

**ONE PAGE OVERVIEW
CENTRAL JERSEY TRANSPORTATION FORUM
MAY 16TH, 2011 MEETING**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

There were over 50 participants, including representatives from seven municipalities, three counties, two MPOs, and various agencies and organizations (for-profit and non-profit). Barry Seymour, Executive Director of DVRPC, opened the meeting.

RESULTS FROM FORMAL VOTING WORK SESSION

Pam Mount, Lawrence Township Councilwoman, provided a summary of the March 21st work session. There was discussion of the voting bylaws that had been agreed upon at the work session. A vote was held of the full Forum and the bylaws were unanimously adopted. Ms. Mount and Marvin Reed, Chairman of the Master Plan Committee of the Princeton Regional Planning Board, were elected co-chairs of the Forum by another unanimous vote.

RESULTS FROM ROUTE 1 REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY (RT1RGS) ACTION TEAM MEETING

Tom Vigna, Township Planner for North Brunswick Township, summarized the Action Team meeting that took place on April 13th and described a proposal to take a presentation about the value of smart growth to municipal governing bodies, planning boards, and other local decision makers. The Forum supported moving forward with developing this presentation. A working version will be presented at the next meeting. In addition, a letter in support of continued funding for the NJDOT Transit Village program was approved by a unanimous vote.

DAN KENNEDY ON STATE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

Dan Kennedy, Deputy Director of the Office for Planning Advocacy, provided an update on the State Planning Process. He said the focus was on getting the branches of government and various state agencies to work together better, as well as streamlining the state plan to better identify smart growth opportunities. He invited the Forum to provide feedback.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Tom Marchwinski, Director of Systems Planning at NJ Transit, shared updates about the Route 1 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. Matt Lawson, Transportation Planner at the Mercer County Planning Department, gave an update about the Mercer County Long-Range Strategic Bus Plan and CR 571 Park-and-Ride Study. Jesse Buerk, Transportation Planner at DVRPC, provided a summary of the draft update of the Planned Projects Status Report, which was included in the meeting folders. Jay Corbalis, Policy Analyst at NJ Future, gave an update about NJ Future's Statewide TDR Study, which made recommendations to make TDR legislation more streamlined and less cumbersome.

ONE-MINUTE REPORTS

Mr. Reed introduced a new element in the one-minute reports. Representatives of municipalities and counties answered the following question: If the mortgage market were to suddenly loosen up, are there any large housing development projects that might become active in your town?

**MEETING SUMMARY
CENTRAL JERSEY TRANSPORTATION FORUM
MAY 16TH, 2011 MEETING**

ATTENDEES: OVER 54 PARTICIPANTS – PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU ATTENDED BUT ARE NOT ON THE LIST.

Mayors			
Peter	Cantu	Mayor	Plainsboro Township
Mildred	Trotman	Mayor	Princeton Borough

Other Municipal Staff			
Gene	Strupinsky	Business Advocate	Hillsborough Township, Economic & Business Dev. Commission
Richard	Krawczun	Township Manager	Lawrence Township
Pam	Mount	Councilwoman	Lawrence Township
Tom	Vigna	Township Planner	North Brunswick Township
Les	Varga	Director	Plainsboro Township Planning and Zoning
Marvin	Reed	Chairman - Master Plan Committee	Princeton Regional Planning Board
Lee	Solow	Planning Director	Princeton Regional Planning Board
Liz	Lempert	Committeewoman	Princeton Township
Bryan	Bidlack	Planner	South Brunswick Township
Pat	Ward	Director of Community Development	West Windsor Township - Community Development Dept.

Counties			
Matthew	Lawson	Transportation Planner	Mercer County Planning Department
Donna	Lewis	Director	Mercer County Planning Department
Tony	Gambilonghi	Supervising Planner for Transportation	Middlesex County Department of Planning
George	Ververides	Director	Middlesex County Department of Planning
Walter	Lane	Principal Planner	Somerset County Department of Planning

Freeholder Peter Palmer represented Somerset County and the NJTPA Board.

