

ONE PAGE OVERVIEW
CENTRAL JERSEY TRANSPORTATION FORUM
NOVEMBER 27TH, 2012 MEETING

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

There were over 55 participants, including representatives from 12 municipalities, two counties, two MPOs, and various agencies and organizations (for-profit and non-profit). Forum Chair Marvin Reed opened the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Two action items were addressed to begin the meeting: The June 25th meeting summary was adopted and a resolution of the Transit Action Team (TAT) was passed, recommending to NJ Transit that it study the development of a new transit line connecting Monroe, East Windsor, and West Windsor to the Princeton Junction Station via NJ 33 and CR 571 as the next near-term BRT route. Jack Kanarek, Chair of the TAT, provided an update about the group's September 24th meeting. Tom Vigna, Co-Chair of the Rt1RGS Action Team, provided an update about the progress of the Rt1RGS Action Team. Jesse Buerk, Transportation Planner at DVRPC, summarized a survey of Forum participants to gauge the success of restructuring efforts.

NEW JERSEY STRATEGIC PLAN

Dan Kennedy, Deputy Director of the NJ Department of State Office for Planning Advocacy, provided an overview of the final steps of the State Plan adoption process. In the wake of Hurricane Sandy, adoption has been tabled so more can be done to address coastal community hazards and statewide hazard issues. Bob Bzik, Director of Planning for the Somerset County Planning Division, gave a presentation on Somerset County's pioneering work to apply the State Plan criteria to develop a County Investment Framework.

BRIEF UPDATE ON NJDOT PROJECTS

Mark Rollo, Program Manager for the NJDOT Division of Project Management, provided updates about a number of projects in the US 1 and US 206 corridors. Details about the projects Mr. Rollo discussed were summarized in a handout distributed with the meeting folders. Mr. Buerk pointed out the new map included in the meeting folders to track NJDOT projects along US 206 and announced plans to create maps for other corridors, including NJ 27.

TRANSIT UPDATES

Tom Marchwinski, Director of Systems Planning at NJ Transit, provided a ridership update for the new Route 655 Bus and discussed ideas to market the route better. He also reported on the preliminary results of NJ Transit's 2012 Interstate Bus Survey. Peter Palmer, Somerset County Freeholder and NJTPA Board Member, gave an update about the initiative to reactivate service on the West Trenton Line. Walt Lane, Principal Planner at the Somerset County Planning Division, gave a brief update about the extension of the county's DASH service.

REFLECTING ON HURRICANE SANDY

Mr. Marchwinski discussed Hurricane Sandy's impacts on NJ Transit and the agency's recovery efforts. Mr. Reed said the next Forum meeting will focus on emergency response issues and asked the group for suggestions about what to cover, focusing on how to improve communication.

**MEETING SUMMARY
CENTRAL JERSEY TRANSPORTATION FORUM
NOVEMBER 27TH, 2012**

ATTENDEES: OVER 55 PARTICIPANTS – PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU ATTENDED BUT ARE NOT ON THE LIST.

Mayors			
Janice	Mironov	Mayor	East Windsor Township
Peter	Cantu	Mayor	Plainsboro Township
Shing-Fu	Hsueh	Mayor	West Windsor Township

Other Municipal Staff			
Jeffrey	Wilkerson	Principal Planner	City of Trenton, Division of Planning
Theodore	Chase	Councilman	Franklin Township Council & Planning Board
James	Parvesse	Township Engineer	Lawrence Township Engineering Division
Ed	Cohen	Transportation Specialist	Monroe Township
Gail	Smith	Engineer	Montgomery Township
Tom	Vigna	Township Planner; Co-Chair, RI1RGS Action Team	North Brunswick Township Community Development - Division of Planning
Anton	Lahnston	Chair	Princeton Borough Traffic and Transportation Committee
Marvin	Reed	Chairman - Master Plan Committee; Forum Co-Chair	Princeton Regional Planning Board
Lee	Solow	Planning Director	Princeton Regional Planning Board
Bryan	Bidlack	Planner	South Brunswick Township
Linda	Geevers	Council Member	West Windsor Township
Pat	Ward	Director of Community Development	West Windsor Township, Community Development Department

Counties			
Tony	Gambilonghi	Supervising Planner for Transportation	Middlesex County Department of Planning
George	Ververides	Director	Middlesex County Department of Planning
Bob	Bzik	Director of Planning	Somerset County Planning Division
Walt	Lane	Principal Planner	Somerset County Planning Division

Freeholder Peter Palmer represented Somerset County and the NJTPA Board.

