

**Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission**

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE  
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD JULY 9 , 2002**

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by RTC Chair Greg Brown, who took a moment to thank Carol Thomas, the outgoing Chair, for her service. The Highlights of the June 11, 2002 meeting were then approved with no changes.
2. Jack Claffey, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director for Transportation Planning, presented the highlights of the June 27 , 2002 DVRPC Board meeting. The Board approved all action items presented. Charles Martin of Bucks County was elected Chair for FY 2003, and James Fox of the New Jersey Department of Transportation was elected Vice Chair.
3. Elizabeth Schoonmaker-Shepherd, DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented the following TIP actions:

**TIP Action NJ02 -18a - Route 295 Burlington/Camden, Rigid Pavement (DB #99373)**

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY 2002-2004 TIP for NJ by increasing the construction phase funding by \$21,370,000. Identified at the beginning of the fiscal year as a project that had slipped, authorization for construction is now expected before the end of this fiscal year and the project has been identified for a compressed construction schedule. The project provides for reconstruction of the existing concrete roadway which is deteriorated. Funding would be adjusted as follows: add \$12.68 million to an FY02 construction phase, remove \$13.768 million from the FY03 construction phase, and add \$19.958 million to the FY04 construction phase , a net increase of \$18.870 of Interstate Maintenance funds. Additionally, use \$2.5 million CMAQ in the FY03 construction phase for ITS elements of the project.

**TIP Action NJ02 -18b - Route 47, Chapel Heights Avenue (DB #232E) Gloucester County**

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY 2002-2004 TIP for NJ by increasing the FSD (Final Scope Development) phase by \$515,000. The currently programmed amount for FSD was estimated during the feasibility phase, and with the selection of a consultant and update of the proposal, the design costs have been determined to be higher than originally anticipated. Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

**MOTION 020701:** Thomas

**SECOND:**Hannigan

*That the Board approve TIP Action NJ02-18a, NJDOT's request to modify the FY 2002-2004 TIP for New Jersey by adding \$12.68 million to the FY02 construction phase, removing*

*\$13.768 million from the FY03 construction phase, adding \$19.958 million to the FY04 construction phase, using Interstate Maintenance funds and adding \$2.5 million CMAQ funds to the FY03 construction phase, and TIP Action NJ02-18b, NJDOT's request to modify the FY 2002-2004 TIP for New Jersey by adding \$515,000 STP funds to the FY02 FSD (Final Scope Development) phase.*

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

4. Thabet Zakaria, DVRPC Deputy Director of Transportation Planning, presented a FY 2003 Planning Work Program Amendment. PennDOT is in the process of developing a reconstruction study for the fourteen mile, four-lane expressway section of US 30 Bypass between PA 10 and the Exton Bypass in Chester County. This involves evaluating the no-build and two build alternative configurations for reconstructing US 30 Bypass and improving selected interchanges. The study will provide 2010 and 2030 traffic forecasts to PennDOT and their consultant. These forecasts will be used to complete the required planning studies and provide design volumes for the proposed reconstruction project. This project will be initiated in FY 2003 and completed in FY 2004.

**MOTION 020702:** Whitmore

**SECOND:** Hannigan

*That the Board amend the Fiscal Year 2003 Planning Work Program to add the US 30 Bypass Traffic Study.*

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

5. Richard Bickel, Associate Director of Regional Planning, presented a FY 2003 Planning Work Program Amendment. McCormick Taylor & Associates, Inc., which now includes the former firm of Norman Day Associates, has been working since January 2001 to assist the Chester County Planning Commission to undertake a land use planning and implementation study for the PA Route 41 Corridor in Chester County. The study area includes the entire corridor in Chester County, with primary emphasis on nine municipalities that abut Route 41. The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission is administering the consultant contract, as well as assisting the county staff and the consultants on technical and outreach issues.

**MOTION 020703:** Whitmore

**SECOND:** Hannigan

*That the Board amend the Fiscal Year 2003 Planning Work Program to add the Phase 2 Route 41 Corridor Land Use/Management Alternatives Assessment.*

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

6. Charles Dougherty, Associate Director of Transportation Planning, presented a schedule for the upcoming CMAQ funding competitions in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The process begins this July, with the first meeting of the CMAQ subcommittee. Made up of member

governments, transit operators, 4 representatives selected by the Regional Citizens Committee, and one member selected by the Goods Movement Task Force, the committee will create criteria, issue a call for projects, review and evaluate submissions, and make recommendations to the DVRPC Committees. The list of selected projects should be ready for Board action in February 2003. At this time there is \$9.6 million available in PA for 2004-2006 and \$3 million in New Jersey for FY 2004, 2005, and 2006 (\$1 million for each of the 3 years). This is the first time the region has responsibility for New Jersey project selection.

