COUNCIL ON TRANSPORTATION

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 25, 2019 at 4:00pm
DelDOT Administration Building, Farmington/Felton Conference Room

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:
   Ted Williams (Chairman), John Gilbert, Marty Lessner, Lee Beetschen, Pam Scott, and Tom Holmes

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:
   Bobby Fifer and Carolyn Thoroughgood

DELDOT STAFF PRESENT ON RECORD:
   Jennifer Cohan, Secretary; Drew Boyce, Director of Planning; John Sisson, CEO Delaware Transit Corporation; Todd Reavis, Director Technology & Innovations; Anne Brown, Finance; Ken Feaster, DOJ/DelDOT; Shanté Hastings, Deputy Director, Transportation Solutions; Michael McConnell, Finance; Anson Gock, Planning; Amanda Giuttari, Finance; Mike DuRoss, Planning; Jenn Cinelli-Miller, Planning; and Amanda Belford, Planning.

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES ON RECORD:
   Ken Grant, AAA; DJ Hughes, DBF; James Wilson, Bike Delaware; and Jeff Riegner, WRA.

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order with a review of the December 17, 2018 Council on Transportation (COT) Meeting Minutes. Councilwoman Scott made a motion to approve the minutes, Councilman Holmes seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Secretary Cohan opened with welcoming statements and thanked the council for meeting today after the February 20, 2019 meeting was cancelled due to weather conditions. She provided department updates with remarks to a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation highlighted the Department’s FY20 Source of funds, uses of funds, and US301 source and uses of funds. She
concluded her presentation with a review of DelDOT’s FY20 initiatives. Councilman Lessner inquired about the status of the mileage based user program. Secretary Cohan stated another grant was recently awarded and we are currently working on part 2 of phase 1, as well as part 1 of phase 2. Phase 2 will increase to a thousand participants including tractor trailers. She mentioned we could add the topic to a future agenda to discuss further.

Drew Boyce provided an update on the biennial CTP. The biennial CTP was discussed at the last Council meeting as an initiative. This initiative will require a change to code and will require legislation. The legislation has been drafted, sponsors have been secured, and we will be looking to work the bill this general assembly session. Drew then discussed the Transportation Infrastructure Investment Fund (TIIF) which was an initiative addressed in the Governor’s State of the State. TIIF is funding that will support economic development and the transportation improvements needed for the State of Delaware.

Drew introduced Jeff Riegner from Whitman, Requardt and Associates (WRA) provided a presentation highlighting Five Points Transportation Study. Jeff provided a presentation which including a briefing of the study, the study area, the working group members, and recommendations. There was an additional handout with details on the 78 recommendations in five categories. Jeff reviewed the recommendations by category, discussed Phase 2, and opened the floor to any questions. Councilman Beetschen asked about the road west and parallel to Plantations Road. Drew stated this ideas would need to work through a feasibility study, a full NEPA process, and any ideas would tie into the planned 4-lane expansion of SR24. Council Beetschen asked if the timing of any of the projects associated with the Five Points would be impacted by the Biennial CTP. It was stated that these projects would not be impacted by going to a Biennial CTP work on these projects are underway.

Drew provided a presentation on the Project Prioritization Process. He reviewed the current DelDOT CTP prioritization criteria, reasons for a change, and addressed current Federal and State initiatives. The potential CTP project prioritization criteria was detailed. Economic impact measurements, information on TREDIS and how it would be applied were reviewed. Drew provided a timeline implementation of the enhanced process as followed:

- Feb. 2019 – COT review of Proposed Criteria and Measures
- Sprint 2019 – DelDOT Leadership Team assigns criteria weights
- Late Spring/Early Summer – COT review of criteria weights
- Summer 2019 – apply new criteria to the FY 2021-26
- Aug. 2019 – COT review and release draft FY 2021-26 CTP with draft criteria
- Fall 2019 – DelDOT presents new criteria to the public
- Dec. 2019 – COT review public comments on new criteria
- Prior to Feb. 2020 – COT to consider approving new priority process.

Councilman Lessner asked if the data will be presented in both the new criteria and old criteria as a comparison. Drew explained that data would be provided. He stated any current projects currently in the process would not be affected by the new criteria. The new criteria would only be applied to the new projects and out years of the CTP.
Chairman Williams moved the meeting to the next agenda item of Approval of the FY 2020-25 CTP. He asked for an update of changes to the CTP since the Council last met. Drew reviewed the minor changes since the December 17, 2018 meeting. The minor changes were mostly adding PE to a number of the Right-Of-Way phases due to working with home owners. Advanced the PE for Kings Highway 1 year. Chairman Williams asked the Council if they had any questions regarding the minor changes. With no questions, Councilwoman Scott made a motion to approve the FY20-25 CTP, seconded by Councilman Gilbert, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Williams asked the Council for any additional comments or questions. Chairman Williams requested an invitation be sent to the Council for the March 1st Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for 301. Shanté Hastings assured the Council that an invitation would be forwarded.

With no further questions or comments from the Council, Chairman Williams opened to public comments. DJ Hughes introduced himself and discussed Kings Highway. He shared his appreciation for the project being advanced up and suggested advancing it even further ahead. He also discuss his thoughts on SR 1 at Cave Neck and at Minus Conaway. He expressed his thoughts on those projects being switched in the prioritization list.

With no additional comments or questions, Councilman Williams requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Belford, Recording Secretary