

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

PLANNING COORDINATING COMMITTEE/

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

July 12, 2005 Meeting Highlights

DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

1. Call to Order - Chairman's Comments

Brian Cuccia, PCC/RTC Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. Transportation Director's Report

Don Shanis informed the members that PennDOT's flexing of funds from highway improvements to transit was successful, as a result of great work and coordination between PennDOT and the DVRPC. The recent flexing of federal highway/bridge funds provides \$42.7 million to the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA).

Dr. Shanis reported that the DVRPC Board adopted the Destination 2030 Long Range Plan, the FY 2006 Transportation Improvement Program for New Jersey, and the Conformity Determination of the Destination 2030 Long Range Plan and FY 2006 New Jersey TIP, as per the recommendations of the PCC/RTC. He also added that the DVRPC Board approved Board Officers for FY 2006.

Dr. Shanis stated that the DVRPC Annual Retreat will be held on December 2nd, 2005. Atlantic City, New Jersey is being considered for the location of the meeting, as similar planning issues pertaining to the gaming industry could arise in Pennsylvania due to the recent legalization of gambling. Dr. Shanis concluded by saying that other suggested locations would be considered.

Dr. Shanis informed the members that the DVRPC Board Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate, and execute a contract with the Consultant Selection Committee's recommended firm to assist the DVRPC with a variety of Transportation Planning/Engineering/Urban Design Services.

Dr. Shanis reported that the TransitChek FY 2006 budget was approved. He stated that the TransitChek program has been a huge success and that some

interesting changes to the way the funds are distributed to employees are being explored.

Dr. Shanis informed the members that a meeting was held with representatives of the DVRPC and the RCC to discuss concerns voiced by the RCC regarding their role in the regional planning process. The representatives discussed how the committee can be more effective.

Dr. Shanis announced to the members that the scheduled presentation, **Accommodating Bicycles and Pedestrians in New Jersey**, has been postponed. In place of the presentation, John Ward (DVRPC) will briefly discuss DVRPC's upcoming Work Program for FY 2007.

Lastly, on behalf of all the members of the PCC/RTC, Dr. Shanis presented a small gift to Michelle Webb in recognition of her service during her tenure as PCC/RTC Chairperson for FY 2005. He thanked her for all her efforts throughout the past year, and acknowledged her leadership skills as chairperson.

3. Report on Regional Citizens Committee Activities

Karen Friedman reported that representatives of the RCC met with representatives of the DVRPC to address the RCC's concerns over bicycle and pedestrian issues as they relate to proposed highway projects. Ms. Friedman also reported that the RCC voted to support the flexing of state highway funds to transit. Lastly, Ms. Friedman stated that the RCC was concerned about the change of funding source for several projects (please refer to June 7, 2005 PCC/RTC Meeting Highlights) in Pennsylvania.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the Meeting of June 7, 2005

The highlights from the June 7 meeting of the PCC/RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Lorraine Brill, seconded by Jessica Savidge, to adopt the PCC/RTC meeting highlights with two corrections: Change date of next PCC/RTC meeting listed to July 12th, 2005; and re-word statement made by Jim Mosca (PennDOT) regarding the flex of state funds towards transit.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Elizabeth Schoonmaker presented 10 TIP amendments which were submitted for consideration.

a. TIP Action NJ05-16: Burlington Light Rail Link Shuttle (DB #D0402), Burlington County

Burlington County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2007 TIP for New Jersey by adding a project into the TIP, the BurLink Service (DB #D0402) (Burlington County Light Rail Link Shuttle), for additional capital and operating expenses. Burlington County's request is for \$700,000 CMAQ in FY05. Funds would be used for \$35,000 of capital improvements for the 3 buses purchased for the service, and 2 years of operating assistance at \$332,500 for each year. Burlington County will cover the remaining operating costs totaling \$308,000 during the next two years.

b. TIP Action NJ05-17: Employment Shuttle - Pennsauken Industrial Park (DB #D0408), Various Counties

The South Jersey Transportation Authority has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2007 TIP for New Jersey by adding a project into the TIP, the Employment Shuttle for the Pennsauken Industrial Park (DB #D0408) provided now by the South Jersey Transportation Authority (SJTA) but formerly under the auspices of the Camden County Improvement Authority (CCIA). This project would be funded by programming \$66,000 CMAQ funds in FY05 for one year of operating costs for expanded service.

Motion: by Carol Thomas, seconded by Curt Noe to approve TIP Action NJ05-16, and NJ05-17, to amend the FY 2005-2007 TIP for New Jersey by adding the BurLink Service (Burlington County Light Rail Link Shuttle) project using \$700,000 CMAQ; and by adding the Employment Shuttle for the Pennsauken Industrial Park using \$66,000 CMAQ.

