

**Spring  
2013**



**WILMAPCO**



Quarterly newsletter of the Wilmington Area Planning Council

# TRANSPORTER

## Bike Month Activities are Planned for May

**A**cross the nation, bicycling is growing rapidly for transportation, environmental stewardship, economic benefits, fun, and adventure. May is National Bike Month, with Bike to School Day on May 8, Bike to Work Week May 13 through 17, and Bike to Work Day on May 17.

Bike Month raises awareness about the benefits of bicycling and helps to create bike-friendly communities. This time of year also generates much excitement about the progress and possibilities throughout our region. To celebrate, we are teaming up with the Newark, Wilmington, and Elkton Bicycle Advisory Committees, and the White Clay Bicycle Club to host local events.

On Tuesday, May 14 we will celebrate Bike-to-Work Day in Newark from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., at the Trabant Center, which will coincide with the annual University of Delaware (UD)

Employee Benefits Fair. In addition to special speakers (UD President Patrick Harker and DelDOT Secretary Shailen Bhatt), the event will feature information about biking and bike-commuting resources, a “demo-site” with examples of bicycles and accessories for commuting and safe riding, and snacks for commuters to fuel up. The event is hosted by the Newark Bicycle Committee. For more information, please visit [www.wilmapco.org/bikenewark](http://www.wilmapco.org/bikenewark).



This year the 10th Annual Ride of Silence will be held on Wednesday, May 15 at 7 p.m. Cyclists all around the world will take to the roads in honor of those who have been injured or killed while cycling on public roadways.

The ride will depart from Porky Oliver's Golf Club in Wilmington and from the Newark Charter School.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



## BIKE MONTH CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE...

These silent, slow-paced, police escorted rides (max. 12 mph) raise awareness of bicyclist safety and ask that we all share the road. To learn more, please visit [www.rideofsilence.org](http://www.rideofsilence.org).

On May 17, the City of Wilmington's Bicycle Advisory Committee is offering guided group rides along three routes into the heart of downtown to a reception at H.B. DuPont Plaza. An evening reception will be held during the Wilmington Grand Prix time trials at Monkey Hill. For more details, please visit [www.bikewilmington.org](http://www.bikewilmington.org).

Elkton will issue a proclamation to declare May as Bicycle Month in the town. The Elkton Bicycle Advisory Committee is partnering with the Elkton Department of Parks and Recreation to host a bicycle safety education event on Saturday, May 18. The town's Memorial Day Parade will also offer a bicycle caravan to display community spirit for bicycling. Anyone can join the slow-paced ride and families are welcome. For more details, please visit [www.elkton.org](http://www.elkton.org).

If you need to freshen up on your bike safety skills, the League of American Bicyclists offers several bike education and maintenance resources to help you ride safely and confidently at [www.bikeleague.org/resources/better](http://www.bikeleague.org/resources/better).

Come out and support bicycling in the region by attending one of the Bike Month events. Also, stay engaged after bike month by joining the Newark, Wilmington, or Elkton Bicycle Advisory Committees. For more detailed information on Bike Month events, please visit [www.wilmapco.org/bikemonth](http://www.wilmapco.org/bikemonth).

## Bicycle and Pedestrian Prioritization Efforts

Superseding the Transportation Enhancement (TE) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs, under our new federal transportation legislation (MAP-21), the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) provides some funding to "alternative" transportation projects – namely those devoted to bicycles and pedestrians. With insufficient transportation funding, and even less funding for the growing list of bicycle and pedestrian projects, project prioritization is important.

We are currently developing a prioritization process specific to TAP projects. Our prioritization process is transparent, easy to understand, and uses data-driven criterion. TAP projects are awarded points based on their proximity to bus stops, bicycle routes, greenways, schools, crashes, and a host of other criterion.

We are also working with Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) to seek applications for the TAP program in Cecil County. Cecil TAP applications are due by May 15. If you would like to learn more about the TAP program, please visit [www.wilmapco.org/tap](http://www.wilmapco.org/tap).





