

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of July 24, 2003

Location: Commission Officer
The Bourse Building, 8th Floor
111 S. Independence Mall, East
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Membership Present

Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs	Joyce Paul
New Jersey Department of Transportation	Brent Barnes
Governor of New Jersey's Appointee	Tracie Gelbstein
Governor of Pennsylvania's Appointee	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office	Joanne R. Denworth
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	Larry M. King
Bucks County	Lynn Bush
Chester County	William H. Fulton
Delaware County	John E. Pickett
Montgomery County	Kenneth Hughes
Burlington County	Jerald R. Cureton, Esq. Carol Ann Thomas
Camden County	Thomas J. Gurick
Gloucester County	Charles E. Romick
Mercer County	Donna Lewis

City of Chester	(not represented)
City of Philadelphia	Gary Jastrzab
City of Camden	(not represented)
City of Trenton	Andrew Carten
<u>Non-Voting Members</u>	
Federal Highway Administration New Jersey Division	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Division	Spencer Stevens
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region III	(not represented)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III	(not represented)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II	(not represented)
New Jersey Office of Smart Growth	Herman Volk
Federal Transit Administration, Region III	Keith Lynch
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	Christopher Patton
New Jersey Transit Corporation	James Schwarzwald
Port Authority Transit Corporation	(not represented)
Delaware River Port Authority	Linda Hayes
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	Ronald K. Bednar
Regional Citizens Committee Chairman	Dennis Winters

DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel
New Jersey Co-Counsel

Timothy J. Carson, Esq.
Thomas Coleman, Esq.

DVRPC Staff: John J. Coscia, Donald S. Shanis, William Greene, Richard Bickel, Phyllis Robinson, Jenny Ruth, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Robert Hannigan
Greg Brown (Dist. 6-0)

New Jersey Department of Transportation

Brian Cuccia
Arthur Eisdorfer
Linda Forrester
Genevieve Boehm

Camden County

Curt Noe

South Jersey Port Corporation

John Maier

Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission

Roger Sager

Cross County Connection Transportation
Management Association

William Ragozine

DMJM & Harris

Marlin Peterson

Wallace Roberts & Todd

John Beckman

Triad Associates

Jim Petkovits

A. Shauss-Wieder, Inc.

Anne Shauss-Wieder

Call to Order

Chairman Thomas J. Gurick called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

Public Comments

Comments from the public were invited to be heard on non-agenda items. No comments were stated.

1. Minutes of Meeting of June 26, 2003

On a **motion** by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. King, the minutes of the meeting of June 26, 2003 were approved as distributed.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Donald S. Shanis, DVRPC staff, briefed the Board on the following TIP Actions:

a. TIP Action PA03-30a: I-76 Westbound Noise Walls, Montgomery County

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, I-76 Westbound Noise Walls. This project, funded by specially earmarked state DEMO funds would program a FY03 final design phase of \$600,000, and a FY03 right-of-way phase of \$150,000. The project location is on westbound I-76 in Upper Merion between Henderson Road and Weadley Road. With an estimated construction cost of \$3 million, it is expected that the project would move to construction in conjunction with the I-76 Henderson Road Interchange improvement project.

Financial Constraint will be maintained as these are specially earmarked state DEMO funds and the TIP's conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt.

b. TIP Action PA03-30b: I-95 Pre-Cast Bridge Parapets, Philadelphia

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new safety project to the TIP, the I-95 Pre-Cast Bridge Parapets in Philadelphia. This project, funded by federal highway funds, would program a FY03 final design phase of \$750,000 for 19 structures on I-95. The purpose of this project is to redesign a particular type of concrete bridge parapet (side wall) which was identified as a safety hazard, in order to improve the structural integrity of the bridge. This will eventually lead to replacement or retrofit of bridges throughout the state.

Financial Constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed. The TIP's conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt.

c. TIP Action PA03-30c: I-76 Pre-Cast Bridge Parapets, Philadelphia and Montgomery Counties

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new safety project to the TIP, the I-76 Pre-Cast Bridge Parapets in Philadelphia and Montgomery County. This project, funded by federal highway funds, would program a FY03 final design phase of \$750,000 for 27 structures on I-76 in Philadelphia and Montgomery County. The purpose of this project is to redesign a particular type of concrete bridge parapet (side wall) which was identified as a safety hazard, in order to improve the structural integrity of the bridge. This will eventually lead to replacement or retrofit of many bridges throughout the state.

Financial Constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

The TIP's conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee (PCC/RTC) and the Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) for the Board to approve TIP Actions PA03-30a, PA03-30b, and PA03-30c. The RCC asks, with reference to TIP Action PA03-30a, that an evaluation be done to determine the necessity for noise walls in I-76 Westbound location.

