

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD MAY 6, 2003**

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by RTC Chair Greg Brown. The Highlights of the April 1, 2003 meeting were approved with no changes.
2. Jack Claffey, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director for Transportation Planning, presented the highlights of the April 24, 2003 DVRPC Board meeting. The Board adopted the TIP amendments as well as the other actions presented.
3. Elizabeth Schoonmaker, DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented the following TIP actions:

TIP Action PA03-23a: Yardley Borough/Lower Makefield Township Bikeway (MPMS #57324) in Bucks County, Requested by PennDOT

PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by removing this project (\$371,000 CMAQ/\$93,000 Local Match) from the TIP. The project has not been advanced by the township. The funds will serve as a partial source for the West Chester Transit Center.

MOTION 030501:Hannigan

SECOND:Johnson

That the Board approve TIP Action PA03-23a, PennDOT's request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for PA (FY2003-2006) by deleting the Yardley Borough/Lower Makefield Township Bikeway project (MPMS #57324) from the TIP. This project is currently programmed with an FY04 construction phase (\$371,000 CMAQ/\$93,000 Local Match).

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

TIP Action PA03-23b: Limerick Township Bike Improvements(MPMS #57329) in Montgomery County, Requested by PennDOT

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by removing this project (\$489,000 CMAQ/\$122,000 Local Match) from the TIP. The project is no longer being advanced by the township. The funds will also serve as a partial source for the West Chester Transit Center

MOTION 030502:Hannigan

SECOND:Johnson

That the Board approve TIP Action PA03-23b, PennDOT's request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for PA (FY2003-2006) by deleting the Limerick Township Bike Improvement project (MPMS #57329) from the TIP. This project is currently programmed with an FY04

construction phase (\$489,000 CMAQ/\$122,000 Local Match).

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

TIP Action PA03-23c: Swamp Road Culvert at Penns Woods Drive(MPMS #64781)in Bucks County, Requested by PennDOT(Proposed New Project)

PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding this project to the TIP. The project would be programmed with an FY03 preliminary engineering phase (\$378,000 Bridge/\$95,000 State), and an FY05 final design phase (\$396,000 Bridge/\$99,000 State). The purpose of this project is to replace a simple span steel bridge on Swamp Road at Penn's Woods Drive, just southeast of the culvert project on Swamp Rd. at Worthington Mill Rd. (MPMS #13683). It is estimated that construction will start in March 2007 (\$1.480 million Bridge/\$370,000 State), approximately two years after the project completion date of the Worthington Mill Rd. Culvert project.

MOTION 030503: Hannigan

SECOND: Johnson

That the Board approve TIP Action PA03-23c, PennDOT's request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for PA (FY2003-2006), by adding the Swamp Road Culvert at Penn's Woods Road project (MPMS #64781) into the TIP. This project will be programmed with an FY03 preliminary engineering phase (\$378,000 Bridge/\$95,000 State), and an FY05 final design phase (\$396,000 Bridge/\$99,000 State).

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

TIP Action PA03-23d:PA 413/PA 532, Newtown Bypass Intersections (MPMS #13637) in Bucks County, Requested by PennDOT

PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding this project back into the TIP in order to add an FY03 construction phase. The request seeks authorization to advance construct \$2.240 million federal STU funds/\$560,000 State funds which would then be converted in FY04. This project involves intersection widening to accommodate dual left turn lanes on northbound PA 413 at Richboro Road and Buck Road. Additional shoulder widening and road overlay will be included during construction for safety purposes.

MOTION 030504: Hannigan

SECOND: Johnson

That the Board approve TIP Action PA03-23d, PennDOT's request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for PA (FY2003-2006), by adding the PA 413/PA 532 Newtown Bypass intersection project (MPMS #13637) back into the TIP. This action will allow advance construct authorization for an FY03 construction phase using \$2.240 million STU funds/\$560,000 State funds to be converted in FY04.

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

4. Donald Shanis, DVRPC Deputy Director, Transportation Planning, presented a FY 2003 Planning Work Program Amendment for the Pennsylvania Turnpike Northeast Extension/PA 309 Corridor Incident/Traffic Management Plan. This project is to initiate development of a unified traffic management and signal coordination plan within the Pennsylvania Turnpike Northeast Extension (I-476)/PA 309 Corridor. The study corridor includes 21 municipalities in the area generally bounded by I-476, PA 309, PA Turnpike mainline, and PA 113. This effort includes: 1) an inventory of traffic signal equipment on the corridor's arterial network and 2) an agreement on an approach to oversee traffic management under emergency conditions. DVRPC will serve as the project manager.

MOTION 030505: Brill

SECOND: McDonough

That the Board amend the FY 2003 Work Program to add a project to initiate development of a unified traffic management and signal coordination plan within the Pennsylvania Turnpike Northeast Extension (I-476)/PA 309 Corridor.

