

POB 383 / Dover, DE 19903 / http://www.doverkentmpo.org / (302) 387-6030 FAX: (302) 387-6032

DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF June 13, 2023

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING:

Rob Pierce, City of Milford, Vice-Chair Jeremy Rothwell, Town of Smyrna Cathy Smith, Delaware Transit Corporation Mary Ellen Gray, City of Dover, Planning Anastasia Jackson, DE Div. Small Business Jason Lyon, City of Dover Public Work James Coverdale, DNREC Josh Thomas, Office of State Planning Tim Riley, Kent Conservation District Humaira Nabeela, DelDOT Planning Harold Scott Jr., Town of Camden Matt Jordan, Dover Air Force Base Milton Melendez, DE Dept of Agriculture Enos Han, Federal Highway Admin (N/V)

MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:

Kris Connelly, Kent County Planning, Chair C Abigail Lowe, Federal Transit Admin.(N/V) Lee Derrickson, DE Motor Transport Assoc.(N/V)

NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Marilyn J. Smith, MPO Staff Helen Wiles, MPO Staff Mike Ward MPO Staff Ted Foglietta, Century Engineering Drew Boyce, Century Engineering Cliff Gunstra, Delmarva Central Railroad(N/V)

James Galvin, MPO Staff Michelle Vinson, MPO Staff Malcolm Jacob, MPO Staff Sonia Marichic-Goudy, Century Engineering

1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS

- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS None
- 3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda (enclosure)

MOTION By Mr. Lyon to approve the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Gray Motion carried.

4. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes April 18, 2023 (enclosure)

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Lyon Motion carried.

5. ACTION ITEM: PRESENTATION AND RECOMMENDATION: Intersection of DE6 and DE 300 between Smyrna and Clayton (https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/files/2023/05/Smyrna-Clayton-Final-Recommendations-Report-compressed-1.pdf) / Ted Foglietta, Century Engineering

Mr. Foglietta gave a brief presentation outlining the study's location, purpose, and need. He spoke about



how data was collected, what types of data were collected, and the community workshops held. Two options were presented. Concept Option 1 extends Carter Road through the existing intersection with Wheatleys Pond Rd. to form a four-way, signalized intersection with Smyrna Clayton Blvd. at the American Legion Ambulance Services driveway. This configuration would eliminate the right-turn from Smyrna Clayton Blvd. onto Wheatleys Pond Rd. The Wheatleys Pond Rd and Carter Rd intersection would also be four-way. The left turn movement from Wheatleys Pond Rd. to Smyrna Clayton Blvd. would also be eliminated. • Concept Option 2 also extends Carter Rd. through the existing intersection with Wheatleys Pond Rd., but ties into a new sweep section of Smyrna Clayton Blvd. This option would eliminate a section of Smyrna Clayton Blvd. between the new sweep to the spur road connecting Smyrna Clayton Blvd and W. Glenwood Ave., including the existing Smyrna Clayton Blvd./Wheatleys Pond Rd. intersection. Mr. Lyon commented "Good job" and asked what would happen to the extinguished right of way. Mr. Foglietta stated the property is state property and the state would decide. Ms. Gray commented it looked like they had good community engagement. Mr. Rothwell spoke about the challenge with emergency services, there are some misunderstandings but the town will be working with them. Mr. Pierce stated that Option 2 is better for the High School.

MOTION By Mr. Thomas to recommend Option 2 to Council. Seconded by Mr. Melendez. Motion carried.

6. ACTION ITEM: PRESENTATION AND RECOMMENDATION: N. Walnut Street/Tenth Street/N. Walnut Street/N. Washington Street Intersection Study (https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/files/2023/05/Milford-10th-Church-Rehoboth-Draft-Report-compressedHigh.pdf) / Sonia Marichic-Goudy, Century Engineering

Ms. Marichic-Goudy gave a brief presentation outlining the study's location, purpose, and need. She spoke about how data was collected, what types of data were collected, and the community workshops held. She noted that they were asked to review the intersection from the City of Milford's comp plan and the Milford Bicycle Master Plan, and the intersection's safety was failing. There was a lot of research done with what the alternatives could be. The factors were that the existing Dairy Queen did not want to lose any space, a new business was in progress on one corner, and another was looking for a safer way to enter and exit their business. This alternative is comprised of a protected intersection, with prohibited northbound left turns along N. Rehoboth Blvd. onto NW 10th St. NW 10th St. and Buccaneer St. would be converted into one-way pairs; NW 10th St. converted to an eastbound approach, and Buccaneer St. converted to a westbound approach. 2037 is the design year when the conversion of NW 10th St. and Buccaneer St. needs to occur. This will enable traffic improvements with anticipated growth, while phasing the amount of overall funding needed for the ultimate 2050 design. It is suggested that the traffic numbers be revisited ahead of 2037 to determine if actual growth matches anticipated growth, or if the design year for the one way conversion of NW 10th St. and Buccaneer St. can be postponed to a later year. In addition, the preferred alternative closes N Church St. 600' south of the intersection to 1600' south of the intersection. This enables N. Church St. to act as a driveway to the southeast corner property, Fisher Auto Parts. Eliminating the large extent of traffic coming to the N. Walnut leg of the intersection from N. Church St. will help improve safety and reduce delays. The two residential properties along N. Church St. would utilize a new connection from N. Church St. to Salevan Place to reach NE 10th St. and N. Rehoboth Blvd. The 10' of removed N. Church St. would be reconfigured to a



