



# THE COMMITTEE OF 100

## FYI - May 17, 2019

### Our Support for County Ordinance 19-005 Continues

One thing we know for sure, if we don't change, traffic problems in New Castle County will only worsen over time. Without the ability to attract new well-paying jobs and associated economic activity, which our current land use code hinders, we will start to see government budgets tighten and our road network begin to deteriorate. The eventual outcome will be whatever growth there is continuing to sprawl into undeveloped areas south of the Canal in search of free road capacity. The remainder of the county will begin to experience disinvestment as employers seek more welcoming locations. Doing nothing is not an option.

The rising generation of young workers have made it clear that they do not want to live in car-dependent suburbia. They want to live in vibrant, compact, mixed-use communities that have a sense of place and which offer employment and entertainment nearby reachable by walking or biking. Yet, parts of the current land use code in New Castle County make it extremely difficult — and in many areas impossible — to get such smart growth developments approved.

Instead of designing for a complete transportation network that includes bicycles, pedestrians, and transit, we are still using an outmoded car-only metric to make land use decisions and we are still making those decisions one project at a time. This piecemeal intersection-by-intersection approach to growth management serves no one well. It increases the expense and uncertainty for developers and prospective employers while denying the public an opportunity to understand and weigh in on the cumulative impacts of development on their communities.

Job growth and economic competitiveness in today's world is all about attracting talent. In this competition, New Castle County is fighting with both hands tied behind its back because under the current code we discourage developments that can provide the lifestyle the new generation is seeking.

One of the major complaints voiced over the years has been the lack of coordination between land use decision-making (county) and transportation planning (state). New Castle County is currently considering an ordinance (19-005) which sets out the parameters for how County Council could establish Transportation Improvement Districts (TIDs). TIDs are explicitly designed to force coordination between land use and transportation. The detailed, upfront planning done before a TID is created will include both an area-wide land use plan and provision for the transportation network needed to serve it effectively. Just as importantly, the TID agreement will include a detailed funding plan outlining how the network improvements will be paid for and by whom. For the first time, developers will be required to contribute their fair share to the construction of the transportation network as their projects come online.

The Land Use Department has worked closely with DelDOT in developing this ordinance. As a result, the transportation improvements needed for the TIDs will plug directly into DelDOT's capital program and further align land use and transportation investment priorities. TIDs represent an unprecedented partnership between New Castle County and DelDOT which will increase both the level and timeliness of transportation investments in the county. This is a welcome and long overdue change.

We hope County Council will approve Ordinance 19-005. It will not, by itself, solve any problems, but it will mark the beginning of an important conversation we must have if we want New Castle County to remain economically attractive to employers and be a place people want to live, work, and play.

### Businesses can make Delaware the First State for internships

The Pete DuPont Freedom Foundation is helping to build and establish Intern Delaware, a unique value-adding program to bring interns from all Delaware companies together for leadership, skill-building and networking activities.

Please take a few minutes to complete this short survey. The collected data will help the initiative better understand the needs and interests of companies in hiring and connecting interns in Delaware. Your response would be a huge help!

**COMPLETE THE SURVEY [HERE](#)**

Read more about Intern Delaware in the *Delaware Business Times* [here](#).



Wilmington Mayor Mike Purzycki and City Planning & Development Director Herb Inden have announced the completion of Wilmington 2028: A Comprehensive Plan for Our City and Communities—a roadmap that guides Wilmington's future growth and development for the next decade. The process of developing a new unified Comprehensive Plan began in August of 2017 with outreach to a variety of citizen, business and government groups. In the intervening 20 months, hundreds of additional citizens have offered their ideas regarding City priorities for overall development as well as how they would like to see their particular area of the City grow and prosper.

The goals of the 2028 Comprehensive Plan are:

1. **Strong and safe neighborhoods** focusing on the physical environment including housing, community character, safety, and open space and recreation;
2. **Healthy and thriving communities** focusing on the city's people, community building, health and services;
3. **Robust local economy** focusing on cultivating a resilient and diverse economy;
4. **Connected city and region** focusing on balanced transportation and mobility across all modes of travel;
5. **Sustainable and resilient city** focusing on city infrastructure and services, resource conservation and climate readiness.

The completed 2028 Comprehensive Plan must now be approved by the City Planning Commission, by Wilmington City Council and, finally, by the State of Delaware. View or download the Wilmington 2028 Comprehensive Plan [here](#).

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## Last Chance to Register for the May Member Reception!

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019**

**5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**



Join us for our May Member Reception at Wilmington University's new state-of-the-art facilities set in a pedestrian-friendly, naturalistic setting. The Brandywine Campus houses classrooms, science and computer labs, offices, library, campus store, Student Success Center, café, offices and reception/event areas.

**THANK YOU TO OUR HOST SPONSOR!**



The Committee of 100



# ANNUAL JUNE BBQ

Monday, June 17, 2019  
5:30 - 8:30 PM  
University & Whist Club

Kick-off summer with the best networking event of the season. Connect with colleagues and elected officials at this casual, fun and filling event.

All-you-can-eat for \$50

[Click Here to Register!](#)

## Become a June BBQ Table Sponsor

Put your company's name in front of Delaware's public and private sector leaders by becoming a June BBQ Table Sponsor. An investment of only \$300 earns you a table sign, poster listing, and recognition in event e-mails and on The Committee of 100 website.

Each table sponsorship also includes one event registration (\$50 value). Click the link below for convenient online registration and payment for both table sponsorships and tickets.

This year's June BBQ will be extra special as we celebrate Paul Morrill's retirement from The Committee of 100!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



## Special Thanks To Our 2019 Annual BBQ Table Sponsors

