



## **DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

### **REGIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**November 12, 2013 Meeting Highlights**

**DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA**

#### **1. Call to Order - Chairperson's Comments**

Andrew Levecchia (Chairperson, Camden County) welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

#### **2. Deputy Planning Director's Report**

John Ward (DVRPC) announced that the Board approved all of the Action Items recommended by the committee at the RTC meeting on October 8, 2013.

Mr. Ward called the RTC's attention to PennDOT's Planning Partners Meeting which was held on October 30, 31, and November 1. At the meeting there was discussion regarding PennDOT's introduction of a new funding formula for the distribution of MPOs/RPOs' planning dollars (UPWP) for FY15. DVRPC appears to be negatively affected partly because of the formula and partly because there is less state money available to match the federal dollars. Additionally, there was discussion about Capital Program funds and it was decided that a "hybrid" approach would be best for the \$897 million National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funds to be distributed by PennDOT as part of the FY2015 PA TIP Update. The good news is that DVRPC and District 6 will retain programming control of the NHPP funds sub-allocated to our region. Part of the issue is that 60% of the federal funds that come to PA are NHPP but only 16% of PA roads are eligible for NHPP.

Financial guidance tables were distributed last Friday (November 8) for Capital funds and DVRPC is still waiting on final guidance for PL funds. The Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program is expected to release applications early in calendar year 2014 and there will be an application process for both our region's program, and the state-wide program.

Mr. Ward commented that there is hope that the Pennsylvania Transportation funding Legislation moves forward this week and that it may include prevailing wage language.

Mr. Ward noted that NJDOT will be holding a Planning Partners Workshop next week (11/19/13). Additionally he noted some upcoming meetings at DVRPC, including the Regional Safety Task Force on December 4<sup>th</sup> and the Transportation Operations Task Force on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The DVRPC Board Retreat will be taking place on December 12<sup>th</sup> at the Enterprise Center at Burlington County College and the focus will be on Changing Technology; Changing Transportation. The next RTC meeting will be taking place on January 7, 2014.

### **3. Public Comment on Any Agenda and Non-Agenda Item**

There were no public comments.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **4. Highlights of the Meeting of October 8, 2013**

The highlights from October 8, 2013 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

*Motion: by Linda Guarini, seconded by Matthew Lawson to adopt the highlights for the October 8, 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 six TIP amendments for consideration.

#### **a. PA13-57: West Trenton Line Separation Project, (MPMS# TBD) SEPTA – Add New Project to Program**

SEPTA has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the West Trenton Line Separation Project to the TIP in the amount of \$38,800,000 (FY14: \$10,000,000 TIGER V/\$1,000,000 Section 5307/\$1,000,000 State Section 1517/\$10,442,000 State Section 1514 Bond/\$7,223,000 CSX Local match/\$348,000 Local match, FY15: \$3,640,000 Section 5307/\$1,500,000 State Section 1517/\$3,530,000 State Section 1514 Bond/\$117,000 local match) for the Capital Asset Construction (CAP) phase.

*Motion: by Matthew Lawson, seconded by Richard Brahler, to recommend the Board approve TIP Action PA13-57, SEPTA's request that DVRPC amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the West Trenton Line Separation Project to the TIP in the amount of \$38,800,000 (FY14: \$10,000,000 TIGER V/\$1,000,000 Section 5307/\$1,000,000 State Section 1517/\$10,442,000 State Section 1514 Bond/\$7,223,000 CSX Local Match/\$348,000 Local match, FY15: \$3,640,000 Section 5307/\$1,500,000 State Section 1517/\$3,530,000 State Section 1514 Bond/\$117,000 local match) for the Capital Asset Construction (CAP) phase.*

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

#### **b. PA13-58: Red Lion Road Pedestrian Crossing, (MPMS# 97975) Montgomery County – Add New Project to TIP**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP by programming the utility phase of a project, Red Lion Road Pedestrian Crossing, in the amount of \$200,000 State581funds, in FY14.

Motion: *by Jim Mosca, seconded by Zoe Robertson, to recommend the Board approve* TIP Action, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2013- 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP by programming the utility phase of a project, Red Lion Road Pedestrian Crossing, in the amount of \$200,000 State 581, in FY14.

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

**c. PA13-59: Baker Station Road Bridge over East Branch of White Clay Creek (County Bridge #59), (MPMS# TBD) Chester County – Add New Act 13 Bridge Project to TIP**

Chester County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2013 - 2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new Act 13 local bridge project, Baker Station Road Bridge over East Branch of White Clay Creek, (MPMS# TBD), to the TIP in the amount of \$700,000 (\$65,000 preliminary engineering, \$35,000 final design, and \$600,000 construction) in FY14 using the 2012 allocation of Act 13 funds. These are additional funds to the region.

Motion: *by Randy Waltermeyer, seconded by Linda Guarini, to recommend the Board approve* TIP Action PA13-59, Chester County's request that DVRPC amend the FY2013-2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new Act 13 local bridge project, Baker Station Road Bridge over East Branch of White Clay Creek, (MPMS# TBD), to the TIP in the amount of \$700,000 (\$65,000 preliminary engineering, \$35,000 final design, and \$600,000 construction) in FY14 using the 2012 allocation of Act 13 funds. These are additional funds to the region.

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

**d. NJ14-03: Pearl Street Bulkhead Replacement, (DB# D1007A) Camden County - Add Project Back into TIP**

Camden County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2014 - 2017 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Pearl Street Bulkhead Replacement (DB# D1007A) project back into the TIP in the amount of \$600,000 STP-STU funds for construction in FY14.

