Welcome to the **First Working Meeting** of the **Future Trails of Northern DE** Coalition

FUTURE TRAILS OF NORTHERN DELAWARE

A Delaware Greenways Initiative





DGI-Why This Project

- Active living is directly linked to improved physical health including reduced risk of obesity, diabetes and heart disease.
- Spending time with nature is good for mental health and fosters an appreciation for our natural resources.
- A culture of active living in which walking and biking are favorite and available options for transportation, recreation and connecting with nature.



- Current and future funding levels for trails by Government is not guaranteed.
- Speaking with one voice- joining forces for a common goal is powerful!
- Creative funding sources for trails has proven successful in PA and TN, (Public/Private Partnerships).

Why the William Penn Foundation?



Greenway

 Protects, Preserves, Enhances the Delaware River Watershed through constituency building and trail development.

- Extends southeast Pennsylvania's Circuit Trails into Delaware.
- Extends the East Coast Greenway.



To all our friends and colleagues who assisted in and encouraged us to prepare this successful grant application:

The Nature Conservancy, Delaware Chapter Brandywine Conservancy Delaware Nature Society East Coast Greenway Alliance DelDOT

Delaware Greenway's Role in the Coalition

Continue to expand the Coalition and act as its Coordinator.

- Maintain a mechanism to collect, record and incorporate trail ideas into the trail planning process regardless of their source.
- Provide technical assistance and assist in the identification of creative funding sources for trail development.
- Through an early action project, demonstrate that the Coalition Process augmented with creative funding can move trail projects along faster.

FUTURE TRAILS OF NORTHERN DELAWARE

Coalition Membership and Supporters





The Coalition

- Includes non-profit organizations, hiking/bicycling groups, civic organizations, businesses/corporations, government agencies and elected officials.
- Develops a <u>consensus major trail network</u> for Northern Delaware.
- <u>Within each member's Mission</u>, the coalition is a powerful agent in working together over the coming years to push trail development forward.
- Speaking with one voice and focusing on the community's highest priority projects.

Coalition Members



In addition to our Members

- WILMAPCO
- Delaware Dept. of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC)
- County Councilman Bob Weiner
- New Castle County
- Delaware Department of Transportation (DELDOT)
- City of Newark

Thank You

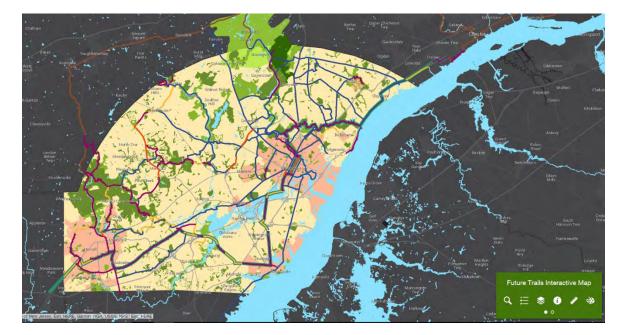
To Our Coalition Partners, Supporters and Friends for attending the focus group meetings, for all the input and advice and for attending today's meeting.

Goals of Today's Meeting

- Status of the Coalition membership and supporters
- Consensus on the Major Trails Map and Matrix
- Early Action and other trail projects
- Statewide Bicycle Policy Plan and how it relates to the Coalition's work
- Next Steps



FUTURE TRAILS OF NORTHERN DELAWARE



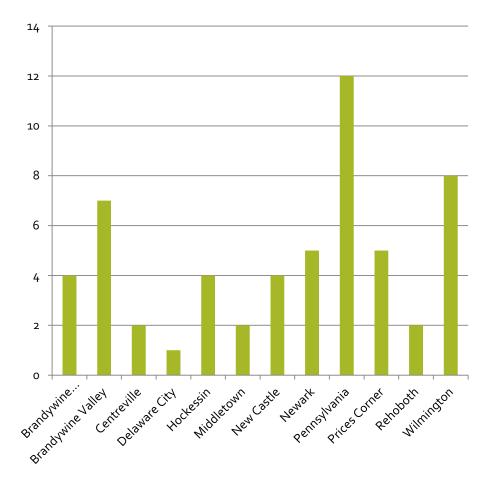
Consensus on the Major Trails Map and Project Matrix

WILLIAM PENN FOUNDATION

We Asked the Public

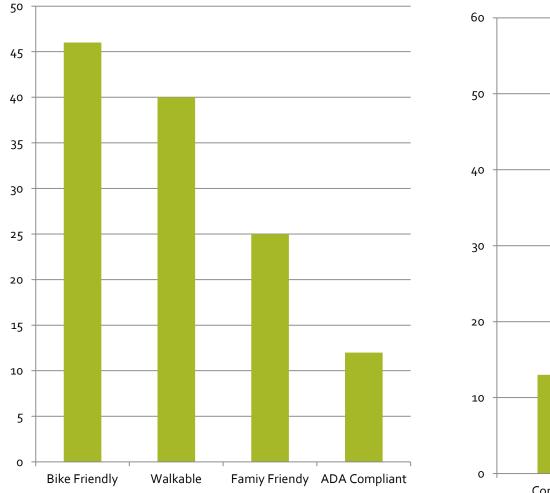
- 57 responded to our request for comments so far
- Questions still being analyzed
- Responses being prepared for each

