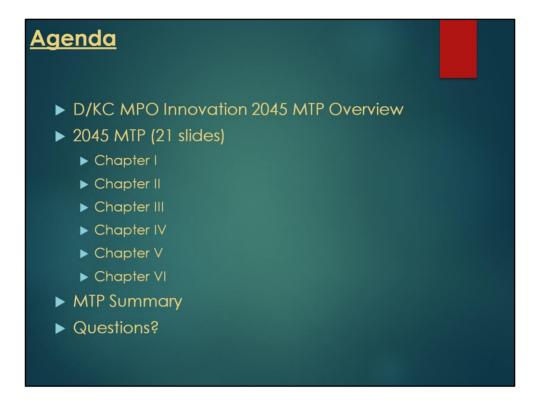
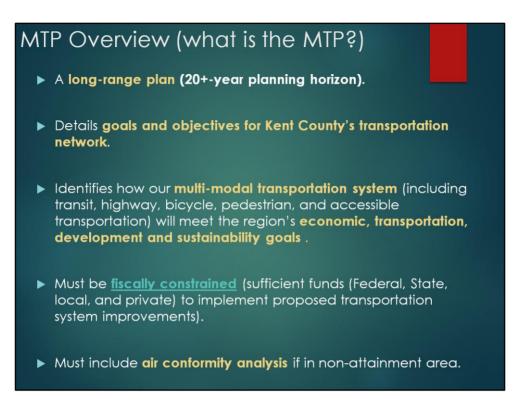


Welcome to our Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2045 Update briefing. During this presentation I will provide a brief summary about how we drafted our Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization (D/KC MPO), Innovation 2045 MTP.



These are the points we will review during this presentation. I will begin with a brief summary regarding our Innovation 2045 MTP update as presented to this group back in December 2019; the development of each chapter within the Innovation 2045 MTP; and conclude with MTP summary abd remaining steps for the document.



As a reminder, the Innovation 2045 MTP is a 20-25 year long range transportation plan that identifies how the region intends to invest in the transportation system. Prepared through active engagement with the public and stakeholders using an approach that considers how roadways, transit, non-motorized transportation, and intermodal connections are able to improve the operational performance of the multimodal transportation system. Accordingly, the MTP must cover performance measures and targets and include a report evaluating whether the condition and performance of the transportation system is meeting those targets.

The plan also considers information such as:

Regional land use, development, housing, and employment goals and plans. Projected demand for transportation services over 20 years. Policies, strategies, and projects that the MPO recommends for the future. Cost estimates and reasonably available financial sources for operation, maintenance, and capital investments (see Financial Planning and Programming). Ways to preserve facilities and efficiently use the existing system.

Finally, since Kent County is considered as a nonattainment metropolitan area for Ozone, the MTP must also conform to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality. This is accomplished by analyzing proposed regionally significant and non exempt road projects listed in the MTP against potential ozone produced by vehicles traveling on those new roads.

D/KC MPO Long Range Plans					
MPO Long Range Transportation Plans	Date Adopted	Proposed Transportation Projects 45		Contractor Support	
1996 Long Range Transportation Plan- 2020- Getting From Here to There	September 25, 1996			Yes- JHK & Associates	
2001 Long Range Transportation Plan- 2025- Getting From Here to There	July 5, 2001	71	27-Highway 31-Multi-Modal 13-Studies	No	
2005 Long Range Transportation Plan- 2030- Moving Forward Together	May 11, 2005	105	45-Highway 34-Multi-Modal 26-Studies	No	
2009 Regional Transportation Plan- 2030- <u>Moving Forward</u> <u>Together</u>	January 28, 2009	64	38-Highway 6-Transit 20-Planning Studies	Yes- Parsons Brinkerhoff Quade & Douglas; and Wordsworth Communications	
2013 Metropolitan Transportation Plan- 2040 Update- <u>Moving Forward</u> Together	January 1, 2013	58	52-Highway 6-Transit	No	
2017 Metropolitan Transportation Plan- <u>Vision</u> <u>2040</u>	January 1, 2017	68	41-Roadway 5- Safety 15- Bike/Ped/Transit 7-Studies	No	
2021 Metropolitan Transportation Plan- Innovation 2045	January 6, 2021	171	41-Roadway 45- Studies 31-Multi-modal 22-Bike 15-Pedestrian 3-Tranist 10- Frieght 4-Safety	No (DelDOT had WRA perform air analysis)	

Before we could articulate where our MPO needs to go in the future, we had to understand where we had been in the past and to do this, we reviewed previous MTPs. This slide shows each of the MTPs completed by our MPO from our first MTP in 1996 to our most recent MTP for 2021. Each of our previous MTPs had a <u>theme</u>, as shown in the first column starting with *"Getting From Here To There"* in 1996 to *"Vision 2040"* in 2017. You might remember that in December 2019, Helen Wiles sponsored a naming competition and the theme which had the most votes was, *"Innovation 2045"*.

