

TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS TASK FORCE
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

March 14, 2016

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chris King, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), 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. Some of the highlights include:

- ▶ Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT): In 2015, PennDOT's Safety Service Patrol vehicles registered over 15,000 assists.
- ▶ Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC): An ITS project for the Mainline and I-476 Northeast Extension is underway and will install 12 new Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) and 5 new cameras. A pre-entry DMS project will be in the fall that will deploy 24 additional DMS within PennDOT's right-of-way on the approach roads to the Turnpike interchanges between Reading and Willow Grove.

3. Construction Coordination – Forum Discussion

Agency representatives highlighted major regional construction projects scheduled for this upcoming construction season and what might be forthcoming in the next two to three years.

▶ *New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT)*

Mike Pilsbury, NJDOT, presented construction projects focusing on the southern portion of the state. There is significant work in the upcoming 2016 construction season and these projects include:

- I-295/I-76/NJ Route 42 Direct Connect (2016-2023)

The Direct Connect Advance ITS Project is under construction on I-76, I-295, I-676, US 130, NJ 42, NJ 55, and NJ 168. It will provide a direct connection for I-295 traffic to bypass the Rt. 42 and I-76 traffic. As a result, it will help to upgrade the expected highway speed for I-295 above the current 35 M.P.H. speed limit needed to negotiate the AI-Jo's ramps, and reduce the accident rate in the area which is currently seven times the state average.

Contract #1, awarded January 2013, will construct four new bridges as well as reconstructing sections of I-295 (south of NJ 42) and I-76 (at the northern end of the project) and is estimated to be completed this November 2016.

Contract #2, will construct I-295 north of Browning Road to NJ-168, new ramps connecting I-76 East to I-295 North; I-295 South to I-76 West; and a portion of I-295 South to NJ-42. Also the Bell Road Bridge over I-295 will be replaced. Estimated construction completion for this contract is spring 2018

Traffic impacts for this project include long term construction zones, bridge demolition and construction, local road detours, as well as daily daytime and night time temporary lane closures.

Contract #3 (Spring 2017 to summer 2020) and #4 (Summer 2020 to summer 2023) are currently still in design.

- Rt. 168 Newton Lake Dam (Construction of spillway, re-decking of bridge, replacement of full superstructure; Estimated construction completion date July 2018)
 - Rt. 45 Main St. (CR 672) to Chestnut St. (Resurfacing; Estimated construction completion September 2016)
 - Rt. 1 Business Brunswick Circle to Lake Drive (Drainage, Curbing, Excavation, Traffic Signal, Paving; Estimated construction completion February 2017)
 - Rt. 31 Bridge over CSX Railroad (Bridge replacement and pavement rehabilitation work; Estimated construction completion July 2017)
 - Rt. 130 Raccoon Creek Bridge Replacement and Pavement Rehabilitation (Replacement of vertical lift bridge over Raccoon Creek; Estimated construction completion October 2019)
 - Rt. 295 Repaupo Rd (CR 684) to Rt. 45 (Installing thin overlay to prevent significant profile modifications; Estimated construction completion May 2017)
 - Rt. 70 Red Lion Rd (CR 685) to Dakota Trail (Resurfacing, guiderail, painted crosswalks, traffic signals and handicapped ramps.; Estimated construction completion December 2017)
- *Pennsylvania Department of Transportation – District 6-0*
Harold Windisch, PennDOT, presented projects for PennDOT and focused on the I-95 corridor from the Cottman/Princeton Interchange to I-676 Interchange that is currently under both design and construction. This section is scheduled for construction until 2031 with an estimated total cost of \$2.3 Billion.

Active projects along this section include:

- I-95, Section CPR – Cottman Avenue/ Princeton Interchange (2014-2017). Reconstruction of I-95 and improve the interchange at Cottman Avenue.
- I-95, Section GIR – Girard Avenue (2014-2020). Reconstruction of I-95 between the Vine Street and Allegheny Avenue Interchanges, including the Girard Avenue Interchange.
- I-95, Section BSR/BRI – Betsy Ross Bridge (October 2014-2025).
 - BRI – Reconstruction of I-95 from Bridge Street Interchange through the Betsy Ross Bridge Interchange, including the Betsy Ross Bridge Interchange. It will improve the Betsy Ross Bridge/Aramingo Avenue interchange and widen and reconstruct I-95 and its bridges from Orthodox Street to Wheatsheaf Lane.
 - BSR – Reconstruction of I-95 from bridge over Margaret Street to the bridge over Levick Street, including Bridge Street Interchange.
- I-95, Section AFC – Allegheny (2017-2026). Reconstruction of I-95 from just south of Betsy Ross Bridge Interchange to just south of the Allegheny/Castor Avenue Interchange including the Allegheny/Castor Avenue Interchanges. It is currently in the design phase.
- Along with the I-95 construction, several congestion management strategies are being implemented such as traffic signal upgrades to the city street grid and corridor wide expansion of ITS devices. Furthermore there are transit improvements including additional SEPTA train cars and improvement to several parking lots.
- I-676 Vine Street Expressway project to include replacement of nine bridge structures from 18th Street to 22nd Street and other local road and sidewalk improvements (2015-2020).

