

Meeting Highlights

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was held at the Friend Center Convocation Room at Princeton University. There were over 50 participants, including representatives from 11 municipalities, three counties, two MPOs, and various agencies and organizations (for-profit and non-profit). Bill Neary, Forum Chair, welcomed everyone and began a round of short introductions around the room. Mr. Neary introduced Mayor Liz Lempert and thanked her for hosting us in Princeton. Mayor Lempert welcomed everyone and provided some updates on transportation in Princeton including:

- NJDOT grant for a town bike plan
- Experimenting with a beta/temporary bike lane on Wiggins Ln from 5/19-29
- Annual Princeton Ciclovía where Quaker Rd is closed to car traffic
- Completed parking study, a new app and target for 85% occupancy using meter pricing
- Establishing a parking bank/fund for zoning variances
- Working on a form-based code to avoid the replacement of middle class homes with \$1.4M ones
- Adaptive reuse at the Princeton Shopping Center
- Lee Solo retired and Princeton is looking for a new Planner

Forum Business

Bill Neary called for a motion to vote on the Draft Highlights from the February 1st Forum meeting. Matt Lawson motioned the vote and Walt Lane seconded. All in attendance voted in favor of approving the highlights.

Barry Ableman of the Department of State introduced Melanie Willoughby, the new Executive Director of the Business Action Center. The Business Action Center exists to help businesses feel at home in New Jersey and seeks to grow in innovation and the tech sector for the state. Governor Murphy has committed to maintaining the Business Action Center as part of his economic agenda. The budget is expected to be released July 1, followed by the economic agenda around September 2018. Funding for neighborhood preservation and main streets programs will be clarified after the budget is released.

The Draft Strategic Plan has been a work in progress for the last year and was presented at the last meeting in February. Bill Neary asked for additional comments and there were none. Walt Lane motioned a vote on its approval and Matt Lawson seconded. 14 voted in favor of adopting the Plan. Three voting entities were absent and did not vote.

Alain Kornhauser presented information about Google/Waymo's distribution of driverless cars and argued that a portion should come to Central Jersey. He asked that local and regional Planning Directors start thinking about this trend and how to plan for it.

NJ Port Authority Gateway

The Steering Committee drafted a Resolution in Support of the Gateway Project. Phil Beachem for the NJ Alliance for Action has been working with the Congressional delegation in Washington on the project. There is no issue of support within NJ, but there are many with delegations from other states. The Alliance is working with the Port Authority Gateway Development Corporation and others, advocating that funding needs to come from more than just transportation. Suggestions for the Resolution being sent beyond state boundaries included the US Secretaries of Transportation, Homeland Security, Treasury, and Commerce. Ted Chase motioned a vote to approve the draft Resolution and Mayor Lempert seconded. 14 voted in favor of adopting the Plan. Three voting entities were absent and did not vote.

Updating Planning Studies

Members of the Steering committee introduced a potential first step in advancing the Strategic Plan: a \$150-500k study of transit service in central New Jersey aimed at keeping the region competitive to maximize future investment in transportation and economic development. The Steering Committee

discussed importance of integrated planning across domains and hope to have funding in place by next year to begin a plan. Some of the driving forces for this initiative include:

- The rise of automated vehicles and transportation network companies (TNCs)
- Increased congestion and demand for expensive, new-capacity highway projects
- The interest of companies like Apple in building large campuses in the region, and the housing needs that would follow.
- Challenges in getting an existing workforce to job sites

The Forum would continue to work towards implementation of a Rt 1 BRT, and focus on land use. Barry Seymour suggested a small working group involving the 3 counties, NJTPA, DVRPC, NJDOT, NJTRANSIT & the NJ DCA to take the lead on developing a scope of work over the summer that could be presented to membership at the next Forum meeting in September. Tom Vigna motioned a vote to approve a scope of work development for the September Forum meeting. Gail Smith seconded and all in attendance voted in favor.

