

Municipal Street Aid Committee Meeting

Committee Members:

The Honorable James M. Baker (Mayor, Wilmington) The Honorable Carleton E. Carey Sr. (Mayor, Dover), The Honorable Sam Cooper (Mayor, Rehoboth), Gene Dvornick (Town Manager, Georgetown), The Honorable James Ford III (Mayor, Lewes), The Honorable Vance A. Funk III (Mayor, Newark), David Hugg (City Manager, Smyrna), Kyle Sonnenberg (City Manager, Newark), Dolores J. Slatcher (City Manager, Seaford), Cathryn Thomas (City Administrator, New Castle)

January 13, 2011, 4:00PM – 6:00PM – DelDOT Administration Bldg., Dover, DE 19903

Attendees: Mayor Carey, Mayor Cooper, Gene Dvornick, Dave Hugg, Kyle Sonnenberg
Dolores Slatcher, Cathie Thomas

Additional Attendees: Ellen Lorraine McCabe (Financial Officer, City of Lewes), Jennifer Pinkerton (Pavement Management Engineer, DelDOT), Sandy Roumillat (Public Relations, DelDOT), Carolann Wicks (Secretary of Transportation), Keesha Wilson (Executive Assistant to the Secretary of Transportation), Joe Wright (Director of Maintenance & Operations, DelDOT)

Meeting Minutes: The meeting began with opening remarks from Secretary Wicks, and a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the November 18, 2010 meeting. All were in favor to approve the minutes, and the motion passed. Keesha Wilson then distributed updated information for the notebooks, including: a new calendar of meeting dates, updated committee list, finalized version of the November 18, 2010 meeting minutes, and an updated PowerPoint presentation of today's meeting.

Joe Wright then gave an overview of the Statewide Pavement program. He and Jennifer Pinkerton presented and answered questions regarding: the scope of the program responsibilities, program funding levels, cost pavement treatment per mile, conditions assessment, the funding versus the conditions, and the funding needs.

Following the presentation there was much discussion regarding the municipalities that have an existing pavement condition monitoring system,

their current backlog, and how the road conditions continue to decrease. The discussion then moved to how these needs are presented to the Legislators and where the funding for MSA comes from and how it's handled. It was pointed out that revenue sources are not keeping up with the cost of living; considering the recession, which equates to less traffic, which equates to less gas and toll revenue.

This was subsequently followed by a lengthy discussion on the how to present the funding needs of each municipality, and assessing what each currently spends on street aid. Dialogue went back and forth regarding utilizing MSA funds for pavement conditions only, and not police officers and electric bills. The suggestion was made that the state should pay for street lights on state roads, as well as the counties assisting with maintaining roads. Someone also questioned the need of having police on every construction project, and because of the high cost, maybe that should be analyzed along with the cost that municipalities have to pay for lights on state roads.

The meeting closed with a path forward to first assess how the municipalities are utilizing their MSA funds, and what are their issues; second, to have more information on our state's road classification inventory; and third, to develop a cost per mile for both the statewide paving program and the MSA program.

Follow-up Items: DelDOT will provide to the committee members a link to our road classification inventory.

DelDOT will develop a cost per mile for both the statewide paving program and the MSA program.

DelDOT will obtain from the Treasurer's office the reports filed by municipalities on how they spend their MSA funds.

DelDOT will contact Alan Kercher to see what data he can provide us on the pavement conditions of the municipalities that he has been working on beyond Wilmington and Newark.