You will also note on this slide, that each MTP update has a corresponding color. As described later in Chapter II, these colors were used by Mike Ward to help create our interactive GIS mapping site so viewers could see the previous road projects as related to previous MTPs.

You will also notice that our proposed transportation project numbers have increased over past MTPs. Additionally, we expanded our project classification types from three in the 2017 MTP to eight for the 2021 MTP. These eight categories also align with our UPWP transportation study categories.

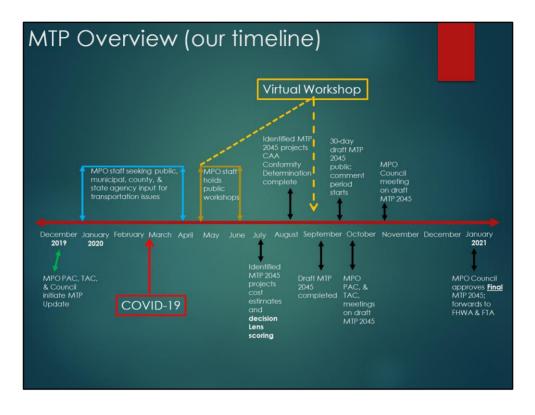
Lastly, Innovation 2045 MTP was written in-house by our MPO staff. The only contractor support was through DelDOT who hired WRA to complete the required Air Conformity Determination (further discussed in Chapter V).



You might remember that <u>one slide</u> presented to this body back in December 2019. The slide represents the various competing interests when it comes to drafting a Metropolitan Transportation Plan or MTP.

Our overall approach was to collect and analyze this information in a manner which is interesting to our "main" stake holders- <u>Kent County citizens</u>. To do this, we:

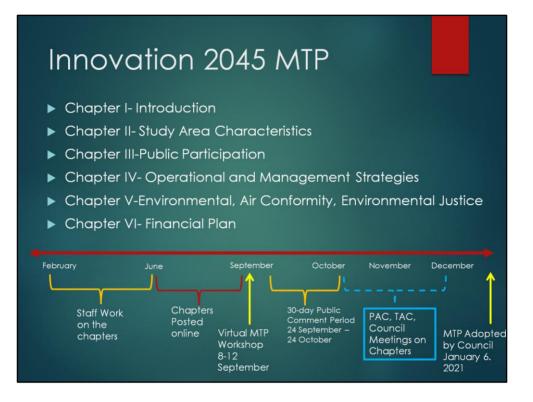
- 1. Leveraged our new Web Site to archive and share our MTP development from now until the time the MPO Council approves the MTP (January 2021);
- 2. Assigned Helen Wiles (MPO Public Outreach Manager) with weekly MTP updates on all social media platforms;
- Created interactive maps on our web site allowing 20-year trend analysis of data, regulation requirements, land use and other transportation long-range plans, funding constraints, and our MPO Partners transportation projects, studies, and policies; and
- Provided our Public Advisory Committee (PAC), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and MPO Council with continual updates which those members can share with their communities, organizations, and agencies.



As presented to this body back in December 2019 during the PAC/TAC/Council Joint Meeting, this has been a **<u>12-month process</u>**.

From January through April 2020, the staff worked with a variety of state and local agencies to include the general public to ascertain future transportation need. Then Covid-19 came to town at the beginning of March 2020 and challenged face to face coordination and data collection with "virtual" meetings and data collection. As a result, our original "in-person" public workshop scheduled in May and June was pushed to September 2020, over a six day "virtual" public workshop (more in Chapter III). Although it was a virtual workshop, there were <u>75</u> individuals who visited the workshop as compared to <u>19</u> visitors for the 2017 MTP workshop. Other than the public workshops, the schedule has been met.

