

September 2020



## Your Update to the Five Points Transportation Study

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### Project News

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#### Next Virtual Working Group Meeting

Monday, October 26 @ 6:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Five Points Transportation Study Working Group will be held on Monday, October 26 at 6:00 p.m. Anticipated discussion topics include:

- Phase 2 implementation status
- Kings Highway/Clay Road Traffic Signal status
- Mulberry Knoll Road Extension status
- DeIDOT capital projects taking place in and around the Five Points Study Area
- DeIDOT Traffic Operations and Integrated Traffic Management Systems (ITMS)



Similar to the July Working Group meeting, **this meeting will be held online via WebEx**. As always, members of the public are encouraged to attend. Although this meeting is designed for Working Group member discussion, the public will have the opportunity to provide brief comments at the end of the meeting.

Log-in information will be posted to the [Five Points website](#) on or before **Monday, October 19**.

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### Mulberry Knoll Road Extension Study to Begin this Fall

Five Points Transportation Study recommendation E-2 is to “evaluate the potential transportation benefits, costs, and impacts of a new road parallel to Plantation Road connecting Mulberry Knoll Road to Route 9; requiring any new development in this area to build this road to state specifications one parcel at a time.” The Henlopen Transportation Improvement District (TID) study also identified the need for this connection, potentially in conjunction with improvements to Plantation Road, to address north-south travel in the developed areas west of Route 1 as those areas are developed.

To advance that recommendation, DeIDOT has initiated a study to consider the extension of Mulberry Knoll Road from its current



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north end at Cedar Grove Road to Route 9, a distance of about two miles.

Field work to identify environmental features will begin this fall. DeIDOT will develop a series of alternatives and review those with the public. The intent is to complete the study in summer 2021. A selected alternative will give developers guidance on how their projects should be designed and built to accommodate the extension of Mulberry Knoll Road.

## Kings Highway/Clay Road Signal Construction Underway

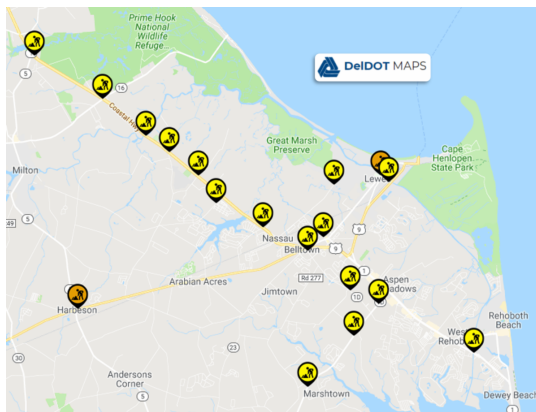


Based on information provided to DeIDOT from various stakeholders, a traffic signal study was completed to analyze possible safety and operational improvements at the intersection of Clay Road and Kings Highway. The study included a crash analysis, observations of driver behavior, an examination of intersection operations, and other information provided to DeIDOT from various stakeholders.

The design work has been completed by DeIDOT's Traffic Design Section and construction is underway. The signal is scheduled to be operational by summer 2021.

[Please click here for more information and a presentation of the study's findings from May 2020 on the Project Website.](#)

## Area Project Updates



### Active DeIDOT Projects In and Around Five Points

At the Working Group's request, DeIDOT has provided 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.](#)

- [Bridges 3-155 \(northbound and southbound\) on SR 1 over the Broadkill River](#)
- [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](#)
- [US 9 and SR 5 Intersection](#)
- [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 5 Intersection Improvements](#)
- [SR 1 & SR 16 Grade Separated Intersection](#)
- [SR 1 & S258 Intersection Improvements](#)
- [SR 1 & S264 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](#)

## Upcoming Public Workshop: Old Orchard Road Realignment



Be on the lookout for an announcement about an upcoming public workshop for the Old Orchard Road Realignment Project. While no date has been set, DeIDOT anticipates that this workshop will take place in the Fall 2020.

[Please check DeIDOT's Public Workshop website for a date/time for this workshop and other upcoming workshops in Sussex County or Statewide.](#)

## DeIDOT Capital Projects In and Around Five Points

At the July 27 Working Group meeting, several Working Group members requested a plan that shows all the DeIDOT projects in the Five Points area, from Nassau Road to Kings Highway, since there is some interest about how these projects all fit together. The Five Points Transportation Study team is preparing a map that shows the limits and scope of each project and what changes are being made to roads and intersections, including Nassau Road, New Road, Old Orchard Road, Wescoats Road, and Clay Road. The map will be provided to the Working Group at its October 26 meeting, which will give members, and the public, an opportunity to see how these projects relate to each other.



Created by Ecem Afacan from the Noun Project

## DeIDOT/Sussex County MOU Re-Signed



Secretary Cohan and County Administrator Todd Lawson sign new DeIDOT/Sussex County MOU.

DeIDOT and Sussex County are proud to announce that a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on September 22, 2020. This MOU replaces the previous MOU from 1988 that is required by Title 9, Section 6962 of the Delaware Code, which obligates Sussex County to “establish an agreement with the Department of Transportation to provide a procedure for analysis by the Department of Transportation (“DeIDOT”) of the effects on traffic of each rezoning application”. However, land development has the potential to impact adjacent highways and Sussex County and DeIDOT recognize

that an analysis of the effects upon traffic is important in all types of land use decisions (Residential Planned Communities, Major Subdivisions, Conditional Uses) and not just rezoning applications. DeIDOT and Sussex County have worked for over a year and a half to revise the old MOU to be a document that promotes greater coordination between DeIDOT and Sussex County on the effects of traffic and the resulting transportation needs in making land use decisions.

## Knowledge Center

### Safe Routes to School in Delaware



It's September, which means Fall is here and it's back-to-school for many children in the area. While things may be a little different this year, many kids will still be walking and biking to school several days per week.

DeIDOT's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program was created in 2002 to enable DeIDOT to partner with and provide funding to elementary and middle schools across the state, to encourage children to walk and bike to school safely. In an SRTS program, parents and school administrators work with other community groups and agencies to improve pedestrian crossings, build new sidewalks and bike paths, teach children safer bicycling and walking skills, increase traffic enforcement around schools, and promote healthier, more active

lifestyles. DeIDOT has developed numerous resources that can help communities and schools start and maintain SRTS programs including official policies and guidelines, step-by-step instructions in a SRTS Sourcebook, and videos on training and safe bicycling.

[Click here to view and download these free resources from the DeIDOT SRTS Program website.](#)

On a related note, National Walk to School Day is on Wednesday, October 7, 2020. Whether your kids are commuting to in-person classes at school or the living room for virtual school, the National Center for Safe Routes to School encourages schools and communities to continue holding Walk to School Day events to bring awareness to walking and biking safety.



The National Walk to School Day website provides suggestions for how schools can hold virtual walks, neighborhood-specific events, and physically-distanced walking and biking events at schools for students and families.

[Click here to visit the National Walk to School Day website to register and for more information.](#)

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