

February 2011



**Compliments of Bob Weiner, your County Councilman
"Making County Government Work for Us"
Council District 2, New Castle County, DE**

Bob@bobweiner.com

lhinkle@nccde.org

Louis Hinkle, aide to Councilman Weiner: 302-395-8362

[Attention civic leaders: You may want to share this electronic newsletter with your neighbors!](#)

CRG Negotiations with Stoltz

Dear civic leaders and concerned residents,

I just received an extensive package of documents from Citizens for Responsible Growth in New Castle County [CRG], which represents the final work product of its negotiations as between CRG and the Stoltz organization [Stoltz]. I have appended the transmittal letter which accompanied the documents below. I will soon transmit to you a link to the CRG website which will soon have the documents posted.

I intend to carefully review the CRG/Stoltz documents now in my possession [or to be generated in the future]: including the proposed Stoltz rezoning application which will eventually be voted upon by New Castle County Council, the proposed Stoltz variance applications to be presented to the County Board of Adjustment, and the extensive draft deed restriction documents. I intend to speak with CRG leadership regarding my particular concerns about all elements; including traffic, streetscaping, transit and pedestrian orientation of the components. Of course, I welcome your questions and observations.

Our community deserves a plan which is code compliant, consistent with community character [with particular attention to our architectural and historical fabric], consistent with the goals of the 2007 Comprehensive Plan, pedestrian friendly and transit oriented.

What is not needed is a "sea of asphalt" 20th century auto-dominated strip shopping center designed to attract cars from PA in order to avoid sales tax; which would simply cannibalize our existing legacy small retail villages...resulting in vacancies, blight, more crime and eventually higher taxes due to policing costs.

I recognize that CRG had to commence negotiations with Stoltz, from a strategic position which was based upon irregular preliminary approvals, which had been granted to Stoltz. Thus CRG was proverbially "behind the eight ball". Recognizing this distinct negotiating disadvantage, my preliminary review indicates that CRG has done a yeoman's job in its negotiations with Stoltz.

I intend to methodically perform my own detailed analysis. Throughout this analysis, I look forward to seeking the community's perspective; as every citizen's opinion is important to me in formulating my final position regarding each Stoltz application.

Thank you for your constant interest and involvement. Regards, Bob Weiner, your County Councilman

Citizens for Responsible Growth in New Castle County Reaches Agreement On Development Projects in Greenville Area

Citizens for Responsible Growth in New Castle County, Inc. (CRG) and Stoltz Real Estate Partners (Stoltz) have reached agreement on conditions which will enable three Greenville area development projects to move forward with support from the community.

The agreement, reached after more than four months of negotiations and based on the framework announced in late September by then-County Executive Chris Coons, results in a significant downsizing of the Barley Mill Plaza, Greenville Center and 20 Montchanin projects and secures for the community binding deed restrictions that will limit future development regardless of who owns the properties.

Highlights of the agreement between CRG and Stoltz are:

At Barley Mill Plaza, Stoltz will revise its current plans for a 2.8 million square foot mixed use project and replace it with an office and commercial development of 1.65 million square feet. Approximately 37 acres along Rt. 141 will be rezoned to accommodate construction of up to 454,000 square feet of commercial retail space. The remaining 59 acres of the site will retain its existing office zoning and will be developed with up to 1.2 million square feet of office space. Building and garage heights will be capped. The density will be limited to 1.65 million square feet. The size of single user retail stores will be restricted, as will the number and type of retail sites located along Rt. 141 and Rt. 48. There will be no fast food restaurants, no convenience stores, and no automobile service stations. In addition, Stoltz has agreed to construct a stormwater mitigation facility on the site to capture stormwater running across the site from properties to the north, so as to help alleviate downstream flooding problems in Elsmere. Stoltz will also work with the community as it relates to landscaping, signage and lighting associated with the project. Although the traffic to be generated by the revised plan will be significantly less than what would have resulted from the original plan, Stoltz and CRG will work together with DeIDOT to ensure that traffic concerns are fairly and lawfully addressed.

At Greenville Center, Stoltz will build a slightly larger two-story building to replace an existing two-story building at the site, in lieu of the residential tower previously proposed. A one-story 4,000 square foot building will be built at the corner of Kennett Pike and Buck Road, and the building housing the U.S Post Office and jewelry store will be expanded slightly. Future building heights at the site will be capped, the use of the new 4,000 square foot building will be limited (no fast food restaurants or convenience stores), and the entrance at Buck Road will be modified as required by the Department of Transportation. CRG will support a parking variance needed by Stoltz to obtain approval for the downsized Greenville plan. CRG will also support a variance for 19 additional parking spaces at 3704 Kennett Pike.

