

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of January 28, 2010

Location: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
190 N. Independence Mall West, 9th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Membership Present

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
New Jersey Department of Transportation
New Jersey Governor's Appointee
Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Bucks County
Chester County
Delaware County
Montgomery County

Burlington County

Camden County

Gloucester County
Mercer County
City of Chester
City of Philadelphia
City of Camden
City of Trenton

Non-Voting Members

Federal Highway Administration
New Jersey Division
Pennsylvania Division
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development, Region III
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
Federal Transit Administration, Region III

Representative

Joyce Paul
David A. Kuhn
(not represented)
David Mandelbaum
Joanne R. Denworth
James Mosca
Lynn Bush
Ronald Bailey
Tom Shaffer
Kenneth Klothen
Kenneth Hughes
Leah Arter
Carol Ann Thomas
Louis Cappelli, Jr. Esq.
Andrew Levecchia
Charles Romick
Matthew Lawson
William Payne
Rina Cutler
Edward Williams
(not represented)

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority
New Jersey Transit Corporation
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Port Authority Transit Corporation
Delaware River Port Authority
Pennsylvania Department of Community and
Economic Development
New Jersey Office of Smart Growth
Regional Citizens Committee Chair

Marion Coker
Dennis Martin
(not represented)
Kevin Gallagher
(not represented)
Linda Hayes

Toni Crawford-Major
(not represented)
Aissia Richardson

DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel
New Jersey Co-Counsel

Timothy J. Carson, Esq.
Thomas Coleman, Esq.

DVRPC Staff: Barry J. Seymour, Charles Dougherty, John Ward, Thomas McGovern, Roger Moog, Patty Elkins, Elizabeth Schoonmaker, Phyllis Robinson, Mary Bell, Jane Meconi, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Bucks County Commissioner
Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
New Jersey Turnpike Authority
South Jersey Transportation Authority
Cross County Connection Transportation
Management Association
NW Financial Group, LLC
Regional Citizens Committee

Linda Guarini (Dist. 6-0)
Diane Ellis-Marseglia
Carl DeFebo
Brian C. Wahler
Jim Hartman

William Raggozine
Wayne Barnett
Aissia Richardson

Call to Order - Chair's Comments

Chair Louis Cappelli, Esq. called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No public comments were stated.

1. Minutes of Meeting of December 3, 2009

On a Motion by Mr. Romick, seconded by Ms. Arter, the minutes of the Board Meeting of December 3, 2009 were approved as distributed.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Elizabeth Schoonmaker, DVRPC Manager, Capital Programming, presented the following TIP Actions for approval.

a. PA09-83: Gateway Revitalization/Torresdale Avenue Streetscape Improvement Project (MPMS #73134), Philadelphia

The City of Philadelphia has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back into the TIP, Gateway Revitalization/Torresdale Avenue Streetscape Improvement Project (MPMS# 73134), and programming construction in FY10 (\$1,000,000 SXF/\$252,000 Local) and FY11(\$920,000 STP/\$700,000 Local). This project was programmed in the FY2007 TIP, but was dropped from the TIP due to the City of Philadelphia's indication that the project would be fully funded through the Commercial Corridors Bond Program.

Funding for this project is being provided by a \$1 million SAFETEA-LU Earmark (FED ID #3094; PA ID# 496), Hometown Streets/Safe Routes to School discretionary award of \$920,000, and local funding provided by the City of Philadelphia (\$952,000) which was spent for the construction of Phase 1, which is already completed.

This project is a segment of many "Gateway Revitalization Projects" which include the revitalization of 12 major intersections into and out of Northeast Philadelphia, with boundaries ranging from Frankford Avenue to the West, the Delaware River to the East, Harbison Avenue to the South, Grant Avenue to the North, and the Torresdale Avenue Business District. The purpose of the "Gateway Revitalization Projects" is to assist in the beautification of neighborhoods and communities. These projects focus on a "Welcome" theme – aesthetic improvements to major streets, highways, and business and residential districts in Northeast Philadelphia. The project will be completed in conjunction with the Major Artery Revitalization Committee (MARC), and will include streetscape improvements; such as, pedestrian signals, sidewalks, bumpouts, trees, street furniture, angle parking, pavement markings, median islands, and decorative pavement markings. Specifically, the project will be completed in three phases.

