

**Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission**

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE  
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 14, 2000**

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by RTC Chair Lee Whitmore. The Highlights of the October 10, 2000 meeting were approved as written.
2. Jack Claffey, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director for Transportation Planning, presented the highlights of the October 26, 2000 DVRPC Board meeting. The Board approved both TIP items presented, and agreed to table a resolution to add the Schuylkill Valley Metro to the 2020 Plan until the December meeting.
3. Judith Barnet, DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented TIP Actions PA 0103 and 0104. It was noted that all TIP changes are now referred to as "Actions" instead of Amendments or Modifications. Administrative modifications, which do not require RTC/Board action, will continue to occur based on Memoranda of Understanding regarding programming actions.

PA 0103: The Pennsylvania portion of the TIP includes a line-item for On-Road Bicycle Mobility Improvements (TIP# 0565). Currently it is programmed with \$4.76 million (\$3.808 million CMAQ). DVRPC requests that three projects be added to the TIP, drawing down funds from the line item: the Old Baltimore Pike Bikeway in Chester County, the Bicyclists Baltimore Pike project in Delaware County, and the Susquehanna Road Bikeway Improvements project in Montgomery County, at a total cost of \$1.263 million, using the state's toll road credit to satisfy the local match requirement.

**MOTION 0011-01: Bagley**

**SECOND: Bartlett**

*That the Board approve TIP Action PA 0103, DVRPC's request to add the following three bicycle projects to the TIP and Work Program: (1) Old Baltimore Pike Bikeway in Chester County, (2) Bicyclists Baltimore Pike in Delaware County, and (3) Susquehanna Rd. Bikeway Improvements in Montgomery County, drawing the funds from the On-Road Bicycle Mobility Improvements line item (TIP #0565.) DVRPC staff will manage these projects for PennDOT so the Work Program is amended concurrently.*

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

PA 0104: Periodically, within any TIP cycle, it becomes necessary to adjust costs, changes in scope, or funding availability for individual projects. PennDOT, after a review of the current programmed year, has requested a series of changes to projects on the FY 2001-2004 TIP. All adjustments are within financial constraints. Six projects are affected: old TIP# 5685, New Falls Rd. Bridge Rehabilitation in Bucks County, old TIP# 8721, Sanatoga Rd. Bridge Replacement in Montgomery County, TIP #8795, I-76 Intelligent Transportation Systems in Montgomery County, TIP# 6803, US 30/Lancaster Pike Reconstruction in Chester County, old TIP# 6735, Phoenixville

Pike Bridge Replacement in Chester County, and TIP# 7051, Industrial Highway Widening in Delaware County.

**MOTION 0011 - 02: Hannigan**

**SECOND: Brannigan**

*That the Board approve TIP Amendment PA 0104, PennDOT's request to make the following six adjustments to the TIP: (1) add the construction phase of the New Falls Rd. Bridge Rehabilitation project (TIP #5685,) (2) add the construction phase of the Sanatoga Rd. Bridge Replacement project (TIP #8721,) (3) increase the cost of the construction phase of the US 30/Lancaster Pike Reconstruction project (TIP #6803,) (4) add a utility phase to the PA 291, Industrial Highway project (TIP #7051,) (5) add the construction phase of the Phoenixville Pike Bridge project (TIP #6735,) and (6) add the preliminary engineering phase of the I-76 ITS project (TIP #8795.)*

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

4. Ben Ginsberg, DVRPC Work Program Coordinator , presented an update on FY 2002 Planning Work Program Development. The Board will release the draft document for public comment beginning on December 1. The draft includes three new initiatives which the Board Work Program Committee selected from the priority areas identified in the September workshop. There are also nine new projects proposed by member governments and DVRPC Committees. Additional projects not selected for this work program may still be eligible for funding from other sources. Adoption of the final work program is expected at the January 25, 2001 Board meeting.
5. Ronald Roggenburk, DVRPC Manager, Office of Air Quality Planning, presented an update on the development of the Year 2025 Long Range Plan The list of projects presented included introductory material and a marker for projects which are new to the Plan. The committee was asked to approve the current list of projects for use in a demonstration of conformity, subject to comments which may be received by November 21. The RTC will have another opportunity to review the transportation plan in January before it is forwarded to the Board for approval to publish in draft form.

**MOTION 0111-03: Bartlett**

**Second: Thomas**

*That the RTC authorize staff to proceed with conducting the test of conformity on the projects listed in the Draft Year 2025 Transportation Plan, with the understanding that there may be some changes due to comments received by November 21, 2000.*

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

6. Ted Dahlburg, DVRPC Manager, Urban Goods Program, discussed DVRPC's current survey of trucking operations in the Delaware Valley. The purpose of the survey is to gain greater insight into regional trucking activity and to derive updated information for DVRPC's travel simulations. Over 500 firms, including for-hire carriers as well as private carriers, will be asked to participate in the survey. The basis of the survey is a truck trip diary which will be assigned to individual trucks for

one weekday, 24 hour period. Information from the diaries will be tabulated and geo-coded, with the publishing of a final report scheduled to occur in FY 2002.

