



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
800 BAY ROAD
P.O. BOX 778
DOVER, DELAWARE 19903

SHANTÉ A. HASTINGS
SECRETARY

**Delaware Task Force on
Sustainable Transportation
Funding Meeting #6 Minutes**

Monday, April 20, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.
800 Bay Rd, Dover, DE –Delaware Conference Room and Zoom

MEMBERS	PRESENT	OTHER ATTENDEES
Shanté Hastings, Chair	Yes	Meaghan Barna, DelDOT*
Chris Baker	Yes	Anne Brown, DelDOT
Kendall Barbour	Yes*	Mark Buckalew, DelDOT
Paul Bauer	Yes	Lanie Clymer, DelDOT
Ken Branner	Yes	Ken Feaster, DOJ/DelDOT
Robin Christiansen	Yes*	Maureen Kelley, DelDOT
Rep. Rich Collins	Yes	Mark Luszcz, DelDOT*
Chris Duke	Yes	Matt Magarity, PFM*
John Gooden	Yes*	Alan Marteney, Kleinfelder*
Sean Matthews	Yes	Valerie McCartan*
Brian Maxwell	Yes*	C.R. McLeod, DelDOT*
Alex Meitzler	Yes	Spence Price, OMB*
Rep. Ed Osienski	Yes*	Todd Reavis, DelDOT*
Sen. Brian Pettyjohn	No	Robert Scgletti, OMB*
Nicole Pilchard	Yes*	John Sisson, DTC
Michael Smith	Yes*	Pam Steinebach, DelDOT
Sen. David Sokola	Yes	Geoff Stewart, PFM*
Chris Ware	Yes	Aimee String, DelDOT*
Ted Williams	No	Gary Vorsheim*

* Attended Virtually

Action items are italicized

I. Introduction

Sec. Hastings opened the meeting with a welcome, confirmed quorum, and started off the presentation for Meeting #6.

- Mission Statement (slide 2) – Began meeting with DelDOT’s mission: to provide excellence in transportation for every trip, every mode, every dollar, and everyone.
- Safety/Safe System Approach (slides 3-4) – To date, there have been 27 fatalities on our roadways, and are unfortunately tracking approximately 30% ahead compared to the same time last year. We continue to push out safety messages and held our Work Zone Safety Awareness Kickoff down in Lewes to put a spotlight on when people have safe actions, they can save lives on our transportation system. As part of all our presentations, we highlight the Safe System Approach which is a national transportation safety initiative introduced by the Federal Highway Administration. This is the safety lens we use to make all our decisions at DelDOT.

II. Overview of Agenda (slide 5) – Agenda items included approval of the last meeting minutes, discussion of ideas on engaging stakeholders/community, review of 2011 recommendation list along with 2025/2026 ideas, action items, and public comment. For each of the recommendations moving forward, the DelDOT team will be providing information and analysis to assist the task force members. The next meeting will be on 5/18/26, at 10:30 am, Canal District Building.

III. Approval of Meeting #5 Minutes (slide 6) - Sec. Hastings asked if everyone reviewed the minutes and solicited any corrections or questions; none were voiced. Sec. Hastings then asked for a motion to approve, provided by Paul Bauer, and seconded by Sen. Sokola. All members in attendance were in favor. Minutes were approved.

IV. Stakeholder Engagement Discussion (slide 7) - Sec. Hastings summarized the previous ideas on this topic, which included a public information meeting (displays, garnering feedback, in-person and a virtual option), possibly a survey, and publishing the draft recommendations. DelDOT will also be sending out an internal survey for staff to solicit ideas.

- Group discussion included an example of Minnesota passing a tax increase for infrastructure upgrades, DE being a state with the lowest gas tax in the region, along with one of the lowest DMV fees. Clarification on the executive order, that the duty of the task force is to engage stakeholders and the public to gather input on priorities, values, and funding options. Business sentiment surveys were brought up as an option, with possible questions on how entities feel about the state of transportation funding, condition of the roadways, congestion, price of gas, influence on EV’s, etc. This might be good to do to get a gauge of how people are feeling right now. The Chamber would be able to help with this, as well as potentially the League of Local Governments. A traveling road show/forum format to various stakeholders was also discussed.

V. 2011 Recommendations Survey (slide 9) – Sec. Hastings explained that the survey of forty-five recommendations was distributed to task force members, and the

group will be reviewing the results today. A slide has been prepared for each recommendation showing the survey voting results (fifteen responses), specifically whether members voted yes, no, or need more information. The DelDOT team will then review each recommendation to conduct further analysis, including evaluation of pros and cons, potential revenue impacts, cost savings, and related considerations.

