

5-Point Intersection Safety & Capacity Improvement Study

Kick-Off Meeting / Stakeholder Input

May 20, 2019

Meeting Notes & Summary

ATTENDEES

Name	Organization
Jeffrey Miles	Delmarva Power
Michael Denney	Delmarva Power
Diane Gunn	DeIDOT
Megan McGlinchey	Riverfront Development Corp.
Venessa Karpeh	DE Senate
Bill Thatcher	Delaware Transit Corp.
Jerry Heisler	Reybold Development
Dave Gula	WILMAPCO
Mark Tudor	RK&K
Barbara Hughes	RK&K
Melissa Miklus	RK&K
Collin Hayward	RK&K

INTRODUCTIONS (WILMAPCO, RK&K)

To begin the meeting, each of the participants briefly shared a few details about their organization, their purpose for attending the meeting, and their experience regarding the study area. The major visions and concerns are noted below:

- Bill Thatcher (Delaware Transit Corporation)
 - Concerns for bus circulation and employees' safety crossing Maryland Avenue from proposed parking lot
- Mike Denny (Delmarva Power)
 - Noted the potential impact on their company parking lot and employees
- Jeff Miles (Delmarva Power)
 - Noted areas of concern included intersection alignment with Delmarva entrance, parking availability, and large vehicle movements
- Venessa Karpeh (DE Senate)
 - Wanted to better understand the project scope and how it may relate to current constituent concerns
- Diane Gunn (DeIDOT)

- Interested in project scope as DeIDOT would ultimately be a key participant in future improvements
- Megan McGlinchey (Riverfront Development Corporation-RDC)
 - Intersection is a main entry point for the Riverfront and thus affects ongoing development in the region
- Jerry Heisler – Reybold Development
 - Owns property on Maryland Avenue and is interested in the project scope and potential impacts

PRESENTATION (RK&K)

Following the introductions, RK&K presented a current overview of the 5-Point Intersection and answered questions regarding the scope of the 5-Point Intersection Study. The major sections are summarized below with notes on the attendee’s comments throughout the presentation.

Background & Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WILMAPCO has initiated the study to examine the area around the 5 Point intersection ● The goal is to examine all modes of transportation and community considerations ● Will recommend improvements based on land use, stakeholder input, transportation patterns, and planning analysis ● Reviewed current milestones and overall schedule
What We Have Learned to Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reviewed issues with traffic, pedestrian safety, and cyclist access ● Reviewed previous feedback from major stakeholder organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Delmarva Power, Delaware Transit Corporation (DART), Reybold Development, State of Delaware Medical Examiner’s Office, Wilmington Department of Parks & Recreation ○ Several stakeholders noted the planned skatepark and discussed the potential impact it could have on the recommended design ○ Stakeholders also noted the Shipley Run combined sewer overflow and the potential impact it would have on planning and construction ● Reviewed bus circulation patterns in the area and associated opportunities/constraints ● Reviewed previous studies and plans for the area (2009, 2011) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jerry (Reybold) noted plans for a shared use path and potential Liberty Street Realignment ○ Megan (RDC) noted that the Norfolk Southern rail line will be relocated at some point in the future to allow the construction of a garage south of the Amtrak Rail Corridor

PRIORITIZATION EXERCISE (Attendees, WILMAPCO, RK&K)

The meeting participants were then grouped together for a prioritization exercise in order to identify who the major users of the space are, how they use the space, and what their corresponding priorities

for the space are. The exercise was interactive, with participants discussing the various priorities and using post-it notes to display the relevant information on display boards. The table below contains a summary of the information posted to the display boards by the participants.

Who Uses the Space?	How Do They Use the Space?	What Are Their Priorities?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DART employees • DPL employees • Medical Examiner's Office employees • Construction and utility crews • Cyclists • Delivery trucks and drivers • Residents • Pedestrians • Commuters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational users (cyclists, skateboarders, pedestrians) • Riverfront access / stadium access • Commuting • Bus activity • Utility crew vehicle activity • Delmarva Power customers (paying bills) • Lower use at night than during the day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting around easily (wayfinding) • Good lighting • Lanes wide enough for large vehicles • Better sidewalks and overall urban landscape • Efficiency and lack of congestion • Overall safety • Roadway condition • Quality of life

Several participants noted the importance of land-use to the discussion and expressed desire for the City of Wilmington to be included in future discussions regarding the 5-Point study. Participants also noted the potential impacts from the Christina River Bridge and noted that additional analysis would likely need to be completed once the project is completed. After the feedback from the attendees was collected on the board, the group developed a final priority list, ranking the user priorities from most important to least important. Participants acknowledged that the list is somewhat fluid depending on the user and noted that additional stakeholder coordination and public outreach should continue to inform the project priorities. The final priority list is shown to the right for reference.

5 Point Intersection Priority List

1. Pedestrian Safety
2. Land Use
3. Bus Operations
4. Wayfinding / Legibility
5. Commuter Efficiency
6. Economic Development
7. Pedestrian / Bicycle Connectivity
8. Stakeholder Support
9. Public Support
10. Environmental Impact / Green Infrastructure

CONCEPT REVIEW & DISCUSSION (Attendees, WILMAPCO, RK&K)

Following the development of the priority list, the meeting participants used the newly developed content to evaluate three existing concept plans for the 5 Point Intersection. A roll plot of each concept was laid out for the group to review and analyze how the proposed changes would address the priorities previously identified. The group was notified that a preferred design has not yet been selected, but the discussion around the concepts would be used to inform future design decisions. The following topics were major points of discussion throughout the concept review:

- Additional Interstate Ramp off I-95
 - Earlier studies indicated lack of space for new ramp

- Project funding was re-directed to the Christina River Bridge
- Parking Needs
 - Key consideration for DART employees given the proposed changes
 - Delmarva Power discussed how they could gain additional parking space
- Gateway Considerations
 - Many attendees expressed a desire for the area to serve as a gateway to Wilmington
 - Would like to see attractive features that stand out to people entering the city
- Pedestrian Safety
 - Significant concerns with Option 2 regarding pedestrian crossings near the I-95 ramp
 - Discussed potential alternate routes for pedestrians to reduce conflicts
- Traffic Issues
 - Riverfront access is still a main driver of traffic
 - Many participants would like to see traffic slowed as it enters the city
 - Need to balance rush hour issues with conditions that occur for the majority of the day

Option 1 (Developed in 2009)



