

**Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission**

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE  
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD MAY 7, 2002**

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by RTC Chair Carol Thomas. The Highlights of the April 9, 2002 meeting were approved with no changes.
2. Jack Claffey, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director for Transportation Planning, presented the highlights of the April 25, 2002 DVRPC Board meeting. The Board approved the TIP actions, the work programs amendments, and authorized staff to conduct TIP/Plan public hearings on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>.
3. Elizabeth Schoonmaker-Shepherd, DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented the following TIP actions:

**TIP Action PA 01-67: 52<sup>nd</sup> Street Corridor Alternative Analysis - SEPTA**

SEPTA has requested that DVRPC amend the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA by adding a new project in FY02 to undertake an Alternatives Analysis to evaluate modal and alignment options for improving mobility between Center City and West Philadelphia. The project would provide information to local officials on the cost, benefit, and impact of transportation investments in this area. While this corridor was not selected as the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Schuylkill Valley Metro Major Investment Study, the corridor could serve to complement the SMV in view of a planned proposed station at 52nd Street and Parkside Avenue. SEPTA requests adding \$500,000 to FY 02 using earmarked Transportation, Community and System Preservation (TCSP) funds.

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**MOTION 020501:** Ravelli

**SECOND:** Popp-McDonough

*That the Board approve TIP Action PA01-67, SEPTA s request to amend the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA by adding a new project to the TIP: the 52nd Street Corridor Alternatives Analysis (TIP #S109). This project will be funded in FY02 using \$500,000 of Transportation, Community and System Preservation (TCSP) earmarked funds.*

Motion Passed. There was one abstention.

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**TIP Action PA 01-68: FY02 FTA Section 5310 Grants - PennDOT**

PennDOT has selected 12 agencies in the DVRPC region to receive a total of \$1,526,600 for the purchase of 29 vehicles under FTA s Section 5310 program (formerly Section 16) and has requested that these funds be added to the TIP. This program provides capital assistance to private nonprofit corporations that provide transportation services for senior citizens and

people with disabilities.

**MOTION 020502:** Whitmore

**SECOND:** Hannigan

*That the Board approve TIP Action PA01-68, PennDOT s request to amend the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA by adding \$1,526,600 (\$1,221,280 5310 funds/\$305,320 Local match) into FY02 for the purchase of vehicles under the FTA s Section 5310 program. (TIP #PA03)*

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

**TIP Action PA 01-69a: Route 202, Section 711 - Bucks County**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA with a \$2.1 million (\$1.680 Hwy/\$420,000 State)increase in the FY02 final design phase for this section of Route 202. The increase is attributable to requirements for design revisions to County Line Road, Detweiler Road right of way parcels, additional length at Five Points intersection, and standard environmental efforts.

**MOTION 020503:** Hannigan

**SECOND:** Bagley

*That the Board approve TIP Action PA01-69a, PennDOT s request to modify the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA by increasing the final design phase in FY02 by \$2.1 million (\$1.680 million Hwy/\$420,000 State.) (MPMS #47396)*

Motion passed. Two votes were cast against the motion. There was one abstention.

**TIP Action PA 01-69b: Route 463, Horsham Rd-Stump Rd. to General Hancock - Montgomery County**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA with a \$1.5 million (\$1.2 million STU/\$300,000 State) increase in the FY02 final design phase. The township requested that the project be expanded and engineering and right of way have been 100% local funded. This project was originally planned as a culvert replacement but will now coordinate with the proposed limited widening of the entrance required of the existing housing developer on Horsham Rd. The limits for this project are Stump Road to General Hancock Rd.

**MOTION 020504:** Hannigan

**SECOND:** Bagley

*That the Board approve TIP Action PA01-69b, PennDOT s request to modify the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA by increasing the FY02 construction phase by \$1.5 million (\$1.2 million STU/\$300,000 State.) (MPMS #48178)*

Motion Passed. One vote was cast against the motion. There were no abstentions.

