



## **QUARTERLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force**

**10:00 A.M., Wednesday, April 16, 2014**

**8th Floor—DVRPC Main Conference Room**

190 North Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106

#### **1. Call to Order**

Co-chairs Rich Bickel of DVRPC and Sarah Gulick of PennDOT called the quarterly freight advisory committee meeting to order. Mr. Bickel welcomed all new and returning committee members. Following this brief recognition, all attendees were invited to introduce themselves and their affiliations.

The minutes from the prior Task Force meeting on January 17, 2014 were circulated. It was noted that any modifications/corrections can be transmitted to DVRPC's Mike Ruane.

DVRPC has applied for 1 AICP Certification Maintenance Credit for eligible meeting attendees. Eligible attendees should check the AICP website for availability.

All PowerPoint presentations will be made available on-line at:  
<http://www.dvrpc.org/asp/committee/committee.aspx?p=DVGMTF>

#### **2. Crude Oil by Rail in the Delaware Valley**

Jeff Moore of Region 2 of the Federal Railroad Administration discussed crude oil transport by rail in North America and to Delaware Valley refineries and bulk transfer facilities. The presentation highlighted the extent of shale plays across North America which has resulted in the uptick of domestic crude activity in recent years. From 2005 to 2012, crude oil traffic has increased 443%. In the Delaware Valley key facilities Mr. Moore highlighted include Philadelphia Energy Solutions in Philadelphia, PBF Energy in Delaware City, and Eddystone Railway Company in Eddystone Borough.

One of the issues facing the shipment of crude by rail is the supply of tank cars. Mr. Moore highlighted some of the key factors being considered in tank car standards and testing as well as the current status of the tank car manufacturing industry. By current numbers the annual deficit in manufacturing capacity is 48,000 cars. Mr. Moore also touched on measures taken by federal regulators in response to the potential safety issues associated with the transport of this commodity. In the past half year, new operational requirements have been instituted, classification standards have been upgraded for shippers, track inspection frequency has increased and additional actions are pending.

Several questions were raised following Mr. Moore's presentation. Questioned on the need for higher standards for infrastructure to carry this commodity, Mr. Moore explained that the standards are where they need to be but as volume increases, inspection frequency will need to increase as well to identify issues that arise from regular wear and tear. Currently the FRA does not foresee major changes or impacts to passenger operations on the NEC as these services have temporal separation. On the SEPTA Airport Line, new operations at Eddystone will use a window between 12AM and 4AM to access the Chester Secondary without conflict with passenger service. CSX and Norfolk Southern are conducting training with local first responders and have already conducted several in the region and have at least one scheduled in the near future.

### **3. Panama Canal Expansion Program**

The Panama Canal Expansion Program is a globally significant transportation project that will permit more and larger ships to transit the canal and open up the shipping route to East Coast and Gulf Coast ports. This two part presentation explained more details about the program from two local experts on the expansion.

Professor Frank Falcone of Villanova University provided an overview of the history of canal development and the context of Panama in the global shipping network. The canal currently provides connection between the Atlantic and Pacific through 3 sets of locks with 2 lanes and leverages a gravity fed system supplied by Lake Gatun. Transit averages 8-10 hours with an average toll of \$54,000. The canal is key to 144 global shipping routes. The need for expansion is related to increasing demand for traffic and new Post-Panamax ships that exceed the capacity currently provided at the canal. With the current scheduled improvements the projected 2024 revenue will be 4 times greater than current levels and it is expected that by 2025 the canal will again be nearing capacity. Mr. Falcone also discussed an internship program for Villanova University students at the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) which may be expanding to provide visiting professorship for ACP staff.

Robert Bright, President of Talson Solutions, LLC provided further insight to the canal project. Talson Solutions, LLC is providing construction auditing and consulting services on the expansion project, working for the Office of Inspector General, Panama Canal Authority. Mr. Bright highlighted details about the extent of Panama's port development which plays a critical role in the national economy. Mr. Bright showed graphics and photos of the improvements being completed on the project. He also provided details about new channels, water conservation basins and new technologies being leveraged on the expansion project.

