



# Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

P.O. Box 383, Dover, Delaware 19903  
http://www.doverkentmpo.org

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

## DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2013

#### PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS attending:

Dwight Meyer, Chair	Phyllis B. Collins	Dr. Daniel Houghtaling
Edmund Maron	Jonathan Street	Jeremy Tucker
Earle Dempsey		

#### PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS not attending:

Kevin Yingling (alternate)	Prameela Kaza	James Webster
Michael Gumrot, Vice Chair	Dr. Carlton Cannon	Jayce Lesniewski

#### NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Rich Vetter, MPO Staff	James Galvin, MPO Staff	Kate Layton, MPO Staff
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#### 1. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS & GUESTS

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

#### 3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda

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

#### 4. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes, Aug. 27 meeting

MOTION By Mr. Dempsey to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Tucker. Motion carried.

#### 5. ACTION ITEM: FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment — R. Vetter Rt. 10 Trail Study

Mr. Vetter reviewed the Route 10 Trail Study to be incorporated into the UPWP. The committee members viewed a map with the proposed and existing trails noted. Mr. Vetter reported that this study will cost about \$50,000 and was originally scheduled to be done by DelDOT. If the MPO does the study, DelDOT will put that funding into one of the other proposed trail segments. The money that the MPO would use for this study is "rollover" money from FY13.

There was discussion concerning connections with other trails, including safety issues on some existing bike lanes. The intersection at Redner's on Route 13 near Route 10 was mentioned. Mr. Galvin noted that the proposed project for the Regional Transportation Plan, the Camden Bypass, would involve changes to that intersection. It was also noted that there is a project being discussed that would widen US13 to three lanes from Webbs Lane south to Woodside.

MOTION By Mr. Maron to recommend Council approve the Route 10 Trail Study amendment. Seconded by Mr. Tucker. Motion carried.

#### 6. ACTION ITEM: FY 2014 – 2017 TIP amendments — J. Galvin

Mr. Galvin reviewed the two TIP amendments that were left off the last amendment. The two projects are the Eden Hill roundabout (a state-funded project on DelDOT right-of-way and property) and a bathroom facility at the Transit



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Center for the bus drivers. Ms. Layton reported that the 30 day public comment period began on October 1, and will end on October 31, before the next Council meeting.

Mr. Maron commented that the left-turn light cycle at Eden Hill is too short, and encourages people to go around or “jump” in front of standing traffic. He felt that a right-turn lane into the medical center was needed. Mr. Maron had further concerns on the train tracks, and trucks on the road at Kraft, using the road as a staging area rather than bringing them inside the gates onto the property. He felt there would be further problems when the Royal Farms convenience store opens.

There was further discussion concerning an actual building at the Transit Center, rather than just bathroom facilities for the bus drivers. It was noted that Secretary Bhatt has committed to building public bathrooms at some point in the future.

MOTION By Mr. Dempsey to recommend Council approve both TIP amendments. Seconded by Mr. Maron. Motion carried.

## 7. ACTION ITEM: Final Draft MPO Bylaws — C. Samardza

Staff reviewed changes made in response to concerns from the Governor’s Office. Mr. Dempsey noted a lack of consistency in language: “designee” as opposed to “appointee” in other places. Staff agreed to make the change to “appointee” in all sections.

MOTION By Mr. Dempsey to recommend Council adopt the bylaws with the correction for consistency noted Above. Seconded by Mr. Maron. Motion carried.

## 8. Discussion Item: DelDOT Draft FY 2015 – 2020 Capital Transportation Program — R. Vetter

Mr. Vetter reviewed the distributed map, which had projects listed in order of the year they were scheduled for. He noted that the CTP public hearing was very well attended, in light of the controversy regarding the schedule change for SR1 interchange for the Kent County sports complex. Mr. Vetter noted that this list was just a draft.

## 9. Discussion Item: Garrisons Oak Park Connector Road — R. Vetter

Mr. Vetter discussed distributed this project, proposed by DEDO, reviewing maps and a page synthesizing the history of the project, where it stands currently, the need for a connection to SR1, and a proposal for action.