Metropolitan Planning Organizations			
Rich	Bickel	Director of Planning	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Jesse	Buerk	Transportation Planner	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Lisa	MacCarrigan	Intern	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
Lois	Goldman	Director of Regional Planning	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			
Glenn	Reibman	Director of Policy and Planning	Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission
Bill	Neary	Executive Director	Keep Middlesex Moving TMA

Basil	Giletto	Chair of Transportation Committee	Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce
Joan	McGee	Watershed Policy Specialist	Stony Brook - Millstone Watershed Association

State Departments			
Robert	Tessier	Project Specialist	NJ Department of Community Affairs, Local Planning Services
Barry	Ableman	Principal Planner	NJ Department of State, Office for Planning Advocacy
Dan	Kennedy	Deputy Director	NJ Department of State, Office for Planning Advocacy
Danielle	Graves	Project Engineer	NJ Department of Transportation, Bureau of Statewide Strategies
Jim	Lewis	Manager	NJ Department of Transportation, Bureau of Statewide Strategies
Mark	Rollo	Program Manager	NJ Department of Transportation, Division of Project Management
Neha	Galgali	Principal Engineer	NJ Department of Transportation, Division of Statewide Planning
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			
Pam	Mount	Citizen, former Mayor	Lawrence Township Resident
Jerome	Lutin	Citizen	South Brunswick Township Resident
Daniel	O'Connell	NJ Legislative Director	NJ State Legislative Board/United Transportation Union
David	Parris	Citizen	Penns Neck Community
Sheldon	Sturges	Managing Director	Princeton Future
Pam	Hersh	Vice President for Government Relations	Princeton Healthcare System
Kristin	Appelget	Director	Princeton University, Community & Regional Affairs
Karen	Jezierny	Director	Princeton University, Public Affairs
Eric	Payne	Realtor Sales Associate	Smart Traffic Solutions and Weichert Realty
Chip	Crider	Citizen	Sports.org
John	Manzoni	Transportation Planner	STV Incorporated
Jack	Kanarek	Planning Manager – Philadelphia; Chair, Transit Action Team	Systra Consulting
Jerry	Foster	President	West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance
Alison	Miller	Board Secretary	West Windsor Parking Authority / West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

There were over 55 participants, including representatives from 12 municipalities, two counties, two MPOs, and various agencies and organizations (for-profit and non-profit). Marvin Reed, Forum Chair and Chairman of the Master Plan Committee for the Princeton Regional Planning Board, opened the meeting.

Everyone in attendance introduced himself or herself.

2. ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Reed said between now and the next meeting, it will be time for the annual update of representation letters officially designating the Forum's voting members and alternates. Zoe Neaderland, Manager of Transportation Safety and Congestion Management at DVRPC, will contact the appropriate people in the New Year to initiate the process.

Two action items were addressed to begin the meeting:

- There were no comments on the June 25th meeting summary and it was adopted unanimously.
- Jack Kanarek, Philadelphia Planning Manager for SYSTRA Consulting and Chair of the Transit Action Team (TAT), provided an update about the September 24th meeting of the TAT. Seeking to build on the success of the Route 655 Bus, TAT participants agreed that the proposed Route 656 from the NJ Transit Route 1 BRT near-term concept plan and Mercer County Future Bus Plan (or some variant) should be the next near-term route to advance. This would build on recent study efforts, including the DVRPC CR 571 Park-and-Ride study and the Mercer County Future Bus plan. The route would help work toward the Forum's goal of improving East-West connections and would provide a vital transit link to the Princeton Junction train station in West Windsor. At the TAT meeting, the mayors of both East and West Windsor expressed interest in moving this route forward. For these reasons, Mr. Kanarek explained that the TAT was requesting that the Forum vote to recommend to NJ Transit that it study the development of a new transit line connecting Monroe, East Windsor, and West Windsor to the Princeton Junction Station via NJ 33 and CR 571 as the next near-term BRT route. Janice Mironov, Mayor of East Windsor Township, endorsed the recommendation. Tom Marchwinski, Director of Systems Planning at NJ Transit, provided some clarifications to the wording of the resolution at the request of Barry Seymour, Executive Director of DVRPC. Mr. Marchwinski also listed several reasons that NJ Transit believes the proposed route could be successful, including the recent studies, some existing federal funding that could be used more efficiently, and existing privately run transit services in the corridor. A roll-call vote was held and the resolution passed unanimously.

