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**DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**October 14, 2025, MINUTES**

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING:**

<b>Rob Pierce, City of Milford, Chair</b>	<b>Jeremy Rothwell, Town of Smyrna, Vice Chair</b>
<b>Josh Thomas, Office of State Planning</b>	<b>Jason Berry, Kent County Planning</b>
<b>Jason Lyon, City of Dover Public Works</b>	<b>Meghan Niddrie, DelDOT Planning</b>
<b>Anastasia Jackson, DE Div. Small Business</b>	<b>Harold Scott Jr., Town of Camden</b>
<b>Kurt Pokoiski, Kent Conservation District</b>	<b>Milton Melendez, DE Dept of Agriculture</b>
<b>Enos Han, Federal Highway Admin (N/V)</b>	
<b>Tremica Cherry-Wall for Cathy Smith, Delaware Transit Corporation</b>	

**MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:**

<b>Dawn Melson-Williams, City of Dover, Planning</b>	<b>Matt Jordan, Dover Air Force Base</b>
<b>Tina Merrill, DNREC AQ</b>	<b>Timothy Lidiak, Federal Transit Admin. (N/V)</b>
<b>Cliff Grunstra, Delmarva Central Railroad(N/V)</b>	
<b>Lee Derrickson, DE Motor Transport Assoc. (N/V)</b>	

**NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:**

<b>Marilyn J. Smith, MPO Staff</b>	<b>Michael Petit de Mange, MPO Staff</b>
<b>Helen Wiles, MPO Staff,</b>	<b>Michelle Vinson, MPO Staff,</b>
<b>Malcolm Jacob, MPO Staff</b>	<b>Mike Ward, MPO Staff</b>

**1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

**3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda (enclosure)**

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to approve the agenda. Second by Ms. Cherry-Wall.  
Motion carried.

**4. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes August 19, 2025 (enclosure)**

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to approve the minutes. Second by Mr. Scott.  
Motion carried.

**5. FY2026 Project overview / M. Jacob, M. Petit de Mange, M. Ward**

- Mr. Petit de Mange gave an update on the Wheatley's Pond/Underwoods Corner Road project in Smyrna, DE. He shared the issues the area is facing and the outcomes that are hoped for. He shared that the MPO is planning a public workshop soon. (This is scheduled for December 10,



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2025, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Clayton Firehall).

- Mr. Petit de Mange also spoke about the Hickory Ridge Road Corridor, sharing the issues with the corridor and sought-after improvements. The MPO is hoping to have a workshop in mid-January at the Troopers Association. Details will be shared once they are complete.
- Mr. Jacob was the next presenter. He spoke about a study currently in progress on Airport Road in Milford, DE. The City of Milford sponsors the study being conducted by Rossi Group. Public Outreach has been completed, with plans for a public workshop in early 2026. Mr. Jacob also shared the road closures that would occur on Airport Road beginning in October and continuing through March for the Airport Road and Route 15 roundabout construction.
- Mr. Ward talked about the Expanded Rail Land Use Study. He is working on the rail in New Castle and Sussex counties. He shared the criteria for parcel selection and exclusion. Mr. Rothwell shared that Maryland owns the Maryland Rail Line. He also mentioned all the split parcel zonings. Mr. Petit de Mange shared that it begins with Comp plans, and that Kent Economic Development has been working with towns and cities to adjust zoning along the railroad tracks. Mr. Rothwell stated the state should be looking at ag preservation along the rail line, along with industrial development.

#### **6. What the MPO learned at AMPO / H. Wiles, M. Smith, T. Cherry-Wall**

- Ms. Wiles highlighted sessions focused on bike and pedestrian project evaluation, using AI for modeling and conducting inventories, lending libraries for temporary facility improvements, innovative outreach techniques such as cameos and trading cards, and using qualitative data such as human stories. Mr. Rothwell shared that the Town of Smyrna recently used an AI tool (Vortex AI Street mapping) attached to street sweepers to gather asphalt measurements.
- Ms. Cherry-Wall highlighted sessions focused on transit resiliency, BRT (bus rapid transit), and on-demand micro transit.
- Ms. Smith highlighted sessions focused on flood adaptation for historic buildings and a design guide for elevating existing and new construction, local government network with an MPO liaison for each municipality, the need to approach housing and transportation as a combined system, the role of trees in cities, quick build approaches to getting small projects done, and using a value capital approach in developing rail corridors for economic development and passenger rail.

#### **7. \*\*\*\*\*MEMBER REPORTS\*\*\*\*\***

NONE

#### **8. Staff Reports –**

##### **8.1 Financial & Administration– M. Smith & M. Vinson**

###### **a. monthly DeIDOT invoice and financial reports (enclosure)**

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

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

##### **8.4 Correspondence, Publications, Reports, Activities**

###### **a. Administrative Modifications (enclosure)**



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**9. ADJOURN:**

MOTION By Mr. Rothwell to adjourn. Second by Ms. Cherry-Wall.  
Motion carried.

**NEXT MEETING: December 16, 2025, 2025 @ 10 AM**