Consul General of Panama, Georgia Athanasopoulos thanked the committee for highlighting the Panama Canal Expansion and highlighted the recent improvements in Panama including the recently opened metro system. She shared good wishes for future business between Panama and regional businesses and commended the presenters on the material they shared with the committee.

### **4. StrongPorts Program**

Stephen Shafer of the Maritime Administration presented on the role of the administration and the new StrongPorts Program. Mr. Shafer gave the committee a background on the administration

and its mission of “fostering and promoting the US merchant maritime industry for the Nation’s economic and national security.” The maritime industry is integral as vessels that transport cargo through US seaports move 99.4% of the nation’s overseas trade by volume and 65.5% by value. The new StrongPorts Program is the common name for the Port Infrastructure Development Program authorized under the National Defense Authorization Act of 2010. The program is intended to improve the state of repair, capacity, efficiency and environmental sustainability of all U.S. ports by providing technical assistance as needed for planning, design and construction and to expedite NEPA by coordinating with multiple Federal agencies.

The program provides three tiers of support. The categories range from planning and engagement to direct project support. In addition to the StrongPorts Initiative the Maritime Administration is creating PortTalk and a Port Planning Investment Toolkit which seek to expand Port resources and engagement with State and Regional planning efforts.

### **5. Freight Planning for Rhode Island**

Linsey Callaghan and Chris Witt of the Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program, the MPO for the entire state, were on hand to discuss the freight planning efforts of their agency. This presentation was on the tail end of a two and a half day peer exchange between a Rhode Island delegation and DVRPC staff as well as several neighboring MPOs.

Ms. Callaghan and Mr. Witt provided an overview of the state’s freight network as well as some of its key commodities. Together they presented the preliminary freight vision for Rhode Island to “Survive + Grow” through which they seek to ensure continued freight service and expansion of business opportunities to improve the business climate in the state. In addition to create a Freight Advisory Committee which they seek to improve with better private sector engagement, the Rhode Island team will be undertaking a State Freight Plan to help overcome state funding constraints by leveraging an increased federal share.

### **6. New Port of Philadelphia Overview Video**

Domenic O’Brien of the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority showed a newly created video about the Port’s growth in recent years and improvements expected in the coming years. The video included a virtual tour of the new Southport complex, which will involve a container terminal, bulk cargo facilities, and an area available for distribution and/or manufacturing. The full video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1b-aOOIKp0>

### **7. 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..... New Jersey Department of Transportation**

The department is pursuing a Tiger 6 application for rail improvements. The annual meeting for the State Rail Plan is expected before July 1.

**Kelvin MacKavanagh..... NJ Short Line Railroad Assoc.**

Announced that the 2014 TransAction Conference was successfully completed and had an attendance of over 900 people.

**Sarah Gulick..... Pennsylvania Department of Transportation**

Announced that the application period for RFAP and RTAP funding will be open from May 1 to May 30 2014. In addition, the department will be accepting applications through the multi-modal program through June 30.

**Gerry Coyle ..... Evans Delivery Company**

Discussed his attendance at a recent port summit in Baltimore where it was emphasized that a new EPA focus will be on ports.

**Leslie McCarthy ..... Villanova University**

Highlighted work that she and Dr. Seri Park, also of Villanova University, are conducting that explores the impacts of new energy markets on roads and infrastructure. Pennsylvania was 1 of 5 states that were profiled.

**Bill Halloran..... Traffic Club of Philadelphia**

Announced that next month will be National Transportation Week starting the week of May 11. On Thursday, May 15 the Traffic Club will hold its annual NTW Luncheon at the Charter House. More info is available at TCPPhila.org.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The committee was adjourned for lunch. The remaining meeting dates for 2014 are July 16 and October 15.

