

Meeting Minutes

Salisbury/Wicomico Metropolitan Planning Organization (“S/WMPO”)
Council meeting
September 10, 2019

Seaford City Hall
Council Chambers
414 High Street
Seaford, DE

Attendees:

S/WMPO Council:

Charles Anderson, Vice Chairman, City of Seaford, DE
Ian Beam (Proxy), Maryland Department of Transportation (“MDOT”)
Jack Heath, City of Salisbury Council
Michael Gibbons, City of Fruitland
Sara Bynum-King, Town of Delmar
Josh Thomas (Proxy), Delaware Department of Transportation (“DeIDOT”)
Greg Padgham, Tri County Council of the Lower Eastern Shore

Others:

Lisa Ludwig, Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Council (“LESHC”)
Keith Hall, S/WMPO Executive Director

Introduction

Vice Chairman Anderson opened the meeting at approximately 1:00 P.M. and welcomed everyone.

Scenic Byways presentation

Lisa Ludwig (LESHC)

Ms. Ludwig began the presentation with an overview about major activities conducted by LESHC over the past year. These included, but are not limited to, coordinated local Scenic Byway efforts with the Maryland Department of Transportation’s, State Highway Administration, conducted and attended various regional and State workshops about Heritage Areas and Scenic Byways, maintained and updated the organization’s Blue Crab Byways mobile application and desktop mapping tool, administered LESHC mini-grants, reviewed local submissions to the Maryland Heritage Authority Areas annual grant.

Daily activities included: presented to various groups, non-governmental organizations, and communities about the importance of Scenic Byways; responded to residents and visitors about amenities and attractions to visit along the Blue Crab Byway; staffed an

exhibitor booth at major conferences across the State, and educated persons about the importance of heritage tourism.

Vice Chairman Anderson thanked Ms. Ludwig for updating the Council about LESHG activities.

DelDOT Biennial Capital Transportation Program presentation

Josh Thomas (DelDOT)

Mr. Thomas stated the purpose of HB-66, which was signed on May 6, 2019, was to change the timeframe from annual to a two-year update and approval of DelDOT's Consolidated Transportation Plan ("CTP") and State Transportation Improvement Program ("STIP"). Other highlights of the presentation included: first two-year cycle of aforementioned work program items will begin in FY 2021; DelDOT will not be seeking approval of the FY 2020 STIP; and projects introduced last year will be incorporated into the FY 2021 CTP. He shared the Sussex County workshop for the draft CTP is scheduled for September 25, 2019, from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM at DelDOT's South District facility in Georgetown, DE.

The following represents major dates and associated deliverables for developing the CTP in 2019, as well as public input opportunity:

Early June – Conduct project evaluation and selection meetings;

June – DelDOT technical project scoring begins and candidates selected;

July – Project candidates evaluated and prioritized;

August – Projects submitted to DelDOT;

Late August – Draft CTP released by Council on Transportation; and

September 2019 – Public workshops on draft CTP.

After a brief discussion by Council members, Vice Chairman Anderson thanked Mr. Thomas for the presentation.

Minutes

The next item of business was approval of the minutes from February 13, 2019. Vice Chairman Anderson asked if anyone had additions or corrections to the draft meeting minutes. Ms. Bynum-King made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, with the motion seconded by Mr. Beam. The motion to approve the February 13, 2019 meeting minutes passed unanimously by attending Council members.

PUBLIC HEARING: Resolution 02-2019 amending the adopted FY 2019 – FY 2022 Transportation Improvement Program (“TIP”)

Keith Hall (S/WMPO)

Mr. Hall presented the DelDOT requested TIP amendment, which adds Project T202050308 to replace four existing gasoline-powered buses with four 40’ electric-powered buses.

Prior to advancing to Public Hearing, on August 13, 2019, the S/WMPO’s Technical Advisory Committee made a favorable recommendation to forward for consideration of the S/WMPO Council. The amendment was advertised for public review and comment 15-days in advance of the Public Hearing, which no comments were received. Also, the Public Hearing notice was advertised 14 days in advance of the meeting.

Mr. Beam made a motion to approve the Resolution 02-2019, with the motion seconded by Mr. Padgham. With all attending Council members voting in favor, Resolution 02-2019 passed.

PUBLIC HEARING: Resolution 03-2019 amending the adopted FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (“UPWP”)

Keith Hall (S/WMPO)

Mr. Hall presented the proposed amendments to the adopted FY 2020 UPWP, which Resolution 03-2019 is necessary to incorporate unencumbered carryover funding from the previous fiscal year. As proposed the FY 2020 UPWP will increase from \$209,193 to \$648,916.09. Upon approval of Resolution 03-2019, the Delaware and Maryland portions of the total budget will account for \$168,001.58 or 26 percent and \$480,914.51 or 74 percent, respectively. The total increase of \$439,723.09 is allocated to the following major project categories:

1. Administration = \$31,000.00 increase; and
2. Special Studies = \$408,723.09.

Prior to advancing to Public Hearing, on August 13, 2019, the S/WMPO’s Technical Advisory Committee made a favorable recommendation to forward for consideration of the S/WMPO Council. The amendment was advertised for public review and comment 15-days in advance of the Public Hearing, which no comments were received. Also, the Public Hearing notice was advertised 14 days in advance of the meeting.

After a brief overview of on-going and proposed studies by Mr. Hall, Mr. Heath made a motion to approve Resolution 03-2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thomas. With all attending Council members voting in favor, Resolution 03-2019 passed.

Member Updates / Other Business

There were no member updates / other business.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Next Meeting Date/Adjourn

Mr. Hall will send out notification about the next meeting date.

There being no other business before the Council, upon a motion by Mr. Beam, seconded by Mr. Padgham, with all attending Council members voting in favor, and none opposed, the meeting was adjourned.