The MTP draft was advertised and published on September 24, 2020 for the required 30 day public comment period which ends on October 24, 2020. Comments received during this public comment period will be address and a final draft document published and considered during the PAC and TAC meetings scheduled for this December 2020. The D/KC MPO Council is scheduled to vote on the Innovation 2045 MTP on January 6, 2021.



The Innovation 2045 MTP consists of six chapters as seen on this slide. The timeline bar at the bottom of this slide shows the progression of the Innovation 2045 MTP. Staff worked on each chapter from February through June. As each draft chapter was completed, it was posted on our Innovation 2045 MTP web site for public and agency review and comment from June through August. The chapters and innovative GIS MTP mapping project were available from September 8th through the 12th. The MTP was updated with a few changes and advertised for the required 30-day public comment and review period from September 24th through October 24th. Additional changes (if needed) will be made to the MTP before being considered by the MPO PAC and TAC in December as an "action item". The MPO Council will consider and vote on adopting the Innovation 2045 MTP on January 6th, 2021.

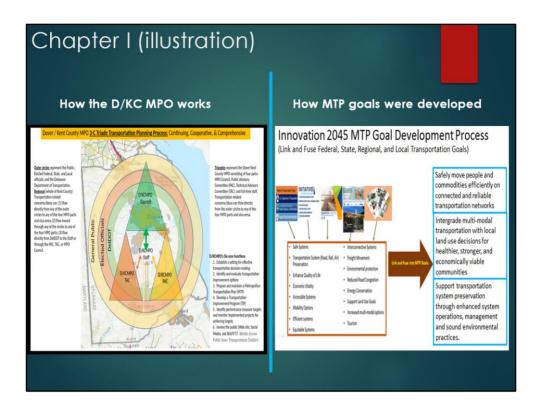
Another important aspect found in the Innovation 2045 MTP, are reference documents hyperlinked throughout each chapter. These hyperlinks are active in the PDF versions available on our Innovation 2045 MTP website. The reader can select the hyperlinked word and be directed to the reference document immediately.

The following slides provide a brief summary on each of the six chapters.



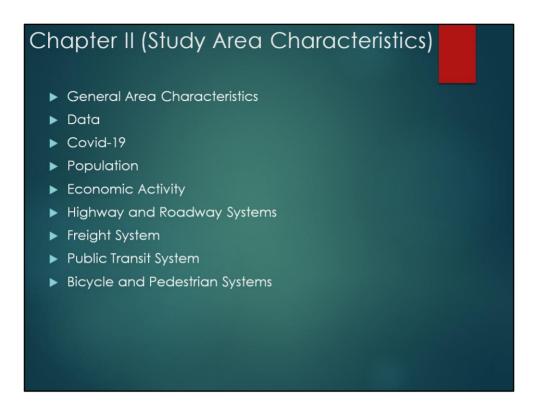
Chapter I provides a summary overview in 14 pages regarding the function of the D/KC MPO; when it was established and how it works. There is also background information regarding Federal Transportation Acts which since 1991, have shaped the D/KC MPO in addition to a Federal, State, and local transportation planning overview.

The second half of Chapter I is used to outline the Innovation 2045 MTP Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures. In fact, the D/KC MPO staff published a video in April 2020 providing information to the public on how Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures were developed and requesting public input on the proposed three Goals and Objectives by <u>May 31, 2020</u>. The final draft Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures were included in Chapter I and included in a summary video on Chapter I, developed by Helen and published on <u>June 3, 2020</u>.



The image on the left provides an example found in Chapter I on how the Dover/Kent County MPO works with the general public, elected officials, and DelDOT through our Public Advisory Council (PAC), Technical Advisory County (TAC), and MPO Council.

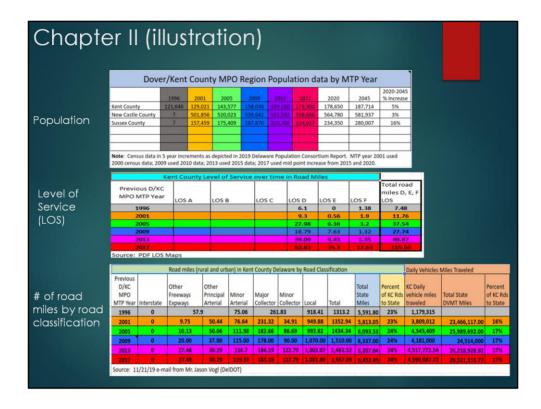
The image on the right provides a snapshot how we included aspects of Federal (FHWA and FTA) Transportation goals; Governor Carneys Initiatives for Delaware; Wilmapco and the Salisbury/Wicomico MPO's (regional) goals, and our Kent County and municipal (local) comprehensive plan goals. The boxed section on the left side of the image shows common goal adjectives which helped develop our three Innovation 2045 MTP goals as shown on the right side of the image.



