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DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2020

PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Michael Gumrot, Chair	Jayce Lesniewski, Vice Chair	Chris Asay
Dr. Carolyn Cohee	Jonathan Contant	Karen McGloughlin
Jesse Spampinato		

MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:

Jeremy Mullen	Dr. Phyllis B. Collins	Tracey Miller
Bruce Snow	Bill Holmes (alternate, City of Dover)	

NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Josh Thomas, DelDOT Planning	Nate Attard, DelDOT Planning
Reed Macmillan, MPO Staff	James Galvin, MPO Staff
Mike Ward, MPO Staff	Helen Wiles, MPO Staff
Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff	

1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Attard announced he was now with DTC, this would be his last PAC meeting as a DelDOT's MPO liaison. Mr. Thomas would be handling this until someone new could be brought in.

Mr. Contant said that he asked for comments about transportation issues on his FaceBook page and there are complaints about standing water at US13 and Webbs Lane He asked if it was on DelDOT's "radar" for drainage or grading or wait until 3rd lane expansion? Mr. Attard was not sure when improvements might happen at this intersection.

Mr. Contant said there are also complaints about the length of the traffic light sequence when turning from alternate roads onto US13, particularly North State Street (Leipsic) and Route 10. Many vehicles simply run the lights, and there are always crashes.

The chicanes and speed limits in Bicentennial Village are also issues that were mentioned.

Ms. Miller noted that the light runners at Lebanon/Route 10 and 13 are crazy every day, people running lights don't care unless there is large truck coming in the intersection. She also reported that last year



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one car was hit with so much momentum it was flipped upside down in the middle of the State Street/US13 intersection

The Roosevelt Avenue and US13 intersection is also a problem, but she felt that even if the sequence timing was lengthened it wouldn't make a difference, people would still run the lights.

Mr. Gumrot extended his thanks to DelDOT and engineering staff for the counter hose design on Messick Road and US 13 at the railroad tracks. This is a road he travels often, as his daughter and grandchildren live down the road. He assumes the counter hose counts to certain number and then hose breaks. Since it is pressurized, when it breaks the hose whacks up and whacks into your car leaving a dent. But it is the beautifully engineered fixture attaching the hose to the road with a unique point that puts a perfect hole into your tires. He said it took him three hours of time to get the tire fixed. It was a perfect hole and he conveyed his compliments to the engineers. He thought someone should come check this counter, since it has not been counting since last Saturday, and DelDOT may think there is little traffic here. He asked Mr. Thomas to pass that along, somebody should look at that. It's Not doing much good and somebody needs to fix it.

Ms. McGloughlin reported that the paint that goes down for bicycle lanes, the rather large bicycle images, are coming up already. It hasn't been down long and she was wondering what kind of road preparation and how the image and striping is fixed to the road.

Mr. Lesniewski reported that the Kings Highway striping coming up too.

There was discussion concerning the materials and process by Mr. Gumrot and Dr. Cohee. Mr. Galvin noted that this was probably done by a contractor, who should be required to fix it. Mr. Asay said that there are sharrows that are also peeling up, Ms. McGloughlin said that someone should go look at it and fix it because there is no point if it doesn't stay down.

Ms. McGloughlin then said that she was travelling in rural Maryland and Virginia recently, and they have beautiful reflective dots on back roads so that drivers can see the edge of the road. She felt this was needed in Delaware.

Dr. Cohee reported that the State cannot mark edge of road if it is not legal width by current standards. Delaware roads vary 12- 18 feet and aren't standard. If the State marks road that are not legal width, the State will be liable for accidents.



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There was discussion as to why there was no standardization, that legislators should be contacted about this, and Mr. Attard suggested it could be added to the MTP “Money Game” and added to the long range plan.

Ms. Miller said there is frustration and argument about the bike lane on Forrest Avenue in front of the Bennie Smith funeral home. There was discussion concerning the fact that Mr. Smith parks cars in the lane, bicyclists are forced to go into the road, and other people feel the way the lane is set up with protected dividers.

