

## Route 9 Monitoring Committee Meeting Notes

9/7/2017

### Attendees

- Marco Boyce, New Castle County
- Carrie Casey, New Castle County
- Lauren DeVore, DNREC
- Kenneth Dryden, NAACP
- Mike Hahn, DeIDOT Planning
- Lee Jarmon, Overview Gardens/Garfield Park Civic Association
- Kelechi Lawrence, Delaware Africa Coalition
- Patti Miller, Nemours
- Tamarra Morris, New Castle County
- Victor Perez, University of Delaware (called in)
- Kyron Robinson, ProRank Business Solutions
- Jaywann Saunders, Simonds Gardens Civic Association
- Sandra Smithers, New Castle Prevention Coalition
- Tim Snow, DeIDOT Planning
- Bill Swiatek, WILMAPCO
- Jake Thompson, WILMAPCO

### Notes

- Bill Swiatek explained the purpose of the committee.
  - The committee will guide priorities for implementation of the Route 9 Master Plan.
  - Sandra Smithers mentioned that there is a need to keep the community involved and updated.
  - Ken Dryden asked: Is there a community benefit agreement attached to the plan?
    - Sandra Smithers responded: No. Presidents of civic associations are looking into it.
    - Victor Perez said that community benefit agreements are important, but not enough. Community members often fizzle out. Enforcement is needed to maintain involvement from the community.
    - Kelechi Lawrence said that all public stakeholders should be involved in the community.
    - Bill Swiatek said that local labor agreements need to be explored with agencies implementing projects, such as the county or state. For the monitoring committee it is assumed that the community will be invited to be strongly

involved, as it was in the development of the Plan, but we can also explore the drafting of an agreement to that end.

- Victor Perez shared plans for the Eden Park/Hamilton Park Survey.
  - The survey will attempt a census of households to collect data on experience with the issues presented in the plan.
  - Mike Hahn asked: How do you get a good sample of respondents?
    - Victor Perez responded: We will develop models and send postcards to alert residents of the survey. We will then go door-to-door in the communities.
  - Kelechi Lawrence asked: How did you decide on the sample size of 100?
    - Victor Perez responded: It's a complete census. There are approximately 100 households per community (200 total).
  - Ken Dryden asked: Is it correct that the purpose of the survey is to relocate residents?
    - Victor Perez responded: The survey is only intended to gather experience with the issues. Opinions beyond the scope of the survey are out of our control.
  - Sandra Smithers asked: What will be done with the data?
    - Victor Perez responded: The idea is to first see what the community really wants.
    - Bill Swiatek said that just about all the recommendations in the plan, including the recommendation to relocate the Hamilton Park and Eden Park neighborhoods will require continued community involvement. Most recommendations, like that one, are high level – a 20-year vision for the entire corridor – and need to be explored for desirability/feasibility.
- Bill Swiatek shared the list of transportation recommendations, all coming from the Plan. He said that the goal is to develop a program list that can feed into the DeIDOT budget. The monitoring committee will help to prioritize projects. There was some discussion of the list. At the next meeting DeIDOT agreed to discuss how projects worked their way through to funding and Bill will be presenting an idea of how to prioritize these projects based on how the City of Wilmington prioritizes its transportation projects.
- Jake Thompson presented the map of proposed projects for the Safe Routes to School program at Eisenberg Elementary School. Bill Swiatek presented two maps related to the Safe Routes to School program at McCullough Middle School: a student proximity map and a map of proposed projects. Discussion centered around the need to get more community members involved on the project teams. Civic leaders were invited, but did not attend the kickoff meetings.
- Bill Swiatek briefly discussed the NAACP bus tour in May and the DNREC air quality meeting held last week as a follow up.
  - Lauren Devore mentioned that DNREC has a movable monitoring platform (MMP) on Terminal Avenue. The MMP found an increase in total suspended particulate matter, but air quality is better overall than expected. PM2.5 was not found to be elevated to dangerous levels.
- Bill Swiatek asked the group if there were any other recent initiatives.

- Mike Hahn shared a handout on webinars. There will be a free series of six webinars on environmental justice in transportation.
- The next monitoring committee meeting will be on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:30 pm in the Garfield Park Lending Library multipurpose room.