Mr. Coscia responded that the RCC's comments will be forwarded to PENNDOT for a response.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. King, seconded by Mr. Hughes that the Board approve the following TIP amendments:

- (1) TIP Action PA03-30a, PENNDOT's request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for Pennsylvania (FY2003-2006) by adding a new project into the TIP, I-76 Westbound Noise walls. This amendment will program a \$600,000 final design phase in FY03, and a \$150,000 right-of-way

phase in FY04, using specially earmarked state demonstration funds.

- (2) TIP Action PA03-30b, PENNDOT's request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for Pennsylvania (FY2003-2006) by adding a new safety project to the TIP, I-95 Pre-Cast Bridge Parapets in Philadelphia. This project, funded 100% by federal highway funds, would program a FY03 final design phase of \$750,000.
- (3) TIP Action PA03-30c, PENNDOT's request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for Pennsylvania (FY2003-2006) by adding a new safety project to the TIP, I-76 Pre-Cast Bridge Parapets in Philadelphia and Montgomery County. This project, funded 100% by federal highway funds, would program a FY03 final design phase of \$750,000.

d. TIP Action PA03-31: Section 5311 Capital Assistance, Capitol Trailways Intercity Bus Terminal, Montgomery County

Montgomery County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, a Section 5311 Capital Assistance project for the Capitol Trailways Intercity Bus Terminal in Willow Grove, Montgomery County. Funding would be programmed for an FY03 construction phase (\$26,500 Section 5311 funds/\$21,200 State Act 10 funds/\$5,300 local match funds.) The property owner will pay for and construct a 25' x 23' intercity bus terminal on the piece of property currently used by Capitol Trailways. Jointly sponsored by Capitol Trailways and Montgomery County, this portion of the project would be funded by the Non-Urbanized Area Program (formerly Section 18) and would provide for certain elements of the construction fit of the terminal on Fitzwatertown Road. Specifically, an office/ticket booth area, small waiting room, and a unisex ADA compliant restroom would be constructed using the Section 5311 funds. Participation in the program by private for-profit enterprises is encouraged.

Financial Constraint will be maintained as these are additional funds for the region and the TIP's conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC the

Board adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Barnes, that the Board approve TIP Action PA03-31, Montgomery County's request to amend the FY2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, a Section 5311 Capital Assistance project for the Capital Trailways Intercity Bus Terminal in Willow Grove. Funding would be programmed for an FY03 construction phase (\$26,500 Section 5311 funds/\$21,200 State Act 10 funds/\$5,300 Local Match funds).

- e. TIP Action NJ03-13: Gloucester County Restriping Program, Gloucester County

Gloucester County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2003-2005 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new project to the TIP, the Gloucester County Restriping Program and at the same time deleting an existing project, the Gloucester County Sign Management Program which has been deemed ineligible for federal funding. Funding for the Restriping Program would be programmed for an FY03 construction phase (\$850,000 STP-STU funds) and would use the \$850,000 that was originally programmed for the Sign Management Program, thus maintaining fiscal constraint and putting funds to use before the close of the fiscal year. The Restriping Program will be implemented on county roads that are part of the Federal Aid System in order to improve the safety of those roadways by installing long-life, highly reflective traffic stripes.

Financial Constraint will be maintained as this project will use funds from the Sign Management Program which is being deleted from the TIP. The TIP's conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Romick, seconded by Ms. Lewis, that the Board approve TIP Action NJ03-13, Gloucester County's request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for New Jersey (FY2003-2005) by adding a new project to the TIP, the Gloucester County Restriping Program programmed for a FY03 construction phase (\$850,000 STP-STU funds) and simultaneously deleting an existing project, the Gloucester County Sign Management Program, currently funded at the same level.

3. **DVRPC FY 2004 Planning Work Program Amendment: Targeted Advertising for the BurLink-Southern New Jersey Light Rail Transportation System**

Connection

Dr. Shanis explained to the Board that NJDOT has requested that the DVRPC FY 2004 Planning Work Program be amended to add the BurLink-Southern New Jersey Light Rail Transit System (SNJLRTS) Connection promotion program. Although the work was originally part of the FY 2003 Work Program, the delayed opening of the SNJLRTS postponed the need for the project. Therefore, authorization to proceed in FY 2003 was withdrawn. Since the line is expected to open this fall, it is now time to begin this project.

The project will create an advertising campaign to inform the residents of Burlington County that the BurLink Shuttle System will connect with the SNJLRTS and to educate them about how this linkage will increase their transportation options, thereby reducing dependence on single occupancy vehicles. The campaign will be tightly targeted to Burlington County residents. Work will be carried out on behalf of Burlington County by the Cross County Connection TMA, which serves Burlington and Camden Counties in New Jersey.

