



Wilmington Area Planning Council Presents

2014 Our Town

Funding our Transportation

System:

Now and in the Future

September 3, 2014

Embassy Suites Hotel
Newark, Delaware

www.wilmapco.org/ourtown





*Funding our Transportation System:
Now and in the Future*

~ Key Note Speaker ~

Beth Osborne

Beth Osborne is Vice President of Transportation for America. Beth also leads the Center for Innovative Funding and Finance at Transportation for America, a resource on creative funding sources and financing for infrastructure that serves economic development and neighborhood revitalization.

Featured Speakers Include:

- Colin Peppard, Office of Senator Thomas Carper
- Mark Kleinschmidt, President, New Castle County Chamber of Commerce
- Ted C. Williams, Chair, Transportation Trust Fund Task Force, President of Landmark Science & Engineering
- Shailen P. Bhatt, Secretary, Delaware Department of Transportation
- Mike Nixon, Regional Planning Manager, Maryland Department of Transportation

Agenda

Registration / Exhibits and hors d'oeuvres	4:00 p.m.
Welcome and Introductions Tigist Zegeye, Executive Director, WILMAPCO	4:20 p.m.
Beth Osborne - Keynote Vice President, Transportation for America	4:25 p.m.
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Tigist Zegeye, Executive Director, WILMAPCO	4:50 p.m.
Panel Presentations and Discussion Moderated by Ed O'Donnell University of Delaware	5:10 p.m.
Colin Peppard Office of Senator Thomas Carper	5:15 p.m.
Mark Kleinschmidt, President New Castle County Chamber of Commerce	5:30 p.m.
Ted C. Williams, Chair Transportation Trust Fund Task Force	5:45 p.m.
Shailen P. Bhatt, Secretary Delaware Department of Transportation	6:00 p.m.
Mike Nixon, Regional Planning Manager Maryland Department of Transportation	6:15 p.m.
Question and Answer / Visit Exhibit Boards	6:30 p.m.

Biographies

Tigist Zegeye, Executive Director, WILMAPCO

Tigist Zegeye has served as the Executive Director of the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO), the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) serving New Castle County, Delaware and Cecil County, Maryland, since 2003. Tigist is responsible for the day-to-day planning activities, including the Long-Range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Prior to joining WILMAPCO, Tigist served as a Planning Engineer with the Missouri Department of Transportation.

Beth Osborne, Vice President, Transportation for America

Beth Osborne joined Transportation for America as the senior policy advisor and also directs a newly created mission-driven consulting service. Beth came to Transportation for America from the U.S. Department of Transportation where she served as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy since 2009. At DOT, Beth managed the TIGER Discretionary Grant program, the Secretary's livability initiative, and the development of the Administration's surface transportation authorization proposal. Before joining USDOT, Beth worked for Sen. Tom Carper (DE) as the legislative assistant for transportation, trade and labor policy, as the policy director for Smart Growth America and as legislative director for environmental policy at the Southern Governors' Association. She began her career in Washington, DC, in the House of Representatives working as a legislative assistant for Rep. Ron Klink (PA-04) and as legislative director for Rep. Brian Baird (WA-03).

Biographies

Edward J. O'Donnell, Panel Moderator

Edward O'Donnell's career has spanned more than forty years characterized by professional leadership, public service, outstanding quality, and transformative changes. A visionary regional approach to planning and a strong environmental ethic permeate a career that has included directing an MPO comprising three counties in three states, crafting a landmark county comprehensive plan and unified development code, completing applied research on land use and transportation, and accomplishing an enduring legacy of environmental protection in a bi-state watershed and in the vast land holdings of a private school. Ed, through his current work with the University of Delaware's Institute for Public Administration, continues to shape Delaware's future, and likely will for generations.

Mark Kleinschmidt, President, New Castle County Chamber of Commerce

Mark Kleinschmidt was named President of the New Castle County Chamber of Commerce in January of 2006. As President, Mark is responsible for the management of the County's largest business trade organization with over 1,500 members. The Chamber provides a wide range of business assistance and networking programs for its members and maintains a very active role in government relations at the local, state, and federal level.

Since assuming the position of President, Mark has undertaken a series of new initiatives including the relocation of the Chamber to a new headquarters facility, expanding the Chamber's economic development activities, which included the establishment of a small business incubator program, the Emerging Enterprise Center, for early stage companies seeking to expand and create new jobs. Mark also manages the Chamber's Benefits Connection program, which provides health insurance to over 500 businesses.

Biographies

Prior to joining the Chamber in 2006, Mark owned and operated his own consulting company, MAK Associates, for ten years. The firm specialized in government relations, real estate development, and project management. He coordinated the planning and development of numerous business expansion projects and also represented numerous clients in Delaware.

From 1999 to 2002, Mark was the cofounder and Chief Operating Officer of an internet start-up company—FamousRadio.com. FamousRadio specialized in creating custom radio stations for in-store and online broadcasting. In launching the company as the COO, Mark interacted with various private investors and financial institutions, and he led business development activities with Fortune 500 companies throughout the United States.

