



## ***QUARTERLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS***

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

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

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

190 North Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106

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

Co-chairs Barry Seymour of DVRPC and Sarah Gulick of PennDOT called the quarterly freight advisory committee meeting to order. Mr. Seymour 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 April 16, 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. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy—ACTION ITEM**

Mary Bell of DVRPC presented on the draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region. This document will be released for a 30-day public comment period before being finalized and submitted to the U.S. Economic Development Administration by September 30, 2014. The document includes identification of regional opportunities and challenges, goals and objectives, an action plan, as well as a list of key regional projects. The product is guided by the CEDS strategy committee which is composed of county/city planning and economic development agencies, county workforce investment boards, state and regional agencies, Chambers of Commerce, transit providers, port authorities and others.

This product builds off of the Regional Economic Cluster Analysis that identifies interdependent industries in the region. The process for the CEDS included objectives focused around the goals of investing in people, investing in places and supporting businesses. The project list that accompanies the report includes a wide range of projects that are not fiscally constrained but must be supported by the respective counties and municipalities. The current list is being reviewed and members were encouraged to submit any known, outstanding projects.

The committee was asked to support the underlying policies and contents of *Investing in People and Places: Greater Philadelphia's 2014 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy*. The action item was put to motion and passed unanimously.

### **3. Darby Borough Grade Crossing Study**

Michael Ruane of DVRPC provided an overview of the Darby Borough Grade Crossing Study and the implementation strategies that were explored and recommended in the second phase of the study. The project is a two phase study that focuses on the crossings at Main and Sixth streets and Fifth Street in Darby Borough. These were selected for detailed analysis as a result of a larger corridor wide analysis.

Phase I of the study explored the existing conditions and operations at the crossing, identifying high volumes of freight rail, trolleys, pedestrians and vehicles at the Main and Sixth streets crossing. The alternatives explored in Phase II with input from key stakeholders considered long-term grade separation projects as well as short term improvements. The result of the alternatives analysis identified the grade separations as long-term solutions, as they cost far more than the gross benefit that would be realized by the collective parties at this time.

Phase II recommended a series of short-term improvements that would address the safety and efficiency concerns at the intersection in a single project that is feasible in the current funding environment. The recommended improvement addresses these concerns through signalization of the intersection, improved pavements and sidewalks, as well as upgraded gate and warning technologies. Together with Darby Borough, Delaware County and PennDOT as well as other stakeholders, the DVRPC Office of Freight staff will continue to pursue the advancement of these recommendations.

### **4. PA on Track**

Brian Wall of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation provided a brief status report on the Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan and Comprehensive Freight Movement Plan before introducing Brian Funkhouser of the CDM Smith consultant team. Mr. Funkhouser provided the committee with further detail on the current project and products associated with the effort.

Mr. Funkhouser outlined the outreach efforts that were used during the process of developing the statewide plans. In addition, key details about the goals, objectives and specific strategies were presented. Performance measures will be used during the implementation of the plan. The key goal areas for the plans include system preservation, safety, personal & freight mobility, and stewardship.

### **5. Montco 2040: A Shared Vision**

Brian O'Leary of the Montgomery County Planning Commission presented an update to the county comprehensive plan which is designed around three themes: Connected Communities, A Vibrant Economy, and Sustainable Places. This presentation focused on the freight aspects of the plan. The county leads the state in manufacturing employment and ranks sixth as a freight generator. Modal distribution in and out of the county favors truck, as few rail and no maritime facilities interchange directly within the county.

The county benefits from high tech and manufacturing, with a large presence of biopharmaceutical, health care, financial investment and education sectors. The vision for the county includes several strategies that serve to improve the environment for freight including support business development in the county and investment in bridges and roads as well as the potential to improve connectivity through new interchanges with the PA turnpike which dissects the county.

