

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of July 27, 2006

Location: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Main Conference Room 8th Floor
190 N. Independence Mall, West
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Membership Present

Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Joyce Paul

New Jersey Department of Transportation

Jerry Mooney

New Jersey Governor's Appointee

Sonia Frontera

Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee

(not represented)

Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office

Joanne R. Denworth

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Robert Hannigan

Bucks County

(not represented)

Chester County

Carol Aichele
Lee Whitmore

Delaware County

John 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

William Payne

City of Philadelphia	(not represented)
City of Camden	Edward Williams
City of Trenton	Andrew Carten
<u>Non-Voting Members</u>	
Federal Highway Administration New Jersey Division	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Division	(not represented)
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	(not represented)
Federal Transit Administration, Region III	Keith Lynch
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	David Fogel
New Jersey Transit Corporation	Jerry Lutin
Port Authority Transit Corporation	Cheryl Spicer
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	Kenneth Klothen
Regional Citizens Committee Chairman	Warren Strumpfer
<u>DVRPC Co-Counsel</u>	
Pennsylvania Co-Counsel	Ben Parvey, Esq.
New Jersey Co-Counsel	Thomas Coleman, Esq.

DVRPC Staff:

Barry Seymour, Donald Shanis, Chick Dougherty, Richard Bickel, John Ward, Thabet Zakaria, Ted Dahlburg, Elizabeth Schoonmaker, Joseph Hacker, Candace Snyder, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	James Mosca Linda Guarini (Dist. 6-0)
Chester County	Charles Coyne
Delaware County	Charles Doyle Rebecca Ross Merissa Trusz Robert Van Osten
New Jersey Turnpike Authority	Brian C. Wahler
Cross County Connection Transportation Management Association	William Ragozine

Call to Order

Chair Joanne R. Denworth called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. Chair Denworth presented a gift from the Board to Thomas J. Gurick, Camden County Freeholder, for his outstanding service as Chair of the DVRPC Board for Fiscal Year 2006 (July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006).

Freeholder Gurick thanked the Board and commented that his experience as Chair was an educational and extremely enjoyable tenure. Mr. Gurick also commented that DVRPC is considered one of the finest Metropolitan Planning Organizations in the country and that it has been a pleasure to serve as Chair. He has the greatest respect for DVRPC and their accomplishments in all aspects of planning.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Chair Denworth commented that Philadelphia has been eliminated as a choice for the 2016 Olympics. Ms. Denworth explained that the Olympic Committee feels that Philadelphia does not possess an international presence, whereas, the other cities involved are thought to have better facilities, more international experience, better transportation, etc. On the positive side, Ms. Denworth believes that this disappointment has given us the incentive to improve the regions' facilities, transportation, and transit.

Barry J. Seymour, Executive Director, added that the public and private sectors recognized that DVRPC would be the leader for significant transportation improvements needed to host an Olympic event.

1. Minutes of Meeting of June 22, 2006

On a **Motion** by Mr. Payne seconded by Mr. Romick, the minutes of the Board meeting of June 22, 2006 were approved as distributed.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Chick Dougherty, DVRPC staff, presented the following TIP actions to the Board for approval:

a. TIP Action NJ06-13: Bus Acquisition, NJ Transit

New Jersey Transit has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2006-2008 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the funds programmed in the Bus Acquisition Program for the DVRPC region (DB #T111) by \$21.447 million. The increase in funds are needed for making mandated annual vehicle lease payments due in September of this year for 650 NOVA Transits and 1371 Cruiser buses. This will also enable NJ TRANSIT to improve cash flow for the required payments for this program, especially since "COPS" funding (State Certificates of Participation, a state funding source previously available and able to be used for payments in advance of the beginning of the federal fiscal year for which they were programmed) will no longer be used as a funding mechanism. The amount of the lease payment is not increased. Appropriate levels of federal and state Transportation Trust Fund funding are adequately programmed in the new FY07 TIP update for this project.

