

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
October 11, 2016 Meeting Highlights
DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

1. Call to Order - Chairperson's Comments

Thomas Shaffer (Chair, Delaware County) welcomed RTC members and called the meeting to order.

2. Deputy Executive Director's Report

DVRPC Deputy Executive Director John Ward announced that at their September meeting, the Board approved the one recommendation that the RTC forwarded to them from our September meeting which was the MOUs with our neighboring MPOs on coordinated planning in urbanized areas.

Mr. Ward reported that in a surprise move, on September 24 the USDOT re-opened, for 30 days, the comment period for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform. They are asking for specific input in three areas: 1) the impact of the proposed requirements for unified planning products where multiple MPOs serve the same urbanized area, 2) potential exceptions that should be included in the final rule, and 3) specific and detailed comments on the expected costs of implementing the proposed rule. DVRPC has started to draft additional comments to address the 3 specific points.

Mr. Ward noted that on Friday, the New Jersey Senate and Assembly passed the Transportation Trust Fund Renewal Package and sent it Governor Christie's desk. He is expected to sign it and it will go into effect Nov. 1 or two weeks after it is signed by the governor, whichever is later. The package establishes a \$2 billion-a-year transportation trust fund over eight years. Voters will be asked to approve a referendum on the Nov. 8th ballot constitutionally dedicating this new revenue to the Transportation Trust Fund. Currently some of the 14.5 cents per gallon gas tax does not go to the TTF.

The governor had indicated all along that if the gas tax was to be raised, he wanted to see tax cuts in other places as a kind of tax fairness. The package includes: 1) increasing New Jersey's gas tax by 23 cents per gallon, 2) reducing the state sales tax from 7 percent to 6.875 percent by January and to 6.625 percent by July 2017, 3) phasing out New Jersey's estate tax by 2018, 4) raising the earned income tax credit for the current tax year, 5) increasing the tax exclusion on retirement income and, 6) including a Veteran's personal exemption for state income taxes.

Mr. Ward announced that a New Jersey TAP round is still open and applications are due to NJ DOT by November 10. Information is posted on the DVRPC website and NJ DOT's web site.

Mr. Ward reported that on September 20, NHTSA released for public comment, the Federal Automated Vehicle Policy. This policy is intended as a starting point that provides needed initial guidance to industry, government, and consumers. They see it as something that will evolve and be updated over time as these issues continue to develop.

Mr. Ward noted that in California last week, Governor Jerry Brown signed a bill that provides a zone to test driverless cars without the need for a steering wheel, brake or acceleration pedal, or human test driver. The cars can only drive in designated areas, must have a top speed of 35mph, and must be insured for \$5 million to drive on public roads. Google already has hundreds of self-driving cars in California, but the current public road models require human drivers in the vehicles to take control if the systems fail.

Mr. Ward announced some upcoming meetings including: Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force meeting on October 14, a Public Participation Task Force meeting on October 18, and the DVRPC Board meeting October 27.

Mr. Ward reminded RTC members that the next RTC meeting will be taking place on Tuesday, November 1, 2016.

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

No public comments were stated.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the Meeting of September 13, 2016

The highlights from the September 13, 2016 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Matthew Edmond, seconded by Barbara Holcomb that the RTC adopt the minutes of September 13, 2016.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

a. NJ16-054: Planning and Research, Federal-Aid, (DB# X30), Statewide – Cost Increase and Scope Change

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2016 - 2019 STIP for New Jersey by increasing the FY17 Planning Study (PLS) phase by \$27,500,000 from \$6,600,000 to \$34,100,000 STP funds for NJDOT's Statewide Program line item, Planning and Research, Federal-Aid, (DB #X30), and by expanding the scope of the program to include Concept Development.

Motion: by Ed Williams, seconded by Matthew Lawson that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action NJ16-054, NJDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2016-2019 STIP for New Jersey by increasing the FY17 Planning Study (PLS) phase by \$27,500,000 from \$6,600,000 to \$34,100,000 STP funds for NJDOT's Statewide Program line item, Planning and Research, Federal-Aid, (DB #X30), and by expanding the scope of the program to include Concept Development.

