



Environment & Policy Setting

*Meeting #5
Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2013
2:00-4:00pm
Haslett Armory, Room 219*

Participants:

Karen Horton, DE State Housing Authority
John Mateyko, AIA / NESEA
Philip Franz, AIA / NESEA
Patti Miller, Nemours Health and Prevention Services
Connie Holland, Office of State Planning Coordination
Fred Gatto, Division of Public Health
Helen Arthur, Division of Public Health

Bill Brockenbrough, DeIDOT
Herb Inden, Office of State Planning Coordination
Kevin Coyle, DNREC
BJ DeCoursey, U of D—IPA
Richard Cathcart, City of Delaware City
Mark Chura, Delaware City Main Street Program
Andrea Trabelsi, Delaware Greenways

Notes:

Fort DuPont Health Impact Assessment (see slide presentation—"Mtg 5 Presentation");
Reviewed HIA process and timeline

1. The HIA timeline flexes with the Fort DuPont Master Planning process; currently, we are concluding the scoping phase. We anticipate the scoping to be fully wrapped up by mid-Feb. and by that time the assessment will be underway. The assessment is expected to conclude in March in time to prepare reports and recommendations to share with decision makers and the public. (Current project status summary attached—" HIA 2013 updated summary_Fort DuPont MP_one pager") **Andrea and Kevin will continue to keep the group updated on the timeline.**

Reviewed HIA goals

2. With regard to goal #3—"Make progress toward including HIA as a standard part of decision making"—Richard Cathcart noted that the goal seems to suggest that the ultimate goal is to mandate HIA; he expressed that mandating is not likely to be looked upon favorably and that without having experience with the full HIA process and its effectiveness, we ought to consider changing goal #3. Full Committee agreed that the goal is not to necessarily arrive at a mandate for HIA, but to promote health considerations in all decision making. **Committee agreed to change goal #3 to: "Make progress toward including health at the forefront of decision making."**

Reviewed revised HIA scope

3. Since the last committee meeting, conversations have taken place, which have included Delaware City, to refine the scope of the HIA in a way that addresses health issues important to the city and a scope that is feasible for the resources available to conduct the project. The following was recommended as the narrowed scope of the assessment:
Health Issues to focus on:
 - A. access to physical activity;
 - B. access to food choices; and
 - C. access to health care

Assessment methods: the assessment will rely on qualitative methods (i.e. stakeholder input and literature review); we will also draw from existing quantitative data available, but will not collect new data other than what is available from the consultants/DNREC.

There were some concerns that by only focusing on the three health issues listed above we miss some very important and interconnected aspects and determinants of health, such as mental health and housing. The group came to agreement that while the scope would be more focused and framed around the three aforementioned priority issues, we would take a systems approach to assessment of the three issues, and, therefore, we expect to—at a minimum—acknowledge the issues that fall outside of the three priority areas. **The assessment will move forward with the scope outlined above, focusing on the three health issues listed, but incorporating other health issues and determinants as related.**

4. Committee discussed geographic boundaries for the assessment and the need to balance a focused assessment within reasonable scope with consideration of relevant contextual issues (e.g. trail interconnectivity to areas outside Fort DuPont boundaries); geographic focus is based on informing decisions that will be addressed through the Fort DuPont Master Plan project; **Emphasis will be on assessing the Fort DuPont site itself and include the surrounding community context—especially adjacent Delaware City—in how proposed Fort DuPont plans are likely to impact health.**
5. The committee as a whole is responsible for pointing out contextual issues to be considered in the assessment; **Committee members will bring contextual issues of importance to attention of the project manager to ensure they can be included in the assessment.**
6. Kevin Coyle noted that the consultants have compiled the master plan as 3 phases, rather than 3 alternatives. While the Committee originally was anticipating comparing three alternatives for the assessment, we will still be able to assess the three phases.
7. Kevin Coyle mentioned that we will learn more about the extent of the Fort DuPont scope and how it treats the surrounding context at the Feb. 4th Public Meeting.