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

c. TIP Action PA05-34: Philadelphia Unemployment Project Vanpool, (New Proposed Project), Various Counties

The Philadelphia Unemployment Project (PUP) received specially earmarked Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) funds during the

FY05 Appropriations process and has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project, the Philadelphia Unemployment Project (PUP) Vanpool. This project will provide for a van pool service to provide transportation for city residents to suburban jobs as part of the JARC Program. Funds will be used to purchase capital equipment (mini-vans) and for operations. This project would be funded by using \$400,000 JARC/\$400,000 local match in FY05.

Motion: by Kenneth Lomax, seconded by Tom Shaffer to approve TIP Action PA05-34 to amend the FY 2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Philadelphia Unemployment Project (PUP) Vanpool project using \$400,000 JARC/\$400,000 local match.

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

- d. **TIP Action PA05-35: 52nd Street Initiative, PCDC (Philadelphia Commercial Development Corporation), (New Proposed Project, MPMS #71644), Philadelphia**

Removed from agenda.

- e. **TIP Action PA05-36a: I-95, Girard Point Bridge to Girard Avenue Modified Resurfacing (New Proposed Project, MPMS #73864), Philadelphia**

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project, the I-95, Girard Point Bridge to Girard Avenue Modified Resurfacing project by programming \$6 million of state funds for a FY06 construction phase. Current pavement conditions have deteriorated to the point where immediate attention is needed. Concrete patching, milling, crack seal, and overlay will be included in the project. The improvements will extend the life of the roadway for approximately 10 years.

- f. **TIP Action PA05-36b: I-95, Delaware State Line to Bullens Lane Modified Resurfacing (New Proposed Project, MPMS #72998), Philadelphia**

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project, the I-95, Delaware State Line to Bullens Avenue Modified Resurfacing project by programming \$8.5 million of state funds for a FY06 construction phase. Current pavement conditions have deteriorated to the point where immediate attention is needed. Concrete patching, milling, crack seal, and overlay will be included in the project. The improvements will extend the life of the roadway for approximately 10 years.

Motion: by Tom Shaffer, seconded by Catherine Popp-McDonough to approve TIP Action PA05-36a, and PA05-36b to amend the FY 2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the I-95, Girard Point Bridge to Girard Avenue Modified Resurfacing project by programming \$6 million of state funds for a FY06 construction phase; and by adding the I-95, Delaware State Line to Bullens Avenue Modified Resurfacing project by programming \$8.5 million of state funds for a FY06 construction phase.

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

g. TIP Action PA05-37a: Crozierville Road Bridge/New Road over Chester Creek (MPMS #47992), Delaware County

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a \$330,000 preliminary engineering phase to the Crozierville Road Bridge project in Delaware County. The preliminary engineering phase for this existing TIP project was never authorized and the project is now ready to advance. PENNDOT's request is to program \$264,000 Federal Bridge funds/\$50,000 State/\$16,000 Local match in FY05. Utility, right of way and construction phases are currently programmed on the FY05 TIP. This project provides for replacement of this county-owned stone facade bridge built in 1931.

h. TIP Action PA05-37b: North Narberth Ave. Bridge over Amtrak/SEPTA (MPMS #64798), Montgomery County

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a \$600,000 preliminary engineering phase to the North Narberth Avenue Bridge over Amtrak/SEPTA project (MPMS #64798) in Montgomery County in FY06. The preliminary engineering phase for this existing TIP project was never authorized. PENNDOT's request is to program \$480,000 Federal Bridge funds/\$90,000 State/\$30,000 Local match in FY06. Final design (\$320,000 Bridge/\$60,000 State/\$20,000 Local match) would be shifted to FY07 to better accommodate the schedule. Utility, right of way and construction phases are currently programmed in Later Fiscal Years of the FY05 TIP. This project provides for bridge replacement.

Motion: by Tom Shaffer, seconded by Matthew Lawson to approve TIP Action PA05-37a, and PA05-37b to amend the FY 2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a \$330,000 preliminary engineering phase to the Crozierville Road Bridge project in Delaware County using \$264,000 Federal Bridge funds/\$50,000 State/\$16,000 Local match in FY05; and by adding adding a \$600,000 preliminary engineering phase to the North Narberth Avenue Bridge over Amtrak/SEPTA project in

Montgomery County using \$480,000 Federal Bridge funds/\$90,000 State/\$30,000 Local match in FY06.