Metropolitan Planning Organizations			
Jesse	Buerk	Transportation Planner	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Zoe	Neaderland	Manager, Transp. Safety & Congestion Mgmt.	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Barry	Seymour	Executive Director	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Don	Shanis	Deputy Executive Director	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
John	Ward	Associate Director, Planning Division, Intermodal Planning Unit	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Lois	Goldman	Director of Regional Planning	North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
Amy	Magnuson	Principal Planner, Subregional Liaison	North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
Mary K.	Murphy	Executive Director	North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
Peter	Palmer	Freeholder, Board Member	Somerset County, NJTPA Board

Other Regional Bodies			
Katherine	Kish	Executive Director	Einstein's Alley
Basil	Giletto	Chair of Transportation Committee	Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce
Rebecca	Hersh	Transportation Program Manager	Greater Mercer TMA
Cheryl	Kastrenakes	Executive Director	Greater Mercer TMA

Bill	Neary	Executive Director	Keep Middlesex Moving TMA
Brian	Reilly	Executive Director	Municipal Land Use Center
Jay	Corbalis	Policy Analyst	NJ Future
Lucy	Vandenberg	Executive Director	PlanSmart NJ
Joan	McGee	Watershed Policy Specialist	Stony Brook - Millstone Watershed Association
Ron	Reinhardt	Account Executive	TransitCenter, Inc.

State Departments			
Barry	Ableman	Area Planner: Somerset, Hunterdon	NJ Department of Community Affairs, Office of Smart Growth
Robert	Tessier	Director of Land Use Policy	NJ Department of Community Affairs, Office of Smart Growth
Dan	Kennedy	Deputy Director	NJ Department of State, Office of Planning Advocacy
Monica	Etz	Transit Village Coordinator	NJ Department of Transportation, Bureau of Statewide Planning
Jim	Lewis	Manager	NJ Department of Transportation, Bureau of Statewide Strategies
Gina	Behnfeldt	Senior Project Officer	NJ Economic Development Authority
Daniel	O'Connell	NJ Legislative Director	NJ State Legislative Board/United Transportation Union
Tom	Clark	Regional Manager, Gov. & Community Relations	NJ Transit
Tom	Marchwinski	Director of Systems Planning	NJ Transit
Mike	Viscardi	Senior Facilities Manager	NJ Transit

Other			
Jerome	Lutin		Bucks County Resident
Patricia	Saulino	Business Development	Dewberry-Goodkind, Inc.
Paul	Cohn	Citizen	Lawrence Township
Curt	Emmich	Associate	Princeton Forrestal Center, Picus Associates
Pam	Hersh	Vice President for Government Relations	Princeton Healthcare System
Kristin	Appelget	Director	Princeton University, Community & Regional Affairs
Tushar	Patel	Senior Project Manager	URS Corporation
Alison	Miller		West Windsor Parking Authority / West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

There were over 50 participants, including representatives from seven municipalities, three counties, two MPOs, and various agencies and organizations (for-profit and non-profit). Barry Seymour, Executive Director of DVRPC, opened the meeting and highlighted the slightly different room setup, which included an inner ring of seats for voting members. He said that this new setup does not mean that anyone is excluded from the conversation. Everyone who has participated in the past is invited to continue to participate in the Forum.

2. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 25TH MEETING SUMMARY

There were no comments and the summary was adopted.

3. RESULTS FROM FORMAL VOTING WORK SESSION

Mr. Seymour introduced the discussion of the results of the work session on establishing formal voting procedures for the Forum. He said the bylaws included in the meeting

folders were the results of discussions both in the full Forum and the work session. Pam Mount, Lawrence Township Councilwoman, participated in the March 21st work session, and provided a summary. Ms. Mount said she has been attending Forum meetings for over 10 years. In that time, the Forum has accomplished a great deal and developed an impressive reputation for bringing people together. The question she said the group must now address is, how do we move from planning to action? Since it is ultimately the municipalities who will be key actors in selling what the Forum decides to do, the voting members should be them, along with the counties.