Location of Commenter

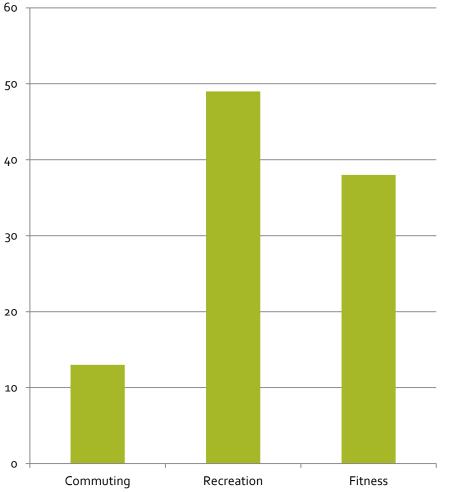


Initial Results

My Trail Should Be...



How Do You Use The Trails?



Major Trail Definition



- Forms a connected set of regional loops and spurs.
- Makes connections among significant areas:
 - Large population centers; parks, waterways and green spaces; employment centers and retail/service areas; points of interest such as cultural attractions
 - Multiple interstate connections (e.g., East Coast Greenway, The Circuit)
- Multi-use (bikes and pedestrians).
- Safe/comfortable for all ability levels.
- Context sensitive design
- Environmentally appropriate

Safe/Comfortable for all Ability Levels Means:



- Surface is hard or compact and relatively smooth.
- Reasonably wide and physically separated from road (by either a curb, grass or other barrier).
 - OR a cycle track with a parallel sidewalk.
- Well-managed road crossings.
- No blind, sharp turns or steep hills.

Major Trails Map

Map Shows Existing Trails, Trails in Progress (In the Project Development Pipeline), Trail Ideas (Trails not yet in the Pipeline) and Trails Needing Improvement

Map Facts

- 70 Miles: Existing Major Trails
- 10 miles: Trails Needing Improvement
- 13 Miles: Trails in Progress
- 145: Trail Ideas

Total Trail Network ~240 miles

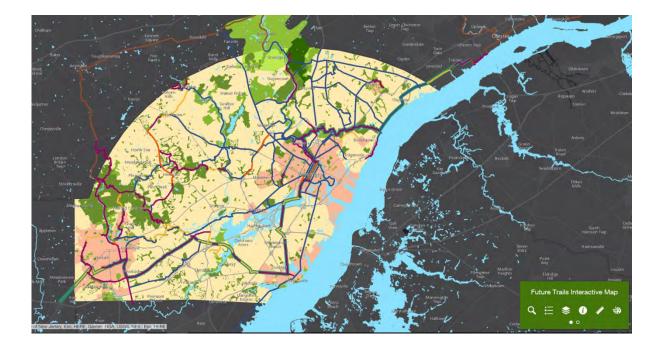
Key Questions:

- •Do existing and in-progress major trails shown on map reflect reality?
- •Have we captured all the major trail ideas and needs-improvement to date?
- •Do we have a consensus on the map?

List of Trail Ideas: The Project Matrix

- Purpose: Converts trail ideas on map into projects to work on.
 - As Coalition Projects move into the Pipeline, they move into WILMAPCO's TIP and disappear from the Project Matrix. The Map will also be updated accordingly.
- WILMAPCO Priority Scores:
 - Based upon current knowledge.
 - To be updated as new information emerges.
- Need Coalition Assistance in Filling in Cells.
 - Some cells to be completed in subsequent phases as planning proceeds.

R	Community Centers	WILMAPCO Score	Row No.
Right of Way Situatior	Bus Stops		Project Area Name of Trail
Way S	Libraries		
ituati	Schools		
9	Parks		
	Bike Routes		
	Green-ways		Approximate Limits
	Municipality or Hometown Overlay		
	Population Density		
	Employment Density		
	Transportation Equity		Miles
	Safety		Primary Purpose
	Abandoned Railway Corridor		
	Historic Element		
	Non-motorized Gap Analysis		On-Road/Off- Road
	WILMAPCO Score		
	1	1	



FUTURE TRAILS OF NORTHERN DELAWARE



Early Action Projects

> DELAWARE GREENWAYS



Early Action Projects

Definition: a trail/pathway project that <u>will allow us to</u> <u>demonstrate a **quick success** of the process</u>

It does NOT have to be part of the consensus major trail network.

Need to select 1 or 2 projects.



Early Action Project What Makes it Successful?

- Fully implemented
- Would not have happened in the near term without Coalition's efforts.
- Meaningful (even if for small constituency) value of which is easily articulated/understood.
- Not controversial
- Clear how the private funds were leveraged into the process

Early Action Projects What Does "Quick" Require?

- <u>Clear path to implementation</u>
- Expect it to jump straight to the front of the line.
 - Probably so <u>small</u> that it will have negligible impact on pipeline.
- Very easy without major permitting or right of way issues
- Has a potential private funder already identified.
- Adjacent property owners are on board.

Delaware Greenways Candidate Early Action Projects that Caught our Eye

- White Clay Connector Trail
- Augustine Cut-Off Trail
- Trail From Nemours to Brandywine River
- Hockessin Missing Link and Bulah Heritage Trail
- Bypass Hercules Road and Newport Gap Pike

Are there others we should add to the list?

