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

COUNCIL ON TRANSPORTATION

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 1pm

Zoom and In Person Meeting

Council Members Present:
Ted Williams (Chairman), Marti Dobson, John Gilbert, Thomas Holmes, Martin Lessner

Council Members Absent:
Robert Fifer

DelDOT Staff
Shanté Hastings, Deputy Secretary & Chief Engineer; Pam Steinebach, Director of Planning; Todd Reavis, Director of Technology and Innovation; George T. Lees III, Deputy Attorney General-DelDOT; Stephanie Johnson, Director of Resilience & Sustainability; Tricia Arndt, Assistant Director, Resilience & Sustainability; Mike DuRoss, DelDOT; Anson Gock, DelDOT; Steve Bayer, DelDOT; Austin Gray, DelDOT; Cooper Bowers, DelDOT; Liddy Campbell, Colton Phillips, DelDOT; Paul Moser, DelDOT; Lanie Clymer, Director of Finance; Amanda Giuttari, DelDOT Finance; Melanie Carlson, DelDOT Finance; Alan Marteney, DelDOT.

Guests:
Michael McConnell, OMB

Agenda Item # 1: Review and Approval of Agenda:

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order and followed with a review of the agenda.

In lieu of this being a Special Council Meeting, it was announced that no discussions or voting would take place, and it was also announced that the meeting minutes review and approval from the February 22, 2024 meeting would take place at the next scheduled meeting in August.

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Agenda Item #2: Safety Update:

Pam Steinebach provided a briefing on the current 2024 Safety in Transportation. Pam also announced the new DelDOT Safety Awareness Campaign – "Be DelAWARE" Towards Zero Deaths. Pam explained that the Safety Campaign includes a Safety Pledge and encouraged the COT Council members to consider signing up to show their support for the initiative and commit to doing their part to make our roads safe for all. The Council members present at the meeting graciously agreed to show their support and signed the Safety Pledge.

Agenda Item # 3: DelDOT Transportation Resilience and Sustainability Program

Stephanie Johnson, Director of Resilience and Sustainability provided a PowerPoint presentation on Equity in Transportation. Stephanie announced that Tricia Arndt, Assistant Director of Resilience and Sustainability was also present during the meeting. The presentation consisted of a brief overview about the establishment of the Division and the efforts to consolidate Resilience and Sustainability within DelDOT. Stephanie also provided information on the Justice40 Initiative, which was established to provide Government-wide initiative to deliver 40 percent of the overall benefits of relevant federal investment to disadvantaged communities. Stephanie continued with an explanation on the Delaware's Justice40 Resolution, which was established to create a Justice Forty Oversite Committee to study and make findings and recommendations regarding environmental justice in the State of Delaware. Stephanie provided a brief overview of the Goals and Utilizations efforts of DelDOT's Equity Analysis Tool. Stephanie also provided the link to access the site: https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/ac95bc35b5ee4bba85a7b0e5dd78e715.

Agenda Item # 4: Capital Transportation Program (CTP) Prioritization Process Update

Pam Steinebach provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Capital Transportation Program (CTP) Prioritization Process Update. Pam briefed the Council on the seven factors of current and proposed processes. Mike DuRoss further explained the background of the CTP Priority Process and establishing goals and data sources for the proposed process. Pam Steinebach and Mike DuRoss provided a brief overview of each of the seven factors, which included information on the Current Adopted Process vs. the Proposed Process.

Marty Lessner asked about the Safety Factor Process and if there is an example that could be shared on a current project to show the rankings. Chairman Ted Williams suggested that DelDOT provide a copy of the current adopted Priority Process to all the COT Council members to help them have a better understanding of the rankings process. Pam responded that a copy will be sent out to all the Council members.

Marti Dobson asked about the quantitative aspect of the Safety Factor, how to measure how a project improves or eliminates the issue prior to the project occurring. Pam suggested changing the verbiage to, probability or likelihood that it could occur.

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Shanté explained what is currently being used is the Highway Safety Manual, which includes Crash Modification Factors, and this provides crash data resources to help with proposed safety improvements.

Paul Moser, with DelDOT Active Transportation and Community Connections section provided a brief overview of the DelDOT Bike/Pedestrian Program and how it's connected with the CTP Prioritization Process Program. His highlights included Method of Modeling for cycling projects utilizing the "Level of Traffic Stress" and how suitable a road is for cycling. Paul continued explaining the 4 Levels of Traffic Stress for cyclists, ranking them from low to moderate to high traffic areas. Paul also shared an example of "Pedestrian Zone" that may generate pedestrian activity based on various areas such as businesses, transit, parks, and schools which could be potential candidates for Pedestrian improvements. Pam explained that we will ask Paul Moser to provide modeling examples using data from the cycling projects that are currently listed under the CTP to present at the next Council meeting.

Ted Williams commented that he likes the idea of providing quantitative data, he feels it would be easier to convince legislators by showing tangible improvements based on the numbers versus data driven information.

Pam Steinebach and Mike DuRoss provided information on the Freight Analysis Process and asked the Council for their input. Ted Williams commented that he likes the idea of including the Freight information in the CTP, especially emphasis on economic development for disadvantage communities.

Pam Steinebach briefly discussed the current CTP Environmental Impact Factor and asked the Council members their input on whether the process should stay as Qualitative vs. Quantitative. Ted Williams supported the idea of going with the Quantitative Process and suggested adding Stormwater Management analysis. Ted also requested a Flooding Analysis example at the next Council meeting.

Agenda Item #5- COT Meeting Timeline

Pam Steinebach reviewed the COT Meeting Timelines and asked the Council members for their input. Ted Williams suggested having a regular scheduled meeting in August to further their discussions on the subfactors and project types that are currently listed in the CTP. Ted also suggested scheduling a Special Council Meeting in October to review the prosed draft of the CTP Priority Process and then having a regular Council meeting in October to prepare the draft process and in schedule another meeting in December to prepare the Final Process so that in February of 2025 the Council can vote on the final CTP Process. Chairman Williams also suggested sending

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out a Doodle Poll to all the Council members to finalize a date for the August meeting. Pam Steinebach agreed.

Agenda Item #6 – Public Comment

Chairman Williams opened the floor for any public comment.

Alan Marteney asked about WILMAPCO's Equity Focus datasets if the State is currently using the same type of datasets to create analysis. Trisha Arndt, Assistant Director of Resilience and Sustainability responded that there is not a Statewide dataset tool being used, but the State utilizes a similar dataset.

Chairman Williams entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Liddy Campbell, Recording Secretary

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