

Safety, Outreach & Education Subcommittee Meeting #7

January 14, 2026 - Meeting Notes

Meeting Title: Safety Outreach and Education Subcommittee | Meeting #7

Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Subcommittee Members

Name	Position	Email
Jared Kauffman (Chair)	DART	Jared.Kauffman@delaware.gov
Malasia Reid	DART	Malasia.Reid@delaware.gov
Chip Kneavel	DeIDOT	Thomas.Kneavel@delaware.gov
Meghan Niddrie	OSHS	Meghan.Niddrie@delaware.gov
Robin Martin	Office of Civil Rights ADA Compliance Specialist	Robin.Martin@delaware.gov
Matthew Harris	University of Delaware	MLHarris@udel.edu

DeIDOT Support Staff

Name	Organization	Email
Kelly Valencik	DeIDOT	Kelly.Valencik@delaware.gov
Matthew Langton	DeIDOT	Matthew.Langton@delaware.gov
Aaron Bell	DeIDOT	Aaron.Bell@delaware.gov
Sophie Thompson	JMT	SThompson2@jmt.com

Meeting Purpose

The purpose of this meeting was to hold the seventh Safety, Outreach & Education Subcommittee meeting, and to discuss the following:

1. Call to Order

- a. Jared Kauffman called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

- a. Jared Kauffman suggested giving the subcommittee more time to review the meeting minutes. The meeting minutes from the November 12, 2025, subcommittee meeting are planned to be voted on during the next meeting.

3. Public Comment Period



- a. Jared provided an opportunity for members of the public to share questions or comments. No questions or comments were stated by the public.

4. Topics for Discussion

- a. Recap of Hope Center public outreach
 - i. The group discussed the success of a recent outreach event at the New Castle County Hope Center, with Jared thanking Megan Niddrie and Robin Martin for their efforts in data collection and engaging with attendees.
 - ii. The team discussed feedback from the event. Tote bags, fanny packs, and coloring books were distributed at the Hope Center. The fanny packs were particularly popular, with people appreciating their practicality for carrying phones and medical supplies. The group also shared public feedback requesting larger sizes of shirts, hoodies, and jackets (XXL) if purchasing clothing for future distributions. They agreed to focus on finding bulk deals for fanny packs and discussed making the event (or a similar collaboration with another unhoused shelter in other counties) an annual occurrence.
- b. Safety materials to be purchased for FY-2026
 - i. The group discussed budget allocations for safety outreach materials and pop-up project materials, with \$3,000 allocated for safety outreach and \$16,000 for pop-up project materials to support the University of Delaware's Living Labs. Kelly suggested reviewing options at the next Outreach and Education Subcommittee meeting after the January Council meeting, with Sophie potentially providing details about the available items for selection.
 - ii. Matthew Harris updated the group on three Living Lab projects in Milton, Dover, and Clayton, Delaware, noting that while staff resources are available, funding for materials remains a challenge. He expressed gratitude for additional financial support, which would allow them to combine resources and expand their work. Chip suggested maintaining the current budget to support pop-up materials for Living Labs and potentially pre-approve funding for Open Streets in the upcoming fiscal year, which could benefit a few events throughout the summer and fall.
 - iii. Kelly Valencik mentioned that Sabrina Shultz (DNREC) had previously suggested potential collaboration with Open Streets Wilmington. Robin Martin and Chip Kneavel expressed potential interest in participating in one of their events. Jared proposed coordinating messaging/collaboration between the Pedestrian Council and Open Streets Wilmington, which could be discussed through a separate meeting with the organization.

Safety, Outreach & Education Subcommittee Meeting #7

January 14, 2026 - Meeting Notes

- iv. Matthew Harris also explained the difference between Open Streets Wilmington and Living Labs, noting that while they collaborate at events, they are separate entities with different funding needs and operational requirements.
- c. Final review of Draft 2025 Annual Report
 - i. The group discussed adding a goal regarding increased collaboration and engagement with organizations serving low-income/unhoused communities. The subcommittee wanted to broaden their focus to include more collaboration with community centers and organizations like the Hope Center. Jared and the other subcommittee members agreed to this general language.
 - ii. Jared will work with Sophie Thompson to draft and refine this as a new goal to be included in the Annual Report.
- d. Any other topics?
 - i. Kelly Valencik mentioned a potential new collaboration with Delaware Commute Solutions, represented by Sarah Bett, who had reached out to express interest in attending council meetings and subcommittee meetings.
 - ii. The group also considered creating ads to be displayed on DART buses, with Malasia confirming that 'Walk Bright at Night' ads from OHS are already currently showing on the buses.
 - iii. Megan shared that she has reached out to confirm that new members from OHS will be joining the subcommittee (Caitlin Reed and Kayla Mason), but they were not present at this meeting.
 - iv. Jared mentioned the potential opportunity to travel to Hoboken, with an untapped budget of \$1,000 set aside for Pedestrian Council field trips. Sophie suggested the potential to have someone from Hoboken attend a council meeting or subcommittee meeting instead of having the whole group travel. Jared and Kelly agreed to coordinate with Hoboken officials to explore potential options.
 - v. Jared also mentioned that he and his wife are expecting a baby soon, and that as a result he might miss the next meeting on February 11th. The group decided to keep the meeting scheduled for then, and to reschedule if he is unable to attend.

5. Closing Remarks

- a. There were no additional remarks. Jared Kauffman brought the meeting to a close at 11:03 a.m.