STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING COORDINATION

August 19, 2026

Morris & Ritchie Associates, Inc.
Attn: Chris Flathers
8 W Market St,
Georgetown, DE 19947

RE: PLUS review – 2026-07-01; Spartan Village

Dear Mr. Flathers:

Thank you for meeting with State agency planners on July 29th, 2026 to discuss Spartan Village. According to the information received, you are seeking review of a proposed subdivision for 265 detached single-family dwellings.

Please note that changes to the plan, other than those suggested in this letter, could result in additional comments from the State. Additionally, these comments reflect only issues that are the responsibility of the agencies represented at the meeting. **The developers will also need to comply with any Federal, State, and local regulations regarding this property. We also note that Kent County is the governing authority over this land, the developers will need to comply with any and all regulations/restrictions set forth by the County.**

Strategies for State Policies and Spending

The proposed subdivision is located in unincorporated Kent County within the Growth Zone and is within Investment Levels 2 and 3 according to the 2025 Strategies for State Policies and Spending. Small portions of the site are located in the Out-of-Play area due to the 100-year floodplain present on the property. Fortunately, the majority of proposed lots on the subdivision plan are within the Level 2 area with minor portions in Level 3 and they avoid the Out-of-Play area.

Investment Level 2 reflects areas where growth is anticipated by local, county, and State plans in the near-term future. Investment Level 3 reflects areas where growth is anticipated by local, county, and state plans in the longer-term future, or areas that may have environmental or other constraints to development. Because the majority of the proposed lots are in Level 2 and consistent with the 2025 Strategies for State Policies and Spending, the Office of State Planning Coordination supports this subdivision plan.

Code Requirements/Agency Permitting Requirements

Department of Transportation – Contact Stephen Bayer 302-760-4834

- Killens Pond Road is a state-owned and state-maintained road. As such, any access point onto Killens Pond Road must be designed in accordance with DelDOT's Development Coordination Manual, which is available at http://www.deldot.gov/Business/subdivisions/index.shtml?dc=changes.

- Pursuant to Section 1.3 of the Manual, a Pre-Submittal Meeting is required before plans are submitted for review. The form needed to request the meeting and guidance on what will be covered there and how to prepare for it is located at https://www.deldot.gov/Business/subdivisions/pdfs/Meeting_Request_Form.pdf?08022017.

- Section 1.7 of the Manual addresses fees that are assessed for the review of development proposals. DelDOT anticipates collecting the Initial Stage Fee when the record plan is submitted for review and the Construction Stage Fee when construction plans are submitted for review.

- In terms of traffic analysis and based on the requirements of the Development Coordination Manual this proposed project will require a Traffic Impact Study (TIS).

- As necessary, in accordance with Section 3.2.5 and Figure 3.2.5-a of the Development Coordination Manual, DelDOT will require dedication of right-of-way along the site's frontage. By this regulation, this dedication is to provide a minimum of 30 feet of right-of-way from the physical centerline of all State maintained roads. The following right-of-way dedication note is required, "**An 30-foot wide strip of right-of-way from the centerline is hereby dedicated in fee simple to the State of Delaware, acting by and through the Delaware Department of Transportation."**

- In accordance with Section 3.2.5.1.2 of the Manual, DelDOT will require the establishment of a 15-foot wide permanent easement across the property frontage with State maintained roadways. The location of the easement shall be outside the limits of the ultimate right-of-way. The easement area can be used as part of the open space calculation for the site. The following note is required, "**A 15-foot wide permanent easement is hereby dedicated in fee simple to the State of Delaware, acting by and through the Delaware Department of Transportation."**

- In accordance with Section 3.8 of the Manual, storm water facilities, excluding filter strips and bioswales, shall be located a minimum of 20 feet from the ultimate State right-of-way along all State maintained roads.

- Section 3.5.4.2 of the Development Coordination Manual addresses requirements for Shared Use Paths (SUP) and sidewalks. For projects in Level 2 Investment Areas, installation of paths or sidewalks along the frontage on State-maintained roads is required. DelDOT anticipates requiring an SUP along the site frontage on Killens Pond Road.