## **6. Lansdale, PA and the Delaware Valley...Geographically Gifted!**

Paul Delp of Lansdale Warehouse provided an overview to the committee about his company's operation as well as some context for the success of the region in distribution and warehousing sectors. The presentation provided information on the early history of the east coast that benefited early settlers and trade patterns that evolved. These patterns which led to a high concentration of populations living in the Washington to Boston Megalopolis continue to benefit the market opportunities for warehousing with access to the largest single market in the United States.

Mr. Delp also highlighted the infrastructure that has benefited Lansdale Warehouse's operation, including recent investment in the Stoney Creek Branch, a key freight rail line that connects Lansdale and beyond to the national rail system. These assets have allowed Lansdale Warehouse to build a successful third-party logistics business and allows other similar businesses to thrive in the region.

## **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**

Announced that the department submitted comments on the Primary Freight Network, recommending expansion of the mileage. In addition the department did pursue Tiger projects in the latest round of funding. The state is currently pursuing 286k capacity improvements and has been allocated \$2 million in freight funding for the fiscal year.

### **Bobbie Geier ..... Delaware Department of Transportation**

Announced that the Delmarva freight plan is wrapping up and on August 6, 2014 the state will hold its next Freight Summit with Wilmapco.

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

Announced that the 2014 TransAction Conference was successfully completed and had an attendance of 950 people. The 2015 meeting will be held April 21-23.

### **Michael Singer ..... UPS**

Announced that UPS is currently seeking peak season contracts with local carriers. Interested parties should seek more information from UPS.

### **Kurt Imhof ..... Office of US Senator Casey**

Highlighted the recent rail safety issues that have made news and explained the recent DOT emergency order addressing these issues. In addition, he highlighted that the Obama administration budget provides an additional \$35 million of funding for Delaware River dredging efforts.

### **William Deguffrey ..... Chester County**

Announced the release of its new online planning tool, Landscape 2, on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Michael Carroll..... City of Philadelphia**

Announced the start of planning efforts focused on the 30<sup>th</sup> Street station area which will include an outreach meeting in September for key stakeholders.

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

Highlighted recent events held by the Traffic Club and announced the next event with openings will be its annual Golf Outing to be held on October 6. Information and registration is available on the Traffic Club website.

**Zach Billet ..... DVRPC**

Provided the committee with information on a product in development that is called Rating the Region which includes significant freight statistics and measures the region versus the Top 25 MSAs in the country.

**Kale Driemeier ..... DVRPC**

Announced the status of the Long Range Regional Airport System Plan which has been submitted to the FAA for comment, with recommendations including: preserve public use facilities, improve outreach and improve attraction of new student pilots.

**Ted Dahlburg ..... DVRPC**

Announced the retirement of Ted Matthews from NJTPA and welcomed Jakob Rowinski who works as a freight planner with NJTPA. He also announced that a dedicated county planning member of the committee Wesley Ratko will be moving to Ohio and will be missed by the committee and region.

**Barry Seymour ..... DVRPC**

Highlighted that the Pennsylvania TIP Update will be presented for approval to the DVRPC Board at the upcoming meeting on July 24, 2014. Many projects contained in the TIP provide substantial benefits to goods movement in the region.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The committee was adjourned for lunch. The final remaining meeting date for 2014 is October 15.

