



# The Delaware River and Bay Authority

## NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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### **Delaware River and Bay Authority Welcomes New Commission Member** *Henry J. Decker Joins as a Kent County Representative*

*(New Castle, DE)* Today, the Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) welcomed a new Commission member as Vice Chairman Bill Lowe administered the Commission Oath of Office to Henry J. Decker of Dover, Delaware, prior to the bi-state agency's monthly meeting. Commissioner Decker's term extends to July 1, 2021. On March 22, the Delaware State Senate confirmed his nomination.

"I am honored that Governor Carney chose to appoint me to serve the residents of Kent County and the State of Delaware as an Authority Commissioner," Decker said. "The Authority is a dynamic organization with dedicated employees who take pride in serving the public. I look forward to working with my fellow Commissioners and executive management on initiatives to benefit the bi-state agency and our customers.

A career public servant, Decker was Assistant Vice President of Delaware Technical and Community College (DelTech) from 1985-2005 where he managed student records for four campuses, conducted space utilization studies and marketing analysis. In this role, Decker also directed the effort to wire all K-12 classrooms and offices to promote internet accessibility.

"Mr. Decker has extensive management experience as a career public servant, most notably in finance, public safety and transportation," Lowe remarked. "I am confident he will bring an important perspective to our policy discussions. We are indeed fortunate to have him as a Commissioner."

Prior to joining DelTech, Commissioner Decker served in a number of high profile roles in Delaware State Government during the tenure of former Governor Pierre S. du Pont IV, including State Budget Director Secretary of Public Safety and a stint as the Governor's Chief of Staff in 1984-1985. He also held two cabinet level positions in South Dakota, Secretary of Transportation and Commissioner of Finance, during the administration of former Governor Richard F. Kneip. Commissioner Decker began his public sector career as a financial analyst in the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C.

"Given his experiences, talents and knowledge, Mr. Decker is a tremendous addition to the Board," remarked Executive Director Tom Cook. "Commission service is a significant commitment and we appreciate his willingness to serve the people of Delaware and New Jersey."

Mr. Decker earned a Bachelor and Master degree in public administration from the University of South Dakota. He also earned a one year graduate study fellowship in systems analysis at Stanford University. Retired and an avid golfer, he resides in Dover with his wife, Ellie.

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The Commission is comprised of twelve commissioners - six each from New Jersey and Delaware - who are appointed by their respective Governor.

**About the Delaware River and Bay Authority**

The Delaware River and Bay Authority, a bi-state governmental agency created by Compact in 1962, owns and operates the Delaware Memorial Bridge, the Cape May- Lewes Ferry, the Three Forts Ferry Crossing and the Salem Business Centre in Carney's Point Twp., NJ. The Authority also manages corporate and aviation properties through its economic development powers - two airports in New Jersey (Millville Airport and Cape May Airport) and three in Delaware (New Castle Airport, Civil Air Terminal and Delaware Airpark). All agency operating revenues are generated through the bridge, ferry and airport facilities. For more information, visit [www.drba.net](http://www.drba.net).

**Photo caption: DRBA Vice Chairman Bill Lowe (left) administers the Commission Oath of Office to the agency's new Commissioner, Henry J. Decker (center) as Executive Director Tom Cook holds the Bible.**