- Referring to Section 3.4.2.1 of the Development Coordination Manual, the following items, among other things, are required on the Record Plan:

    - A Traffic Generation Diagram. See Figure 3.4.2-a for the required format and content.

    - Notes identifying the type of off-site improvements, agreements (signal, letter) contributions and when the off-site improvements are warranted.

- In accordance with Section 5.4 of the Manual, sight distance triangles are required and shall be established in accordance with American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards. A spreadsheet has been developed to assist with this task. It can be found at http://www.deldot.gov/Business/subdivisions/index.shtml.

- In accordance with Section 5.14 of the Manual, all existing utilities must be shown on the plan and a utility relocation plan will be required for any utilities that need to be relocated.

- In accordance with Section 5.2.9 of the Development Coordination Manual, the Auxiliary Lane Worksheet should be used to determine whether auxiliary lanes are warranted at the site entrances and how long those lanes should be. The worksheet can be found at http://www.deldot.gov/Business/subdivisions/index.shtml.

Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control – Contact Beth Krumrine 302-735-3480

Staff from the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) reviewed the project submitted for PLUS review. The absence of comments regarding specific resources does not indicate that there are not additional constraints or environmental issues on site, nor does it indicate DNREC support of a project.

Special Flood Hazard Area

According to the newest Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), a portion of this parcel is situated within a Special Flood Hazard Area, specifically within the mapped 100-year floodplain (1% annual chance of flooding). The Special Flood Hazard Area identified on the site lies within zone AE. In lands contained within the 100-year floodplain, the National Flood Insurance Program's floodplain management regulations must be enforced through the local floodplain ordinance, which can have higher standards. Although houses are proposed outside of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), some houses may still be required by lenders to purchase flood insurance, based on the proximity to the SFHA.

A portion of this site is also situated within the moderate risk floodplain, or 500-year floodplain (0.2% annual chance of flooding), identified as a shaded zone-X.

- The applicant must comply with the local floodplain ordinance and regulations applicable to development or construction within the 100-year floodplain. A floodplain permit issued by the Community Floodplain Official may be required. In determining the boundary of the floodplain, use the most recent FIRM maps available, which can be found at https://floodplanning.dnrec.delaware.gov/

Contact: DNREC Shoreline and Waterway Management Section at (302) 608-5500.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/watershed-stewardship/waterways/floodplains/

Stormwater Management

The project proposes greater than 5,000 square feet of land disturbing activities and will be subject to Delaware's *Sediment and Stormwater Regulations*.

- A Sediment and Stormwater Plan must be developed, then approved by the appropriate plan review agency, prior to any land disturbing activity taking place on the site. For this project, the plan review agency is the Kent Conservation District.

- Additionally, to address federal requirements, construction activities that exceed 1.0 acre of land disturbance require Construction General Permit coverage through submittal of an electronic Notice of Intent for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity. This form must be submitted electronically https://enoi.dnrec.delaware.gov/, (select Construction Stormwater General Permit) to the DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship, along with the $195 fee.

- Schedule a project application meeting with the appropriate plan review agency prior to moving forward with the stormwater and site design. As part of this process, you must submit a Stormwater Assessment Study.

Plan review agency contact: Kent Conservation District at (302) 608-5370.
Website: http://kentcd.org/

General Stormwater contact: DNREC Sediment and Stormwater Program at (302) 739-9921.
E-mail: DNREC.Stormwater@delaware.gov.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/watershed-stewardship/sediment-stormwater/

Excellent Groundwater Recharge Area
An Excellent Groundwater Recharge Area is located on the entire site. These areas have soils that are conducive to water infiltrating downward from surface water into groundwater. Preservation of these areas is important for replenishing groundwater supplies and ensuring drinking water for future generations.

- The applicant must comply with all county and municipal requirements for construction and uses in Excellent Groundwater Recharge Areas.