The source of funds for this action will be \$13.68 million of new Section 5307 funds made available to the DVRPC region based on higher than anticipated FY06 appropriations. These funds will be combined with \$7.767 million of Section 5307 funds to be transferred from the "Other Rail Stations" project (DB #T55, which includes Trenton Station rehabilitation), since that amount can now be covered by funds from a new SAFETEA-LU earmark (\$25.499 million of Section 5309 Discretionary funds), which will fully fund the Trenton Rail Station Improvements. The cash flow of this project does not require additional funding until FY07.

NJ TRANSIT would normally have applied the additional 5307 funds from all three MPO regions in order to address the required increase for bus lease payments, but the North Jersey MPO (NJPTA) funds are still tied up in negotiations with New York to agree on the FY06 suballocations, and funds are "frozen" until that time, and unavailable for use by NJ TRANSIT. Therefore, the programming increase for this action comes only from the DVRPC and South Jersey MPO regions. At such time as the suballocations are agreed upon, the NJTPA additional 5307 funds will allow approximately \$50 million state funds from the Access to the Regions Core (ARC) project, DB #T97, to be applied to the Morrisville Yard improvement project (a component of DB #T37, Rail Support Facilities) in the DVRPC region, thereby

making the DVRPC region fiscally whole.

Financial constraint will be maintained and the TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this modification as this project is exempt from air quality analysis.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee (PCC/RTC) that the Board approve TIP Action NJ06-13.

The Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) also recommended approval, however the RCC urges New Jersey Transit to purchase buses that include bicycle racks and that are as fuel-efficient as possible, ideally utilizing alternative fuels.

Jerald R. Cureton, Burlington County, inquired as to whether the pay-as-you-go bus purchase plan means moving from a leased plan to paying cash for each bus.

Jerry Lutin, New Jersey Transit, responded that the buses (200 per year) would be paid for on a pay-as-you-go basis which would reduce debt service.

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

Motion by Mr. Gurick, seconded by Mr. Cureton, that the Board approve TIP Action NJ06-13, NJ TRANSIT's request to modify the FY2006-2008 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the Bus Acquisition project (DB #T111) by \$21.447 million 5307 funds (\$13.68 million new Section 5307 and \$7.767 Section 5307 transferred from DB #T55). Also, acknowledge removal of \$8.857 million State Certificates of Participation (COPs) reserve funding from FY06 as these funds were over-subscribed statewide in the FY 2006 TIP.

b. TIP Action PA05-79: Brandywine Valley Scenic byway Corridor Management Plan, Chester County

Chester County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project into the TIP, the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan for \$150,000 (\$120,000 special Scenic Byway Section 1101 funds/\$30,000 local match) on condition that the project is awarded FHWA approval for funding. This project has received state designation as a scenic byway, and a coalition of municipalities in Chester and Delaware Counties has applied for the special byway funding in order to prepare a Corridor Management Plan. The plan would enable the group to come to consensus about an improvement plan for the selected roadway and is required in order for the Byway to be eligible to secure federal byways designation, and subsequent federal byway funding.

Financial constraint will be maintained as this project would use special Byways funding that would constitute additional funds to the region.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this modification as this project is exempt from air quality analysis.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC that the Board approve TIP Action PA05-79.

The RCC recommended that the Board approve TIP Action PA05-79, however, the committee hopes that this byway designation helps to maintain the historic character and landscape along the roads in this area.

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

MOTION by Ms. Aichele, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the Board approve TIP Action PA05-79, Chester County's request to amend the FY 2005 TIP for Pennsylvania (FY2005-2008) by adding a new project into the TIP, the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan for \$150,000 (\$120,000 special Scenic Byway Section 1101 funds/\$30,000 local match) in FY06 conditioned on the county's application being approved by FHWA to receive the \$120,000 Scenic Byway funds.

3. Strasburg Road Pennsylvania Byway Designation

Rich Bickel, DVRPC staff, briefed the board and explained that the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) administers the Pennsylvania Byways Program. The purpose of the program is to (1) enhance and improve the visual quality of specific routes; (2) maintain the natural resources and intrinsic qualities along specific routes; (3) educate residents and visitors on the history and culture of the Commonwealth; and (4) provide enhanced opportunities for funding in related programs such as the Transportation Enhancements Program. The resulting designation, in concert with local planning and zoning amendments, can help to protect corridor resources from encroachment by incompatible uses, including billboards and signage. Applicants must identify the resources (scenic, historic, cultural, recreational, archaeological or natural) that are intrinsic qualities of a nominated corridor.