Tom Vigna, North Brunswick Township Planner and Co-Chair of the Rt1RGS Action Team, provided an update about the progress of the Rt1RGS Action Team. Road Show presentations were made in North Brunswick and Franklin townships, and the Planning Boards of both municipalities passed smart growth resolutions afterward. South Brunswick Township is working to schedule a Road Show presentation in the New Year. Ms. Neaderland said she would follow-up after the meeting to schedule presentations in any other towns that would like them.

Jesse Buerk, Transportation Planner at DVRPC, gave a brief presentation about a survey of Forum participants to gauge how successful restructuring efforts have been so far. Over 50 people responded to the survey. Mr. Buerk thanked all the participants. Key takeaways included:

- Over 80 percent said they attend Forum meetings the same or more frequently than they did before the restructuring in May 2011.
- 70 percent said it's too early to tell if the Forum has become more action-oriented.

Mr. Buerk said there were also some good suggestions about how the Forum can become more effective. Leading suggestions included:

- More focus on land use issues;
- Doing more to involve elected officials; and
- Actively pursuing funding for projects.

Mr. Buerk asked for further clarification from the group. Ms. Neaderland asked whether local, state, or other elected officials were the most important to involve. Mr. Reed said it might help to do more to involve the Governor's office. Ed Cohen, Transportation Specialist for Monroe Township, said that regarding funding, it would be helpful to provide municipalities with guidance about how state and federal funds are distributed. Mr. Reed suggested that the two MPOs could give a presentation on the process at a future meeting. Mr. Reed concluded the discussion by stating that in his opinion, the Forum has been more focused since the restructuring effort.

3. NEW JERSEY STRATEGIC PLAN

Dan Kennedy, Deputy Director of the NJ Department of State Office for Planning Advocacy, provided an update on the final steps of the State Plan adoption process. A final round of public meetings was held last fall and county and municipal stakeholders provided helpful comments. The Plan was moving toward adoption, but in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, Office of Planning Advocacy staff recommended tabling adoption so more could be done to address coastal community hazards and statewide hazard issues. Staff is currently working to amend the draft. Mr. Kennedy said that adoption could be delayed as much as six months. Some of the key stakeholders in coastal communities are still in emergency mode, so it will take time to bring them into the conversation.

Mr. Kennedy clarified that when the Plan referred to "regional entities," this was meant to include regulatory agencies such as the Pinelands and Highlands Commissions, not groups like the Forum. He emphasized the bottom-up approach of the Plan and praised Somerset County's pioneering work to apply the Plan criteria. The final Plan will include more detail about the criteria and area types. Mr. Kennedy said the Plan makes the case that places like the Forum region, where a great deal of planning and coordination already have taken place, should be able to move faster and not have to start from scratch in the statewide planning process.

Bob Bzik, Director of Planning for the Somerset County Planning Division, gave a presentation on Somerset County's pioneering work to apply the State Plan criteria to develop a County Investment Framework. Mr. Bzik noted that a more detailed version of his PowerPoint was included in the meeting folders. He said the investment framework builds on plans and study efforts the county has already developed. The State Strategic Plan (SSP) gives counties a leading role if they choose to take it, ensuring a bottom-up process that emphasizes municipal coordination. He said one advantage of the process is that it helps provides certainty to towns and local business owners.

Mr. Bzik described Somerset County's process, which utilized many existing Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping resources. The state's definitions for Priority Growth, Priority Protection, Alternate Growth, and Limited Core Investment Areas were used along with the SSP's "core" criteria. The county also used its own secondary criteria in addition to these, for example to respect smaller places where some development is appropriate, but would likely be infill rather than new development. Mr.

Bzik said the analysis identified about 13 percent of the county as priority growth areas and 49 percent as priority preservation areas.