The first phase was completed earlier in 2009, and was funded with 100% local funding (\$952,000). This phase improved lighting throughout the area by installing new pedestrian lighting in the business district. The total cost for phase two and three is \$1,920,000. Phase two will improve crosswalks throughout the corridor by enhancing the current design of the crosswalks from their current design to a honeycomb design, and phase three will consist of curb extensions for busy intersections, increased parking, and exterior improvements to the Tacony Library.

Financial constraint will be maintained as this project will be funded by additional funds to the region, including a \$1 million SAFETEA-LU Earmark, Hometown Streets/Safe Routes to School discretionary award of \$920,000, and local funding provided by the City of Philadelphia (\$952,000).

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt from the regional air quality analysis.

After favorable recommendation was received from the Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee (PCC/RTC) and the Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Ms. Denworth, that the Board approve TIP Action PA09-83, City of Philadelphia's request to amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back into the TIP, Gateway Revitalization/Torresdale Avenue Streetscape Improvement Project (MPMS# 73134), and programming construction in FY10 (\$1,000,000 SXF/\$252,000 Local) and FY11 (\$920,000 STP/\$700,000 Local).

b. NJ10-09: New Jersey Low Bid ARRA Savings Project – Route 70, East of North Branch to CR 539 (DB #10307), Burlington County

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC approve a project that could be added to the FY2010-2013 TIP for New Jersey by shifting funds expected to be available from low-bid savings on state projects initially selected for funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Should funding be available, the request is to add a new ARRA project to the TIP, Route 70, East of North Branch to CR 539 (DB# 10307), programming \$2,175,000 ARRA-DOT for construction in FY10 at the appropriate time.

NJDOT has developed a back-up plan in case there are remaining funds that need to be obligated before March 2, 2010, or if there are cost savings from low bids that result from contract adjustments after March 2, 2010 on ARRA projects.

One project in the DVRPC region has been identified to utilize the ARRA savings: Route 70, East of North Branch to CR 539 (DB# 10307), located in Pemberton Township of Burlington County. This project includes 7.25 miles of milling and overlay to either match the existing grade or provide a 2 to 3 inch increase in profile grade, and extends to Manchester Township in Ocean County. A portion of this project (5.1 miles) will be funded by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) in the amount of \$5,075,000 ARRA-DOT.

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt from the regional air quality analysis.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Ms. Arter, seconded by Mr. Kuhn, that the Board approve TIP Action NJ10-09, NJDOT's request to approve a project that could be added to the FY2010-2013 TIP for New Jersey should funds be available. The new ARRA project, which would be added, to the TIP; Route 70, East of North Branch to CR 539 (DB# 10307), programming \$2,175,000 ARRA-DOT for construction in FY10.

c. **NJ10-10: Battleship New Jersey Access Repaving Project (DB #1005), Camden County**

The City of Camden, on behalf of the Cooper's Ferry Development Association, has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2010-2013 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new DEMO project to the TIP, Battleship New Jersey Access Repaving Project, (DB# 1005), and programming construction in FY10 (\$413,658 DEMO). Funding for this project will be provided by a 2008 Congressional Earmark.

This project will provide for resurfacing and streetscape improvements such as sidewalks, handicap ramps, lighting, and street trees, as well as necessary infrastructure improvements in support of economic development along the waterfront on Clinton Street from Delaware Avenue to 3rd Street in the City of Camden. These improvements to the Camden Waterfront entryway will support Battleship New Jersey and other waterfront venues. Cooper's Ferry Development Association will be managing this project.

Financial constraint will be maintained as this project will be funded by a 2008 Congressional Earmark, which are additional funds to the region.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt from the regional air quality analysis.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Kuhn, seconded by Mr. Lawson, that the Board approve TIP Action NJ10-10, the City of Camden's request to amend the FY2010-2013 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new DEMO project to the TIP, Battleship New Jersey Access Repaving Project, (DB# 1005), and programming construction in FY10 (\$413,658 DEMO).

d. **NJ10-14: Programming of Low Bid Savings on a NJDOT Recovery Act Project – Route 195 Resurfacing, New Jersey Turnpike to East of Imlaystown/Hightstown Road (DB #09359), Mercer County**

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2010-2013 TIP for New Jersey by using funds made available from state low-bid savings on projects initially selected for funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and approved by the DVRPC Board in February, 2009.

