NEWARK
Transportation Plan

Discussing Solutions for Better Transportation in Newark

What is the Newark Transportation Plan?

WILMAPCO and Newark have been working with an Advisory Committee of citizens, civic and business groups, and public agencies to develop an updated transportation plan for the Newark area. This follow-up to the 1998 *Newark/Elkton Intermodal Transportation Plan* is reexamining congestion & traffic operations, bicycle & pedestrian needs, transit service & coordination, and parking.

The plan will develop updated short-term improvements and long-term transportation strategies based on the community's changing priorities, economic development opportunities, and land use impacts.

What we've heard from the community?

In addition to input from the Advisory Committee, we've sought feedback from the community at a May 19 public workshop, and at Newark Community Day in 2009 and 2010. When asked about your greatest priorities for transportation in Newark, you told us:

- Reduce congestion & improve signal timing and coordination

- Improve on-road & off-road bicycle facilities

- Connect commuter rail between Newark and Maryland and better coordinate other transit service

- Provide more downtown parking

What are some possible solutions? Tell us what you think!

At the Public Workshop, we will present possible solutions to issues identified through community outreach and technical analysis:

Congestion & Safety

By creating a traffic operations model based on recent data, we can see the effects of changes to traffic signal timing and roadways. Using this model, we can coordinate signal timing to minimize delay, reduce fuel consumption and emissions and reduce crashes. A modernized signal system can better adapt to account for student activity, evens, transit schedules, bicycle and pedestrian travel, and future development.

Public Transit

Newark is served by DART and UNICITY with University student buses. Merging the DART trolley with the UNICITY can help extend the short service hours of the trolley while reducing the long trip time of UNICITY. Other college towns have coordinated transit including joint systems or free fare for students on public buses. The University of Delaware has made vast improvements to their bus system with real-time bus tracking that might to extended to DART and UNICITY services.

Bicycling and Walking

Pedestrian recommendations focus on ways to cross the street more safely. Mid-block refuge islands provide traffic calming benefits while easing crossings at locations without signals. Bicycling improvements are being developed in close coordination with the Newark Bicycle Committee. Options for all major streets including Delaware Avenue, Main Street, West Park Place and S. College Avenue are being explored, to connect cyclists to the downtown, campus and off-road paths.

Parking

Sufficient downtown parking is critical to the City's economic development activities. In addition, University policies to reduce traffic and parking on campus places added demand on downtown supply. Zipcar is now offered on campus, a membership-based car-sharing program that has reduced demand for parking in other college towns. We are also coordinating with the Downtown Newark Partnership Parking Committee to explore options for cost-effective ways to increase parking.

How to get involved?

- Attend the Public Workshop on November 16, 7 p.m., WIL-MAPCO, 850 Library Ave., Newark, DE 19711

- Schedule an individual interview or presentation to your group. Call 302.737.6205.

- Visit www.wilmapco.org/newark to learn more & comment.

- Become a fan of the Newark Transportation Plan on facebook to join discussion, post photos/video, and keep informed.