

**MEETING MINUTES
OF THE DVRPC REGIONAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
JULY 16, 2002**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the RCC meeting of June 18, 2002 were approved as mailed.

**FY 2003 WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT: PHASE TWO CONTRACT - ROUTE 41
CORRIDOR LAND USE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES STUDY:**

Richard Bickel, DVRPC Deputy Director of Regional Planning explained that McCormick Taylor & Associates, Inc. (MTA), which now includes the former firm of Norman Day Associates, has been working since January, 2001 to assist the Chester County Planning Commission (CCPC) in undertaking a land use planning and implementation study for the PA Route 41 Corridor in Chester County. The study area includes the entire corridor in Chester County with primary emphasis on nine municipalities that abut Route 41. DVRPC is administering the consultant contract, as well as assisting the county staff and the consultants on technical and outreach issues.

The purpose of the study is to face problems of congestion, vehicular and pedestrian safety, coupled with continuing development pressures. The study responds to key corridor issues: the need to integrate municipal and county land use planning objectives with the transportation planning process; growing Chester County; local municipal official and citizen concerns about the role, extent and relationship between land use and transportation planning; and the direct and cumulative land use and growth impacts of proposed corridor transportation improvements.

The study is being undertaken in close coordination with PennDOT District 6-0's on-going Environmental Impact Statement and Congestion Management System (CMS) analysis for alternative transportation improvements and alignments in the southern segment of Route 41. The initial study scope and consultant contract called for a one-year study, during calendar year 2001, at a total cost of \$100,000. Following coordination meetings with Chester County Planning Commission staff and the consultant, a six-month, Phase 2 contract was developed, at a total cost of \$48,900, to: (1) complete portions of various Phase 1 tasks; (2) undertake the additional work items and (3) conduct public and local official outreach and coordination meetings. The overall study is intended to be completed by December 31, 2002.

Discussion: Linda Ingenthron stated that the Brandywine Conservancy is undertaking a study with the same purpose and with private funding; she questioned why these two studies were not coordinated and whether the extension of this work was a stalling tactic.

Mr. Bickel explained that the Chester County-DVRPC-PennDOT study began last year and stated that he was not even aware that another study was underway.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Ken Edmonds, seconded by John Nawn) to recommend that the DVRPC Board amend the Fiscal Year 2003 Planning Work Program to add the Phase Two Route 41 Corridor Land Use/Management Alternatives Assessment in Chester County.

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

JOB ACCESS AND REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC) UPDATE:

Mr. Bickel noted that on July 9, 2002, DVRPC received a fax from the Pennsylvania Public Transportation Association (PPTA) notifying small transit properties across the Commonwealth that an additional \$1.5 million was available for FY 2002. The intent of the additional funding was for proposed JARC services outside of the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh regions. As a contingency, DVRPC staff forwarded the fax to each of the transportation management associations (TMAs) in southeastern Pennsylvania and to SEPTA for consideration. Interested applicants were told to send a letter to DVRPC summarizing their proposals and to note in the FTA application that DVRPC Board action on their proposal would occur on July 25.

Subsequently, it was learned that funding requests from elsewhere in the Commonwealth did not fully use the available funds. Thus, new applications from SEPTA or other sub-recipients are appropriate. Three new service proposals, totaling \$235,000 of JARC funds, were received from southeastern Pennsylvania (see the attachment) from the; Chester County TMA, the Partnership TMA and Wheels, Inc.

Following review of the proposals and consultation with SEPTA and the FTA, staff recommends that the Board find that: (1) the proposed projects are consistent with DVRPC's adopted Job Access and Reverse Commute Transportation Plan; (2) the applications are qualified to undertake the services proposed; (3) the proposed projects are deserving of funding; (4) the applicants should continue to work with SEPTA and the FTA to complete the application process; further (5) that the Board commit to add the projects to the Transportation Improvement program (TIP) should FTA funding be approved in the future; and (6) furthermore, in consultation with SEPTA, staff recommends that the three project proposals and their proposed funding be added at the end of the previously prioritized list of FY 2002 projects for consideration by the FTA. The RCC need not take action on this issue.