Contact: DNREC Source Water Assessment and Protection Program at (302) 739-9948.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/water/commercial-government/water-allocation/assessment-and-protection/

Wastewater Disposal Systems – Large Systems
For wastewater conveyance offsite by way of a new sewer connection, flow rates exceeding 2,500 gallons of liquid waste per day will require a Wastewater Pollution Collection and Conveyance (WPCC) permit from the Commercial and Government Services section.

Contact: DNREC Commercial and Government Services Section at (302) 739-9948.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/water/commercial-government/

Wetlands and Waterways
Maps from the Statewide Wetlands Mapping Project indicate the potential presence of non-tidal wetlands in the northern portion of the site, as well as a potential blue line stream known as Spring Branch located along the northern property boundary. The application indicates that wetlands have not been delineated. The application states that the project does not propose direct impacts to the wetlands/waterways.

- If plans change and wetlands or stream are disturbed, please contact the Wetlands and Waterways Section for more information on permitting requirements.

State Contact: DNREC Wetlands and Waterways Section at (302) 739-9943.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/water/wetlands/

Electric Vehicle Charging Requirements
Electric vehicle charging infrastructure is now required for new residential construction in Delaware under 7 DE Admin. Code 2101 *Regulations for State Energy Conservation Code*, which incorporates Appendix RE – Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure with amendments. This requirement is effective April 11, 2026 and supersedes 16 Del. C. § 8001- § 8006, which sunset upon DNREC's publication of notice that Appendix RE meets or exceeds its standards. County and municipal building and plumbing codes must incorporate the updated code by April 11, 2027.

Requirements are summarized below. Consult 7 DE Admin. Code 2101, Appendix RE, directly for further details.

- For new one- and two-family dwellings with a designated attached or detached garage or other on-site private parking provided adjacent to the dwelling unit: parking shall be provided with one electric vehicle-ready space or electric vehicle supply equipment space per dwelling unit.

Contact: DNREC Division of Climate, Coastal & Energy, Energy Section at (302) 735-3480.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/climate-coastal-energy/energy-office/

Air Quality – Particulate Emissions
Particulate emissions are regulated by DNREC's Division of Air Quality. To control particulate emissions from construction and materials handling operations, the following is required:

- The applicant must use dust suppressants and other measures during demolition activities, grading, land clearing, excavation of non-paved roads, material movement or storage, and sandblasting activities.

Contact: DNREC Division of Air Quality at (302) 739-9402.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/air/permitting/

Delaware Emergency Management Agency – Contact Tara Wilbur 302-659-2325

Proposed Project Parcel Flood Concern

- The northeast portion of this parcel is located within an area of a **1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Special Flood Hazard Area AE.** The majority of the parcel is located in a **Minimal Flood Concern of 1,000 years or greater**.



Parcel Status within County Evacuation Zone Location

- The parcel is not yet located within a Kent County Evacuation Zone.

Parcel Status within the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) for the Salem Nuclear Power Plant

- The parcel **is not** located within the 10-mile EPZ for the Salem Nuclear Power Plant.

State Historic Preservation Office – Contact Carlton Hall 302-736-7400

- The Delaware SHPO does not support and strongly recommends against development in Out-of-Play areas, as they are environmentally and archaeologically sensitive. The Killens Pond area including the State Park is known for archaeological sites of varying ages. As such, the project area has a moderate to high potential for archaeological resources.

- Our Office recommends an archaeological survey prior to any ground disturbing activities. We also request that the applicant review the Delaware Unmarked Human Burials and Skeletal Remains Law (Delaware Code: Title 7, Chapter 54), which addresses the process around the treatment and disposition of unmarked human burials that are inadvertently discovered. The law also prohibits any failure to report their discovery.

- If there is federal involvement, in the form of licenses, permits, or funds, the federal agency, often through its client, is responsible for complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR 800) and must consider their project's effects on any known or potential cultural or historic resources. For further information or additional details pertaining to the Section 106 process and the Advisory Council's role; please review the Advisory Council's website at the following: https://www.achp.gov/protecting-historic-properties/section-106-process/introduction-section-106

  If there are any questions, inquiries, or concerns, feel free to contact the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office for assistance at 302-736-7400.