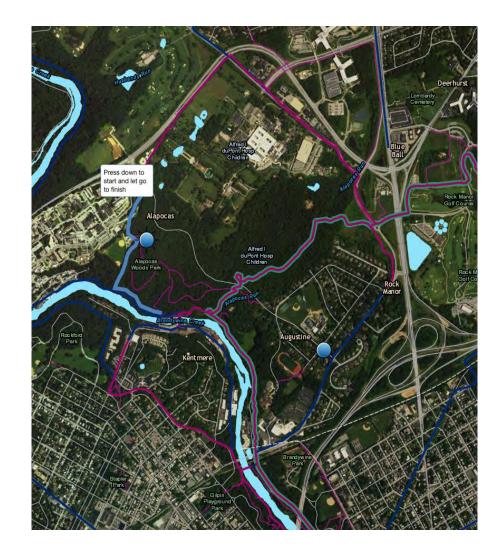
White Clay Connector Trail

- Connector which may fill a gap from Newark to PA border and/or Wilmington
- Specifically, connects an inprogress trail heading south into intersection of Paper Mill Rd and Thompson Station Rd / Possum Park Rd and connects to existing trails in White Clay Creek State Park continuing to Newark.



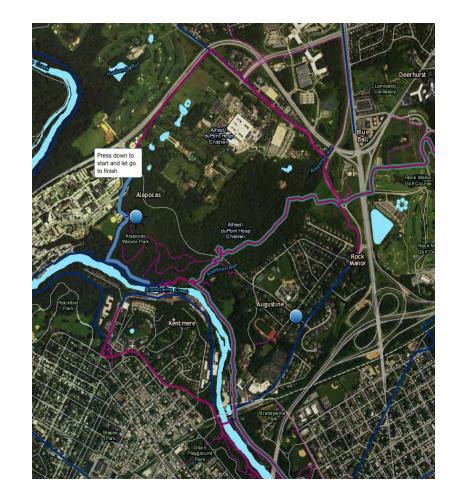
Augustine Cut-Off Trail

- Connects North Wilmington to Brandywine Park and Trolley Square in Wilmington.
- Specifically, follows Augustine Cut-Off to connect Northern DE Greenway (after crossing Concord Pike) to Northern DE Greenway along Brandywine Creek.
- Provides alternative route to avoid technical challenge of steep hills in Alapocas Run Park.
- Provides better trail access for two schools, multiple neighborhoods, and large Incyte facility.
- May be combination of off-road and on-road design.



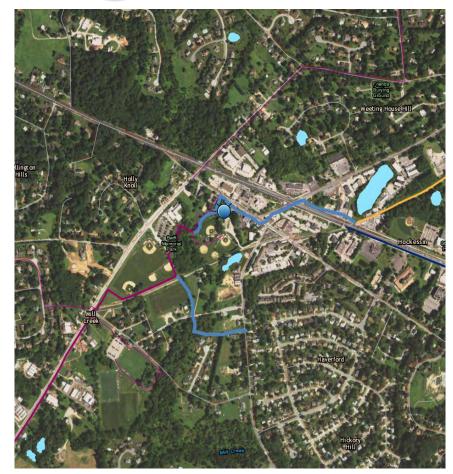
Trail From Nemours to Brandywine River

- Connects North Wilmington to Brandywine Park and Trolley Square in Wilmington.
- Specifically, links Nemours Mansion and Gardens to the Brandywine Creek trails.
- Provides alternative route to avoid technical challenge of steep hills in Alapocas Run Park.
- Provides better trail access for DuPont Experimental Station, Nemours and AI duPont Hospital.
- Off-road trail, likely all on government owned land.



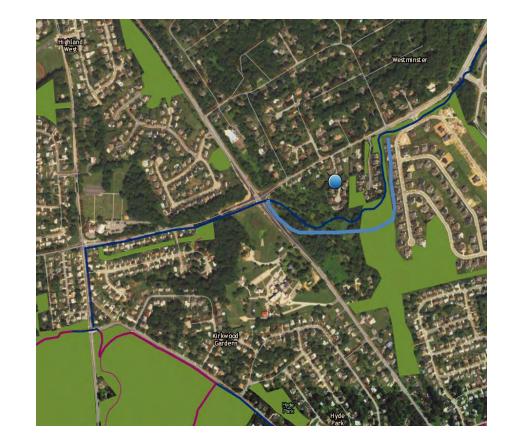
Hockessin Missing Link & Bulah Heritage Trail

- Fills a missing link in the regional trail connecting Kennett Square, PA to Newark, DE
- Specifically, connects the inprogress trail along Yorklyn Rd (from Yorklyn to Lancaster Pike) to the recently completed Valley Road Pathway
- Spur links Colored School 107 with Swift Park, the County Library and Hockessin Village (celebrates Hockessin's history and the story of a courageous family)



