PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT / RESOURCE AGENCY COORDINATION

US 301 project development 15

301 US 301 Project Development

Each project DelDOT undertakes is evaluated by its ability to meet project purpose and need and engineering standards, while being responsive to public and resource agency input.

Public Involvement

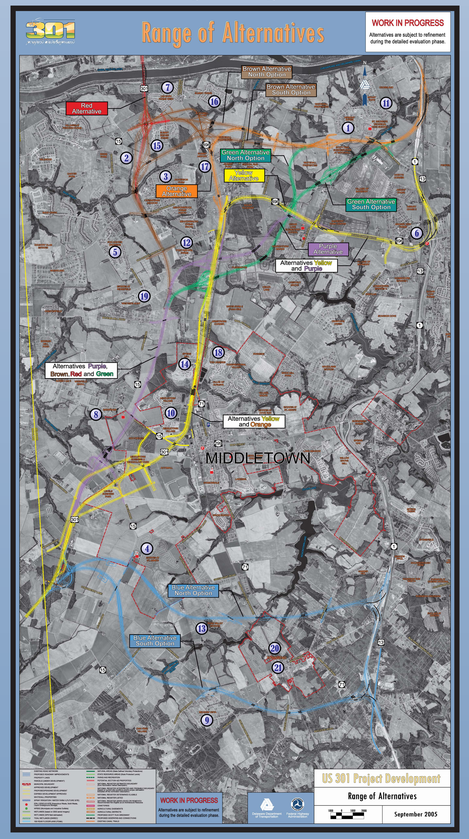
Community Coordination

In addition to the public workshops, DelDOT has conducted numerous meetings with communities, businesses and indviduals to provide information and listen to comments and concerns.

Community Meetings

Community	Meeting Date
1 Airmont	August 16
2 Chesapeake Meadow	(to be scheduled)
3 Dickerson Farms	July 19
4 Estates at St. Annes	(to be scheduled)
5 Fox Hunter Crossing	July 12
6 Grande View Farms	August 2
7 Lea Eara Farms	(to be scheduled)
8 Matapeake	July 12
9 Meadow Vista	(to be scheduled)
10 Middletown Village	August 8
11 Mount Hope	August 16
12 Post and Rail Farms	August 15
13 Rose Valley Estates	(to be scheduled)
14 Springmill	August 19
15 Summit Bridge Farms	August 22
16 Summit Farms	(to be scheduled)
17 Summit Pond	August 4
18 Townsend Town Council	September 7, 2005
19 Townsend Town Community	(to be scheduled)
20 The Legends	(scheduled for Sept.14)
21 Westside Hunt	July 12

Community Meeting Locations



Major Community Themes

- The situation is bad and we need relief as soon as possible.
- Something definitely needs to be done to address problems such as congestion, safety and truck traffic.
- Impact communities that have not been built yet, rather than existing communities.
- Separate local and through traffic and keep the long distance truckers off the roads we use.
- The more direct the route, the more likely it will attract through traffic and the less costly it will be.
- Impacts on people and existing communities should be given the same consideration as Impacts on the environment.
- Using the existing US 301 alignment will divide Middletown and isolate existing communities from the rest of Middletown.
- An elevated highway near an existing community causes unacceptable noise, light and visual impacts.
- Every effort should be made to avoid impacts to community facilities such as the airpark, schools and churches.
- Whatever you do, please fix the curve just south of the Summit Bridge.
- It's not fair to make those who had nothing to do with creating the problem bear the brunt of the negative impacts of the new road.
- If the new road is a toll road, will you be able to control traffic that will want to avoid the toll?
- The public outreach has been great but will our voices make a difference?

Major Resource Agency Themes

- Alignments which have fewer impacts to high-quality wetlands are viewed more favorably than those with higher impacts.
- Alignments which have greater impacts to Delaware's rare and endangered species, their habitat, or natural areas are viewed less favorably than those which avoid or have more minimal impacts.
- Alignments that directly impact Delaware's historic and cultural properties or National Register properties are viewed less favorably than those that avoid these resources.
- Alignments which have impacts to active farmland, prime agricultural soils, agriculture districts or properties under easement are viewed less favorably than those with little or no impacts.

Resource Agency Coordination

DelDOT meets regularly with the agencies with interest or regulatory authority over resources in the project area. The agencies work together to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts to their respective resources. Agencies include:

- The US Army Corps of Engineers:
  - Regulate environmental protection, navigation, flood control, disaster response, and military construction.
  - Work toward a national goal of "no net loss of wetlands." The Corps works to restore existing wetlands, or to create new ones.
  - Issue permits for discharge of dredged or fill material into navigable waters at specified disposal sites.
  - Make decisions on whether to grant, deny or set conditions on permits to construct in wetlands, The Corps is required to consider "all factors in the public interest," including economic development and environmental protection.
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) develops and enforces regulations that protect human health and the environment.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats.
- The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) protects and manages Delaware's vital natural resources and habitats, protects public health and safety, and provides quality outdoor recreation.
- The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) works to protect and preserve Delaware's cultural resources. They are concerned about impacts to Delaware's historic and archaeological resources.
- The Delaware Department of Agriculture works to sustain and promote the viability of food, fiber, and agricultural industries in Delaware. In part, this is accomplished by working to preserve and protect farmland through the Farmland Preservation Program, agricultural districts and easements.

Agency Meetings

Resource Agency Meetings	Meeting Dates
Meeting	April 14
Cultural Resource Field View with SHPO	April 25
Meeting and Field View	May 23
Meeting with SHPO	June 8
Field View with the Corps of Engineers	June 15
Field View with EPA and the Corps of Engineers	June 23
Meeting with SHPO	July 8
Meeting and Field View with Agencies	July 12
Field View with the Corps of Engineers	July 19
Field View with DNREC	August 8
Field View with the Corps of Engineers	August 9
Meeting with SHPO	August 10
Jurisdictional Determination Review with the Corps of Engineers	August 19
Meeting and Field View with Agencies	August 23
Field View with Agencies	September 8