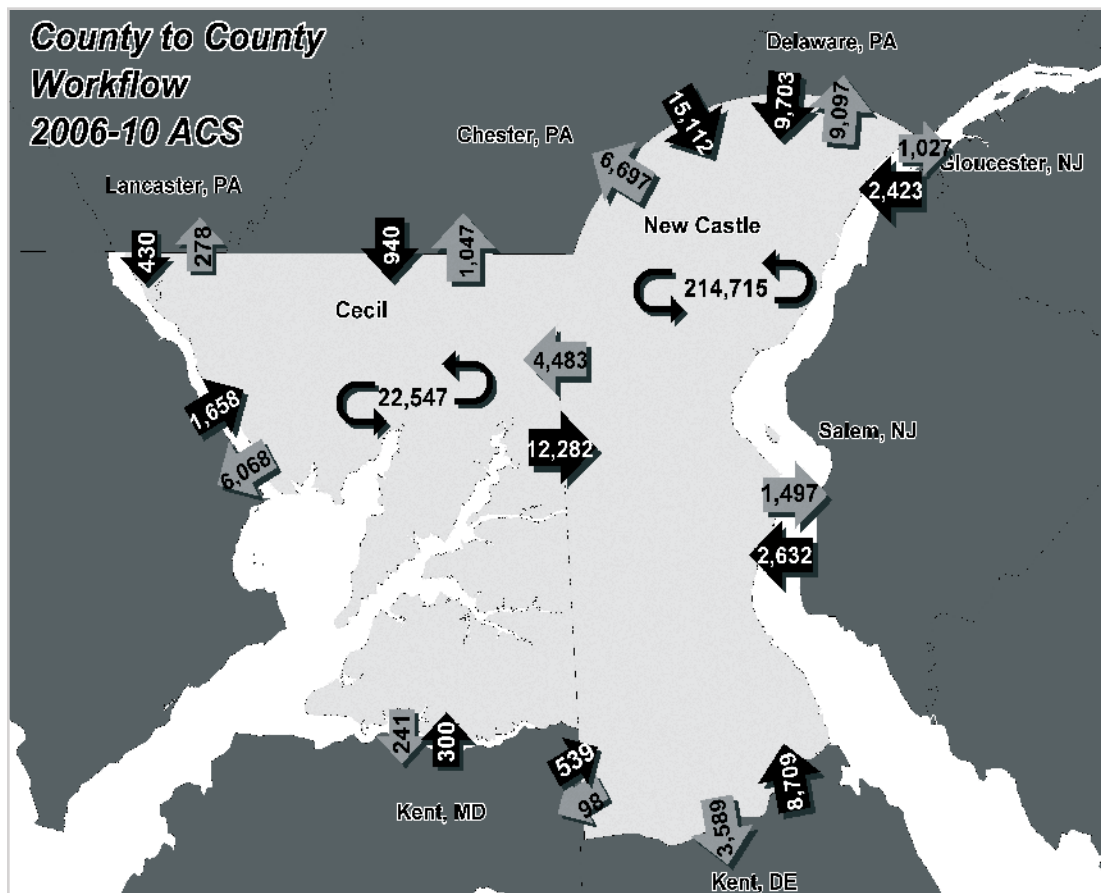
# Cross-Border Commuting in the WILMAPCO Region

**A**cross the nation, commuting to work requires many to cross boundaries into other counties and states to get to their place of employment, and our region is no exception. Data gathered from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) and the 2000 Census Transportation Planning Package (CTPP) has captured a growing trend of cross-border commuting into and out of the region (see map below).

There are many reasons for this growing trend, including: school district preferences, housing costs and locations, economic conditions, and other factors. Understanding where citizens live and work is critical for making decisions on transportation infrastructure. The CTPP data has demonstrated the following:

- Since 2000, the total number of workers that commute into New Castle County has risen 8.8%
- Eighty-two percent of New Castle County's residents live and work within New Castle County, up from 78% in 2000
- Since 2000, the total number of workers that commute from Cecil County into New Castle County has decreased roughly 12%
- Just under half (46.7%) of all Cecil County workers are employed in counties other than Cecil, down from 56% in 2000
- New Castle County workers living in Chester County have also risen sharply since 2000, with an increase of nearly 17%

To read more on the national trends, please visit [www.census.gov/hhes/commuting](http://www.census.gov/hhes/commuting).





