

Delaware Bicycle Council June 5, 2024 Zoom Webinar Meeting Notes

Members Present

Walt Bryan, Sussex County Representative Fran Cardaci, At-Large Representative Tom Hartley, Kent County Representative Jackie McDermott, Office of Highway Safety Wendy Polasko, DelDOT Representative Michael Tyler, At-Large Representative James Wilson, New Castle County Representative

Members Absent

Lauren Butsher, Division of Public Health Mack Cochran, Trails & Greenways Council Scott Hoffman, At-Large Representative Marty Lessner, Council on Transportation Michael Krumrine, DNREC Representative Evette Morrow, At-Large Representative Michael Wagner, Department of Education

DelDOT Support Staff

John Fiori, Bicycle Coordinator, DelDOT

Guests

Michael Ryan, Public Chris Asay, Public Bill Weller, Sussex Cyclists

I. Welcome/Introductions

Scott Hoffman, Chair of the Delaware Bicycle Council could not attend the meeting where Tom Hartley overseen the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Tom Hartley. John Fiori took a roll call of the Council members present and quorum was not met. Therefore, the meeting continued but the Council was not able to hold a vote on any topics.

Minutes/Agenda Review:

The Council reviewed the meeting minutes from the April 10th meeting. Tom Hartley requested the Council contact John Fiori of any revisions where the minutes can be approved at the August 7th Delaware Bicycle Council meeting.

II. Public Comment

Bill Weller wanted to thank the Council for sending the letter or e-mail to the Five Points Working Group project manager and starting the process of getting the intersection modification at King's Highway and Route 1 on the Five Points Working Group project updates.

III. Old Business

Update of Feasibility of Georgetown to Lewes Trail Crossing US 9 at Cool Spring

Walt Bryan reported that there is nothing new regarding the Crossing at Coolspring. Freeman Corporation has submitted updated plans to DelDOT and the state planning office, all of which are pending review, discussions and eventual approvals, which will consume several months. Bill Weller requested to address the Council, where the challenge at Hudson Park, is that the trailhead installed does not have a paved trail that goes from the parking lot up to Hudson Road, where it is fenced in so that it makes it hard for people going that way to cut over and not cross at the light. The problem is going to be when they paved that parking lot, people will be able to just walk their bikes and try to get across US 9 at Cool Spring, so that is the issue. Michael Tyler added that he is concerned about the crossover on US 9. There are many bicycles out there, and they are riding on the road and not able to crossover onto the trail. If we are going to complete this trail from Georgetown it is wrong not being able to cross US 9 and we really should be making that a top priority to have something done.

The meeting was open to any Council members who wanted to discuss any topics. Tom Hartley asked James Wilson if he would like to talk about the flyer for the cycling infrastructure innovation grant. James Wilson responded that a flyer was sent to all Council members to use but wanted feedback about the flyer. James and Scott attended a Delaware League of Local Governments to inform them of the grant and what the grant is about in trying to increase the submissions in applications. The flyer has the link to the application and the grant can cover the cost of hiring an engineering firm to complete a cost and feasibility study. Previous grants that have been awarded to Bridgeville, Middletown, Newcastle, Newport, and other Delaware cities and towns to improve cycling infrastructure. The application deadline is August 31st. Tom Hartley asked if the flyer could add an e-mail address or phone number in case of questions. John Fiori indicated his e-mail and phone can be added but did not want his work e-mail on the flyer, in which John will send James the correct e-mail to use. Tom Hartley indicated that each Council member should try and solicit two municipalities to apply.

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John Fiori provided an update for the August agenda topic where it is planned on having a representative from our Traffic section to discuss the roundabout design guide memorandum revision. Also, will be discussing the Fiscal Year 2025 Delaware Bicycle Council Budget. Scott would like to discuss a letter of support for the Newport to Newark Pathway System. If anyone has any other agenda topics to let John or Scott know.

Tom Hartley ended the meeting at 5:43 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 7, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to be held as a hybrid of in-person and virtually.