

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

REGIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

July 7, 2015 Meeting Highlights

DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

1. Call to Order - Chairperson's Comments

Edward Williams (Chair, City of Camden) welcomed RTC members and called the meeting to order.

2. Deputy Executive 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 June 9, 2015.

Mr. Ward noted that DVRPC is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and with that in mind he will be mentioning something from the past at each RTC meeting -This Month in DVRPC History. For this RTC meeting Mr. Ward noted that he would be covering events from some of DVRPC's first meeting in 1965.

1965: The first DVRPC meeting was actually a meeting of the Executive Committee and it was held on July 1st at the State Office Building at Broad and Spring Garden Streets. The first order of business was the election of officers (First "Acting Chair was Eric Von Hauswolff, from the Pennsylvania Department of Highways). The next items were actions on agreements between the Pennsylvania Department of Highways and DVRPC. These agreements were related to how the Commission was to be funded, the hiring of an accounting firm and the transition of personnel from staff of the Penn Jersey Transportation Study to DVRPC. The funding was a major issue since New Jersey had not developed legislation to approve their participation in DVRPC. In fact, the first Executive Committee and first Board meetings did not have any New Jersey representatives present. Other agreements were related to furniture, office equipment, and computer systems. Additional actions included the budget and the first Work Program; and lastly administrative policies and compensation. But most importantly for this group there was an action Item that resulted in identifying the membership of the **Technical Planning Committee** (the original RTC). Its first chairman was George Britton, from the Pennsylvania Department of Highways.

Over time, other names for this committee have included: Planning Coordinating Committee, Transportation Technical Advisory Committee, Regional Transportation Committee, and today's Regional Technical Committee

The first DVRPC Board meeting was held on July 21st at the DVRPC offices at 51st and Parkside Ave. There were no New Jersey representatives present and much of the discussion that day was what to do about New Jersey since they had not enacted legislation establishing their participation. A proposed budget was presented including anticipated funding from New Jersey. The main issue was who from New Jersey should be contacted and who from Pennsylvania should be reaching out. In the end, it was agreed that Mr. Hand from the Pennsylvania State Planning Board would reach out to Governor Scranton and ask him to speak to Governor Hughes about New Jersey's participation. The main issue appears to be differences between the executive and

legislative branches in New Jersey. Mr. Beschenbossel from the US Bureau of Public Roads - NJ Division (today's FHWA-NJ division), indicated that if New Jersey did not participate they would not be eligible for federal highway funds.

The Board and Executive Committee did not meet again until November of that year. New Jersey reps were in attendance and voted on action items, although they had no official legislation committing or permitting them to participate. This is an example of the cooperative approach embraced by DVRPC since its inception and which still exists today.

New Jersey "Matching" Legislation wasn't signed into law by Governor Hughes until June 1966.

Mr. Ward reported that DVRPC will be a featured organization at the Economy League of Greater Philadelphia's World Class Summit on Thursday, July 16th at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. The event will run from 5:30 to 8 PM. The event will focus on 1) efforts to move workers from low-wage jobs to family-sustaining careers, 2) support underserved entrepreneurs, and 3) ensure broad access to transportation (that's where DVRPC will be featured). Registration information is available at economyleague.org.

Mr. Ward noted that Pennsylvania DCED's Multi Modal Transportation Fund Program is open until July 31, 2015 for applications.

Mr. Ward called attention to some new reports including: 1) Regional Data Bulletin # 095: Residential Building Permits, 2010 - 2014 DVRPC's 28-County Extended Data Services Area; 2) 2013/14 Aircraft Operations Counting Program: Operations for Three Non-Towered Airports - Pennridge, Quakertown, and Trenton-Robbinsville; 3) 2013/14 Aircraft Operations Counts for Select Airports: Hammonton, NJ; Linden, NJ; and Pocono Mt. Municipal in PA.

Mr. Ward noted that there is a NJ TIP and Long-Range Plan Conformity public meeting on July 23 in DVRPC's Main Conference Room from 4:00-6:00 PM and on July 30 at the Cherry Hill, New Jersey Public Library from 4:00-6:00 PM. There is a Downtown Delivery Symposium meeting in DVRPC's Main Conference Room on July 15, and a Pennsylvania Coastal Zone Management meeting on August 5.

