



# 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 MINUTES OF APRIL 23, 2013 MEETING AGENDA

### PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Dwight Meyer, Chair  
Phyllis B. Collins

Michael Gumrot, Vice Chair  
James Webster

Dr. Carlton Cannon  
Jayce Lesniewski

### MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:

Edmund Maron  
Earle Dempsey

Prameela Kaza  
Dr. Daniel Houghtaling

Kevin Yingling  
Jeremy Tucker, KC alternate

### NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Rich Vetter, MPO Staff  
Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff

Kate Layton, MPO Staff

James Galvin, MPO Staff

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

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

4. *ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes Feb. 26, 2013 (enclosure)*

MOTION By Ms. Collins to approve the minutes of February 26<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Mr. Webster. Motion carried.

5. *ACTION ITEM: FY 2013 – 2016 TIP Amendment – R. Vetter (enclosure)*  
- *Paving & Rehabilitation*

Mr. Vetter reported that the State received escheat monies and DeDOT will be using this money for the Pavement and Rehabilitation Program this fiscal year. The program is statewide and Kent County will receive about 23% of the funds. Allocation is based on county size and road mileage. This is state funding, not federal or local.

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to recommend Council adopt the amendment to the FY2013-2016 TIP. Seconded by Mr. Webster. Motion carried.

6. *ACTION ITEM: FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – R. Vetter (enclosures)*

Mr. Vetter reviewed the projects in the FY2014 UPWP. He noted that the “meat” of the program falls under Transportation Studies. Those projects include US13 pedestrian counts for Delaware State University, Assistance to MPO municipalities such as the Kenton Comprehensive Plan and cost estimates for improvements on Airport Road in Milford, Bike/Ped projects and the Central Kent Study. It was noted that the Smyrna Council adopted the US13 Plan into their Comprehensive Plan; state approval is pending.

MOTION By Ms. Collins to recommend Council adopt the FY2014 UPWP. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.



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## 7. **ACTION ITEM: FY 2014- 2017 Transportation Improvement Program – J. Galvin (enclosure)**

Mr. Galvin explained that the TIP reflects DelDOT's statewide program. He displayed a map, indicating which projects from last year's TIP were completed. He noted that, due to DelDOT's fiscal constraints, a number of projects have been pushed back to later years for completion. He reviewed the Kent County projects, and reported that there are no substantive changes to the documents since the last draft that was reviewed.

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot recommending Council adopt the FY2014-2017 TIP. Seconded by Dr. Cannon.  
Motion carried.

## 8. **ACTION ITEM: Data & Demographics Subcommittee – J. Galvin (enclosures) -Population, Household, & Employment Projections**

Mr. Galvin reviewed the materials distributed by mail. He reviewed the process used by the Data & Demographics Subcommittee to update the projections based on the most recent census and the Delaware Population Consortium figures. Mr. Galvin also noted that these figures are used by the state and counties for infrastructure needs and allocation of resources.

MOTION By Dr. Cannon to recommend Council adopt the projections. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.

## 9. **ACTION ITEM: Location of annual PAC workshop – K. Layton**

Ms. Layton reviewed several possibilities for the location of the June workshop and a topic for the workshop. PAC members agreed that the Dover Downs buffet provided the widest choice of foods for everyone. They also felt that Delaware State University's plans for the future would affect transportation issues in the area.

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to hold the workshop at Dover Downs and to invite a representative from Delaware State University to speak to the PAC about the university's plans for the future. Seconded by Mr. Webster.  
Motion carried.

The PAC also determined that dinner would be at 6 PM, with the workshop actually starting at 6:30 PM.

## 10. **DISCUSSION ITEM: Dover High School Pedestrian Study – R. Vetter**

Mr. Vetter updated PAC members on the study. He reported that sidewalks along Route 8 are a priority for the school, otherwise they will have to add buses for students within the 2-mile radius. The study is focusing on the area between the school and the City of Dover. Century Engineering is doing cost estimates (drainage, utilities) and the City of Dover is looking for funding. The east entrance (football fields) will have a pedestrian activated traffic signal.

Ms. Layton referred to her involvement with an ad hoc committee of Kent Kids, a Nemours outreach program. The ad hoc committee was funded by a 3-year grant for the mitigation and prevention of asthma. The new school would need 6 buses to transport the students in the area, and that would be a lot of extra exhaust emissions, which are asthma triggers. She noted that there are health and fitness aspects to providing sidewalks in the area.

Mr. Vetter reported that the school is set for a 2014 fall opening. Dr. Cannon asked what was being done with the old school, but no one knew. Dr. Cannon also said he felt that Route 8 needed to be widened in order for Dover to grow outward.

## 12. **\*\*\* MEMBER REPORTS \*\*\***

Mr. Gumrot reported that Carpenter Bridge Road was underway and is the fastest project he'd ever seen.

Ms. Collins asked about the Isaacs Branch bridge on Route 15 outside of Wyoming; this project is in the TIP.

Mr. Meyer noted that the improved intersections by Frear Middle School were completed. However, he had questions about the traffic light cycle; even at 5:10 AM the signal goes through its entire cycle; he asked if the cycle could be changed in the future when DelDOT has a better idea of the traffic. Mr. Vetter said he would check on this.



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Mr. Lesniewsky referred to Mr. Garfinkel's comments at the February meeting concerning Independence Boulevard and the Redner's that will be opening. He said he believed it was going to be an issue, and that the road is not lined. Mr. Webster noted that the new store used to be a Superfresh; it was always a supermarket and a through road. Mr. Vetter said that the community got used to less traffic and likes it that way.

### **13. Staff Reports –**

**13.1 Progress & Financial Reports – Rich Vetter (enclosure)**

**13.2 Other Project Updates/Activities – MPO Staff**

Mr. Meyer asked if it was still the MPO's goal to be housed in the proposed transit center building. Mr. Vetter said that building has been moved to 2019 in the CTP, so the MPO just signed a 4-year lease with the Town of Camden.

The MPO wrote a letter of support for Harvest Years Senior Center, which has applied for a grant for a replacement bus.

### **13.3 Correspondence, Publications/Reports/Outreach – K. Layton -Video TIP Tour clips**

Ms. Layton reported that she is working on a spring newsletter and the data book. She also reported on events that the MPO has participated in. She noted that the MPO is partnering with other agencies for many of these events. Pooling resources has allowed the MPO and their partners to pay for larger booths, and the variety of information available brings more people to the table.

Ms. Layton presented a demonstration of the Video TIP Tour. She informed the PAC that she would e-mail them when the video tour is available on the website.

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

### **14. ADJOURN**

**Next meeting, Tuesday, June 25, Dover Downs Festival Buffet.**