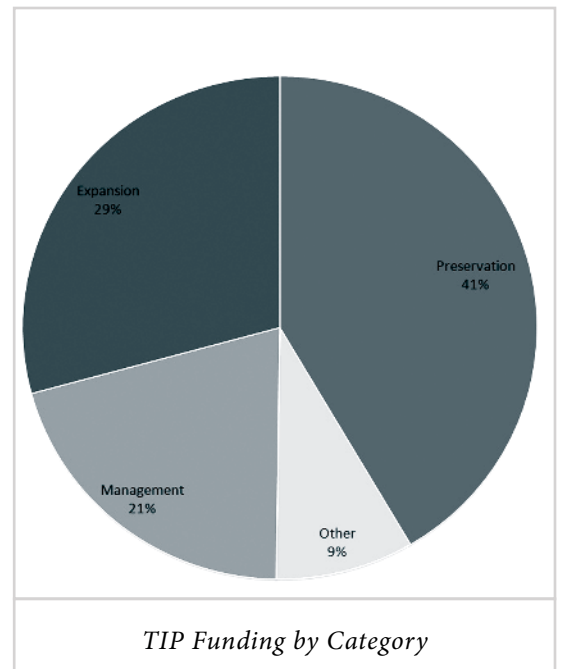
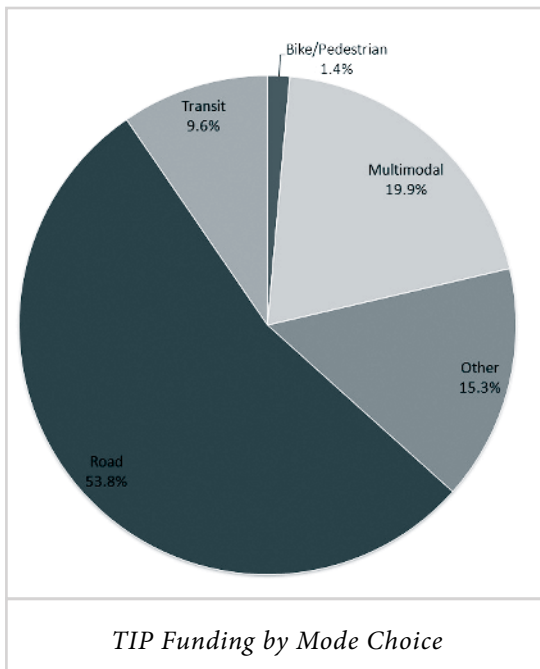
# FY 2014 Transportation Improvement Program is Approved

Approximately \$1.7 billion of anticipated transportation projects were approved on March 14 by our Council, following a public comment period that ran from January 25 through March 7. The FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Castle County, Delaware and Cecil County, Maryland shows transportation priorities and planned projects based on available funding. Projects include a variety of roadway, rail, transit, bridge, bicycle, and pedestrian improvements anticipated for the next four years.

This four year listing of projects contains 32% less funds than the FY 2012-15 TIP as updated last September, with funding delayed or deleted for some projects. This is a result of

continued financial limitations in both Maryland and Delaware, and Delaware's decision to curb continued borrowing for transportation and begin paying down the existing debt. Still, many other projects have retained funding including increased funds for paving and rehabilitation, intelligent transportation and technology, and transit preventive maintenance.

State matching funds for projects are approved through the Maryland and Delaware bond bills. Following the June approval of the Delaware bond bill, we will be holding an additional public comment period from July through September to make the TIP consistent with state documents. To view the newly approved TIP, please visit [www.wilmapco.org/tip](http://www.wilmapco.org/tip).





# Unified Planning Work Program

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the document that describes the transportation planning programs to be performed by our staff. In addition, the document lists our funding sources and how they will be allocated.

Funding for the UPWP comes from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the States of Delaware and Maryland, New Castle and Cecil Counties, and the City of Wilmington. Our total budget for FY 2013 (July 2012-June 2013) was more than \$2.6 million.