Ms. Mount described the bylaws developed at the March 21st work session and included in the meeting folders. All 21 original Forum municipalities were invited, as well as the 5 additional municipalities included in the NJDOT Rt1RGS (Trenton, New Brunswick, Ewing, Hamilton, and North Brunswick Townships). The participants tested the voting procedures over the course of the meeting and then voted to adopt the bylaws.

Mr. Seymour took a moment to review some of the key points of the Voting Bylaws document. He reviewed again who is eligible to become voting members (3 counties, original 21 Forum municipalities, 5 Rt1RGS municipalities), how to become a voting member (submit a signed letter from the chief elected official naming a representative and alternate), and how the voting procedure will work (simple majority for minor issues, two-thirds majority for major issues such as taking a policy stance).

The topic was opened for discussion and included the following highlights:

- The question of whether or not to have a quorum was raised. Zoe Neaderland, Manager of Transportation Safety and Congestion Management at DVRPC, said the issue was discussed and the decision was to not have a quorum requirement. The reasoning was that the voting members include high-level staff who might not be able to make every meeting. However, attendance at Forum meetings has always been steady, so people were not worried about having enough voting members present to make the votes meaningful. Pat Ward, Director of Community Development for West Windsor Township, referred to the summary of the Voting Work Session provided in the folders, which includes the quorum discussion, beginning on page seven.
- Ms. Mount discussed the slight revisions to the Steering Committee structure that were agreed upon. The Steering Committee will now be composed of the elected chair and two (MPO) facilitators of the Forum, as well as one representative from each of the three counties, a representative from NJDOT, and a representative from NJ Transit. Others, including the chairs of Action Teams, may be invited to participate in individual Steering Committee meetings on an as-needed basis.
- Tom Vigna, Township Planner for North Brunswick Township, asked why a one-year appointment was chosen for the voting members. It seems useful to have Forum leadership serve for two years to have effect, but they would probably want to know that they will be appointed for that length of time. Mr. Seymour said there was a great deal of discussion on that issue, and the decision was that the one-year appointment would require communication between a mayor and his or her representative at least annually. Ms. Mount added that since some towns change mayors every year, the new mayor needs to be involved.

Mr. Seymour asked for a show-of-hands vote of everyone present, which is how Forum votes have been taken to this point. The question was support for the by-laws as written, with the understanding that future revisions can and will be made as necessary. All were in favor; none were opposed. The voting bylaws were unanimously adopted.

Next, the issue of nominating a chairperson from among the voting members was raised. Hon. Peter Cantu, Mayor of Plainsboro, nominated Pam Mount and Marvin Reed, Chairman of the Master Plan Committee of the Princeton Regional Planning Board. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. Mr. Seymour asked if Ms. Mount and Mr. Reed would accept the position. They said they would, provided they could serve together. Mr. Seymour asked for a vote. Each of the three counties and seven municipalities that submitted their letters to become voting members voted for Ms. Mount and Mr. Reed.

The newly elected co-chairs assumed control of the meeting, and gave a joint acceptance speech laying out their goals and priorities for the Forum. They said that they are not shy or quiet, and will not hesitate to call on people, specifically citing the need for NJTPA, NJDOT, and NJ Transit to be engaged. They hope that the Forum will continue to have a broad attendance. They are both former mayors, and expect the current mayors to step up and provide leadership. In addition, they expect attendees to keep their organizations informed and involved in the Forum. They spoke about traffic and transit and housing, stressing the need for reasonably priced housing so people can live near their jobs. Ms. Mount and Mr. Reed also said they are not shy about talking to the press, but they will be expressing the opinions of the Forum. They ended their speech saying "Let's get down to action," and Ms. Mount asked for the first update from an Action Team.