Delaware State Fire Marshall's Office – Contact Duane Fox 302-739-4394
This document is for information purposes only and does not constitute any type of approval from the Delaware State Fire Marshal's Office.

At the time of formal submittal, the applicant shall provide; completed application, fee, and three sets of plans depicting the following in accordance with the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulation (DSFPR):

Fire Protection Water Requirements:

- Where a water distribution system is proposed for single-family dwellings, it shall be capable of delivering at least 500 gpm for 1-hour duration, at 20-psi residual pressure. Fire hydrants with 800 feet spacing on centers are required. (One & Two- Family Dwelling)

- One- and Two-Family dwellings are required by law to offer the homeowner an automatic sprinkler system, therefore infrastructure should accommodate water needs.

- Where a water distribution system is proposed for the site, the infrastructure for fire protection water shall be provided, including the size of water mains for fire hydrants and sprinkler systems.

Accessibility

- All premises, which the fire department may be called upon to protect in case of fire, and which are not readily accessible from public roads, shall be provided with suitable gates and access roads, and fire lanes so that all buildings on the premises are accessible to fire apparatus. This means that the access road to the subdivision from Killens Pond Road must be constructed so fire department apparatus may negotiate it.

- Fire department access shall be provided in such a manner so that fire apparatus will be able to locate within 100 ft. of the front door.

- Any dead-end road more than 300 feet in length shall be provided with a turn-around or cul-de-sac arranged such that fire apparatus will be able to turn around by making not more than one backing maneuver. The minimum paved radius of the cul-de-sac shall be 38 feet. The dimensions of the cul-de-sac or turn-around shall be shown on the final plans. Also, please be advised that parking is prohibited in the cul-de-sac or turn around.

- The use of speed bumps or other methods of traffic speed reduction must be in accordance with Department of Transportation requirements.

- The local Fire Chief, prior to any submission to our Agency, shall approve in writing the use of gates that limit fire department access into and out of the development or property.

Gas Piping and System Information:

- Provide type of fuel proposed and show locations of bulk containers on plan.

Required Notes:

- Provide a note on the final plans submitted for review to read “All fire lanes, fire hydrants, and fire department connections shall be marked in accordance with the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulations”

- Proposed Use

- Alpha or Numerical Labels for each building/unit for sites with multiple buildings/units

- Square footage of each structure (Total of all Floors)

- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Construction Type

- Maximum Height of Buildings (including number of stories)

- Note indicating if building is to be sprinklered

- Name of Water Provider
- Letter from Water Provider approving the system layout
- Provide Lock Box Note (as detailed in DSFPR) if Building is to be sprinklered
- Provide Road Names, even for County Roads

Recommendations/Additional Information

This section includes a list of site-specific suggestions that are intended to enhance the project. These suggestions have been generated by the State Agencies based on their expertise and subject area knowledge. **These suggestions do not represent State code requirements.** They are offered here in order to provide proactive ideas to help the applicant enhance the site design, and it is hoped **(but in no way required)** that the applicant will open a dialogue with the relevant agencies to discuss how these suggestions can benefit the project.

Department of Transportation – Contact Stephen Bayer 302-760-4834

- The applicant should expect a requirement that all PLUS and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) comments be addressed prior to submitting plans for review.
- Please be advised that the Standard General Notes have been updated and posted to the DelDOT website. Please begin using the new versions and look for the revision dates of March 21, 2019 and March 16, 2021. The notes can be found at https://www.deldot.gov/Business/subdivisions/
- Killens Pond Road has a functional classification of minor collector. Minor collectors serve to gather traffic from local roads and connect them to the arterial network. This project will place a considerable number of trips on Killens Pond Road and may not be alignment with the purposes of a minor collector road.
- This project is located primarily in Investment Level 2 according to the 2025 State Strategies for Policies and Spending. In Investment Level 2 DelDOT prioritizes improving safety; expanding access to transit, pedestrian, and bicycle facilities; supporting economic development; and improving connections among existing, redeveloping, and new neighborhoods, public facilities, and commercial areas, consistent with local growth forecasts. This project is generally in line with these policy goals.
- DelDOT strongly encourages the developer to provide for interconnectivity to potential future development as well as provide adequate bicycle and pedestrian facilities to connect with the neighboring school. The project location is within one mile of Lake Forest Central Elementary. Please feel free to contact Chip Kneavel at (302) 760-2527

for resources that are available through the Department's Safe Routes to School Program.

Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control – Contact Beth Krumrine 302-735-3480

Removal of Mature Forest within Delaware Ecological Network

The preliminary plan proposes the elimination of approximately 5 of 14 acres of forest on the site. An analysis of historical data indicates that the forest area located on the northern portion of the site has likely maintained some degree of forest cover since 1937 and could be considered mature forest. Mature forests possess the potential for rare, threatened, or endangered species that rely on this type of habitat. Forests filter water for improved water quality, provide habitat for wildlife, absorb nutrients, infiltrate stormwater, moderate temperatures, and store atmospheric carbon which would otherwise contribute to climate change.

- Removing forested areas for development, especially mature forests, should be avoided to the greatest extent possible.

- The forested area on this site occurs within the Delaware Ecological Network, a statewide network of interconnected lands having significant ecological value. Avoid disturbance within these habitats.

- In general, contiguous forest and connected areas of natural habitat are more beneficial to wildlife, allowing for safer movement from one area to another while reducing roadway mortality.

- To reduce impacts to nesting birds and other wildlife species that utilize forests for breeding, it is recommended that tree clearing not occur from April 1st to July 31st.

Contact: DNREC Division of Fish and Wildlife, Species Conservation and Research Program at (302) 735-3600. Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/fish-wildlife/contact-information/

Forested Wetlands and Vegetated Buffer Zones

Maps from the Statewide Wetlands Mapping Project indicate the potential presence of forested wetlands on the northern portion of the site. This habitat type is known to support an array of plants and animals, most notably wetland dependent species such as amphibians.

To reduce impacts to these species, the following is recommended:

- Do not disturb forested wetlands. Increase the upland buffer to at least 100 feet along all wetlands, waterways, and sensitive habitats, including those containing existing forest or natural vegetative cover.

- Vegetated buffer zones should be identified outside of the Limit of Disturbance on the engineering plans.

- Maintain vegetated buffer zones as native species meadows or forest.

- Vegetated buffer zones should be deeded as community open space and not contained within any lot lines. Signage should be installed at the edge and within the buffer zones to deter residents from encroaching into these common areas.

- Maintain habitat connections to undeveloped open space, which are especially important for species movement across the landscape.

Contact: DNREC Division of Fish and Wildlife, Species Conservation and Research Program at (302) 735-3600. Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/fish-wildlife/conservation/

Stormwater Management

- For improved stormwater management, preserve existing trees, wetlands, and passive open space.

Plan review agency contact: Kent Conservation District at (302) 608-5370.
Website: http://kentcd.org/

General stormwater contact: DNREC Sediment and Stormwater Program at (302) 739-9921.
E-mail: DNREC.Stormwater@delaware.gov.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/watershed-stewardship/sediment-stormwater/

Excellent Groundwater Recharge

- For Excellent Groundwater Recharge Areas, limit impervious surfaces to no more than 20% of the entire area designated as having excellent recharge.

Contact: DNREC Source Water Assessment and Protection Program at (302) 739-9948.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/water/commercial-government/water-allocation/assessment-and-protection/

Water Quality
This site lies within the Murderkill Watershed. Surface water quality in this watershed does not meet Federal and/or State Water Quality Standards and a Pollution Control Strategy is in place for this watershed.

- Implement vegetated buffers with a width of at least 100 feet around all water features on or adjacent to the site.

- Reduce impervious surfaces on the project site by eliminating areas of impervious pavement and/or using pervious pavement where practicable.

- Reduce stormwater runoff by integrating infiltration basins, bioretention (rain gardens), filter strips, and by preserving existing trees, wetlands, and passive open space.

