



**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

April 9, 2013 Meeting Highlights

DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

1. Call to Order - Chairperson's Comments

Michelle Webb (Chairperson, City of Philadelphia Department of Streets) welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. Deputy Planning Director's Report

John Ward (DVRPC) began by announcing the Board approved all the Action Items recommended by the committee at the RTC meeting on March 12, 2013. He stated that there was significant discussion on two Action Items: TMA Assistance Grant Program; and the Philadelphia Food Funders Strategic Plan and Funding Scan FY13 DVRPC Work Program amendment. Both Actions passed with a majority vote.

Mr. Ward introduced Jonathan Crum, who will be representing FHWA – PA Division.

Recently, the membership of the RTC grew as a result of an update to the by-laws of DVRPC. Mr. Ward announced that there will be a Briefing Session at the conclusion of the May RTC meeting that will be designed as an overview for any RTC members and will focus on the Committee's role and responsibilities.

Mr. Ward announced the dates of several upcoming meetings and webinars.

Lastly, Mr. Ward announced the retirement of DVRPC staff member Stan Platt.

3. Public Comment on Any Agenda Item

There were none.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the Meeting of March 12, 2013

The highlights from March 12, 2013 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Aissia Richardson, seconded by Jim Mosca to adopt the highlights for the March 12, 2013 RTC meeting.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

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

a. PA13-27: State of Good Repair, (MPMS# 77180), SEPTA – Increase Funding

SEPTA has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing funding for the State of Good Repair (MPMS# 77180) by adding two new projects to the TIP, advancing two projects from the Illustrative Unfunded list, and adding a project back in, that was previously on the FY2011 TIP. The State of Good Repair Program will be increased overall by \$19,060,000 (\$15,552,000 Federal Section 5339/\$720,000 Federal Section 5309/\$196,000 Federal Section 5307/\$11,302,000 State 1514 Bond/\$ 377,000 Local) in FY13 and increasing by \$3,508,000 (\$2,806,000 Federal Section 5307/\$679,000 State 1514 Bond/ \$23,000 Local) in FY14.

b. PA13-28: Bridge Improvement Program, (MPMS# 95402), SEPTA – Increase Funding

SEPTA has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing funding for the Bridge improvement Program (MPMS# 95402) by advancing two projects from the Later Fiscal Years of the TIP. Engineering and design phases of the Crum Creek Viaduct will advance to FY13 in the amount of \$500,000 (\$400,000 Federal Section 5307 / \$96,775 State Section 1514 Bond / \$3,225 Local) and the engineering and design phases for the Regional Rail Stone Arch Bridge Rehabilitation Program will be advanced to FY13 in the amount of \$400,000 (\$320,000 Federal Section 5307 / \$77,420 State Section 1514 Bond / \$2,580 Local). Construction for both new additions will remain in the Later Fiscal Years of the TIP: FY20 (Crum Creek Viaduct – \$17,830,000), FY21 (Crum Creek Viaduct – \$41,166,000), FY22 (Regional Rail Stone Arch Bridge Rehabilitation Program – \$4,248,000), and FY23 (Regional Rail Stone Arch Bridge Rehabilitation Program – \$1,582,000). This action will complete the design phase in order to get the projects “shovel ready” if additional funding becomes available.

c. PA13-29: Substation Improvement Program, (MPMS# 60651), SEPTA – Increase Funding

SEPTA has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing funding for the Substation Improvement Program (MPMS# 60651) by advancing the engineering and design phases of the Ambler Substation Overhaul Project to FY13 in the amount of \$200,000 (\$160,000 Federal Section 5307 /

\$38,710 State Section 1514 Bond/\$1,290 Local). Construction for this project will remain in the Later Fiscal Years of the TIP in FY19 in the amount of \$8,800,000.

Motion: by Tom Shaffer, seconded by Aissia Richardson, to recommend the Board amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing funding for the State of Good Repair (MPMS# 77180) by adding two new projects to the TIP, advancing two projects from the Illustrative Unfunded list, and adding a project back in, that was previously on the FY2011 TIP; to amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing funding for the Bridge improvement Program (MPMS# 95402) by advancing two projects from the Later Fiscal Years of the TIP; and to amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing funding for the Substation Improvement Program (MPMS# 60651) by advancing the engineering and design phases of the Ambler Substation Overhaul Project to FY13 in the amount of \$200,000 (\$160,000 Federal Section 5307 / \$38,710 State Section 1514 Bond/\$1,290 Local).

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

d. PA13-31: I-76 Slope Stabilization, (MPMS# 95708), Montgomery County – Add New Proposed Project

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, the I-76 Slope Stabilization Project for construction in FY13, in the amount of \$1,350,000 State Appropriations 916.

