



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

**September 7, 2021 Meeting Highlights**

**This Meeting was held as a Webinar**

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

Matthew Lawson (Chair, Mercer County) welcomed RTC members and called the meeting to order.

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

DVRPC's Deputy Executive Director Patty Elkins wished everyone a good morning and acknowledged how our region suffered from Hurricane Ida last week. My heart goes out to those who lost loved ones and who lost their homes and businesses to tornadoes and floods. I also want to express gratitude to so many who have come together to help neighbors clean up, as well as the crews who worked hard to reopen our transportation system.

At the last Board meeting in July, the Board approved the four TIP action items that the RTC recommended to them.

Regarding transportation funding the federal infrastructure bill was approved in the Senate, and is now pending in the House. We are hopeful for action in the House by the end of September, as the bill includes the reauthorization of the federal transportation legislation, which is scheduled to expire September 30. It is too soon to estimate exactly how much more funding the new bill might bring to the region, but based on some preliminary analysis we did in Pennsylvania, it looks like about a net 10-15% increase in total highway and bridge funding, and a net 15-20% increase in total transit funding over the next 5 years, when you consider all sources (federal, state and local). This is great news, but still not enough to meet all of our needs or address all of our unfunded projects.

- In Pennsylvania, the Transportation Revenue Options Commission delivered their report to Governor Wolf on August 1. This report presents a series of options on ways to move away from the gas tax over time. The largest recommendation is to move toward a Vehicle Miles Traveled Tax, also called a Mileage-based User Fee. That is a major move and would take some time to implement. In the meantime, the report recommends a variety of other options, including a \$1/package delivery fee, increases in vehicle registration fees, and tolling of major bridges and possibly other corridors. We have not yet heard a response from the Governor on the bill or indication of what he might support. And we don't know where the legislature stands on this either.

Ms. Elkins noted some recent DVRPC publications including:

1. Direct Bus Feasibility Study
2. A Best Practices Guide for Multi-Municipal Aggregation Programs: Lesson's Learned from DVRPC's Regional Streetlight Procurement Program

3. Trolley Modernization Route 11 and Route 13: Delaware County Alternatives
4. A River Reconnected: The Challenges and Opportunities of Public Access to the Tidal Delaware River
5. Immigration in Greater Philadelphia: FY 2021 Update
6. Congestion Management Process Procedures
7. Funding Trails in New Jersey - A Guide to Funding Multi-Use Trails
8. Bristol Corridor Study: Preparing for Growth in Lower Bucks
9. Aircraft Operations Counting Program Methodology, and, the draft documents that are up for adoption this month:
10. Connections 2050 Plan for Greater Philadelphia: Policy Manual - Draft for Public Comment
11. Connections 2050 Plan for Greater Philadelphia: Process and Analysis Manual: Draft for Public Comment
12. Aspectos destacados del borrador del Programa de Mejora del Transporte (TIP) del FY2022 de la DVRPC para Nueva Jersey (FY22–FY25) (The NJ TIP in Spanish)

In terms of our meetings: When we last met in July, the pandemic was more under control and things were looking up, and I mentioned that we aimed to hold our September board meeting in person/hybrid, and possibly hold the October RTC meeting in person/hybrid as well. We are no longer planning that for the September Board meeting, and I'm going to hold off predicting when we will bring people back into the office and hold a hybrid meeting, although it is something I look forward to being able to do. We will continue to keep everyone's safety top of mind and will let you know about any changes in meeting format when we know them.

For future RTC meetings, Matt Lawson and I have chatted about new ways to share information about projects of interest to and among RTC members. We are looking to incorporate "lightning" presentations - quick five minute presentations by DVRPC staff to keep RTC members informed and up to date on projects of interest, along with the traditional longer presentations when that still makes sense. In addition, we invite all RTC members to consider sharing your work at the RTC, as either lightning or regular length presentations. The Lightning presentations would be different from what is shared during the one minute reports - we would put the presentation on the agenda, and it would be around five minutes versus one minute. If you have a project that you would like to present, please email me about it and I can assess when it would be a good fit on the agenda. We hope to be able to facilitate more info sharing among all of us on projects of interest at future meetings.

