

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

## <u>DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE</u> August 19, 2025, MINUTES

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING:

Rob Pierce, City of Milford, Chair

Jeremy Rothwell, Town of Smyrna, Vice Chair

Josh Thomas, Office of State Planning Tina Merrill, DNREC AQ

Jason Berry, Kent County Planning Jason Lyon, City of Dover Public Works

Chris Salzano, City of Dover, Planning Meghan Niddrie, DelDOT Planning

Matt Jordan, Dover Air Force Base
Harold Scott Jr., Town of Camden

Anastasia Jackson, DE Div. Small Business
Kurt Pokoiski, Kent Conservation District

Milton Melendez, DE Dept of Agriculture

Tremica Cherry-Wall for Cathy Smith, Delaware Transit Corporation

### **MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:**

Enos Han, Federal Highway Admin (N/V) Lee Derrickson, DE Motor Transport Assoc. (N/V) Cliff Grunstra, Delmarva Central Railroad(N/V) Timothy Lidiak, Federal Transit Admin. (N/V)

## **NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:**

Marilyn J. Smith, MPO Staff
Helen Wiles, MPO Staff,
Malcolm Jacob, MPO Staff,
Ivy Lu, Town of Smyrna, GISS
Michael Petit de Mange, MPO Staff
M

1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

**NONE** 

3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda (enclosure)

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

4. *ACTION ITEM:* Approval of Minutes June 17, 2025 (enclosure)

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Salzano. Motion carried.

5. ACTION ITEM: Milford Slaughter Beach SUP Feasibility (
https://www.publicinput.com/milford-slaughterbeach) / M. Smith, WRA, Leah Kacanda

Mr. Pierce thanked everyone for the work on the study. Ms. Kacanda presented the study. She explained that the study was funded through a grant received by the City of Milford and Town of Slaughter Beach



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from the U.S. DOT Thriving Communities program. She stated this is a good resource for other communities. She explained how data was collected, public involvement, and how the study offered four options over five sections from S. Rehoboth Blvd to the Canal Bridge. The possibilities included no building, adding shoulders, a shared-use path, and a shared-use path with roadway reconstruction. Mr. Thomas stated the study was well done, and he largely agreed with the outcome. The towns need to invest in flood mitigation, and these things need to be carefully evaluated, as they could inadvertently cause growth spurts. Ms. Kacanda concurred, sharing that amenities cause value, which attracts the interest of developers. Mr. Pierce was interested in what the PAC thought. Ms. Kacanda shared that they were wondering about the cost-effectiveness and how many people would use the bike/ped path.

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to recommend to Council. Second by Mr. Melendez. Motion carried.

6. ACTION ITEM: Little Creek Pedestrian Improvements (https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/little-creek-sidewalk-crosswalk-improvements/) / M. Jacob

Mr. Jacob began his presentation by sharing that the Town of Little Creek had requested an inventory of sidewalks and recommendations for improving transportation safety. He also thanked Mr. Jordan for organizing a tour of the town and the surrounding area. He stated the MPO worked with DelDOT and the Office of Highway Safety on the recommendations. The Town of Little Creek faces a challenge with speeding, and its efforts to address the issue have not been effective. Mr. Jacob explained the MPO's research process and its outreach with the town members and the Town Council. He shared the recommended solutions, costs, and possible funding sources. Mr. Rothwell asked about speed cameras. He also commented that farm equipment is a defining factor for the town, and it could be possible to discuss alternative routes with farmers that provide access to fields, so as to narrow the right-of-way on the main street.

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to recommend to Council. Second by Mr. Salzano. Motion carried.

# 7. ACTION ITEM: Camden Sidewalk Gaps ( <a href="https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/camden-sidewalk-study/">https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/camden-sidewalk-study/</a>) / M. Petit de Mange

Mr. Petit de Mange introduced the study. He shared maps created by Mr. Ward that reflected areas with existing sidewalks, shared use paths, and locations of existing sidewalk gaps. He shared that a public workshop and an online survey were also available for public input. He gave a list of the top nine priority gaps for elimination. Mr. Pierce asked the town to maintain the sidewalks. Mr. Scott replied that the town installs, and the homeowner maintains. Mr. Rothwell asked about utilizing impact fees. Mr Petit de Mange stated you cannot use impact fees on existing sidewalks.

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to recommend to Council. Second by Mr. Scott. Motion carried.



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### 8. ACTION ITEM: Public Participation Plan ( https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/publicparticipation-plan/)/ H. Wiles

Ms. Wiles gave a brief summary of the updated plan. It is the first update since entering the "new landscape," so some language needed to be updated. She shared that the PPP is designed to help our PAC members and partners connect with the public. She emphasized the importance of the 3C (continuous, comprehensive, and cooperative) process. She reminded everyone of the importance of sharing the MPO's posts on their social media, participating in MPO workshops, and sharing what they have learned at meetings. Mr. Rothwell commented that service organizations are always looking for dinner speakers. Ms. Wiles commented that we have spoken at many organizations' dinners, but some do not respond when contacted. Ms. Wiles asked if anyone has an organization. Please reach out to her with information.

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to recommend to Council. Second by Mr. Salzano. Motion carried.

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

• Mr. Thomas shared that the State Strategies report is on track to present to the cabinet meeting on September 8, 2025. Once it is completed, they will hold public workshops, with a hybrid option scheduled for September 17, 2025. • Ms. Jackson stated the DE Division of Small Business is in the thick of EDGE Grant season. They will be having workshops at the Harrington and Smyrna Public Libraries.

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

10.4 Correspondence, Publications, Reports, Activities

a. Administrative Modifications (enclosure)

M. Smith shared Performance Measure Targets for FY2026.

#### 12. **ADJOURN:**

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Salzano. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: October 14, 2025 @ 10 AM

SAVE THE DATE: Joint PAC/TAC/Council dinner. December 3, 2025