Delaware Bicycle Council
October 7, 2026
Zoom Webinar
DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Members Present
Nathan J. Attard, DNREC Parks & Rec Representative
Fran Cardaci, At-Large Representative
Ian Friedland, Sussex County Representative
Tom Hartley, Kent County Representative
Scott Hoffman, At-Large Representative
Amanda Kelly, New Castle County Representative
Marty Lessner, Council on Transportation
Jackie McDermott, Office of Highway Safety
Michael Wagner, Department of Education
Michael Tyler, At-Large Representative
James Wilson, New Castle County Representative

Members Absent
Lauren Butscher, Division of Public Health
Mack Cochran, Trails & Greenways Council

Guests
John Braco, Public
Grant Melville, DNREC Parks & Recs.
Nick Roth, Public
Grace O'Malley, Public
Karen Zakarian, Public

I. Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Scott Hoffman. John Fiori took a roll call of the Council members present, and quorum was met.

Minutes/Agenda Review:
The Council reviewed the meeting minutes of August 5th. Ian Friedland made the motion to accept the meeting minutes. Marty Lessner seconded the meeting minutes. All agreed. No one opposed.

II. Public Comment

Karen Zakarian asked if it could be clarified if there was still going to be a crosswalk installed at signal of Holland Glade Road and Route 1. John Fiori responded that the plans do show a crossing of Route 1 for bicyclists and pedestrians.

III. New Business

Proposed Changes to Bike/E-bike Regulations in State Parks
Grant Melville, Chief of Operations for Delaware State Parks, presented updated e-bike regulations that allow Class 1 and Class 2 e-bikes on trails with a speed limit of 15 mph. The regulations were developed after reviewing best practices from surrounding states and removing the previous prohibition on e-bikes. Marty Lessner raised concerns about enforcement mechanisms, particularly on narrow unpaved trails like Gordon's Pond and Breakwater, questioning how the speed limit would be enforced against faster riders, especially teenagers. Council members discussed enforcement challenges, particularly regarding high-speed electric motorcycles and the lack of reliable data to distinguish between e-bike classes. The group also debated the effectiveness of education versus enforcement and the potential use of speed-feedback signs. Grant indicated the feasibility and effectiveness of portable speed signs for bicycle trails can be investigated and reported back to the council. Grant will also consult with DNREC Police regarding how they plan to handle enforcement, especially with minors, and report back to the council at the next meeting.

2026 Cycling Infrastructure Innovation Grant Update
John Fiori provided an update on the Bikeway Innovation Grant, noting that no applications had been submitted despite a deadline for extension that is now October 31, 2026. The council discussed the need for more outreach to municipalities to encourage grant applications. Scott Hoffman will schedule a meeting with the Bikeway Innovation Grant Committee (working group) to discuss outreach and encourage grant applications.

IV. Old Business

No Motorcycles Signs on Trails/Pathways
The council discussed the need for signs to enforce electric vehicle restrictions on trails, emphasizing that enforcement requires visible signage to educate users about restrictions. James shared a sample sign design featuring a motorcycle with a lightning bolt, though the group noted

they should keep the messaging simple with a 15-mph maximum speed limit rather than detailed classifications.

James Wilson asked for a follow up on the letter authored by Marty regarding "no motorcycle" signs. John Firoi indicated he will reach out to the Traffic section and report back to the Council.

Priority Bikeway Project Updates
John provided an update on the Folkestone Pathway project, which received a $10,000 grant in 2022 and is now moving forward with preliminary plans scheduled for January 2027.

James Wilson made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Marty Lessner seconded the motion at 6:20 p.m. All agreed, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 2, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to be held as a hybrid of in-person and virtually.

To view the Delaware Bicycle Council video on YouTube: https://youtu.be/csdiv1-jyeI