4. RESULTS FROM ROUTE 1 REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY (RT1RGS) ACTION TEAM MEETING

Mr. Vigna, chairman of the Rt1RGS Action Team, summarized the meeting that took place on April 13th. He said the group discussed that nobody seems to object to the concepts of smart growth at planning meetings such as those held for the Rt1RGS, but once people leave the room they forget about it. The Action Team proposes to take a short, sharp presentation about the value of smart growth to municipal governing bodies. The presenters might be a mix of county, TMA, and municipal staff members, but that would remain to be determined. Mr. Vigna described the buildout numbers prepared for the Rt1RGS as "shocking" and important to communicate so decision-makers understand their seriousness and recognize that steps need to be taken. Other elements of the presentation would be unique to the municipality. The Action Team would end by asking if elected officials would direct their planning board to look at their plans with regard to regional concerns and by offering the opportunity to sign the resolution of support of Rt1RGS principles. The Action Team would try to coordinate this effort to target municipalities that are updating their master plans in the near future.

Mr. Vigna opened the floor for questions and discussion.

- Mayor Cantu asked that the Action Team develop the proposed presentation to the point where the Forum could see it and provide feedback before voting on whether to endorse it. He recognized that would mean keeping some of the details general.
- The agreement was to postpone a vote on the subject. The Action Team was given the go-ahead to develop the presentation further and present it at the Fall Forum meeting for feedback and formal endorsement.
- Mr. Reed asked Mr. Vigna if the Action Team would meet before the next full Forum meeting and if there was room for a few more participants. Mr. Vigna said yes, and invited anyone who wants to participate to contact him. Ms. Mount said people could

also send information and visuals to use in the presentation to Mr. Vigna or to DVRPC staff.

- Jim Lewis, Manager of the NJDOT Bureau of Statewide Strategies, said that DOT would supply PowerPoint slides and visuals developed by the consultants for the Rt1RGS, but others were also welcome to provide possible contents.

Ms. Mount raised the subject of the other item the Action Team was proposing for a vote. The Action Team drafted a letter from the Forum in support of continued funding for the NJDOT Transit Village program which was included in the meeting folders. The letter was written so that it's clear that it's coming from the voting members.

- Jay Corbalis, Policy Analyst at NJ Future, said that NJ Future has been talking to legislators about the Transit Village program. He said he thought the letter would help sway the legislators, many of whom are interested in continuing the program.
- Endorsement of the letter was put to a formal vote. The voting members (three counties and seven municipalities) voted unanimously in support of sending the letter.

5. DAN KENNEDY ON STATE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

Ms. Mount introduced Dan Kennedy, Deputy Director of the Office for Planning Advocacy within the Business Action Center in the Department of State. Mr. Kennedy provided an update on the State Strategic Planning Process.

Mr. Kennedy thanked the Forum for inviting him to speak and congratulated the group on increasing its effectiveness. He said that not everyone has a group that brings together state agencies and municipalities. He praised the members of the Forum and said there is power in unity.

Mr. Kennedy explained that the Office of Smart Growth had been moved from the Department of Community Affairs to the Department of State, and rebranded as the Office of Planning Advocacy. He has been there for three months after seven years working at Burlington County.

Mr. Kennedy said that early in the current administration there were some negative sentiments, but they were toward the State Plan rather than toward planning in general. Of particular interest is getting the branches of government and various state agencies to work together better. He said that the goal is to shift the State Plan from an ambitious, broad, 400-page vision, to a clear, concise plan outlining where priorities for smart growth exist, and how to better invest in infrastructure to unlock potential investment from the private sector. This new plan would focus more on what state departments and agencies can do. He emphasized that the potential of areas like Route 1 cannot be unlocked without addressing infrastructure. He also said the State needs a way to be a better partner with municipalities.

The State Strategic Planning Process involves a working group that consists of his office, DEP, the Governor, and the Lieutenant Governor. It has an advisory group that includes NJDOT and DCA. This effort has been underway for three months and a report is scheduled to be provided to the Governor and advisory group by the end of June.

