



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 MINUTES OF AUGUST 11, 2010

Technical Advisory Committee Representatives attending:

Scott Koenig, City of Dover/Public Works (Chair)

Phil Wheeler, DNREC

Anne Marie Townshend, City of Dover/Planning/Insp.

Cathy Smith, Delaware Transit Corporation

Kris Riesenber, Federal Highway Administration

Theon Calender for Mayor Jeannette Williams, Cheswold, Munic. Rep.

David Edgell, Office of State Planning (Vice-chair)

Terry Reilly, Transp. Mgmt. Assoc. DE

Greg Oliver, DelDOT Planning

Tricia Faust, Dover Air Force Base

Byard O'Neal, DE Motor Transport Assoc.

Members not attending:

David Hugg, Town of Smyrna

Rick Crawford, Norfolk Southern

Sarah Keifer, Kent County Planning

Tim Riley, Kent Conservation District

Gary Norris, City of Milford

Keith Lynch, Federal Transit Admin.

Milton Melendez, DE Dept. of Agriculture

Joe Zilcosky, DE Economic Dev. Office

Non-members attending:

Dave Campbell, DTC/DART

Juanita Wiczoreck, MPO

Jim Galvin, MPO

Catherine Samardza, MPO

Karen Brittingham, DelDOT Planning

Bobbie Geier, DelDOT Planning

Ben Johnson, MPO

Kate Layton, MPO

The meeting began without a quorum and began with non-action items on the agenda.

1. Introduction of Members & Guests

2. Public Comments

3. (10) **PRESENTATION:** State Transportation Plan – R. Geier, DelDOT Planning

Mr. Wheelere asked for more information about the scenarios that were presented.

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

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

5. (4) **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of Minutes/June 9, 2010

MOTION By Ms. Smith to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Oliver. Motion carried.

6. (5) **ACTION ITEM:** Annual Meeting: Elections

Mr. Koenig stepped down as Chair and Ms.Wiczoreck ran the meeting for the duration of elections.

MOTION By Ms.Faust nominating Mr. Koenig as Chair. Seconded by Mr. Wheeler. Motion carried.

MOTION By Ms. Townshend to close nominations. Seconded by Mr. Edgell. Motion carried.

Mr. Koenig was elected by acclamation.

MOTION By Ms. Townshend nominating Mr. Edgell as Vice Chair. Seconded by Mr. Oliver. Motion carried.

MOTION By Mr. Oliver to close nominations. Seconded by Mr. Wheeler. Motion carried.

Mr. Edgell was elected by acclamation.



Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

P.O. Box 383, Dover, Delaware 19903

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

<http://doverkentmpo.org>

7. (6) ACTION ITEM: Proposed Amendment to the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program – Downstate Intercity Rail Connection Study – Dave Campbell, DTC

Mr. Campbell explained that this study was for intercity rail from Wilmington to Ocean City, Maryland. This is not commuter rail, and the infrastructure requirements would be less extensive. Delaware received a federal grant of \$450,000 for this \$900,000 project. Delaware will pay \$405,000 (over two years) and Maryland will contribute \$45,000 (ten per cent). There was considerable discussion concerning Delaware's contribution. Committee members wanted to know if this was coming out of the DTC budget or the State Transportation Budget; Mr. Campbell noted that DTC is funded by the State Transportation Budget, so there is no difference. Mr. Wheeler asked if this was an MPO priority; Ms. Wieczoreck noted that downstate rail is in the Regional Transportation Plan as a study. Mr. Oliver noted that this current project is in reaction to the federal grant. Mr. Koenig wanted to know where the State contribution would be coming from. No one from DTC or DelDOT had a clear answer to that question. Ms. Wieczoreck called Mr. Earle Timpson at DelDOT Finance to answer the question. At this time, the \$405,000 was not taking funds from any other project. DelDOT said that the favorable bidding environment for construction projects provided with extra ARRA money to be used for this study.

Ms. Layton reported that public comments on the study were mostly positive. Ms. Wieczoreck noted that she had received one negative comment which suggested that the funding should be used to relieve "pinch points" upstate. Mr. Oliver said that the study will identify pinch points throughout the corridor.

MOTION By Mr. Wheeler to recommend Council approve the amendment. Seconded by Mr. Oliver. Motion carried.

8. (7) ACTION ITEM: Proposed Amendment to the FY 2011-2013 Transportation Improvement Program to agree with the FY 2011 Bond Bill – J. Galvin

Mr. Galvin distributed material detailing projects that MPO staff believed would need to be amended. Ms. Wieczoreck explained that DelDOT did not respond when asked to send amendment requests that would align the TIP with the Bond Bill. Mr. Galvin reviewed his material and answered questions. Ms. Townshend asked why the City of Dover projects for Clarence Street and Roosevelt Avenue were eliminated. It was determined that Clarence Street was an error, and that Roosevelt Avenue was expected to be done by developers. Ms. Townshend asked who made the decisions to eliminate projects without consulting the sponsoring agencies. There was considerable discussion concerning Roosevelt Avenue specifically, and DelDOT's process in general. Consensus was that there was not enough information to take action on proposed amendments. Ms. Wieczoreck said that she hoped Council would have amendments. TAC members were concerned that they would not have an opportunity to review amendments and make a recommendation to Council. Mr. Oliver felt that there was no choice but to recommend approval of amendments since the Bond Bill was passed. Ms. Townshend disagreed, saying that federal regulations did not intend that the MPO process be bypassed. Mr. Koenig asked what happened to projects that were dropped; Ms. Wieczoreck answered that the projects disappear. Mr. Koenig said that he had no problem with language pushing a project to out years, but not with having a project be dropped completely. There was discussion concerning available funding for projects.

