

TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS TASK FORCE
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

September 26, 2011

1. Welcome and Introductions

Bill Ragozine, Cross County Connection TMA (CCCTMA) welcomed members and thanked them for attending.

2. Two Minute Agency Reports

Each person in attendance introduced themselves and added any relevant ITS and operations updates from their agency.

- ▶ Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT): An ITS contract for US 202 Parkway in Montgomery and Buck County was let to start the design process that includes ITS devices, and travel time information on select arterials in the corridor. In coordination with a construction project, travel detectors were installed on US 202 – Section 300 which allow for travel times between US 30 Bypass and King of Prussia.
- ▶ Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC): The I-476 Northeast Extension widening is currently under construction. The PTC and PennDOT are combining efforts issuing a joint RFP to develop ITS standards with regards to the state's traffic flow data.
- ▶ New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT): The \$900 million I-295 Direct Connect project is scheduled to start in the winter of 2012. An advanced ITS contract will be issued prior to the construction and will include additional dynamic message signs, CCTV, travel time readers along the corridor and adaptive traffic signals on US 130 and NJ 168.
- ▶ ITS Pennsylvania: Manny Anastasiadis, PennDOT, was named ITS Person of the year.

3. Adaptive Traffic Signals: US 202 – Upper Merion

Brian Keaveney, Pennoni, gave a presentation on an adaptive traffic signal system installed in Upper Merion. In April 2010, the Upper Merion Township's Traffic Division, PennDOT, and Rhythm Engineering installed adaptive traffic signal

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control equipment at two US 202' most congested intersections (Gulph Mills and Mall Boulevard) in front of the King of Prussia Mall in order to assess the benefits of adaptive control versus normal time-of-day closed loop operation in a practical setting. Preliminary results indicate that the adaptive signal control has resulted in a 47% reduction in travel time and a 53% reduction in delay for traffic traveling along US 202 during the typical weekday peak hour. The cost per intersection for this system is approximately \$30,000 and Upper Merion has decided to add to more intersections to the system. Once the new signals are installed, additional evaluation will take place evaluating the entire corridor.

For those interested in adaptive signal systems, several considerations need to be addressed. First, there may be a need for some pre-simulation of the existing systems prior to choosing the intersections. Maintenance costs are still to be determined on the life-span of the system; and internet access at each intersection to bring the system data back to both the township and the TOC to maintain and in order to calibrate the system is required.

PennDOT stated that they are receptive to new adaptive signal systems and several are being installed on PA 309 and US 202.

4. ITS Implementation Report Card

Matt West, DVRPC, gave a report on an effort DVRPC is undertaking to develop an ITS Implementation Report Card. The goal is to assess the coverage of all the ITS devices that the region has implemented over the years and establish a bench mark to compare with the Transportation Operations Master Plan vision. Once this bench mark has been established the process can be performed on an annual basis. This effort is not intended to be a performance measure exercise, but rather a guide to judge the coverage of the region's ITS Program.

5. Ideas for DVRPC FY 2013 Work Program

Stan Platt, DVRPC, stated that DVRPC is currently asking for suggested projects to input into the FY 2013 Work Program which starts July 1, 2012. Current ITS related projects in the work program include RIMIS coordination, incident management task forces, traffic signal optimization program, development of local ITS master plans, maintenance of ITS architecture, training courses, and technical assistance. Proposals should be submitted by mid-October. One suggested project was traffic signal evaluation of closed loop systems. To increase a project's profile for selection, submitted projects may want to demonstrate how they will integrate into the region's ITS system.

6. Status Updates

RIMIS

Chris King, DVPC, provided an update on the Regional Information Multimodal Information Systems (RIMIS) project. The data interface to PennDOT's Road Condition Reporting System (RCRS) has been completed and RIMIS now contains incident data for both New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Roll out of the system is increasing with RIMIS being installed and operated at many agencies including Camden County 9-1-1, Cross County Connection TMA, Bellmawr Fire Department, George Clay Fire Department and Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management. (See Attachment 1 for complete list of current users). Several more agencies are currently targeted for installation in October, and discussions with the City of Philadelphia are ongoing on integrating RIMIS into their new TOC.

PA Traffic Signal Ownership Transition Plan

John Ward, DVRPC, provided an update on an effort being conducted by PennDOT to develop a recommended approach and strategies to more efficiently administer, maintain, and operate traffic signals in Pennsylvania. Should PennDOT assume responsibility for traffic signal operations and maintenance; if so, what might this entail and which signals would be affected. A technical memorandum will be prepared to summarize the options and preferred approach. Additional outreach meetings will be held with municipal stakeholders to gather comments on the preferred approach with the goal of further refining the approach. The initial outcome may result in a Pilot Program to test the preferred approach.

November Incident Management Training Course

Chris King, DVRPC, announced that the FHWA, Office of Operations, is conducting Advanced Traffic Incident Management (TIM) workshops at DVRPC on November 2, 2011. The goal of the workshop is to enhance the overall TIM Program in each metro area. The workshop will build upon existing working relationships and established TIM procedures to identify additional needs and associated next steps in enhancing traffic incident management.

7. New Business

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- ▶ Monday, December 5, 2011

MEETING ATTENDEES:

Richard Brahler	Bucks County Planning Commission
Randy Waltermeyer	Chester County Planning Commission
William Ragozine	Cross County Connections TMA
Carmine Fiscina	Federal Highway Administration – Philadelphia Office
Ek Phomarasth	Federal Highway Administration – New Jersey Office
Ryan Jeroski	GVF Transportation
Wes Ratko	Montgomery County Planning Commission
Vinne Cortese	New Jersey Department of Transportation
Manny Anastasiadis	PennDOT District - 6.0
Lou Belmonte	PennDOT District - 6.0
Brian Keaveney	Pennoni
Lou Cortelazzi	Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
Rich Montanez	Philadelphia Streets Department
Steve Jesilowski	SEPTA
Chris King	DVRPC
Stan Platt	DVRPC
Matt West	DVRPC
John Ward	DVRPC

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ATTACHEMENT 1

RIMIS Users

New Jersey

Existing Users

- Bellmawr Fire Department
- Burlington County Traffic Operations Center
- Burlington County Bridge Commission Police Department
- Camden County 9-1-1
- Cherry Hill Fire Department
- Cherry Hill Police Department
- Cross County Connections TMA
- Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission
- Mercer County Office of Emergency Management
- Mercer County 9-1-1
- NJ Department of Environmental Protection HAZMAT Unit
- Riehl's Towing

In Deployment Process

- Delaware River Port Authority
- Gloucester County 9-1-1
- Westville Fire Department

Pennsylvania

Existing RIMIS Users

- Chester County Department of Emergency Services
- Chester County Planning Commission
- EVB Towing (PennDOT service patrol)
- George Clay Fire Department
- Lower Merion Fire Department
- PennDOT Central Office
- PennDOT District 6-0 Regional Traffic Management Center
- Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management
- Whitemarsh Police Department

In Deployment Process

- Chester Township Police Department
- Delaware County Emergency Management Agency
- King of Prussia Fire Department
- Montgomery County 9-1-1
- Oreland Fire Company
- Philadelphia Streets Department
- Springfield Township