At Montchanin Corporate Center, Stoltz will build a one-story, 6,000 square foot building in lieu of the previously proposed 36,500 square foot building, to be set back 90 feet from the Montchanin Road right-of-way. CRG will support the rezoning of two acres of the site for the new building. The new building will not be used for fast food restaurants, convenience stores or automobile service stations, and future development at the site will be limited. The design of the new building will complement the existing building at the site.

The deed restrictions at all sites will be binding on present and future owners of the properties and will be enforced by the Kennett Pike Association and Delaware Greenways.

Request by Councilman Robert Weiner to WILMAPCO in support of the Shipley Road bicycle & pedestrian planned improvements and Funding for Grubb Road Pedestrian Improvement

**COUNCILMAN ROBERT S. WEINER
COUNCILMAN 2nd DISTRICT
NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL**
www.nccde.org
Louis Hinkle, Aide To Councilman Weiner
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February 25, 2011

**Tigist Zegeye, Executive Director
WILMPACO
850 Library Avenue, Suite 100
Newark, Delaware 19711**

Subject: Request by Councilman Robert Weiner to WILMAPCO in support of the Shipley Road bicycle & pedestrian planned improvements

Dear Executive Director Zegeye;

This is my request to Wilmington Area Planning Council on the Transportation Improvement Program for fiscal years 2010 to 2013 in support of the Shipley Road Bike/Ped Planned Improvements Study Project.

The Shipley Road Pedestrian Project is described by DELDOT as a study project. Surveys conducted by DeIDOT evidenced over 80% community support.

Interconnectivity between neighborhoods and various recreational and educational facilities had been identified as a desire within the community.

I urge continued funding of the planning study for Shipley Road, a two lane road with the “country feel” and no mostly shoulders. Based on community comments, the design should be meandering where possible to provide an aesthetically pleasing walk that contributes to the country feel of the roadway corridor. High visibility crosswalks should be provided across side streets and Shipley Road to make connections between housing developments and the proposed context sensitive designed pathways.

I urge continued support for funding construction of phase 1 of the Shipley Road context sensitive designed pathway from Weldin Road to the Rockwood Greenway. This link is the first of 4 proposed phases. Phase 2 would extend the Shipley Road pathway from Weldin Road to Wilson Road. Phase 3 & 4 would extend from Shipley Road along Baynard Boulevard and Weldin Road.

The Shipley Road Pedestrian Project should be viewed as a “Corridor Project”. As such, additional phases linking Alapocas State Park via Weldin Road and Marsh Road via Baynard Boulevard should be included in the planning study.

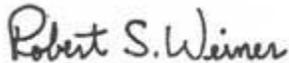
The Shipley Road corridor now provides access to the following public amenities and destinations: Alapocas (Blue Ball) State Park, Talley Day County Park and Library, the future Talleyville Girls Softball League at the Old Mill Lane School site, Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Shipley Heights County Park, Rockwood County Park and the Northern Delaware Greenway. A safe and sensitively designed Shipley Road pathway is needed now more than ever. There are now many more desirable destinations for pedestrians. However, as traffic has increased, the challenge of designing a safe

pathway along Shipley Road has also become even greater. Roads like Shipley Road, Grubb Road, Baynard Boulevard and Weldin Road still maintain much of their "country road" feeling. The pathways along these roads should be sensitively designed to reflect and enhance this "country road feel". As traffic has increased over the years, the general dangerous conditions have worsened for our school children and adults who would otherwise chose to walk or bike along these roads if only we could do so without endangering our lives and the lives of our children.

I have attached two prior essays in support of context sensitive designed pathways along Grubb Road and Shipley Road. Both of these projects emanated from the Brandywine Hundred Bike/Ped Study about five years ago. Shipley Road can serve as a safe commuter bike route as well as providing interconnectivity as between neighborhoods are various recreational and educational facilities. "Safe Routes to Schools" should be considered as a funding source.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Bob Weiner, your County Councilman
"Making County Government Work for Us"
Council District 2, New Castle County, DE
Louis Hinkle, aide to Councilman Weiner: 302-395-8362

Shipley Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Project :
http://www.deldot.gov/information/projects/shipley_rd_bike_ped_plan/

Project Limits

From the intersection of Shipley Rd. and Wilson Rd., extending south to the intersection of Shipley Rd. and the Northern Delaware Greenway.

Project Need

Interconnectivity between neighborhoods and various recreational and educational facilities had been identified as a desire within the community.

Project Overview

Presently DeIDOT is working to develop a concept for bicycle/pedestrian facilities in this area. In developing such a concept DeIDOT is seeking to receive community input and feedback via surveys, written comments, and public workshops. Additionally, DeIDOT and the supporting contractor have been identifying right-of-way, and gathering information on roadside conditions.

