

# WILMAPCO Council

## Action Item Summary Sheet

Meeting Date: September 12, 2019

**Action Item #9:** To Endorse the Draft 2019 Transportation Justice Plan

**Description/Summary of Item:**

The *2019 Transportation Justice Plan* identifies key social inequities in the Wilmington region's transportation system. We examine the fairness and inclusivity of the existing and planned system, as well as our public engagement processes. Recommendations are made to overcome observed barriers and inequities.

This plan exceeds WILMAPCO's obligations under several federal statutes and initiatives: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Environmental Justice, Language Assistance, and the Americans with Disability Act. It brings together and addresses these overlapping themes under an umbrella initiative that WILMAPCO henceforth calls Transportation Justice, or TJ.

The plan was guided by an ad hoc working group comprised of WILMAPCO staff, members of the Public Advisory Committee, researchers from the University of Delaware, and officials from the Maryland and Delaware Departments of Transportation, and the Delaware Transit Corporation. The group met five times between September 2018 and August 2019.

**Summary of Action Taken by PAC:** The PAC received presentations on the TJ Plan, reviewed the draft, and provided recommendations that were incorporated, but they did not take action.

**Summary of Action Taken by TAC:** The TAC recommended Council endorsement at their August 2019 meeting.

**Summary of Action Taken by Subcommittee/Task Force (if applicable):**

The TJ Working Group recommended Council endorsement at their August 2019 meeting.

The NMTWG received presentations on the TJ Plan and provided recommendations that were incorporated, but they did not take action.

**WILMAPCO Staff Recommendations:**

The WILMAPCO staff recommends that Council endorse the TJ Plan.

**WILMAPCO Council:**

**John Sisson, Chair**  
Delaware Transit Corporation  
Chief Executive Officer

**Jennifer Cohan**  
Delaware Dept. of Transportation  
Secretary

**Connie C. Holland**  
Delaware Office of State Planning  
Coordination, Director

**Alan McCarthy**  
Cecil County Executive

**Matthew Meyer**  
New Castle County Executive

**Heather Murphy**  
Maryland Dept. of Transportation  
Director, Office of Planning and  
Capital Programming

**Michael S. Purzycki**  
Mayor of Wilmington

**Michael Spencer**  
Mayor of Newport

**Dave Warrick**  
Rising Sun Commissioner

**WILMAPCO Executive Director**  
Tigist Zegeye

**Draft**

## RESOLUTION

### BY THE WILMINGTON AREA PLANNING COUNCIL (WILMAPCO) TO ENDORSE THE 2019 TRANSPORTATION JUSTICE PLAN

**WHEREAS**, the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO) has been designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Cecil County, Maryland and New Castle County, Delaware by the Governors of Maryland and Delaware, respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, federal regulations require MPOs to address Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Environmental Justice, and the Americans with Disabilities Act in the planning process; and

**WHEREAS**, low-income and minority communities have been shown to carry undue burdens of the transportation system and face inequities in the planning process; and

**WHEREAS**, limited English-speaking, low-literacy, female-headed households with children, and low-income and minority individuals often face difficulties participating in the planning process; and

**WHEREAS**, seniors, people with disabilities and people who live in households without cars can experience challenges with the transportation system; and

**WHEREAS**, the *2019 Transportation Justice Plan* helps to implement the goals and objectives of the WILMAPCO Regional Transportation Plan (RTP); and

**WHEREAS**, the *2019 Transportation Justice Plan* continues a process to analyze the present and future transportation needs of these constrained populations; and

**WHEREAS**, the *2019 Transportation Justice Plan* provides recommendations to enhance the mobility, the involvement, and the quality of life of these constrained populations;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wilmington Area Planning Council does hereby endorse the *2019 Transportation Justice Plan*.

Date:

John Sisson, Chairperson  
Wilmington Area Planning Council