Mr. Ward reminded RTC members that the next RTC meeting will be taking place on **Tuesday, September 8, 2015.**

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

No public comments were stated.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the Meeting of June 9, 2015

The highlights from June 9, 2015 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Jim Mosca, seconded by Alan Miller to adopt the highlights for the June 9, 2015 RTC meeting.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Kwan Hui (DVRPC) presented two TIP amendments for consideration.

a. NJ14-92: Route 130, Raccoon Creek Bridge Replacement and Pavement Rehabilitation, (DB #98344), Gloucester County – Increase Cost

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2014 - 2017 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the construction (CON) cost of Route 130, Raccoon Creek Bridge Replacement and Pavement Rehabilitation (DB #98344) by \$47,399,000 from \$53,001,000 NHPP funds (\$30,755,000 in FY15 /\$22,246,000 in FY16) to \$100,400,000 (\$66,400,000 NHPP/\$34,000,000 Equity Bonus) in FY15. The result of this action would allow this project to completely authorize the entire \$100,400,000 CON phase this federal fiscal year 2015 instead of cash flowing it into FY16, as well as update the project description in the TIP. Note that the \$932,000 NHPP funded FY14 Right-of-Way phase was obligated in FY14, and NJDOT has prepared a Financial Management Plan that justifies the revised cost estimate.

Motion: by Andrew Levecchia, seconded by Jackie Huston to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

NJ14-92, NJDOT's request that DVRPC modify the FY2014 - 2017 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the construction (CON) cost of Route 130, Raccoon Creek Bridge Replacement and Pavement Rehabilitation (DB #98344) by \$47,399,000 from \$53,001,000 NHPP funds (\$30,755,000 in FY15 /\$22,246,000 in FY16) to \$100,400,000 (\$66,400,000 NHPP/\$34,000,000 Equity Bonus) in FY15. The result of this action would allow this project to completely authorize the entire \$100,400,000 CON phase this federal fiscal year 2015 instead of cash flowing it into FY16, as well as update the project description in the TIP.

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

b. NJ14-93: Route 76/676, Bridge Deck Replacements, (DB #11326), Camden County – Delay Phase & Increase Cost

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2014 - 2017 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the Route 76/676, Bridge Deck Replacements (DB #11326) overall construction (CON) cost by \$11,915,000 from \$35,085,000 NHPP to \$47,000,000 NHPP funds and by delaying CON from FY15 to FY19 (\$8,000,000), FY20 (\$7,000,000), and FY21 (\$32,000,000). The \$35,085,000 NHPP funds from FY15 will serve as a resource for the Gloucester County project, Route 130, Raccoon Creek Bridge Replacement and Pavement Rehabilitation (DB #98344), FY15 CON phase.

Motion: by Matthew Lawson, seconded by Andrew Levecchia to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

NJ14-93, NJDOT's request that DVRPC modify the FY2014 - 2017 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the Route 76/676, Bridge Deck Replacements (DB #11326) overall construction (CON) cost by \$11,915,000 from \$35,085,000 NHPP to \$47,000,000 NHPP funds

and by delaying CON from FY15 to FY19 (\$8,000,000), FY20 (\$7,000,000), and FY21 (\$32,000,000). The \$35,085,000 NHPP funds from FY15 will serve as a resource for the Gloucester County project, Route 130, Raccoon Creek Bridge Replacement and Pavement Rehabilitation (DB #98344), FY15 CON phase.

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

6. Fiscal Year 2016 Planning Work Program Amendments

a. Roosevelt Boulevard Multimodal Study Modeling

Fang Yuan (DVRPC) explained that the improvement of transportation operations on Roosevelt Blvd has long been a priority of the City of Philadelphia and city residents. A significant effort is being undertaken to develop both short-term and long-term multimodal corridor-wide improvement alternatives after winning a TIGER grant. To support this effort, DVRPC will prepare, calibrate, and validate its regional travel demand model for use in this study. This model will be used to produce traffic and transit forecasts for various alternatives as well as demand inputs for microsimulation analysis.