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

b. PA17-01: 15th Street Bridge over the Callowhill Cut (Act 13 Bridge), (MPMS# TBD), City of Philadelphia – Add New Project to the TIP

The City of Philadelphia has requested that DVRPC amend the new FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new local bridge project, MPMS# TBD - 15th Street Bridge over the Callowhill Cut (Act 13 Bridge), to the TIP for preliminary engineering (\$350,000) and final design (\$150,000) in FY17 and construction (\$2,500,000) in FY19 using the City of Philadelphia's Act 13 allocation from 2013 and 2014. These are additional funds to the region.

Motion: by *Michelle Webb*, seconded by *Matthew Edmond* that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action PA17-01, The City of Philadelphia's request that DVRPC amend the new FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new local bridge project, MPMS# TBD - 15th Street Bridge over the Callowhill Cut (Act 13 Bridge), to the TIP for preliminary engineering (\$350,000) and final design (\$150,000) in FY17 and construction (\$2,500,000) in FY19 using the City of Philadelphia's Act 13 allocation from 2013 and 2014. These are additional funds to the region.

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

c. PA17-02: Chestnut Street Bridges, Ramps, (8) at 30th Street, (MPMS #17816), City of Philadelphia – Cost Increase

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the new FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the construction funding, for MPMS #17816 - Chestnut Street Bridges, Ramps, (8) at 30th Street project by \$13,776,000 (\$11,020,000 NHPP/\$2,756,000 State 185) in FY17.

Motion: by *Gerard Scharfenberger*, seconded by *Barbara Holcomb* that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action PA17-02, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the new FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the construction funding for MPMS #17816 - Chestnut Street Bridges, Ramps, (8) at 30th Street project by \$13,776,000 (\$11,020,000 NHPP/\$2,756,000 State 185) in FY17.

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

d. PA17-03: Funds Obligated Under FY2015 TIP, (Various MPMS #s), Various Counties

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the new FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by decreasing the programmed amount for the following two projects due to funds being obligated under the previous FY2015 TIP:

MPMS #70197 - US 422, (New) Expressway Bridge Over Schuylkill River (SRB), in Montgomery County, decrease by \$24,500,000 (FY17: \$5,500,000 NHPP/\$5,500,000 STU; FY18: \$8,000,000 NHPP; FY19: \$5,500,000 NHPP) and;

MPMS #15406 - PA 452, Market Street Bridge Over Amtrak/SEPTA Wilmington Newark Rail Line, in Delaware County, decrease by \$15,138,000 (FY17: \$581,000 State 581; FY18: \$3,764,000 NHPP/\$981,000 State 581; FY19: \$3,925,000 NHPP/\$981,000 State 581; FY20: \$3,925,000 NHPP/\$981,000 State 581).

Motion: by *Ed Williams*, seconded by *Matthew Edmond* that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action PA17-03, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the new FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by decreasing the programmed amount for the following two projects due to funds being obligated under the previous FY2015 TIP:

MPMS #70197 - US 422, (New) Expressway Bridge Over Schuylkill River (SRB), in Montgomery County, decrease by \$24,500,000 (FY17: \$5,500,000 NHPP/\$5,500,000 STU; FY18: \$8,000,000 NHPP; FY19: \$5,500,000 NHPP) and;

MPMS #15406 - PA 452, Market Street Bridge Over Amtrak/SEPTA Wilmington Newark Rail Line, in Delaware County, decrease by \$15,138,000 (FY17: \$581,000 State 581; FY18: \$3,764,000 NHPP/\$981,000 State 581; FY19: \$3,925,000 NHPP/\$981,000 State 581; FY20: \$3,925,000 NHPP/\$981,000 State 581).

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

6. Equity Through Access: Update to the Region's Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan

Greg Krykewycz, DVRPC, presented the draft outcomes of the Equity Through Access project, including the new plan's priority 'gaps and bridges' that were developed through an iterative outreach process. A recommendation from the RTC was sought on Board consideration of the draft plan priorities.

Motion by: Barbara Holcomb, seconded by Andrew Levecchia that the RTC recommend the Board adopt:

Equity Through Access, the Update to the Region's Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan.

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

7. 2045 Employment Forecasts

Mary Bell, DVRPC, explained that as a part of the Commission's long-range planning activities, DVRPC is required to maintain population and employment forecasts with at least a 20-year horizon, or to the horizon year of the long-range plan. Population forecasts in five-year increments through 2045 were adopted by the DVRPC Board on July 28, 2016. In recent months, staff has worked collaboratively with county planning staffs to develop employment forecasts in five-year increments through 2045. Staff presented the 2045 employment forecasts, and requested that RTC recommend adoption of the forecasts by the DVRPC Board at their October 27th meeting.