He invited the Forum to help his office understand what needs to be done to get it on the right track. Mr. Kennedy emphasized that this effort did not intend to scrap the State

Plan, but rather to make the plan more focused. The big picture issues include better coordination of state agencies, as well as property taxes and affordable housing.

The discussion included the following highlights:

- Bill Neary, Executive Director of Keep Middlesex Moving TMA, asked about the final steps for the effort. Mr. Kennedy said the report is due at the end of June. After the report is final, he said next steps would include legislative actions and public engagement.
- Don Shanis, Deputy Executive Director at DVRPC, asked how the Forum could help and shape the update of the state planning process. Mr. Kennedy said the Forum can plug into the structure that emerges. He also said his office would keep attending Forum meetings (Barry Ableman is a long-time participant). He said the State Plan would plug into regional and county efforts rather than the reverse.
- Mr. Reed said many members of the Forum have been through this process before, regarding taking an administration at its word. He said the key for Route 1 is infrastructure improvements, and that it's been difficult in the past to drive home the message that towns are dealing with practical problems that have real consequences for economic development and quality of life. Mr. Reed said if there's no money now, let's plan well so when money becomes available it will go to priority projects. Mr. Kennedy said that being unified as a region should put the Forum in better position to compete for scarce funds.
- Mr. Corbalis said the Rt1RGS report is a relevant, regionally accepted document, and asked how it can be linked into the current work. Mr. Kennedy agreed and added that one of his goals is to make the maps in the State Plan more flexible.
- Mr. Seymour noted that previous iterations of the State Plan have been place-based. He asked if Mr. Kennedy anticipated a process whereby the Route 1 corridor could be designated. Mr. Kennedy said that currently, the only way to get designated as a center is for towns to get together and go through a long, expensive process. He said that he envisions a much less cumbersome process going forward. Mr. Reed said that sounded encouraging, adding that in the past, Princeton had to think about whether or not it was worth going through the process.
- George Ververides, Director of the Middlesex County Department of Planning, said he would like to see the state plan be a state plan. He said that towns and counties have never really known the state's plans and priorities regarding infrastructure such as highways, open space, and wastewater management. This makes it difficult to work together toward shared goals.
- Ms. Mount thanked Mr. Kennedy. She encouraged Forum participants to email Mr. Kennedy with further thoughts. She asked Mr. Kennedy if the Forum could see the final report to the Governor when it's ready. Mr. Kennedy said the final report is not a new plan, and is for the Governor only. However, he said once the Governor accepts the report, it will become more public.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Tom Marchwinski, Director of Systems Planning at NJ Transit, shared updates about the Route 1 BRT. He said NJ Transit's budget situation is tight, but there will not be further fare increases at this time. NJ Transit is working with Plainsboro and South Brunswick to explore options to fund early action BRT routes. South Brunswick also has a federal grant for a park-and-ride lot project and the township is working with NJ Transit and Middlesex County. He also noted progress on the CR 571 park-and-ride

study being led by DVRPC with NJ Transit, the municipalities, and others. NJ Transit recently completed a demand potential analysis for the New Brunswick BRT. Mr. Marchwinski said there should be more to report about that study at the next Forum meeting. He said NJ Transit also conducted a statewide customer satisfaction, ridership, and revenue survey. He described a plan to equip every NJ Transit bus stop with a number that riders can send a text message to and receive real-time information about their bus, which should be implemented within two years. In addition, there will be some more prominent stops with additional information available to passengers, such as at the Quakerbridge Mall.

