
WILMAPCO News Release

Contact Information:

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Transportation agency invited public comment on \$1.6 billion of transportation improvements, a seven percent decrease in available funds

Newark, DE - Today, the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO) has released for public review and comment more than \$1.6 billion of anticipated transportation projects, proposed in a new draft transportation program. **To solicit public feedback the agency will host a public workshop on Monday, February 23, 2015 at the Newark Free Library, 750 Library Ave, Newark.** Attendees are welcome to stop by anytime between 4 and 6:30pm. WILMAPCO and Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) representatives will be available during the workshop to answer questions. Information about the draft [Delmarva Freight Plan](#) will also be displayed during the workshop.

The draft FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Castle County, Delaware and Cecil County, Maryland is a four-year listing of federally-funded transportation projects. Projects encompass road, transit, rail, bicycle and pedestrian improvements. This proposal includes a seven percent decrease in funds.

Tigist Zegeye, WILMAPCO's Executive Director said, "Because of transportation funding shortfalls in the region, projects that preserve the existing infrastructure and address safety are our highest priority. Preservation projects account for nearly 40 percent of the TIP. New preservation projects include the I-95 Bridge over the Brandywine River and seven other bridge projects"

Due to the decrease in funds, many projects will have all or most of their funding removed. The proposed TIP eliminates funding from 15 projects including:

- **Transit improvements** at the Boyds Corner Park and Ride, Claymont Train Station, and Fairplay Train Station Parking, and funds for the creation of a Wilmington Transit Hub.
- **Roadway improvements** on Cedar Lane Road; SR 9 in the City of New Castle, New Castle County and South Wilmington; Possum Park Road at Old Possum Park Road; Tyler McConnell Bridge; US 13 in the Smyrna area; and 4th Street in the City of Wilmington.
- **Pedestrian improvements** on Grubb Road.

Information can be viewed and commented upon online at www.wilmapco.org/tip or at WILMAPCO's office, 850 Library Avenue, Newark, DE during business hours. Comments may also be submitted in writing to Wilmington Area Planning Council, 850 Library Avenue, Suite 100, Newark, DE 19711, by fax to 302-737-9584, or by e-mail to wilmapco@wilmapco.org. Print versions of the documents are available at WILMAPCO's office or can be mailed upon request. Comments will be accepted through March 3, 2015.

For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Heather Dunigan at hdunigan@wilmapco.org, or 302-737-6205 ext. 118.

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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.

