

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
APRIL 22, 1999
6:00 P.M.

A special session meeting of the Sussex County Planning and Zoning Commission was held Thursday evening, April 22, 1999, at 6:00 P.M. in the County Council Chambers, County Administrative Office Building, Georgetown, Delaware, with the following members present: Mr. Allen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Wheatley, Mr. Schrader - Assistant County Attorney, and Mr. Lank - Director.

The purpose of the meeting was to meet with representatives of the Delaware Department of Transportation.

The meeting was not taped, since the special session was for the purpose of presentation and discussion on the Delaware Long Range Transportation Plan, the Sussex County Transportation Plan, transit activities, the State Route One Grid Study (Concept Plan), and since no official action or decision was required from the Commission.

Present on behalf of the Delaware Department of Transportation were Ann Canby, Transportation Secretary, Eli Cooper, Joseph Cantalupa, and Thomas Bennett.

Ms. Canby stated that she hopes that a partnership can be established between the County and DelDOT.

Ms. Canby discussed the strategies of DelDOT's Long Range Transportation Plan which references: (1) that DelDOT will make transportation investments and support growth management goals; (2) that DelDOT promises to better coordinate transportation and land use; (3) that DelDOT proposes to expand travel choices and to reduce driving alone; (4) that DelDOT proposes to take advantage of new technologies; (5) that a top priority of DelDOT is to preserve existing transportation facilities; (6) that DelDOT hopes to ensure safe efficient services and facilities; (7) that DelDOT proposes to get "multimodal", and added that the Transportation Plan must be updated every 3 years per Federal regulations.

Copies of "Transportation and Delaware's Future", the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan, dated January 1997; "Sussex County Long-Range Transportation Plan" summary, dated October 1996; and a brochure on the highlights of DelDOT's Long Range Transportation Plan were presented to the Commission.

Eli Cooper presented and discussed the State Route One Grid Study Concept Plan and submitted copies of a brochure "SR 1 Connections, Volume 1, Issue 1 - Spring 1999. The brochure includes a map of the Grid Study area.

Mr. Cooper noted that the Grid Study has plans for coordinating the Sussex County Comprehensive Plan with DelDOT plans.

Joseph Cantalupa discussed a draft for "Mobility Friendly Design Standards" for local subdivision streets, the need for timing the draft with the Long-Range Transportation Plan, and that a Sussex County Transportation Plan Advisory Committee should be reactivated.

Mr. Cooper advised the Commission that level of service references are tools for review of an ultimate design approach and that factors reviewed in development areas include zoning, sewer, roads, and market demands.

Mr. Allen thanked Ms. Canby and her staff for their time and presentation.

The session closed at 7:15 P.M.