This project was brought to the TAC by Joe Zilcosky of DEDO, who felt strongly that tenants for the park would be easier to find if the connector road was built, or at least being designed. The State owns considerable land, development rights and ROW in the area, which could be used for an access road. The issue is funding, and the fact that currently the number of trips generated by the park do not warrant a new road.

Mr. Vetter reported that the TAC consensus was that this project will be costly and that there has not been enough discussion between the City of Dover, Kent County and DelDOT, the parties to the Memorandum of Agreement that resulted in the creation of the park. The MOA calls for an access management plan, and the three agencies need to agree on that plan before funding can be allotted to this.

## 10. Discussion Item: Project Prioritization Process (New Projects) — J. Galvin

Mr. Galvin noted that the MPO would like to clarify some projects in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and add some new ones. Currently, the North Dover Study and Delaware 8 Study projects are listed as two projects,



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even though both are actually a series of projects. He proposed that those projects be separated out and prioritized individually. The Camden Bypass, which the Town of Camden is interested in pursuing, is a new project that is not currently in the MTP.

Mr. Galvin also gave a brief overview of the Prioritization Working Group; although the group began a while ago, DelDOT's continuing evaluation of Decision Lens has delayed implementation of a new process. He proposed that the Working Group convene and develop rankings for the projects using the standards in place. He thought there could be one public meeting of the Working Group, and one at the next TAC. The prioritized list could then go to the Council in January. He did not expect that the new prioritization would affect financial constraints, although the Camden Bypass is a substantial project and could "kick" something now on the list down into the "wish list."

There was discussion concerning the scope of the Camden Bypass, and the timeline. The Town plans to adopt the Bypass project into their Comprehensive Plan in December, which is the first step in the process. It was reported that the King family, whose property will be impacted, supports the project.

It was also noted that DelDOT proposes widening US 13 to 3 lanes from Webbs Lane south to Woodside. The State believes that there is enough right-of-way in the median to do this project, which is being initiated due to safety issues.

The projects must be incorporated into the MTP to move forward.

Mr. Galvin invited members of the PAC to be involved in the Working Group; he noted that Mr. Gumrot was involved when the group was originally proposed.

## 11. \*\*\* MEMBER REPORTS \*\*\*

Mr. Meyer reported that he read a news report about the new recreational path at the C&D Canal. It was reported that if Maryland agrees to the project, the path will go from Delaware City to Chesapeake City. The path will follow the existing gravel road, that dates back to horses pulling barges on the canal.

## 12. Staff Reports –

**12.1 Progress & Financial Reports – Rich Vetter**

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

**12.3 Correspondence, Publications/Reports/Outreach – K. Layton  
-Discussion/Decision on December PAC meeting date**

Mr. Vetter gave brief updates on projects previously reported: Route 13 pedestrian counts at DE State University and Airport Road in Milford.

Ms. Layton reported that the newsletter has been published on the website, and that paper copies are available on request. The video TIP Tour projects are being updated. Ms. Layton is exploring the possibility of doing a Walkable Community Workshop as a virtual project rather than physical. The Bicycle Summit is now called "heels and wheels" and will include pedestrian issues. It will be held on March 21 at University of Delaware's Clayton Hall. There will be a Livable Communities Workshop held at Dover Downs on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The Air Quality Partnership is developing a mascot for schools and festivals. They have contracted with Raymond Entertainment, the creators of the Philly Phanatic, to work on the project.

## Next meeting, TBD Kent County Levy Court Building

PAC members present agreed to hold the December PAC meeting on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.



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Mr. Maron reported that DTC is restructuring their transit and paratransit programs. This will include raising fares and possibly ending the door-to-door paratransit service when connections with regular transit is available. Federal requirements only dictates service within one-half mile of fixed route service in the ADA zone designation. There will be a public hearing. PAC members discussed the costs and volume of passengers being served.

Mr. Maron also reported that Lauren Skiver, DTC's executive director, has left the agency. There will be a nationwide search for her replacement.

It was also noted that there is no dedicated funding for transit in Delaware, and that buses all have bike carriers, making it a multi-modal system.

## **13. ADJOURN**

MOTION By Mr. Maron to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Dr. Houghtaling. Motion carried.