**Meeting Reminders: ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY**

- IREG 9/8, 10:00
- Board 9/23, 10:00
- UWAG 9/28 10:00
- Regional Safety Task Force - 10/1, 10:00

*The Next RTC meeting will be October 12, the day after Indigenous Peoples Day - we are keeping to the pattern of convening after a long weekend!*

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

Public comments were stated by Patrick Monahan of the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia in support of the trails projects in the New Jersey TIP.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

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

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

Motion: *by Jim Mosca seconded by Tonyelle Cook-Artis* that the RTC adopt the highlights of the July 6, 2021 RTC meeting.

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

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

Katie Nash (DVRPC) presented four TIP actions.

- a. 5a. PA21-56: Bristol Road Intersection Improvements (MPMS #13727), Bucks County – Cost Increase

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the Construction (CON) phase of the Bristol Road Intersection Improvements project (MPMS #13727) by \$6,810,000 STU/Toll Credit in FY22. The CON phase is increasing from \$8,190,000 (FY21: \$1,409,000 STU/Toll Credit; FY22: \$1,095,000 STU/\$1,443,000 STP/Toll Credit; FY23: \$2,000,000 STU/\$2,243,000 STP/Toll Credit) to \$15,000,000 (FY21: \$1,409,000 STU/Toll Credit; FY22: \$7,905,000 STU/\$1,443,000 STP/Toll Credit; FY23: \$2,000,000 STU/\$2,243,000 STP/Toll Credit).

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

PA21-56, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the Construction (CON) phase of the Bristol Road Intersection Improvements project (MPMS #13727) by \$6,810,000 STU/Toll Credit in FY22. The CON phase is increasing from \$8,190,000 (FY21: \$1,409,000 STU/Toll Credit; FY22: \$1,095,000 STU/\$1,443,000 STP/Toll Credit; FY23: \$2,000,000 STU/\$2,243,000 STP/Toll Credit) to \$15,000,000 (FY21: \$1,409,000 STU/Toll Credit; FY22: \$7,905,000 STU/\$1,443,000 STP/Toll Credit; FY23: \$2,000,000 STU/\$2,243,000 STP/Toll Credit).

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

- b. PA21-57: Statewide Multimodal Transportation Fund Projects (Various MPMS #s), Various Counties – Accept New Projects into TIP

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC accept the listed Statewide Multimodal

Transportation Fund projects, as well as their additional funds into the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania. These funds are additional to the region and are outside the Core Funding distributions. Nineteen (19) projects with the total amount of \$28,217,000 State 411 will be added to the TIP for construction.

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

PA21-57, PennDOT's request that DVRPC accept the listed Statewide Multimodal Transportation Fund projects, as well as their additional funds into the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania. These funds are additional to the region and are outside the Core Funding distributions. Nineteen (19) projects with the total amount of \$28,217,000 State 411 will be added to the TIP for construction:

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

#### **6. Adoption of Conformity Determination of the Draft *Connections 2050* Long-Range Plan, FY 2021 TIP for Pennsylvania, and Draft FY 2022 TIP for New Jersey**

Sean Greene (DVRPC) explained that transportation conformity is a process established by the Clean Air Act to ensure that federal transportation projects and transportation investment activities are consistent with ("conform to") state commitments for meeting air quality goals. DVRPC has performed a regional emissions analysis to determine transportation conformity of the Draft *Connections 2050* Long-Range Plan (Plan), FY 2021 TIP for Pennsylvania, and Draft FY 2022 TIP for New Jersey.

Motion: by *David Jim Mosca* seconded by *Andrew Levecchia*, that the RTC recommend the Board adopt:

The conformity finding of the Draft *Connections 2050* Long-Range Plan, FY 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Pennsylvania, and Draft FY 2022 TIP for New Jersey in the DVRPC planning area.

