

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ITS Technical Task Force Meeting Minutes March 2, 2001

The following are highlights from the meeting of the ITS Technical Task Force held on March 2, 2001 at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission Conference room. A list of attendees is attached.

Agenda Item #1: Welcome and Individual Updates

The first agenda item was the approval of the January 28 Meeting Minutes. The second item was the two minute reports. Each person in attendance introduced themselves and added any relevant ITS update from their agency. Some of the highlights included:

- ▶ The Philadelphia Highway Patrol is currently working with the PennDOT Operations Center. The PennDOT cameras are able to detect and confirm stranded vehicles which was especially helpful during the recent snow storms.
- ▶ PennDOT has conducted field tests to confirm the accuracy of Traffic.com traffic sensors. The new traffic sensor data will be available for hourly, daily, weekly, and monthly counts.
- ▶ DVRPC still has open spots for on-line ITS training. The I-95 Corridor Coalition is sponsoring this on-line series. DVRPC can make courses free to ITS stakeholders. Anyone interested in taking these courses should contact Laurie Matkowski with DVRPC.

Agenda Item #2: Update on Traffic.com Stakeholders Meeting

Karen Jehanian, Traffic.com, gave a brief update on the February 20th Stakeholders Meeting. The meeting discussed the number and location of traffic sensors and a general consensus was reached. A list of FAQ's, all the regional stakeholders, and a summary of sensor locations were sent out to all of the participating agencies.

Agenda Item #3: Public Outreach Video: "A Day at the Highway" (Netherlands)

Laurie Matkowski, DVRPC, presented a short video concerning ITS deployment during a typical day on

the Netherlands' Highways. The video showed ITS procedures for lane closures, assisting stranded vehicles and disabled motorists, traffic rerouting due to an accident, and assigning variable speed limits due to changing traffic conditions. The country employs a central Operations Center, which monitors the roadway network, and can prescribe various deployments depending on the current conditions. DVRPC is currently in the initial stages of developing an informative video to showcase the Region's ITS operations, equipment, and deployment.

- ▶ It was suggested that the Regional video have an element of the cost and benefit element of ITS. The general public is quick to point out that money is being spent on ITS, while the benefits are still pending. Showing the benefits of ITS, such as reduced commuting times, increase in work productivity due to less time spent in traffic, reduction in vehicle emissions, and better incident response in a quantifiable manner would be a useful tool. The general public would benefit by seeing a reduction in a dollar amount in a before / after ITS deployment evaluation.

Agenda Item #4: ITS Components Map

Keith Hartington and Matt West, DVRPC, gave a presentation on the updated ITS Components map. For several months, DVRPC has been collecting information on the location of ITS field equipment, such as Highway Advisory Radio, Variable Message Signs, and Closed Circuit Television Cameras. This information is now available in graphic form to any agencies who are interested. Maps can be custom made for a specific area or for the entire region. There was also a suggestion for this information to be made available electronically, and eventually on CD-ROM.

Agenda Item #5: Montgomery County / SEPTA 2001 Earmarks

Susan Simkus, Montgomery County Planning Commission, gave a presentation on the joint Montgomery County / SEPTA application for the USDOT fiscal year 2001 ITS Deployment Program. Montgomery County is proposing to work with SEPTA to deploy ITS components along the I-76 corridor. The application proposes expanding SEPTA's Automatic Vehicle Locator system for busses, installing kiosks at the King of Prussia Mall, and identifying detour routes. The plan also includes initiating a design system integrator to help set up and coordinate the systems.

Agenda Item #6: 511 For Traveler Information

Bob Pento, PennDOT, reported on the Northeast 511 Workshop that was held in Virginia recently. The workshop focused on the 511 Pilot, which was implemented in the greater Cincinnati area. The workshop, as a result of the pilot program, resulted in the following recommendations to regional state DOT's:

- ▶ work with state PUC to identify stakeholders
- ▶ Request 511 assignment from FCC
- ▶ Follow the progress of the pilot areas
- ▶ Develop statewide implementation plan for 511

Agenda Item #7: Other Business

- ▶ Next meeting date is set for **Monday, April 2, 2001 at 9:30**

**ITS Technical Task Force Meeting
March 2, 2001**

Attendance List:

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| 1) Bill Ragozine | Cross County Connection TMA |
| 2) Karl Ziemer | PennDOT Traffic Control Center |
| 3) Karen Jehanian | Traffic.com |
| 4) Mark Cassel | TMACC |
| 5) Walt Green | Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission |
| 6) Kim Ferroni | PennDOT |
| 7) Dennis Starr | PennDOT |
| 8) Anthony Marino | SJTA |
| 9) Derrick Sawyer | Philadelphia Fire Dept. |
| 10) Bob Pento | PennDOT |
| 11) Brian Naylor | PA State Police |
| 12) Susan Simkus | Montgomery County Planning Commission |
| 13) William Roper | DRJTBC |
| 14) Nicholas Martino | PennDOT |
| 15) Hugh Lynch | Philadelphia Highway Patrol |
| 16) Richard Montanez | City of Philadelphia- Traffic Engineer |
| 17) Shawn Jalosinski | Philadelphia Streets Dept. |
| 18) Bob Murphy | SmarTraveler |
| 19) John Bukowski | SEPTA |
| 20) Robert Hannigan | PennDOT |
| 21) Kevin O'Brien | SEPTA |
| 22) Carmine Fiscina | US DOT- FHWA- Philadelphia |
| 23) Don Shanis | DVRPC |
| 24) John Ward | DVRPC |
| 25) Stan Platt | DVRPC |
| 26) Chris King | DVRPC |
| 27) Laurie Matkowski | DVRPC |
| 28) Keith Hartington | DVRPC |