7. John Dawson, DVRPC Senior Transportation Planner, presented an update of the list of ongoing Regional Rail projects which is updated every three months. New information added since the last update includes the 2020 ridership forecasts for the Roosevelt Boulevard Corridor project. Recommendations for the Stoney Creek Line now includes just two options: diesel service to 30<sup>th</sup> Street and dual-power electric/diesel locomotives to serve Market East. Keystone Service parameters have also been refined, and seven train sets will be rehabilitated for dedicated use on the line.
8. The following Status Reports were presented:
  - Don Shanis, DVRPC Deputy Director of Transportation Planning, presented an update of the Schuylkill Valley Metro approval process. The DVRPC Board delayed decision to amend the plan for this project until their December meeting in order to give the Mayor of Philadelphia the opportunity to meet with the SEPTA General Manager to discuss the implications of this project for the City.
  - Don Shanis reported that PennDOT Central Office sent a letter detailing a new corridor program that is being proposed to minimize congestion. Counties are being asked to nominate one project each for review in the statewide process. Projects may include minor widenings, signal system updates, or other similar projects. Submissions were requested by mid-December.
  - Don Shanis reported that the consultant has been selected for the R-5 Lansdale/Doylestown Rail Service Improvement project. A contract is under preparation for SYSTRA Consulting. The report should be available in the spring. A new rail line will be selected next fiscal year.
  - Charles Dougherty, DVRPC Associate Director of Transportation Planning, presented a memorandum detailing PennDOT District 6's project obligation in FY 2000, and a comparison with 25 other regions throughout the state. A similar report for New Jersey will be available in December.
  - Charles Dougherty distributed a report which included the following items:
    1. The Millstone Bypass Environmental Assessment is almost complete, and the Governor of New Jersey has approved the study's progress to the Environmental Impact Statement phase.
    2. Applications are now being accepted for Round 2 of New Jersey Transit's Community Shuttle Program, which funds bus purchases for community transportation systems. The Camden County Improvement Authority won a grant in Round 1. A workshop for applicant communities will be held on November 21.

3. Warren Stumpfer, a New Jersey member of the Regional Citizens Committee submitted a work program too late for consideration in the process, but which might be of interest to the Committee.
  
9. Ken Edmonds, Mid-Atlantic Coordinator of the East Coast Greenway Alliance, presented a report on the progress of creating the East Coast Greenway. Ultimately, the Greenway will stretch from Maine to Florida as a bicycle/pedestrian trail linking existing bicycle and pedestrian trails along the entire east coast. Implementation is underway in the DVRPC region and the Alliance is working with PennDOT to address issues. Most of the trail follows the I-95 corridor and AMTRAK has committed to putting bicycle racks in its east coast trains. The trail is designated as one of 16 National Millennium Trails, and the Alliance envisions it's completion in Mid-Atlantic region within the next 10 years.
  
10. Next meeting: January 9<sup>th</sup> , 2001.

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Meeting of November 14th, 2000**  
**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Voting Members

Representative Present

PA Department of Transportation	Robert Hannigan, Greg Brown
PA Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
PA Governor's Policy Office	Greg Brown
NJ Department of Transportation	Jerry Mooney
NJ Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
NJ Department of Community Affairs	(not represented)
Bucks County	David Johnson
Chester County	Lee Whitmore
Delaware County	Joseph Hacker
Montgomery County	Leo Bagley
City of Chester	(not represented)
Philadelphia Office of Transportation	Robert Ravelli
Philadelphia City Planning Commission	Stephen Bartlett
Philadelphia Department of Streets	Thomas Branigan
Burlington County	Carol Thomas
Camden County	Gail P. Elbert
Gloucester County	Morris Bayer
Mercer County	(not represented)
City of Camden	(not represented)
City of Trenton	Hoggarth Stephen
Delaware River Port Authority	Linda Hayes
New Jersey Transit Corporation	Matt Ledger
Southeastern PA Transportation Authority	Catherine Popp-McDonough
Delaware Valley Citizens' Transportation Committee	Lorraine Brill
DVRPC Regional Citizens Committee	(not represented)

Non-Voting Members Present

Representative

New Jersey TMAs	William Ragozine
Pennsylvania TMAs	Peter Quinn
South Jersey Port Corporation	Hank D'Andrea

Guests

Sue McNamara, Warren Stumpfer, Regional Citizens Committee  
 Al Prant, NJ DOT  
 LeAnne Fullard, PennDOT District 6  
 Ray Sachs, Chester County Planning Commission  
 Dan Blevins, Wilmapco  
 Jere Downs, Philadelphia Inquirer

Ken Edmonds, East Coast Greenway Alliance  
Wayne Faulkner, Vollmer Associates