Chairperson

Mr. Meyer stepped down as Chair and Ms. Layton took over to handle the annual elections.

MOTION By Mr. Webster nominating Mr. Meyer as Chair. Seconded by Ms. Kaza. Motion carried.

MOTION By Mr. Fry to close the nominations. Seconded by Mr. Webster. Motion carried.

Mr. Meyer was re-elected by acclamation.

MOTION By Ms. Kaza nominating Mr. Gumrot as Vice Chair. Seconded by Mr. Fry. Motion carried.

MOTION By Mr. Webster to close the nominations. Seconded by Mr. Fry. Motion carried.

Mr. Gumrot was re-elected by acclamation.

Both Mr. Meyer and Mr. Gumrot thanked the PAC members for their support.

6. *ACTION ITEM: FY2012-2015 TIP Amendments – R. Vetter*
 - 6.1 Scenic Byways
 - 6.2 Clarence Street Extended

Mr. Vetter reviewed the two amendments. There was some discussion concerning the Clarence Street project.

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to recommend Council approve both amendments. Seconded by Ms. Kaza. Motion carried.



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7. **ACTION ITEM: FY2013 Federal Funds Programming (CMAQ) – R. Vetter**

Mr. Vetter reviewed the different categories of federal funds in the letter from DeIDOT. He informed the PAC that the CMAQ funding was the only category that the MPO was being asked to concur with DeIDOT's use of the money. There was discussion concerning the proposed projects for the funding.

MOTION By Ms. Collins to recommend that Council concur with DeIDOT's proposed use of CMAQ funds.
Seconded by Ms. Kaza. Motion carried.

8. **ACTION ITEM: Public Participation Plan update (recommendation that Council approve launch of 45-day public comment period) — K. Layton**

Ms. Layton noted that the PAC members had seen this document before. She reported that the Council and TAC agreed with the change recommended, and Council suggested that every other year the TIP Tour could be a "virtual" tour, with video or photographs, on the MPO website. It was also noted that every 2 years would work for a Plan update, and that the "single day retreat" could be struck – a whole day would not be needed for assessment.

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to recommend that Council approve the draft plan for publication for a 45-day comment period. Seconded by Mr. Fry. Motion carried.

9. **Discussion Item: Route 10 and City of Dover Bike Trails – R. Vetter**

Mr. Vetter reported on both trails. The Route 10 trail would be in design this summer and fall. The trail would be off-road/shoulder, with an aesthetic barrier. Mr. Fry repeated his objection to the project, stating that there was too much congestion in this area to encourage pedestrians. Mr. Vetter reported that the Dover trail is now in design, with construction next spring.

10. **Discussion Item: U.S. Route 13 Corridor Study (Town of Smyrna) – R. Vetter**

Mr. Vetter reported on the Smyrna study, a 3-mile area on the north end of town. The stakeholders have noted that they want it to "look like Smyrna" and not like Dover or Middletown. The charrette is taking place during this week, and at the end they expect to have a detailed plan, including landscaping and crosswalks. There was discussion concerning the project and Smyrna's continuing growth despite the economy.

11. **MEMBER REPORTS**

Ms. Collins reported that she is on the Planning and Zoning committee for Wyoming. She shares the information she gets from the MPO with the town council.

Mr. Fry reported that 3 people had asked him about the detour in the area while the Wyoming Mill Bridge (DE15) was being worked on. The detour is causing a hardship for church-goers. Mr. Vetter said he would look into the issue.

Mr. Meyer reported that property near the new Capital School District high school is in the Dept. of Agriculture's Farmland Preservation program. This program is supposed to hold the land safe, but the property is being encroached on by both the high school (connector road proposed) and by the Eden Hill extension, which proposes an exit onto the Papan Farm.

Mr. Gumrot reported that the Thompsonville traffic light is still backing up and causing problems on US13. Ms. Layton said that she would ask Bill Geronimo (DeIDOT) to follow up on that. Due to the fatalities at DE30, the Thompsonville project was pushed back. Despite the traffic congestion, there have been no deaths at Thompsonville, so it has not become a priority. Ms. Collins suggested that, since the temporary barrier at Route 30 seems to have solved the problem for now, Thompsonville should be moved back into its place in the project list. Staff noted that this would have to be a formal request from the City of Milford.



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12. **Staff Reports –**
 - 12.1 **Progress & Financial Reports – Rich Vetter (enclosure)**
 - 12.2 **Other Project Updates/Activities – MPO Staff**
 - 12.3 **Correspondence, Publications/Reports/Outreach – K. Layton**

13. **ADJOURN**

Next meeting – October 23, 2012, Location TBA