

## **Public Comments for MTP:**

*Via e-mail from Terri Tieman, City of Harrington*

March 8, 2016

I received your letter dated February 2016. As a small community, we are transportation challenged. Many of our residents live below the poverty level. Many of our residents utilize the DART services currently available, but more would utilize those services if a direct DART route ran between Harrington and Milford. For a Harrington resident to get to Milford, they would need to take DART to Dover and then get on a bus to Milford. Milford can offer additional medical, dental, and employment experiences for these citizens.

*Via e-mail from Tremica Cherry, Delaware Transit Corporation*

March 23, 2016

Sent to: Terri Tieman, City of Harrington

Cc: Smith, Catherine C (DelDOT); Rich Vetter

Subject: Bus Service between Harrington and Milford

Thank you for your suggestion concerning the need for Delaware Transit Corporation (DTC) to extend bus service between Harrington and Milford. We have gotten this request a few times in the past and we do understand there is a need for a more direct route. Service directly to Milford from Harrington does not have many generators along the way which could be problematic; however, Milford is growing rapidly right now and has many opportunities for people to take advantage. As a planner with DTC, I will look at the feasibility of adding a possible flex route between Harrington and Milford similar to the Flex Route 902 we have in Sussex between Millsboro and Georgetown.

In the future, if you have any other suggestions please do not hesitate contacting me.

*Comment via e-mail from Jesse Garcia of Camden*

March 24, 2016

I agree with Representative [Lyndon] Yearick that an additional \$2.00 increase to the minimum wage would have an adverse effect on farmers and small businesses, and it would also do away with many jobs thus impacting the unemployment rates in Delaware. Rather than introducing additional requirements on the farmers and small businesses in Delaware, legislators should consider granting tax incentives, and possibly subsidies to those making less than a living wage. Delaware and many other states have opted for such actions to keep businesses from leaving their states so its only fair that a similar offer be made low income workers without imposing the additional burden on small businesses and farmers.

Comments from Milford City Council, following presentation, March 28, 2016

Mayor Shupe and council members had a number of comments regarding a need for more transit service in Milford, particularly for more local service within the Milford area, and not just around the county. Mayor Shupe referred to some comments from residents in the newer developments that he said tend to feel isolated with no bus service. Also, there was interest in having service to and from Milford Memorial Hospital and in downtown Milford.

Comments from council members following Bowers Beach Town Council Presentation April 14, 2016

Council members commented upon the need for shoulders on both sides of Bowers Beach Road. Bowers Beach, they said, has been included as part of the Bayshore Byway, which means that there is a push for more tourism there. As one or two of the council members mentioned, people already bicycle and walk along Bowers Beach road. Right now, the road does have shoulders on both sides the closer you get into town, but as you get farther away

and closer to Route 1, the shoulders either are intermittent, are on one side of the road only, or are non-existent.

#### Comments from commissioners following Kent County Levy Court presentations, April 5, 2016

Levy Court commissioners expressed interest in Walnut Shade Road. One or two commissioners said that there are people who walk and bicycle on the road, which has no shoulders. Were interested in what improvements would go there. Were concerned about safety of a road without shoulders.

One commissioner asked why so many projects were going into walk and bicycle facilities when Kent County is the least healthy county in Delaware.

Another commissioner said the MPO should think outside the box and think about a monorail system or similar.

#### Comments following Dover City Council presentation, April 11, 2016

Council member asked if passenger train service was going to be available.

#### Comments following Smyrna Town Council presentation, April 14, 2016

*Several comments from town council members*

- Request for passenger rail, adding that it can help with air quality.
- Would like more DART service, especially in 55+ communities. Want local service within Smyrna, as well as regional service. Also need service in areas where there is high density housing. Many people there work odd hours or need public transit to get to and from work.
- Need for improvements to roads in areas where there has been a lot of development --Glenwood Road, Carter Road, Sunnyside Road.
- Request for a turn lane at Brenford Road and U.S. 13 Southbound U.S. 13 at Big Oak and Brenford Road.
- Need road widening on Delaware Route 72, an east-west road where there has been a lot of development. There is heavy traffic, especially just before and during peak hours.

#### Comments following Harrington City Council presentation

City Council members said they would like to see DART service between Harrington and Milford, as people commute between the two cities for work. Also, more local service in Harrington.

#### Comments from public workshop, held June 8, 2016 at Dover Public Library

Written comments finishing the sentence, "If I could change one thing for Kent County it would be ..."

- More bike trails
- More kid activities (welcoming for skateboarding, bikes, sports, clubs)
- Bring roads up to their functional classification
- More opportunities for alternative transportation -- bike/ped; sidewalks; public transit; alternative fueling sites.

Written comments on a poster asking about bicycle and pedestrian needs:

- Re-do the pedestrian crossing at Walker Road and Independence Boulevard
  - Benches at Continental Park; elderly walking to/from Redner's [grocery store] (Tom Dix -302-672-7404)
- Another person said they agreed to this statement.

- Put more benches on The Green [in Dover]
- More bike lanes; no right on red (when there is pedestrian present)
- Increased bicycle and sidewalk connectivity --repair "broken links"
- Use of pedestrian barriers when and where appropriate

Public Comment Sheet --filled out by resident

The entire mass transit in Delaware needs to be revised and re-organized. Currently, DART First State is dysfunctional in Dover with a geographical radius of 34 miles. Routes need to be re-surveyed by planners. Currently in west Dover, residents who shop at Gateway West Shopping Center and live and reside in west Dover have to pay two fares to go home after shopping, which is dysfunctional on DART First State. Planning and routing, you have to take the Rt. 102 to the Dover Transit Center, then you have to wait 1/2 hour for the Route 101 bus to take you home where you live and reside! Also DART First State routes are on the 1/2 hour time schedule which is a waste of tax payers dollars! There are only 3-4 riders at the maximum on all routes, except the 104, 301, and 303. A lot of time, the Route 120 bus to Smyrna has only 2-3 passengers, and all the routes need to be rescheduled on hour intervals and more stops. Fare patrons have to walk a lot to arrive at their destinations. SEPTA needs to train all DART First State planners, and Route Scheduling Supervisor Charles Moulds. Currently west Dover isn't covered. Dover High School, Byler's, Person's Corner, Hartly -- the area needs expanding. Also Rt. 102, Rt. 113 don't need to be arriving simultaneously at the same stops. Neither do the Rt. 109, Rt. 112 and the Rt. 120 buses. Thank you! To the Dover/Kent county MPO Vision "2040" my telephone contact numbers are (302) 724-7458, (302) 465--0655, (302) 409-7159, and my e-mail address is <http://www.seabees1973@aol.com>.

Thank you, and Best Regards,  
Steven C. Towers

Written comments from Wyoming Peach Festival, Wyoming, Aug. 6, 2016

- "We, the residents of Longacre Village, object to the expansion of Rt. 13 in the area of our development (by Kent County Library) -- [dmellide@gmail.com](mailto:dmellide@gmail.com)
- Not enough public transportation [at?] State Street Extension  
Costs too much
- Build curbs so they're safer for tractor-trailers to make turns
- I attended a meeting a while ago and was told by 2020, there would be train service from N. Delaware through Maryland. What happened??