Future actions in concept development will be based on the input and feedback DeIDOT receives from the community.

Project Start Date

Fiscal years 2010 to 2013

Anticipated Completion Date

Undetermined

Current Construction Schedule

This is a planning study; any construction that may be necessary would be scheduled in a separate project following the conclusion of this study.

Contractor

CHPlanning

"Brandywine Hundred Pathways Needed"

Essay by Bob Weiner

The State Department of Transportation (DELDOT) has embarked on an initiative to work with our community to develop a concept plan for a bicycle and pedestrian path along Shipley Road. Later phases of this path ultimately might extend along Weldin Road, Baynard Boulevard and Wilson Road to connect to Talley Day County Park. The public has been invited to DELDOT's 2nd Shipley Road Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Workshop at Immaculate Heart of Mary, 1000 Shipley Road on Thursday November 8, 2007 from 4 to 7 PM. The first segment of Shipley Road to be studied is from Baynard Boulevard south to the intersection of the Northern Delaware Greenway a Shipley Road. Interested persons are invited to express their views in writing, giving reasons for support, or in opposition to the proposed plan. Comments will be received during the workshop or can be mailed to DeIDOT Public Relations, P.O. Box 778, Dover, DE 19903. For further information contact DeIDOT at 800-652-5600 or write to the above address.

Construction funding for Shipley Road is currently not available but DELDOT does have limited funding to work with the community on "concept design".

DELDOT invited the community to a meeting at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on June 4, 2007 at which time representatives from DELDOT provided the community with initial draft of 3 options for a path:

1. Adding a sidewalk separated from the road by a grass buffer,
2. Adding a multi-use trail, also separated by a grass buffer,
3. Adding a 5 foot shoulder to the road with no buffer.

I recently met with DELDOT in advance of the upcoming second community meeting. DELDOT reports that the community consensus by two-thirds of those responding was to support a 4th option. The 4th option is a meandering context sensitive designed pathway which respects and leaves in place the mature trees and bushes to the extent possible. Such a pathway would preserve the existing vegetation as both a visual and safety buffer between the cars and the pedestrians. DELDOT representatives listened to the community preference and revised its presentation for the 2nd community meeting on Thursday November 8 to reflect this strong community sentiment.

The project has been broken into 3 phases, and it is possible that a fourth phase might be added:

Phase 1: Shipley Road from Weldin Road to the Rockwood Greenway;

Phase 2: Shipley Road from Weldin Road to Wilson Road;

Phase 3: Weldin Road from Shipley Road to the Blue Ball State Park;

Possible Phase 4: Baynard Boulevard from Shipley Road to Marsh Road.

The Shipley Road corridor now provides access to the following public amenities and destinations: Alapocas (Blue Ball) State Park, Talley Day County Park and Library, the future Talleyville Girls Softball League at the Old Mill Lane School site, Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Shipley Heights County Park, Rockwood County Park and the Northern Delaware Greenway. A safe and sensitively designed Shipley Road pathway is needed now more than

ever. There are now many more desirable destinations for pedestrians. However, as traffic has increased, the challenge of designing a safe pathway along Shipley Road has also become even greater. Roads like Shipley Road, Grubb Road, Baynard Boulevard and Weldin Road still maintain much of their "country road" feeling. The pathways along these roads should be sensitively designed to reflect and enhance this "country road feel". As traffic has increased over the years, the general dangerous conditions have worsened for our school children and adults who would otherwise chose to walk or bike along these roads if only we could do so without endangering our lives and the lives of our children.

DELDOT previously worked collaboratively with residents living along the Grubb Road corridor. The Grubb Road context sensitive designed pathway is a DELDOT approved concept plan, which has been approved for detailed design funding in FY 2010 and construction in FY 2011 by the State Department of Transportation. Once completed, the Grubb Road pathway will match the existing small sections of pathways which previously were built at both ends of Grubb Road (near Naamans Road and Foulk Road).

New pathways make our communities more livable. When these pathways are connected to the Delaware Greenway network, residents will be able to walk or bike from the Brandywine River to the Delaware River. Delaware Greenways, CCOBH representatives and I have collaborated to map the Brandywine Hundred pathway network. The maps are now available. I am pleased to have assisted both the planning and funding of the Brandywine Hundred pathway maps.

Citizens should not be held hostages to always having to use a motor vehicle. Lacking pathways, we have been forced too often to use motor vehicles in order to safely leave from and return to our communities. Residents ought to be able to safely walk so that might enjoy the out of doors, to exercise, to walk to visit friends and neighbors, as well as to walk to our schools, churches, shops and parks. We will all enjoy happier, healthier and longer lives if are able to walk regularly.