The project funds, \$30,000, were originally funded as part of the FY 2003 DVRPC Transit Support Program in New Jersey.

This project is exempt from the regional air quality conformity finding.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION Mr. Cureton, seconded by Mr. Barnes, that the Board approve amending the DVRPC FY 2004 Planning Work Program to add the Targeted Advertising for the BurLink-Southern New Jersey Light Rail Transit System Connection project.

4. DVRPC's Disclosure of Public Records Policy

Mr. Coscia explained to the Board that, after discussions between PENNDOT's attorney and DVRPC's Pennsylvania Co-Counsel, DVRPC may not be required by Pennsylvania law to have a Public Records Policy. DVRPC's New Jersey Co-Counsel has been informed of these findings. However, Mr. Coscia believes, even though DVRPC may not be required by Pennsylvania law to have a public records policy, it is prudent to establish such a policy on public records to meet the intent of the Freedom of Information Act. DVRPC receives many requests for information from the public, and, whether we are legally required or not, DVRPC will want to be responsive. Staff will continue to work with Co-Counsels and prepare a new draft

Disclosure of Public Records Policy for Board approval in September.

On a **motion** by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Barnes, the Board unanimously agreed to **table** the action for the DVRPC Disclosure of Public Records Policy.

Dennis Winters, RCC Chairman, requested that the RCC review the new draft Disclosure of Public Records Policy. Mr. Coscia agreed.

5. Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) Report

Dennis Winters, RCC Chairman, reported on two additional items from the RCC meeting held on July 15, 2003 as follows:

- (1) Proposed Resolution with reference to SEPTA: Mr. Winters brought the Board's attention to the RCC's Proposed Resolution with regard to SEPTA (attached as part of these minutes on the RCC's *Recommendations to the Board for July 24, 2003*).
- (2) Proposals for DVRPC FY 2005 Work Program: The RCC submitted a list of proposed projects as a preliminary list for consideration for the DVRPC FY 2005 Planning Work Program (attached as part of these minutes on the RCC's *Recommendations to the Board for July 24, 2003*).

Christopher Patton, SEPTA, responded to the RCC's Proposed Resolution (comments attached as part of these minutes entitled: *SEPTA Response to the RCC Resolution to the DVRPC Board of Commissioners*).

6. Board Committee Appointments for FY 2004

Chairman Gurick announced the FY 2004 Board Committee Appointments (revised copy attached).

7. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Coscia reported on the following:

a. PENNDOT Planning Partners Meeting, July 22, 2003 in Camp Hill, PA

Mr. Coscia reported that more than 100 attendees participated in the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) meeting with PENNDOT to discuss the capital program process guidance for FY 2005. The purpose of the meeting was to revisit the allocation process for capital funding, approximately \$1.3 billion per year, in Pennsylvania for highway and bridge projects, of which

the DVRPC region receives approximately 25%.

As the discussions progressed at the meeting, it became apparent that some MPO's feel they are not getting their fair share of the federal and state funds that are available. As a result, it was determined that a more in-depth meeting (2-3 days) should be held to thoroughly discuss refinements to the allocation process.

b. DVRPC Annual Board Retreat, December 3, 2003, Trenton Marriott

Mr. Coscia reported that the DVRPC Annual Board Retreat will be held on December 3, 2003 at the Trenton Marriott and encouraged the Board members to mark their calendars for this event. Mr. Coscia also requested that the Board members submit topics for the Retreat program.

c. Certification Review of the Philadelphia Metropolitan Area Planning Process, Final Report

Mr. Coscia reported that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)/Federal Transit Administration (FTA) certification review for DVRPC was conducted on February 5 and 6, 2003. The overall conclusion of the review was that the planning process for the Philadelphia metropolitan area is an *effective, cooperative decision-making process and reflects a significant professional commitment to deliver quality transportation planning.*

Based on the results of the certification review, FHWA and FTA jointly found that the planning process in the DVRPC Region substantially complies with the spirit and intent of the metropolitan transportation planning laws and regulations. As a result, the FHWA and FTA jointly certified the planning process in the Philadelphia Metropolitan Area TMA.

Spencer Stevens, FHWA, and Keith Lynch (FTA) reiterated and commented that DVRPC is truly a model for all other Metropolitan Planning Organizations.

d. Community Meetings - Neighborhood Planning & Best Practices Forum

Barry Seymour, DVRPC staff, announced that DVRPC in coordination with the Philadelphia Planning Commission held three community outreach meetings on neighborhood planning in the Philadelphia area (West Powellton, Mount Airy, and Chinatown).