10' side shared use path. A new connection between N. Church St. and N. Rehoboth Avenue continues to Allen Way. It connects to N. Rehoboth Blvd. from Brightway Commons and points south. In addition, an interim improvement was developed to improve pedestrian connectivity to the school campus northeast of the intersection. A 10' wide shared-use path will connect the intersection to the school entrance path along N. Walnut St./N. Rehoboth Blvd. Modifications will also be made to N. Church St. and N. Walnut St. to improve the turning movements and intersection skew. It was noted that all recommendations can be made within the existing right of way. Ms. Jackson asked would the road next to Milford Armory be two lanes. Ms. Marichic-Goudy answered one lane in each direction.

MOTION By Ms. Gray to recommend to Council. Seconded by Mr. Rothwell. Motion carried.

7. ACTION ITEM: PRESENTATION AND RECOMMENDATION: SR 1/Trap Shooter Road Interchange (<u>https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/files/2023/05/001-SR1-Trap-Shooters-Draft-Final-Report-1.pdf</u>) <u>&(https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/files/2023/05/002-SR1-Trap-Shooters-Draft-Final-Report-1.pdf</u>) <u>/ Drew Boyce, Century Engineering</u>

Mr. Boyce gave a brief presentation outlining the study's location, purpose, and need. He spoke about how data was collected, what types were collected, and the community workshops held. Alternates 1 & 2 are the same concept and would relocate ramps to the south, extending Trap Shooters Road. Alternate 1 would require filling some wetlands, or Alternate 2 would instead build a bridge over the wetlands. Alternate 3 is a spur from Barkers Landing Road with a diamond interchange. Alternate 4 is a spur from Barkers Landing Road with a trumpet interchange. Due to cost comparison and impact on Agricultural and Wetland Impacts, Century recommends Alternate 1 (or 2 if DNREC says to build the bridge) for further development. Alternate 1 provides the greatest cost benefit. Mr. Rothwell asked about the status of the farmer. Mr. Boyce spoke with the farmer, he is very active and what lands he doesn't own, he leases. The farmer has two tracts up for ag land preservation. Mr. Lyon asked about the CCPP and if SR1 will be widened. Mr. Boyce explained DelDOT had commissioned a study and it will need to be widened from the canal bridge to Milford at some point in the future. Mr. Rothwell asked about the county zoning in the area. Mr. Boyce said DelDOT had purchased two parcels for development due to the CCPP.

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to recommend to Council. Seconded by Ms. Gray. Motion carried.

8. ACTION ITEM: PRESENTATION AND RECOMMENDATION: Dover High School Pedestrian Safety Study (<u>https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/files/2023/05/DHS-</u> <u>Pedestrian-Safety-Study-Draft-June.pdf</u>) / Malcolm Jacob, James Galvin

Mr. Jacob spoke about the safety of the walk zone around Dover High School and the MPO's recommended improvements. Mr. Galvin discussed an incident map Mr. Ward created within the DHS walk-zone area. The incident map reflects crashes from 2009. DHS was opened in 2017. Mr. Galvin also spoke about what DelDOT has already begun or will be beginning soon. Mr. Jacob noted that the



recommendations are prioritized to be implemented in stages. Mr. Rothwell asked were the students polled at the school. Mr. Galvin responded that the MPO had a survey distributed by the school, but though many visited the site, they just skipped the questions. Mr. Rothwell asked who pays for the crossing guards at the high school. They are volunteers and there are not many of them. Ms. Gray noted the recommendations would help with safety in the area and encourage students to walk.

MOTION By Mr. Lyon to recommend to Council. Seconded by Mr. Rothwell. Motion carried.

Please note, enclosed with the agenda are the staff reports. We will not be presenting them as the studies presented will utilize time allotted. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to MPO staff.

9. *** MEMBER REPORTS ***

Mr. Jordan said at DAFB has distributed the Compatible Use Study. If you would like a copy, he can share it with you. Mr. Han spoke about the MPO Equity Roundtable and commented that it was a good job done by all. He also said the FHWA is redoing their equity plan and he is asking for feedback. Ms. C. Smith asked if everyone would look at the DART website <u>www.dartreimagined.com</u>. She also said the technical committee will be meeting again soon.

10. Staff Reports –

10.1 Progress & Financial Reports (enclosure)
10.2 Outreach Update (<u>https://sway.office.com/IIJANCu243CNit0I?ref=Link</u>)
10.3 Correspondence, Publications, Reports, Activities

11. ADJOURN

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Scott Jr. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: August 15, 2023