This project will entail rock bolting and scaling to stabilize the slope above the Schuylkill Expressway including other miscellaneous construction, such as maintenance and protection of traffic during construction. The project is located within Lower Merion Township in Montgomery County between mileposts 332.4 and 332.8. Rock bolting is the process of installing/drilling rods into exposed and failing rock faces to help prevent the material from breaking loose and entering a roadway and bridge surfaces. Scaling is the cutting back of the rock surface to prevent failures onto roadway and bridge surfaces

Motion: by Leo Bagley, seconded by Jim Mosca, to recommend the Board amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, the I-76 Slope Stabilization Project for construction in FY13, in the amount of \$1,350,000 State Appropriations 916.

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

e. PA13-32: Philadelphia Traffic Operations Center, (MPMS# 93106), City of Philadelphia – Add Final Design Phase to Project

The City of Philadelphia has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a final design phase to the Philadelphia Traffic Operations Center Project in FY13, in the amount of \$1,000,000 (\$800,000 CMAQ/\$200,000 Local). Construction is programmed in FY13 for \$530,000.

When this project was originally programmed on the TIP, the plan was to house the Traffic Operations Center (TOC) with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in the Fire Administration Building on Spring Garden Street. The final design phase was not carried over to the FY2013 TIP because it was assumed that funds would be obligated before the start of the Federal Fiscal Year. However, as preliminary engineering began, other locational considerations came into play, and the decision was made to move the Traffic Operations Center to the Street's Department's Traffic Shop at G and Romona Streets in the Juniata section of the city. This relocation has caused some delay in the preliminary engineering phase and the final design phase funds were not able to be obligated in FY12. The project description will be updated to reflect the location change.

Motion: by Leo Bagley, seconded by Tom Shaffer, to recommend the Board modify the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a final design phase to the Philadelphia Traffic Operations Center Project in FY13, in the amount of \$1,000,000 (\$800,000 CMAQ/\$200,000 Local).

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

6. Authorization to Open 30-Day Public Comment Period for the Draft DVRPC FY 2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey

Federal law planning regulations require the development of a TIP in order for the metropolitan region to be eligible to receive and spend federal transportation funds. Elizabeth Schoonmaker (DVRPC) asked the RTC to recommend that the Board open a 30-day public comment period and release documents in May 2013, for the purpose of gathering public and agency comments on the Draft FY 2014 New Jersey TIP. The Draft NJ TIP will be presented in July 2013 for adoption.

Motion: by Carol Thomas, seconded by Matthew Lawson, to recommend the Board open a 30-day public comment period and release documents in May 2013, for the purpose of gathering public and agency comments on the Draft FY 2014 New Jersey TIP..

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

7. FY 2014 Pennsylvania Job Access / Reverse Commute (JARC) Projects

DVRPC's CHSTP Selection Committee has developed a recommended list of 23 Pennsylvania JARC projects proposed for one-year of JARC funding. Betsy Mastaglio (DVRPC) provided an overview and asked the RTC to recommend the Board approve the recommended projects.

Motion: by Randy Waltermeyer, seconded by Leo Bagley, to recommend the Board approve the recommendations for FY2014 PA JARC funding. There will also be an administrative action to modify the TIP by increasing the FY13 Operating Phase by \$20,000 JARC funding and a reduction of \$528,000 JARC-State match (TIP Action PA13-30), contingent upon Board approval of the JARC Recommendations.

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

8. The VISSIM Standards Project

DVRPC staff is conducting a two-year project to improve micro-scale traffic operations simulation in the DVRPC region. Project results will benefit future projects by providing locally-derived default value inputs and calibration factors. Mike Becker (DVRPC) provided an overview of the project.

9. SEPTA Bus Stop Design Guidelines

Greg Krykewycz (DVRPC) presented an overview of this recently-published DVRPC report, which includes SEPTA's first comprehensive set of design guidelines for bus stops, stop areas, and the incorporation of bus stop facilities into the development review process. The purpose of these guidelines is to provide municipalities in the SEPTA service area, local developers, and other local partners with a consistent framework for designing surface transit stops.

10. Progress Toward Smart Growth

Karin Morris (DVRPC) presented two recent initiatives: the Smart Growth Project Database, a new online mapping application that tracks a variety of noteworthy development projects throughout the region; and a survey of municipalities on their progress toward smart growth goals.

INFORMATION ITEMS

11. One Minute Reports

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

12. Old Business, New Business, Public Comment on Any Non-Agenda Item

There were none.

13. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:05PM.

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is Tuesday, May 7, 2013.

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

Sue Herman - Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc.
Dennis Winters – Clean Air Council
Nick Rogers – Clean Air Council
Norm Hetrick – PA Governor’s Action Team
Asrah Khadr – US EPA, Region III
Leah Picone – 3M
Patricia Ellis – City of Philadelphia – Mayor’s Office of Transportation & Utilities
Bill Comer – Resident

DVRPC Staff

John Ward
Patty Elkis
Chris Puchalsky
Matthew West
Elizabeth Schoonmaker
Rick Murphy
Kwan Hui
Greg Krykewycz
Jane Meconi
Matt Gates
Renee Wise
Karin Morris
Betsy Mastaglio
Mike Becker
Stan Platt
Kale Driemeier
Will Tsay
Brad Lane