Motion: *by Edward Williams, seconded by Carol Thomas, to recommend the Board approve* TIP Action NJ14-03, Camden County's request that DVRPC amend the FY2014-2017 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Pearl Street Bulkhead Replacement (DB# D1007A) project back into the TIP in the amount of \$600,000 STP-STU funds for construction in FY14.

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

**e. NJ14-04: Light Rail Resiliency, (DB# T904) NJ TRANSIT - Add New Project to TIP**

New Jersey Transit has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2014 - 2017 TIP for

New Jersey by adding the Light Rail Resiliency (DB# T904) project to the TIP by programming \$200,000 Section 5324 funds in Unobligated Prior Year Funding.

**f. NJ14-05: NJ TRANSIT System Repairs/Restoration, (DB# T906) NJ TRANSIT - Add New Project to TIP**

New Jersey Transit has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2014 - 2017 TIP for New Jersey by adding the NJ TRANSIT System Repairs/Restoration (DB# T906) project to the TIP by programming \$25,000 Section 5324 funds in Unobligated Prior Year Funding.

*Motion: by Barbara Holcomb, seconded by Andrew Clark, to recommend that the Board approve:*

TIP Action NJ14-04, New Jersey Transit's request that DVRPC amend the FY2014-2017 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Light Rail Resiliency (DB# T904) project to the TIP by programming \$200,000 Section 5324 funds in Unobligated Prior Year Funding.

TIP Action NJ14-05, New Jersey Transit's request that DVRPC amend the FY2014-2017 TIP for New Jersey by adding the NJ TRANSIT System Repairs/Restoration (DB# T906) project to the TIP by programming \$25,000 Section 5324 funds in Unobligated Prior Year Funding.

Motions passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motions.

**6. Fiscal Year 2014 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. HSIP Design Assistance Program**

Kevin Murphy (DVRPC) presented a new project that would provide design assistance to county and city partners for safety projects that are awarded funding through the Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

*Motion: by Matthew Lawson, seconded by Carol Thomas, to recommend the Board amend the FY2014 Planning Work Program to add the HSIP Design Assistance Program.*

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

**7. FY 15 PA and NJ Transit Support Program and FY 15 NJ Supportive Regional Highway Planning Program Candidate Special Studies**

Sarah Oaks (DVRPC) presented the final slate of proposed special studies that were received from member governments and forwarded to the Pennsylvania and New Jersey Subcommittees for review and approval. These projects will be included in the draft FY 15 UPWP.

*Motion: by Carol Thomas, seconded by Edward Williams, to recommend the Board approve the final slate of proposed TSP and SRHPP special studies for New Jersey to be included in the draft FY15 UPWP.*

*Motion: by Tom Shaffer, seconded by Andrew Stober, to recommend the Board approve the final slate of proposed TSP special studies for Pennsylvania to be included in the draft FY15 UPWP.*

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

## **8. RTC Meeting Dates for July 2014 Through November 2014**

Mr. Ward reminded RTC members that at the June RTC meeting, the committee approved a set of meeting dates for Fiscal Year 2014 to coincide with the fiscal year terms of the Chair and Vice Chair. DVRPC is currently preparing its Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2013 which will contain a listing of all scheduled DVRPC Board and standing committee meetings for calendar year 2014. A set of proposed RTC meeting dates for the remainder of calendar year 2014 was submitted to the committee for its consideration.

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Tuesday, October 7, 2014

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

*Motion: by Barbara Holcomb, seconded by Lisa Worden, to approve the July 2014 through November 2014 RTC meeting dates.*

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

Following the meeting a clarification was made regarding the proposed October 2014 RTC meeting date. **The October 2014 RTC meeting will take place on October 7, not October 14.**

## **INFORMATION ITEM**

### **9. DRJTBC Traffic and Revenue Forecasts**

Matthew Gates (DVRPC) provided information on the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission's (DRJTBC) request that DVRPC provide traffic forecasts to support an investment-grade traffic and revenue study on the DRJTBC's existing toll bridges and the

Scudder Falls Bridge. The Scudder Falls Bridge Replacement Project will widen I-95 over the Delaware River and add tolls to what is now a free crossing. DVRPC will serve as a sub-consultant to Jacobs Engineering Group, who were chosen by DRJTBC to conduct the study.

## **PRESENTATION ITEMS**

### **10. Retail Strategies Report**

Karen Cilurso (DVRPC) presented on the Office of Smart Growth's *Revitalizing Downtown Retail Districts Study* which examined approximately 71 suburban downtown retail districts in an effort to learn what elements were common among successful older suburban retail districts.

### **11. Center City Evacuation Model Development**

Fang Yuan (DVRPC) presented on the Office of Modeling and Analysis' Center City Simulation Model, which was developed under contract with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Task Force and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and in cooperation with the City of Philadelphia.

### **12. One Minute Reports**

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

### **13. Old Business and New Business**

### **14. Meeting Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:59 AM.

**The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is Tuesday, January 7, 2014.**



**ATTENDANCE (cont'd)****Other Member Representatives and Guests**

Nicholas Baker – Philadelphia Department of Streets  
Byron Comati - SEPTA  
Elizabeth Smith - SEPTA  
Sue Herman – Citizen of Bucks County  
Dennis Winters – Clean Air Council  
Brian McFadden - DRPA  
Bill Comer – Resident of Philadelphia

**DVRPC Staff**

John Ward  
Patty Elkis  
Chris Puchalsky  
Richard Bickel  
Elizabeth Schoonmaker  
Rick Murphy  
Kwan Hui  
Karen Cilurso  
Fang Yuan  
Jane Meconi  
Sarah Oaks  
Matthew Gates  
Kevin Murphy  
Renee Wise

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