NJTPA Land Use Database Tools

Zenobia Fields presented NJTPA's New Jersey Land Use + Transit Data Application data schema for development. It allows users to map, report, and download land use, travel, transit, demographic, and real estate development data. Users can test the tool in a specified area and make use of tutorials and help buttons. Transit data focuses on the northern bridge, but NJTPA hopes to expand the tool for all transit stations in New Jersey. Matt Lawson suggested that it may be a good model for counties to standardize and coordinate the way they collect zoning application data so they can be visualized online, and asked if it was important that counties invest their resources in a tool like this that requires a collective investment in the data pipeline. No attendees suggested this was a need.

Ms. Fields also presented NJTPA's Planning Recommendations Integration Management Engine (PRIME) database and schema, used to organize and map planning studies. The tool allows users to search a geographic location topic, or key word. NJTPA is currently expanding user testing and expects a full rollout in July. Current data includes Somerset and Middlesex with some of Mercer County. Kaitlynn Davis is the lead developer.

Planning Projects Round Table

Cheryl Kastrenakes of GMTMA announced a recently launched trail plan study covering all of Mercer County, as well as Plainsboro and Montgomery. WSP is the consultant on the project, tasked with filling in existing gaps and working toward an interconnected multiuse trail network to be used as a transportation option. Ms. Kastrenakes requested that members respond to requests for data. The first public session was an open house in Princeton the last week of April. The website (<https://mailchi.mp/a8cafbb39dde/gmtrailnetwork>) allows participants to draw lines interactively where they want to see trails. Ms. Kastrenakes also announced that Safe Routes to School and TAP grants will be announced sometime in May. Applicants might need the school's participation before they close in June and should plan ahead.

Walt Lane of Somerset announced that the County is working on an investment framework for the priority growth areas identified last summer, and on other elements of master plan such as preservation, which will be adopted at the end of 2018 as part of master plan. Somerset was also awarded a regional TAP grant to create true regional trail network and is working with Ridewise and Rutgers on a studio class to focus on bike/ped issues and a school travel plan.

Matt Lawson of Mercer announced that the County is working with DVRPC on a capital program plan for implementing bike facilities on county roads. Mercer is working to comply with NJDOT's complete street design guide. A striping plan has been developed in GIS for Nottingham Way through Hamilton and may be implemented during the next paving cycle. Another lane proposal has been submitted for Ewing. Mr. Lawson also announced that the DVRPC CMAQ program is open, with funding carved out specifically to support trails. More information is available at <https://www.dvrpc.org/cmaq/>.

Brief Updates & Dialogue

Peg Hanna, Acting Assistant Director, Department of Environmental Protection Air Monitoring and Mobile Sources, provided an update on the DEP-Volkswagen Settlement. The emissions case affected 600k vehicles nationwide and 17k vehicles in New Jersey. Three components to the \$15B settlement include recall, investment in electric vehicle charging stations and education campaigns, and a trust for beneficiaries. \$72.2M will be distributed to New Jersey, which will be spending the maximum 15% on EV charging or Hydro fueling stations. Grant applications and more information is available at <http://www.drivegreen.nj.gov/programs.html>, by subscribing to the list serve at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/vw/subscribe.html>, or by contacting VWComments@dep.nj.gov.

NJTPA provided a handout on its Planning for Emerging Centers applications. Funding is available for regulatory modifications or advance sustainable development in one of NJTPA's emerging centers, with emphasis on age-friendly communities & electric vehicles. Two workshops will be held the last week of June on complete streets implementation.

Alain Kornhauser announced the 2nd Annual Princeton SmartDrivingCars Summit, May 15-17.

Cheryl Kastrenakes announced that GMTMA would be hosting a Vision Zero workshop on May 3rd.

Bill Neary reported that KMM's 2018 NJ Electric Vehicle Conference was well attended and congratulated the CJTF panel on its attendance at TransAction NJ in April.

