

**MEETING MINUTES  
OF THE DVRPC REGIONAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2002**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the RCC meeting of August 20, 2002 were approved as mailed.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Patrick Starr, RCC Chair, read a letter from Karen Friedman thanking the RCC for its help with the Swamp Road issue. Ms. Friedman noted that she may be bringing this issue back to the RCC since both Newtown and Wrightstown Townships are holding public meetings to promote keeping the road closed even if the culvert is improved.

Mr. Starr asked if the county caucuses had met to select representatives to the RCC Nominating Committee. (The election for RCC Chair will take place at the November meeting.) The county caucuses reported as follows:

Bucks County - Larry Shaeffer  
Chester County - Pat Horrocks  
Delaware County - Elaine Cohen  
Montgomery County - William Faltermayer  
Philadelphia - Cathy Zukoski  
Camden County - Warren Strumpfer

***ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:***

***MOTION*** (by Lorraine Brill, seconded by Karen Friedman) to accept the names submitted above and to ask the RCC Chair to appoint an additional New Jersey representative at large, thus constituting a Nominating Committee of seven.

***MOTION CARRIED.***

The Nominating Committee met following the Rcc meeting and appointed Warren Strumpfer as its Chairman. The Nominating Committee will meet at 11 a.m. on October 10, 2002, preceding the Transportation Subcommittee meeting. Candace Snyder will issue a special notice for the meeting.

The RCC also reviewed and accepted the meeting dates for Calendar Year 2003.

In addition, Mr. Starr appointed Warren Strumpfer as the Vice Chair for New Jersey.

**TIP ACTION 03-01:**

Dennis Winters, Chairman of the Transportation Subcommittee, reported that the City Avenue Special Services District has requested additional operating funds for the City Avenue Regional Transit (CART) Manayunk Circulator. This project was an approved CMAQ project from the DVRPC FY 2002 Competitive CMAQ Program, where it was awarded a total of \$539,000 for a one year demonstration of the project. The service has spent approximately \$483,000 out of the initial \$539,000 award, and the current request is for an additional \$400,000 (\$320,000 CMAQ/\$80,000 Local Match) to fund another year of operating expenses. DVRPC has just announced a "Call for Projects" for the DVRPC Competitive CMAQ Program, including \$9.6 million of federal CMAQ funds for Pennsylvania and \$3 million for New Jersey. The RTC recommended that the CART request be funded out of these Competitive CMAQ Program monies. The Special Services District will coordinate with SEPTA's Service Planning Department to determine ways to improve the efficiency of the service, and possibly reduce the amount of operating funds required. Further, the Special Services District will provide detailed plans for making the service more self-sufficient in the future. Through these efforts, it is possible that this funding request would be reduced. The subcommittee noted that this request will reduce the CMAQ competitive pot.

***ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:***

***MOTION*** (by Dennis Winters, seconded by John Boyle) to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve TIP Action PA03-01, and amend the DVRPC FY 2003 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the CART Manayunk Circulator project (MPMS #60693), programming funding in FY03 for up to \$400,000 (\$320,000 CMAQ/\$80,000 Local Match) for operating funds. In addition, the RCC recommends that the Special Services District coordinate with SEPTA's Service Planning Department to determine ways to improve the efficiency of the service, and possibly reduce the amount of operating funds required. The Special Services District should also provide detailed plans for making the service more self-sufficient in the future. Finally the RCC encourages the District to add bicycle racks to vehicles.

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

**TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (TCDI):**

Mr. Winters stated that in FY 2002, DVRPC created the Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) to support local development and redevelopment efforts in the individual municipalities of the Delaware Valley that implement municipal, county, state and regional planning objectives.

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. The regional TCDI provided 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. A 20% cash or in-kind match is required. In FY 2002, 64 project proposals seeking \$4 million were submitted; 26 projects totaling the available \$1.5 million were selected.

The goal for 2003 is to fund the project at the same level as in the past year. Because the source of funding has not yet been identified within each state, this is not a TIP action at this time. At the RTC meeting, Leo Bagley voiced the opinion that Pennsylvania's level of funding should be reduced to \$500,000 because the TCDI projects are not capital projects.

***ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:***

***MOTION*** (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Sue Tancredi) to recommend that the DVRPC Board support the continuance of the TCDI program and retain the same level of funding as in 2002; namely \$1 million in Pennsylvania and \$500,000 in New Jersey.

