

**MEETING MINUTES
OF THE DVRPC REGIONAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 20, 2001**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the RCC meeting of November 20, 2001 were approved with the following additions, as requested by Chick Dougherty, DVRPC Associate Director of Transportation Planning:

Under TIP Action PA0149 (Chester County):

Dennis Winters raised the following question: Is CMAQ coming out of existing funds or out of the new competitive allotment? Charles Dougherty, DVRPC Associate Director of Transportation Planning, answered that yes, CMAQ is coming out of existing funds. He went on to say that CMAQ monies that fund the grant are only good for three years.

Peter Javscas raised the following question: What other sources of funding could be applied to the project? Dennis Winters answered that funding could come from the area business parks or general funds.

Dennis Winters indicated that the Transportation Subcommittee recommends that the RCC approve TIP Action PA0149, Chester County's request to add \$500,000 (\$400,000 CMAQ, \$100,000 local) to a prior TIP project, the Exton Community Circulator (TIP #6871), in FY02 in order to fund two additional years of operation of the "Whirl" demonstration bus route.

Under Tip Action (Pennsylvania Turnpike):

In the first section attributed to Chick Dougherty, revise to read: Charles Dougherty replied that no federal dollars are being used on this project; therefore, DVRPC has no oversight of the project. The control is held by the state of Pennsylvania. He further stated that the Pa. Turnpike Commission and DVRPC are experiencing a better relationship now than in prior years. He said that in January or February of 2001, the Turnpike made a presentation to DVRPC's Board and Regional Transportation Committee (RTC). A presentation had been planned for the RCC, but was cancelled due to weather.

And in the last paragraph attributed to Chick Dougherty, revise the last sentence to read: In the Spring, when DVRPC adopts a new TIP, the Turnpike's new projects will be addressed as Plan amendments during the 30 day public comment and review period.

ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR CALENDAR YESR 2002:

Cathy Zukoski, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that the committee had met prior to the RCC meeting. No names for candidates were submitted to the committee. The Nominating Committee submitted the name of Patrick Starr for RCC Chair. Ms. Zukoski called for nominations from the floor; there were none.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Lorraine Brill) to declare Patrick Starr the RCC Chair for Calendar Year 2002.

MOTION CARRIED. (Because Linda Ingenthron turned in a ballot with a dissenting vote, the action was not by acclamation.)

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Patrick Starr, RCC Chair, reported that there has been no response to date from DVRPC staff or SEPTA regarding the RCC correspondence of September 16, 2001 pertaining to the Schuylkill Valley Metro. The committee is aware that it was referred to DVRPC's Transportation Division for follow-up.

Mr. Starr stated his desire to schedule a presentation in January on the DVRPC Household Travel Survey and to have copies of the report made available to the RCC. Candace Snyder, DVRPC Director of Public Affairs, will follow up on this request. (NOTE: In checking with staff, it was discovered that the Household Travel Survey report will not be released to the public until early spring. The only copies of the report available are those that were distributed as draft publications to the DVRPC Board. A presentation will be scheduled as soon as staff gets a release from the consultant.)

At the last RCC meeting, Mr. Starr agreed to pursue the possibility of a meeting with Richard Peltz, PennDOT Deputy Secretary for Local and Area Transportation, to discuss statewide train service and its effect on the Schuylkill Valley Metro. Mr. Peltz is willing to meet with the RCC but wishes to tie it in to his plan to be in the Philadelphia area on December 18th. Timing is such that the meeting will have to be held from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. If a December meeting is held, Warren Strumpfer would also be asked to report on Context Sensitive Design. Meeting logistics have to be worked out with DVRPC; an announcement would be sent confirming details.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Harry Hyde, seconded by Ernest Cohen) to hold a special RCC meeting on December 18, 2001 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. to hear remarks from Richard Peltz and Warren Strumpfer.

MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion: The committee noted that the following would be pertinent speakers for future meetings: Pat Dion, SEPTA Board Chair; Wesley Horner, Cahill Associates; and three video clips provided by Larry Shaeffer on roundabouts. These will be considered for the January meeting.