MOTION By Ms. Townshend recommending Council not act on the proposed amendments until the TAC had an opportunity to review them. Seconded by Mr. Wheeler. Motion carried with one opposed and one abstention.

9. (8) ACTION ITEM: DelDOT Letter Suggesting Federal Fund Programming – DelDOT

Ms. Wieczoreck reviewed the suggested projects for federal funding. She noted that the CMAQ projects were the only ones that required the MPO's concurrence; the other categories were informational only. There were questions concerning using CMAQ funds for paratransit services. Mr. Reisenberg noted that paratransit was eligible for funding, but did not provide the "biggest bang for the buck" in terms of emission reductions. He also noted that CMAQ money cannot be used for any project more than three (3) years in a row. There was discussion concerning using CMAQ funds for bike/ped projects and finding another source of funding for paratransit. Committee members also wanted to know what DelTRAC projects were being funded. It was noted that WILMAPCO also had questions and received a more specific list of projects.

MOTION By Mr. Wheeler to recommend to Council that they ask DelDOT to find an alternate source of funding for Paratransit services and use the CMAQ funds for bike/ped projects. In addition, he recommended Council write a letter to DelDOT asking for more information on the DelTRAC projects. Seconded by Ms. Townshend.



Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

P.O. Box 383, Dover, Delaware 19903

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

<http://doverkentmpo.org>

There was discussion concerning the motion. Ms. Reilly reported that WILMAPCO recommended concurrence and sent a letter suggesting alternate projects to Paratransit services. Members of the TAC noted that there would be no incentive for DelDOT to change funding once concurrence was given. There was also discussion concerning identifying funding sources for the STIP and TIP to be fiscally constrained.

Motion was carried with two abstentions.

MOTION By Ms. Townshend to recommend Council not concur with the use of CMAQ funds until these questions are resolved.

There was no second to the motion

Mr. Edgell said that with no information for TIP amendments and no information on CMAQ funding, he felt that the TAC should meet to discuss this before the September Council meeting. He said he was confused and could not make an informed recommendation to Council. He expressed frustration at the lack of information through the process and felt this needed to be discussed with DelDOT. He felt that every year the TAC was replaying the same old story.

Ms. Townshend withdrew her motion in favor of Mr. Edgell's suggestions.

MOTION By Mr. Edgell to table this agenda item and request additional information from DelDOT, including a list of Transportation Management improvements and TIP amendments and convene a special meeting prior to the September 8, 2010 Council meeting. Seconded by Ms. Townshend. Motion carried with two abstentions.

The committee agreed to meet on September 1, 2010 at 10 AM for two agenda items; the CMAQ funding and the TIP amendments. MPO staff would ascertain if the Camden Town Hall Council Room was available and confirm with an e-mail to TAC members.

10. (9) ACTION ITEM: Proposed Changes to Modification Procedures for the Transportation Improvement Program and the State Transportation Improvement Program – DelDOT

MOTION By Ms. Townshend to table this item until the next regular meeting. Seconded by Mr. Wheeler. Motion carried.

11. Member Agency Reports:

City of Dover: Planning / Public Works – NO REPORT

Kent County: Planning / Soil Conservation – NO REPORT

Milford; Smyrna; Other Municipalities – Ms. Theon Calender introduced herself. She is representing Mayor Williams of Cheswold.

Dover Air Force Base – Ms. Faust said that the CAT (Civil Air Terminal) expansion is moving along. DelDOT is doing wetlands borings. A public workshop on AICUZ (Air Installation Compatible Use Zone) will be held on September 21 at the Kent County Administrative Complex. Ms. Townshend reported that there are still stormwater issues to be resolved for the CAT expansion.

TMA DE - Ms. Reilly reported that TMA Delaware distributed 165 bikes and 200 helmets in Sussex County to seasonal workers. They also distributed emergency glow sticks and lights. She also reported that the AQ partnership is marketing by giving away hand fans.

Delaware Motor Transport Association – NO REPORT

Federal Highway Administration – Mr. Riesenber reported that the office is still planning to move, but no date or location has been chosen. He reminded the committee that he would be leaving Dover for Alaska soon.

Federal Transit Administration – NO REPORT

Norfolk Southern – NO REPORT

State of Delaware: DelDOT Planning – NO REPORT

DTC – Ms. Smith reported that public hearings on DART service changes will be held on 9/14/10 in the DelDOT Administration building. DTC is also updating its Business Plan. She reported that the Smyrna/Cheswold/Dover route handled about 171 riders a day during March.

DNREC – Mr. Wheeler reported that air quality was hot and dirty this year. The data still needs to be verified, but there were exceedances of Ozone and PM by the new standard, which is 75-70 parts per billion. He also reported that the entire



Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

P.O. Box 383, Dover, Delaware 19903

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

<http://doverkentmpo.org>

Philadelphia region had exceedances. It was a bad year, and the season doesn't end until September 30th.

Agriculture – NO REPORT

Statewide Planning – Mr. Edgell reported that the revised draft for the State Strategies for Policies and Spending update will go to the Cabinet Committee in August. It should be adopted and signed in September.

DEDO – NO REPORT

12. Staff Report –

12.1 Outreach Activities – K. Layton

12.2 Transportation Studies – J. Galvin

12.4 Regional Bicycle Plan – J. Wieczorek

12.5 Other Project Updates/Activities – J. Wieczorek

12.6 UPWP Progress & Financial Reports – J. Wieczorek

12.7 Correspondence & Publications/Reports – J. Wieczorek

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

13. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: October 13, 2010