- Reduce the necessity for nutrient application by maintaining open space as meadow or forest planted exclusively with native plants. Native plants are well-suited to our climate and require limited maintenance.

Contact: DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship's Watershed Assessment Section at (302) 739-9939. https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/watershed-stewardship/

Special Flood Hazard Area

- As proposed, locate all structures outside of the floodplain. If this is not possible, the developer should consider designing structures to a higher standard to avoid potential future flood damage and loss.

Contact: DNREC Shoreline and Waterway Management Section at (302) 608-5500.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/watershed-stewardship/waterways/floodplains/

Air Quality – Design to Minimize Mobile Source Emissions
Mobile sources include a variety of motor vehicles and mobile equipment that generate air emissions, such as ozone, particle pollution, and air toxics. The DNREC Mobile Sources Control Program reduces motor vehicle-related pollution from both on-road vehicles and non-road vehicles.

- Consider designing the project to connect to local pedestrian and bicycle networks, as well as public transit. The closest bus stop appears to be less than 1 mile from this site. Designing for travel alternatives has the potential to minimize the overall tailpipe emissions associated with the use of this site.

- Consider designing the project for low maintenance green spaces. Designing green spaces to be less dependent on gas-powered lawn and garden equipment has the potential to minimize emissions associated with the on-going maintenance of this site.

Contact: DNREC Division of Air Quality's Mobile Sources Program at (302) 739-9402.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/air/mobile-sources/

Sustainable Practices

- Several lots appear to be designed without direct views of open space. Consider redesigning Lots 171-180 and 251-259 to allow residents to have direct views of open space. Quality views of the natural environment can enhance resident experiences.

- Provide a walking path to connect the site to Lake Forest Central Elementary School, which is located adjacent to the site to the east. For the safety of the elementary students, it is recommended to direct this path away from the road frontage and away from the school's stormwater management facility.

- As proposed, provide a walking path to connect to Lake Forest High School, which is located across from the site to the south.

- Offer the option to install solar or geothermal systems for each home. This allows a purchaser to incorporate the cost into their mortgage, making it more affordable. For community facilities, consider using renewable energy infrastructure such as solar or geothermal to reduce energy costs and further reduce pollution created from offsite generation. Grant funds and incentives are available for Delmarva Power customers through the DNREC Green Energy Fund, which includes several funding types through the state's major electric utilities (https://dnrec.delaware.gov/climate-coastal-energy/renewable/assistance/).

- Use efficient Energy Star rated products and materials in construction and redevelopment. Energy efficient appliances use less energy over time. This saves consumers and businesses money, while also helping to reduce pollution from power generation.

- Incorporate nonmotorized connectivity and install bicycle racks where feasible to help facilitate non-vehicular travel modes.

- Consider planting select areas with native trees. Native trees improve air, water, and soil quality. Planting and nurturing trees is also a nature-based solution to reducing the greenhouse gases that drive climate change. In addition, native trees have an increasingly important role in the survival of native birds and beneficial insects whose habitat is shrinking due to development and climate change.

- Consider planting select areas with meadow comprised of native species. Native plants are well-suited to our climate and require limited maintenance. Mowing in these areas should not occur between April 1st to July 31st to reduce impacts to nesting birds and other wildlife species that utilize meadows and grasslands for breeding habitat.

- Use structural paint coatings that are low in Volatile Organic Compounds to help protect air quality. Air pollution from new construction is generated through the use of maintenance equipment, paints, and consumer products like roof coatings and primers.

- Use recycled materials, such as reclaimed asphalt pavement, to reduce heat island effects on paved surfaces, prevent landfill waste, and lower material costs.

Contact: DNREC Division of Climate, Coastal & Energy at (302) 735-3480.
Website: https://dnrec.delaware.gov/climate-coastal-energy/

Delaware Emergency Management Agency – Contact Tara Wilbur 302-659-2325

Population

- The county has a population density of 310.20 persons per square mile based on the US 2020 Census report; an increase from 2010 at 271.30 persons per square mile. The specific census block(s) the project is located on has a total population of 133 persons, though, with development, this will undoubtedly change. The 13 adjacent blocks aggregated bring the area to a total population of 950 persons.