Motion: by Angela Dixon, seconded by Rich Brahler to recommend that the Board amend the FY 2016 Work Program to include Roosevelt Boulevard Multimodal Study Modeling.

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

b. SHRP2-C11 Economic Analysis Tools: Tools for Assessing Wider Economic Benefits of Transportation

Ben Gruswitz (DVRPC) explained that DVRPC was selected through a competitive grant process to receive a User Incentive grant to test the suite of spreadsheet-based economic analysis tools developed under the joint FHWA/AASHTO Implementation Assistance Program (IAP) of the second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2). The tools are designed to assess the wider economic benefits of transportation improvements. Specifically they estimate the economic benefit of increased reliability, accessibility, and intermodal connectivity.

Motion: by Tom Shaffer, seconded by Matt Edmond to recommend that the Board amend the FY 2016 Work Program to include SHRP2-C11 Economic Analysis Tools: Tools for Assessing Wider Economic Benefits of Transportation

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

c. Solar Ready II

Liz Compitello (DVRPC) explained that DVRPC's Solar Ready II project was initially funded in 2013 by the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) through a grant they received from the U.S. Department of Energy's SunShot Initiative. Since 2013, DVRPC has worked as a partner on Solar Ready II, among a national team of regional planning organizations, to understand and implement best management practices in Greater Philadelphia that help reduce the "soft costs" of solar PV installations. MARC will provide

DVRPC with an additional \$15,000 through March 31st 2016 to continue successful efforts already underway through the project.

7. Philadelphia City Planning Commission (PCPC) Request to Amend DVRPC's Adopted 2040 Employment Forecasts

Mary Bell (DVRPC) explained that based on recent employment trends and the Navy Yard's 2013 Master Plan Update, it is apparent that employment in Philadelphia's Lower South Planning District already exceeds DVRPC's adopted 2015 employment forecast, and will significantly exceed DVRPC's adopted forecast through 2040. The Broad Street Line Extension (BSLX) Study is currently underway, and it is critical that the most current employment data and accurate prospects for future employment growth be incorporated into the study. DVRPC's employment forecasts, however, are not scheduled to be formally updated for at least another year. PCPC has requested that the DVRPC Board amend its adopted 2040 employment forecasts, to ensure that the BSLX Study have access to the most timely information and to ensure consistency with the long-range plan.

Motion: by Zoe Robertson, seconded by David Kanthor to recommend that the Board amend its adopted 20140 employment forecasts, to ensure that the BSLX Study have access to the most timely information and to ensure consistency with the long-range plan.

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

8. Second Amendment to the New Jersey Memorandum of Understanding for Exchange of Program Funds for Federal Fiscal Year 2014 Through 2018

Kwan Hui (DVRPC) explained that this action is a request for recommendation of adoption of the second annual amendment to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which was originally adopted by the DVRPC Board in September 2013 among New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ TRANSIT), the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO) which provided the general parameters of the exchange of program funds among those agencies for implementing capital projects in the NJ Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) for all three New Jersey MPO's and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). STP sub-allocated funding (federal funds dedicated for MPO assignment) would be made available annually during federal fiscal years 2014 through 2018 for New Jersey Transit use. In return, an equal amount of State Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) funding will be made available for MPO assignment. For Fiscal Year 2016, the Second Amendment to the original MOU is proposed, with a funding level of \$8,000,000 STP-STU funding to be exchanged for State TTF funding in the DVRPC region. Attached for reference is a Draft Second Amendment to the MOU that reflects FY16 exchange levels.

Motion: by Andrew Levecchia, seconded by Matt Lawson that the RTC recommend DVRPC Board adopt the Second Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding among New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ TRANSIT), the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPA) for Exchange of Program Funds to reflect FY16 levels of exchange funding.

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

9. Classic Towns Marketing Evaluation

Karen Cilurso (DVRPC) explained that the Classic Towns of Greater Philadelphia Program was developed in 2008 to help promote the region's older neighborhoods and suburbs as great places to live. Ms. Cilurso presented an analysis of the marketing campaign from 2008-2014.