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

#### **7. Board Adoption of the *Connections 2050 Long-Range Plan for Greater Philadelphia (Plan)***

Brett Fusco (DVRPC) explained that as the metropolitan planning organization for Greater Philadelphia, DVRPC is required to update its long-range plan for the region every four years and maintain at least a 20-year planning horizon. The *Connections 2050 Plan for Greater Philadelphia* updates the *Connections 2045 Plan for Greater Philadelphia*, adopted in October 2017, as the region's comprehensive long-range plan.

Motion: by *June Morton* seconded by *Brian McFadden*, that the RTC recommend the Board adopt:

The *Connections 2050 Plan for Greater Philadelphia*, as the region's official Long-Range Plan, including its vision and goals, recommended key strategies, and financial plan, by adopting Resolution B-FY22-002.

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

### **8. Adoption of the Draft DVRPC FY2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey (FY22–FY25) with Recommended Changes**

Kwan Hui (DVRPC) explained that a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is required by federal law and planning regulations for the metropolitan region to be eligible to receive and spend federal transportation funds. The TIP is required to cover a minimum of four federal fiscal years (FY) of programming and must be consistent with the Long-Range Plan. DVRPC TIP documents for both New Jersey and Pennsylvania cover a longer planning and programming horizon (10 years for NJ; 12 years for PA) to better understand expected resources and provide the region with a more realistic timeframe for advancement of TIP projects, as well as more realistic project costs. DVRPC updates the Pennsylvania TIP or the New Jersey TIP on alternating years. At this time, staff will present the Draft DVRPC FY2022 TIP for New Jersey (FY22–FY25) with Recommended Changes for adoption by the DVRPC Board. The List of Recommended Changes is one of the attachments in this packet.

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

The Draft DVRPC FY2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey (FY22–FY25) with recommended changes as the region's official selection of transportation projects for federal funding, by passing the appropriate Resolution.

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

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **9. FY23 Work Program Development Update**

Patty Elkis (DVRPC) provided an update on the development of the FY23 Work Program.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **10. Move Over Seminar**

Justin Neff (DVRPC) explained that on July 22nd, a Move Over Law Seminar was held at the Montgomery County Public Safety Training Campus. The purpose of the seminar was to provide a venue for Law Enforcement to hear directly from other Law Enforcement personnel on Move Over Law Enforcement/Education Details, and also learn the particulars of the recently enhanced Move Over Law.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### 10. One Minute Reports

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

### 11. Old and New Business

### 12. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:52 AM

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is **Tuesday, October 12, 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  
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

### **Representative**

Monica Etz  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Rudy Rodas  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Sachin Shankar  
Jim Mosca  
(not represented)  
Jonathan Korus  
Rich Brahler  
Tom Stanuikynas  
Andrew Levecchia  
Brian Styche  
Tom Shaffer  
(not represented)  
Matthew Lawson  
Matthew Edmond  
John Haak  
Nathan Powers  
Kelley Yemen  
June Morton  
Peter Rykard  
(not represented)  
Tonyelle Cook-Artis  
Blanca Quinde  
Rohan Hepkins  
Brian McFadden  
Frances Harwell  
Lee Wolfe  
**Representative**  
(not represented)  
Kelvin McKavanaugh  
Brian Goodson  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Rob Henry  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)



US EPA - Region II (not represented)  
US EPA - Region III (not represented)  
US Department of Housing and Urban Development (not represented)

**Other Member Representatives and Guests**

Matthew Zochowski – Mercer County  
Carol Thomas – Burlington County  
Jacqui Baxter-Rollins – PA TMAs  
Jim Vari – NJDOT  
Matthew Popek - Montgomery County

**DVRPC Staff**

Barry Seymour  
Patty Elkis  
Katie Nash  
Kwan Hui  
Shawn Megill Legendre  
Brett Fusco  
Jesse Buerk  
Sean Greene  
Justin Neff  
Rick Murphy  
Elise Turner  
Maridarlyn Gonzalez  
Alison Hastings  
Chris King  
Matt Gates  
Ben Gruswitz  
Mike Boyer  
Karin Morris  
Will Stevens  
Tom Edinger  
Linda McNeffer  
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.