



QUARTERLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force

10:00 A.M., Wednesday, October 13th, 2010

8th Floor—DVRPC Main Conference Room

190 North Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106

1. Call to order

Task Force Co-Chair Don Shanis of DVRPC called the quarterly freight advisory committee meeting to order. All Task Force members were recognized, and new attendees were welcomed. Minutes from the prior Task Force meeting on July 14, 2010 were adopted as presented.

2. Future Freight Flows Workshop

Dr. Chris Caplice, of the Center for Transportation and Logistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, described the Future Freight Flows Workshop to be held at the DVRPC offices on November 4, 2010 (by invitation only). Sponsored by FHWA, the November workshop will bring together a variety of local freight experts and stakeholders to evaluate the region's freight transportation network under four diverse global scenarios and to contemplate the implications of the scenarios for the Delaware Valley's freight transportation network in 2040.

Dr. Caplice explained the difficulty in planning for the future and how using scenarios can benefit in terms of creating priorities. Most forecasts use the last 5 years of trends and project them 20-30 years into the future, creating a linear growth pattern. However, linear growth patterns are almost never seen in reality. Workshop participants will determine a set of priorities for 1 of 4 assigned scenarios. The workshop will wrap up by looking at what the four global scenarios and how the priorities are similar and dissimilar in each. A presentation of the results will be given at the January Task Force meeting.

3. Construction Project Overview—Pennsylvania Turnpike

Don Steele, Senior Engineer/Project Manager, discussed major planned transportation projects for the Pennsylvania Turnpike's Eastern Region. Mr. Steele started by discussing the I-95 and PA Turnpike interchange project that has now been broken into 3 phases. Phase 1, which has unofficially begun (PA Turnpike has begun work with their own money and will not officially begin the project until all federal funding has been secured), will include ramps connecting northbound I-95 to eastbound PA Turnpike and westbound PA Turnpike to southbound I-95. Additionally, the current toll plaza will be moved west of the new interchange and numerous bridges need to be widened in order to make the project possible. Lastly, there will be a renumbering of the roadway: I-95 will become one continuous route following the PA Turnpike to the NJ Turnpike; the existing northern section of I-95 will be re-numbered to I-195. The Turnpike Commission is hopeful that Phase 1 of the project will be completed in 2017. Phase 2 of the project will construct all other movements at the interchange and phase 3 will reconstruct the PA Turnpike / I-95 Bridge over the Delaware River. Phase 2 is in preliminary design. Neither Phase 2 nor Phase 3 has any timeline on when they will be completed.

Mr. Steele continued by giving an update on PA Turnpike reconstruction and widening projects. In the DVRPC region the Turnpike was built between 50 and 60 years ago and thusly needs a complete reconstruction. The Turnpike Commission is taking this opportunity to make all of their roadways in the DVRPC region 3 lanes in each direction with 12 foot lanes and 12 foot shoulders on either side of the travel lanes. A stretch to the East of I-476 along I-276 has already been completed. Going Lastly, Mr. Steele briefly reviewed the construction time frames for the reconstruction of the travel plazas and new interchanges that are being constructed using EZ Pass only equipment in Bensalem and Route 29 in Chester County.

4. Federal Railroad Administration—Region 2 Update

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is a vital branch of the U.S. Department of Transportation that oversees the development of national freight and passenger rail policy, safety regulations and initiatives, legislation, and research and development activities, as well as enforcement of FRA safety regulations. Brian Hontz, Regional Administrator, provided an overview of FRA's current programs and initiatives in FRA Region 2 (which includes Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland and Delaware).

In FRA Region 2 there are 113 employees, 74 provided by the FRA itself and 39 through the states. In 2009 Region 2 completed 13,212 inspection reports, in which 4,347 defects were found and 1,127 violations were issued. In 2009, there were 8 major accidents, 6 minor accidents, and 6 fatalities (the FRA only counts fatalities of railroad employees and railroad contractors). The FRA also takes an active role in monitoring rail-highway grade crossings. In 2009, 41 crossings had failures, which could result from the lights not flashing, the gates not closing, etc. Again all the numbers presented were for the entire FRA Region 2, not solely for the DVRPC region.

