





Project Presentation to Mayor and City Council of Lewes March 30, 2023 Kelly Valencik, AICP DelDOT Byway Coordinator





#### DELAWARE GREENWAYS



# What is a Scenic and Historic Byway?

"A byway is a transportation route which is adjacent to or travels through an area that has a particular intrinsic scenic, historic, natural, cultural, recreational or archeological qualities.

It is a road corridor that offers an alternative travel to our major highways, while telling a story about Delaware's heritage, recreational activities or beauty."

(DelDOT)







# What is a Master Plan?

- Originated from the 2015 Historic Lewes Byway Corridor Management Plan
- Collaborative effort between DeIDOT, the City, the County, and Delaware Greenways
- Develops a vision, guidance, and recommended strategies for potential roadway improvements, adjacent properties within set back areas, landscaping recommendations, and multi-modal improvements
- •Helps preserve the character of the Historic Lewes Byway
- •Helps guide future planning and development

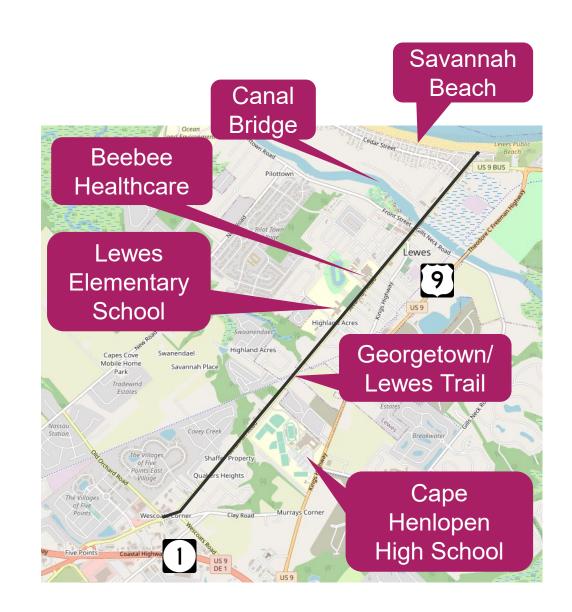






# **Study Area**

- Savannah Road (US 9 Business)
  - Northern limit: Savannah beach
  - Southern limit: Five Points
- Includes portions within the City of Lewes and Sussex County
- Three distinctive characters
  - Seaside
  - Downtown
  - Suburban











- HISTORIC LEWES BYWAY CANNAT DIFFE MANNOR
- Utilize the Master Plan to "restore the character defining features of the historic route into town as it progresses through various eras of development and growth."
- Develop sections of Savannah Road together into a greater cohesive experience emanating from Lewes
- Improve non-motorized users' perceptions of Savannah Road
- Create a long-term vision to plan for manageable and appropriate future development
- Strengthen the community and existing pride of residents and businesses







# **Sources of Inspiration**





Delaware Byway Corridor Management Plan 2013 Historic Lewes Byway Corridor Management Plan 2015 Five Points Transportation Study 2019 Kings Highway and Gills Neck Road Master Plan 2016

New Road Corridor Master Plan 2019







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# **Concept Categories**

Short-Term Concepts	Concepts geared towards needs that can be completed in a smaller time frame		
Mid-Term Concepts	Concepts geared towards needs that are more difficult than short-term but still attainable in the foreseeable future		
Long-Term Concepts Concepts that are complex and would be attainable over an extended time frame			
	Bicycle acilities	Traffic	Sense of Community & Character







### **Short-Term Possibilities**





#### Pedestrian

- Sidewalk pavement conditions
- ADA Compliance
- Crossing pushbutton signals
- Pedestrian pavement markings



#### Bicycle

- Continuous connectivity
- Bicycle facility/warning signage



# Sense of Community & Character

- Wayfinding signage
- Improve/update existing signage
- Maintain landscaping on public right-ofway
- Encourage planters and native plants
- Signage for the Cape Henlopen Natural Area
- Enhance safety awareness and interaction between different transportation modes