## Meeting Participants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Anderson, David	DVRPC
Bamford, Steve	Pottstown Area Industrial Development
Beam, Adam	DVRPC
Bearn, Cary	DVRPC
Berg, Kim	Mustang/PMTA
Billet, Zach	DVRPC
Blevins, Dan	WILMAPCO
Buckkolz, Nicole	DVRPC
Carroll, Michael	City of Philadelphia, MOTU
Coombs, Erin	Jacobs
Coyle, Jerry	Evans Delivery Co.
Crawford, Rick	Norfolk Southern
Dahlburg, Ted	DVRPC
Davis, Talvin	NJDOT
DeBerardinis, Alex	Global Philadelphia Assoc.
DeBerry, Garry	PennDOT Rail Freight/Ports
Deguffray, William	CCPC
Delp, Paul	Lansdale Warehouse Co.
DiBrandinis, Justin	Bartram's Garden
Donovan, Mike	Pennsylvania Northeastern RR
Driemeier, Kale	DVRPC
Dub, Avri	Self
Elkis, Patty	DVRPC
Funkhouser, Brian	CDM Smith
Gallagher, Kevin	Kevin Gallagher Consulting
Geier, Bobbie	DeIDOT Planning
Gessner, Paul	Gessner Transportation Consulting
Greenhaus, Daniel	Norfolk Southern
Griffin, Rodney (RJ)	GVFTMA
Gulick, Sarah	PennDOT
Gurinko, Joe	Lehigh Valley Planning Commission
Halloran, William	The Traffic Club of Philadelphia
Harris, Joe	TTI Environmental
Holton, Jody	Montgomery County Planning Commission
Hui, Kwan	DVRPC
Imhof, Kurt	Senator Bob Casey
Jennings, Tom	Hill Wallack
John, Alex	Delaware County Planning Department
Johnson, Anthony	Partnership TMA
Johnson, Sterling H.	Corps of Engineers, Phila.
Jones, Dennis	USSteel/KIPC
Kanthor, David	Center City District
Kapczynski, Mark	ILMC

Kardon, Roy	NAI Mertz
Kearns, Alan	NJ Transit
Keene, John	University of Pennsylvania
Kirlin, Ed	ILMC
Kopple, Jan	TranSystems
Le, Thanh	NJ DOT
Long, Keith	NFI
Lowe, Jonathan	CSX Intermodal Transportation
Ludasi, Andrew	NJ DOT
Luvara, Dave	Railroad Construction Co. of S. Jersey, Inc.
MacKavanagh, Kelvin	NJ Shortline RR Assoc.
Maisey, Douglas	DVRPC
Marano Jr, Dominic	Marano Truck Lines
Marano, Dominic	Marano Truck Lines
Massaro, Herb	Marano Truck Lines
McCarthy, Leslie	Villanova University
Miller, Alan	NJ Business Action Center/OPA
Moore, Jeffrey	Federal Railroad Administration
O'Leary, Brian	Montgomery County Planning Commission
Oliver, Gregory	Delaware DOT
Parker, Marygrace	I-95 Corridor Coalition
Pelaez, Jorge	Boenning & Scattergood
Ragozine, William	CCCTMA
Randall, Clint	URS Corporation
Ratko, Wesley	Montgomery County Planning Commission
Rockwell, Christina	Manufacturing Alliance of Philadelphia
Rook, Randy	AECOM
Rowinski, Jakob	NJTPA
Ruane, Mike	DVRPC
Sauer, Al	Regional Rail LLC
Schiavi, Bill	SJTPO
Scott, Dave	CSX Transportation
Seymour, Barry	DVRPC
Sheppard, William	Atlantic Rail Services, Inc.
Singer, Michael	UPS
Smtih, Anna Lynn	Parsons Brinkerhoff
Soto, Joe	Conrail
Strauss-Wieder, Anne	A. Strauss-Wieder, Inc.
Swann, Chris	Select Greater Philadelphia
Timmins, John	Penn Terminals
Van Auken, Kate	PennDOT PennPorts
Vasell, Jay	PRC/CBA/VPS
von Dobeneck, Ailsa	Norfolk Southern
Wall, Brian	PennDOT
Ward, John	DVRPC
Weening, Ronald S.	A. Strauss-Wieder, Inc.

Westergaard, Rick

Wise, Renee

Wolf, Michael

Worden, Lisa

Yamamoto, Ema Carol

Zochowski, Matthew

Gloucester County Planning

DVRPC

Boenning & Scattergood

DCED

City of Philadelphia MOTU

DVRPC