NJDOT has experienced cost savings due to low bids on various projects within the state and is working towards shifting funds onto other important shovel ready projects that can be advanced quickly. Some of these shifts involve funds from a project in one region of the state being used on projects in another region of the state. Specifically in the DVRPC region, NJDOT has experienced \$2.5 million cost savings on a state project, Route 1, Vicinity of D and R Canal to North CR 533, Resurfacing (DB #09309), NJDOT is proposing to program the \$2.5 million savings as well as an additional \$12.5 million provided by NJTPA on a resurfacing project, the Route 195 Resurfacing, NJ Turnpike to East of Imlaystown/Hightown Road, Paving Project (DB #09359) located in Mercer County of the DVRPC region, and Monmouth County of the NJTPA region. This is the only section of Route 195 that has not been repaved recently and funds are expected to be authorized in FY10.

Action to add this project to the FY2009 TIP took place in July of 2009; however, the funds for this project were not authorized by the end of FY09, nor in time for the "Transition Period". DVRPC must take action to amend this project into the FY2010 TIP.

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt from the regional air quality analysis.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Kuhn, seconded by Mr. Lawson, that the Board approve TIP Action NJ10-14, NJDOT's request to amend the DVRPC FY2010-2013 TIP for New Jersey by shifting funds made available by low-bid savings on ARRA projects and programming \$2.5 million ARRA savings from Route 1, Vicinity of D&R Canal to North of CR 533, Resurfacing (DB #09309) will be programmed for Route 195, NJ Turnpike to East of Imlaystown/Hightown Road, resurfacing project (DB #09359) in Mercer and Monmouth Counties.

3. DVRPC FY 2010 Planning Work Program Amendment: Regional Multi-Use Trails GIS Data Update

Chris Linn, DVRPC Senior Environmental Planner, Office of Environmental Planning, explained to the Board that The William Penn Foundation (WPF) awarded a contract to Strauss and Associates to manage the "Regional Trail Scan Project". DVRPC will serve as a subcontractor to Strauss and Associates for mapping tasks. The amount of the contract is \$10,000. DVRPC will also be serving on the Regional Trail Scan steering committee. The objectives of the Trail Scan are twofold: (1) increase WPF's knowledge of current trail projects, grantees, non-grantees and opportunities; and (2) facilitate program development and grant-making through an evaluation of regional projects, key qualitative organization inputs, and construction and maintenance costs, a review of best practices, and identification of near-term opportunities.

In support of this work, DVRPC will assemble an up-to-date baseline of existing multi-use trails, trail projects under development, and proposed trails for a 14-county region with a focus on the Philadelphia-Camden inner core, connections to the inner-ring suburbs, and the Delaware and Schuylkill river trails. DVRPC will use the updated trails data to create a "working map" to assist with the identification of key gaps, opportunities for early investment, opportunities for leveraging other investments, and nodes of synergy within the regional trail network.

The work would commence on February 1, 2010 and officially conclude on June 30, 2010.

A total of \$10,000 is allocated for the above contract as pass through money from the William Penn Foundation via Strauss and Associates. The term of the project is five months.

Lynn Bush, Bucks County inquired as to what would be expected of the Counties for this project?

Mr. Linn responded that DVRPC would coordinate with the Counties as to the state of their planning, priorities, resources, and data selection and report that criteria to the WPF and their partners.

Ms. Bush then inquired if DVRPC would provide data if the counties had no data.

Mr. Linn responded that data generation is not included, however, part of this project expands, to a larger area, the work and data that has already been assembled and provided to the nine-member counties.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Shaffer, seconded by Ms. Denworth, that the Board amend the DVRPC Fiscal Year 2010 Planning Work Programs to include the "Regional Multi-use Trails GIS Update Project."

4. Adoption of the DVRPC Fiscal Year 2011 Planning Work Program

Barry Seymour, DVRPC Executive Director, explained to the Board that the Fiscal Year 2011 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) consists of: (1) DVRPC's Regular Work Program, (2) Supportive Regional Highway Planning Program (SRHPP), and (3) Transit Support Program (TSP). The Planning Work Program reflects the policy direction provided by the Board's Planning Work Program Committee and the input from member governments, operating agencies and other regional organizations.