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

**DVRPC FY 2004 DRAFT WORK PROGRAM:**

Mr. Winters reported that the Transportation Subcommittee discussed the FY 2004 Draft Work Program, noting that project proposals are due no later than September 26, 2002. A Work Program Committee meeting will be held in mid-October to select projects. To try to move forward with recommendations to the full committee, the subcommittee reviewed the projects that were not selected last year, selecting the following as priorities (in no particular order):

*Bicycle/Pedestrian Facility Utilization Projections*

*Rail Restoration Study*

*Bicycle Survey*

*Automated Fare Collection for Public Transportation*

*Application of the EPA Smart Growth Index*

*Congestion Monitoring and Travel Demand Reduction Analysis for Regional Sub-Areas*

*Traffic Calming: Planning and Implementation Case Studies*

*Proposed New Project: Study of congestion at incidental sports events and possible solutions.* The study would include traffic management. (Candace Snyder will check with staff regarding a scope and cost if this is selected as a final priority.)

Barry Seymour noted that he has projects recommended by the Land Use Committee that he will make available to the RCC for review. John Griffies, DVRPC Contracts Manager, stated that letters had been sent to members governments in August requesting proposals for projects. He then reconfirmed the schedule for moving the Draft Work Program forward. He also stated that he would forward any other proposed

projects to the RCC prior to its next Transportation Subcommittee.

Ajay Creshkoff noted his resolution regarding the linkage issue between the Work Program and the Long-Range Plan. Barry Seymour stated that each Work Program project has a goal statement that links it to the Plan.

***ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:***

***MOTION*** (by Dennis Winters, seconded by Warren Strumpfer) to recommend that the RCC authorize the Transportation Subcommittee to review and prioritize projects. The RCC should also request a list of all proposed projects when compiled by DVRPC staff in early October. Project review and prioritization will be accomplished at the Transportation Subcommittee's October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Anyone wishing to comment should attend this meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_ ***MOTION CARRIED.***

Ms. Snyder will issue a special notice calling for new projects to be submitted by RCC members as soon as possible, and noting the October 10<sup>th</sup> Transportation Subcommittee date. Anyone wishing input to the Work Program discussion should attend this meeting. New project suggestions should include a descriptive paragraph and should be submitted to Candace Snyder with copies to Dennis Winters and Patrick Starr. Email addresses and fax numbers will be included on the notice.

(**NOTE:** The Work Program Committee has scheduled its next meeting for October 17, 2002 which will allow the RCC to review the recommendations of the Transportation Subcommittee.)

**PENNVEST APPLICATION: SPRINGFIELD AND NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIPS:**

Barry Seymour, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director, Regional Planning Division, explained that PENNVEST has forwarded one application to DVRPC for review for consistency with the regional plan.

Delaware County: Pennsylvania Suburban Water Company - Request for a loan of \$9.78 million to construct two new flocculation/sedimentation basins along with an associated residuals basin and pump station on-site at the existing Crum Water Treatment Facility in Springfield and Nether Providence Townships.

These projects serve to improve water quality drawn from Crum Creek to serve areas that are already developed or identified as Future Growth Areas as designated in the

DVRPC Year 2025 Plan. As such, this project is consistent with the goals and policies of the regional plan.

***ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:***

***MOTION*** (by Dennis Winters, seconded by John Nawn) to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve the request from Delaware County for a PENNVEST loan to construct two new flocculation/sedimentation basins along with an associated residuals basin and pump station on-site at the existing Crum Water Treatment Facility in Springfield and Nether Providence Townships.

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

**FY 2003 WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT: STATEWIDE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - PENNDOT:**

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John Griffies stated that this project enables DVRPC to enter into a contract to provide technical training and support services for the MPO/LDDs of PennDOT's Pennsylvania Planning Partnership related to geographic information systems (GIS). This effort will be guided by the Planning Partners GIS Work Group. The training will consist of three phases: Introductory In-Class sessions, Advanced In-Class sessions, and Continuing Support. This training will focus on using ArcView GIS 8.x to manipulate and perform analyses using PennDOT GIS datasets. The training will offer hands-on use of classroom computers for each attendee using actual PennDOT data. Included in the materials and services to be developed and rendered under this project are: course outlines, handouts, course notes, Powerpoint presentations, software (including sample applications, scripts, etc.), lunches and snacks, and participant evaluations and session status reports. The contract will be 12 months, commencing as soon as possible. It was originally envisioned that this training would be conducted by a sole source vendor. The Planning Partners Advisory Committee recommended that the scope of services for the training sessions be put out to bid.

***ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:***

***MOTION*** (by Lorraine Brill, seconded by Bob Machler) to recommend that the DVRPC Board amend the FY 2003 Work Program to add the Statewide Geographic Information System (Gis) Technical Assistance for PennDOT.