East Fallowfield Township, in cooperation with East and West Bradford townships, has prepared a consolidated application proposing the designation of a 12-mile portion of Strasburg Road as a Historic Corridor Byway. The intrinsic qualities of the proposed Byway are documented in the attached application. The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) has been requested by the Chester County Planning Commission to submit a letter of support for the proposed designation that would accompany the application to PennDOT.

The proposed Byway designation is consistent with the previous *Horizons 2025* and the current *Destination 2030*, the region's adopted long-range Land Use and Transportation Plan. The proposed Byway designation is also consistent with

Chester County's adopted *Landscapes* comprehensive plan and with local planning and zoning amendments intended to support implementation.

A draft letter supporting the proposed Byway designation and summarizing its overall intent and plan consistency was distributed to the Board.

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

MOTION by Ms. Aichele, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the Board approve and forward the letter of support for the Scenic Byways Designation for the Proposed Strasburg Road Historic Byway in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

4. Fiscal Year 2007 Planning Work Program Amendment: Supplemental I-95 Traffic Study (I-676 to Allegheny Avenue)

Donald S. Shanis, Deputy Executive Director, explained to the Board that in FY05, DVRPC prepared traffic forecasts for I-95 and its interchanges for use by PennDOT and its consultants for project level planning and design studies. These traffic studies did not consider planned casino and condominium development along Delaware Avenue. Under this supplemental work program, DVRPC will prepare 2030 forecasts for Delaware Avenue, I-95 mainline, and Vine Street, Girard Avenue, and Allegheny Avenue I-95 interchanges, assuming construction of the proposed slots casino(s) and condominiums along Delaware Avenue, north of Vine Street. Also, the project includes an analysis of bicycle / pedestrian safety in the corridor.

Kenneth Hughes, Montgomery County, inquired, since this project will benefit the private developers and casinos, will they be contributing to the funding?

Dr. Shanis commented that this project is for travel forecasts and, so far, the private developers are not contributing any funding, however, this issue could be approached in the future.

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

MOTION by Mr. Cureton, seconded by Mr. Hannigan, that the Board amend the DVRPC Fiscal Year 2007 Planning Work Program to include the Supplemental I-95 Traffic Study (I-676 to Allegheny Ave).

5. Board Committee Appointments for FY 2007

Chair Denworth called the Board's attention to the memo (distributed to the Board)

listing Board Committee Appointments for FY 2007. The Board committees are as follows: (1) Fiscal Year 2007 Planning Work Program Committee; (2) Board Policy Analysis Committee; (3) Ethics Committee; and (4) Executive Director's Compensation Committee.

6. Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) Report

Warren Strumpfer, RCC Chair, reported that at the July 18, 2006 meeting a presentation was given by Eric Cheung from the Philadelphia Diesel Difference Working Group on reducing diesel emissions. The RCC urges the transit operators to make every attempt to burn cleaner fuels to improve air quality.

The RCC is preparing a white paper on *Seamless Public Transportation Across New Jersey Transit/SEPTA/PATCO Frontiers and Beyond* for presentation to the Board in September.

7. Freight for a Day

Ted Dahlburg, DVRPC staff, gave an overview of *Freight for a Day*. This event is scheduled for September 20, 2006 and, through data sharing, will be a one day scan of freight operations and services in the Delaware Valley region. The purpose of this event is to foster public education, and promote the region's freight network while identifying problems and opportunities.