Other upcoming projects in the region include:

- I-95 at US 322
- I-95/Scudder Falls Bridge
- I-95 at PA Turnpike Interchange
- JFK Boulevard Bridge Rehabilitations
- I-76 Advanced Traffic Management

► *Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC)*

Mike Phillips, PTC, presented several PTC projects.

PA Turnpike/I-95 Interchange Project

- Mainline, Delaware River Bridge, and US13 toll plazas (2014– May 2016)
- Turnpike Widening With I-95 Interchange Flyovers (2015 – 2018)
- I-95 Widening and Interchange Flyovers completion (2015 – 2018)

- Route 13 Connector. Reconstruction of existing US 13 Interchange Ramps and replacement of existing ramp bridge over local road. Removal of existing ramp bridge over US 13. Expected to bid in summer of 2016.

I-476 North Extension Widening & Reconstruction Project

- Milepost A26–A31 (starting construction in April 2014 with anticipated completion by end of 2016)
- Milepost A31–A38 (final design underway)
- Milepost A38–A44 (final design underway)
- Milepost A44–A57 (preliminary underway)

Overhead Bridge Replacement in design

- Hulmeville Road
- Bensalem interchange ramp bridge

► *SEPTA*

Byron Comati, SEPTA, provided an update on the construction that has begun at the station Levittown Station (Trenton Regional Rail Line) in Tullytown. Station improvements include construction of high level platforms, elevators, pedestrian overpass, improved inter-modal service connections and parking expansion. The project also includes ADA enhancements.

► *Delaware River Port Authority*

Mark Green, DRPA, provided construction brief overview of several upcoming projects.

Betsy Ross Bridge: There will be a resurfacing project this year on the bridge which will include periodic closures of travel lanes and Richmond Street ramps.

Walt Whitman Bridge: Currently there is a toll plaza construction rehabilitation project ongoing that has closed the left 4 lanes of the toll plaza for about 8 weeks. Another project will include painting the towers and may include a lane closure.

The 5th Street Tunnel in Philadelphia is closed for reconstruction with estimated completion in the fall 2016.

4. **New Business**

- Next Meeting Date will be June 13th, at DVRPC.

MEETING ATTENDEES:

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| 1. | Patrick Reilly | Burlington Co. Bridge Commission |
| 2. | William Ragozine | CCCTMA |
| 3. | Bill Deguffery | Chester County Planning Commission |
| 4. | Mark Green | Delaware River Port Authority |
| 5. | William Kephart | Delaware River Port Authority Police Dept. |
| 6. | Matt Popek | Montgomery County Planning Commission |
| 7. | Sara Patterson | Michael Baker |
| 8. | Mike Pilsbury | NJDOT |
| 9. | Saidul Islam | NJDOT |
| 10. | Cathy Valencia | NJ OHSP |
| 11. | Sgt. Stephen Uselb | PA State Police |
| 12. | Michael Phillips | PA Turnpike Commission |
| 13. | Amber Reimnitz | PA Turnpike Commission |
| 14. | Manny Anastasiadis | PennDOT District - 6.0 |
| 15. | Harold Windisch | PennDOT District - 6.0 |
| 16. | James Diamond | Philadelphia Police Dept. |
| 17. | Patrice Nuble | Philadelphia Streets Dept. |
| 18. | Rich Montanez | Philadelphia Streets Dept |
| 19. | Bryan Comati | SEPTA |
| 20. | Jon Ewald | TMA of Chester County |
| 21. | Paul Carafides | DVRPC |
| 22. | Kwan Hui | DVRPC |
| 23. | Chris King | DVRPC |
| 24. | Laurie Matkowski | DVRPC |
| 25. | Zoe Neaderland | DVRPC |
| 26. | Elizabeth Schoonmaker | DVRPC |
| 27. | John Ward | DVRPC |

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