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

**FY 2003 WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT: APPLICATION OF ITS TO PORTS IN THE PHILADELPHIA REGION:**

John Ward, DVRPC Manager, Office of Corridor Planning, explained that the Delaware River Maritime Enterprise Council (DRMEC), a Pennsylvania not-for-profit organization

funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Office of PennPORTS, is undertaking a number of initiatives to increase cargo activity at ports in Southeast Pennsylvania. One of the primary initiatives is the demonstration of agile port technology, the next generation of transport and logistic technologies. As part of this demonstration DRMEC seeks to combine feeding traveler information via Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to truckers with the capability to receive shipment data feeds including tracking information. This presents a unique opportunity to integrate port activities and regional ITS programs.

The objectives of this study are to gain insight into port operations and travel information needs; to provide an overview of the technology available to port, drayage, and truck operators to monitor travel conditions and track cargo; to develop a goods movement component of the Regional ITS Architecture by applying the National ITS Architecture to port activities; to explore how ITS can support the shipment of goods and within the Port of Philadelphia; and to conceptually identify opportunities to implement ITS projects. It will be a 16 month effort, extending into Fiscal Year 2004.

*Discussion: The RCC discussed the impact of dredging on this issue; funding of this study by the I-05 Corridor Coalition; the need to apply the study results to the New Jersey ports; the land-side emphasis of the study; and the need to unite the port entities.*

***ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE:***

***MOTION*** (by Lorraine Brill, seconded by Ernest Cohen) to recommend that the DVRPC Board amend the Fiscal Year 2003 Work Program to include the Application of ITS to Ports in the Philadelphia Region.

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

**ANNUAL UPDATE: ... AND JUSTICE FOR ALL:**

Karin Morris, DVRPC Regional Planner, announced that staff has used a qualitative as well as quantitative approach to updating the “... and Justice for All” report of 2001. A review of the Land Use Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and other planning studies has resulted in a 2002 report that will be published later in September. This update has resulted in new demographic factors, using 2000 Census figures, and additional quality of life factors.

Now added to the Degrees of Disadvantage (which had included minority, Hispanic, poverty, car less, disabled and elderly) are Female Head of Household with Child statistics and Limited English Proficiency figures; these are shown on a new 8-factor Degree of Disadvantage Map, as well as on a Map with Poverty Concentration Tracts. On the Quality of Life issue, Day Care Centers have been located. About 17% of census tracts in the region have the highest degree of disadvantage.

Staff has also tried to determine the amount of TIP dollars per census tract in the Southwest Philadelphia area as a case study. Details of the TIP projects within this location were provided and total approximately \$8.8 million. Measuring the impact of these projects is a major issue. Ms. Morris noted that tasks for FY 2003 include an assessment of regional benefits and burdens for different socio-economic groups; an update of demographic variables as new Census data is released; further meetings of the Environmental Justice (EJ) Public Involvement and Technical Committees; and assistance to state and operating agencies in EJ assessments.

*Discussion: RCC members stated that they are troubled by the “car less” terminology and do not necessarily see this as a disadvantage. The committee also felt that examining SEPTA’s revenue stream and future service plan would be pertinent, as well as adding a pedestrian layer to the map. The RCC also discussed the importance of checking the location of day care centers in relation to transit services; the locations of hazardous waste sites and Super Fund sites would also be pertinent.*

### **OVERVIEW OF MUNICIPAL IMPLEMENTATION TOOL: TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT:**

Ms. Morris outlined the first in a series of brochures to be prepared as a municipal tool; namely, Transit-Oriented Development (TOD). Based on the recommendations of the Long-Range Plan, this publication can be used in addition to *Horizons 2025 Implementation: Municipal Tools and Techniques*. TOD techniques recognize the importance of the rail or bus station to a community and try to shape surrounding growth or redevelopment to better serve residents, commuters and visitors. The publication examines transit-supportive land uses; TOD benefits; transit-friendly regulatory techniques; examples of TOD implementation; and TOD resources. This document has been distributed to municipalities and transit agencies throughout the region. Future brochures in this series will encompass economic development, derelict shopping centers, etc. The RCC suggested targeting school districts as well.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*25 Year Task Force:* Ernest Cohen reported that the task force is examining future public transit initiatives. New ideas should be forwarded to Mr. Cohen. Mr. Starr noted that the task force should also look for models that measure petroleum usage and energy consumption as an incentive for DVRPC staff to include as a Regional Indicator.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Elizabeth Schoonmaker, DVRPC TIP Manager, announced that CMAQ applications are available on the web and through her office. The process is similar to that used in past

years. Patrick Starr represents the RCC on the CMAQ Committee.

William Marston announced the Philadelphia Earth Charter Summit to be held September 28, 2002 at the University of Pennsylvania, as well as a Smart Design Forum, scheduled for October 3 and 4 at Gallaudet College in Washington, D.C.

Ernest Cohen asked interested persons to attend the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual SSAP Conference on "Evolving a Sustainable Future", to be held November 17 at Philadelphia University.