FY 2003 WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT: US 30 BYPASS TRAFFIC STUDY

Dr. Thabet Zakaria, DVRPC Deputy Director of Transportation Planning, stated that PennDOT is in the process of developing a reconstruction study for the fourteen-mile, four-lane expressway section of US 30 Bypass between PA 10 and the Exton Bypass in Chester County.

This project involves evaluating the no-build and two build alternative configurations for reconstructing US 30 Bypass and improving selected interchanges. In addition to reconstructing the mainline pavement and shoulder widening, the build alternatives may include completion of the partial interchange at Airport Road and other locations to be determined, construction of truck climbing lanes westbound from PA 340 to Reeceville Road and from PA 82 to Airport Road and eastbound from PA 82 to Reeceville Road. Collector-distributor roads may be provided between PA 113 and Norwood Road; and minor improvements to selected parallel arterial highways may be included in the project.

The study will provide 2010 and 2030 traffic forecasts to PennDOT and their consultant. These forecasts will be used to complete the required planning studies and provide design volumes for the proposed reconstruction project. This project will be initiated in FY 2003 and completed in FY 2004.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Linda Ingenthron, seconded Don Augustine) to recommend that the DVRPC Board amend the Fiscal Year 2003 Planning Work Program to add the US 30 Bypass Reconstruction Traffic Study.

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

FY 2003 WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT: SMART GROWTH REGIONAL INDICATORS:

Barry Seymour, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director of Regional Planning, noted that land conservation on a region's edges and economic development in its urban core, appearing unrelated at the local level, actually are flip-sides of the same regional problem. Improving community character by recognizing the interconnected qualities of regions is often presented under the broad banner of "Smart Growth". DVRPC proposes two interconnected research initiatives that will seek to address both sides of the Smart Growth issue.

The Urban Core Development Study will identify potential indicators surrounding the issue of Smart Growth, giving the concept a quantitative base. Measures are needed to delineate the percent of new development in the metro region that is located in older urban centers.

DVRPC would utilize its expertise to create tracking indicators to define trends and to devise benchmark indicators to place these trends in a meaningful context. The Land Preservation Study will expand on current Commission research by obtaining maps and data layers in the expanded grant making region and aggregating this data for a

complete representation of the region's current levels of preservation. This project will be undertaken on behalf of the William Penn Foundation to support their grantmaking programs, but will also serve DVRPC's regional plan and ongoing analysis of regional development.

Discussion: Shirley Loveless pointed out that PADEP is undergoing a sustainability initiative and asked if the efforts are being coordinated. Mr. Seymour was unaware of this effort and will check into it.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Pat Horrocks) to recommend that the DVRPC Board amend the Fiscal Year 2003 Planning Work Program to add the Smart Growth Regional Indicators Project.

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

FY 2003 WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT: PHILADELPHIA NEIGHBORHOOD PLANS:

Mr. Seymour explained that DVRPC proposes to develop comprehensive plans in three Philadelphia neighborhoods that involve considerable public and private sector participation and extensive resident engagement. The process to develop the plans would be one of community engagement and consensus building, where each community would view their assets and opportunities in the context of the larger city and the larger region. Plans developed by the community would be owned by the community, and will provide a framework and a blueprint for implementation actions. The plans will also provide a model approach and a template for ongoing planning in other communities throughout Philadelphia. The three Philadelphia neighborhoods that are proposed to participate in the planning process are Chinatown, Mt. Airy, and the Saunders Park and West Powelton area of West Philadelphia.

DVRPC would work with a variety of public and non-profit partners, including the Philadelphia City Planning Commission and the Philadelphia Neighborhood Development Collaborative, to guide the preparation of the plans. A private planning firm or team of firms would prepare the plans, selected on a competitive basis through an RFP.

Discussion: Dennis Winters asked if there was a role for an RCC member on study committee. Mr. Seymour answered that Patrick Starr will sit on the committee representing PEC and could well represent the RCC as well.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Don Augustine, seconded by John Boyle) to recommend that the DVRPC Board amend the Fiscal Year 2003 Planning Work Program to add the Philadelphia Neighborhood Plans Project.