It would enrich our lives if we could enhance our current limited walking options to locations outside our immediate subdivisions. It is ironic that many of us are compelled to drive to locations where we can find a safe pathway or park within which to walk.

We live in a mature community where due to poor planning and narrow shoulders along our roads, we are limited as to how much we can retrofit to create pathways. These pathways are the "missing links" that we must challenge ourselves to create. Although the challenge is great and the options are limited, we must strive with determination to connect our communities, schools, parks and libraries with pathways.

It is much less expensive to build pathways than to build roadways. A safe network of pathways will encourage many citizens to shift some of our short excursions to these pathways. Pathways pay for

themselves when a comprehensive cost/benefit analysis is performed; when factors include controlling healthcare costs, attacking obesity, encouraging healthy lifestyles, minimizing rush hour traffic congestion, fostering public safety and general traffic congestion management are included in the analysis.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon walking along our Brandywine Hundred pathways.

7/15/2005

Greenways, Sidewalks Add to Livable Communities

Opinion Letter to the Brandywine Community News

By Robert S. Weiner

2nd District Councilman

I consider building pathways, greenways and sidewalks for pedestrians and bicyclists to be one of my most important goals as a public official.

Having heard from many citizens who share my concern, have requested that our friends in the Delaware State Department of Transportation (DELDOT) initiate a series of Shipley Road context sensitive design workshops to survey the community's preferences.

I have been asked by many concerned citizens to seek DELDOT support for pathways along Weldin Road and Baynard Boulevard as well.

With the addition of Blue Ball State Park amenities, Talley Day County Park enhancements (i.e. the library and bark park whose location at the park was as a result of my initiatives), the future Talleyville Girls Softball League at the Old Mill Lane School site (whose location at the site was as a result of my initiative) and the general dangerous conditions that exist for our school children and adults, there is a great need to address the challenge of designing a context sensitive pathways along these roadways and others.

"Context sensitive designed (CSD) pathways" by definition are narrower than sidewalks. CSD pathways curve around existing trees and bushes. CSD pathways recognize that we live in a mature community where we must make every effort to preserve our trees and bushes along the sides of our roads. CSD pathways protect the scenic and historic character of our community roads.

I had previously championed the construction of a context sensitive designed pathway along Grubb Road. We now have received confirmation from the State Department of Transportation that funding has been approved for the engineering design of the Grubb Road context sensitive designed pathway. However, there are still no funds appropriated for the construction of the Grubb Road pathway.

I had previously requested that the missing section of sidewalks along Foulk Road between the Lombardy School and the planned Blue Ball Park be constructed. I am pleased to advise that DELDOT is committed to build this missing sidewalk section despite recent budget cutbacks. The addition of more pathways, greenways and sidewalks will make our community more livable. Citizens should not be held hostages to their motor vehicles with no other recourse to exit their subdivisions; being forced to retreat to the confines of a motor vehicle in order to safely leave and return to our communities.

We ought to be able to enjoy our environment, breath fresh and clean air, exercise, walk to visit friends and neighbors, walk to schools, churches, stores and parks.

I have recently received a letter from the State Department of Transportation supporting my efforts in implement pathways along Shipley Road, Baynard Boulevard and Weldin Road.

The most effective thing that each citizen can do in support of pathway construction is to e-mail or write to Ralph Reeb, director of Planning, State Department of Transportation and also to write to your State Representative and State Senator to express your support for context sensitive designed pathways along Shipley Road, Baynard Boulevard,

Weldin Road and Grubb Road. They are all very supportive of pathways but it will make their job easier to obtain support for these projects if they receive e-mails and letters of support from citizens. Also visit www.wilmapco.org and express your support to our regional Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) by e-mailing or writing to Heather Dunigan and Tigist Zegeye.

**COUNCILMAN ROBERT S. WEINER
COUNCILMAN 2nd DISTRICT
NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL**

www.nccde.org

Louis Hinkle, Aide To Councilman Weiner
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COUNCIL

**LOUIS L. REDDING
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February 25, 2011

**Tigist Zegeye, Executive Director
Wilmington Area Planning Council
850 Library Avenue, Suite 100
Newark, Delaware 19711**

Re: Grubb Road: Foulk Road To SR 92 Naamans Road Pedestrian Improvements

Dear Ms. Zegeye,

I am writing to express my disappointment in the removal the Transportation Improvement Program for fiscal years 2010 to 2013 for Grubb Road. However, in today's economic climate, it is understandable that funding is no longer available and project funding has been stretched to the limits.

The Grubb Road Pedestrian Improvement Project had been one of the few projects which was funded because of the high priority ascribed it by the community, WILMAPCO, DELDOT and area elected officials. This project emanated from the Brandywine Hundred Bike/Pedestrian Study.