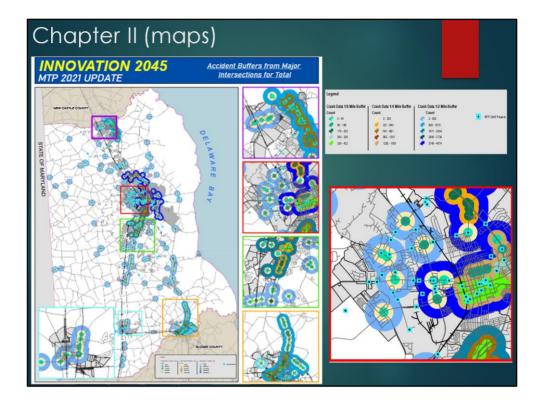
This Chapter is the longest at 23 pages and provides a summary overview on the general area characteristics in Kent County (the study area), Delaware; the type of data collection and analysis; and how Covid-19 impact some of our data numbers.

The other characteristics as seen on this slide (Population through Bicycle and Pedestrian Systems) include more detailed information regarding baseline figures shown as 2020 data through the long range planning horizon year of 2045. Additionally, a summary paragraph for each characteristic is provided highlighting potential changes.

The following slide provides an example.



These three images provide a small example of the illustrations found in Chapter II. Where applicable, staff color coded the previous MTP data years. As described in Chapter II, staff used MTP years to show past trends in lieu of typical 10 year trends (i.e. 2000, 2010, 2020, etc..). This was a new approach and links the previous MTP information based on those MTP years.



While compiling data for Chapter II, information received for the MTP was sent to Mike Ward to begin creating a large GIS database which would eventually become the Interactive MTP GIS Website discussed later in Chapter VI. The image on the slide represents accident data in Kent County from 2013 to 2017. As seen in the lower right side of the slide, our 2021 MTP proposed projects were overlaid onto of the accident data to gauge the location of the 2021 MTP projects. Going forward, we will be able to see if the proposed road projects once completed, help reduce accidents in the future. It also helps in the Decision Lens process when considering road projects in these accident areas.

- Safety- 0.75 point The project came about in response to several crashes or car-pedestrian interactions or car-bicycle conflicts (frequent),
- Safety- 1 point The project has been recognized by the DOT as a safety project, a HSIP or a HEP.
- Performance Measures in Safety- 1 point if Project can help achieve State annual target goals AND is proposed for an area of concern where motorized and non-motorized vehicle injury crashes have occurred and/or pedestrians have been injured.

Why Public Outreach is Important Background on MPO Public Outreach Initiative	
Using Public Outreach in Development of the Plan Surveys and Polls Surveys Survey results The Money Game Public Workshops News Coverage Advertising Social Media Campaign Prioritization Working Group Comments and Prioritization General Comments at Meetings Comprehensive Plans Story/Interactive Maps Getting At Risk and Underserved Population Involved	

Chapter III is one of the shortest chapters with 7 pages but do not let 7 pages judge the level of effort put into public participation, especially by our Public Outreach Manager, Helen Wiles. Although this chapter in the MTP describes each one of the 20 listed actions on this slide, Helen leveraged her social media skills to reach out to the Kent County public from Facebook parties to multiple videos and interviews.



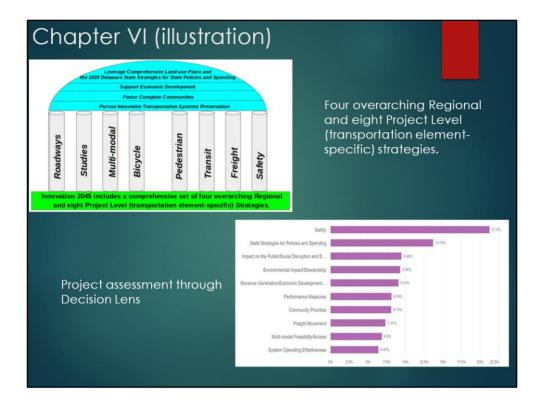
This slide is a small representation of just a few of the many outreach efforts Helen made for the Innovation 2045 MTP. In addition to videos she produced summarizing each of our six chapters, she also included instructions in Spanish, allowing Spanish speaking public members to participate in the MTP virtual workshop. One interesting trend Helen found was that there were 19 individuals who attend the 2017 MTP public workshop as compared to 75 visitors to the 2021 MTP virtual public workshop. Unless someone can prove otherwise, I will say that the MTP outreach efforts surpassed any previous MTP outreach efforts.