To support certain projects the Board has selected for the DVRPC FY2011 UPWP, certain TIP Actions which will need to be made to the FY2010 TIP for New Jersey and the FY2009 TIP for Pennsylvania. The source of funds for projects in New Jersey and Pennsylvania will be obtained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed. These projects are:

TIP Action NJ10-12: FY2011 UPWP Projects Funded by NJ FY10 TIP Funds

- Central Jersey Transportation Forum (Increase) (X30A) (\$175,000 Federal)	\$50,000
- RIMIS (Increase) (01300) (\$245,875 Federal)	\$145,875
- NJ Interchange Study (Draw New Funds) (X30A) (100% Federal)	\$100,000
- Update Travel Simulation Model (Draw New Funds) (X30A) (100% Federal)	\$200,000
- NJ TE Project Management (Draw New Funds) (X30A) (100% Federal)	\$100,000
	<u>Total</u>
	<u>(\$595,875)</u>
	Federal \$595,875
	State \$0
	Local \$0

TIP Action PA09-84: FY2011 UPWP Projects Funded by PA FY09 TIP Funds

- Pennsylvania Ozone Action Supplemental Services (Decrease) (MPMS #17928) (\$20,000 CMAQ/\$5,000 State)	(-\$25,000)
- Pennsylvania CMAQ Project Engineering Management (Decrease) (MPMS #66461) (\$12,000 CMAQ/\$3,000 State)	(-\$15,000)
- Pennsylvania TE Project Engineering Management (Increase) (MPMS #66460) (\$104,000 TE/\$26,000 State)	\$130,000
- RIMIS (Decrease) (MPMS #72738) (\$412,000 CMAQ/\$103,000 State)	(-\$515,000)
- Update Travel Simulation Model (New Project)	(100% Federal) \$490,000
	<u>Total</u>
	<u>\$65,000</u>
	Federal \$150,000
	State -\$85,000
	Local \$0

Mr. Seymour brought the Board's attention to the table (distributed to the Board) listing these projects.

A copy of the *Comments on and Changes to the Draft FY 2011 UPWP* was also distributed to the Board as was a letter from PennDOT listing specific items which need to be addressed. Mr. Seymour reviewed these comments with the Board. DVRPC will address general and task specific comments in the final document to be sent to PennDOT on March 1, 2010.

Mr. Seymour then addressed comments from Montgomery County with reference to the Planning Work Program development process. The county recommends that a new template be developed incorporating strategic issues with smaller group outreach to the appropriate county/city staff and other stakeholders. Discussion of this process should occur early in 2010 so that there is agreement in place on the method and details before the next work program is developed.

Mr. Seymour agreed that DVRPC staff will work towards more outreach with all the member counties, cities and operating agencies in developing the next Planning Work Program.

Rina Cutler, City of Philadelphia, recommended that the Work Program be developed with more priority county projects. Many projects are of a local nature and may not be regional and DVRPC should focus more on input from the counties and cities. Ms. Cutler also recommends that an examination of administration versus projects costs be assessed for the development of the next work program.

Mr. Seymour responded that every effort will be made to address these issues.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC that the Board adopt the FY 2011 DVRPC Unified Planning Work Program.

Favorable recommendation was also received from the RCC and the RCC echoes the concerns of county planners about the need for early, in-depth discussion and consensus on the Work Program budget in an era of relatively scarce funds, resources, energy and radically changing climate issues.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**.

MOTION by Mr. Mosca, seconded by Mr. Klothen that the Board adopt the FY 2011 DVRPC Unified Planning Work Program, authorize the Executive Director to submit applications and documentation as may be required to fund the program and enter into, negotiate and execute all required contracts and agreements by passing Resolution No. B-FY10-011 (copy attached). Further, approve the actions to amend or modify the FY 2010 TIP for New Jersey (NJ10-12) and the FY 2009 TIP for Pennsylvania (PA09-84) as required.

5. Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) Report

Aissia Richardson, RCC Chair, reported the activities from the RCC Meeting of January 19, 2010.

Ms. Richardson as the new RCC Chair named the RCC Vice Chairs for 2010: Jim Richardson (Pennsylvania) and Patrick Mulligan (New Jersey).

Ms. Richardson noted that one of the priorities for the RCC this year is to more actively review the DVRPC Planning Work Program and determine how the RCC can become more involved in the various plans and programs presented. The RCC also needs to more actively collaborate on existing DVRPC activities as well as make recommendations for new initiatives.

Presentations made at the RCC meeting were as follows: (1) Charles Davies, PennDOT Assistant District Executive presented *Bridge Conditions and Programming in Southeastern Pennsylvania*; (2) Joseph Hacker, DVRPC Manager, Office of Transit, Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning, presented *Paoli Station Intermodal Access Plan and Parking Management Study*; and (3) Richard Bickel, DVRPC Director of Planning, presented *Regional Infrastructure Improvement Zones*.

