

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
PLANNING COORDINATING COMMITTEE/
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
September 11, 2007 Meeting Highlights
DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA**

1. Call to Order - Chairman's Comments

Matthew Lawson (Mercer County) welcomed everyone and gave his reflections on the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Mr Lawson then asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of those tragic events.

2. Deputy Executive Director's Report

Dr. Donald Shanis (DVRPC) updated members on the July 26, 2007 DVRPC Board meeting. Dr. Shanis stated that the Board approved all Action Items from the July 10, 2007 RTC meeting.

Dr. Shanis then introduced Randy Waltermeyer, as the new voting member representing Chester County at the RTC, do to the retirement of Lee Whitmore. Dr. Shanis stated that the RTC will honor Mr. Whitmore at the October 10, 2007 RTC meeting.

3. Report on Regional Citizens Committee Activities

John Boyle (RCC) provided information on the RCC meeting held on August 15, 2007. Mr. Boyle stated that the RCC has undergone a recent change to its meeting structure, with the intent to improve the effectiveness of the committee. (Please refer to the August 15, 2007 Meeting Minutes of the DVRPC RCC for specific details).

ACTION ITEMS**4. Highlights of the Meeting of July 10, 2007**

The highlights from the July 10, 2007 meeting of the PCC/RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Brian Cuccia, seconded by Anthony Santaniello to adopt the highlights for the July 10, 2007 PCC/RTC meeting.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Elizabeth Schoonmaker (DVRPC) presented two TIP amendments for consideration.

a. PA07-58: South Street Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #17724), Philadelphia

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by programming an additional \$12.8 million for the design, utility and construction phases of the South Street Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #17724). The project will include the replacement of the 20 span bridge which passes over I-76, The Schuylkill River, and the CSX railroad. The new bridge will have four lanes with a center left turn lane, intersection tie-ins to the I-76 off-ramps, as well as architectural amenities including: an open barrier with illuminated stainless-steel mesh; pedestrian overlook towers; bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the bridge; and a stair tower and pedestrian ramp for access to the Schuylkill River Park system below the bridge.

b. PA07-59: Montgomery Avenue Over AMTRAK Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #57276), Philadelphia -Deferral/Deletion of Project

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by deferring the \$2.5 million utility phase for the Montgomery Avenue over AMTRAK Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #57276), from FY07 to FY11, therefore technically deleting the project from the TIP since no phases will show within the 4 year program. This project will remain in and continue to advance through the design process.

Motion: by Chivas Grannum, seconded by Kenneth Lomax to modify the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by programming an additional \$12.8 million for the design, utility and construction phases of the South Street Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #17724); and to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by deferring the \$2.5 million utility phase for the

Montgomery Avenue over AMTRAK Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #57276), from FY07 to FY11, therefore technically deleting the project from the TIP since no phases will show within the 4 year program.

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

c. Request to PennDOT to Modify Its Policy for Using Act 44 Funds

A discussion ensued after several Pennsylvania counties voiced concern regarding the restriction on the use of the newly available monies through Act 44. PennDOT has set a policy that these new funds can only be use on new bridge TIP projects, disallowing them to be used to fund structurally deficient bridge projects that have been previously deferred from the TIP or to cover cost increases on existing bridge projects in the TIP. This policy forces the region into the position of deferring some structurally deficient bridge projects that are well along in engineering in order to cover the cost increases of those that are more advanced, while at the same time that the region is expected to initiate engineering on new bridge projects that may take years to bring to construction.

Motion: by Leo Bagley, seconded by Jessica Savidge-Lucas to recommend that the Board request that PennDOT modify its present policy related to Act 44 funds to allow those funds to be applied to any structurally deficient bridge.