- Ms. Mount asked that as NJ Transit prepares to select the locations for the more prominent information stops, that they work with the municipalities to make them as effective as possible. Mr. Marchwinski said they would do that.
- Mr. Reed said it would be helpful if Mr. Marchwinski could speak about the New Brunswick BRT study and how the New Brunswick and Route 1 BRT systems will fit together at the next Forum meeting. Mr. Marchwinski said he could do that, and that he would also provide a refresher on the near-term Route 1 BRT actions. Mayor Cantu spoke in favor of such an update, asking for some actions the municipalities can support and encourage.
- Mr. Reed talked about the smaller shuttles and jitney services that are being developed by municipalities and others, funded by a variety of sources. He raised the issue of looking for ways those routes can work together better and get the most from resources. Mr. Seymour asked if NJ Transit was up-to-date about all of those routes, and if the Forum could help.
- Matt Lawson, Transportation Planner at the Mercer County Planning Department, said that the federal United We Ride effort helps counties develop a coordinated human service delivery system, and would be a good starting point to find information. It covers programs funded by the federal government to transport disabled, elderly, and low-income people. Mr. Seymour noted that the Forum could help coordinate across county lines.
- Pam Hersh, Vice President for Government Relations at Princeton Healthcare System, asked what happened to the BRT Action Team, and if gathering this information would be a good task for it. Ms. Neaderland said that the action team has not had a meeting yet, but will as soon as NJ Transit is ready. Tom Clark, Regional Manager of Government and Community Relations at NJ Transit, said that NJ Transit staff would prefer to wait until a few issues are resolved before holding a meeting.
- Ms. Mount suggested having an action team meeting to discuss shuttle coordination. There was discussion of renaming the action team that was to deal with transit from BRT Action Team to Transit Action Team. Then, that action team could get underway with addressing the municipal side of recognizing needs and supporting transit while NJ Transit addresses current BRT issues. Ms. Hersh emphasized the need to get people who have no cars to medical care, even if it is through a temporary band-aid approach of many services coordinating.
- Cheryl Kastrenakes, Executive Director of Greater Mercer TMA, said GMTMA was awarded funding to reach out beyond federally funded transit programs and the approval to start came four weeks ago. This work could be shared with the Forum. Mr. Neary offered to work with her on a presentation for the next Forum meeting.

- b. Mr. Lawson gave an update about the Mercer County Strategic Bus Plan, which is being developed in partnership with DVRPC. Mr. Lawson said the draft network is ready, but the modeling results have been delayed as DVRPC has been upgrading to a new travel demand model. He said preliminary results should be available at the next Forum meeting and that the project will also study ways to improve coordination among New Freedoms shuttle routes.

Mr. Lawson said the draft screening report is currently available from another project with DVRPC, developing a few potential park-and-ride locations along CR 571. Contact Greg Krykewycz, Senior Transportation Planner, at GKrykewycz@dvrpc.org for a copy. The project complements BRT efforts. Mr. Reed asked if the study could look more closely at the various markets that the park-and-ride would serve. Mr. Lawson said he would share the comment with Mr. Krykewycz.

Mr. Reed concluded the wide-ranging transit discussion by asking for the following items to be addressed at the next Forum meeting: 1) An update on the New Brunswick BRT and how it fits with the Route 1 BRT; 2) Refresher on Route 1 BRT; 3) How to better integrate shuttle services in the Forum area.

- c. Jesse Buerk, Transportation Planner at DVRPC, said the draft update of the Planned Projects Status Report was included in the meeting folders. He said that with the TIP being in flux, there was only one new capital project, a large resurfacing project. However, many projects in the Forum area are moving forward. In addition, land development projects continue to advance at a faster pace than transportation projects, despite the recession. Mr. Buerk thanked everyone who helped provide information for the report and asked for suggestions to improve it in the future.
- Mr. Reed suggested adding a map to track where projects are both geographically and in terms of phasing. He wanted to know the progression to get all of Route 1 current and modern.
 - Ms. Mount said that the Business Route 1 projects keep getting pushed back in time. She asked when the next TIP update will be and who to contact. Mr. Buerk said the next update will be this fall, and she would want to contact NJDOT. [Note: for these Business Route 1 projects, it would be appropriate to contact Tom Saylor, Manager, South Region, Project Development. For other projects, see the listing for program manager in the TIP. All NJDOT staff may be contacted through their switchboard at (609) 530-2000.]
- d. Mr. Corbalis gave an update about the Statewide TDR Study. He said NJ Future convened a task force that has made recommendations to make it easier to use TDR. The next step is finding a way to implement the recommended statutory changes. Mayor Cantu said he was involved with the original legislation and that he felt it was cumbersome by design, due in part to tension with the farming community. He asked Mr. Corbalis if there was a coalition of support for the modifications NJ Future was proposing. Mr. Corbalis said that the same tensions still exist, but that they are less intense than they once were, in part because there is buy-in regarding the need for change. He said NJ Future's report included input from the Farm Bureau. Ms. Ward asked if the report was available at NJ Future's website. Mr. Corbalis said that it was. [It can be found at <http://www.njfuture.org/Media/Docs/TDR%20report%20FINAL%20081110.pdf>]