The understandable bad news is that the construction dollars have now slipped away in the in the proposed TIP.

The Grubb Road Pedestrian Project is described by DELDOT as an approved project with High Priority, defined as the "greatest need for improvement" (Attachment A). Grubb Road is described as a two lane road with the "country feel" and mostly no shoulders. Based on the Steering Committee's comments, a decision was reached to provide sidewalks only on one side and the design would be meandering where possible to provide an aesthetically pleasing walk that contributes to the country feel of the roadway corridor. High visibility crosswalks would be provided across side streets and Grubb Road to make connections between housing developments and the proposed sidewalk.

I have appended the project funding projections and two prior essays (Attachment B,C) in support of context sensitive designed pathways along Grubb Road.

We all understand that construction dollars are tight. However, the preliminary funding is relatively small and will keep us on track to restore construction dollars when funds are available. Please reconsider the proposed modest pre-construction funding proposed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Robert S. Weiner
Council District 2, New Castle County, DE
Louis Hinkle, aide to Councilman Weiner 302-395-8362

Attachments

CC: Secretary Carolann Wicks, DeIDOT
Robert Valihura, President CCOBH
Amy Wilburn, Chair, Delaware Bicycle Council
Mark Chura, Executive Director, Delaware Greenways

Funding for FY 2008-2011 TIP and the Draft FY 2009-2012 TIP:

FY 2010: \$ 500, 000 Project Development

FY 2011: \$ 800,000 Preliminary Engineering [a substantial increase is proposed in the draft TIP
from \$100,000 last year]

FY 2012: \$400,000 Right of way acquisition [remained the same]

FY 2013: \$ 0 Construction [eliminated \$2.3 million previously projected construction dollars]

DelDOT to complete sidewalk along Foulk Road this spring

Jesse Chadderdon

A woman walks along Foulk Road on a narrow strip of grass where sidewalks will soon be installed. Fallen tree branches now force pedestrians to step into the street.

By Andre Lamar
Community News

Posted Jan 24, 2011 @ 07:00 AM

Brandywine Hundred, Del. —

The Delaware Department of Transportation expects to make life easier for pedestrians near Deerhurst, Tuckaway and Fairfax.

This spring, DelDOT plans to install a missing sidewalk link along the north side of Foulk Road, spokesman Bob King said.

Construction will begin at Weldin Road and extend to Wynnewood Road, King said, adding the project will take 100 days to complete.

Number to Know: 150 Acreage of the Alapocas Run State Park, which will be linked to Brandywine Hundred after the construction of a missing link of Foulk Road sidewalk.

The 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will fund the \$2.6 million project, he said. The project will also include American with Disabilities Act improvements to intersections in the area.

Jeff Niezgoda, planning supervisor for DelDOT, said the initiative was designed to promote safer pedestrian passage. State Rep. Greg Lavelle (R-Sharples) believes the project will also offer convenience to area families who are interested in bike riding and visiting Alapocas Run State Park.

“My family and I ride our bike down Foulk Road and it’s an adventure,” Lavelle said. “The sidewalk will make it more family friendly.”

While the missing sidewalk link was first proposed by Councilman Robert Weiner (R-Chatham) in July 2007, the project has been delayed because of a lack of available funding and design challenges, Niezgoda said. DelDOT initially intended to construct the project on the south side of Foulk Road, but then discovered there would be a disruption to utilities serving the Brandywine Hundred Apartment complex, thus driving up the cost, he said.

As DelDOT moves closer to the start of the project, Tuckaway resident Anand Dhelia said the community is optimistic about the completion of the sidewalk.

“Everybody is excited about it,” Dhelia said. “Today we have to get in our car to drive to the park. But [with the completion of the sidewalk], we can choose the healthier option which is to walk.”

DelDOT says it plans to install a fence near the Jewish Community Cemetery, as a way to prevent pedestrians from trespassing through the cemetery.

Jewish Community Cemetery Association President Bob Berman said he and his colleagues

requested a fence be installed near the facility, since they are concerned the completion of the sidewalk link would draw more pedestrians on Foulk Road and potential trouble.

“We’ve had problems in years past with pranks, especially during Halloween, with people knocking over tomb stones,” Berman said.

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Talley Day County Bark Park Maintenance Day

Councilman Bob Weiner invites you to join him for our Spring Bark Park Maintenance Day

FRIDAY MARCH 25, 2011 AT 10 am

Due to County budgetary constraints, citizen volunteers are critically needed to lessen the burdens on local government” said Bob Weiner. Mulch, shovels, pitch forks and wheel barrows will be supplied by New Castle County. Volunteers are encouraged to also bring their own shovels, rakes and pitch forks due to limited County supplies. Please help us spread the word...and the mulch! This is a Brandywine School District in service day so students can earn service hours.

