

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD JULY 11, 2000**

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by RTC Chair Carol Thomas. The Highlights of the June 6, 2000 meeting were approved as written.
2. Jack Claffey, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director for Transportation Planning, presented the highlights of the June 22, 2000 DVRPC Board meeting. The Board approved all TIP changes as presented and elected Timothy J. Carson, the Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee, as Chair for FY 2001. Ridgeley P. Ware of Burlington County was elected Vice Chair.
3. The Regional Transportation Committee Nominating Committee nominated Lee Whitmore of Chester County as Chair for Fiscal Year 2001 and Jerry Mooney of New Jersey DOT as Vice Chair.

MOTION 0007-01: Shaffer

SECOND: Hannigan

That the RTC elect Lee Whitmore of Chester County as Chair and Jerry Mooney of NJ DOT as Vice Chair for the one year term beginning July 11, 2000.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

4. Judith Barnet, DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented the following TIP Amendments and Modifications:

Modification 0005: NJ DOT's request to modify the TIP by adjusting a series of 10 projects to reflect updated schedules in the FY 00 and FY 01 years of the TIP.

MOTION 0007-02: Mooney

SECOND: Burnfield

To approve and recommend Board approval of TIP Modification 0005, NJ DOT's request to adjust the schedule of 10 projects.

Modification 9946: The City of Philadelphia's request to modify the TIP by expanding the scope of the Bicycle Network Phase II project to include an assessment phase. This work will include a reassessment of bicycle issues to determine future policy directions in the City. Project cost is \$400,000, \$200,000 of which is already programmed in FY 00. This request is to bring forward an additional \$200,000 from the \$2 million already programmed for FY 2002.

MOTION 0007-03: Bartlett

SECOND: Shaffer

To approve and recommend Board approval of TIP Modification 9946, the City of Philadelphia's request to modify the TIP by expanding the scope of the Bicycle Network Phase II project to include an assessment phase and to move \$200,000 from FY 02 to FY 00.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

Amendment 9947: PennDOT's request to amend the TIP to add the Towamencin ITS Initiative project for \$471,853. Towamencin Township's application for TEA-21 ITS Deployment Program Funds for FY 2000 for the development and implementation of an ITS system for the North Penn area was approved. The grant may not exceed 50% of program costs, and 20% must be local funds. PennDOT is requesting to transfer the remaining 30%, about \$283,112, from the Towamencin Signal System Interconnect project (TIP#8772). Fiscal constraint will be maintained by reducing the construction phase of the PA 132/PA 322 intersection project in Bucks County which is not ready to proceed.

MOTION 0007-04: Hannigan

SECOND: Winters

That the RTC approve and recommend Board approval of TIP Amendment 9947, PennDOT's request to add the Towamencin ITS initiative to the TIP using \$471,853 in ITS Deployment Funds, \$283,112 in CMAQ funds from the Towamencin Signal System Interconnection project, and \$188,741 in local funds.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

Modification 9948: PennDOT's request to modify the TIP to add \$500,000 to the preliminary engineering phase of the PA 23 Relocation Project (TIP#8743) to perform traffic studies and related data collection for this and related area projects. Financial constraint will be maintained by transferring an equal amount of funds from the FY 00 design phase of US 422, Pottstown Expressway Interchange Improvement project, which is being delayed.

MOTION 0007-05: Whitmore

SECOND: Hannigan

That the RTC approve and recommend Board approval of TIP Modification 9948, PennDOT's request to program an additional \$500,000 to the preliminary engineering phase of the PA 23 Relocation Project (TIP#8743).

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

4. Charles Dougherty, DVRPC Associate Director of Transportation Planning, reported that the public comment period for the Draft FY 2001-2004 TIP for Pennsylvania and FY 2001-2003 TIP for New Jersey is now completed. The respective Subcommittees analyzed the comments and made several minor changes to the drafts where appropriate. Changes include minor wording, cost or schedule adjustments to projects shown in the draft, reprogramming of projects from previous TIPs, and the addition of a few exempt projects. The update has been completed and is now ready

for Board action.

MOTION 0007-06: Hannigan

SECOND: Whitmore

To approve and recommend Board adoption of the FY 2001 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the New Jersey portion of the region (FY 2001-2003) and for the Pennsylvania portion of the region (FY 2001-2004), as the region's official selection of transportation projects for federal funding, including such changes as agreed to by the Board at its July 27, 2000, meeting.

MOTION 0007-007: Shaffer

SECOND: Winters

To amend Motion 0007-06 to include a \$500,000 Feasibility Study for the extension of SEPTA's Route 100 in the \$37 million Schuylkill Valley Metro Project.

Motion 0007-07 did not pass. One vote was cast in favor of the motion.

Motion 0007-06 passed. One vote was cast against the motion.

5. Charles Dougherty reported that the list of New Jersey Study and Development projects is not ready for action at this time. The New Jersey Subcommittee will be convened to resolve issues in order to complete the list. It will be forwarded to the RTC and Board for action at a later date.
6. Carol Thomas, representing Burlington County, presented a request to the RTC to fund final scope development, design development, and construction of the Delaware River Heritage Trail. The trail is envisioned to be a multi-use, nonmotorized recreational route along both sides of the Delaware River. About 20 miles are in Burlington County. The County would like to use between \$250,000 and \$300,000 of DVRPC's Local Scoping Program funds.

MOTION 0007-08: Mooney

SECOND: K. Brown

The RTC approve Burlington County's request to advance the Delaware River Heritage Trail project using funding from the DVRPC Local Scoping Program.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

7. Donald Shanis, DVRPC Associate Director of Transportation Planning, presented request to hold public hearings and open a 30-day public comment period for a Year 2020 Plan Amendment concerning the Schuylkill Valley Metro project. The project must be on the Plan before the MIS/DEIS process can be completed. SEPTA and BARTA will also hold hearings.