Hercules Rd at Newport Gap Pk

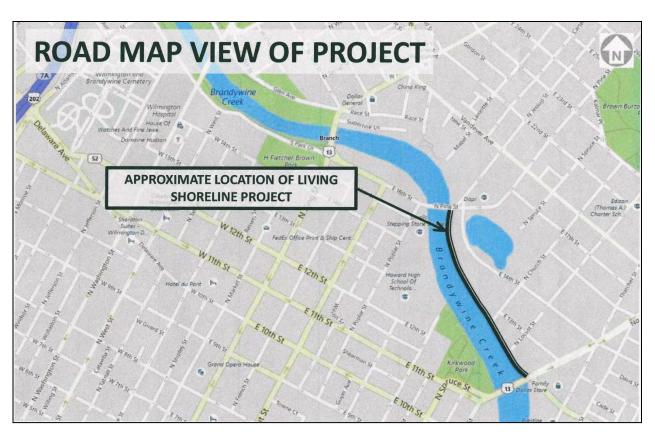
- Removes a major "pinch point" in an on-road route used by some cyclists.
- Is a small piece of one of the major trail ideas connecting Wilmington to Newark.
- Specifically, going thru open space behind a neighborhood to avoid a very narrow stretch at the southern end of Hercules Rd.



Current Activity with Non-standard Funding: Brandywine Riverfront Northeast Trail

Part of a Neighborhood Master Plan that includes:

- Creation of a living shoreline that restores a vegetated shoreline
- Boat Launch
- Network of pathways
- Shoreline trail to become part of the East Coast Greenway in the future
- Funding from EPA and others



Map by Pennoni Associates

FUTURE TRAILS OF NORTHERN DELAWARE Statewide Bicycle Policy Plan

"DelDOT is excited to participate with so many wonderful organizations to further strengthen our trails program and we look forward to working closely with the Coalition in its work."

Nicole Majeski, Deputy Secretary of Transportation

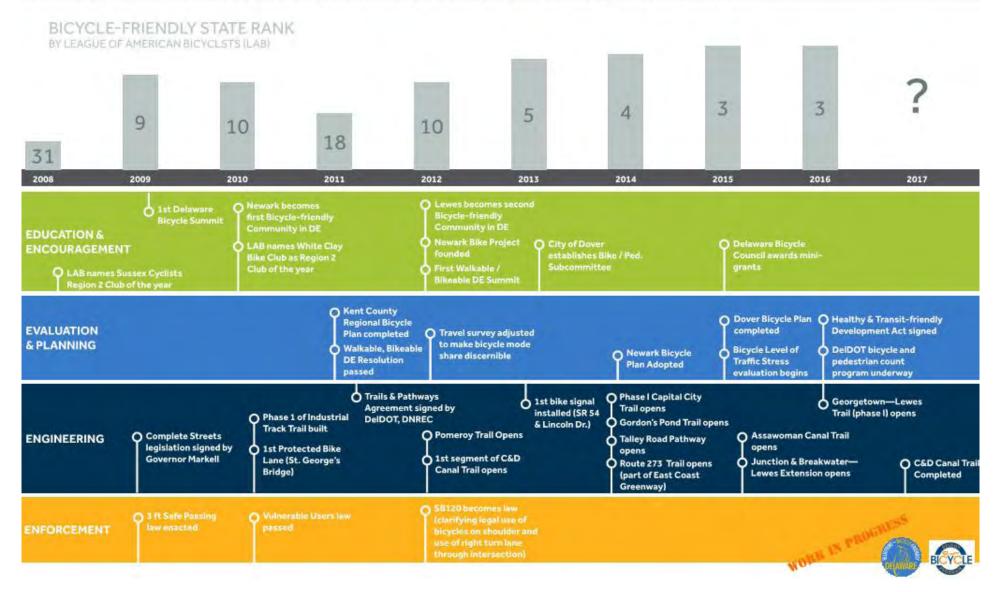




Blueprint for a Bicyclefriendly Delaware

A Statewide Policy Plan





Roles and Responsibilities

Entity	Role
DelDOT	 Plan, design, build and manage Delaware's transportation system Provide safe, efficient and environmentally sensitive transportation network that offers a variety ofchoices for movement of people & goods A central leader/coordinator of statewide, overarching bicycle- promotion strategy (transportation emphasis)
Delaware Bicycle Council	 Governor appointed council with duty to consider, review and work on matters pertaining to bicycling, bicycle safety and bicycle safety education and to make recommendations to the various state agencies
Statewide Plan Working Group	 Provide input from the perspective of the various key stakeholder groups regarding the Plan
Consultants	 Conduct an inclusive, productive planning process Provide expertise on best practices Produce a functional plan/product

Purpose



Develop a policy oriented master plan that will make Delaware more bicycle friendly by:

- Integrating broad goals into a unified strategic plan
- Identifying and promoting the many efforts already underway
- Ensuring that progress toward a more bicycle-friendly state is maintained
- Ensuring that all of the Department's efforts make bicycling safer, more comfortable, and more convenient









Potential Outcomes



Prioritization

 Clear, effective, uniform process

Project development, implementation

- Clarity about how to get a project from idea to reality
- Streamlined, uniform process
- Easy, centralized access to bicycle information, project status

Bicycle-supportive policies

- > Design manual revisions
- ➤ Staff training
- Data collection and evaluation

Collaboration

 Strengthened intra- and inter-organizational relationships

http://www.deldot.gov/information/projects/blueprint_bicycle_ friendly_delaware/

Delaware Department of Transportation

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Featured

Projects

Blueprint for a Bicycle-Friendly Delaware – A Statewide Policy Plan

Public Workshop - February 22, 27, 28 and March 1st. View the Public Workshop Flyer!

Project Limits:

This project covers the entire state. DeIDOT is interested in encouraging bicycle and improving bicycle safety throughout Delaware

Project Need:

The purpose of this project is to develop and adapt a policy-oriented master plan that will help make Delaware more bicycle friendly. Four key purposes of this project include:

- Integrated broad bicycle goals of agencies and major stakeholder groups into a unified strategic plan
- Identifying and promoting the many effects already underway to enhance and encourage bicycling in Delaware
- Ensuring the progress toward a more bicycle-friendly state is maintained, and
- Ensuring that all of the Department's efforts make bicycling safer, more comfortable, more convenient





<u>Community Relations</u> 302.760.2080 800.652.5600 (© (DE only)

Anthony Aglio



Making Bicycling Better for Everyone

Stop by a **public workshop** to share your ideas for bicycling in Delaware:

Wed., February 22, 2017, 4-7pm Sussex County Council Chambers 2 The Circle, Georgetown Mon., February 27, 2017, 4-7pm Middletown High School 120 Silver Lake Rd, Middletown Tues., February 28, 2017, 4:30-7:30pm Dover Public Library 35 East Loockerman St, Dover Wed., March 1, 2017, 4-7pm Wilmington Public Library 10 East 10th St, Wilmington



For more information:

Anthony Aglio / John Fiori | 302-760-2133

www.deldot.gov/information/projects/blueprint_bicycle_friendly_delaware/index.shtml



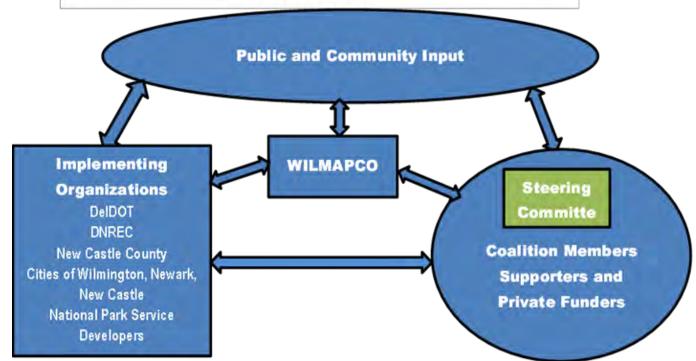
FUTURE TRAILS OF NORTHERN DELAWARE

What's Next?

Organization of the Coalition

Future Trails of Northern Delaware

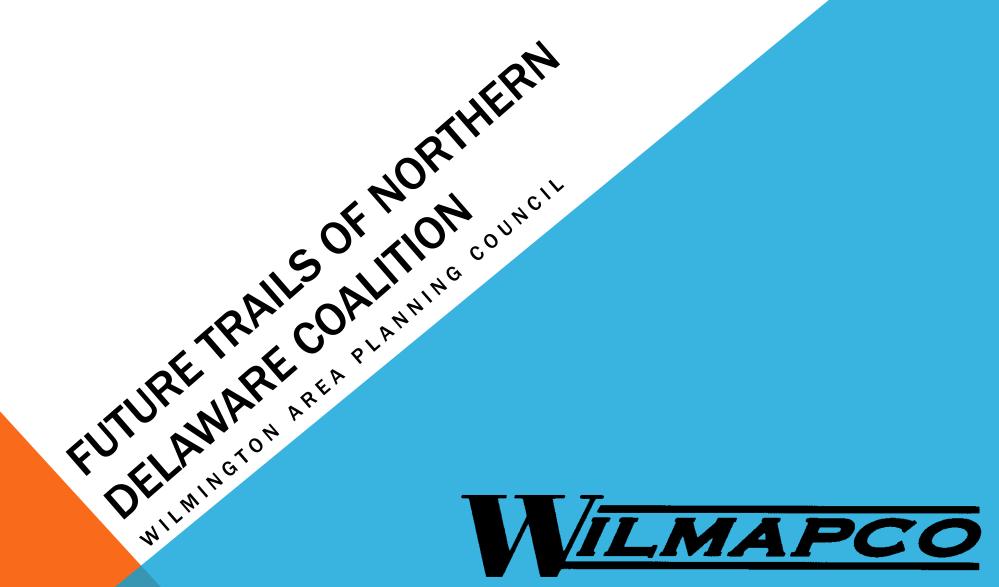
Coalition



The two-headed arrows denote the continuing dialog of trail planning and implementation and the identification of the best roles and responsibilities of the participants.

Within the Mission of Your Organization

- WILMAPCO, DelDOT, DNREC, New Castle County, Wilmington: Can take the lead on trail projects at any phase in the project development process.
- Coalition Members and Supporters can individually act as advocates, project managers or even trail owners, depending upon their capabilities and missions.
- Each Coalition Project is different so the roles of the participants will be different.



Partners with you in transportation planning

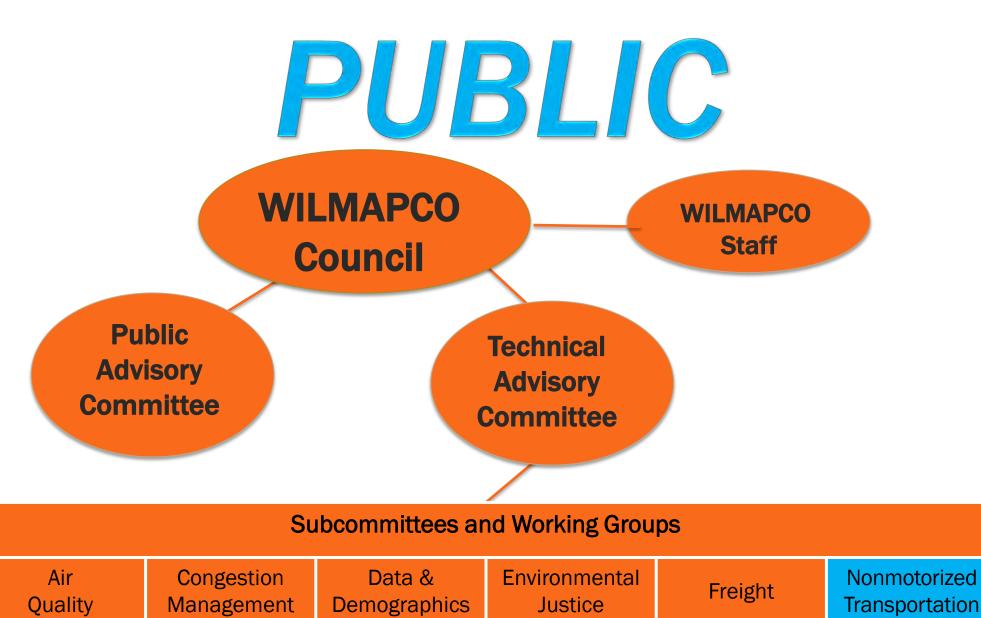
February 23, 2017

WHO IS WILMAPCO?

- Federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for New Castle Co., DE and Cecil Co., MD
- Council:
 - Delaware and Maryland Departments of Transportation
 - Cecil and New Castle Counties
 - City of Wilmington
 - Delaware Transit Corporation
 - Municipal representatives from both counties
 - Representative of the Delaware governor
- Advised by Technical and Public Advisory
 Committees and through public outreach process
- Staff of 9 with skills in public outreach, planning, GIS, data analysis, engineering, etc.







Community Outreach

ongoing

Regional Transportation Plan

20 year plan updated every 4 yrs

> Transportation Improvement Program

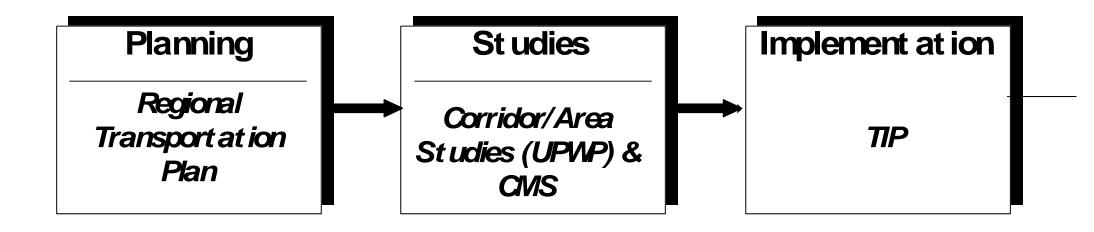
4 year program updated annually Unified Planning Work Program

1 year plan updated annually

> Congestion Management Process

updated annually

TYING OUR DOCUMENTS TOGETHER





REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

- Goals, objectives, actions and projects for the next 20 years
- Updated periodically to reflect:
 - Data and trends
 - Changes in public opinions
 - New policies
 - New multimodal transportation needs
- Must work to improve air quality and be within available budget

Our regional goals:

Support Sustainable Economic Development and Goods Movement

Efficiently Transport People

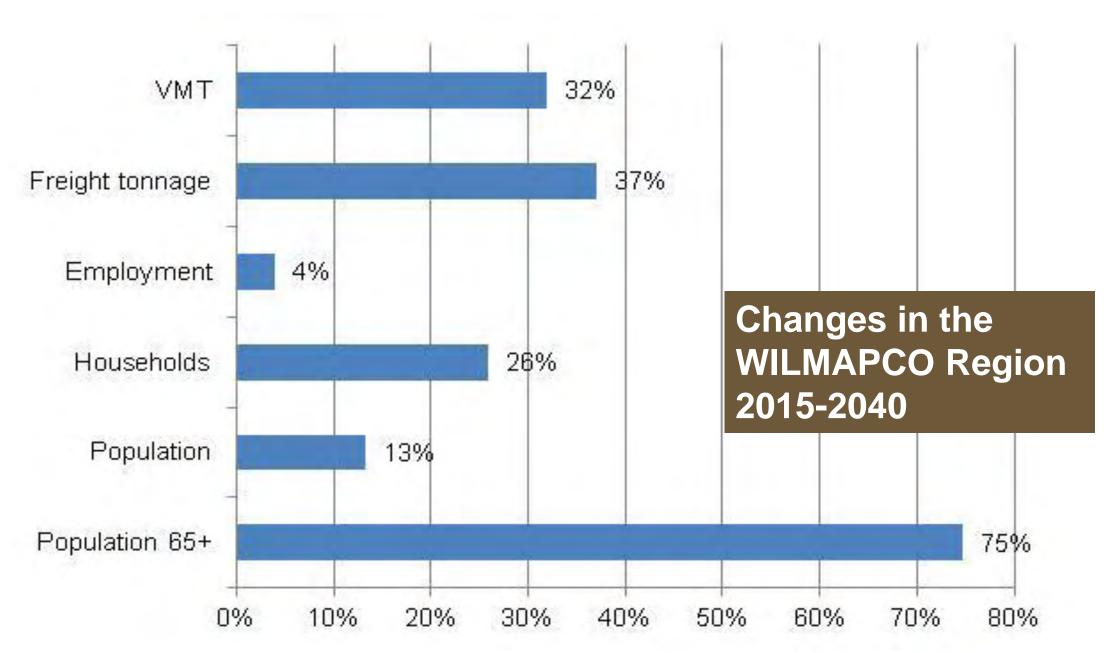
Improve Quality of Life

WHERE ARE WE GOING? CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Population needs	 Create travel choices Meet changing needs as we age Ensure transportation equity
Maintaining our mobility	 Preserve aging infrastructure Address congestion Finance our transportation system
Sustainable economic growth & environment	 Move freight Maintain economic prosperity Address rising gas prices & energy supply Improve air quality Protect valuable farmland and open space



FACTORS SHAPING THE FUTURE:





TRANSPORTATION PROCERAM



Partners with you in transportation planning

Adopted March 10, 2016 Amended September 8, 201

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- 4-year program of priority projects drawn from the Regional Transportation Plan
- Prioritized using quantitative criteria based on the region's goals
- Developed cooperatively with public and interested stakeholders
- Contains more than \$2 billion in road, transit, rail, multimodal and bicycle/pedestrian projects

HAVE A SAY IN HOW YOUR TRANSPORTATION DOLLAR\$ ARE SPENT



Transportation Improvement Program

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements

Funds pedestrian and bicycle facilities, transit access, park and ride facilities, traffic calming, and other nonmotorized transportation projects

Recreational Trails

Federal funding administered by DNREC to develop / maintain recreational trails and related facilities Transportation Alternatives Program

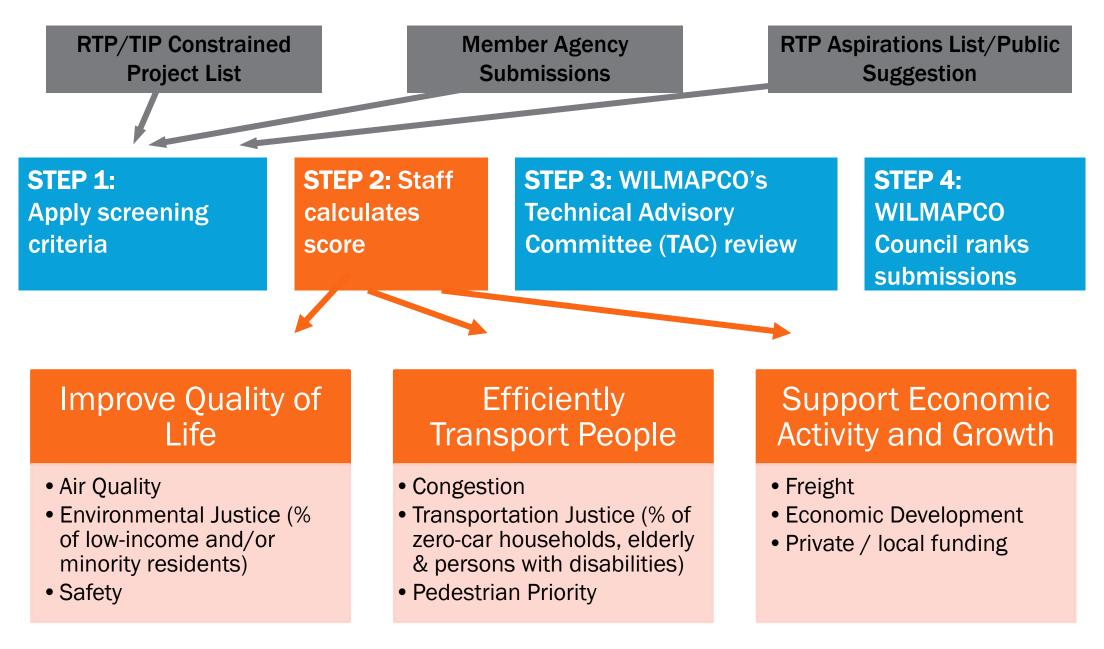
Federal transportation funding for pedestrian and bicycle, safe routes to school, and community enhancements

Community Transportation Fund

State funding designated by individual Legislators for transportationrelated projects

PROJECT TITLE (All \$ x 1,000)	TOTAL FY 2018-21	TOTAL FY 2022-23
Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements	16,000.0	8,000.0
Recreational Trails	4,882.1	2,264.2
Transportation Alternatives Program	22,011.1	10,328.0
Community Transportation Fund	67,000.0	33,500.0