Mary K Murphy is now working at the NJ Port Authority. NJTPA is looking for a new Executive Director.

There were no further comments. Bill Neary adjourned the meeting.

The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, and related nondiscrimination statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website, www.dvrpc.org, may be translated into multiple languages. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages and formats, if requested. DVRPC public meetings are always held in ADA-accessible facilities and in transit-accessible locations when possible. Auxiliary services can be provided to individuals who submit a request at least seven days prior to a meeting. Requests made within seven days will be accommodated to the greatest extent possible. Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice by DVRPC under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint. Any such complaint may be in writing and filed with DVRPC's Title VI Compliance Manager and/or the appropriate state or federal agency within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory occurrence. For more information on DVRPC's Title VI program, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, please call (215) 238-2871 or email public_affairs@dvrpc.org.



Attendees

Mayors			
Liz	Lempert	Mayor	Princeton

Municipal Staff & Council Members			
Ann	Bell	Zoning Officer	Robbinsville Township
Bryan	Bidlack	Director of Planning	South Brunswick Township
Theodore	Chase Jr	Council Member	Franklin Township
David	Cohen	Council Member	Princeton
Hal	English		Robbinsville Township
Francis	Guzik		West Windsor Township
Arthur	Lehrhaupt	Board Chair	Plainsboro Twp.
Alison	Miller	Council President	West Windsor Township
James	Parvesse	Lawrence Township	Lawrence Township
Tejal	Patel		Princeton
Gail	Smith	Township Engineer	Montgomery Township
Deanna	Stockton		Princeton
Les	Varga	Director	Plainsboro Township
Tom	Vigna		New Brunswick
Pat	Ward	Council Member	West Windsor Township

Counties			
Anthony	Gambilonghi	Supervising Planner, Transportation	Middlesex County Office of Planning
Walter	Lane	Planning Director	Somerset County
Matthew	Lawson	Principal Planner-Transportation	Mercer County
George	Ververides	Director	Middlesex County
Kenneth	Wedeen	Supervising Planner	Somerset County Planning Board

Metropolitan Planning Organizations			
Michael	Boyer	Associate Director	DVRPC
Jaclyn	Davis	Program Manager	DVPRC
Zenobia	Fields	NJTPA	NJTPA
Doug	Greenfeld	NJTPA	NJTPA
Barry	Seymour	Executive Director	DVRPC

Other Regional Bodies			
Phil	Beachem		NJ Alliance for Action
Basil	Giletto	Chair of Transportation Committee	Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce (MRCC)
Cheryl	Kastrenakes		Greater Mercer TMA
Bill	Neary		Keep Middlesex Moving



State Departments			
Barry	Ableman	Principal Planner	NJ Secretary of State, Office for Planning Advocacy
Thomas	Clark		NJ TRANSIT
Tom	Houck	Sr. Transportation Planner	NJDOT
Robert	Tessier	Project Specialist	Department of Community Affairs
Gerry	Scharfenberger	Business Action Center Director	New Jersey Department of State
Melanie	Willoughby		New Jersey Business Action Center
Mike	Viscardi		NJ TRANSIT

Other			
Kristin	Appelget	Director of Community and Regional Affairs	Princeton University
Kathleen	Brennan		West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance
Jim	Constantine		Looney Ricks Kiss
Chris	Coenza		Looney Ricks Kiss
Widmarc	Dalce	Student Services Coordinator	Mercer County Community College
Andrew	Feranda		Shropshire Associates LLC
Jim	Hess		AECOM
Jack	Kanarek		Dewberry
Katherine	Kish	Ex. DIR.	EINSTEIN'S ALLEY
Marvin	Reed	Former mayor & CJTF Chair	Princeton Borough
Sheldon	Sturges		Princeton Future
Steven	Santoro		Dewberry
Karen	Jezierny		Princeton University
Jim	Hess		AECOM
Tushar	Patel		AECOM
Yan Mei	Wang	Council Candidate	West Windsor Township