



FYI NEWSLETTER

Promoting Responsible Economic Development Since 1967

July 1, 2021

Dover Wrap-Up

The first session of the 151st General Assembly came to a quiet and unusually early close via Zoom at 12:09 AM on Thursday - all the "money" bills having passed both chambers earlier in the week.

On Wednesday, Governor Carney signed a \$4.77 billion FY 2022 Operating Budget that sets aside \$286 million in new savings to prepare for future economic and revenue downturns. The Operating Budget ([HB 250](#)) includes funding for expansion of Delaware's Opportunity Funding program to provide additional classroom-based support for low-income students and English learners statewide. By FY 2025, funding for the program will more than double to \$60 million annually.

Also on Wednesday, the Governor signed the \$221 million Supplemental Appropriations Bill for one-time projects, the \$63.2 million Grant-in-Aid Bill, and the \$1.35 billion Bond Bill — the largest capital infrastructure plan in Delaware's history, far surpassing the previous high of \$863 million in 2019. The Bond Bill ([SB 200](#)) includes nearly \$500 million for transportation infrastructure, more than \$300 million for K-12 and higher ed schools statewide, \$198 million in economic development projects, \$55 million for clean water upgrades, and significant investments in library upgrades, farmland preservation, courthouse expansions, state park improvements and high-speed broadband expansion in rural communities.

Added to these funds is another roughly billion dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act, which can also be used to invest in infrastructure projects. This once-in-a-generation money will significantly shape the future of Delaware! I'm participating on the State Chamber's Infrastructure & Transportation Committee to develop recommendations for how the State should invest these dollars. Please share your ideas for infrastructure improvement projects and I will convey to the group.

The Clean Water for Delaware Act ([HB 200](#)) passed the House and Senate and is awaiting signature by the Governor. The Act establishes a framework for assessing needs, planning, and implementing projects that improve the quality of water supply and waterways. A Delaware Clean Water Trust account will be created as a funding source with oversight from a committee that will draw upon recommendations from the Water Infrastructure Advisory Council, (WIAC) and others with the goal of assisting municipal and county governments and other entities in implementing affordable water quality projects.

[Senate Bill 127](#) passed and is ready for action by the Governor. This [Ready in 6](#) initiative establishes a \$10 million Site Readiness Fund to provide grants, loans or other economic assistance to businesses or public entities that invest in constructing, renovating or improving infrastructure for sites that will attract new businesses or expand existing businesses within the State that will create a significant number of permanent, quality, full-time jobs. The Committee of 100 is working with other members of the Ready in 6 Coalition on a set of bills to be introduced early next year to implement additional recommendations to streamline the permitting process in Delaware.

The Transportation Infrastructure Investment Fund (TIIF) was funded again at \$10 million that will continue to allow DelDOT to provide timely assistance for major economic development projects.

A new grant program to spur private sector-led projects to increase critical lab infrastructure was funded at \$10 million. The Delaware Prosperity Partnership will administer the funds and is encouraging developers/landlords to partner with tenants to utilize this program to create more ready-built lab space to facilitate job growth.

The Delaware Council on Development Finance (CDF) approved a \$19 million grant to WuXi STA, a Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization (CDMO), to build a new 190-acre pharmaceutical manufacturing campus in Middletown. Initial construction is expected to start in May 2022 and the site will feature space for testing laboratories, manufacture of active pharmaceutical ingredients, and manufacture and packaging of solid dosage pharmaceutical products and sterile products. WuXi STA stated the campus will create about 500 new full-time jobs by 2026 and future construction could increase the workforce to more than 1,000 employees. The company has committed to using Delaware-based contractors and has already begun the interview process. The \$19 million grant is the largest ever approved from Delaware's Strategic Fund and will be composed of \$15.3 million for capital expenditures, \$3.25 million for job creation, and a \$500,000 workforce training grant.

The 151st General Assembly will reconvene in January for its second session. All bills introduced, but not acted upon this year remain alive and can be considered next year.

Jennifer Kmiec
Executive Director



The NCC@2050 planning process is your opportunity to help prioritize areas of growth, community services, infrastructure, economic development, housing, natural resources, cultural resources, and many other essential elements.

Sharing the business community's voice during the NCC@2050 process is an important way to influence the future of New Castle County. The NCC@2050 Summer Forum on **Thursday, July 15, 2021 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM** will focus on getting your ideas for the future - discussing with and hearing from you! You will also have the opportunity to learn more about the process and progress of NCC@2050.

[REGISTER](#)

2021 Annual June BBQ





More than 120 members, guests and elected officials gathered on Monday, June 28 on the lawn at the University & Whist Club. Everyone enjoyed the good food, cold beverages and in-person re-connections!

Thanks to our BBQ Table Sponsors!



2021 - 2022 Prepayment Plan

As we return to in-person meetings, we are pleased to offer Members the opportunity to save time and money by prepaying monthly fees for The Committee of 100's upcoming season.

The **Prepayment Plan** includes Dinner Meetings in September and November 2021, and January, March and May 2022, the Annual BBQ in June 2022, plus Member Receptions in October 2021, and February and April 2022.

NOTE: The Committee of 100's Annual Auction on December 1, 2021 is not included.

If you paid monthly, the five Dinner Meetings (\$46 each), three Member Receptions (\$25 each) and June BBQ (\$50) would total \$355. But if you take advantage of the Prepayment Plan, your cost for these nine events is only **\$330, a savings of \$25, or attendance at one Member Reception free!** Actually, you save even more - postage, bookkeeping and check handling in your office and ours - everyone benefits!

Many Members prepay for several registrations for the monthly meetings, inviting different guests each month. If you are unable to attend a Dinner Meeting or Member Reception, simply substitute a colleague in your absence. **Sorry, no refunds or credits.**

To take advantage of this convenient **Prepayment Plan, register online by Friday, September 17, 2021.**



Questions? Contact Lanor at lryder@committeeof100.com or 267-207-4151.

The Committee of 100

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