**TIP Action 01-69c: I-95 Westmoreland to Levick - Philadelphia**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA by shifting the FY03 construction phase to FY02, increasing it by \$100,000, and also acknowledging that the FY 02 funds represent Advanced Construct Conversion funds. Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

**MOTION 020505:** Brown

**SECOND:** Bagley

*That the Board approve TIP Action PA01-69c, PennDOT s request to modify the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA by shifting \$7 million from the FY03 construction phase to FY02 and increasing the FY02 construction phase by \$100,000 (\$5.680 million Federal Bridge Funds/\$1.420 million State.) Also acknowledge that the FY02 funds are Advanced Construct Conversion funds. (MPMS #50575)*

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

**TIP Action 0169d: 29<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge over Amtrak/SEPTA Trenton and R8 - Philadelphia**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA by adding this project back in to the current FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA. Funding was programmed in FY 2000 (\$9 million), and this request includes a \$1.9 million (\$1.5 million Federal Bridge/\$400,000 State) increase in the FY02 final design phase to address concerns of a nearby elementary school. Issues addressed include a new retaining wall, modifications to abutment design, vibration and noise monitoring, and dust control. Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

**MOTION 020506:** Brown

**SECOND:** Bagley

*That the Board approve TIP Action PA01-69d, PennDOT s request to modify the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA by adding a project back into the current TIP with a \$1.9 million construction phase in FY02 (\$1.5 million Federal Bridge/\$400,000 State.) (MPMS #16944)*

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

4. Jack Claffey presented the list of the 2002 Transportation Enhancements projects for the region which were selected for funding by the State Transportation Commission. In order for the projects to proceed, they must be added to the current TIP. A total of projects will be funded with FHWA TE funds, and 3 will be funded with FTA TE funds.

**MOTION 020507:**Whitmore

**SECOND:** Ravelli

*That the Board approve the amendment of the current Transportation Improvement Program with the projects in the attached list of approved Pennsylvania TE projects.*

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

5. Charles Dougherty, DVRPC Associate Director of Transportation Planning, presented a request by the City of Philadelphia Streets Department for a change in designation to the Pennsylvania Functional Classification System for Tomlinson Road between Bustleton Avenue in Philadelphia and Philmont Avenue/Pine Road in Montgomery County from Local to Minor Arterial. This addition would add 1.3 miles to the federal aid system. The road is in a mixed use corridor. The change provides an additional east west link in the federal aid system, connecting several schools, institutions and a commercial district. It also is a primary access route to a regional rail station and carries a SEPTA bus route. Montgomery County concurs with the change for the portion in that county and supports the change in Philadelphia.

**MOTION 020508:** Ravelli

**SECOND:** Hannigan

*That the Board approve a change to the Pennsylvania functional classification system to add Tomlinson Road in Philadelphia between Bustleton Avenue and the city line, and in Montgomery County between the city line and the Philmont Avenue / Pine Road intersection, as a minor arterial.*

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

6. John Cosica, Jr., DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented a review of the New Jersey Corridor Study selection process. As part work done by DVRPC staff for the New Jersey Problem Identification and Prioritization project, a New Jersey a corridor was selected for study under the Year 2025 Plan Corridor Study-New Jersey in the FY 03 Planning Work Program. A technical review process was conducted to select the corridor most in need of improvement. The New Jersey Subcommittee deliberated on this subject and recommended the NJ168/NJ42 corridor.

**MOTION 020509:** Hannigan

**SECOND:** Bayer

*That the Board approve the selection of the NJ Route 168/NJ 42 corridor (Camden to Atlantic City Expressway) for study under the Year 2025 Plan Corridor Study-New Jersey project in the FY 03 Planning Work Program (Project # 3-43-180).*

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

7. Joseph Hacker, DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented 1960 -2000 Travel Trends in the Philadelphia Central Business District, a report published every 5 years with the purpose of

describing traffic movements in and out of the Philadelphia CBD. The presentation outlined highlights which include: Transit is down about 9%, and while regional rail is up it is the smallest component of the travel mix. Trips in private vehicles are up though this is occurring on local streets rather than highways. Overall, total trips in and out of the CBD are flat, though peak average daily accumulation in the CBD is up 3%.

