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

**May 11, 2021 Meeting Highlights**

**This Meeting was held as a Webinar**

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

Peter Rykard (Chair, City of Chester) welcomed RTC members and called the meeting to order.

**2. Deputy Executive Director's Report**

John Ward, DVRPC's Deputy Executive Director welcomed everyone and expressed his hope that RTC members' families and their colleagues are all safe and well. Mr. Ward noted that every couple of weeks we have been hearing of some relaxing of the restrictions around COVID but we have also been recently hearing about some bounce back in the numbers of positive cases. We have made some good progress but we still have to stay vigilant and follow the CDC Guidelines.

Mr. Ward reported that the Board had a busy time at their April meeting approving five TIP amendments, a change in functional classification of a roadway in West Chester Borough, approval of the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Grants, approval of the William Penn Trails Program Grants, and approval of the TMA Assistance and MAP Grants. Although the RTC approved the Travel Options Program Grants last month, it was determined that there were still some questions about the eligibility to use CMAQ funds for some of the projects. That item was pulled from the Board agenda to get the issues worked out and the eligibility questions have been resolved and the TOP grants will go to the Board for approval this month.

Mr. Ward noted that perhaps the most important action actually took place at the Board's Executive Committee meeting when they approved DVRPC Executive Director Barry Seymour's recommendation to promote Patty Elkis to be DVRPC's next Deputy Executive Director. Patty has worked very closely with almost everyone on the RTC. Patty has been at DVRPC for almost 30 years and has progressed through the organization from Regional Planner to Senior Regional Planner, to the Manager of the Office of Environmental Planning to Associate Director, Planning Division, to the Deputy Director of Policy, Planning and Programs and she currently serves as our Director of Planning. Before DVRPC Patty worked at SEPTA, the Montgomery County Planning Commission, and as a planner in the City of Dimona in Israel. She knows our region and has great relationships with our partners. She knows our programs and processes and she will be taking over my role with the RTC in July. Mr. Ward asked the RTC to join him in congratulating Patty. Other organizational moves will be taking place as related to Elizabeth Schoonmaker's retirement and the RTC will be apprised of those as they unfold.

Mr. Ward noted some recent DVRPC publications including: Wings Field 2019 Aircraft Operations Counting Program, Chester County Airport 2019 Aircraft Operations

Counting Program, Barriers to Building Generational Wealth: Mortgage Lending Disparities Across Greater Philadelphia, Devon Station Multimodal Access Study: Planning Concepts for Safe Pedestrian and Bicycle Mobility, and the FY2020 Annual Report - A Year of Challenges & Change.

Mr. Ward noted some upcoming virtual meetings including: Breaking Ground 2021: Helping Distressed Communities Recover – May 17<sup>th</sup>, Breaking Ground 2021: Rethinking Streets for Everyone – May 24<sup>th</sup>, Urban Waterfront Action Group Meeting – May 25<sup>th</sup>, Board and Executive Committee Meeting – May 27<sup>th</sup>, Breaking Ground 2021: Keeping Vulnerable Populations Cool in Extreme Heat – June 1<sup>st</sup>, Breaking Ground 2021: Diversifying Downtown Retail June 8<sup>th</sup>, Breaking Ground 2021: Ensuring Equitable and Engaging Virtual Meetings – June 9<sup>th</sup>, and Breaking Ground 2021: Ensuring Equitable Broadband Access – June 14<sup>th</sup>

Mr. Ward noted that the next Regional Technical Committee (RTC) meeting is **June 8.**

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

No public comments were stated.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **4. Highlights of the April 6, 2021 RTC Meeting**

The highlights from the April 6, 2021 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

*Motion: by Rich Brahler seconded by Jim Mosca that the RTC adopt the highlights of the April 6, 2021 RTC meeting.*

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

### **5. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions**

Jesse Buerk (DVRPC) presented six TIP actions.

#### **a. NJ20-080: Bridge Preventive Maintenance (DB #13323), Statewide -Cost Increase**

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2020 S/TIP for New Jersey by increasing the FY21 Engineering/Construction (EC) phase of the program line item, Bridge Preventive Maintenance (DB #13323), in the Statewide Program by \$24.478 million (M) NHPP from \$94.605 M (\$10 M 20S-STATE/\$42.380 M STATE/\$42.225 M STBGP-FLEX) to \$119.083 M (\$10 M 20S-STATE/\$24.478 M NHPP/\$42.380 M STATE/\$42.225 M STBGP-FLEX). This action has no impact on the DVRPC Regional Highway Program. The Statewide Program is not specific to any particular MPO region and includes projects under specific line items that can benefit all MPOs or provide direct support to NJDOT.

*Motion: by Monica Etz, seconded by Tom Stanuikynas, that the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP action:*

NJ20-080, NJDOT's request that DVRPC modify the FY2020 S/TIP for New Jersey by increasing the FY21 Engineering/Construction (EC) phase of the program line item, Bridge Preventive Maintenance (DB #13323), in the Statewide Program by \$24.478 million (M) NHPP from \$94.605 M (\$10 M 20S-STATE/\$42.380 M STATE/\$42.225 M STBGP-FLEX) to \$119.083 M (\$10 M 20S-STATE/\$24.478 M NHPP/\$42.380 M STATE/\$42.225 M STBGP-FLEX).