He attended St. Mark's High School and the University of Delaware, where he studied economics and political science. He completed graduate work in Finance at Temple University in Philadelphia. Mark and his wife live in Newark, Delaware with their three children.

Colin Peppard, Office of U.S. Senator Tom Carper

Colin Peppard handles transportation policy and other issues for U.S. Senator Tom Carper, of Delaware. His work supports Senator Carper's efforts to reform federal transportation policy, increase smart investment in infrastructure, support economic growth and development, and reduce energy use and environmental impacts of transportation in the U.S. He supported Sen. Carper's efforts to successfully incorporate several amendments in the most recent federal transportation legislation.

Before he began with Senator Carper, Colin was the Deputy Director of Federal Transportation Policy with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). With NRDC, Colin helped to draft and advance legislation to increase investment in transportation projects that reduce oil consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. He also ran federal transportation policy programs for the Environmental Defense Fund and Friends of the Earth U.S.

Biographies

Colin has authored or contributed to several reports on transportation policy and climate change, and testified before Congress on global warming and passenger rail. He began his career with the Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group in Boston, and received a B.A. in Environmental Thought and Practice and Environmental Science from the University of Virginia.

Shailen P. Bhatt, Secretary, Delaware Department of Transportation

Shailen Bhatt serves as Cabinet Secretary for the Delaware Department of Transportation. His responsibilities consist of managing the day-to-day operations of the state's transportation system including transit, motor vehicles, project construction, maintenance, planning, IT, and HR functions. He is also charged with directing a billion dollar budget and nearly 2,800 employees. Bhatt's background includes working on transportation issues at the local, state, and federal levels.

Prior to his confirmation by the Delaware State Senate as Secretary, he served as an Associate Administrator at the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in Washington, DC. In this role, he was charged with setting policy and managing relationships with members of Congress and leading the FHWA's efforts in reauthorizing the nation's surface transportation legislation. At FHWA, Shailen played a key role in establishing a Federal Highway Administration's initiative on accelerated project delivery called Every Day Counts (EDC).

Before joining FHWA, Shailen served as a Deputy Executive Director with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) where he was responsible for advancing transportation projects and addressing regional transportation needs. During his time at KYTC, he helped oversee a record construction letting period for the state. Prior to that, he was Director of the Bowling Green/Warren County MPO.

Biographies

Shailen is a graduate of Western Kentucky University with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics. Bhatt currently serves on AASHTO, Board of Directors and Chairs the Standing Committee on Public Transportation; Diamond State Port Corporation, Board of Directors; Northeast Corridor Commission, Co-Chair to Communication and Public Outreach Committee; and State Smart Transportation Initiative, Advisory Committee. He was recently named as Chair of the Executive Committee of the I-95 Corridor Coalition.

Ted C. Williams, P.E., ExecEng, F ACEC President, Landmark Science & Engineering

Ted Williams is a registered professional engineer in Delaware and Pennsylvania, and for more than 36 years has performed civil, site and transportation engineering for commercial, industrial, institutional, recreational, residential, and government projects for public and private clients. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, with a transportation specialty, from Drexel University.

Ted serves as president of Landmark Science & Engineering, a 46-person integrated, civil engineering, environmental sciences, and land surveying consulting firm that has successfully operated in Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania for over 27 years.

Ted was elected to the College of Fellows of American Council of Engineering Companies and served as their national Chairman. ACEC is the voice of America's engineering industry, representing more than 500 firms and 500,000 employees throughout the country.

Biographies

He serves on many local and national boards and committees, including as Chair of Delaware's Transportation Trust Fund Task Force, Chairman of the Committee of 100's Transportation Committee, member of Advisory Panels for the Delaware Council on Transportation and the Delaware Bicycle Council, Delaware Department of Education's Construction Committee, and Vice Chairman of the Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association.

Michael Nixon, Regional Planning Manager, Maryland Department of Transportation

Mike Nixon manages the Regional Planning Section of the Office of Planning and Capital Programming at the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT). In this capacity he represents MDOT at Maryland's several MPOs. He joined MDOT in 1971 when the Department was formed. He is responsible for insuring MDOT's compliance with the federally prescribed Metropolitan and Statewide Transportation Planning regulations, coordination of activities associated with the MDOT's annual Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP), and the development and maintenance of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). He is currently overseeing the designation and re-designation of several MPOs. Mike has represented MDOT at WILMAPCO since 1987.

Prior to joining MDOT he was employed at the Maryland State Roads Commission, Bureau of Urban Transportation Planning, and also served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Mike holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Baltimore.

Notes

Notes

The Wilmington Area Planning Council

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

Shailen P. Bhatt
Delaware Dept. of Transportation
Secretary

Thomas P. Gordon
New Castle County Executive

Donald A. Halligan
Maryland Dept. of Transportation
Director, Office of Planning and Capital Programming

Tari Moore
Cecil County Executive

John Sisson
Delaware Transit Corporation
Chief Executive Officer

Michael Spencer
Mayor of Newport

Dennis P. Williams
Mayor of Wilmington

Tigist Zegeye
WILMAPCO Executive Director