## Meeting Participants

### Name

### Affiliation

Agosto, Juan	Talson Solutions LLC
Anderson, David	DVRPC
Athanasopoulos, Georgia	Consulate of Panama
Badgley, James L.	Eastman-Linnett Associates
Bickel, Richard	DVRPC
Blevins, Dan	WILMAPCO
Bright, Robert	Talson Solutions LLC
Callaghan, Linsey	Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program
Colon, Jacob	Global Philadelphia Assoc.
Coyle, Jerry	Evans Delivery Co.
Dahlburg, Ted	DVRPC
Davis, Talvin	NJDOT
DeBerry, Garry	PennDOT Rail Freight/Ports
Delp, Paul	Lansdale Warehouse Co.
DiGangi, Patrick	NJ DEP/Emergency Response
Dobson, Mike	SEPTA
Drager, Michael	Axeon Specialty Products
Driemeier, Kale	DVRPC
Dub, Avri	Self
Duffy, Ed	Duffy Associates
DuRoss, Mike	DeIDOT
Elm, Roy	GSA/BCC
Esteves, David	Axeon Specialty Products
Falcone, Frank	Villanova University
Gallagher, Kevin	KGC
Gattuso, Adam	Monroe Energy
Gazzola, John	Philadelphia Ship Repair
Geier, Bobbie	DeIDOT Planning
Goetz, William	CSX
Greenhaus, Daniel	Norfolk Southern
Guidotti, Robin	Norfolk Southern
Gulick, Sarah	PennDOT
Halloran, William	The Traffic Club of Philadelphia
Heinzelmann, Ray	Gahagan & Bryant Associates, Inc.
Holt, Eric	Holt Logistics Corp
Imhof, Kurt	Senator Bob Casey
John, Alex	Delaware County Planning Department
Johnson, Sterling H.	Corps of Engineers, Phila.
Jones, Dennis	USSteel/KIPC
Katzenberger, Jim	Accelerx Group
Kehoe, Nick	Leidos
Kemmerley, Jonathan	Pilots/MAC

King, Chris	DVRPC
Klaiber, James	Amtrak
Kopple, Jan	TranSystems
Latta, Jim	A. Duie Pyle Inc
Ludlow, Donald	Cambridge Systematics
MacKavanagh, Kelvin	NJ Shortline RR Assoc.
Manuel, Jim	NJ DEP/Emergency Management
Matkowski, Laurie	DVRPC
Matthews, Evan	Quonset Development Corp
McCarthy, Leslie	Villanova University
McCreavy, John	SMS Rail
McFadden, Brian	Delaware River Port Authority
McMahon, John	NJ State Police
Monk, David	Sunoco Logistics
Moore, Jeffrey	Federal Railroad Administration
Moss, Will	
O'Brien, Dominic	Philadelphia Regional Port Authority
Ogg, Jameson W.	UPS
Oliver, Gregory	Delaware DOT
Park, Seri	Villanova University
Queenan, Thomas	RI DOT
Ragozine, William	CCCTMA
Ratko, Wesley	Montgomery County Planning Commission
Reese, Tom	Norfolk Southern
Riendeau, John	RI Commerce Corp
Riggs, Claire	Axeon Specialty Products
Robb, Bill	NFI
Rook, Randy	AECOM
Roscoe, Michael	Schnabel Engineering
Ruane, Mike	DVRPC
Schieler, Rich	TranSystems
Shafer, Stephen	U.S. Maritime Administration
Shanis, Donald	Pennoni Associates
Sharpe, Andy	Delaware Valley Association of Rail Passengers
Sheppard, William	Atlantic Rail Services, Inc.
Styche, Brian	Chester County Planning
Swann, Chris	Select Greater Philadelphia
Trombly, Jeff	Leidos
Uhl, Robert	Axeon Specialty Products
Van Auken, Kate	PennDOT PennPorts
Walsh, Nick	PRPA
Walston, Dan	FHWA
Ward, John	DVRPC
Ward, John	YRC Freight
Weiner, Harvey	Dependable Distribution
Weiss, Jed	lpreo

Westergaard, Rick

Willauer, David

Wise, Renee

Witt, Chris

Worden, Lisa

Yamamoto, Ema Carol

Yarlott, Robert

Gloucester County Planning

IEM Transportation Mgr

DVRPC

Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program

DCED

City of Philadelphia MOTU

CSX Transportation