Mr. Asay reported that originally Mr. Smith had agreed to the lane when approached by DelDOT and the City of Dover, but Mr. Asay is not sure it was clear to Mr. Smith exactly what this lane would look like. For now, the Mayor has directed the Dover Police Department to be “soft” on enforcement against violations in the lane. The Transportation and Safety Committee of the City Council will discuss this next week. Council supports the funeral home, which is a long-time business in the City of Dover. Mr. Asay also felt that the Council was trying to jump to a solution without fully understanding the criteria for a low-stress bikeway.

3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda (enclosure)

MOTION By Mr. Asay to approve the agenda. Seconded by Ms. McGloughlin. Motion carried

4. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes, December 2019 (enclosure)

MOTION By Ms. McGloughlin to approve the December minutes. Seconded by Mr. Contant. Motion carried.

5. ACTION ITEM: UPWP FY2021 (enclosure) – Reed Macmillan, D/K CMPO

Mr. Macmillan gave a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the funding and projects in the FY21 UPWP. There was some discussion concerning the two Transportation Studies projects, and the fact that there is less funding available for FY21 than there was for FY20. Mr. Macmillan also reminded the PAC that there must be a 20% match, and that the federal agencies don’t really want the MPOs to use “in-kind services” instead of cash.

There were questions concerning TIDs (Transportation Improvement Districts) and TISs (Transportation Impact Studies). Mr. Attard explained that TIDs are part of DelDOT’s unified plan for US13 and that the TIS models the projects to determine necessary improvements. Mr. Thomas added that the fee structure for developer contributions to projects is unique to each TID. He also suggested that PAC members go online to look at the Henlopen Lewes TID, which is the largest in the state, to see the cost sharing percentage. There was some discussion concerning projects that had not been included in the



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FY20 UPWP, due to lack of participation by the submitting municipalities.

Mr. Macmillan reported that the PL Agreement setting out the funding for FY21 has been sent to DelDOT.

MOTION By Mr. Spampinato to recommend Council approve the FY21UPWP with the editorial corrections noted. Seconded by Ms. Miller. Motion carried.

6. ACTION ITEM: FY20-23 TIP Amendment/DelDOT CTP Transit Vehicle Replacement (enclosure)

It was noted that this vehicle replacement is not for electric buses, and there were questions from PAC members. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Attard reported that the electric buses are still limited due to the cost of the vehicles and the cost to build the infrastructure to support the buses. In the meantime, DTC needs to keep the bus routes running. The new vehicles will replace aging fleet vehicles.

MOTION By Mr. Contant to recommend Council approve the TIP amendment. Seconded by Mr. Asay. Motion carried.

7. * MEMBER REPORTS *****

8. Staff Reports –

8.1 Progress & Financial Reports – MPO Staff (enclosure)

8.2 Other Project Updates/Activities – MPO Staff

8.3 Correspondence, Publications/Reports/Outreach

Mr. Macmillan reported that to update the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), staff has been reviewing projects in prior long range plans as well as the municipal comprehensive plans. He is also planning to separate the bicycle, pedestrian, transit and multimodal projects. Mr. Thomas felt that documentation would be important.

The PAC's June Workshop would be a focus on the MPO's criteria for DecisionLens ranking as well as air quality issues and financial constraints. Mr. Galvin gave a brief overview of the history of the MPO's DecisionLens, noting that it was time to review and update the criteria. The MPO will form a Working Group to do this review and update, and he would like to have two members from the PAC along with some TAC members participate. He anticipated 3-4 meetings, for a total of 6-8 hours. Mr. Macmillan invited the PAC members to contact the MPO if they wished to participate.

Ms. Wiles reported on the outreach being done to solicit input for the MTP. The MPO is advertising in the Central DE Chamber of Commerce book, an e-mail blast will be scheduled, information will be on the DE State News website, and a news story on Chanel 47 is scheduled. There will be "pop up" online



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parties via social media. Ms. Miller suggested NPR, and said she will pitch this to the radio station. There was some discussion concerning other possible outlets. Ms. Wiles said that she needed the PAC involvement, and she welcomed any help members could provide.

Ms. Wiles also reported that she is working on an Annual Report and Fact Book for the MPO.

9. ADJOURN

MOTION By Ms. Miller to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Spampinato. Motion carried.

APRIL MEETING CANCELLED – STATE OF EMERGENCY

NEXT MEETING JUNE 2020 TBA