

VIII. COORDINATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Throughout the development of the Master Plan, coordination was conducted with public officials, civic and community leaders and area residents via extensive committee and public workshop meetings. This process resulted in the Master Plan Alternative, which was the starting point for the formal transportation project development process including the development of Section 106 documents, an Environmental Assessment and this Section 4(f) Evaluation.

Throughout the engineering and environmental study phases (fall of 2000 through summer of 2001), extensive coordination was conducted with representatives of the Delaware SHPO, New Castle County, Preservation Delaware, DNREC, DEDO, DeIDOT, and FHWA. Field views or working meetings of this group were held on:

- May 8, 2000
- June 14, 2000
- July 7, 2000
- August 25, 2000
- September 25, 2000
- November 27, 2000
- January 24, 2001
- January 26, 2001 (Archaeology Field View)
- March 2, 2001
- March 29, 2001 (Field View)
- May 7, 2001
- May 11, 2001
- May 15, 2001 (One Rock Manor Avenue)
- May 21, 2001 (Public Meeting)
- August 16, 2001
- August 27, 2001 (Case Report)
- September 20, 2001 (Case Report)

As a result of these efforts, a wide range of Section 4(f) avoidance and minimization alternatives were developed and evaluated. The latest public workshop was held on May 21, 2001 to get additional public comment on these alternatives and their impacts. As a result of this coordination process, an overall “best balanced” alternative was identified that carefully considered all resources and public concerns. This preferred alternative is identified as the Master Plan “Modified” Alternative with Option B and minimization.