### **Mid-Term Possibilities**



#### Pedestrian

- Complete sidewalks paths on both sides of roadway
- Pedestrian/bike phase signal timing
- Easy to locate bus signage



#### Bicycle

- Bike boxes at permitting intersections
- Extend existing cycle lanes
- Install bike racks
- Bike signage at transition areas



#### Traffic

Intersection congestion
mitigation



#### Sense of Community & Character

• Update crosswalks to make them visually distinct







LEWES BYWAY

# Long-Term Possibilities



#### Pedestrian

 Encourage locals walking and biking to school – Safe Routes to School



#### Bicycle

• Shared use or cycle tracks in permitting areas



#### Traffic

- Reduce posted speed limit
- Shared street concept in Downtown area



#### Sense of Community & Character

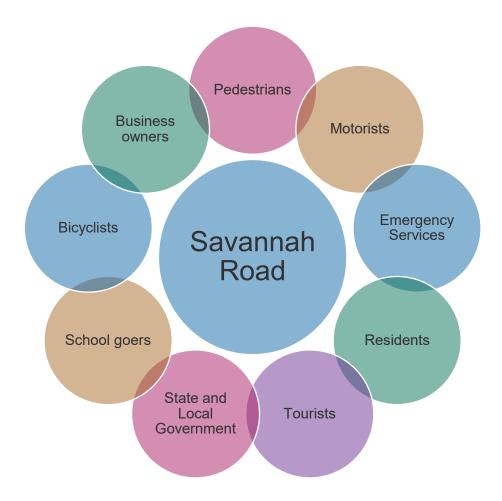
- Boardwalk overlook at Cape Henlopen Natural Area
- Landscaping trees, shade, green areas







# The Diversity of Savannah Road Users & Stakeholders



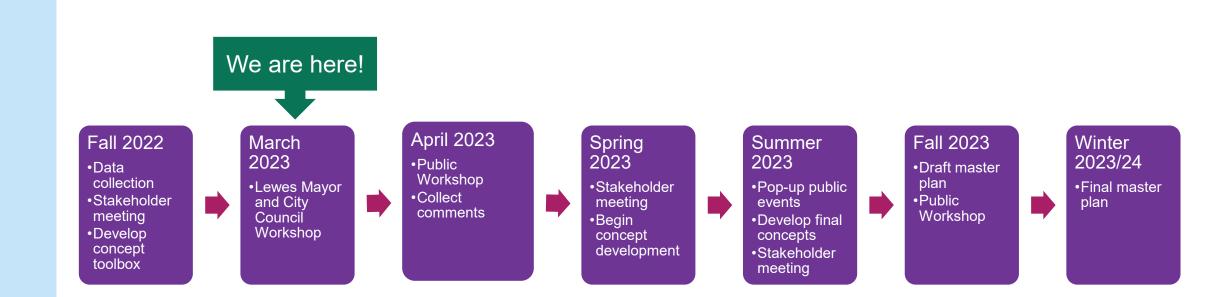






LEWES BYWAY











#### HISTORIC LEWES BY MAN

# The Future Beyond the Master Plan

Incorporate findings into comprehensive plans

Identify appropriate projects for further development and funding Implement findings though construction of improvements

**The master plan provides future policy and decision-making guidance to Savannah Road stakeholders** For example, the Master Plan can be used for:

- Guidance for design and components of DelDOT Capital Projects
- Integration into Comprehensive Plans that lay out growth or physical elements of the Road
  - City of Lewes
  - Sussex County
- Private Business and/or Developer designs and coordination







### Contact



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### Please join us for a public workshop!

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 Lewes Elementary School 6-8pm

View information on the study and help inform its progress!

There will be no formal presentation. Attendees can visit any time during the workshop.

More information will be available at:

deldot.gov/Programs/byways