The Best Practices Forum was held on July 23, 2003 in Philadelphia. All neighborhood organizations and community development corporations were

invited to attend and hear presentations from a DVRPC consultant team on housing, economic development, and transportation strategies for local community neighborhood development. Approximately 100 attended.

e. 2000 Census

Since the release of the 2000 Census, DVRPC has devoted staff time and effort to making the information available to all member governments. As census information continues to be released, the information will be placed on the DVRPC website. Mr. Seymour also pointed out the *DVRPC Regional Data Bulletin: Municipal County and Regional Population Estimates, 2000-2002, July 2003* (distributed to the Board).

f. Governor's Conference on Housing and Community Development

A Governor's Conference on Housing and Community Development will be held in Atlantic City on September 23 and 24, 2003. Invitations will be mailed in the near future.

Mr. Coscia added that the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission is holding meetings to develop its 2005 Transportation Program. The date of the meeting for our 5-county area will be September 26, 2003 at the Adams Mark Hotel

on City Line Avenue, Philadelphia. Project abstract sheets will be made available to the Board before the meeting.

8. Schuylkill Valley Metro Station Planning

John Beckman, PP, AICP, Wallace Roberts & Todd presented to the Board the results of the *Schuylkill Valley MetroRail Corridor Station Area Planning and Implementation Study* for five stations along the proposed Schuylkill Valley Metro (SVM) Rail corridor between Philadelphia and Reading. The five station areas examined included 52nd Street in West Philadelphia, Valley Forge (Montgomery County), Pottstown (Montgomery County), Phoenixville (Chester County) and Douglassville (Berks County). Guided by a project management team, the project included community task forces in each of the study areas and comprised a number of public meetings. The purpose of the study was to: (1) explore the advantages of transit oriented development (TOD) in each station area; (2) to work with local representatives to identify and capture the best potential of transit service; and (3) to

support continued federal funding for implementation of the SVM.

9. South Jersey Port Inland Distribution Network (PIDN) Study

Dr. Shanis, explained to the Board that a larger number of goods and services is anticipated in the future moving globally across the world into the New York City area. One strategy is to take those goods and services and ship them to other locations before they are unloaded for inland distribution. The PIDN Study looks at five possible sites for the barging of these goods into South Jersey.

Martin Peterson of DMJM & Harris presented to the Board and explained that the project objectives are: (1) to evaluate five Southern New Jersey sites for PIDN potential by three modes (Barge, Rail, and Highway), (2) recommend site(s) for further consideration; and (3) investigate commercial viability and public benefits of a proposed feeder service between South Jersey site(s) and the Port of New York and New Jersey. The potential sites are: Broadway Terminal, Camden County, Gloucester City, Gloucester County, Paulsboro BP, Gloucester County, Deepwater Dupont, Salem County, and Salem County, privately owned. Mr. Peterson then presented site comparisons, operating cost comparison, potential public/private partners, and potential funding. In conclusion, Mr. Peterson presented the next steps as follows: (1) establish public partner(s); (2) confirm terminal availability; (3) identify specific throughput source(s); (4) establish preliminary financial public sources; (5) establish preliminary financial uses; and (6) identify specific value added anchor tenant(s).

10. New Jersey Pavement Management System

Arthur Eisdorfer, Manager of Civil Engineering, New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) presented to the Board the New Jersey's Pavement Management System. Mr. Eisdorfer explained that New Jersey pavements have been neglected due to channeling resources into capacity improvements, congestion relief, and other types of projects. In accordance with New Jersey Governor's *Fix It First* program, NJDOT is now examining pavements to decide where the pavement is breaking down and when to pave. Since NJDOT is responsible for over 500 center line miles of interstate highway and 3000 miles of other state highways, maintaining good condition of the pavements is very cost-effective. It is estimated that the repairs will cost \$10 billion over the next ten years. The FY 2004 pavement plan will include: (1) projects other than pavement; (2) pavement preventive maintenance, and (3) major resurfacing and reconstructing.

11. Committee Reports

The following Committee Reports were distributed to the Board for their review:

- (1) Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee;
- (2) Goods Movement Task Force; (3) Regional Land Use and Development Committee; and (4) Board Policy Analysis Committee

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Attachments:

- (1) PCC/RTC Recommendations to the Board for July 24, 2003
- (2) RCC Recommendations to the Board for July 24, 2003
- (3) SEPTA Responses to RCC Resolution to the DVRPC Board of Commissioners
- (4) Revised Board Committee Appointments

Additional Documents Distributed to the Board:

- (1) *Alert*, July 2003
- (2) *Freight Lines*, July 2003
- (3) *TravelSmart*, July 2003
- (4) Brochure entitled: *I-295 / I-76 / Route 42 Interchange Reconstruction*