Where: Talley Day County Bark Park, Foulk Road behind Brandywine Hundred Library.

When: Friday March 25, 2011 at 10 am

For details contact Louis Hinkle, aide to Councilman Bob Weiner at (302) 395-8362 or email lhinkle@nccde.org.

Get involved by visiting

<http://www2.nccde.org/landuse/ComprehensivePlanFeedback/default.aspx> and filling out the Comprehensive Plan Survey. Click the button in the left side menu - it takes only a few minutes to complete. While at the site, take a moment to subscribe to the e-newsletter so you can keep abreast of the Plan update process. Alternatively, go to <http://projects.jmt.com/new-castle-county-comprehensive-plan/Default.aspx>

New Castle County Comprehensive Plan

2-23-11 Water & Sewer Meeting Information Posted to NCC Website

Information from the 2-23-11 Water & sewer Topic Meeting is now posted to the NCC Comprehensive Plan Update website. The following information has now been added:

- 1) Water Presentation
- 2) Sanitary Sewer Presentation
- 3) Digital Flip Chart Results
- 4) PDF compilation of hand written flip chart discussion comments
- 5) 8th WSCC report to the Governor Concerning Water in Northern NCC
- 6) 9th WSCC report to the Governor Concerning Water in Southern NCC
- 7) Map of Northern New Castle Water Protection Areas
- 8) Map of Central New Castle Water Protection Areas
- 9) Map of Southern New Castle Water Protection Areas

Future Event

Public Topic Meeting # 4
Conservation & Natural
Resources
March 9th, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

You are receiving this email because you subscribed to the New Castle County Comprehensive Plan Newsletter.

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News from WILMAPCO

Transportation News from the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO)

March
2011
E-NEWS

WILMAPCO Meetings

All meetings are open to the public. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held in the WILMAPCO Conference Room. In case of inclement weather, call 302-737-6205 x110 for cancellations or postponements.

[WILMAPCO Public Workshop](#)

Draft FY 2012 - 2015 Transportation Improvement Program
February 28, 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

[Public Advisory Committee](#)

February 28, 7:00 p.m.

[WILMAPCO Council](#)

March 10, 6:30 p.m.

[Data and Demographics Subcommittee](#)

March 14, 10:00 a.m.

[Technical Advisory Committee](#)

March 17, 10:00 a.m.

[Congestion Management Subcommittee](#)

March 17, 1:00 p.m.

For updates or more information on upcoming WILMAPCO meetings, please visit www.wilmapco.org.

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- [10th Annual National Award for Smart Growth Achievement](#)

WILMAPCO News

Transportation Public Workshop

WILMAPCO and DeIDOT will hold a public workshop on February 28, between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m., to hear comments on the draft FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and provide information about major projects and funding in the region. The workshop will be held at WILMAPCO:

Open House Public Workshop
February 28, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
850 Library Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19703
www.wilmapco.org/tip

The draft FY 2012-2015 TIP for New Castle County, Delaware and Cecil County, Maryland is a \$2.1 billion, four-year listing of transportation priorities and projects based upon available funding. The workshop will provide updated information about the US 301 project including analysis of the spur route.

The TIP public comment period extends through March 2. Citizens wishing to submit comments on the TIP can:

- Mail comments to WILMAPCO at 850 Library Ave., Suite 100, Newark, DE 19711
- Attend the February 28 public workshop, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at WILMAPCO
- Submit comments via email to wilmapco@wilmapco.org
- Visit our "virtual public workshop" online at www.wilmapco.org/tip to review workshop materials and maps

APA Webcast - Mitigating Hazards Through Planning

WILMAPCO will host the Delaware Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) Webcast: Mitigating Hazards Through Planning on March 16, from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. As more communities are affected by natural disasters from flood, fire, or earthquakes, the need for planning increases. Federal standards and programs are increasingly emphasizing the links between planning and hazard mitigation. For more information, please visit www.delawareapa.org/Current%20Events.html.

Member Agency News

DART Public Hearing - May Service Changes

The Delaware Transit Corporation (DTC) will conduct Public Hearing Workshops to obtain comments on proposed changes to DART First State statewide bus service effective in May. The workshop for New Castle County will be held Tuesday, March 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the Carvel State Office Building, 2nd floor auditorium, 820 N. French Street, in Wilmington.