Chapter IV provides the strategic approach by describing our strategies in 12 pages. The four strategies and eight project level strategies listed on this slide are all linked through the D/KC MPO Decision Lens Project Priority Process, support our Federal and State partners strategies, and integrate with our Local partners' economic and land-use policies through comprehensive plans.

For example, each proposed 171 Innovation MTP transportation projects are categorized into one of the eight project level strategies and is assigned a quantitative value based on how that project supports ten screening criteria (found in Chapter VI and seen on the next slide). If the project supports multiple screening criteria, the more quantitative value the project can receive. The ten screening criteria support all four of the overarching strategies. The higher the quantitative value received, more aspects of the four overarching strategies that project supports and the better priority ranking the project receives regarding funding.

Specific to Innovation 2045, Decision Lens was used to evaluate and score transportation projects categorized in any one of the eight categories (also referred to as Project Level (Transportation Element) Strategies) to establish funding priorities. Elements of the four overarching regional strategies, Federal and State partners strategies, and integration with our Local partners' economic and land-use policies **are all linked through the D/KC MPO Decision Lens Project Priority Process** when considering funding priority for any transportation project within the eight project categories (Transportation Elements).



The image on the top left illustrates our four overarching regional strategies and how they link to our eight project level strategies. These four overarching strategies are specifically link through the Decision Lens **ten screening criteria** process when considering any one of the eight transportation projects (also known as transportation elements in this MTP). This process ensures that even as an individual transportation project in any one of the eight categories or elements, that individual project is selected based on its ability to support the overarching regional strategies. Hence, the eight transportation elements become project level strategies in of themselves.

The image on the lower right shows the ten screening criteria in our decision lens process. Safety is the highest criteria worth 21.3% whereas System Operating Effectiveness is the lowest worth 6.41% of an individual transportation projects score. Decision Lens is a major aspect of our strategy by applying technical judgement about the transportation project's ability to:

- a. meet national, regional, and state transportation planning objectives;
- b. apply national and state performance measures;
- c. consider state and local land use planning and policy initiatives;
- d. include environmental considerations; and
- e. evaluate social justice concerns.

Chapter V (Environmental, Air Quality, Environmental Justice)

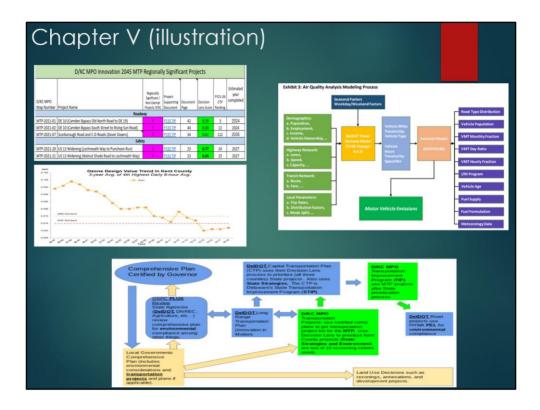
- Background
- Environmental Analysis
- Air Quality
- Innovation 2045 MTP Conformity Determination
- Environmental Justice
- Mitigation Efforts

The D/KC MPO leverages Long Range and Comprehensive Planning efforts by our Federal, State, Regional, and Local MPO partners (briefly described in Chapters I and IV). These long range and comprehensive planning documents address environmental impacts resulting from future growth scenarios. Local land-use decisions rely on future growth scenarios described in comprehensive plans that are certified by the State through the Office of State Planning Coordination (OSPC). The plans also identify potential environmental impacts that may occur from future growth, the annexation of land, and proposed long range development, economic, or transportation projects.