Motion: by *Andrew Levecchia*, seconded by *Ruth Foster* that the RTC recommend the Board adopt:

The 2045 employment forecasts.

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

8. Fiscal Year 2017 Planning Work Program Amendment

Chester Creek Trail in Chester City

Chris Linn, DVRPC, presented a \$14, 600 grant award from the Regional Trails Program to Chester City for surveying and permitting for a portion of the Chester Creek Trail. Staff requested the RTC recommend the Board approve amending the FY17 Work Program to include grants for Chester Creek Trail in Chester City.

Motion: *by Matthew Lawson, seconded by Barbara Holcomb* that the RTC recommend the Board amend:

The FY17 Work Program to include grants for Chester Creek Trail in Chester City.

PRESENTATION ITEMS

9. PennDOT's Preparations for Autonomous Vehicles

Kurt Myers, PennDOT's Deputy Secretary for Driver and Vehicle Services, explained that Pennsylvania's Autonomous Vehicle Policy Task Force is working toward delivering policy recommendations to Pennsylvania's Secretary of Transportation. The task force will work to align the pending policy recommendations with the recently released federal guidance on AV policy. Mr. Myers discussed how they are preparing for the evolution of AVs.

10. Autonomous Vehicles' Potential Impacts on City and Regional Mobility

Steve Buckley, WSP/Parsons Brinckerhoff, explained that autonomous vehicles are expected to have some specific impacts on mobility at the city and regional level. This presentation highlighted some of those potential impacts.

The Darby Transportation Center Access & Development Opportunities Study was pulled from the agenda because of time constraints.

INFORMATION ITEMS

11. One Minute Reports

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

12. Old and New Business

13. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:03 PM.

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is **Tuesday, November 1, 2016.**

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 – OTIS
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)

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

Monica Etz
Ruth Foster
(not represented)
(not represented)
Gerard Scharfenberger
(not represented)
(not represented)
Jonathan Korus
(not represented)
(not represented)
Rich Brahler
Carol Thomas
Andrew Levecchia
Brian Styche
Tom Shaffer
(not represented)
Matthew Lawson
Matthew Edmond
David Kanthor
Michelle Webb
Angela Dixon
Ed Williams
Latifah Griffin
(not represented)
Barbara Holcomb
Jennifer Adam
(not represented)
Brian McFadden
Ken Boyle
Jim Hopkins

Representative

(not represented)
Kelvin MacKavanagh
(not represented)
Dan Walston
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Bill Ragozine
(not represented)
(not represented)
Jacqueline Mandly
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Steve Mazur
(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

Kathleen Winfree - PennDOT

Kurt Myers – PennDOT

Kara Templeton – PennDOT

Karen Whitaker – Delaware County Planning Department

John Caperilla – Borton-Lawson

June Morton - City of Camden

Al Federico – Kimley Horn

Steven Buckley – WSP/PB

Joe Orth – Greenman Pedersen

Alexis Williams – McCormick Taylor

Erika Reinhard – Clean Air Council

Sue Herman – Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc.

DVRPC Staff

John Ward

Patty Elkis

Chris Puchalsky

Mike Boyer

Karin Morris

Grey Krykewycz

Kwan Hui

Rick Murphy

Mary Bell

Alison Hastings

Elise Turner

Shoshana Akins

Chris Linn

Thom Stead

Kim Korejko

Amy Bernknopf

Ben Gruswitz

Emily Costello

Renee Wise

The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, and related nondiscrimination statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website, www.dvrpc.org, may be translated into multiple languages. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages and formats, if requested. DVRPC public meetings are always held in ADA-accessible facilities and in transit-accessible locations when possible. Auxiliary services can be provided to individuals who submit a request at least seven days prior to a meeting. Requests made within seven days will be accommodated to the greatest extent possible. Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice by DVRPC under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint. Any such complaint may be in writing and filed with DVRPC's Title VI Compliance Manager and/or the appropriate state or federal agency within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory occurrence. For more information on DVRPC's Title VI program, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, please call (215) 238-2871 or email.