TIP ACTION PA0151 (PENNDOT):

Dennis Winters, RCC Transportation Subcommittee Chair, reported that PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY 2001 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Pennsylvania to add the I-95 Corridor Coalition ITS project. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has awarded two grants totaling \$135,000 to the I-95 Corridor Coalition for ITS-related work. Notification of the FY 2001 funding was not received until the end of the last fiscal year. Therefore, the combined amount will be programmed in FY 2002. This project will expand efforts related to the Philadelphia Agile Port System Project, including collecting information on traffic conditions and drayage movements and making that information available to truckers, dispatchers, and city and regional traffic system managers. This will serve as an aid in scheduling truck flow in and out of the ports, airport and regional intermodal hubs. The project will ultimately cost \$300,000. The subcommittee recommends that the RCC approve TIP Action PA0151, Penndot's request to amend the FY 2001 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Pennsylvania to add the I-95 Corridor Coalition ITS project.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Lorraine Brill) to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve TIP Action PA0151, Penndot's request to amend the FY 2001 - 2004 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Pennsylvania to add the I-95 Corridor Coalition ITS project.

MOTION CARRIED. (See Item A on voting record.)

TIP ACTION NJ0201 (NJDOT):

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC amend or modify the New Jersey TIP to reflect adjustments in cost, schedule or scope of three existing TIP projects, as summarized below:

1. **Route 1/CR571 Penn's Neck Area EIS (Mercer County):** Increase the cost of

the Final Scope Development phase in FY 2002 by \$2.2 million for additional work on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

2. **Route 130/30 Collingswood Circle (Camden County):** Add the Final Scope Development phase to FY 2002 and move the Final Design phase to FY 2003.
3. **Route 295 Rigid Pavement (Burlington/Camden Counties):** Move \$2.885 million of the multi-year construction phase funding from FY 2002 to FY 2005. Final Design is taking longer than anticipated.

Mr. Winters explained that the Collingswood Circle project received a federal earmark for a portion of the work. Peggy Killmer stated that the Route 1/CR571 EIS will be under close monitoring. The subcommittee recommends that the RCC approve TIP Action NJ0201, NJDOT's request to amend the New Jersey TIP to reflect adjustments in cost, schedule or scope of three existing TIP projects: Route 1/CR571 Penn's Neck Area EIS (Mercer County); Route 130/30 Collingswood Circle (Camden County); and Route 295 Rigid Pavement (Burlington/Camden Counties).

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Miles Day) to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve TIP Action NJ0201, NJDOT's request to amend the New Jersey TIP to reflect adjustments in cost, schedule or scope of three existing TIP projects: Route 1/CR571 Penn's Neck Area EIS (Mercer County); Route 130/30 Collingswood Circle (Camden County); and Route 295 Rigid Pavement (Burlington/Camden Counties). The RCC has the expectation that a full range of alternatives will be given serious consideration when conducting the Route 1/CR571 EIS. The committee also believes that citizen representatives should have a decision-making role in the EIS process.

MOTION CARRIED. (See Item B on voting record.)

NEW JERSEY PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND PRIORITIZATION:

Mr. Winters reported that NJDOT regularly examines identified projects as well as its data management system to arrive at an inventory of problems. Staff works with DVRPC's RTC New Jersey Subcommittee to review this list of problems and identify the highest priorities. In the past, this process had been informal but DVRPC staff is attempting to handle this in a more formal way.

The list of identified problems enters the planning process at this level and has three phases: concept development, feasibility assessment and scope development.

The list of problems distributed via mail to the RCC was reviewed as well as the list of modifications proposed by the RTC. John Boyle noted that there were no bicycle or pedestrian issues on the list. There are also no transit issues identified. The subcommittee recommends that the RCC approve the list of problem areas for inclusion into the New Jersey Study and Development Program, noting that the RCC is interested in receiving more information as study progresses on the following projects: B003, B005, B014, C038, C020, G047, G050, M001, M026, and M027. Pedestrian, bicycle and transit access and modes should be considered in these projects.

Discussion: Ajay Creshkoff noted that the problem defining approach needs to also look at inter-relationships and use an integrated approach. John Coscia Jr., DVRPC Senior Transportation Engineer, stated that staff and NJDOT did look at the problems from an overall GIS view. Peggy Killmer and Warren Strumpfer will examine the list of problem areas further and get back to staff with any other suggestions.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Lorraine Brill) to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve the list of DVRPC Priority Problem Areas for inclusion in the New Jersey Study and Development Program because the committee realizes that there are maintenance problems that need to be addressed. The RCC notes special interest in and wants to receive more information as study progresses on the following projects: B003, B005, B014, C038, C020, G047, G050, M001, M026, and M027. However, the committee is concerned that this method of problem identification infers spot-planning versus comprehensive planning in corridors that utilizes a multi-modal approach. Pedestrian, bicycle and transit (especially bus) access should be considered in these projects.