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

6. Fiscal Year 2008 Planning Work Program Amendments

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

a. Traffic Operations Modeling for I-76/I-476 Interchange/Matsonford Road Bridge Area

John Ward (DVRPC) presented Traffic Operations Modeling for I-76/I-476 Interchange/Matsonford Road Bridge Area. The proposed project would apply the traffic operations testing and visualization tool, VISSIM as a complement to the design development work being performed in Phase 2 of the I-76 Widening Feasibility Study. VISSIM will be used to derive performance measures from modeled outputs of DVRPC's regional travel demand forecasting model applied to the highway / interchange design refinements performed in the ongoing I-76 study. The I-76 / I-476 Interchange and Matsonford Road Bridge river crossings area of Conshohocken and West Conshohocken boroughs in Montgomery County is

the focus of the study. Key local roadways (e.g., PA 23 and Fayette Street) will be included in the analyses.

Motion: by Leo Bagley, seconded by Catherine Popp-McDonough to amend the Fiscal Year 2008 Planning Work Program to include Traffic Operations Modeling for I-76/I-476 Interchange/Matsonford Road Bridge Area.

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

b. PATCO Philadelphia Extension Study Alternatives Analysis

In cooperation with DVRPC, the consultants will develop an enhanced traffic zone system to meet the needs of the PATCO Philadelphia Extension Study. Throughout the study, DVRPC staff will coordinate with DRPA and their consultants and respond to questions concerning models, data, computer procedures, and technical methods. However, the consultants will be responsible for the results of this study.

The Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA) has requested that DVRPC provide existing data, travel simulation models, and technical assistance to their consultants in the conduct of the Philadelphia portion of the PATCO Extension Study. This assistance includes the provision of existing socioeconomic data, traffic counts, existing forecasting models and related computer programs. The consultants will adapt the DVRPC data and models to produce ridership forecasts for the PATCO No-build and Build alternative scenarios.

c. PATCO New Jersey Extension Study Alternatives Analysis

The Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA) has requested that DVRPC provide existing data, travel simulation models, and technical assistance to their consultants in the conduct of the New Jersey portion of the PATCO Extension Study. This assistance includes the provision of existing socioeconomic data, traffic counts, existing forecasting models and related computer programs. The consultants will adapt the DVRPC data and models to produce ridership forecasts for the PATCO No-build and Build alternative scenarios.

For the portions of the study area in Atlantic and Cumberland counties, the consultants will coordinate with the New Jersey Department of Transportation and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization to obtain their existing base year models, transit and highway networks, and current socioeconomic data and forecasts for use in this study. In cooperation with DVRPC, the consultants will develop an enhanced traffic zone system to meet the needs of the PATCO Extension Study. Throughout the study, DVRPC staff will coordinate with DRPA and their consultants and

respond to questions concerning models, data, computer procedures, and technical methods. However, the consultants will be responsible for the results of this study.

Motion: by Jessica Savidge-Lucas, seconded by Anthony Santaniello to amend the Fiscal Year 2008 Planning Work Program to include PATCO Philadelphia Extension Study Alternatives Analysis; and PATCO New Jersey Extension Study Alternative Analysis.

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

7. Release of the 2007 DVRPC Draft Public Plan for Public Comment

As a means of documenting DVRPC's long history of proactive public involvement, the Board adopted a Public Participation Plan in 2001 and amended it in 2004. In order to meet SAFETEA-LU requirements, a new Public Participation Plan must be adopted. This draft plan has been issued to the RTC, and action is now being sought to release the draft plan for a 45-day public comment period beginning October 3, 2007. Candace Synder (DVRPC) presented and explained the Public Participation Plan.

Motion: by Leo Bagley, seconded by Jim Mosca to release the draft plan for a 45-day public comment period beginning October 3, 2007.

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

8. Journey-To-Work Trends and Recommendations for Transportation Planning

Dr. Thabet Zakaria (DVRPC) and Scott Brady (DVRPC) presented a paper on the journey-to-work trends in the Delaware Valley region. The paper analyzes changes in land use, population resident workers, employment, and means of transportation to work that have occurred over 30 years. To address most transportation problems, the paper recommended 25 policies which should be implemented simultaneously.

DISCUSSION ITEM

9. Keystone Industrial Port Complex

Tom Jennings (Bucks County International Trade Council) informed the members about the Keystone Industrial Port Complex (KIPC), located in Fairless Hills, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Once the site of the United States Steel Corporation's

Fairless Works, KIPC now hosts more than 30 businesses. The complex offers a unique combination of attributes such as excellent rail, port, and highway access and affords tax advantages as a designated Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone. At this time, eight on-site rail improvements have been identified to ensure full redevelopment of the 4,000 acre brownfield site.