7. ONE-MINUTE REPORTS

Mr. Reed introduced a new approach to one-minute reports. He asked everyone, starting with municipalities and counties to answer the following question: If the mortgage market were to suddenly loosen up, are there any large housing development projects that might become active in your town?

- Ms. Ward said that in West Windsor, there were some commercial projects that could become active, but very little in terms of housing.
- Mayor Trotman said there was not much room for new housing in Princeton Borough, other than through infill, such as that associated with the hospital's move.
- Mayor Cantu said there was not much room for housing in Plainsboro either, except for some senior housing associated with the hospital relocation project. He said that office development had slowed during the recession, and that it could potentially take off again if mortgage markets loosened up.
- Rich Krawczun, Township Manager of Lawrence Township, said there were some potential age-restricted housing projects in Lawrence that there is not a market for at present, that could come back to life. He said there would have to be some other factors in play besides changes in the mortgage market for that to happen though.
- Mr. Vigna said in North Brunswick, the developers for the Johnson and Johnson mixed-use redevelopment have received phase one approvals, and are eager to get started with construction. The developers are also ready to get started with the road improvements associated with the project.
- Bryan Bidlack, Planner at South Brunswick Township, said that South Brunswick never really saw a dip in their housing market. He said the township is seeing a lot of interest in mixed-use development, including more emphasis on rental and multi-family housing.
- Mr. Ververides said Middlesex County planning staff have been working with North Brunswick staff on the Johnson and Johnson redevelopment project. He also said the county was seeing more interest in mixed-use development in general. He mentioned a large planned project, the Princeton Triangle mixed-use development project. He added that commercial and warehousing vacancy rates were a concern for the county and that infrastructure improvements were vital for planned projects to go forward.
- Donna Lewis, Director of the Mercer County Planning Department, said there is not much happening in Mercer County in terms of major development projects. She said there has been a lot of redevelopment of strip shopping centers, but just replacement with different shops. She said if mortgage markets improved, the Quakerbridge Mall expansion project might finally advance. If that happened, she thought that the Wyeth site might become more interesting to developers.
- Walt Lane, Principal Planner at the Somerset County Department of Planning, said he thought that if mortgage markets improved, some of the stalled transit village projects in Somerset County could get going. There was discussion of housing developed at higher densities than the zoning because they were for the 55 and older community, but that are now being changed to be eligible for people of all ages.

Mr. Reed asked if there were other items of interest that anyone wanted to share.

- Mr. Ververides asked to add John Wisniewski's name to the cc list for the Transit Village letter. [Done]
- Alison Miller of the West Windsor Parking Authority and West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance, requested a procedure for other participants in the Forum, besides voting members, to add their names to endorsed items such as the Transit Village letter. She suggested calling non-voting members "associate" or "adjunct"

members. Ms. Miller requested that the Forum share the final Transit Village letter with everyone. [The letter was e-mailed to all members. A name for non-voting members will be recommended for the next agenda.]

- Mr. Reed added that non-voting municipalities and other groups were also welcome to endorse and sign their own separate resolutions.
- Ms. Mount asked if the final Transit Village support letter could include the list of entities that voted to endorse it. [Done]

There were no further comments. Ms. Mount and Mr. Reed adjourned the meeting. DVRPC will provide follow-up and notice of the next meeting once information is ready.

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.