MOTION CARRIED. (See Item C on voting record.)

FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION CHANGE:

Mr. Winters explained that the Burlington County Planning Commission has requested a change in the Regional Functional Classification System. Burlington County's request is to change the classification of Campus Drive (including the proposed extension from Sunset Road to Salem Road) from Urban Local to Urban Collector in Burlington Township. Letters of endorsement from Burlington Township and Burlington City are enclosed in the packet that was mailed to RCC members. The change would add one mile of Urban Collector mileage to the Functional Classification System and would make the road eligible for federal funding.

The road extends from northbound US-130 to Sunset Road and serves as access to the Burlington Business Campus.

The Campus Drive extension would create a new and more effective access to US-130 for residents and businesses in Burlington and Willingboro townships and would improve the attractiveness of the Burlington Business Campus by allowing all movements to and from US-130 at its Campus Drive entrance. The subcommittee recommends that the RCC approve the reclassification of Campus Drive in Burlington County from an Urban Local to an Urban Collector Road, adding this to the Regional Functional Classification System.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Lorraine Brill) to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve the reclassification of Campus Drive in Burlington County from an Urban Local to an Urban Collector Road, adding this to the Regional Functional Classification System.

MOTION CARRIED. (See Item D on voting record.)

TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENTS (TE):

Mr. Winters explained that the process of selecting projects for funding through the 2002 TE Program involves the RTC Pennsylvania Subcommittee, the RCC, the PennDOT District Office and DVRPC staff. Throughout the process, DVRPC's five Pennsylvania counties will be responsible for determining their own priorities and evaluating projects they know best. The counties will score projects within their jurisdictions as well as projects that are multi-county or regional in scope. The scoring is based on the applicants' responses to six questions presented in the application. PennDOT staff will score all applications independently. In addition, the RCC's Transportation Subcommittee has, in the past, reviewed each project and produced a list of its recommended projects, subject to available funds. This year, approximately \$8 million is available through regional funds and \$2 million through SEPTA which needs to be spent on transit-related projects.

The TE schedule is as follows:

December	Scores due
January 8, 2002	Member governments meet to review projects with staff
January 16, 2002	RTC Pennsylvania Subcommittee begins project selection
February, 2002	DVRPC Board acts to approve list
March 1, 2001	Final list sent to PennDOT
May, 2002	PennDOT announces approved projects; DVRPC notified applicants

Recommendation: The Transportation Subcommittee has volunteered to take the lead in reviewing and prioritizing the TE applications. An RCC representative from each county will review the applications from his or her respective county and come back to a

special subcommittee meeting (date to be determined) for final prioritization. Those volunteers by county to date include: Bucks - Larry Shaeffer; Delaware - Ernest Cohen; and Philadelphia - John Boyle. At the RCC meeting, volunteers will be sought for Chester and Montgomery counties. The subcommittee will report back to the RCC at its January 15, 2002 meeting for endorsement of its prioritized list of projects. Action to adopt the final list of prioritized projects will take place at the February RCC meeting.

NOTE: The subcommittee will meet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, December 12, 2001 in DVRPC's Philadelphia Room to review and prioritize the TE projects. All RCC members will receive a meeting notice and the TE cover sheet listing all projects; anyone is welcome to attend this special subcommittee meeting.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Lorraine Brill) to accept the Transportation Subcommittee's recommendation, as noted above, with the addition of the following citizens to review applications: Chester County - Pat Horrocks; Montgomery County - John Pawson; and Regional Projects - Dennis Winters. Financial or other vested interest in any particular TE project shall be declared by the individuals participating at the start of the special meeting on December 12, 2001. A list of such declarations, as well as the prioritization list of TE projects, will be provided to the RCC at its January 15, 2002 meeting.

MOTION CARRIED. (See Item E on voting record.)

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE:

Barry Seymour, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director for Regional Planning, outlined the Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI), which is an opportunity for DVRPC to support local development and redevelopment efforts in the individual municipalities of the Delaware Valley that implement municipal, county, state and regional planning objectives. While the region continues to grow and prosper, there are still communities that face ongoing challenges and have lagged behind. Despite regional growth in population, jobs and income, there are a number of older townships, boroughs and cities that have seen a loss of population or jobs, with local income levels that significantly trail their county or regional averages.