10. FY 2008 Work Program: Consolidated Request for Project Study Areas

The FY 2008 Work Program contains several projects which require consultation with county planners to select specific study locations. DVRPC staff had been requested to consolidate such requests, where possible. Rich Bickel (DVRPC) discussed a proposed approach to accomplish this goal.

INFORMATION ITEM

11. PennDOT's Regional Operations Plan (ROP)

PennDOT is in the process of developing ROPs for each PennDOT District in the state, with the intent to identify a prioritized list of programs and projects to improve transportation operations. Locally, PennDOT's consultant (Jacobs Edwards and Kelcey) coordinated approximately ten outreach meetings with county transportation planners, incident / emergency management personnel, operations staff from different agencies, and other relevant organizations to develop a list of prioritized projects for the region. Keith Mullins (JEK) presented a brief summary of these findings, along with details on the four highest priority recommendations for regional operational improvements.

12. FY 2009 Work Program

Sarah Oaks (DVRPC) presented a schedule and information regarding plans for the FY 2009 Work Program.

13. Call for Special Study Work Programs for the FY 2009 Transit Support Program (TSP) and the Supportive Regional Highway Planning Program (SRHPP).

Each year monies are reserved in both the TSP and SRHPP sections of DVRPC's Planning Work Program for special studies. These studies are generally one-to-two year efforts which fall outside core work tasks under these programs. Sarah Oaks (DVRPC) issued a call for special studies and provided important submission and approval dates.

14. **One Minute Reports**

PCC/RTC Members and guests were invited to provide updates on the activities of their agencies.

15. **Old Business and New Business**

16. **Meeting Adjournment**

Motion: *by Brian Cuccia, seconded by Jerry Lutin to adjourn the PCC/RTC Meeting.*

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

The next scheduled meeting of the PCC/RTC is October 9, 2007.

DVRPC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website may be translated into Spanish, Russian, and Traditional Chinese online by visiting www.dvrpc.org. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages or formats, if requested. For more information, please call (215) 238-2871.

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

Non-Voting Members

Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission
Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force
Federal Highway Administration - NJ Division
Federal Highway Administration - PA Division
Federal Transit Administration - Region III
Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
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
US EPA - Region II
US EPA - Region III

Representative

Richard Brahler
Julie Gandy
(not represented)
Randy Waltermeyer
(not represented)
(not represented)
Judy Adams
Alex Flemming
(not represented)
John Boyle
Lorraine Brill
Jessica Lucas
Matthew Lawson
Leo Bagley
Brian Cuccia
(not represented)
(not represented)
Jerry Lutin
(not represented)
Jim Mosca
Linda Guarini
Anthony Santaniello
Chivas Grannum
Kenneth Lomax
Catherine Popp-McDonough

Representative

Glenn Reibman
Kelvin MacKavanagh
(not represented)
Matthew Smoker
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Brian Wahler
William Ragozine
(not represented)
Peter Quinn
Don Steele
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Martin Kotsch

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

Raymond Green – PennDOT
Keith Mullins – Jacobs Edwards & Kelcey
Kathleen Zubrzycki – SEPTA
Dave Fogel - Septa
John Lutz – City of Philadelphia – Bridge Section
William Gural – City of Philadelphia – Bridge Section
Ryan Long - PB
Darin Gatti – City of Philadelphia, Streets Department
Ben Ginsberg – CCD/CPTMA
Shayna Trimble – GVFTMA
Mike Thompson – GVFTMA
Len Crescenzo – Kinder Morgan
Warren Strumpford – RCC
Tom Jennings – Bucks County International Trade Council
Peggy Adams – Bucks County International Trade Council

DVRPC Staff

Donald Shanis
Charles Dougherty
Richard Bickel
Elizabeth Schoonmaker
Richard Murphy
Matthew West
Jean McKinney
Patty Elkis
John Medera
John Ward