Mr. Bzik reviewed some key definitions from the SSP. He described the iterative stakeholder outreach process the county used to solicit input from municipalities, local groups, various agencies, and others. Overall, he said the process identified many key issues and allowed for easy re-designation of areas based on stakeholder input. Going forward, Somerset County is taking advantage of an NJTPA Local Government Capacity Grant to take the work to the next level by studying economic conditions and conducting infrastructure assessments within the priority growth investment areas. He encouraged everyone to visit the county's website for more information, including around 25 maps, an FAQ section, and multiple guidance documents. The website address is: www.co.somerset.nj.us/planweb/sustainable/index.htm.

Mr. Reed opened the floor for questions and comments. The discussion included the following highlights:

- Mr. Reed asked who will sign off on the county's investment framework. Mr. Bzik said the County Board will hold a vote to endorse it and the framework will also be submitted to the State Planning Commission. After adoption, the county will touch base with municipalities on a yearly basis to find out if changes need to be made. A formal procedure for amendments is being developed. Mr. Bzik emphasized that the goal is for the framework to evolve rather than being a static map.
- Mr. Reed asked George Ververides, Director of the Middlesex County Department of Planning, if Middlesex County was planning to undertake a similar process. Mr. Ververides said that the county is in the beginning stages at this time. The county is finishing a wastewater management plan that will inform the investment framework analysis. Extensive stakeholder outreach is planned, especially to municipalities. The county is also working on an updated transportation plan. Mr. Ververides said he would be happy to present the final product to the Forum.
- Mr. Kennedy praised the leadership of Somerset County. He said they proved that a bottom-up process could work and that willing partnerships could happen.
- Mr. Bzik said the county has already presented its work to several other interested counties and would be happy to present it to anyone else who is interested.
- Mr. Cohen said that what's missing is a connection between municipal plans and actual site plan submissions. He asked how a regional plan might integrate with local master plans in a way that accounts for plans at the parcel level. Mr. Bzik said that the County Investment Framework is a policy document, so it doesn't have the force of a regulatory document. He said that Somerset County used GIS files of municipal level zoning and that their analysis included checking for contradictions between the investment framework and local zoning.
- Mr. Seymour asked Mr. Kennedy if the state would create guidance for counties regarding how to go about the process, so the state doesn't receive 21 different plans. Mr. Kennedy said that different counties will have different approaches, which is fine. He added that after the Plan is adopted, there will be a process to amend the State Planning Board's rules, which could take up to a year. In the interim, he said there will likely be a policy in place so planning board can move forward with an approval process for counties like Somerset that are ahead of the pack. Mr. Seymour asked if counties could work together to submit multi-county plans. Mr. Kennedy said he hoped some counties would do exactly that. Working together can lead to efficiencies and help counties do more with fewer resources.

- Bill Neary, Executive Director of Keep Middlesex Moving TMA, asked how COAH fits in with everything being discussed. Mr. Kennedy said diversifying housing is a core value of the Plan, but also acknowledged that COAH represents a major area of uncertainty. He expects a decision from the state Supreme Court soon, but said he thinks it's possible to move forward even without that decision. Mr. Bzik said Somerset County addressed the issue by creating a separate database to track redevelopment areas and certified affordable housing plans.

4. BRIEF UPDATE ON NJDOT PROJECTS

Mark Rollo, Program Manager for the NJDOT Division of Project Management, provided updates about a number of projects in the US 1 and US 206 corridors, referencing a spreadsheet that was included in the meeting folders as a handout.

He began by discussing the cancelled Route 1 left-turn restrictions Pilot Project. While Route 1 itself, the overpasses, and some of the side streets performed well during the trial, many other roads did not, including Alexander Road and Faculty Road. The issue with illegal U-turns on Washington Road the main reason to end the trial early, due to the problems this issue was causing in residential neighborhoods. NJDOT was still able to collect some useful data from the trial and will evaluate the data.

Mr. Rollo said work is ongoing to downsize the Penns Neck project. A new \$70 million plan for the project is being finalized, but has not been shown to the public yet. The project is still quite expensive, so funding is a concern. The "Route 1 in a cut" aspect of the project has been removed, but it still includes an overpass at Harrison Street. Mr. Rollo also said that NJDOT is working with NJ Transit and West Windsor Township to advance the Vaughn Drive project. Funding options are being explored.

