COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT / RESOURCE AGENCY COORDINATION

Community Involvement

DelDOT has used a number of techniques to involve the public in the US 113 North/South Study. The project has benefited as a result of this widespread citizen participation. A summary of these techniques follows:

- The Project Team has held interviews with local stakeholders throughout the study.
- A Project Video, "The Time to Act is Now" was prepared, shown to local groups and distributed.
- A 25 person Millsboro-South Area Working Group, comprised of residents and representatives of state, county and local government agencies within the project area was created. This group met 17 times prior to making a recommendation to DelDOT.
- All Working Group meetings were open to the public and most meetings were attended by citizens from the area and covered by the local press. Meetings were held in the evening to accommodate citizen attendance.
- Seven rounds of Public Workshops and an Open House have been held and attended by thousands of people, to date.
- Attendees provided written and verbal comments that have been valuable in refining the alternatives.
- Attendees provided written comments through the Workshop Comment Form which were helpful in refining the alternatives.
- A Project website has been utilized and updated regularly making extensive information about the project and, particularly, the project alternatives available to the public. The website has had over 1.75 million hits.
- Meetings have been held with businesses, civic and state, county and municipal elected officials to update them on the status of the project.

Following this round of workshops, DelDOT will conduct a Public Hearing, most likely early next year, on the Millsboro-South Area portion of the study. Stay alert for announcements detailing the date, time and location for the Public Hearing.

WE ARE HERE TO LISTEN AND TO GAIN YOUR INPUT.
LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK.

A Cooperative Effort

Delaware Department of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration

Sussex County

Resource Agency Coordination

The Project Team meets regularly with those agencies with interest or regulatory authority over environmental and cultural resources in the project area. The agencies work together to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts to natural and cultural resources. The agencies include:

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:
  - Regulates environmental protection, navigation, flood control, disaster response, and military construction.
  - Works toward a national goal of "no net loss of wetlands." The Corps works to restore existing wetlands, or to create new ones.
  - Issues permits for discharge of dredged or fill material into navigable waters at specified disposal sites.
  - Makes 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 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 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 works to protect and preserve Delaware's cultural resources. They are concerned about impacts to Delaware's historic and archeological 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.
- The Office of State Planning Coordination works to improve the coordination and effectiveness of land use decisions made by state, county and municipal governments while building and maintaining a high quality of life in the State of Delaware.

Resource Agency Meetings	Meeting Dates
Agency Field Review	January 25, 2007
Agency Coordination Meeting	February 8, 2007
Agency Coordination Meeting	February 22, 2007
Agency Field Review	March 28, 2007
Agency Coordination Meeting	April 5, 2007
Agency Coordination Meeting	April 23, 2007
Agency Coordination Meeting	May 10, 2007
Agency Coordination Meeting	June 20, 2007
Agency Coordination Meeting	July 17, 2007
Agency Coordination Meeting	September 25, 2007
Agency Field Review	March 12, 2008
Agency Coordination Meeting	October 23, 2008
Agency Coordination Meeting	December 2, 2008
Agency Coordination Meeting	January 13, 2009
Agency Coordination Meeting	February 19, 2009
Agency Coordination Meeting	March 26, 2009
Agency Coordination Meeting	May 28, 2009
Agency Coordination Meeting	July 7, 2009
Agency Coordination Meeting	September 24, 2009
Agency Coordination Meeting	November 4, 2009
Agency Coordination Meeting	December 10, 2009
Agency Coordination Meeting	April 13, 2010