5. Optimizing Our Waterways for Transportation

Siva Narayanan, Rhodia's Worldwide Core Process Owner for Rhodia's inbound and outbound logistics, discussed the Delaware Valley's unique opportunity to take advantage of marine highway initiatives. The region possesses an industrial belt and shipyard base to maintain its waterway assets and infrastructure. Marine highways, which can reduce pollution and risks in highly populated areas, require some "out of the box" thinking. Mr. Narayanan's presentation focused on the opportunities in the chemicals and hazardous materials industry. Mr. Narayanan gave an impassioned talk and discussed in detail examples of successful marine highways in Australia.

The Task Force has been supportive of Marine Highways and one member commented on the opportunities that they can provide. Members also commented on the history of marine highways before many of the ships were commandeered for WWII.

Mr. Narayanan's presentation will be posted to the web on the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force page (www.dvrpc.org/Freight/DVGMTF.htm)

6. Two-minute Reports

The following Task Force and Subcommittee chairs and Task Force members provided updates on the activities of their companies and agencies:

- Talvin Davis.....NJDOT
- Bobbie Geier.....DelDOT
- Peter Palmer.....NJTPA
- Don Shanis.....DVRPC
- Rick Crawford.....Data Subcommittee
- Kelvin MacKavanagh.....Planning Subcommittee
- Ed King.....Shipping Subcommittee
- Bob Siebeneicher.....Eastern Metal Recycling
- Tom Kenny.....Gerace Enterprise
- Roy Kardon.....The Traffic Club of Philadelphia
- Karin Foster.....Metro Washington Council of Governments

8. Old/New Business

The committee agreed to 2011 meeting dates of the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force are: January 12, April 13, July 13, and October 12.

Meeting Participants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Allen, Walker	DVRPC
Anderson, David	DVRPC
Barth, Suzanne	XTL
Ben-Amos, Ariel	City of Philadelphia
Bonfig, Joseph	Zarwin Baum
Boyer, Michael	DVRPC
Breeman, Paul	Holt Logistics
Brillhart, Sandra	FHWA – NJ
Caplice, Chris	MIT
Carafides, Paul	DVRPC
Cerone, Anthony	XTL
Cipriani, Eugene	DVRPC RCC
Cooper, Tom	Conrail (retired)
Cotter, Brandon	Delaware County Planning Department
Crawford, Rick	Norfolk Southern
Dahlburg, Ted	DVRPC
Davis, Talvin	NJDOT
Dean, Richard	Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst
Delp, Paul	Lansdale Warehouse
DeYoung, Larry	L.A. DeYoung, Inc
D'Ottavi, Stephen	Camden Iron & Metal
Douglas, Scott	NJDOT
Duffy, Ed	Duffy Associates
Foster, Karin	MWCOG
Geier, Bobbie	DelDOT
Goetz, William	CSX
Gunning, George	MCEDC
Haas, Jerri	Advanced Drainage Systems
Hastings, Allison	DVRPC
Hayes, Linda	DRPA
Heinzelmann, Ray	Gahagan & Bryant
Hontz, Brian	FRA
Jandoli, Chris	PB
John, Justin	Temple University
Kane, Tom	True Transport Insure
Kardon, Roy	NAI Mertz
Kenny, Tom	Gerace
King, Edward	Sunoco, Inc.
Lazarus, Karen	DVRPC
Levecchia, Andrew	Camden County Improvement Authority
MacKavanagh, Kelvin	MacKavanagh Railroad Consulting
Maher, Chloe	DVRPC
Marrs, Drew	Norfolk Southern
McCarthy, Leslie	Villanova University
Moore, Ron	Pennoni Associates
Narayanan, Siva	Rhodia, Inc
Novak, Allison	Villanova University
Palmer, Peter	NJTPA Freight Committee
Pawson, John	DVRPC RCC

Pokorny, James	Villanova University
Ratko, Wes	Montgomery County Planning Commission
Rogers, Nick	Clean Air Council
Schlihter, Bruce	ADS
Schoonmaker, Elizabeth	DVRPC
Shanis, Donald	DVRPC
Siebeneicher, Bob	Camden Iron and Metal
Steele, Don	PA Turnpike Commission
Thomas, Carol	Burlington County
Walston, Dan	FHWA
Ward, John	DVRPC
Ward, John	YRC
Watts, Douglas	D. Wellington Consulting
Weiner, Harvey	Dependable Distribution
Wells, Tim	LTK Engineering Services
Westergaard, Rick	Gloucester County Planning Division
Winkler, Fred	Winchester & Western Railroad