8. Jeinki Synn, DVRPC Transportation Planner, reported that DVRPC is undertaking a planning effort by examining a number of future "what-if" transportation scenarios and their consequences on important regional planning concerns. Currently, staff has prepared an initial set of 12 scenarios, and has performed intuitive assessments on perceived implications of them. Following the DVRPC Policy Analysis Committee's guidance, staff will select a handful of likely scenarios from the initial set, and will perform scientific inquiries including model simulation and data analyses. Findings and assessment evaluation results of this planning exercise will become a foundation for the 2030 long-range plan.
9. Jack Claffey presented a report detailing southeastern Pennsylvania shuttle operations and ridership figures as requested by member governments. Currently there are 28 shuttles in operation. The majority are administered by SEPTA and Transportation Management Associations. They are funded through a variety of sources, including Jobs Access, Temporary Aid to Needy Families, CMAQ, Lottery funds (for senior citizen-related shuttles) and CMS, although some are funded by associations of private companies. Shuttle vehicles are mostly operated by private providers, although SEPTA operates a few under contract with the administering organization. As requested, DVRPC will continue to track shuttle ridership and will make additional reports to the RTC, and will also begin to track shuttle ridership in the New Jersey portion of the region.
10. The Following Status Reports were presented:
  1. Barry Seymour, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director for Regional Planning, presented an update on the TCDI program. 64 applications were received with 32 were in Pennsylvania, requesting a total of \$2.3 million for which. \$1 million is available. 32 were received in New Jersey totaling \$1.7 million, and \$500,000 is available. Committees have been formed, made up of representatives of the respective states, to review and rank applications. Final rankings will be selected by to the Board Policy Committee on May 15<sup>th</sup> and by the Board on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May
  2. Roger Moog, DVRPC Manager, Office of Aviation Systems Planning, reviewed aviation planning activities in the region. He stated that the Federal Security Administration requirements will double cost of improvements at airports, and Philadelphia International continues to consider expansion. Because of September 11-related security issues, business demand for general aviation at small airports has increased, however community opposition continues to stall runway expansions and other improvements at small airports around the region which would allow them to meet this demand. DVRPC is pursuing a security survey for smaller airports but there is no Federal guidance at this time to direct this work.

3. Ron Roggenburk, DVRPC Manager, Office of Air Quality Planning, reported on the Ozone Action Program 2002 kickoff activities, which will take place on May 16th. The program is a sponsor of this year's Tour de Sol, a solar car rally, which will be making its Philadelphia stopover on that day. Afterward the Ozone Action Program will kick off the 2002 Ozone season with a reception at the Independence Visitors Center following the rally.
4. Karen Cilurso, DVRPC Regional Planner, presented an update of JARC activities. The Board approved the FY 02 priorities. The JARC Committee will meet after the RTC concludes to discuss FY 03 priorities.
11. In an item of New Business, Jack Claffey announced that the Chair will appoint a Nominating Committee to select candidates for the Chair and Vice Chair for FY 2003 beginning this July. The Chair for the upcoming term will be selected from Pennsylvania RTC representatives.
12. Next Meeting: June 11, 2002

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Meeting of May 7, 2002**  
**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

Representative Present

Robert Hannigan  
(not represented)  
Greg Brown  
Brian Cuccia, Jerry Mooney  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Lee Whitmore  
Larry W. Stokes, Jr.  
Leo Bagley  
(not represented)  
Robert Ravelli  
Deborah Schaaf  
(not represented)  
Carol Thomas  
Gail P. Elbert  
Morris Bayer  
Danielle Tucker  
Robert Wisniewski  
(not represented)  
Anisah Abiola, Linda Hayes  
Kathy Vossough  
Catherine Popp-McDonough  
Lorraine Brill  
Dennis Winters

Non-Voting Members Present

New Jersey TMAs  
Pennsylvania TMAs  
Janet Kampf

Representative

William Ragozine  
Peter Quinn  
Federal Transit Administration

Guests

Nancy Goldenberg- Center City District  
Warren Strumpfer - RCC  
Roger Sager - Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission  
Susan Best - Urban Engineers  
Karen Freidman - Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc.