

December 2022

Happy Holidays, and Best Wishes for the New Year!



Your Update to the Five Points Transportation Study

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Project News

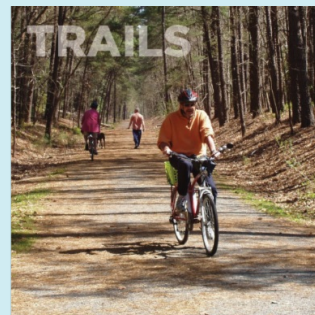
Working Group Meeting #13 Recap

The 13th meeting of the Five Points Transportation Study Working Group was held as a hybrid meeting on Monday, October 17, 2022, with most DeIDOT staff, Consultant Team members and Working Group members attending in person at the Cape Henlopen High School. The meeting included a review and status updates of the Five Points Transportation Study Implementation Plan. As of the October Working Group meeting, there were 56 of 78 recommendations in progress, ongoing or completed.

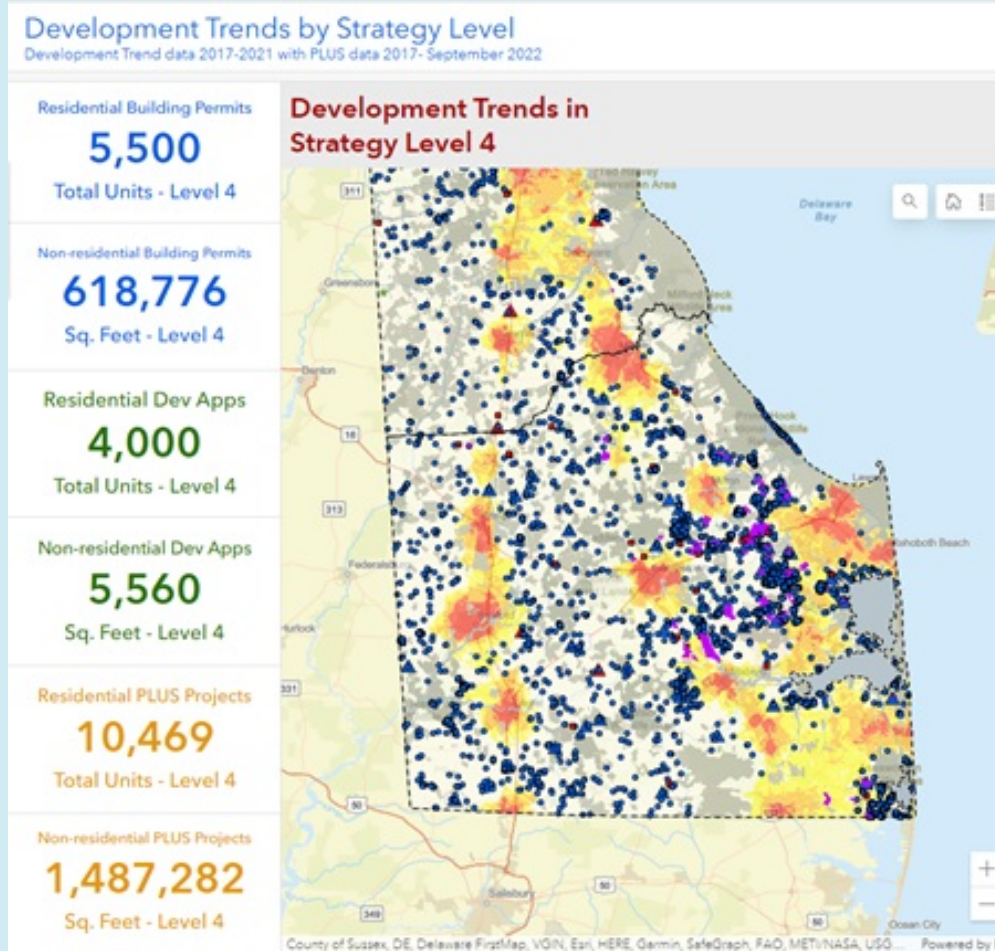


Other items on the October meeting agenda included:

- **Summer Traffic, Transit and Trails Update** – overall traffic on SR 1 increased in 2022 (compared with 2021), with the highest increase experienced over Memorial Day Weekend. DeIDOT traffic studies now include traffic counts on Mondays to better understand the seasonal fluctuations in traffic. In terms of transit, ridership on DART routes is back up to 70-80% of pre-COVID levels, with more consistent ridership on weekdays. The Lewes Line, a seasonal transit service operated by the City of Lewes, exceeded expectations in its 2022 pilot summer with 6,200 riders between May 23 and September 30. Lastly, trail usage continued to be high on all area trails over the course of the summer, with peak usage occurring in and lower usage coinciding with the end of summer and the start of school in September.



- **Dorothy Morris** of the Office of State Planning Coordination (OSPC) provided an overview of the **mission and responsibilities of the agency as well as its role within the state and counties**. She also presented on **PLUS – Preliminary Land Use Service** – which provides state agency review of development proposals before they are submitted to local governments. She noted that the Sussex County Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is currently being updated to reflect the growth areas included in the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Update. For more information on PLUS and to access projects and development trends on the PLUS Projects Dashboard, click [here](#).



- **Sarah Coakley** of DeIDOT's Regional Systems Planning, provided an update on the **Henlopen Transportation Improvement District (TID)**. The Henlopen TID covers 24 square miles, 50 intersections and approximately 47 roadway miles; recommended improvements total approximately \$299 million (2022 dollars) with a 24% developer contribution. Sarah reported that, to date, 8 agreements have been signed with property owners/developers, with approximately \$480,000 in developer contributions collected. Another 7 agreements are currently under way. Sarah noted that DeIDOT is currently updating the 2045 traffic forecasts to include updated land use development information; this information will be used to verify that the Henlopen TID projects are still projected to be adequate. For more information on the Henlopen TID please click [here](#).



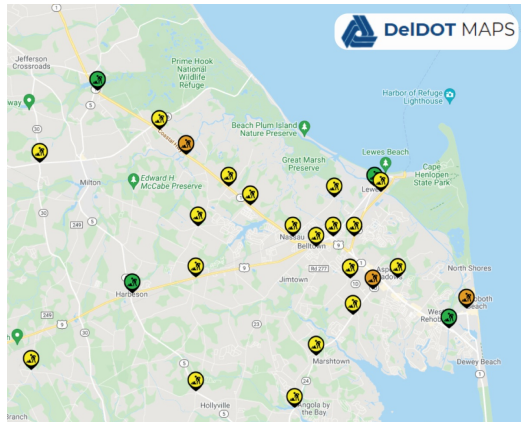
January Working Group Meeting

January 30, 2023 6 p.m.

Location: Cape Henlopen High School

SAVE
THE
DATE!

Area Project Updates

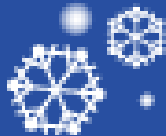


Active DeIDOT Projects In and Around Five Points

At the Working Group's request, DeIDOT is providing a map of active projects in and around the Five Points area. Use the map to view any active project and/or visit the links below to view the websites for a selection of projects.

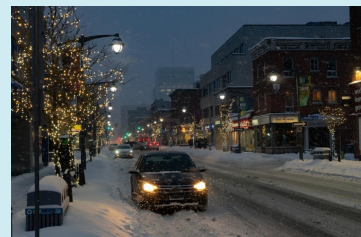
[View the Interactive Map Here.](#)

- [Bridge 3-714 on S266 \(New Road\) over Canary Creek](#)
- [Removal of Bridge 3-928R, Lewes RR Swing Bridge over the Lewes and Rehoboth Canal](#)
- [Plantation Road Improvements, Robinsonville Road to US 9](#)
- [Plantation Road Improvements, SR 24 to US 9 - Phase 2](#)
- [Realignment of Old Orchard Road at Wescoats Corner](#)
- [SR 1 & SR 16 Grade Separated Intersection](#)
- [SR 1 at S264 & S258 Intersection Improvements](#)
- [SR 1 and Cave Neck Road Grade Separated Intersection](#)
- [SR 1, Minos Conaway Road Grade Separated Intersection](#)
- [SR 24, Mulberry Knoll to SR 1](#)
- [SR 24, Love Creek to Mulberry Knoll Road](#)
- [Cave Neck Road, Hudson and Sweetbriar Roads Intersection Improvement](#)