The Innovation 2045 MTP must demonstrate that the projects support the attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and conform to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality. In other words, the MTP projects, when considered collectively, need to contribute to the air quality improvement goals embodied in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. To document this process, DelDOT consultants perform a series of tests with computer models that estimate air pollution levels from mobile sources over the next 25 years. Results of these tests for **the Innovation 2045 MTP demonstrated air conformity.**

Environmental Justice (EJ) is a process that ensures minority and low-income communities do not bear more than their share of environmental burdens. Historically, residents living within communities that face disproportionately negative impacts from transportation projects, regulations, or activities are often minorities or people of lower-income status. As part of the Innovation 2045 MTP update, EJ principles were among the ten screening criteria used when considering transportation projects in Kent County. Explained in more detail in Chapter VI, the D/KC MPO updated its decision lens process, including updating the EJ specific transportation project screening criteria. This criterion, titled "Impact on the Public/Social Disruption and Economic Justice," is defined as the extent to which the project has an impact on existing communities and neighborhoods, including disadvantaged populations identified in the (2016) Environmental Justice Plan.

EJ initiatives combined with other natural, cultural, and environmental project screening selection criteria are the first part of the D/KC MPO transportation project mitigation effort. Not every transportation project will require the same type or level of environmental mitigation. Some projects, such as new roadways, involve major construction with considerable earth disturbance. Others, like intersection improvements and resurfacing projects, require minor construction and minimal earth disturbance. Thus, the second part of environmental mitigation efforts is completed by DeIDOT through their NEPA documentation process.



The top three images are related to the Air Conformity process. As mentioned previously, DelDOT's consultant who performed the required air conformity analysis for our Innovation 2045 MTP was WRA. Out of the 41 road projects listed, 5 projects as seen in the upper left of the slide, which were considered as being Regionally Significant projects and part of the WRA analysis. The image on the upper right of the slide illustrates the EPA's Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator (MOVES) model that was used for the air analysis. **All baselines and (clean air act) budget tests pass, which demonstrates conformity**.

The image on the bottom of the slide shows how our local MPO partners comprehensive plans and the transportation projects listed therein, go through the Office of State Planning Coordination (OSPC) Preliminary Land Use Service (PLUS) where state agencies such as DNREC can review the plans for environmental impacts. The flow chart also shows any transportation project submitted to the D/KC MPO, is evaluated through Decision Lens, against State Strategies. The 2020 State Strategies, identified four levels of investment mapped as geographic areas in Kent County. Level 4 area is considered as Natural Resources Protection areas and Out of Play area considered not suitable for private development.

Although more detailed environmental documentation for road projects may be required, by leveraging the OSPC State Strategies and PLUS for Comprehensive Plans, the D/KC MPO ensures a cursory environmental review occurs and is considered before recommending any transportation projects listed in the Innovations 2045 MTP.

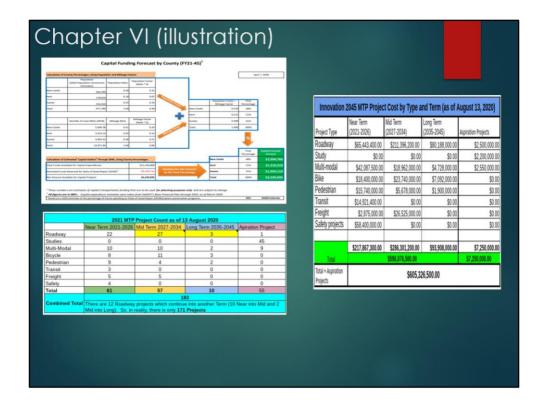


Projects identified and listed in the Innovation 2045 MTP came from the previous D/KC MPO MTP (Vision 2040), D/KC MPO Partners Comprehensive Plans, and project recommendations from Federal, State, Regional, and Local governmental agencies. The compiled projects listed in the MTP are also broken out into Near-term (2021-2026), Mid-term (2027-2034), Long-term (2035-2045), and Aspiration project categories.

As previously mentioned, Decision Lens is a software prioritization and resource optimization system which allows the D/KC MPO to make funding decisions in a project prioritization and resource allocation manner based on <u>ten screening criteria</u> and provides a prioritization evaluation and ranking on the <u>171 proposed Innovation 2045 MTP projects</u> out to the year 2045. Although there are ten screening criteria, <u>22 quantitative elements</u> are used to generate any transportation projects' value.

Most of these projects in the Near Term, Mid Term, Long Term, and Aspiration columns (as seen on the next slide) came from the various transportation studies, MPO partner comprehensive land use plans, the previous 2017 D/KC MPO MTP, and the most recent Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). These projects are listed in appendix A and have hyperlinks to the documents and annotated the page numbers where the project can be located within that document.