FEMA National Risk Index

- The FEMA National Risk Index is an online mapping application that identifies communities most at risk to 18 natural hazards: Avalanche, Coastal Flooding, Cold Wave, Drought, Earthquake, Hail, Heat Wave, Hurricane, Ice Storm, Landslide, Lightning, Riverine Flooding, Strong Wind, Tornado, Tsunami, Volcanic Activity, Wildfire, and Winter Weather. The FEMA National Risk Index is calculated by multiplying the Expected

Annual Loss times the Social Vulnerability and dividing that by the Community Resilience.



- According to FEMA's National Risk Index, the parcel **is** considered **relatively moderate** for overall natural hazards risks.

- Community Resilience is a consequence reduction risk component and a community risk factor that represents the ability of a community to prepare for anticipated natural hazards, adapt to changing conditions and withstand/recover rapidly from disruptions. Social Vulnerability is a consequence-enhancing risk factor that represents the susceptibility of social groups to the adverse impacts of natural hazards.

- Its community resilience is rated as **relatively moderate** whereas its social vulnerability is rated as **relatively high.**

Renewable Energy Commitment

- Regarding energy use and consumption, the census tract utilizes **electricity** as the predominant fuel type for heating purposes.

- DEMA strongly encourages the use of renewable energies and high-efficiency appliances and utilities. Regarding utilities, DEMA suggests incorporating 90% series furnaces/HVAC systems; the closer to 99%, the better, as well as A/C units of 20 Seer or greater. DEMA recommends using tankless water heaters, and battery backup systems for sump pumps to reduce potential water damage from power failure. Lastly, DEMA encourages the integration of modern and emerging technologies, such as the potential for electric vehicles in garages/parking lots, green roofs or solar panels where applicable and allowable, and the like.

- In reference to the flood zones, DEMA strongly discourages construction of any type directly ***within, adjacent to or within proximity*** to a 100-year floodplain as water knows no bounds. If the homes are being constructed at flood level or below and a mortgage is obtained, an NFIP insurance policy is also required. Regardless of whether within or adjacent to a floodplain, should construction continue, we recommend utilizing additional mitigation strategies to reduce the risk from flooding. This could include, but isn't limited to, wet/dry floodproofing, elevating the home out of the flood plain, elevating mechanicals/HVAC/Electricity out of the flood waters, mass notification

systems, large drainage systems (increased diameter pipes, ditches, basins, etc.) and other similar methods.

Delaware State Fire Marshall's Office – Contact Duane Fox 302-739-4394
Preliminary meetings with fire protection specialists are encouraged prior to formal submittal. Please call for appointment. Applications and brochures can be downloaded from our website: www.statefiremarshal.delaware.gov, technical services link, plan review, applications or brochures.

Fire Department Comments:

- The volunteer fire department is obligated to provide Fire and EMS service to this property. In addition**,** new developments in their Fire and EMS district have put a financial strain on their volunteer fire service. As their call volume increases yearly due to the unprecedented growth within the service area, current funding does not keep up with development within the district. State, County, and Local funding does not keep up with the growth of the fire district, so the developer and future residents need to help financially support the Volunteer Fire Department. Future residents need to consider joining the fire department to serve their new community.

Following receipt of this letter and upon filing of an application with the local jurisdiction, the applicant shall provide to the local jurisdiction and the Office of State Planning Coordination a written response to comments received as a result of the pre-application process, noting whether comments were incorporated into the project design or not and the reason, therefore.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions, please contact me at 302-739-3090.

Sincerely,

David L. Edgell, AICP
Director, Office of State Planning Coordination

Attachments:

- Dover Kent MPO Comment Letter

ADVISORY BRIEF

TO: Delaware Office of State Planning Coordination

FROM: Malcolm Jacob

DATE: 8/6/2026

SUBJECT: PLUS Comments 7/2026

Dear Members of the OSPC,

Attached, please find comments submitted by Dover Kent MPO for each of the current Preliminary Land Use Service (PLUS) project reviews in Kent County. These comments are a part of the MPO's ongoing goals of promoting transportation safety and connectivity within the region. They are submitted in accordance with the support given by the MPO Council on November 6, 2024.