10. Renewing Race Street: A Mobility Analysis

Scott Johnson (DVRPC) explained that this study evaluated re-designing Race Street between 9th and 5th Streets by reducing the north and south crossing distance at most intersections and adding a protected bicycle lane, pedestrian amenities, and green infrastructure. These improvements would provide a safer environment and better link the surrounding neighborhoods and amenities.

11. Taking Action to Improve Air Quality in the Delaware Valley

Sean Greene (DVRPC) explained that DVRPC has a role in reducing on-road mobile source emissions that goes beyond annual transportation conformity demonstrations. Mr. Greene highlighted on-going efforts to support and encourage implementation of projects that will have real world benefits to air quality in the region. Through active participation in the Camden Collaborative Initiative's Air Working Group, partnering with NJ DEP, City of Philadelphia Air Management Services, and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Air Management Association (MARAMA) to reduce diesel emissions, and funding effective air quality improvements through the regional CMAQ program, DVRPC is taking active steps to improve air quality for the people of the region.

INFORMATION ITEMS

12. One Minute Reports

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

13. Old Business

14. New Business

Andrew Levecchia (Camden County) asked for clarification on work program amendments and funding. Deputy Executive Director John Ward provided more information and noted that DVRPC work program elements such as requirements, funding, projects, and amendments.

15. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:06 PM.

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is Tuesday, September 8 , 2015.

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members

NJ Department of Transportation
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
NJ Department of Community Affairs
NJ Governor's Appointee
NJ Office for Planning Advocacy
PA Department of Community and Economic Development
PA Department of Environmental Protection
PA Department of Transportation
PA Governor's Appointee
PA Governor's Policy Office
Bucks County
Burlington County
Camden County
Chester County
Delaware County
Gloucester County
Mercer County
Montgomery County
City of Philadelphia – City Planning Commission
City of Philadelphia – Department of Streets
City of Philadelphia – Mayor's Office of Transportation
City of Camden
City of Chester
City of Trenton
Delaware River Port Authority
New Jersey Transit Corporation
Port Authority Transit Corporation
Southeastern PA Transportation Authority
Public Participation Task Force (NJ)
Public Participation Task Force (PA)

Representative

Monica Etz
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Alan Miller
(not represented)
(not represented)
James Mosca
(not represented)
Linda Guarini
Rich Brahler
Carol Thomas
Andrew Levecchia
Randy Waltermeyer
Tom Shaffer
Jackie Huston
Matthew Lawson
Matt Edmond
Gary Jastrzab
Nicholas Baker
Angela Dixon
Edward Williams
(not represented)
Diana Rogers
(not represented)
Lou Millan
(not represented)
Zoe Robertson
(not represented)
Jim Hopkins

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
NJ Turnpike Authority
New Jersey TMAs
Pennsylvania TMAs
Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
Philadelphia Regional Port Authority
Pottstown Urban Transit
Select Greater Philadelphia
South Jersey Port Corporation
South Jersey Transportation Authority
Transportation Operations Task Force
US EPA - Region II

Representative

(not represented)
Kelvin MacKavanagh
(not represented)
Dan Walston
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

US EPA - Region III

(not represented)

US Department of Housing and Urban Development

(not represented)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

John Haak – Philadelphia City Planning Commission

Bill Comer – Resident of Philadelphia

Sue Herman – Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions

David Kanthor – Philadelphia City Planning Commission

Janet Arcuicci – Montgomery County Planning Commission

Matthew Popek – Montgomery County Planning Commission

Carmen Zappile – PIDC

DVRPC Staff

John Ward

Patty Elkis

Alison Hastings

Elise Turner

Julia Strapp

Elizabeth Schoonmaker

Kwan Hui

Fang Yuan

Ben Gruswitz

Will Stevens

Mary Bell

Elizabeth Compitello

Sean Greene

Shawn Megill-Legendre

Mike Boyer

Keith Hartington

Brad Lane

Karen Cilurso

Scott Johnson

Greg Krykewycz

Renee Wise

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