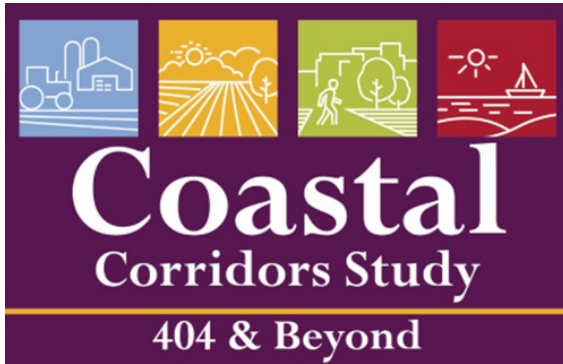


Arrive Alive this Holiday Season!

As of December 1, there have been 148 fatalities on Delaware roadways. This represents a 14% increase in fatalities from 2021. The goal of the [Delaware Strategic Highway Safety Plan: Toward Zero Deaths](#) is to achieve a reduction of at least 3 fatalities and 15 serious injuries annually between 2021 and 2025. DeIDOT would like to remind drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, pedestrians and motorcyclists to be safe on Delaware roadways this holiday season and always. Slow down, buckle up, heads up...because one death is too many.



Coastal Corridors Study Update



DelDOT's Coastal Corridors Study is kicking off an extensive public outreach effort starting in early December with the first of four Corridors Committee meetings. The study is focused on identifying transportation solutions for east-west routes in Sussex County including Route 16 and Routes 404/9 between US 113 and SR 1 as well as Redden Road and other local roads in the area. These roadways represent the primary east-west corridors in the northern part of Sussex County that are

currently congested or are at risk for congestion based on anticipated growth. The Corridors Committee will meet four times between December and March, with a public workshop tentatively scheduled for Spring 2023. For more information on the Coastal Corridors Study click [here](#).



The End of Daylight Savings Time: Tips for Driving, Walking and Biking in the Dark

Now that we are officially back on Standard Time, have you noticed anything? With sunnier mornings and darker (and we mean really dark) evenings, did you notice if you made changes to the way you drive your car? Or walk or bike around your neighborhood? Hopefully you did. We think the end of Daylight Savings Time is a great opportunity to provide some tips so that everyone can arrive at their destinations safely no matter if you are in a car, on foot or riding on two wheels.

AAA provides the following tips for motorists:



- **Don't drive tired.** Get plenty of rest. Symptoms of drowsy driving can include having trouble keeping your eyes open, drifting from lanes or not remembering the last few miles driven. If you do begin to feel drowsy while driving, pull over immediately and rest. If necessary, call a family member, friend or 911 for assistance.
- **Reduce speeds** and increase following distances, especially in more populated areas.
- Keep vehicle windows (inside and out) and headlights clean.
- **Wear high-quality sunglasses** and adjust the car's sun visors as needed to avoid glare in the morning.
- **Use the headlights.** This can make you more visible to pedestrians in the morning and evening.
- **Avoid distractions** including cell phones, infotainment systems or clocks that need to be turned back an hour.
- **Remember to yield.** Pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks. Also, don't pass vehicles stopped at crosswalks. Remember to yield the right of way to pedestrians in crosswalks.
- **Watch out for wildlife.** November and December are peak months for deer-vehicle collisions.

AAA provides the following tips for pedestrians and bicyclists:

- **Cross only at intersections or crosswalks.** Look left, right, and left again and only cross when it is clear. Do not jaywalk or cross between parked cars.



- **Use the sidewalk.** If you must walk on the road, be sure to walk facing traffic.
- **Dress brightly.** Wear bright or reflective clothing if you are walking or biking near traffic at night. Consider carrying a flashlight. Don't forget, Fido needs reflective gear too!
- **Avoid distracted walking.** This includes looking at your phone, wearing headphones or listening to music.
- **Bicycle lights are a must-have** item for safe night riding, especially during the winter months when it gets darker earlier.



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