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**DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO COUNCIL COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2024**

**DOVER/KENT MPO COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:**

**Robin R. Christiansen, Mayor, City of Dover, Chair**

**John Sisson, Chief Executive Officer, Delaware Transit Corporation, Vice Chair**

**Jody Sweeney, Commissioner, for Terry Pepper, President, Kent County Levy Court**

**Sharon Bryson, Dir. DE Office of Hwy Safety DSHS, for Governor John Carney, State of DE**

**Pamela Steinebach, Dir. of Planning, DE Dept. of Transportation, for Secretary Nicole Majeski**

**Santo Faronea, Mayor, Town Of Cheswold**

**Doug Atkin, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Admin. (FHWA)(NV)**

**MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:**

**Terry Garcia Crewes, Regional Administrator, Region III, Federal Transit Admin. (FTA)(NV)**

**NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:**

**Marilyn J. Smith, MPO Staff**

**Michael Petit de Mange, MPO Staff**

**Helen Wiles, MPO Staff**

**Michelle Vinson, MPO Staff**

**Malcolm Jacob, MPO Staff**

1. **INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**
3. ***ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda (enclosure)***

MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Sisson  
Motion carried.

4. ***ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes September 4, 2024 (enclosure)***

MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Sisson.  
Motion carried.

5. ***ACTION ITEM: Election of Council Chair and Vice Chair***

Mayor Christiansen opened the floor for nominees for Council Chair.

Motion By Mr. Sisson to nominate Mayor Christiansen. Seconded by Ms. Bryson.

No other nominations.

Motion to close nomination by Mr. Sweeney. Second by Ms. Bryson.

Motion carried.

Mayor Christiansen is Council Chair.



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Mayor Christiansen opened the floor for nominees for Council Vice-Chair.

Motion By Mr. Sweeney to nominate Ms. Steinebach. Seconded by Mr. Sisson.

No other nominations.

Motion to close nomination by Mr. Sweeney. Second by Ms. Bryson.

Motion carried.

Ms. Steinebach is Council Vice-Chair.

**6. ACTION ITEM: Approval of 2025 Meeting Calendar (enclosure)**

MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to approve the minutes. Seconded by Ms. Bryson.

Motion carried.

**7. PRESENTATION: MTP Innovations 2050 / M. Petit de Mange**

Ms. Smith introduced the MTP Virtual Workshop to the Council, explaining that we were sharing it because the MTP would need a recommendation to approve at the next Council meeting. The first three slides, the Vision Statement, themes and goals, and the MTP timeline, have been shared with the Council before. Mr. Petit de Mange shared the Kent County growth projections for population and employment for 2022, 2030, 2040, and 2050. He explained the Volume to Capacity Ratio and how it pertains to the future of roads and their AM Peak Hour Conditions in Kent County in 2022 and 2050. Ms. Bryson noted that once design capacity has been reached, safety risk increases. Mr. Petit de Mange also shared travel corridors and potential studies that are recommended for future study. Ms. Wiles talked about Public Outreach regarding the MTP and the Money Game, which was used to gather opinions. The MPO was at 30 events and venues to collect about 1000 responses. Ms. Steinebach comments that the next time the MPO uses the Money Game, further break out the 55+ responses. Mr. Sisson agreed, noting that transit/paratransit perspectives and needs change with age. Ms. Smith introduced transportation investment areas, what they are, and the decision process on what should and should not be developed. She also introduced Transportation Systems Layer Analysis and an Enhancement Index, which will help the MPO prioritize projects and help us work without partners. Ms. Smith also shared the studies the MPO has completed in the last 10 years and was working with underserved communities. Mr. Jacob's portion included the three project lists in the MTP. They include projects already in DelDOT's CTP, additional roadway projects, and Bike and PED projects. Ms. Steinebach asked are there any red flags on reaching conformity. Ms. Smith answered not to the MPO's knowledge. Ms. Steinebach asked will the MPO be breaking out projects that are ready for the CTP? Ms. Smith answered yes. Mr. Atkin spoke about calculating the fiscal constraint for 10+ years. Ms. Steinebach asked about affordable housing. It will be in the EJ report. Mr. Sweeney asked about the population growth rise to 30,000, but jobs growth to 15,000. He asked was this due to retirees. Mr. Petit de Mange explained growth verses employment. Mr. Sisson said really good job, and to emphasize safety. Safety has to be at the forefront to tie it all together. Ms. Steinebach asked if PM Peaks were measured as well. Mr. Petit de Mange answered yes. Mr. Atkin stated to know what mode you are serving. Ms. Steinebach asked if the recommendations take into account current MTP products.

**8. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: MPO Advisory Opinions / M. Smith**

Ms. Smith shared that the MPO would like to issue an advisory when development projects are being



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considered by municipalities. To put on record the opinion of the MPO. Ms. Steinbach stated there is a disconnect between PLUS and (DAC) DelDOT. Mr. Sisson commented he thinks this is a great idea. Ms. Bryson said that it will put something on record. She stated maybe we should not use the word Advisory Opinion it may confuse with a legal opinion. Mr. Christiansen suggested memorializing expertise.

MOTION By Ms. Bryson to approve MPO Advisory Opinion. Seconded by Mr. Sweeney. Mr. Sisson noted to make sure the MPO Council is copied on the Advisory. Motion carried.

**9. \*\*\*\*\*MEMBER REPORTS\*\*\*\*\***

Mr. Sisson shared that DART will have a service change effective November 17, 2024. Routes 120 and 302 will be combined. • Mr. Atkin shared he will be retiring at the end of the year. This will be his last MPO Council meeting. He will be attending the combined dinner. He will be staying on Kent County for the near future. • Ms. Steinebach shared the DelDOT LRTP will be out for comment in December. They are currently working on prioritization criteria and Complete Streets.

**10. Staff Reports –**

**10.1 Financial & Administration– M. Smith & M. Vinson**

**a. monthly DelDOT invoice and financial reports (enclosure)**

**10.2 Studies & Maps – M. Jacob, M. Petit de Mange, M. Ward**

Mr. Petit de Mange shared that he was working on the Town of Camden sidewalk gap study. In the evening, the MPO will attend a workshop at Wheatley’s Pond in Clayton.

**10.3 Outreach and Environmental Justice/Title VI – H. Wiles**

**10.4 Correspondence, Publications, Reports, Activities**

**a. Administrative Modifications (enclosure)**

**11. ADJOURN:**

**NEXT MEETING: Joint PAC/TAC/Council – Wednesday, December 4, 2024 @ 5:30 PM at  
Balley’s**