Addressed outstanding items regarding HIA Trainings

8. Schedule has been set and invite/registration will be emailed to the DE HEAL listserv early next week (week of Feb. 4) **Committee members please share the invite/registration email attached submitted with these notes.**
9. Schedule for Trainings is as follows:
 - o Day 1 (Tues., Feb. 19—9:00am-12:30pm or 1:00pm-4:30pm) will focus on general HIA purpose, use/application, implementation, and small group exercises
 - o Day 1 Food—Committee will provide light snacks (water, coffee/tea, granola bars, fruit) **If you can contribute to the snack stash please let Andrea know.**
 - o Day 2 (Wed. Feb. 20—9am-4:00pm)--focus on Fort DuPont project
 - o Day 2 Food—attendees have the option of bringing a lunch or purchasing ordered-in food (e.g. pizza) **Andrea will connect with Mark to make arrangements for ordering in.**

10. Topic areas/questions the committee would like addressed during the trainings:

- Stakeholder engagement
- How to approach local jurisdictions—success stories as well as challenges/lessons learned
- Communications and using the right language—avoiding pitfalls/confusion, how to communicate (timing, methods, etc.) with stakeholders/target audience, making the case for why HIA's are important/valuable
- What is going on nationally/federally to support HIAs? What resources are available to support implementation of HIAs? How do other states/regions fund HIAs in communities (especially in times of budget cuts)?
 - Thoughts on timing the HIA process—specifically, how do you best anticipate the decision making issue that will be ripe for an HIA with enough time to do a thorough job and complete the HIA on time or without holding up another decision?

Discussed Stakeholder Engagement and having a public meeting

11. Stakeholder engagement is important to the HIA process; at this point in the HIA schedule, we need to conclude the scoping phase so we can begin the assessment and stay on track to have a report prior to the end of the Master Plan project; It looks like the last opportunity for public/stakeholder input on scoping for the HIA will be at the Monday, Feb. 4 public meeting for the Fort DuPont Master Planning project (at 7pm at Delaware City Fire Hall). **Andrea will attend the meeting; additional committee members are encouraged to attend to be on hand to listen for and record feedback of relevance to the HIA.**

The Committee has been considering having a separate public meeting/town hall forum to bring the Fort DuPont HIA to the public in a meeting separate from the Fort DuPont Master Plan project. Some Concerns of having such a public meeting include: overburdening folks with meetings/not getting good turnout; having to hold the public meeting well beyond points at which the input could be incorporated into the HIA scoping/assessment process and therefore giving a false impression that their input would be reflected in the HIA itself; having a public meeting after the HIA is nearing completion doesn't provide ideal opportunity for public input. Andrea suggested trying to find an opportunity to incorporate the HIA into the Feb. 4th meeting (e.g. table in the back of the room or very brief mention at a logical break in Sasaki's presentation); Delaware City representatives were concerned that including time for mention of the HIA at the Feb. 4th Fort DuPont Master Plan project public meeting would likely cause the meeting to go over time and might also confuse people; discussed having the separate HIA meeting/forum later in the spring toward the completion of the HIA/Fort DuPont MP project and frame the meeting/forum as a next logical step from both projects; Delaware City representatives felt that there would still be value in sharing the findings of the HIA and would likely have interest and participation.

Committee agreed to work with Office of State Planning, Delaware City, and other state agencies to plan for a separate public meeting to happen in the March/April/May timeframe (depending on the HIA schedule and Fort DuPont MP project final stakeholder meeting)

Kevin will inquire about possibility of having a table at the back of the room for the Feb. 4th meeting.

Awareness-building effort: Presentation Development

Reviewed draft presentation (see attached: "E and P Committee_Awareness_V1") which was prepared by Patti, Kendall, and Andrea.

1. Presentation is to be used in general presentations to decision makers, community leaders, the general public (i.e. broad target audience); intent is to have a presentation that does not need to be modified, but for which the presenter can modify his/her language to tailor to a specific audience. **Committee members will review the presentation and submit suggested changes to Andrea ASAP, no later than Feb. 15** (feedback will be used for the final draft of the presentation, which will then be reviewed once more before finalizing)
2. Particularly useful for the presentation is local photos, data, and resources (e.g. DNREC's network analysis of recreational resources/trail access). **Committee members with any of these please also submit per above. (Karen Horton will share her flickr link containing local photos with Andrea)**
3. **Connie and Andrea will coordinate with John M. to present at the April 3rd Board of Architects meeting** with ask of: "as the state board will you please take this info regarding health, safety, and welfare of the public, to the NCARB process for incorporating into the national licensing standards/test?"

Update from John Mateyko--Climate Change and Sustainability Conference: *Climate Change and the Transition to Sustainability in Delaware* (working title)

- Thursday, April 18 all day, Virden conference Center, UD Lewes
- Friday, April 19, Clayton Hall Conference Center, UD, Newark
- limited to 120 people each day (by invitation to officials and professionals); cost will be under \$45 / day

Please put this event on your calendar. Invitations/registration forthcoming.

Next Committee meeting TBD. See you Feb. 4th (Public Meeting) and/ or Feb. 19/20th (HIA Training)