Mr. Buerk pointed out the new map included in the meeting folders to track NJDOT projects along US 206. He said this map and the complementary one for US 1 will be updated between editions of the Planned Projects Status Report. He announced plans to create maps for other corridors, including NJ 27. Mr. Buerk said suggestions for other corridors are welcome. Mr. Rollo provided updates for the US 206 projects.

Mr. Reed asked if the data from the Route 1 left-turn restrictions Pilot Project would be shared with local planners. Mr. Rollo said it would. Mr. Reed said it should be some very useful traffic data.

Shing-Fu Hsueh, Mayor of West Windsor, provided comments from the Six Mayors' Coalition. He noted that the Coalition began with six mayors, but that as of January 1st when the consolidation of Princeton Township and Princeton Borough takes place, it will be a coalition of five mayors. He noted some of the community advocates from the Penns Neck neighborhood who were in attendance. Mayor Hsueh mentioned that he spoke to NJDOT Commissioner James Simpson recently about the Penns Neck project redesign mentioned by Mr. Rollo. Mayor Hsueh has not seen the revised plan yet, but he said he would share anything he learns with the other mayors. He expressed confidence that the project could still achieve its goals even without the "Route 1 in a cut" aspect, as long as the Harrison Street Overpass, Vaughn Drive extension, and Alexander Bridge widening over Stony Brook are completed. Speaking about the Route 1 left-turn restrictions Pilot Project, Mayor Hsueh said that there were many unintended

negative consequences in the Penns Neck area. He thanked Commissioner Simpson for personally observing the trial on three occasions and for being flexible enough to cancel the trial early when it became clear that it was causing too much harm to the residential neighborhoods. He mentioned that he has a meeting scheduled with NJDOT and NJ Transit to discuss moving the Vaughn Drive project forward. Finally, Mayor Hsueh thanked the residents of the Penns Neck neighborhood for their advocacy and patience, and NJDOT for being flexible and listening to the concerns of citizens.

Mr. Bzik mentioned an issue that has come up many times in the past, with developers being able to get around municipal and county plans by first applying for and getting access permits from NJDOT, then using them as leverage to submit site plans that are inconsistent with local zoning. It was hoped that recent revisions to the Access Code would address this issue.

5. TRANSIT UPDATES

Mr. Reed said that Greg Krykewycz, Manager of the Office of Transit, Bicycle, and Pedestrian Planning at DVRPC, had originally planned to attend but unfortunately was unable to make it to the rescheduled meeting. Mr. Krykewycz had planned to share the recently published DVRPC CR 571 Park-and-Ride Study and to speak about Future Senior Transportation Services, Transit Signal Prioritization, and Transit Planning in Mercer County. (Copies of the CR 571 report were made available to attendees. The pdf is available at: www.dvrpc.org/asp/pubs/publicationabstract.asp?pub_id=11017.) Mr. Krykewycz's PowerPoint was sent to the Forum by e-mail and was included as a hand-out in the meeting folders. Cheryl Kastrenakes, Executive Director of Greater Mercer TMA, was also unable to attend to talk about Greater Mercer TMA's New Freedom specialized transit study. She will present this information at the next meeting.

Mr. Marchwinski provided a ridership update for the new Route 655 Bus. He said ridership had increased until summer, when it dropped a bit, before leveling off at about 180 to 200 riders per day. NJ Transit is looking to do more marketing and outreach for the route. Some target audiences have been identified, including seniors and merchants in Princeton. Another idea is to promote the fact that monthly/weekly NJ Transit train passes can be used for free travel on the Route 655 and other local buses within one to two zones of a train station. Mr. Marchwinski also said NJ Transit is coordinating with Plainsboro Township to connect the route to the new Novo Nordisk office building, which will have over 1,000 employees when it opens. The developers are planning to build a connection to the bus stop.

The floor was opened to questions. The discussion included the following highlights:

- John Manzoni, Transportation Planner at STV Incorporated, asked where the ridership seemed to be coming from. Mr. Marchwinski said NJ Transit is not sure yet, but that a survey is planned. He added that he thinks there are opportunities to add more riders going to and from Princeton.
- Pam Hersh, Vice President for Government Relations at Princeton Healthcare System said she doesn't think people know the bus makes a loop through Princeton. Like all NJ Transit routes, the bus stops at many more places than the time points on the schedule indicate, which some people might not realize from looking at the schedule. Mr. Seymour asked if it would be possible to do a more detailed schedule map, or if the scale made it too challenging. Mr. Marchwinski said that the scale

does make it very difficult. Mr. Seymour suggested branded signs at the bus stops. Mr. Marchwinski said that NJ Transit could work with Princeton on that, since the municipality maintains the stops.

