

ELDERLY AND DISABLED TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EDTAC)

Committee Meeting Minutes
Via Teams & Teleconference
Wednesday, August 10, 2022
1:00 - 3:00pm

The Elderly and Disabled Transit Advisory Committee (EDTAC) met Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 1:00pm via Teams and Teleconference.

In attendance:

EDTAC MEMBERS:

Blake Roberts, Chair
Shanelle Williams
Ken Moore
Jim Shiber

DTC Representatives:

Lori Yeager, Paratransit Support Services Manager
Lynette Shannon, Reservations Supervisor
Belinda Strickland, Civil Rights Specialist
Margaret Webb, Paratransit Director
Chelise Horton, Customer Relations Specialist
Shannon Lugo, Civil Rights Specialist
Joseph Zimmaro, Eligibility Supervisor
Paul Curran, Application Administrator
Steve Ottinger, Planning
Rhonda Perry, Sr. Performance Support Manager
Nicole Majeski, Secretary
John Sisson, CEO
Latonya Steele, Customer Service Supervisor

Guest:

Bill Swiatek, Wilmapco

Members Absent:

Catrina Gosine
Kathleen McCool

Call to Order

Blake Roberts, Chair, called meeting to order. February 9, 2022, and May 11, 2022, meeting minutes were approved by the committee.

Round Table Introductions

Introductions by committee members and Belinda Strickland took roll of attendees via TEAMS ATTENDEES list.

DeIDOT Updates- Nicole Majeski

One of the biggest concerns is safety on Delaware highways. There has been an increasing number of fatalities around 139 the highest in about 15 years. August of 2022 is 26% higher than we were last year. DeIDOT is working with law enforcement,

Strategic Highway Committee and Office of Highway Safety. There are several construction projects happening over the next 6 years. 4.5 billion will be spent in projects. There is a new division at DelDOT that looks at climate change in Delaware. The division looks at existing infrastructure, electric chargers throughout the state, equity in transportation looking at projects not having an adverse effect on communities, division in communities, DBE needs to be strengthened in the state and equity and inclusion in hiring process.

**Wilmapco Presentation- Bill Swiatek
(First Presentation)**

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) principal plan: Strategic Policy: goals, objectives, actions. Major transportation projects: constrained and aspirational. Update every 4 years (since 1996) next update due March 2023. Schedule key task: Review Progress Report & Public Opinion Survey, develop draft goals, agency/civic/municipal outreach, develop project list, air quality conformity, public outreach, document refinement and adoption. Progress will be tracked through the Progress Report: 2022 Regional Progress Report, relates trends to Plans action, performance-based and informs development of RTP. Some challenges are growth outside Centers/Core, single occupancy vehicle trips, Vehicle's miles traveled and road safety. Successes are air quality, local plan implementation, bike and walking efforts and congestion mitigation. The Public Opinion Survey valid numbers of 600 residents, demographic quotas, opinions of transportation system and policies and inform development of the RTP.

Goal: Improve Quality of Life

- Protect public health and safety
- Promote active transportation
- Ensure transportation choice and equity
- Preserve natural and cultural resources

Goal: Support Sustainable Economic Development & Goods Movement

- Maximize our investments
- Develop effective transportation networks
- Plan for energy security and resilience

Goal: Efficiently Transport People

- Improve system performance
- Promote accessibility and connectivity
- Engage the public via an open involvement process

Transportation Investment Areas: Review and consolidation of Land Use Plans. Draft New Castle County 2050 Comprehensive Plan and the next steps will be to prioritize and refine project listings, begin air quality conformity analysis, and continue agency coordination and public outreach.

(Second Presentation)

Title VI and Environmental Justice Analysis

Low-income and racial/ethnic minorities

Language Assistance Plan: Limited English proficiency/low literacy

Mobility Challenged Analysis: seniors, disabled, and zero-car households

Title VI/EI: Spatial Analysis Connectivity

- Libraries
- Community centers/Senior Centers
- Urgent care/medical centers/Pharmacies
- Low-wage job centers
- Grocery stores
- State Service Centers

ADA Self Evaluation- findings:

Physical access barriers are limited, agency policies generally meet ADA guidelines, communication of policies needs improvement, front line communications should consider needs of people with disabilities.

MC Analysis: Two Key Recommendations:

- Identify connectivity/destination siting improvements from senior and disabled neighborhoods.
- Document possible improvements by walking and bus to/from age-restricted communities with "short-term" needs.

Paratransit Text Service Updates- Lori Yeager, Paratransit Support Services Manager

Testing new DART Text Service. Customers will be able to do the following:

- Schedule a trip
- Track bus
- Schedule future trips
- Cancel trips
- Receive Fixed Route information and much more.

Currently in testing.

On Time Performance- Margaret Webb, Paratransit Director Paratransit

Trip counts and On Time Performance statewide through FY 22 through July 2022

May 2022 - statewide trip count 62,737

NCC- 78% on time KC- 88% on time SC- 80% on time

June 2022 – statewide trip count 62,161

NCC- 72% on time KC -89% on time SC – 76% on time

July 2022 – statewide trip count 58,368

NCC – 79% on time KC- 89% on time SC- 78% on time (88%-76%)

On Time Performance- Paul Kulesza, Fixed Route Director (No Data)

The combined on-time performance average for

New Castle County Fixed Route was

New Castle County Contract Services was

Kent County Fixed Route was

Sussex County Contract Services was

Septa was

Resorts was

Updates from DTC:

- Steve Ottinger, Planning

Service change for September 11, 2022, has been approved and information is on the website. Schedule will be out in the next week. All changes happening in New Castle County none in Kent or Sussex counties.

Open Forum

Adjourn