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DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO COUNCIL
MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2025

DOVER/KENT MPO COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

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

Cathy Smith for John Sisson, Chief Executive Officer, Delaware Transit Corporation, Vice Chair

Jody Sweeney, Commissioner, for Joanne Masten, President, Kent County Levy Court

Sharon Bryson, Dir. DE Office of Hwy Safety DSHS, for Governor Matt Meyer, State of DE

Austin Gray for Pamela Steinebach, Dir. of Planning, DE Dept. of Transportation, for Secretary

Shanté Hastings, Vice Chair

Santo Faronea, Mayor, Town Of Cheswold

MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:

Ryan O'Donoghue, for Division Administrator, Federal Highway Admin. (FHWA)(NV)

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

NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Marilyn J. Smith, MPO Staff

Helen Wiles, MPO Staff

Malcolm Jacob, MPO Staff

Michael Petit de Mange, MPO Staff

Michelle Vinson, MPO Staff

Mike Ward, MPO Staff

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

MOTION By Mr. Faronea to approve the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Bryson.
Motion carried.

4. ***ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes November 6, 2024 (enclosure)***

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

5. ***ACTION ITEM: MTP Innovations 2050***
<https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/files/2024/12/Final-Draft-12-4-24-mmV-Reduced.pdf>
/ M. Petit de Mange

Mr. Petit de Mange shared the MTP timeline and talked about what had already been completed. The MTP was available for public comment since November 25, 2025. He briefly went over what was shared, the growth models (population, households, and employment) were completed in the Spring, in



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10-year increments. Those models were then given to DelDOT, which, in turn, gave them to the consulting firm WRA to develop travel demand modeling. He shared that in November we received the Air Quality report. It is in Appendix C of the MTP. He shared the table of contents and briefly touched on the contents of the chapters. He spoke about how air quality improvements are trending in the right direction. Mr. Jacob spoke about the project list—short, medium, and long-range projects, their categories, and how the MTP is fiscally constrained. Ms. Bryson commented that Delaware experienced a pedestrian fatality to end 2024 and a pedestrian fatality to begin 2025. Mr. Sweeney would like to view the Excel spreadsheet for MTP projects. Ms. Bryson commented that it would be hard to have too many projects at once, the infrastructure would not be able to handle it.

MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to approve Innovations 2050. Seconded by Mr. Faronea.
Motion carried.

6. ACTION ITEM: Resolution naming Michael Gumrot member emeritus to the Dover Kent MPO Public Advisory Committee (PAC) (Enclosure) / H. Wiles

Ms. Wiles presented the resolution. It is planned to purchase a plaque and present at the next Council meeting.

MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to approve the resolution. Seconded by Ms. Bryson.
Motion carried.

7. ACTION ITEM: January 2025 Amendment to Personnel Policy (enclosure) / M. Smith

Ms. M. Smith presented a resolution to amend personnel policy. It was an oversight that left out part-time personnel's pay for holidays.

MOTION By Mr. Faronea to approve the amendment. Seconded by Mr. Sweeney.
Motion carried.

8. ***MEMBER REPORTS*******

- Mr. Sweeney shared that Kent County Levy Court had their leadership meeting, and he is still the appointee to the MPO. Some other minor changes impacted our board and committee appointments. Joanne Maston was voted President of Kent County Levy Court, and Bobby Scott was voted Vice President.
- Ms. Bryson shared that fatality rates have declined by 8%. Pedestrian and motorcyclists increased pretty significantly. Motorcyclists are more often wearing helmets. It was thought it was due to safety, but the reason is believed to be they're wearing their helmets, so facial identification cameras cannot identify them. If there were no tags on the bikes, they could identify the rider by facial recognition. Even though they're wearing full-face helmets, bikes are still involved in fatalities, most of which are related to speed. Highway Safety did a checkpoint between Christmas and New Year. 472



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cars went through the checkpoint, 5 DUIs, drugged impaired, and several other arrests, including people who sat in the queue and didn't put their seat belts on. There is a new campaign that's getting ready to come out on cannabis, people driving while impaired by marijuana. • Mr. Gray shared a few updates on behalf of Ms. Steinebach. Public comment for DelDOT's next Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) will be opening soon. The Council on Transportation will work on the updated CTP prioritization process to make it 100% quantitative. DelDOT also received a P4 grant. P4 stands for prioritization process pilot program from the Federal Highways Administration. It will help update our CTP prioritization processes. The grant is \$365,000. • Ms. C. Smith shared that DART is having a service change beginning February the 23rd in New Castle and February the 24th for Kent County. DART has a goal of 92% for on-time performance; statewide, it's 68%.

9. Staff Reports –

9.1 Financial & Administration– M. Smith & M. Vinson

a. monthly DelDOT invoice and financial reports (enclosure)

Ms. Vinson shared financials up to November and informed that the MPO is beginning the yearly Audit process with Auditors currently on-site.

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

Mr. Petit de Mange shared that he is working on Camden sidewalk gaps and Wheatley's Pond with Century Engineering. Mr. Jacob shared that he is working on the Little Creek sidewalk gap, the Cheswold railroad crossing, and the Dover Freight Plan. Mr. Ward noted that there are 18 miles of missing sidewalk in Camden, and he also works on Expanded Rail.

9.3 Outreach and Environmental Justice/Title VI – H. Wiles

Ms. Wiles shared the Council meeting schedule. She also shared the contest the MPO is wanting to bring a PAC, TAC or Council member to the AMPO conference September 16 – 19, 2025. Every meeting attended in person, and any public outreach done for the MPO earns you a ticket for a chance to go. She also noted the resignation of Ian Peters from PAC. Ms. M. Smith noted that she has been working with Ms. Steinebach and believes the position is filled. There is still an open DART position on PAC.

9.4 Correspondence, Publications, Reports, Activities

a. Council Meeting Schedule

b. Come with us to AMPO

c. Administrative Modifications (enclosure)

d. PAC member resignation – Ian Peters

10. ADJOURN:



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MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Bryson.
Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: March 12, 2025 @ 3 PM