The proposal calls for:

- Shipley St. Proposal; DART proposes to increase passenger safety by shifting bus routes from the King St. side of Rodney Square to a new location on Shipley St., from 9th St. to 8th St. at Shipley. The routes are 4, 5, 15, 17, 19, 22, 23, 25, 30, 33, 34, 36, 39, 40, 41, 42, 54, and 55.
- Most of these bus routes (15, 17, 19, 30, 33, 34, 36, 39, 40, 41, 42, 54, 55) would turn from Orange St. onto 9th St. to the new bus boarding zone on Shipley St. These routes would no longer serve the bus stop on Orange St. at 9th St.
- The remaining buses (4, 5, 22, 23, 25) would turn from Orange St. to 10th St. serving the other new bus zone on Shipley St., just north of 9th St.
- Time adjustments would be made accordingly on routes listed above.
- Route 16; route into downtown Wilmington would change, traveling up Walnut St., 8th St., French St., 10th St. to Rodney Square continuing to West St., 12th St., ending on Delaware Ave. at Adams St. The out of town path would come from Delaware Ave. serving the stop on the 11th St. side of Rodney

Square instead of the King St. side. Stops on Orange St. would no longer be served by this route.

- Route 24; new trip would be added leaving Kynlyn Dr. at 6:28 a.m., arriving at Rodney Square at 6:52 a.m.
- Route 55; minor time adjustments would be made between Glasgow and Newark to improve on-time performance.

Local News

P.H.A.T.

Join Henrietta Johnson Medical Center on Thursday, March 3, at 6:00 p.m., to acknowledge the accomplishments of young women from the City of Wilmington. The program entitled Promoting Healthy Activities Together (P.H.A.T.) targets youth from low-to-moderate income households and encourages physical activity and healthy eating through elements of the HIP HOP culture. For more information or to register, please call (302) 655-6187 x261.

Bike Swap

Join Delaware Trail Spinners on Sunday, March 13, for their first annual bike swap at the Aetna Fire Hall, 410 Ogletown Road, Newark, DE (directly across from the Newark Post Office). The Bike Swap will feature independent and commercial bike shops and vendors selling bikes, parts, accessories, clothing, and more, as well as food and door prizes. The swap will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, please visit www.trailspinners.org/swap.

Vibrant Towns Planning Conference

Eastern Shore Land Conservancy's (ESLC) 12th annual planning conference will be held on March 16, in Easton, MD. The Vibrant Towns Conference will be an opportunity for the region's leaders and residents to contribute to an emerging definition of "vibrant, sustainable, well-defined" Eastern Shore towns. To facilitate this conversation, local officials, community leaders, consultants, planners, designers, and citizens will come together with national and regional leaders in sustainable local economies, community development, and design to share best practices, success stories, tools, and models of vibrant small towns. For more information, please visit www.eslc.org/pages/apc12.php.

Bike Delaware's 1st Annual Membership Event and Social

Participate in Bike Delaware's first annual fundraising event and founding membership drive. Join Bike Delaware as they kick-off the 2011 Cycling Season on Tuesday, March 22, from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the Delaware Center for Horticulture, 1810 N. DuPont Street, Wilmington, DE 19806. Learn about Bike Delaware's advocacy goals for 2011 and a new cycling opportunity in this year's Wilmington Grand Prix. A minimum donation of \$25 is requested and includes Bike Delaware Founding Membership. Use PayPal for a quick and easy transaction, or mail your check to: Bike Delaware, c/o Gail E. Robillard, PO Box 9456, Wilmington, DE 19809. \$30 at the door. For more information, please contact Ed Weirauch at 302-778-5418, or email events@bikede.org.

Delaware Valley Smart Growth Project Recognition

Do you have any smart growth projects on the horizon or know someone who does? The Delaware Valley Smart Growth Alliance (DVSGA) would like you to consider submitting an application for recognition by the DVSGA. DVSGA is a collaborative initiative of more

than 200 government, private sector and non-profit organizations in the tri-state region who support and promote good smart growth projects by helping them get approved at the local level. The application deadline is March 1. To download an application, as well as the criteria and examples of recognized projects, please visit www.delawarevalleysmartgrowth.org.

SEPTA Service Now Includes Sunday

On Sunday, March 6, SEPTA will extend service along its Wilmington/Newark line from the Wilmington and Claymont Train Stations to Center City Philadelphia. The Sunday timetable will be the same as Saturday, offering seven trips in each direction from 8:36 a.m. to 8:36 p.m. Weekend fares are \$4.75 one-way, when purchased at the DART Transportation Store or \$6.00 one-way when purchased on board the train. The round trip fare is \$9.50.

