

Route 9 Steering Committee Meeting Conference Call Minutes

4/27/2017

Attendees

- Marco Boyce, NCC Land Use
- Patti Miller, Nemours
- George Samuels, Rosehill Civic Association
- Sandra Smithers, New Castle Prevention Coalition
- Tim Snow, DeIDOT Planning
- Bill Swiatek, WILMAPCO
- Jake Thompson, WILMAPCO

Notes

- No corrections to meeting notes from 2/21/2017 Steering Committee meeting.
- Bill shared the comment from Debra Martin, on page 6 in the meeting packet. She mentioned that increased visitors to heritage resources would affect the level of service of the critical intersections addressed in the study.
 - DeIDOT will look into the concern about increased traffic due to tourism, but it is not expected to be at a level that would impact the study.
- Bill shared the final edits on pages 8-11.
 - On page 9, number 14: This is a new section called Public Health Considerations, documenting health outcomes resulting from socioeconomic and socio-spatial conditions.
- Sandra Smithers mentioned a pilot project for installing solar lighting in order to increase public safety. The community has not received feedback from the police locating pockets of crime where increased lighting may be needed.
- Patti Miller mentioned that she made edits to the diagram on page 11; these might not have shown up in track changes. We will look again for her edits.
- At last week's WILMAPCO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting, there was a question regarding providing more detail about the cost and safety of the various transportation alternatives. We have run out of money for the study; the study is just a concept, and DeIDOT will select the alternatives that are best for the corridor. The cost shouldn't matter, as we should do what is best for the community.
- Bill shared email comments from Linda Osiecki, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) leader at DeIDOT. Regarding the comment about the difficulty of two-lane roundabouts, unfortunately, two lanes are necessary to accommodate the traffic of the highway. A one-lane roundabout would be safer, but would not be able to handle the traffic. Even with two lanes, however, roundabouts provide significant safety benefits over traditional intersections.

- In the public outreach chapter, there is a blank space to discuss the more recent outreach activities we have had, including the All Civics meeting. There was one resident who was concerned about the mixing of rentals with homeowners. That is something we can discuss in the plan to mitigate those concerns.
- Bill shared the Next Steps chapter, starting on page 12.
- DNREC will be holding an open house in the summer to share their air monitoring study.
- University of Delaware is working on a study regarding the proposed relocations of residents in Eden Park and Hamilton Park. The County will fund a door-to-door survey asking residents what they think.
 - Sandra Smithers says she thinks that is a very good idea, as the neighborhood residents should have input on their destiny.
 - Bill says we need to make sure everyone is on board.
- WILMAPCO is committed to starting a Safe Routes to School program in this area.
 - Patti Miller would like to be notified when a meeting is set up with the Colonial School District.
- All attendees agreed to proceed with the study as-is. No further changes were suggested, as the steering committee was comfortable with the final draft of the study.