While we are nearly three quarters of the way through our fiscal year budget, several projects are nearly or completely finished. Some of these include:

- Goods and Movement Analysis
- Regional/Statewide Performance Measure Development
- Regional Model Development
- Newport Train Station Feasibility Study
- 2012 Public Opinion Survey
- Port Deposit Transit Feasibility Study
- Cecil County Bike Plan

A few projects that are still in progress include:

- Marshallton Circulation Study
- DE Ave 11/12th Street Curve Study in Wilmington
- Public Outreach and Education Program
- Newark Train Station Study

In addition to continuing to perform work on the FY 2013 UPWP, we have begun drafting the FY 2014 UPWP. Throughout January and February we solicited project submissions from member agencies and local municipalities. The following requests were submitted:

- Town of Chesapeake City requested an Electric Car Charging Station Study and assistance with trail system and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) planning efforts
- City of Newark requested assistance with a Comprehensive Development Plan Update
- DelDOT requested a Delaware Chemical Supply Chain Analysis
- Air Quality Partnership of Delaware requested funding to develop an air quality mascot and educational program
- NCC Department of Special Services requested a Churchman's Regional Trail Plan Study
- Town of Elkton requested a Locust Lane Sidewalk Feasibility Study
- City of Wilmington requested a Citywide Transit Corridor Improvement Study
- Delaware Transit Corporation (DTC) requested public outreach assistance for Downtown Wilmington Bus Realignment Transit Plan

Member agency submissions were presented to our Council during their March meeting. The draft FY 2014 UPWP will be available for public comment from April 5 through May 6, 2013. Our Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Public Advisory Committee (PAC) will review the document in April and the draft will be presented to Council for adoption in May. To view or comment on the draft FY 2014 UPWP during the public comment period, please visit [www.wilmapco.org/upwp](http://www.wilmapco.org/upwp).



## Delmarva Freight Study is Underway

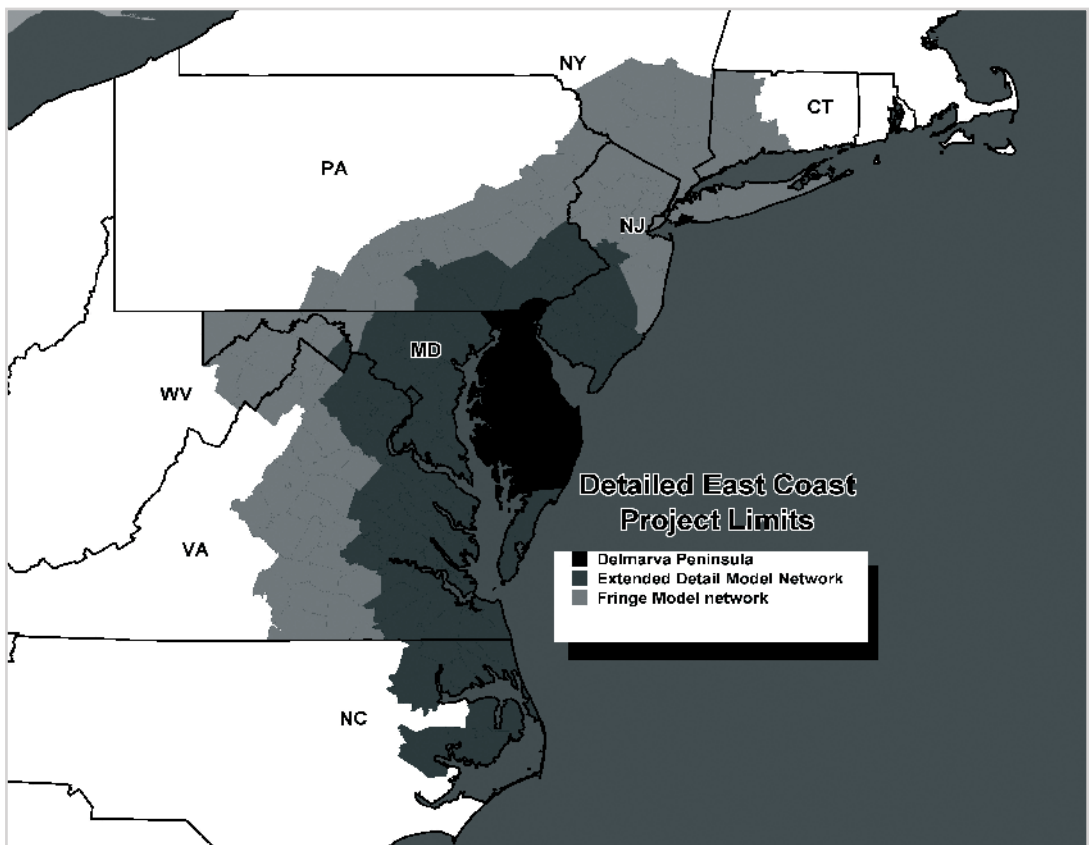
The Delmarva Freight Study is a multi-state, multi-MPO effort to develop a comprehensive, multi-modal evaluation of the freight transportation system and its operations along the Delmarva Peninsula. According to federal transportation requirements, states must have a freight plan, which can improve their ability to meet the goals set by the National Freight Policy. This study will help to identify freight priorities for inclusion in the Statewide Freight Plan.