7. Karin Morris, Regional Planner, gave an update on the Environmental Justice(EJ) Work Program, specifically a Technical Supplement to "...and Justice for All," the September 2001 EJ report. Two new demographic variables were added to the original analysis to create a new 8-factor *Degrees of Disadvantage* (DOD) map, along with a new *DOD Within Poverty Concentration Tracts* map. The locations of day care centers were also added to the *Quality of Life Factors* map. An analysis of the new FY2003 TIP in comparison to locations of disadvantage is pending, and these technical findings will be published this summer.
8. Matt Gates, DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented an overview of DVRPC's continuing project to monitor and estimate VMT in the Delaware Valley Region. County-level estimates of daily travel based on traffic counts and DVRPC's travel simulation models for 1999 and 2000 were presented and compared. About 106 million miles of vehicular travel occurred throughout the region each day in 2000, a one percent increase from 1999 traffic volumes, and approximately 64% of the region's VMT is in Pennsylvania.
9. Thabet Zakaria and Thomas Walker, Manager, Office of Systems/Corridor Planning, presented a summary of the Commission Report entitled "Chester County, PA Transportation Study" prepared for the Chester County Planning Commission. This report presents the results of the 2020 simulation model which was run with development patterns recommended in the Chester County Landscapes Study and socioeconomic forecasts, testing three levels of highway and public transit improvements - No-Build, moderate improvement, and extensive improvement. The results of these simulations give insight into the levels of transportation investments that will be required to stabilize highway service levels at the current conditions and reduce congestion levels in the existing problem areas.
10. Jeinki Synn, DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented an update of a contingency management effort by examining a number of future "what-if" transportation scenarios and their consequences on important regional planning concerns. Staff has completed qualitative analyses on the initial set of 12 scenarios, and now recommends a set of six scenarios for the phase II analysis. Under the guidance of the DVRPC Policy Analysis Committee, staff will perform quantitative 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.
11. Christopher Linn, DVRPC Regional Planner, gave a demonstration of the Trails Clearinghouse which is maintained on the DVRPC Website. Persons interested in

information about the network of multi-use trails in the region, or about a specific trail, would access the site via the DVRPC home page. The site includes extensive information about each existing trail and also lists trails which are proposed and/or under construction.

12. Jack Claffey gave the following two status reports:

- US Census Journey-to-Work information is now available. The report shows a decline in carpool and transit use throughout the region.
- An updated analysis of the various shuttles in operation was distributed. The analysis examines levels of ridership and determines cost per rider for each route.

13. Donald Shanis, Deputy Director, Transportation Planning, presented remarks given on behalf of DVRPC and the National Association of Regional Councils to the US Congress Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Highways and Transit in June 18, 2002. The remarks concerned Intermodal planning and freight planning efforts underway in the region.

14. Next meeting: September 10, 2002.

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Meeting of July 9, 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  
Jerry Mooney  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
David Johnson  
Lee Whitmore  
Tom Shaffer  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Robert Ravelli  
Deborah Schaaf  
Michelle Smith  
Carol Thomas  
Curt Noe  
(not represented)  
Danielle Tucker  
Robert Wisniewski  
(not represented)  
Linda Hayes  
Kathy Vossough  
Richard Burnfield  
Lorraine Brill  
Dennis Winters

Non-Voting Members Present

New Jersey TMAs  
Pennsylvania TMAs  
Federal Transit Administration

Representative  
William Ragozine  
Peter Quinn  
Keith Lynch

Guests

Tanya Seaman- Center City District  
Warren Strumpfer - RCC  
Roger Sager - Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission  
Andrea Jordan, Anthony Santaniello, Adalynn Dixon, Tom Branigan - City of Philadelphia  
Hank D'Andrea - South Jersey Port Corporation  
Patrick Barney - South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization  
David L. Cohen - City Avenue District  
Kathleen Perry - Chester County Planning Commission