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION PROCESS



TAP PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

Criteria	Measure	Pts			
Land use					
Community Center	within .25/.5 mile	1-2			
Library	within .25/.5 mile	1-2			
Municipality/Hometown Overlay	within	1			
Park	alongside	2			
School	within .5/1 mile	1-2			
EJ Neighborhood	within	1-2			
TJ Neighborhood	within	1-2			
Density	within	1			
Historic element	qualitative	1			
Transportation					
Bus Stop	within .125/.25 mile	1-2			
High load bus stop	within .125/.25 mile	1-2			
Greenway	within .25/.5 mile	1-2			
Bike route	alongside	2			
Safety	within	1-5			
Abandoned railroad corridor	qualitative	1			
Gap Analysis	qualitative	4			



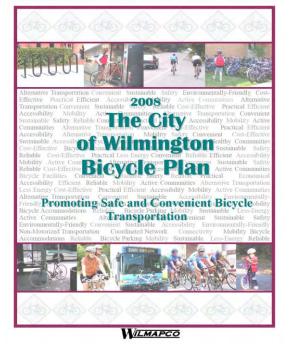
HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Safe Routes to School
- Walkable Community Workshops
- Bicycle safety checkpoints



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLANNING

Wilmington Bicycle Plan



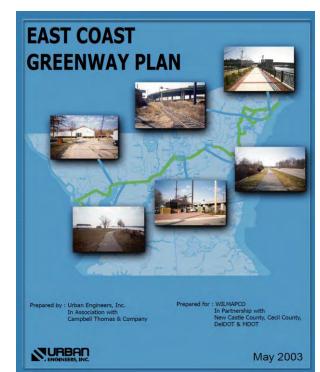
Newark Bicycle Plan



Ardentown Paths Plan



East Coast Greenway



COMMUNITY PLANNING

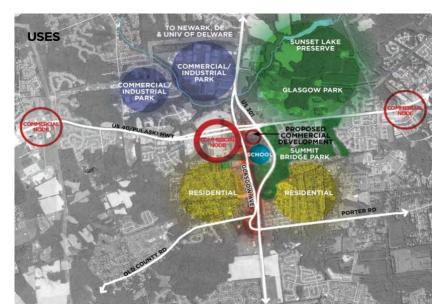
North Claymont Master Plan



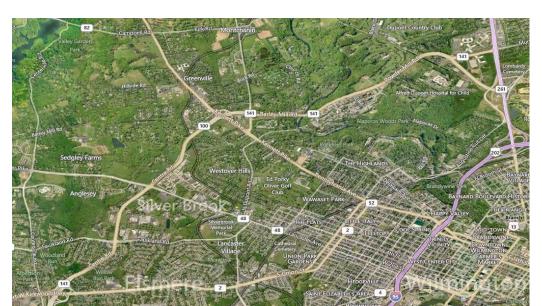
Red Clay Valley Scenic Byway Design Standards Overlay



Glasgow Avenue



SR 141 20 Year Transportation & Land Use Plan



QUESTIONS

Heather Dunigan, Principal Planner WILMAPCO 850 Library Ave., Suite 100, Newark, DE 19711 302/737-6205 ext. 118 hdunigan@wilmapco.org www.wilmapco.org www.facebook.com/WILMAPCO

FUTURE TRAILS OF NORTHERN DELAWARE



Celebration

- Goals:
 - Celebrate the Coalition
 - Describe its Goals
 - Announce the Coalition's Webpages and Resource Maps
 - Recognize Support From All Levels of Government
 - Show How It Aligns with the Emerging Statewide Bicycle Policy Plan
 - Look to the Future of Trails in Northern DE
- Request for Meeting Planning Assistance

Funding for this planning stage is being graciously provided by:

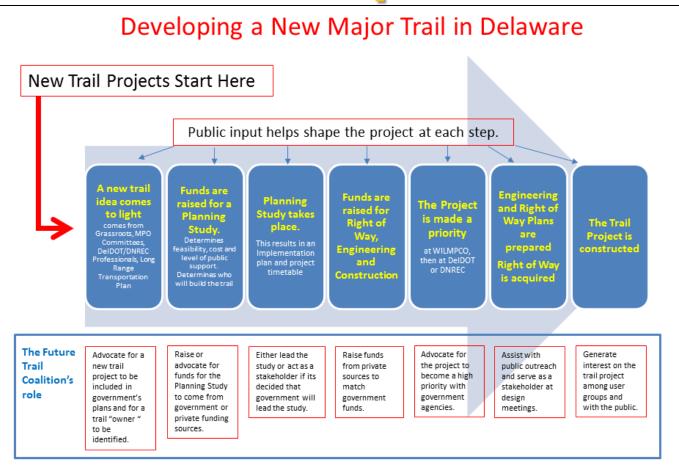
FOUNDATION

Thank You

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Simplified Project Development Process



All trail projects must proceed through the Project **Development Process if any** funding from government agencies is involved.

Integrating Private Funding

Projects including Private money will proceed through the standard process but with private funding injected at key points.

- Private Funds:
 - Move the project higher on the Prioritization List
 - Reduce delays waiting for Government Funding
 - Add to the Pot of Trail Funding so more projects can be built