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

i. TIP Action PA05-37c: PA 352, North Middletown Rd. At Penn State University (MPMS #64823), Delaware County

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back into the TIP, the PA 352, North Middletown Road at Penn State University project, with a \$225,000 state funded utility phase and a \$1.650 million state funded construction phase in FY05. The project appeared in the FY03 TIP, with preliminary engineering and right of way to be performed and funded locally. Design has been completed and the project is ready to advance to construction. This project provides for construction of a new intersection on PA 352 to accommodate new Penn State entrance and realign Old Middletown Road. This improvement would include PA 352 widening to provide a center turning lane and signaling the new intersection. Two existing flat angle intersections of North Old Middletown Road with North Middletown Road would be eliminated.

j. TIP Action PA05-37d: Stanbridge Street Bridge (MPMS #16218), Montgomery County

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back into the TIP, the Stanbridge Street Bridge project, with a \$220,000 state/\$55,000 local funded preliminary engineering phase in FY05. The project appeared in the FY03 TIP, but was never authorized and is now ready to advance. This bridge is located in Norristown Farm Park and is one of four bridges in the park that belong to Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). DCNR will provide the local match.

k. TIP Action PA05-37e: US 202 Section 700 Wetland Mitigation (MPMS #50728), Bucks County

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back into the TIP, the US 202 Wetland Mitigation project, with a \$200,000 state funded utility phase in FY05 and a FY07 construction phase (\$7.3 million state). The project was previously added to the FY03 TIP, but never advanced to construction. This project provides for the wetland mitigation associated with the US 202, Section 700 project. Approximately 16 acres of wetland in Chalfont will be subject to mitigation efforts. The FY05 utility phase will provide funds to create 3 railroad crossings within the Chalfont parcel in order to provide access to the wetland site within the Neshaminy Creek watershed. Further, an additional 28 acres of wetland replacement will be provided within a 225

acre parcel near Kansas Road in Warrington Township. The extensive acreage provides a large buffer area surrounding the wetland along the Neshaminy Creek. Construction includes grading, planting, and erosion and sedimentation control. Monitoring will be done for approximately ten years.

Motion: by Jim Mosca, seconded by Leo Bagley to approve TIP Action PA05-37c, PA05-37d, and PA05-37e to amend the FY 2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding back into the TIP, the PA 352, North Middletown Road at Penn State University project, with a \$225,000 state funded utility phase and a \$1.650 million state funded construction phase in FY05; by adding back into the TIP, the Stanbridge Street Bridge project, with a \$220,000 state/\$55,000 local funded preliminary engineering phase in FY05; and by adding back into the TIP, the US 202 Wetland Mitigation project, with a \$200,000 state funded utility phase in FY05 and a FY07 construction phase (\$7.3 million state).

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

6. Fiscal Year 2006 Planning Work Program Amendments

To respond to the needs of member governments and agencies, work program changes and additions are brought to the RTC to permit the timely undertaking of technical activity.

a. Beverly and Edgewater Park TOD Study

Karin Morris (DVRPC) presented a Work Program Amendment to add the Beverly and Edgewater Park TOD Study to the FY 2006 Work Program. This project was previously added to the FY 2004 Work Program, but was unable to proceed due to lack of funds. This project would be funded at \$130,000 from a NJDOT Land Use Planning Grant, \$120,000 of which will be used to hire a consultant, and \$10,000 will be retained by DVRPC for administrative and technical assistance. The study will build off of DVRPC's 2002 report Transit Village Design in Burlington County, and a 2003 Beverly City TCDI study, Waterfront Park Design and TOD Study. This study will extend the focus and study area along Railroad Avenue and into Edgewater Park, and produce three conceptual prototype subdivision and site plans for TOD.

Motion: by Matthew Lawson, seconded by Curt Noe, to approve the addition of the Beverly and Edgewater Park TOD Study to the FY 2006 Work Program.

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

b. Fort Washington Area Flooding and Transportation Improvement Study

Don Shanis (DVRPC) presented a Work Program Amendment to add the Fort Washington Area Flooding and Transportation Improvement Study to the FY 2006 Work Program. The goal of this study is to analyze problems and develop solutions to the flooding and transportation problems in the Fort Washington Office Park area in Upper Dublin Township, Montgomery County.

Motion: by Leo Bagley, seconded by Karen Friedman, to approve the addition of the Fort Washington Area Flooding and Transportation Improvement Study to the FY 2006 Work Program.

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

c. US 202 Section 700 Traffic Study

Don Shanis (DVRPC) presented a Work Program Amendment to add the US 202 Section 700 Traffic Study to the FY 2006 Work Program. PennDOT and its consultants are currently performing a smart growth evaluation of the programmed improvements to Section 700 of US 202. A US 202 Section 700 Community Task Force workshop was recently held in which county and municipal representatives identified alternate proposals for a parkway that could be built on the alignment previously identified for an expressway. The proposed parkway would include approximately 12 at-grade intersections and would be four lanes between PA 63 (Welsh Road) and either PA 309 or PA 463, and then continue as a two-lane facility to the existing interchange at the PA 611 Bypass. DVRPC has been asked to provide traffic forecasts between PA 309 and PA 463 in order to determine the appropriate point to transition from a four-lane to a two-lane facility.