TCDI provides a mechanism for these municipalities to undertake locally-directed actions to improve their communities, which in turn implements their local and county comprehensive plans and supports the goals and vision of the regional plan. Pennsylvania and New Jersey, as well as a number of counties within the region, have programs now underway to support community revitalization. The regional

Transportation and Community Development Initiative seeks to support and leverage those programs, by providing funding of up to \$100,000 in selected municipalities to undertake planning, analysis or design initiatives for projects or programs which enhance development or redevelopment and improve the efficiency or enhance the regional transportation system. Seventy-eight municipalities and five Philadelphia City Planning Areas would be eligible to receive project funding, which would be determined on a competitive basis, with review by a Steering Committee and selection by the DVRPC Board.

Discussion: The committee discussed such ideas as making traffic calming an important factor in this initiative, and holding workshops to community involvement.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Lorraine Brill, seconded by Ajay Creshkoff) to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve the Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI). The RCC would like to see more explicit wording in the TCDI framework that provides incentives and programs to enhance transit alternatives.

MOTION CARRIED. (See Item F on voting record.)

DVRPC DRAFT FY 2003 PLANNING WORK PROGRAM:

John Griffies, DVRPC Contracts Manager, stated that the FY 2002 DVRPC Draft Planning Work Program will be available on December 5, 2001 at which time it will be released to the public. Mr. Griffies reiterated that the RCC had reviewed and commented on the projects last month and that the committee's input had been considered. He distributed highlights of the last Work Program Committee meeting, noting that the following new projects are being included in the Work Program: Route 45 Corridor Study; Planning at the Edge; Increasing Intermodal Access to Transit; Inventory of Potential TOD Sites; Regional Congestion and Accident Mitigation Program; The Ratables Chase; Assessment of the Potential Role of Live/Work Developments; Intermodal Connection South Jersey Ports; and South Philadelphia Freight Complex Study - Phase I.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by John Pawson) to recommend that the DVRPC Board distribute the DVRPC Draft Fiscal Year 2003 Planning

Work Program for review and comment

MOTION CARRIED. (See Item G on voting record.)

DVRPC'S ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE/PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM:

Kendall Miller, DVRPC Manager of Public Involvement, outlined her work, noting that she works with staff to make sure that they are incorporating environmental justice and Title VI mandates into their work. Environmental justice looks at minimizing adverse social, health and environmental impacts on minority and low income populations, as well as on the elderly and disabled. It also guarantees fair participation by people in the decision-making process. Ms. Miller also pointed out that she documents DVRPC's work in this effort and profiles projects and communities to connect with organizations that may not have been active in the past. She and Candace Snyder will develop a protocol for staff to outline the necessary steps for them to take in their work. Ms. Miller announced that the Environmental Justice Public Involvement Task Force will meet here on December 11, 2001. Approximately 150 organizations have been invited to attend. A web listing of these organizations is planned in the future.

AND JUSTICE FOR ALL: DVRPC'S STRATEGY FOR FAIR TREATMENT AND MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT OF ALL PEOPLE:

Richard Bickel, DVRPC Deputy Director of Regional Planning, presented his new report, *And Justice for All: DVRPC's Strategy for Fair Treatment and Meaningful Involvement of All People* which evaluates DVRPC's plans and programs for responsiveness to the region's minority, elderly, handicapped and poverty populations. Mr. Bickel also reviewed the guiding principles of the program, the methodology used, the regional demographic analysis, the Long-Range Plan and TIP evaluation and possible mitigation actions. He explained the ten action strategies that will be undertaken at DVRPC.

Discussion: The RCC discussed the various factors of disadvantage and their ability to skew results; charts needed to designate the value of TIP projects and the benefits of each project; a quartile analysis; and the use of this analysis by the City of Philadelphia and SEPTA.

JOB ACCESS AND REVERSE COMMUTE GRANT PROGRAM:

Matt Sumpter, DVRPC Regional Planning Analyst, outlined the contents of the 2002 Job Access/ Reverse Commute Plan as well as a plan schedule. A meeting will be held

on November 28, 2001 to coordinate the effort. The final plan update will be completed in mid-June, 2002.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Environmental/Legislative: Cathy Zukoski, Subcommittee Chair, asked that members notify her if they are aware of environmental issues, such as PennVest applications.

Transportation: Dennis Winters reported that John Boyle had volunteered to draft a letter to DRPA pointing out the inconsistency of its policy regarding bicycles and pedestrians on the Ben Franklin Bridge. Mr. Winters and Mr. Boyle will draft this letter for the January RCC meeting. Mr. Winters will also prepare the letter to the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission for January, 2002.

2025 Task Force: Ernest Cohen, Task Force Chair, asked members to think about petroleum shortages and the instability of the Persian Gulf resources.