

WILMAPCO Council

Action Item Summary Sheet

Meeting Date: May 12, 2022

Action Item #17: To Endorse the Union Street Reconfiguration and Streetscape Improvement Study

Description/Summary of Item:

This study was designed to evaluate the Union Street corridor and develop a program of improvements that would reduce vehicular speeding and improve safety and access for pedestrians and bicyclists. The study will also result in streetscape, storm water management and lighting improvements that will support increased economic investment for the corridor and promote Union Street as a neighborhood “main street” that will serve local residents as a place to live, work and play.

Summary of Action Taken by PAC: The WILMAPCO PAC took no action. The Study was presented to the PAC on June 21, 2021, October 18, 2021 and February 7, 2022.

Summary of Action Taken by TAC: The study was presented to the WILMAPCO TAC on June 17, 2021, October 21, 2021, and January 20, 2022. The TAC endorsed the Union Street Reconfiguration and Streetscape Improvement Study on April 21, 2022.

Summary of Action Taken by Subcommittee/Task Force (if applicable):

The study was presented to the WILMAPCO TAC Non-motorized Transportation Working Group on December 7, 2021, but no action was taken.

The study was presented to the Wilmington Initiatives Partners, which served as the Management Committee, on July 21, 2021, September 16, 2021, January 19, 2022 and endorsed the study on February 16, 2022.

WILMAPCO Staff Recommendations: The WILMAPCO staff recommends that the Council Endorse the Union Street Reconfiguration & Streetscape Improvement Study.

WILMAPCO Council:

John Sisson, Chair
Delaware Transit Corporation
Chief Executive Officer

David L. Edgell
Delaware Office of State Planning
Coordination, Director

Danielle Hornberger
Cecil County Executive

Michael Kline
Mayor of North East

Nicole Majeski
Delaware Dept. of Transportation
Secretary

Matthew Meyer
New Castle County Executive

Heather Murphy
Maryland Dept. of Transportation
Director, Office of Planning and
Capital Programming

Michael S. Purzycki
Mayor of Wilmington

Eric Scott Thompson
Mayor of Elsmere

WILMAPCO Executive Director
Tigist Zegeye

DRAFT RESOLUTION

BY THE WILMINGTON AREA PLANNING COUNCIL (WILMAPCO) ENDORING THE UNION STREET RECONFIGURATION AND STREETScape IMPROVEMENT STUDY

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO) has been designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for New Castle County, Delaware and Cecil County, Maryland by the Governors of Delaware and Maryland, respectively; and

WHEREAS, the WILMAPCO Council recognizes that comprehensive planning for future land use, transportation, sustainable economic development, environmental protection and enhancement, and community health and livability are necessary actions to implement the goals and objectives in the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP); and

WHEREAS, the City of Wilmington submitted a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) request for WILMAPCO to assist the City in developing a comprehensive plan that identifies necessary multimodal improvements to the Union Street corridor in order to support the existing businesses and cultural resources while providing a more walkable and bikeable community asset; and

WHEREAS, the Study assessed the corridor to address pedestrian/bicycle access and safety, transit amenities, and streetscape and traffic calming features to create a safer multimodal network; and

WHEREAS, the Study employed continuous and thorough public engagement with the community and stakeholders throughout the planning process, including three public workshops, to determine the needs of existing businesses and the community's desire for walking and biking amenities; and

WHEREAS, the Study puts forth a full corridor concept with a menu of improvements and utilized a workshop to solicit feedback from the community and develop consensus; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Office supported the corridor concept and the Union Street Reconfiguration and Streetscape Improvement Study final report;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wilmington Area Planning Council does hereby endorse the final report and recommendations of the Union Street Reconfiguration and Streetscape Improvement Study.

Date:

John Sisson, Chairperson
Wilmington Area Planning Council