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

TIP ACTION NJ02-18a: (ROUTE 295 CAMDEN/BURLINGTON RIGID PAVEMENT):

Dennis Winters, RCC Transportation Subcommittee Chair, announced that NJDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY 2002-2004 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the construction phase funding for the Route 295 Camden/Burlington Rigid Pavement project by \$21,370,000. Identified at the beginning of the fiscal year as a project that had slipped, authorization for construction is now expected before the end of this fiscal year and the project has been identified for a compressed construction schedule. The project provides for reconstruction of the existing concrete roadway which has deteriorated. Funding would be adjusted as follows: add \$12.68 million to an FY02 construction phase, remove \$13.768 million from the FY 2003 construction phase, and add \$19.958 million to the FY 2004 construction phase, a net increase of \$18.870 of Interstate Maintenance funds. Additionally, the project would use \$2.5 million of CMAQ funds in the FY 2003 construction phase for ITS elements of the project. The subcommittee recommends approval.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Lorraine Brill) to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve TIP Action NJ02-18a, NJDOT's request to modify the FY 2002-2004 TIP for New Jersey by adding \$12.68 million to the FY 2002 construction phase of the Route 295 Camden/Burlington Rigid Pavement project; removing \$13.768 million from the FY 2003 construction phase; adding \$19.958 million to the FY 2004 construction phase using Interstate Maintenance funds; and adding \$2.5 million in CMAQ funds to the FY 2003 construction phase.

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

TIP ACTION NJ02-18B: (ROUTE 47, CHAPEL HEIGHTS AVE., GLOUCESTER COUNTY):

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY 2002-2004 TIP for NJ by increasing the FSD (Final Scope Development) phase for the Route 47, Chapel Heights Avenue

project in Gloucester County by \$515,000. The currently programmed amount for FSD was estimated during the feasibility phase, and with the selection of a consultant and update of the proposal, the design costs have been determined to be higher than originally anticipated. The subcommittee recommends approval.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Lorraine Brill) to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve TIP Action NJ02-18b, NJDOT's request to modify the FY 2002-2004 TIP for New Jersey by adding \$515,000 STP funds to the FY 2002 FSD (Final Scope Development) phase of the Route 47, Chapel Heights Avenue project.

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

**CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (CMAQ)
PROGRAM: COMPETITION FOR FY 2003 AND POLICY DISCUSSION:**

Charles Dougherty, DVRPC Associate Director, Transportation Planning Division, announced that it is now time for the next round of the CMAQ Competitive Program. As part of the recently adopted FY 2003 TIP, DVRPC has programmed almost \$10 million in federal funds in Pennsylvania for specially selected projects that will contribute to attaining Clean Air Act standards. For the first time, there will be a similar CMAQ competitive program in New Jersey, using \$1 million of federal monies. Funds are allotted based on population and weighted by air quality status.

Candidate projects are submitted to DVRPC and reviewed by a CMAQ committee for initial eligibility and general merits. Projects that survive this screening process will then be subjected to an air quality emissions analysis. Mr. Dougherty reviewed eligibility, noting that projects must be shown to reduce emissions; must be new or expanded projects; and must be for the good of the public. Operating assistance may be eligible for new or expanded transit service or demand management strategies. He also outlined the responsibilities of the committee members, pointing out that the RCC appoints representatives in the categories of transit, environmental, alternative mode and general citizen. It was noted that a representative from New Jersey should be included as one of these representatives. Approximately six to eight CMAQ committee meetings will be held; the Board is expected to take action in February, 2003.

Discussion: The RCC discussed the region's allotted funding; the use of CMAQ funds by TMAs; the method for rating the air quality benefit of each applicant; the total Pennsylvania pot of money available and why it has decreased; and the use of CMAQ funds for ITS projects.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by John Pawson) to adopt a position asking for the elimination of the use of CMAQ funds for SOV-supportive ITS projects. This position will be forwarded to DVRPC's staff and Board for consideration when drafting comments on the reauthorization of TEA-21.