Leo Bagley (Montgomery County) voiced opposition to adding the US 202 Section 700 Traffic Study to the FY 2006 Work Program, based on concerns focused on the proposed parkway. Mr. Bagley stated that Montgomery County believes that the studies performed by the consultants involved in the parkway project proved little and that the intersections along the corridor are not getting the attention they deserve. Mr. Bagley continued by stating that Montgomery County has little faith in the consultant's work and is looking to the DVRPC to perform credible analysis on the corridor. He stated that the proposed traffic study does not include intersection level of service analysis, which will directly effect the result of the roadway. Mr. Bagley stated that Montgomery County is concerned about the proposed roadway width and cross-section. Montgomery County would like to see the proposed parkway include adequate road widths as well as shoulders based on safety concerns.

Curt Noe (Camden County) recommended to the members that, based on the perceived unresolved issues among the representatives involved in the US 202 Section 700 Traffic Study Project, the project be tabled to allow for a compromise to be worked out between the parties involved. Don Shanis (DVRPC) stated that the DVRPC Board could act separately from the PCC/RTC Committee and approve the proposed project.

Motion: by Curt Noe, seconded by Tom Shaffer to table the addition of the US 202 Section 700 Traffic Study to the FY 2006 Work Program to enable a compromise to be reached among those involved with the project.

Motion passed. 17 votes were cast in favor of the motion. One opposed (Jim Mosca, PennDOT) and no abstentions.

PRESENTATION ITEM

7. DVRPC's FY 2007 Work Program

John Ward (DVRPC) informed the members that work on the DVRPC's FY 2007 Work Program is about to begin. Although the FY 2007 Work Program has not officially begun, Mr. Ward encouraged members to begin considering projects to be included. He stated that an official announcement will be made regarding the acceptance of projects for the FY 2007 Work Program.

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. Pennsylvania STC Public Hearing

Charles Dougherty (DVRPC) informed the members about the public hearing that the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission will be holding for the DVRPC region. The public hearing will be held in the DVRPC offices beginning at 8:30 a.m. on August 18, 2005. Mr. Dougherty added that the hearings allow the DVRPC member governments and others to provide input on the region's FY2007 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) update and the state's Twelve Year Program update.

9. One Minute Reports

PCC/RTC Members and guests provided updates on the activities of their agencies.

10. Old Business and New Business

There was no old or new business to discuss.

11. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting of the PCC/RTC is September 6, 2005, and will be held in the DVRPC's conference room located at 190 N. Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA.

ATTENDANCE**Voting Members**

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

Representative

(not represented)
 Carol Thomas
 Curt Noe
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Judy Adams
 Tom Shaffer
 Linda Hayes
 Karen Friedman
 Lorraine Brill
 Jessica Savidge
 Matt Lawson
 Leo Bagley
 Brian Cuccia
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Jerry Lutin
 (not represented)
 Jim Mosca
 Linda Guarini
 Anthony Santaniello
 Michelle Webb
 Kenneth Lomax
 Catherine Popp-McDonough

Non-Voting Members

Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force
 Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
 Federal Highway Administration - NJ division
 Federal Highway Administration - PA division
 Federal Transit Administration - Region III
 ITS Technical Task Force
 NJ Turnpike Authority
 New Jersey TMAs
 Pennsylvania Bus Association
 Pennsylvania TMAs
 Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
 Philadelphia Regional Port Authority
 Pottstown Urban Transit
 South Jersey Port Corporation
 South Jersey Transportation Authority

Representative

Kelvin MacKavanaugh
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Keith Lynch
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 William Ragozine
 (not represented)
 Peter Quinn
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Lynn Benensky
 (not represented)
 (not represented)

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

US EPA - Region II

(not represented)

US EPA - Region III

(not represented)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

Claudia Gordon - City of Philadelphia Streets Dept.

Tim Kelly - Clean Air Council

Janet Kampf - Federal Transit Administration - Region III

Darren Fava - CPTMA

John Dodds - Philadelphia Unemployment Project

Will Maus - Philadelphia Unemployment Project

Sue Herman - RRTS

Roger Sager - DRJTBL

DVRPC Staff

Donald Shanis

Charles Dougherty

John Ward

Matthew West

Elizabeth Schoonmaker

Will Stevens

Jean McKinney

Ryan Gallagher