# November 2020


## Your Update to the Five Points Transportation Study

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# Project News

## Working Group Meeting #6 Recap

"Online Meeting" by Tippawan Sookruay from the Noun Project

The sixth meeting of the Five Points Transportation Study Working Group was held virtually on Monday, October 26; 34 members of the public also attended this online meeting.

The meeting included a review and status update of the Five Points Transportation Study Implementation Plan. As of the October Working Group meeting, there are 43 of 78 recommendations in progress, ongoing, or completed.

Gene Donaldson, DelDOT's Traffic Management Center (TMC) Operations Manager, gave a presentation on DelDOT's current traffic operations and Integrated Traffic Management Systems (ITMS). Gene noted that DelDOT is using Bluetooth and Wi-Fi technology to capture statewide travel times; travel times reported via the DelDOT app and the interactive map on the DelDOT website are within one (1) minute of travel times reported by Google. Gene also highlighted the state's computerized signal system and provided a detailed overview on traffic signal operation and the potential impacts to signal timing. Gene closed his presentation by stating that the future of ITMS involves the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to predict traffic anomalies and adapt management and operations in real-time. He noted that DelDOT has embarked on a three-year AI deployment/implementation and monitoring program across three areas of the state.

Other agenda items and Working Group discussion items included the introduction of Nicole Majeski as DelDOT's Acting Secretary (as of November 1); updates on the Mulberry Knoll Road Extension Project and the Henlopen Transportation Improvement District (TID); and the presentation of a map showing all of DelDOT's projects and studies taking place in the Five Points Transportation Study area.

**Click Here for More Information**

## Upcoming Working Group Meeting:

**Monday, January 25, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.**

The next meeting of the Five Points Transportation Study Working Group will be held on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting location remains to be determined, as is whether the meeting will be held in person or online. We will provide more information as it becomes available.

# Travel Time Signs on SR1 in Milford Now Operational

Variable message signs (VMS) installed by DelDOT on southbound SR1 north of Milford are now operational! The signs show travel times to Lewes, Dewey Beach, and Rehoboth via SR1 and US113, providing motorists with route options to shore destinations and beyond! Through January 1, 2021, the signs will run Friday through Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. During peak summer weekends, it is anticipated that travel time messages will run Thursday night through Sunday night and other key periods.


Photo: VMS North of Milford displays travel time of 31 minutes to Rehoboth Beach.

# Area Project Updates


## Active DelDOT Projects In and Around Five Points

At the Working Group's request, DelDOT 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

# Henlopen Transportation Improvement District Update

At its October 27 meeting, the Sussex County Council unanimously approved the agreement with DelDOT establishing the Henlopen Transportation Improvement District (TID). The approval is the culmination of a multi-year cooperative effort between Sussex County and DelDOT.

**Click Here for More Information**

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# New Traffic Signal Now Fully Operational

## US9/Kings Highway and Clay Road Intersection


On Monday, November 16, DelDOT's new traffic signal at the intersection of US 9/Kings Highway and Clay Road was activated to a full stop-and-go operation. Variable message signs are in place to advise motorists in advance of the new traffic pattern.

**Click here for more information**.

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# Kings Highway Signal Coordination between Clay Road and Gill's Neck Road

At the October 26 Working Group Meeting, a Working Group member questioned whether the US 9 Kings Highway traffic signal was coordinated with Clay Road and Gill's Neck Road. The traffic signal is part of the statewide computerized signal system which is operated and managed from the Traffic Management Center (TMC). The central computer receives real time information from vehicle detectors located at both locations in order to assist with cycle lengths and progression (coordination) between the intersections.

## Save the Date:

# Realignment of Old Orchard Road at Wescoats Road Virtual Public Workshop


DelDOT will be hosting a virtual public workshop on **Thursday, December 10** to present the project design and to update the public on the final design and construction schedule for the proposed realignment and reconstruction of Old Orchard Road/Wescoats Road between the Georgetown-Lewes Trail crossing and Marsh Road in Lewes. The virtual public workshop will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and will consist of a live presentation by the project team and a question and answer session. The public is encouraged to provide public comments on the project during the 30-day public comment period, which will begin on **Friday, December 11**.

**To learn more about the virtual public workshop and how to provide public comments, please click here.**

# Knowledge Center

## What are Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAV)?

Connected and Automated Vehicles (CAV) are vehicles that utilize technology to communicate with other vehicles, connected devices, and the transportation system.

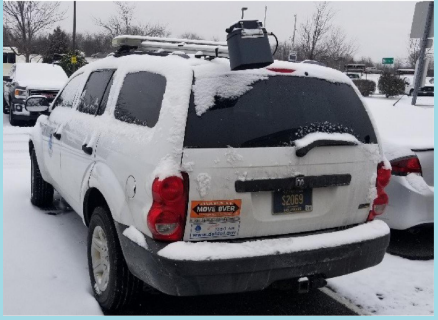
Connected Vehicles (CV) are one part of larger set of emerging technologies being researched and implemented to significantly improve safety on the roads. As part of an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), a CV uses advanced Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V), Vehicle-to-Infrastructure (V2I), and Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) communication systems to exchange information via radio signals. Using these communication systems, CVs create a dynamic, real-time simulation of their environments, allowing CVs to “see” other vehicles (even when vehicles are not directly visible) and “sense” their surroundings, including pedestrians and cyclists.

A fully autonomous vehicle is computer driven and therefore does not require a human driver. The vehicle is designed to perform all safety-critical driving functions and monitor roadway conditions for an entire trip. By incorporating connected vehicle technology, autonomous vehicles will be safer and more efficient through coordination. Some vehicles are already being deployed with autonomous functionality, such as self-parking or collision avoidance features.

CAV are an integral piece in the evolution of DelDOT’s Integrated Transportation Management System (ITMS) and have been included in DelDOT’s 2017 ITMS Strategic Plan. In September 2018, Executive Order 14 was signed to establish an Advisory Council on Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAV) to develop recommendations that will prepare Delaware’s transportation network for CAV.

**For more information on the Advisory Council on Connected and Autonomous Vehicles click here.**

**Recent advancements in CAV technology in Delaware include:**



**Automated Shuttle Program** - In early 2020, two 100% electric, automated shuttles named George and Jane Jetson began operating along a fixed route in DelDOT's Danner Campus in Dover. Currently in testing phase, the shuttles offers people the experience and expands acceptance of the autonomous vehicles.

**Mobile Weather Project -** In Winter 2019, DelDOT installed mobile weather sensors on selected vehicles to provide travelers more accurate and real-time information to travelers regarding weather conditions, especially during inclement weather. This is part of the federally funded Connected Vehicle-Enabled Weather Responsive Traffic Management (CV-WRTM) program.

**Click here for more information on the 2017 ITMS Strategic Plan and the future of CAV in Delaware**