National News

What the New Congress Should Know about Transportation

With the chairs of the two key Senate and House Committees presenting a united front in their effort to have a new transportation bill passed this year, don't miss your opportunity to share your opinion on what the priorities should be. AASHTO's social media campaign - dubbed *What the New Congress Should Know About Transportation* - invites travelers, truckers, commuters, cyclists, and anyone who uses the nation's transportation network to share their comments and concerns on AASHTO's [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages. To view or post your comments, please visit www.transportation.org/IToldCongress.

Webinar: Getting Bike Shops and Advocates To Collaborate on Safe Routes to School

This webinar will highlight success stories in Colorado and Austin, Texas that have teamed a local program with a bike shop to enhance Safe Routes to School efforts. In addition to programmatic highlights, presenters will explain the benefits of involving bike shops, describe a strategy for approaching local bike shops, and discuss concrete ideas for collaboration. For more information, please visit www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SRTS-Webinar-LocalBikeShops.pdf.

National Bike Summit

Organized by the League of American Bicyclists, the National Bike Summit will be held March 8 through 10, in Washington, DC. The National Bike Summit brings together stakeholders from user groups, industry, government, and elected officials from around the country to share their ideas and best practices. For more information, please visit www.bikeleague.org.

Webinar: Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) in Transportation

The American Public Health Association (APHA) is launching a four-part webinar series addressing the impact of transportation systems on health. Join APHA for this series that highlights innovative state and local programs that leverage opportunities in transportation that benefit health, and explains what the future may hold for the federal surface transportation authorization on March 15, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. For more information and to register, please visit

<https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/schedule/display.do?udc=4ozeg2azyaaax>.

2011 National Trails Conference

The National Trails Conference will be held from March 15 through 17, in Asheville, NC. The conference includes 40 informative concurrent sessions by experts in the field of trail construction, maintenance, monitoring, planning, design, and management. Several days of pre-conference and post-conference workshops offer additional training. For more information, please visit www.trailbuilders.org/conference.

Bikes Belong Foundation Launches Research Grant

The Bikes Belong Foundation has announced the launch of a new grant program to fund research on the economic impact of bicycling facilities and events. The Bicycle Research Grant Program will award a total of \$40,000 in grants to academic or non-profit research institutions in 2011. Grants will range from \$5,000 to \$10,000. This new program aims to fill a crucial knowledge gap. Collecting quantitative evidence on the benefits bicycling brings to local, regional, and national economies will help encourage and guide investments in bicycling. The application deadline for the first round of grants is March 31. For more information or to apply, go to www.bikesbelong.org/what-we-do/bikes-belong-foundation/research-grants.

Car Pooling is Way Down Since 1980

According to a January 28 NY Times article, "Roughly one in four Americans who drove to work shared a ride with others in the 1980s. But now far more people are driving alone, as companies have spread out, Americans are wealthier, and cars have become cheaper to own. The percentage of workers who car pool has dropped by almost half since 1980, the first time the Census Bureau started systematically tracking the numbers, according to new data from the bureau." To view the source article, please visit www.nytimes.com/2011/01/29/us/29carpool.html?_r=2&pagewanted=all.

National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research Launches Surveillance Resource

The National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR) announced the launch of a new, free online resource to help researchers and practitioners more easily investigate childhood obesity in America. NCCOR's Catalogue of Surveillance Systems describes in detail existing surveillance systems that collect data related to childhood obesity. It provides one-stop access to more than 75 surveys and other data sets, allowing users to search and select surveys that provide a wealth of data at the national, state, and local levels on a range of variables, including school policies and health outcomes, as well as eating and exercise behaviors. For more information and to view the Catalogue, please visit www.nccor.org/css.html.

10th Annual National Award for Smart Growth Achievement

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announce that the application period for the 10th annual National Award for Smart Growth Achievement is now open. Through this award, EPA recognizes and supports communities that have successfully used smart growth principles to improve communities environmentally, socially, and economically. Open to public- and private-sector entities, winners will be recognized at a ceremony in Washington, DC, in December 2011. To view the application and complete entry guidelines, please visit www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/awards.htm#2011app. The entry deadline is

April 6, 2011. For more information, email Ted Cochin, at cochin.ted@epa.gov, or call (202) 566-2181.

About Us

The Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO) is the regional transportation planning agency for New Castle County, Delaware and Cecil County, Maryland. As the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), WILMAPCO is charged with planning and coordinating transportation investments for the region based on federal policy, local input, technical analysis, and best practices. For more information, please visit our website at www.wilmapco.org.



[Kay Bowes is retiring; We wish her well](#)

Kay Bowes, the children's librarian at the Concord Pike Library and the Brandywine Hundred Library since November 1998, is retiring. Her last day at BHL will be Friday, February 25.

Kay has made many friends at the library over the years -- young readers and the not quite as young. On your next visit to the library, stop by the children's section and wish her well.

We appreciate her efforts and wish her a happy retirement!