Meeting 5 Minutes
Marple Township Building
October 31, 2017
9:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.

Meeting Objectives: Refine our action plan, and discuss membership expansion.

Agenda

1. Introductions

2. Presentation from Dr. Bradley Flamm (BF), West Chester University Director of Sustainability

    a. BF shared current conditions affecting transportation at West Chester University (WCU). He highlighted the number of students, faculty, and employees at the university and showed that the most recent commute survey revealed that a high percentage of commuters drove to the university.

    b. BF outlined some of the measures WCU has already taken to attempt to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicle trips to the university, including bike share, shuttles, a carpool app, and discounted transit fares for students. BF discussed parking and circulation challenges as well as problems with the current parking pricing policy at WCU.

    c. BF shared how the university is addressing transportation challenges moving forward, including through the WCU Strategic Transportation and Parking Task Force, the WCU Climate Action Plan/Strategic Plan, various transportation technologies, investments in bike/ped infrastructure, and coordination with SEPTA, municipalities, counties, TMA, and other regional partners.

3. Coalition Action Plan Discussion

    a. Dan Whaland (DW) of the Delaware County Planning Department introduced the Action Plan, which was provided as a handout to coalition members and solicited feedback from members.

    b. Mark Cassel (MC) and Dan Nemiroff (DN) of SEPTA stated that Direct Bus is a very specific kind of bus service that requires a particular set of conditions to operate. They said that West Chester Pike is significantly different than Roosevelt Boulevard, and Direct Bus may not be appropriate for the corridor in the near future. MC and DN said that they support most of the actions and objectives in the Action Plan, but they said that it may not be appropriate to use the term "Direct Bus" in Objective 1.

    c. Bill Deguffroy (BD) of the Chester County Planning Commission suggested that the phrasing of Objective 1 could be changed to address their concerns.

    d. Paul Seligson (PS) said that he was aware of some people who work in an industrial park near West Chester Pike who ride the bus and might be interested in improved bus service. He suggested that they may like to be involved in coalition activities. MC said that SEPTA has to evaluate any request to alter routes to serve specific destinations carefully because route diversions impact several aspects of transit operations.

4. Expanding Coalition Membership and Establishing a Regular Meeting Time

    a. Members discussed potential additional members. BD suggested that members should submit potential new members to coalition coordinators before the next meeting. When a full list of potential new members is complete, existing members can approve the list. BD said there will need to be a limit on the number of members in the coalition to keep it manageable.

    b. Amy Bernknopf (AB) of Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission said that businesses and other organizations that are interested in the work of the coalition can get in touch with coalition coordinators to schedule meetings or presentations.

    c. Dave Burman (DB) of Willistown Township suggested that silence from municipal representatives on the Draft Action Plan should not imply acceptance of the Draft Action Plan. Other municipal representatives agreed. County planners said that they would speak with all the municipalities in the coalition to get their feedback on the Draft Action Plan before making a motion to adopt it.

5. Next Meeting

    a. BD said that the next meeting will feature a presentation from SEPTA on Roosevelt Boulevard Direct Bus Implementation.

    b. BD reminded members that the coalition web map and survey are still available online for anyone who would like to contribute to them.

6. Adjourn