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DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MAY 7, 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

Stephanie Johnson, Dir. of Planning, DE Dept. of Transportation, for Secretary Shanté Hastings

Santo Faronea, Mayor, Town Of Cheswold

MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:

Camille Otto, 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

Nikolas Reckner, Whisman Giordano

Marc Cote, Rossi

Savannah Edwards, Rossi

Michael Petit de Mange, MPO Staff

Michelle Vinson, MPO Staff

Mike Ward, MPO Staff

Frank DeFroda, Whisman Giordano

Anne Marie Townsend, Rossi

Tina Merrill, DNREC AQ

1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda (enclosure)

MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to approve the agenda with item 7 being deferred to the next MPO Council meeting. Seconded by Mr. Faronea

Motion carried.

4. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes March 12, 2025 (enclosure)

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

Motion carried.

5. ACTION ITEM: Election of Council Vice-Chair

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

Motion By Mr. Sweeney to self-nominate. Seconded by Mr. Faronea.



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No other nominations.

Mr. Sweeney elected Vice-Chair.

6. ACTION ITEM: FY2024 Whisman Giordano draft audit / Frank DeFroda, Nikolas Reckner (enclosure)

Mr. Reckner presented the FY2024 Audit. He stated everything was consistent with prior years. There is a difference in contracted services, which were down from previous years. There were no material violations or compliance issues. In previous years, there were four recommendations; two have been implemented, and two remain. This was a clean Audit; there were no other significant matters, findings, or issues.

MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to accept the audit. Seconded by Mr. Faronea.

7. ACTION ITEM: Cheswold RR Crossing / Century Engineering, Ted Foglietta; M. Jacob (enclosure)

PAC and TAC recommended to approve.

Postponed to next MPO Council meeting

8. ACTION ITEM: South Central Kent County Circulation & Sufficiency (<https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/files/2025/05/SC-Kent-Circulation-Sufficiency-Study-FINAL.pdf>) / Rossi, Savannah Edwards; M. Smith

PAC and TAC recommended to approve.

Ms. M. Smith introduced the study. She shared that it is a DelDOT project that can be implemented for short-term and medium-term circulation improvements. Ms. Edwards shared that the area is in Kent County, between US 13 and US 1, spanning from Route 10 in the north to Route 14 in the south. Rossi examined crash data, travel volumes, crash hotspots, and new developments in the area. There are recommendations for bicycles and pedestrians, as well as roadway recommendations. Mr. Sweeney shared that there is a new subdivision (Cypress Branch) and a new Caesar Rodney School planned in Kent County. He asked about the intersection of Sorghum Mill and Route 10. He also shared that with roadwork being done on the Camden Wyoming Bypass, many people are using Star Hill, specifically Voshells Mill Road, to avoid construction.

MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to approve the study. Seconded by Mr. Faronea.

9. ACTION ITEM: Dover State Street & South Dover Elementary Intersection (<https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/files/2025/04/Item-07-Dover-State-Street-South-Dover-Elementary-Intersection-Council-compressed.pdf>) / Rossi, S. Edwards; M. Smith

PAC and TAC recommended to approve.

Ms. M. Smith introduced the study and shared that it was prompted when Mayor Christiansen called the MPO and requested assistance with a safety issue at the school. Mr. Cote of Rossi shared that the



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challenge is that the morning drop-off and pick-up of students in carpools is causing unsafe conditions for children to and from school. Mr. Cote shared recommendations that can be easily implemented, as well as options that are not immediately needed but can be implemented as the school's needs dictate. Ms. Bryson asked, "What is the Department of Education's responsibility? This is not just an issue at this school! Mr. Sweeney asked if it is contingent upon the school to request assistance with traffic control. Ms. Johnson inquired whether funding could be sourced from the Safe Routes to School program. Ms. Bryson stated that perhaps the Office of Highway Safety could help disseminate the message about pedestrian safety in school zones.

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

10. ACTION ITEM: FY26 UPWP (<http://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/files/2025/04/FY26-UPWP-v.4.pdf>) / M. Smith (enclosure)

PAC and TAC recommended to approve.

Ms. M. Smith presented the FY26 UPWP. She also shared that DKMPO's budget is smaller due to the PL funding distribution formula changing as Salisbury Wicomico no longer receives funding. The redistribution allocated 80 percent of the funding to WILMAPCO, with DKMPO receiving the remaining 20 percent. The MPO is seeking other funding sources.

MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to approve the study. Seconded by Mr. Faronea.

11. ACTION ITEM: PL#1 for FY2026 / M. Smith (enclosure)

PAC and TAC recommended to approve.

MOTION By Ms. Bryson to authorize Ms. M. Smith to sign PL#1. Seconded by Mr. Sweeney.

12. ACTION ITEM: Schedule a Special Session for Safe Streets for All Study, Kent County Safety Action Plan approval before June 24, 2025. / M. Smith

Ms. M. Smith will select a day, and a notice will be emailed.

13. ***MEMBER REPORTS*******

Mr. Sweeney shared that the Kent County Levy Court issued a proclamation to the State of Delaware, stating that it should stay out of county business when it comes to zoning. • Ms. Bryson shared that the Office of Highway Safety had just finished having four town hall meetings that were pretty well attended, and she will share the results at a future date. • Mr. Faronea asked about Fork Branch Road and McKee Road (Hughes' Crossing). Is anyone working on it? It has a lot of accidents. • Ms. C. Smith shared the Spring 2025 service change that will take effect on May 19 through Labor Day.

14. Staff Reports –

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

a. monthly DelDOT invoice and financial reports (enclosure)



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

Mr. Jacob shared that the MPO is working on another public workshop for Little Creek. Mr. Petit deMange shared that there is an upcoming workshop for the Town of Camden Sidewalk GAP Study.

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

Ms. M. Smith shared she went to Imagine RIT with VR Gear. It was well received.

14.4 Correspondence, Publications, Reports, Activities

15. ADJOURN:

MOTION By Mr. Sweeney to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Faronea.

NEXT MEETING: July 2, 2025 @ 3 PM