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

**b. PA21-35 Paratransit Vehicle Purchase (MPMS # 60599) SEPTA - Reduce Funding**

SEPTA has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania by reducing the FY21 Purchase (PUR) phase of the Paratransit Vehicle Purchase (MPMS #60599) program by \$7,000,000 (\$5,600,000 FTA Section 5307/\$1,355,000 State 1514/\$45,000 Local) to zero.

Motion: by *Brian McFadden*, seconded by *Tonyelle Cook-Artis*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP action:

PA21-35, SEPTA's request that DVRPC amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania by reducing the FY21 Purchase (PUR) phase of the Paratransit Vehicle Purchase (MPMS #60599) program by \$7,000,000 (\$5,600,000 FTA Section 5307/\$1,355,000 State 1514/\$45,000 Local) to zero.

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

**c. PA21-36: JFK Boulevard at 32nd Street over SEPTA (30th Street Station) (Bridge) (MPMS #78757). City of Philadelphia - Low Bid Cost Savings**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania by reducing the construction (CON) phase of the JFK Boulevard at 32nd Street over SEPTA (30th Street Station) (Bridge) (MPMS #78757) project by \$11,170,000 (FY21: \$5,912,000 NHPP/\$1,478,000 State 185; FY22: \$3,024,000/\$756,000 State 185) from \$22,267,000 (FY21: \$5,912,000 NHPP/\$1,478,000 State 185/\$97,000 State 581; FY22: \$5,912,000 NHPP/\$1,478,000 State 185; FY23: \$5,912,000 NHPP/\$1,478,000) to \$11,097,000 (FY21: \$97,000 State 581; FY22: \$2,888,000 NHPP/\$722,000 State 185; FY23: \$5,912,000 NHPP/\$1,478,000).

Motion: by *Jonathan Korus*, seconded by *David Kanthor*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP action:

PA21-36, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania by reducing the construction (CON) phase of the JFK Boulevard at 32nd Street over SEPTA (30th Street Station) (Bridge) (MPMS #78757) project by \$11,170,000 (FY21: \$5,912,000 NHPP/\$1,478,000 State 185; FY22: \$3,024,000/\$756,000 State 185) from

\$22,267,000 (FY21: \$5,912,000 NHPP/\$1,478,000 State 185/\$97,000 State 581; FY22: \$5,912,000 NHPP/\$1,478,000 State 185; FY23: \$5,912,000 NHPP/\$1,478,000) to \$11,097,000 (FY21: \$97,000 State 581; FY22: \$2,888,000 NHPP/\$722,000 State 185; FY23: \$5,912,000 NHPP/\$1,478,000).

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

**d. PA21-37: PA 663 over Ministers Creek (MPMS #16741).  
Montgomery County -Add Project Back into TIP**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the construction (CON) phase of PA 663 over Ministers Creek (MPMS #16741) back into the TIP in FY21 for \$2,800,000 NHPP/Toll Credit match.

Motion: by *Matthew Edmond*, seconded by *Jonathan Korus*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP action:

PA21-37, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the construction (CON) phase of PA 663 over Ministers Creek (MPMS #16741) back into the TIP in FY21 for \$2,800,000 NHPP/Toll Credit match.

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

**e. PA21-38: The Circuit Line Item (MPMS #105291). Various Counties -  
Update Scope**

DVRPC staff is requesting that the Board amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania by updating the project description of The Circuit Line Item (MPMS #105291) by adding three (3) new projects and removing three (3) projects from the description.

The new projects being added are:

1. Chester Creek Trail Phase 2 in Delaware County
2. Wissahickon Gateway Trail in the City of Philadelphia
3. Parkside Cynwyd Trail in the City of Philadelphia

Motion: by *David Kanthor*, seconded by *Thomas Shaffer*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP action:

PA21-38, DVRPC Staff's request that the DVRPC Board amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania by updating the project description of The Circuit Line Item (MPMS #105291) by adding three (3) new projects and removing three (3) projects from the description.

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

**f. PA21-39: Bellevue Ave Grade Crossing (MPMS #116082). Bucks County -  
Add New Project to TIP**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC accept into the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania a

new Statewide funded Rail Grade Crossing (RRX) project, Bellevue Ave Grade Crossing (MPMS #116082) and to accept \$400,000 RRX/Toll Credit match into the FY2021 TIP for construction (CON) in FY21. These are additional funds to the region.

Motion: by *Jim Mosca*, seconded by *Rich Brahler*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP action:

PA21-39, PennDOT's request that DVRPC accept into the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania a new Statewide funded Rail Grade Crossing (RRX) project, Bellevue Ave Grade Crossing (MPMS #116082) and to accept \$400,000 RRX/Toll Credit match into the FY2021 TIP for construction (CON) in FY21.