- Pete Cantu, Mayor of Plainsboro Township, said that a new physical health facility is opening soon at the University Medical Center of Princeton at Plainsboro, which should provide a bump of additional ridership.

Mr. Marchwinski provided an update on the preliminary results of NJ Transit's 2012 Interstate Bus Survey. This effort surveyed all private carriers and NJ Transit routes that go to New York City, including Coach USA and Suburban Transit. A report summarizing the survey is nearly complete and will help inform efforts such as the CR 571 corridor transit planning.

Peter Palmer, Somerset County Freeholder and NJTPA Board Member, said there is county work underway on an initiative to reactivate service on the West Trenton Line. He offered to present it at a future Forum meeting.

Walt Lane, Principal Planner at the Somerset County Planning Division, gave a brief update about the successful extension of the county's DASH service. Ted Chase, Franklin Township Councilman and Planning Board member, pointed out that the service could serve mixed-use and affordable housing developments on Hamilton Street and NJ 27 if it was extended a bit further. Tony Gambilonghi, Supervising Planner for Transportation at the Middlesex County Department of Planning, said that the new route is included in Middlesex County's updated transportation plan.

6. REFLECTING ON HURRICANE SANDY

Mr. Marchwinski gave an update about Hurricane Sandy's impacts on NJ Transit and the agency's recovery efforts. NJ Transit assets suffered hundreds of millions of dollars in damage, including rail tunnels under the Hudson River flooding for the first time. He said by now most of the impacted services were finally back up and running. He mentioned extra bus service that was brought online with help from Coach USA and FEMA. He thanked everyone for their patience during this unprecedented emergency.

The discussion included the following highlights:

- Mr. Palmer asked if insurance would cover the damages. Tom Clark, Regional Manager of Government and Community Relations at NJ Transit, said that most of the damage would be covered.
- Mary K. Murphy, Executive Director of NJTPA, praised NJ Transit for making the additional bus services available. She said it really saved the day for people. Mr. Clark mentioned that with train services down, bus routes in the Hoboken area were carrying 100 times their normal capacity.
- Pat Ward, Director of Community Development for West Windsor Township, complimented NJ Transit for providing timely and helpful web updates.
- Mr. Reed said the next Forum meeting will focus on emergency response issues. He said the topic had been proposed after Hurricane Irene last year, and that it's even timelier now. He asked the group for suggestions about what to cover, focusing on how to improve communication.

- Mayor Hsueh mentioned that West Windsor Township used social media outlets such as Facebook to provide updates to residents. The township also used reverse 911 to get information out on a daily basis. Residents were able to register through the township website and provide updates. However, some people did not have power or phone service, which made it difficult to get information to them. He said the township is looking for other options to provide residents with timely information during and after emergency situations.
- Mr. Reed said Princeton's municipal building was open 24 hours a day in the aftermath of the storm. Many people used it to charge their laptops and cell phones.
- Mr. Bzik suggested bringing in the three county Office of Emergency Management (OEM) coordinators to talk about plans to coordinate across county lines. He said there is a structured process for relaying information and that the county's role is pivotal. Mr. Reed said that something like that was being considered for the next meeting. Ms. Neaderland mentioned that the idea was listed on the Forum's accomplishment tracking grid, included in the meeting folders.
- Mr. Chase suggested that local radio could be an option to get information to the public when phones and electricity are out, since a person could access the radio with a battery-powered set. He said there weren't good processes in place to facilitate this information exchange. Pam Mount, Citizen and former Mayor of Lawrence Township, added that Mercer County Community College has a station that could potentially be used the way Mr. Chase was suggesting.
- Mr. Reed summarized the discussion by stating that the OEMs will need to adapt to be able to broadcast information, in addition to collecting it, during future events.

7. OPEN FORUM

Mr. Reed thanked everyone for attending and asked for a motion to conclude the meeting. There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

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.