



Delaware Population Consortium Meeting

Where: Room 307 Haslet Armory, 122 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Dover DE 19901

When: December 11th 2025; 1PM

Virtual Option:

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 285 979 108 887 1

Passcode: 5W8nF9Qu

Agenda:

1. Call-To-Order and Introductions
2. Approval of minutes from October 2025 meeting
3. Action item: Approval of 2024 demographic projections
4. Follow up: Review of local agency/third party demographic forecast practices and products
5. Follow up: DPC bylaws review
6. Old Business
7. Open Comment
8. Adjournment

Next Meeting: TBA



Delaware Population Consortium Meeting
Hybrid Format Meeting In-Person and via Teams
October 23, 2025

The meeting was held on Thursday October 23, 2025; in Haslet Armory Room 133 and virtually using Teams.

CALL-TO-ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dan Blevins at 10:01 AM. The following people were present:

Officers:

Daniel Blevins, Chair, WILMAPCO
Michael Petit de Mange, Vice-Chair, Dover/Kent MPO
Owen Robatino, Secretary, New Castle County Government

Voting Members:

Samantha Bulkilvish, OSPC
Colton Phillips, DelDOT
Adrian Peoples, DOE
Arthur Jenkins, DOL
Wendy L. Hudson, DSHS
Jamie Fenske, Kent County Government
Matthew Rogers, New Castle County Government
Dawn Melson-Williams, City of Dover
Renee K. Bensley, City of Newark
Philip Birk, City of Wilmington
Marilyn Smith, Dover/Kent MPO

Others in Attendance:

Rose Zappacosta, OSPC
Anson Gock, DelDOT
Maridelle Dizon, DHSS
Cooper Bowers, New Castle County Government
Katya A. Raskin, City of Newark
Abdulasheed Dawodu, City of Wilmington

MEETING MINUTES

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM 8/28/2025: Dawn Melson-Williams requested corrections to the attendance list and the date of the previous meeting. 1st Dawn, 2nd Matt Rogers; approved as amended.

NEW BUSINESS

2025 DPC Projections Status Update

Dan announced that in the foreseeable future, the Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research (CADSR) at the University of Delaware will not be making demographic projections. Since around 1975, one person at CADSR has made the projections. In the last few months, Dan has worked with CADSR leadership in the UD administration to plan for continued demographic projections, but that did not happen.

Discussion on Path Forward for DPC Projection Series Development/DPC Bylaws Review and Discussion

Dan explained that DPC's main job is to create a single set of population projections with a long-term horizon for use in capital planning. The DPC Bylaws currently say CADSR provides the projections, but that is changing so DPC must decide what to do. Dan asked for initial reactions from the group. Mike Petit de Mange said the State Code and DPC Bylaws provide that when a new projection series is not available in a given year, the most current adopted projection series can prevail and agencies can use either the latest projection series or the latest US Census data, whichever is more beneficial.

Dan displayed an exhibit listing immediate, near-term, and long-term discussion items. He pointed out that DPC can adopt the 2024 projection series as the latest numbers, and then decide how to produce new numbers in the future. Colton warned against dragging out the process of deciding how to make new projections, since that could result in usage of old numbers for years. Dan pointed out that DPC has no significant dedicated budget, and indicated there is sentiment at UD for reestablishing the capacity for CADSR to make demographic projections. He also drafted a modest scope of how that might be done. Mike suggested that DPC bolster their working relationship with CADSR, determine what additional financial resources are needed, and meet with State agencies who currently finance demographic work in order to reestablish CADSR projection capability. If that turns out to not be workable, then other avenues would have to be explored.

Dawn said that, since there will not be new projections for 2025, DPC must formally indicate the 2024 projections will be used for another year. Second, DPC must look at the options for working with CADSR to make new projections next year. Dan expressed hope that the lack of new projections will generate agency interest in looking at how CADSR can

reestablish their demographic projection capability. Owen Robatino asked whether CADSR would want more money to reestablish that capability, and Dan indicated that is likely.

Colton asked whether references to CADSR should be stricken from the Bylaws, since they might make new projections. Dan said he was unsure whether the Bylaws should state who is the party responsible for doing the projections. He also said DPC needs to look at all sections of the Bylaws, because various changes may be needed. Owen asked whether past efforts to find a new maker of demographic projections would be useful to examine now. Dan said they might be somewhat useful, but he recalled sticker shock at potential high costs and limited capability of potential vendors such as only migration or municipal projections. Mike said selecting a consultant might require a Request for Quotation, staff resources would be required, and a new contract would likely be needed every few years with State oversight. In any case, DPC would need formal agreements to guide and specify the work done by the selected consultant for DPC. Dan agreed that selecting a consultant increases complexity. Matt suggested looking at what DVRPC does, and making sure DPC has the final say on who makes the demographic projections. Dan indicated that CADSR has wanted to resume making the projections, but there should be transparency about how they do so. Matt agreed with the need for such transparency, to help explain projections as needed.

Dan displayed another exhibit showing a near-term path: establishing a temporary workgroup to assemble available sources of projection data, interviewing agencies on their current practices, and preparing a summary of cost, horizon year, and data produced by each source. Mike suggested suspending elections for new officers in the meantime, to help keep DPC stable. Dan suggested a second temporary workgroup, to look at the Bylaws and suggest potential changes. Then a DPC Annual Meeting would be held in December to share workgroup information, potentially readopt the current projection series (with 15 days required public notice), and hold elections for vice-chair and secretary. Matt suggested that Owen be part of a workgroup, and Owen pointed out that good demographics can help require traffic studies by developers. Dan requested research assistance for the workgroup efforts.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Dan suggested the next DPC meeting be held on December 11 at 1:00 PM, to consider readopting the current projection series, establishing two workgroups as described above, and estimating additional resources needed to develop future projections. The current projection series will be posted in advance of the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS/OPEN COMMENT

Samantha stated that OMB is aware is the situation with CADSR, and discussions within OMB have taken place to consider other ways to get CADSR's attention. Renee Bensley

asked what other agencies might do, and Dan suggested they mention the demographic problem during meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 AM.

ATTEST: _____

Daniel Blevins
Chair
Delaware Population Consortium