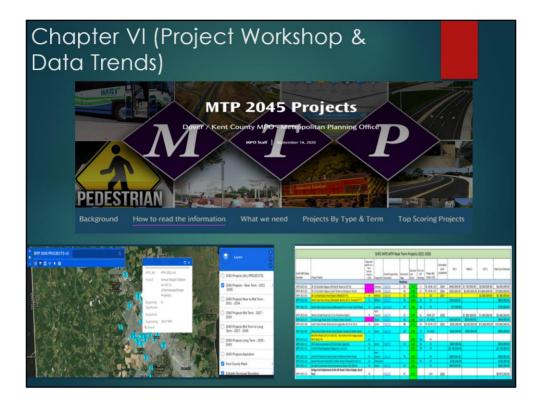
Federal regulations require transportation improvement projects to be included in a metropolitan transportation plan (MTP) and that these projects also be considered "financially responsible." This phrase means that all of the listed Innovation 2045 MTP transportation improvement projects cannot exceed the amount of reasonably expected revenues projected from identified federal, state, and local funding sources.



The top left image showing DelDOT projects of **\$1.3 Billion dollars** for Capitol Transportation Projects in Kent County from 2020 through 2045. For Innovation 2045 MTP to be considered <u>financially reasonable</u>, the proposed projects listed in the plan can not exceed 1.3 billion.

The image in the lower left shows the number of proposed projects in our eight categories planned from 2021 through 2045. The aspiration projects are those not specifically earmarked for the Near, Mid, or Long Term funding projects, however, they may be considered over time should additional cost estimated be produced.

The last image on the right side shows the total estimated dollar amount in each of the eight project categories. The total estimated cost projections from 2021 through 2045 is **\$605** million which is less than the project DelDOT Capital estimate of \$1.3 Billion, thereofore, our MTP is considered financially reasonable.

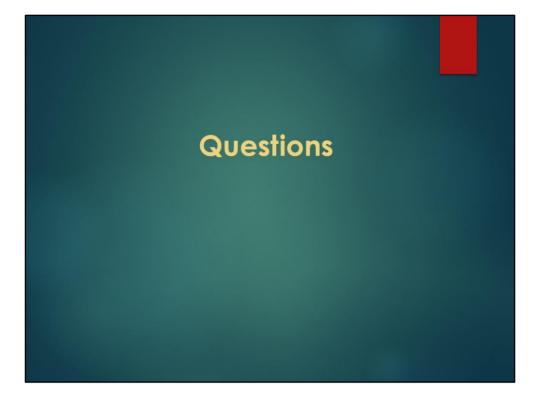


Mike Ward designed and developed an interactive GIS maps for the MTP. This interactive site transforms was typically a listing of future transportation projects on a spreadsheet within a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), into a Geographical Information System (GIS) display of each proposed project and more importantly, the project's location. Although the actual process regarding how these transportation projects were included into the Innovation 2045 MTP is described in Chapter VI (<u>https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/innovation-2045/</u>), this site provides a summary of the process.



In summary, the process has taken a year and is expected to be completed when the MPO Council approved the Innovation 2045 MTP on January 6, 2021. Staff attempted to ensure our MTP complemented our Federal, State, Regional, and Local MPO Partners by fusing their goals and objectives into ours. We wanted our local MPO partners to feel included in the transportation process by including their comprehensive plan transportation projects in our MTP project list. We utilize the 2020 State Strategies in our Decision Lens project selection process which is the backbone of our MTP strategy. Jim conducted workshops this past February and March updating our Decision Lens project selection process which like the State Strategies, is a major aspect of our MTP Strategy. Helen has continually pushed new out reach technology such as videos, survey, and social media programs in her efforts to include all Kent County residents in this process. Mike continually refined our MTP interactive mapping systems by building new map layers as new transportation planning data was found. Last but not least, Cathy ensured our process was transparent ensuring MTP information was available to the public when requested, and actively uploaded onto our web page.

Going forward, once the 30 day public comment period ends on October 24th, we will make any changes required and post the final MTP Draft ahead of the December 2020 PAC and TAC meetings and pending their recommendations, forward the final document to the MPO Council on January 6, 2021 for adoption.



That concludes my MTP update presentation. Are there any questions?

Thank you.