MOTION 0007-09: Hannigan

SECOND: Winters

To approve and recommend that the Board authorize DVRPC to conduct a public hearing on whether the Schuylkill Valley Metro project should be added to the 2020 Plan.

Motion Passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

8. Donald Shanis presented an overview of the Philadelphia Regional Integrated Multimodal Information Sharing (PRIMIS) activities currently underway. DVRPC has been working to coordinate efforts to improve ITS information sharing among various agencies in the region. A region-wide task force has identified steps necessary to achieve this coordination. It was requested that the RTC approve the work program and a Planning Work Program amendment to fund the first phase of PRIMIS, to formally establish the Coordinating Council and Task Force as DVRPC committees, to improve and enhance current coordination between agencies, and to work with these agencies to evaluate the concept's development.

MOTION 0007-10: Hannigan

SECOND: Mooney

That the Board approve the Work Program to include the Philadelphia Regional Integrated Multimodal Information Sharing Phase I Implementation project, include it in the FY 2001 Planning Work Program, and approve the addition of the Regional ITS Policy Committee as a standing committee within the DVRPC structure.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

9. Jack Claffey presented two FY 2001 Planning Work Program Amendments as follows:

Lafayette Avenue Extension in Norristown: in support of Montgomery County's preliminary design efforts on Lafayette Avenue, DVRPC will provide new traffic counts and travel forecasts for various scenarios. DVRPC will retain a consultant to perform necessary travel forecast work and will provide administrative services, such as RFP advertisement, consultant selection, invoice payment and contract management. Staff will also form a steering committee of Montgomery County, PennDOT, and the Borough of Norristown to guide the overall effort.

PA 23 Relocation - Upper Merion Township : in support of Upper Merion Township's analysis of relocating PA Route 23, DVRPC will retain a consultant to perform necessary travel forecast work and will provide administrative services, such as RFP advertisement, consultant selection, invoice payment and contract management.

All RFP responses must include proposals for both projects. Each project is expected to cost \$100,000. Funding will be used from the US 422/PA 23 Interchange TIP project.

MOTION 0007-11: Hannigan

SECOND: Emes

To approve and recommend:

- 1) *that the Board approve amending the FY 01 Planning Work Program to include the Lafayette Avenue Extension Project in Norristown for \$100,000 from TIP Project # 8743 - PA 23 (US 422 to US 202) Relocation, and,*

2. *that the Board approve amending the FY 01 Planning Work Program to include the PA Route 23 Relocation; Upper Merion project for \$100,000 from TIP Project # 8743 - PA 23 (US 422 to US 202) Relocation.*

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

10. Jack Claffey presented a Resolution of Self-Certification. ISTEA and TEA-21 require that MPOs annually certify that their planning process is addressing major issues facing the area and is being conducted according to all applicable requirements. A draft Resolution was presented to the Committee. PennDOT requested that language be included to address the Environmental Justice provision of TEA-21.

MOTION 0007-12: Ravelli

SECOND: Hannigan

To approve and recommend that the Board adopt Resolution No. B-FY01-0001 certifying that the DVRPC transportation planning process is in conformance with federal regulations implementing TEA-21, the Clean Air Act Amendments, and other federal legislation.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

11. Jack Claffey presented an update on the On-Road Bicycle Facilities Demonstration project. Staff has developed a list of roadways recommended to serve as demonstration projects. Members of the Pennsylvania Subcommittee were asked to review the list, make comments as necessary, and consent to an action plan which would authorize DVRPC to work with technical representatives of the appropriate counties and townships as well as PennDOT and bicycle advocacy groups to agree on projects. Project funding through Toll Road Credits will be pursued. Funding for the DVRPC effort will be from the TIP line item for Bicycle Facilities on Existing Roadways.

MOTION 0007-13: Shaffer

SECOND: Whitmore

That the RTC authorize staff to work with members of the Pennsylvania Subcommittee and other stakeholders to identify projects for On-Road Bicycle Facilities Demonstration Projects, and to pursue Toll Road Credit funding for those projects.

Motion Passed. All Votes were cast in favor of the motion.

12. Next meeting September 12, 2000.

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Meeting of July 11, 2000
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members

PA Department of Transportation
PA Department of Environmental Protection
PA Governor's Policy Office
NJ Department of Transportation
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
NJ Department of Community Affairs
Bucks County
Chester County
Delaware County
Montgomery County
City of Chester
Philadelphia Office of Transportation
Philadelphia City Planning Commission
Philadelphia Department of Streets
Burlington County
Camden County
Gloucester County
Mercer County
City of Camden
City of Trenton
Delaware River Port Authority
New Jersey Transit Corporation
Southeastern PA Transportation Authority
Delaware Valley Citizens' Transportation Committee
DVRPC Regional Citizens Committee

Non-Voting Members Present

New Jersey TMAs
Pennsylvania TMAs

Guests

Sue McNamara, Regional Citizens Committee
Walter Green, Pennsylvania Turnpike Authority
Terri Johnson, Gannett Fleming

Representative Present

Robert Hannigan, Greg Brown
(not represented)
Greg Brown
Jerry Mooney
(not represented)
(not represented)
Richard Brahler
Lee Whitmore
Tom Shaffer
Lauren Emes
(not represented)
Robert Ravelli
Stephen Bartlett
Tom Brannigan
Carol Thomas
Gail P. Elbert
Morris Bayer
Kerry Brown
(not represented)
Andrew Carten
Anisah A. Abiola, Linda Hayes
Kathy Vossough
Richard Burnfield
Lorraine Brill
Dennis Winters

Representative

William Ragozine
Peter Quinn