STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
800 BAY ROAD
P.O. BOX 778
DOVER, DELAWARE 19903

COUNCIL ON TRANSPORTATION

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 3:00pm

Zoom and In Person Meeting

Council Members Present:
Ted Williams (Chairman), Martin Lessner, John Gilbert, Bobby Fifer, Thomas Holmes, Pam Scott

Council Members Absent:
Lee Beetschen

DelDOT Staff:
Nicole Majeski, Secretary; Shante Hastings, Deputy Secretary & Chief Engineer; Pam Steinebach, Director of Planning; Todd Reavis, Director of Technology and Innovation; C.R. McLeod, Director of Community Relations; Aimee String, Legislative Relations; Mark Luszcz, Deputy Director of DOTS; John Sisson, CEO-DTC; Mike DuRoss, Planning; Steve Bayer, Planning; Anson Gock, Planning; Mike Hahn, Planning; Jenn Cinelli, Planning; Cooper Bowers, Planning; Humaira Nabeela, Planning; Brad Eaby, DOJ/DelDOT; George Lees, DOJ/DelDOT; Dawn Haw Young, Finance; Melanie Carlson, Finance; Amanda Giuttari, Finance

Guests:
Senator Dave Sokola; Lindsay Donnellon, FHWA; Doug Atkin, FHWA; Greg Patterson, OOG; Leilani Rhodes, LegHall; Michael McConnell, OMB; Brian Sullivan, OMB; Heather Dunigan, WILMAPCO; Tigist Zegeye, WILMAPCO; Randi Novakoff, WILMAPCO; Jamie Whitehouse, Sussex County; Marilyn Smith, Dover/Kent MPO; Nancy Manoj, AECOM; Marc Cote; Drew Boyce; Malcolm Jacob; Jake Thompson; Dave Gula; Ashlea Fisher; Jerry Williamson; Brandi Kester; DJ Hughes; J. Hans; Dan Kelly

---

Agenda Item # 1: Review and Approval of Minutes (December 8, 2021):

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order with a review of the agenda. He moved to the first agenda item of approval for the last COT meeting minutes on December 8, 2021 and

entertained a motion for approval. Councilman Holmes made a motion to approve. Councilwoman Scott seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by the Council.

Agenda Item #2: Secretary Update:

Secretary Majeski provided a PowerPoint presentation on DelDOT updates. Her briefing included slides on: Safety in Transportation; Transportation Trust Fund; FY23 - Sources of Funds; FY23 – Uses of Funds; FY23 – US 301 Sources and Uses of Funds; Trust Fund Revenues; Draft CTP FY 23-28 Breakdown; 13 New Projects Proposed; DelDOT Infrastructure Funding Under BIL; FHWA Highway & Special Programs Funding; FTA Funding; BIL Infrastructure Investments.

Councilman Lessner asked if there was a breakdown of factors involved with traffic fatalities and what are some factors DelDOT can do something about vs. law enforcement. Secretary Majeski explained that the department analyzes geographical and engineering factors of the roadway.

Councilman Lessner asked if there are any committees that focus on improving traffic safety and if so, are formal or informal meetings. Secretary Majeski explained that there is a stakeholder group comprised of individuals from DelDOT, Office of Highway Safety (OHS), and Delaware State Policy (DSP) that was created through the Strategic Highway Safety Plan. There is not a formal review board currently.

Councilman Lessner asked about the new bonds and if the Department has gone to the Bond Market recently besides for US301. Secretary Majeski explained that the last time the department went to the bond market was October 2020. This year the bond sale will increase to $200M for the state match to compliment the increase in Federal infrastructure funding.

Chairman Williams asked about electric vehicle charging stations and if there will be opportunities to have them placed on private property and about how many will be added per year. Secretary Majeski explained that the charging stations would still have to be accessible by the public. The Department is being allocated approximately $3.5M through the program.

Councilman Lessner asked about intermodal bridges and paths and if they would fall under carbon reduction for the bridge program. Secretary Majeski explained the qualifications for the Carbon Reduction are still being determined.

Agenda Item # 3: Review and Approval of Proposed FY 23-28 Capital Transportation Program:

Councilman Fifer asked if there will be a tax added to the EV Charging stations to offset the motor fuel tax. Secretary Majeski stated that there is nothing proposed at this time.

Chairman Williams asked for an update on the study from the I-95 coalition miles traveled program. Secretary Majeski explained that the coalition continues to work on a larger Mileage User Base Pilot.

Chairman Williams asked about the additional BIL funding and if there will be projects ready fairly quickly for the contracting community. Secretary Majeski explained that there are two factors that could slow down a project which are right of way acquisition and utility relocation. Legislation passed to form a utility coordination council which will help in coordination and avoid construction delays.

Agenda Item # 4: Vote to Approve Proposed FY 23 – 28 Capital Transportation Program

Chairman Williams asked the council if there were any other questions on the proposed FY 23 - 28 Capital Transportation Program. No questions were asked. Chairman Williams entertained a motion to approve the FY 23 – 28 Capital Transportation Program. Councilman Gilbert made a motion to approve, and Councilman Fifer seconded the motion. The FY 23 – 28 Capital Transportation Program was approved by the council.

Agenda Item # 5: Public Comment

Chairman Williams opened the floor for any public comment. There were no questions or comments.

Chairman Williams entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Scott made a motion to approve, and Councilman Holmes seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman Williams also signed a letter from the COT to the Governor's office approving the FY23 – FY28 Capital Transportation Program.

A video recording and PowerPoint presentation of this virtual meeting can be found on the DelDOT.gov website and on the DelDOT YouTube page.

Respectfully submitted,
Meghan Niddrie, Recording Secretary