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

Dennis Winters reported that the Transportation Subcommittee is submitting nominations for the RCC representatives to the CMAQ Committee and referred members to a ballot. Additional names were taken from the floor. RCC members then voted on CMAQ representatives in the categories listed previously. After counting submitted ballots, the following were elected to serve on the CMAQ Committee:

John Pawson - Transit Representative
Patrick Starr - Environmental Representative
John Boyle - Alternative Mode Representative
Warren Strumpfer - General Citizen

PHILLY CAR SHARE PRESENTATION:

Larry Shaeffer introduced Clayton Lane of Parsons, Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas, Inc. to present the Philly Car Share project. Mr. Lane explained that car sharing is a mobility service that makes vehicles available to people on a per-use basis. It almost serves as a neighborhood-based car rental service that allows people to use vehicles when needed and pay for them based on how much they drive. Car sharing provides a means of dramatically reducing the number of cars in an urban area. Philly Car Share is a Philadelphia-based non-profit organization that currently has 20 community liaisons in this area, 19 community organizations voicing support, and 300+ prospective members. Ideally each individual vehicle will serve at least 20 members located within a 1/4 mile distance from their home or business. Members are billed on a per-mile, per-hour charge each month.

Mr. Lane provided information that showed how the service worked in San Francisco and outlined how much households spend on average on transportation; the benefits of the program; growth projections; and target markets.

Discussion: Members asked questions regarding insurance coverage, the use of EZ Pass with Car Share vehicles; the locations set up in this region to date; how the program encourages people to use transit; and whether this project would be eligible for CMAQ funds.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:

MOTION (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Don Augustine) to recommend that

the DVRPC Board view the Philly Car Share presentation.

MOTION CARRIED.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT TASK FORCE UPDATE:

Kendall Miller, DVRPC Public Involvement Manager, distributed the Draft Environmental Justice Protocol as well as the minutes of the March 26, 2002 task force meeting. She stated that the protocol is intended for staff guidance and covers such issues as definitions of environmental justice and public involvement, citizen engagement, expectations of the MPO, techniques for reaching out to the public and ADA issues. She asked RCC members to review it and provide her with their comments. She also outlined the goals of the task force and her work in this area, noting that she has enlisted more than 235 organizations in this effort. This coming fiscal year will see four meetings of the group and additional EJ and Title VI training will be offered. And, she noted that this effort may provide additional membership to the RCC.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

25 Year Task Force: John Pawson reported that sustainability of petroleum was a topic of discussion as was integrating PATCO into Center City transit.

Environmental/Legislative Subcommittee: Cathy Zukoski announced that the RCC will meet on August 20th to host Neil Weinstein of the Low Impact Development organization.

Rules Subcommittee: Linda Ingenthron questioned why the draft agenda that is issued to the RCC with its mailing is then changed in time for the RCC meeting; she stated that Robert's Rules of Order says that the committee has to vote to accept a changed agenda. She felt this new agenda was out of order and cited the issue of the Route 41 Study which did not appear on the draft agenda that was mailed but was on the RCC's final agenda. Candace Snyder explained that the word "draft" on the agenda was intended to indicate that this was a preliminary version and to incorporate last minute additions to the Board agenda, the RCC agenda would have to change.

This particular agenda changed eight times between the first draft and the final and there is no way to inform the RCC membership of each change. Ms. Snyder agreed that a near-final agenda could replace the draft agenda on the internet; however, she stated that the RCC needed to consider: (1) whether to let Robert's Rules of Order stand in the way of getting through the process of reviewing all available action items; (2) whether the RCC wants to receive all available actions in advance and let last minute ones go; or (3) whether it is the option of the Chair and the DVRPC staff person to provide as up-to-date an agenda as possible for each meeting. Linda Ingenthron

asked that a special meeting of the Rules Subcommittee be held prior to the August 20 RCC meeting.

(NOTE: In reviewing Robert's Rules of Order (9th Edition), page 369 indicates that: *It is often customary to send each member, in advance of a meeting, an order of business or agenda, with some indication of the matters to be considered under each heading. Such an agenda is often provided for information only, with no intention or practice of submitting it for adoption. Unless a precirculated agenda is formally adopted at the session to which it applies, it is not binding as to detail or order of consideration, other than as it lists preexisting orders of the day or conforms to the standard order of business.*)

OTHER BUSINESS:

Lorraine Brill noted that the position of RCC Vice Chair from New Jersey should be filled since Peggy Killmer has moved out of the area. Patrick Starr will take this under advisement.