- #2: 10% fee on the sales prices of DE tags sold – *Need more information*
- #3: Illegal sign fees increase – *Will provide % non-payment*
- #4: 10 yr incremental shift of paratransit from to Trust Fund to General Fund – *Need more information on the split of ADA trips vs demand response trips with costs (possible Medicaid eligible trips)*
- #10: Oversize/overweight permits fee increase – *What do other states do? When was the last time this was raised?*
- #12: Outdoor advertising fees – guided by federal rules, may have multi-year agreements, be cognizant of implementation date. *Will provide information on the revenue of the current fee structure, as well as what the projected revenue would be based on 2011 recommendations.*
- #19: Insurance penalties – Sec. Hastings mentioned that the Department isn't in favor of this, because the revenue increase isn't going to be significant. Also, there is new software being implemented for real-time insurance verification. *Will provide data on what DMV is collecting along with some background information.*
- #20: 10 yr incremental shift from (Transportation Trust Fund) TTF operating to General Fund – Discussion on applicability, concerns for workers not getting fair wage increases, question on tradeoffs and not sure this helps solve any of the current funding shortfalls. – No
- #23: Dealer reassignment fee – Yes
- #25: Motorcycle endorsement – Yes
- #29: Increase gas tax at the Welcome Center – *Will provide additional information*
- #31: Index motor fuel tax – None of our fees is currently indexed. *Can pull information on other states implementing indexing.*
- #32: Same day service fee for dealer title work – *Investigate further*
- #34: Title service fee increase – Yes
- #35: Dealer tags & registration cards increase – Yes
- #39: Increase vehicular weight fee for SUV's – Currently the cutoff is 5000 lbs, so anything under that weight is a set fee, anything over, the fee is per thousand pounds. Recommendation is to decrease to max 4000 lbs. *Will perform more analysis on vehicles and their weights.*
- #46: Index all fees – No
- #50: Sale of parking garages/lots – *Will provide information on long-term expenses, what revenue being generated*
- #51: Leasing towers for antenna on IRIB & high mast lighting – *More research needed on what revenue generated and what other states are utilizing this.*
- #52: Increasing gas tax by 1 cent – Last increased in 1995, and revenue is approximately \$5.2M per 1 cent increase. *Will get more information.*
- #53: Increase diesel by 1 cent – About \$800k increase per 1 cent increase. *Will get more information.*

- #54: Develop new numbering system for tags – Creating a new tagging system to generate a new revenue stream. Idea of creating two lines for the vanity tags? *Will provide more information.*
- #55: Eliminate the SR 1 25% commercial EZ pass discount – Discount was already reduced from 25% to 15% in Aug 2025; proposal would be to reduce to zero. A commercial account is 8 vehicles with more than two axles. *Will provide more information on the history of the discount, as well as how much revenue the removal of the discount would be.*
- #56: Surcharge for violation by drivers with points – If a driver already has points on their license, the ticket would be higher than someone with zero points.
- #57: Dealer license fee – *Will provide more information on how many dealers there are in the state, etc.*
- #61: Improved P3 bill language – *Dep. Sec. Clymer to attend a USDOT P3 session in Washington, D.C. and provide any additional information.;* We likely don't need any Delaware Code changes
- #62: Establish an EZ Pass maintenance fee – No
- #65: Installation fee for residential pipe placement – Currently in Kent and Sussex, for residential entrances, the homeowner supplies the pipe and DelDOT forces install. This recommendation would create a fee for installing the pipe. Municipalities charge for the installation. *Will provide more information on # of installs.*
- #67: Combining gas and diesel tax – *Will provide more information on if other states combine the tax.*
- #68: Create mechanics tags (similar to dealer tags) – Concerns with potential fraud. No to moving forward.
- #69: Leasing equipment instead of purchasing – DelDOT does lease vehicles and equipment when it is pertinent to do so. Discussion on fleet maintenance, utilization. No to moving forward.
- #72: Increase development coordination/inspection fees – *Have information on fees we take in and can share that with the task force.*
- #73: Implement DMV inspection fee – Discussion on eliminating vehicle inspections. The state is required to inspect emissions, so the safety inspection is added onto that to make sure the vehicle is road worthy. *Can look into this more and see what other states are doing, along with the # vehicles inspected and re-inspected.*
- #74: Lightering tax on oil at Delaware Bay – Discussion on whether other states do this, legality of it, potential revenue, as well as the pressure the refineries are already under. *Will gather information on other states.*
- #77 & #78: Outsourcing of DOT & DART operations – *Will provide more detailed information on what is currently outsourced for further discussion.*
- #80: Implement \$0.50 toll on SR 1 Odessa ramp – *Will gather information on volumes, anticipated revenue, and assumptions on potential driver decisions.*
- #81: Implement tolls on free ramps at C&D canal - *Will gather information on volumes, anticipated revenue, and assumptions on potential driver decisions. Will also provide a map of the SR1 ramps and what tolls are charged.*
- #84: Move all traffic violation revenue to the TTF – *Will provide details on what portion of the revenue comes to the TTF.*
- #87: Base registration fee on miles traveled – *Will provide more information on other states using this, as well as a general overview of what it would look like for DE.*
- #89: Congestion pricing for tolls on I-95 and SR1 – Would be very difficult to

implement on I-95 since toll coming from MD is already there. For SR1, we have variable toll pricing. No to moving forward.

#90: Franchise fees for utilities – Attempting to estimate the revenue would be very difficult, and ultimately the costs would be passed onto the customers. No to moving forward.

#91: Reducing trailer registration fees – Discussion on many trailers being tagged in Maine, along with sharing trailer tags between multiple trailers. *Will look into the fees and requirements from Maine.*

#92: Speed cameras on SR1 – Focus has been on utilizing cameras for safety, not a source of revenue. No to moving forward

#94: Carbon tax on vehicle emissions – No

#95: Temporary adjustment to 50/50 pay go borrowing strategy – Discussion on implications; No to moving forward.

VI. New Items from Task Force

Sec. Hastings noted that a list of new ideas has been generated and will be circulated to the members. Will also need to finalize how the members vote on specific recommendations and how they would be approved to be included in the final report. Potential ideas should be a consensus and/or a 3/5 vote, similar to the state legislature. Looking to have the draft report complete in October 2025, since the final is due in December 2025.

VII. Public Comment - None

VIII. Adjournment

Sec. Hastings adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m. with a motion from Paul Bauer and a second from Ken Branner.

The next meeting will be held at the DelDOT Canal District Building located at 250 Bear Christiana Rd, Bear, DE 19701, on May 18th from 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.