6. Pennsylvania Response to the Transportation Funding Crisis

Carl DeFebo, Manager, Media and Public Relations for the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission presented to the Board a video entitled *Pennsylvania Response to the Transportation Funding Crisis* and an update of the Act 44 and the I-80 Toll Conversion (distributed to the Board).

Toni Crawford-Major, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development inquired if this project would increase job opportunities.

Mr. DeFebo responded this project will have an impact on creating jobs and most products will be purchased locally which will increase business for local merchants.

Timothy Carson, Pennsylvania Co-Counsel, commented that the passage of Act 44 will bring together all types of transportation including transit.

Mr. Seymour also reported that the City of Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania Counties forwarded a letter to the Secretary of Transportation, Ray LaHood, in support of tolling I-80.

7. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Mary Bell, DVRPC Manager, Demographic and Economic Analysis, explained to the Board that this program was created to satisfy the Economic Development Administration (EDA) requirements for a regional comprehensive economic development strategy. The program was approved by the EDA as the Greater Philadelphia region's CEDS on September 30, 2009.

Co-authored by DVRPC, Select Greater Philadelphia, and Ben Franklin Technology Partners, the CEDS (distributed to the Board) is a product of a public/private consortium of planning and economic development organizations and agencies.

Ms. Bell commented on the benefits of CEDS as being: (1) a prerequisite for applying for funds under EDA public works, economic adjustment, and most planning programs; (2) identifies regional challenges and opportunities; (3) integrates economic development with land use and transportation planning; (4) integrates human and physical capital planning; (5) establishes regional goals and objectives; and (6) leverages EDA funding for regional goals.

The Greater Philadelphia Region for which the CEDS has been developed includes the nine-county region and New Castle County and Salem County in New Jersey.

The CEDS document includes a multitude of economic development information which provides insight into key regional opportunities and challenges and defines a unified vision for economic development. The CEDS also contains a list of key projects identified by the region's economic development and planning professionals as most likely to contribute towards attaining the region's goals and objectives.

Ms. Bell concluded with the next steps for CEDS: (1) define a process for periodically amending the list of key regional projects; (2) define and assess performance measures; (3) submit an annual CEDS performance report; and (4) submit a new, revised, or updated regional CEDS at least once every five years.

8. Executive Director's Report

Barry J. Seymour, Executive Director reported on the following:

a. Congressional Earmarks

Mr. Seymour reported that a notice was sent to the congressional delegation asking them to refer to the TIP before submitting a new earmark project.

b. March 17, 2010 Community Development Workshop

Invitations will be in the mail next week for the March 17, 2010 Community Development Workshop entitled: *Breaking Ground – Building Livable Communities in Greater Philadelphia*. It will be a full-day Workshop focusing on tools for local governments for community revitalization and redevelopment. The Workshop will be held at the Union League Club in Philadelphia.

c. Annual Dinner and Awardees

Mr. Seymour reported that the proposed list of awardees was sent to Board members for their review. The dinner is scheduled for May 20, 2010.

d. Meeting with HUD

A meeting with HUD is scheduled in February to discuss DVRPC's Food System Planning Program and Livable Communities.

e. Pennsylvania Local Development Districts

The Pennsylvania State Association of Local Development Districts has contacted DVRPC to discuss the creation of a statewide organization.

f. Stimulus Bill (2nd Round)

DVRPC is discussing the next round of stimulus funds with PennDOT. In view of President Obama's comments on a Stimulus Job Bill (round 2), DVRPC and PennDOT want to be ready to respond quickly and examine projects already in the TIP which are ready to move forward.

9. Committee Reports

The following committee reports were distributed to the Board for their review:

- (1) Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee;
- (2) Regional Aviation Committee; (3) Information resources Exchange Group;

(4) Delaware Valley goods Movement Task Force; and (5) Regional Community and Economic Development Forum.

10. One Minute Reports

Matthew Lawson, Mercer County, announced that the interactive Bicycle Map Plan for Mercer County is now available on DVRPC's website.

Toni Crawford-Major, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, reported that the social networking activities in the commonwealth are progressing very well. We are ranked fifth in the country.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Attachments:

- (1) PCC/RTC Recommendations to the Board for January 28, 2010
- (2) RCC Recommendations to the Board for January 28, 2010

Additional Documents Distributed to the Board:

- (1) Alert, January 2010

DVRPC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website may be translated into Spanish, Russian, and Traditional Chinese online by visiting www.dvrpc.org. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages or formats, if requested. For more information, please call (215) 238-2871.