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

## **6. FY2020 DVRPC Competitive CMAQ Program for New Jersey Recommended Projects**

Kwan Hui (DVRPC) explained that staff is seeking approval for the list of projects recommended for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funding from Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 22 to FY24 through the FY2020 DVRPC Competitive CMAQ Program for New Jersey, and to amend the FY2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey by adding five (5) projects, totaling \$4.974 million to the line item, Local CMAQ Initiatives (DB #X065) (TIP Action NJ20-081). The CMAQ Selection Committee recommends awarding \$4.974 million CMAQ funds out of \$5 million available for the following projects in New Jersey:

Motion: by *Matthew Lawson*, seconded by *Andrew Levecchia*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

The list of projects recommended for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funding from Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 22 to FY24 through the FY2020 DVRPC Competitive CMAQ Program for New Jersey, and amend the FY2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey by adding five (5) projects, totaling \$4.974 million to the line item, Local CMAQ Initiatives (DB #X065) (TIP Action NJ20-081).

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

## **7. Appointment of Nominating Committee for Regional Technical Committee Officers**

John Ward (DVRPC) explained that an officer Nominating Committee will be selected to solicit candidates for Chairman and Vice Chairman of the RTC for FY2022 (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022). The Chairman for FY2022 must be a voting member from New Jersey and the Vice Chairman must be a voting member from Pennsylvania. The Nominating Committee will propose candidates and elections will take place at the June 2021 RTC meeting.

Motion: by *Andrew Levecchia*, seconded by *Tonyelle Cook-Artis*, that the RTC approve:

The FY 2022 officer Nominating Committee of John Ward, Peter Rykard, and Tom Stanuikynas.

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

## **PRESENTATION ITEMS**

### **8. Proposed Changes to 2020 Urban Areas**

Kim Korejko (DVRPC) explained that the Census Bureau recently published a notice in the Federal Register proposing changes to the criteria for what constitutes urban areas for the 2020 Census. A high-level overview of those changes, how they may impact our region, and how DVRPC is responding to the proposal was presented.

### **9. Spot Check: Strategies for Managing Residential Parking in Philadelphia**

Andrew Svekla (DVRPC) explained that effective parking management is essential to Philadelphia's efforts to build and maintain an inclusive and balanced transportation system. Residential permit parking (RPP) is a critical, yet often overlooked, component of parking management. In many Philadelphia neighborhoods, a variety of interconnected demographic, development, and socioeconomic factors are contributing to a surge in parking demand that is straining RPP districts. This report presents information on the factors driving demand for parking in Philadelphia and identifies potential RPP reforms that can help the city adapt to a variety of transportation challenges.

### **10. Barriers to Building Generational Wealth**

Spencer Gober (DVRPC) presented analytical findings of nearly two decades worth of Housing Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data. Through this analysis, staff quantified two of the region's most pressing socioeconomic inequalities: the Generational and Racial Wealth Gaps. The final report, *Barriers to Building Generational Wealth: Mortgage Lending Disparities Across Greater Philadelphia*, is expected in May 2021.

## **DISCUSSION 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 12:01 PM

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is **Tuesday, June 8, 2021.**

## **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

### **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  
Phila Port  
Pottstown Urban Transit  
Select Greater Philadelphia  
South Jersey Port Corporation  
South Jersey Transportation Authority  
Transportation Operations Task Force  
US EPA - Region II  
US EPA - Region III  
US Department of Housing and Urban Development

### **Representative**

Monica Etz  
Ruth Foster  
(not represented)  
Rudy Rodas  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Jim Mosca  
(not represented)  
Jonathan Korus  
Rich Brahler  
Tom Stanuikynas  
Andrew Levecchia  
Brian Styche  
Tom Shaffer  
(not represented)  
Matthew Lawson  
Matthew Edmond  
David Kanthor  
Nicholas Baker  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Peter Rykard  
Michael Kolber  
Tonyelle Cook-Artis  
Blanca Quinde  
Rohan Hepkins  
Brian McFadden  
(not represented)  
**Representative**  
(not represented)  
Kelvin McKavanaugh  
Brian Goodson  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Ronda Urkowitz  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)

## **ATTENDANCE (cont'd)**

## **Other Member Representatives and Guests**

Matt Popek – Montgomery County  
Carol Thomas – Burlington County  
Matthew Zochowski – Mercer County  
David Caulfield – NJDEP

## **DVRPC Staff**

John Ward  
Barry Seymour  
Elizabeth Schoonmaker  
Patty Elkis  
Greg Krykewycz  
Mike Boyer  
Will Stevens  
Karin Morris  
Kim Korejko  
Andrew Svekla  
Spencer Gober  
Glenn McNichol  
Katie Nash  
Kwan Hui  
Shawn Megill Legendre  
Jesse Buerk  
Rick Murphy  
Shoshana Akins  
Maridarlyn Gonzalez  
Tom Edinger  
Matt Gates  
Cassidy Boulan  
Jared Dobkin  
Kevin Murphy  
Ben Gruswitz  
Maria Meraz  
Elise Turner  
Najah Jackson  
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](http://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.