During the study, outreach efforts have been made to major industries, shippers, and government agencies to assist in formulating the goals and objectives for the study. One of the key outcomes will be the development of a permanent multi-modal CUBE Cargo model. Using detailed commodity flow data along with a three-level modeling approach (national, regional, and local), we can

capture the overall performance of the freight system and its future constraints. In addition, we will develop and assess future growth scenarios and be able to test the impacts of “what if” decisions such as infrastructure investments, changes in regulations, and modal shift impacts. Potential measures include:

- Travel time to market by mode
- Level of Service
- Delay
- Transportation cost by commodity and mode
- Emissions
- Truck volumes on roadways
- Freight demand by mode
- Cost impacts to shippers and industries

To learn more about the project, please visit [www.wilmapco.org/delmarva](http://www.wilmapco.org/delmarva).





# WILMAPCO Welcomes New Council and PAC Representatives

Due to the elections this fall, our Council has had a few changes. We've welcomed three new representatives: Tari Moore, who represents Cecil County government; Mayor Dennis Williams, who represents the City of Wilmington; and Thomas Gordon, who represents New Castle County government.

**Tari Moore**, who previously served as Cecil County Commissioner for the Second District, was elected as the county's first County Executive on November 6, 2012. Moore's background includes more than two decades of strong fiscal experience in business and government, and working collaboratively with local, state, and federal agencies to resolve issues.



**Mayor Dennis Williams** was sworn into office on January 8, 2013. Williams was born in Wilmington and has remained there throughout his life. The values Mayor Williams developed in his youth are central to his approach to government as he seeks to develop a culture of service



in city government, a renewed pride in safe and peaceful neighborhoods, an inspired population of young people, and a community where prosperity and opportunities for a better future extend to all corners of the city.

**Thomas Gordon** was sworn in on November 13, 2012 as County Executive, beginning his second tenure with New Castle County. Gordon was initially elected on January 7, 1997 where he served two terms as the County Executive.



We have also had two new Public Advisory Committee (PAC) representatives. Jeff Peters has replaced decade-long representative Fritz Griesinger on behalf of the Pike Creek Valley Civic League and Paul Bielewics represents the City of Newark.

**Jeff Peters** has lived his entire adult life in the Newark area. He is an independent contractor, operating a ground water remediation system at a shutdown manufacturing site. He has been involved in civic league activities since 1990. In 2006, he became President of the Pike Creek Valley Civic League.

**Paul Bielewics** has been a Delaware resident for fourteen years and works at W.L. Gore in Elkton. We would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new Council and PAC representatives.

## WILMINGTON AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

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## WILMAPCO PUBLIC MEETINGS

Unless specified, meetings will be held at WILMAPCO, 850 Library Avenue, Suite 100, Newark, Delaware. Your participation at these meetings is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact us at (302) 737-6205, or toll free from Cecil County at (888) 808-7088. **During inclement weather, please call to verify meetings.**

MAY	JUNE	JULY
Air Quality Subcommittee May 9, 10 a.m.	Nonmotorized Transportation Working Group June 4, 3 p.m.	WILMAPCO Council July 11, 6:30 p.m.
WILMAPCO Council May 9, 6:30 p.m.	Air Quality Subcommittee June 13, 10 a.m.	Joint Technical Advisory Committee and Air Quality Subcommittee July 18, 10 a.m. Location TBD
Technical Advisory Committee May 16, 10 a.m.	Public Advisory Committee June 17, 7 p.m.	WILMAPCO Summer Picnic July 18, 12 p.m. Location TBD
	Technical Advisory Committee June 20, 10 a.m.	