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

5. Charles Dougherty, DVRPC Associate Director of Transportation Planning, presented Urban Area Boundary and Functional Classification Update. FHWA eligibility can be impacted by whether collector roads are in rural or urban areas, and census tracts above a certain threshold population are considered urban. The new boundary has been adjusted based on the 2000 census and was smoothed to remove irregularities, maintain administrative continuity and logical central points, and to include terminals and transit service areas.

MOTION 030506: Thomas

SECOND: Cuccia

That the Board approve the proposed FHWA Urban Boundary for Pennsylvania and New Jersey and forward to the respective DOTs for approval by FHWA.

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

6. Donald Shanis presented a request to propose two MOUs for Board approval and execution in response to expanded UAs as a result of the 2000 US Census. The decennial U.S. Census determines those areas that qualify as Urbanized Areas (UAs) based on total population (50,000) and population density (1000 persons per square mile). US Department of Transportation Metropolitan Planning regulations require planning activities for UAs to be conducted by a new or existing MPO or to be covered by adjacent MPOs. In response to this requirement, Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) between adjacent MPOs establish and reaffirm the respective responsibilities for transportation planning and programming with each neighboring MPO. The proposed MOUs have been coordinated with the Berks County and Lehigh Valley planning commission staff, and they concur in the wording.

MOTION 030507:Thomas

SECOND: Strumpfer

That the Board approve the execution of Memoranda of Understanding with RATS and LVTS, respectively.

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

7. Barry Seymour, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director for Regional Planning, presented a Work Program amendment to add a project for a Transit Area Master Plan for Beverly City and Edgewater Park Township, New Jersey. The study would be conducted by a consultant, who would conduct a needs assessment, feasibility study, and look at other conditions within a one-quarter mile radius of the SNJLRTS stations in these communities. A detailed Master Plan with courses of action for the various stakeholders will result. The study will be overseen by Burlington County.

MOTION 030508: Thomas

SECOND: Strumpfer

That the Board amend the DVRPC FY 2003 and FY 2004 Planning Work Programs to add a project to prepare a transit area master plan for Beverly City and Edgewater Park Township, Burlington County.

Motion passed. There were three Abstentions.

8. Karin Morris, DVRPC Regional Planner, presented the Inventory of Potential Transit-Oriented Development Sites. This study, currently underway, inventories potential opportunities around station areas, looks at funding sources, barriers, and other issues related to development. A total of 110 rail and bus station areas were examined, and were ranked based on a variety of criteria. Forty-five were determined to be worthy of future study. A summary of action steps will be provided at the conclusion of the Inventory.
9. Scott Brady, DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented an analysis of county-to-county worker flow, based on recently released Census data. Data was gathered from the Census long form, which surveyed 1 in 6 households. Currently, these journey-to-work flows are available at the county level. Overall, the analysis shows a decline in the number of people who live and work in Philadelphia, while the Pennsylvania suburbs experienced an increase in both. New Jersey Counties showed an increase in the number of people from outside who come in to work, as well as the number from inside who go outside to work. An analysis of travel mode showed that of 4200 households surveyed, dominant number of trips are made by auto, an increased percentage from 1990. All other modes' share decreases. The Census continues to distribute data, and DVRPC will create additional press releases as the information becomes available.
10. Joseph Hacker, DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented a review of the analysis of the data collected as part of the 2001 Regional Cordon Line Survey. Surveys were taken at 12 facilities around the region. It was determined that 1.5 million vehicles cross the cordon line every day. Automobiles make 46% of trips, and of those, 68% are single-occupant vehicles. Information is also available about

truck trips. Data will be used as a trend analysis tool, and the origin-destination information will be used for modeling.

11. In an item of Old Business, Lorraine Brill reported that Scully and Loy, PennDOT's consultant for stone arch bridge analyses, will be holding public meetings and input is wanted from communities within PennDOT District 6.
12. In an of New Business, Jack Claffey reported that DVRPC will hold its Annual Dinner on June 4, 2003 at the Park Hyatt Bellevue.
13. In an additional item of New Business, Linda Hayes of DRPA reported that DRPA is undertaking a Route 55 to Philadelphia transit study. Public meetings will be held to gather comments, or comments are being taken at the DRPA website.
14. In an additional item of New Business, Charles Dougherty reported that the 24 projects selected for CMAQ funding from the latest competition round are now available for review on DVRPC's website.
15. Next meeting June 10, 2003.

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Meeting of May 6, 2003
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 Strategic Planning
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

FTA

Guests

Roger Sager - DRJTBC
Sue Herman - RRTS
Claudia Gordon, Andrea Jordan - City of Philadelphia
Dennis Winters - Clean Air Council

Representative Present

Robert Hannigan
(not represented)
Greg Brown
Brian Cuccia
(not represented)
(not represented)
David Johnson
Lou Hufnagle
Justin Dula
(not represented)
(not represented)
Robert Ravelli
Anthony Santaniello
Michelle Smith
Carol Thomas
Curt Noe
Morris Bayer
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Linda Hayes
James Schwarzwaldner
Catherine Popp-McDonough
Lorraine Brill
Warren Strumpfer

Representative

Keith Lynch