Projects were reviewed during the PLUS meeting of **Wednesday, July 29, 2026**, and comments are being submitted as a follow-up to this meeting. Please reach out to the MPO if further input is needed.

Sincerely,

Malcolm Jacob
Transportation Planner
Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Malcolm.Jacob@doverkentmpo.org
(302) 387-6030
https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/

1. Spartan Village (2026-07-01)

Killens Pond Road is a minor collector road that experiences an Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) of 2,107 vehicles per day.[1] The road has a posted speed limit of 40 mph (except within the school zone, where the speed limit is reduced to 20 mph). The shoulders are less than two (2) feet in width in most places; this lack of shoulders, combined with the high speed limit, contributes to generally unsafe conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians. Furthermore, although there is an existing shared use pathway on the southern side of the road, it is worth noting that Killens Pond Road itself has a Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) of 4, meaning it is the type of road that is only comfortable for the most experienced bicyclists.[2]

The above data is included to emphasize the need for pedestrian facilities across the property's frontage with Killens Pond Road. These should be included in the site plan and built as the neighborhood is constructed, rather than at a later date. A ten (10) foot shared use pathway would be the best option as it would create a safe path for bicyclists as well as pedestrians. These facilities are especially important because two schools, Lake Forest Central Elementary School and Lake Forest High School, are immediately to the east of the subject property. A single-family neighborhood such as this is likely to have a large number of children, who will most likely be attending Lake Forest schools. The shared use path on the south side of the road will not be usable for students living in this neighborhood, as there is no safe, designated crossing at this time. To create a safe route to the schools, pedestrian facilities should cover the entire frontage of the subject property and extend as far east as Lake Forest Central Elementary School.

The applicant should also consider coordinating with the owner of parcel #8-00-13900-01-5000-00001 and working to add pedestrian facilities to this property as well. Although it is a separate property, by not adding pathways to this location, there will be a gap in the pedestrian network. Pedestrians tend to take the most direct route to their destination, which means they are most likely to continue along the frontage of the property; walking around the property through the neighborhood, by contrast, is an indirect route that would be less appealing to most pedestrians. This is why the remaining gap in the network should be addressed.

The travel demand modeling completed as part of Dover Kent MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), *Innovations 2050*, does not anticipate any capacity issues on Killens Pond Road in the coming years.[3] However, the proposed development on the subject property has the potential to significantly change the capacity needs of the road. The proposal includes 265 single-family residential units, and assuming that each household takes an average of ten (10) trips per day, this would add approximately 2,650 trips to Killens Pond Road, increasing its daily trips by 126%. Coordination with DelDOT will be necessary to ensure the road can handle its new traffic volume as a result of this development.

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[1] "Traffic Counts." DelDOT Gateway. Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT). https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/e8679c5c19e14bafbff864eeaf553251.

[2] "Bicycle/Pedestrian/Trails and Pathways." DelDOT Gateway. Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT). https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/7e27bdc85b3b463f8699abb86919e49e.

[3] *Innovations 2050*. Dover/Kent County MPO (2025). https://doverkentmpo.delaware.gov/files/2025/01/Innovations-2050-FINAL-1-8-2025-compressed-with-cover.pdf.

One beneficial feature of the proposed neighborhood is that it has two separate entrances. Although both entrances connect to Killens Pond Road, this feature should alleviate congestion issues during peak hours, and it should also improve the ability of first responders to access the neighborhood during an emergency.

Finally, the site plan depicts a network of sidewalks on both sides of the street throughout the neighborhood. These facilities should be accompanied by marked crosswalks and ADA ramps at all intersections and other key crossing locations. There should also be crosswalks and ADA ramps running across the two entrances to the neighborhood, which will allow pedestrians to safely cross the entrances and continue along the pathway.