8. DVRPC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program: Accomplishments and Direction

Joseph Hacker, DVRPC staff, presented an overview to the Board on *DVRPC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program: Accomplishments and Direction*. Mr. Hacker explained that a mandate provided by TEA-21 states *that Bicyclists and pedestrians shall be given due consideration in the comprehensive transportation plans developed by each MPO and State*. Plans have been created in Pennsylvania and New Jersey to meet the mandate requirements and certain goals such as increasing total trips made by bicycling and walking and reducing the number of bicycle and pedestrian accidents have been applied. To reach these goals, TIP funding is used to successfully complete bicycle and pedestrian

projects. DVRPC will continue to educate our planning partners and advocate programs which allow for successful bicycle trails, highway bicycle lanes, and pedestrian walkways.

9. Open Space and Natural Resource Planning Services for New Jersey Municipalities

Suzanne McCarthy, DVRPC staff, briefed the Board on the *Open Space and Natural Resources Planning Services for New Jersey Municipalities* (DVRPC brochure distributed to the Board). Ms. McCarthy explained that this program was created specifically for New Jersey because of their great need for local planning on this issue, whereas, Pennsylvania has more support for their open space and natural resource programs.

The program's objective is to assist the municipalities in achieving their goals to protect environmental resources, wildlife habitat, farmland, and drinking water sources. Ms. McCarthy then pointed out the list of services which DVRPC can provide to the municipalities. These are fee services, however, DVRPC will assist a municipality to identify and apply for funding that may underwrite part of the cost of Municipal Planning Services.

Working with 15 different New Jersey communities, to date, DVRPC is involved in 28 projects with the municipalities. Ms. McCarthy mentioned one specific successful case study in Woolwich Township, Gloucester County. Working with the Township, DVRPC conducted an environmental resource inventory and an open space/recreation plan which lead to a farmland preservation plan and, subsequently, a conservation design ordinance. As a result of these studies, the Township has implemented a new master plan, zoning, adopted a conservation design ordinance, and are currently working on a transfer of development rights program.

In conclusion, Ms. McCarthy informed the Board that DVRPC co-sponsors workshops on land preservation for municipal officials to inform them of all the tools available for these types of programs. In general, this program has helped DVRPC build stronger relationships directly with the New Jersey municipalities.

10. Executive Director's Report

a. DVRPC Board Retreat, September 28, 2006

Mr. Seymour reminded the Board that the next Board meeting, September 28, 2006, will be held at the Board Retreat at the Villanova Conference Center and urged all Board members and alternates to attend. An agenda and details of the day's events will be mailed to all invitees in the near future. The Board meeting will take place at 9:00 a.m. After the Board meeting, speakers have been invited to talk about their perspective on regional priorities and challenges facing the region. After lunch, time will be spent developing priorities and ideas for the FY 2008 DVRPC Planning Work Program. In conclusion, attendees will be asked to discuss any new initiatives, issues, and/or ways to revise, improve or maintain the existing Board structure.

b. Reducing Individuals Dependence on Energy (RIDE) Act

Mr. Seymour reported that Congressman Michael Fitzpatrick has introduced

the RIDE Act into Congress. This Act would allow individuals who do not have the opportunity for employee discounted transit fares to apply for a tax benefit for riding transit.

c. Smart Growth Roadway Guidelines

Mr. Seymour reported that DVRPC has been working on a program called *Smart Growth Roadway Guidelines*.

Dr. Shanis explained to the Board that this program involves both New Jersey and Pennsylvania and will examine ways to build better roads and improve transportation. DVRPC will work with a consultant to develop a new set of guidelines for consideration in both states as to how roadways are constructed and how sensitive the standards are to the environment and community context.

d. Chinatown Plaza Press Conference, August 8, 2006

Mr. Seymour reported that a Press Conference will be held on August 8, 2006 with the Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation for whom DVRPC developed a neighborhood plan and provided Home Town Streets funding.

e. Transportation Research Board (TRB) Future of MPO's Conference, August 27-29, 2006

Mr. Seymour mentioned that he and Dr. Shanis would be participating in the TRB Conference on August 27-29, 2006 to discuss the future of MPO's and he would report back to the Board on the outcome.

f. Pennsylvania Transportation Finance Commission, September 15, 2006

Mr. Seymour reported that the Pennsylvania Transportation Finance Commission has been working on a preliminary report recommending options for highway and transit funding in Pennsylvania. The Commission will meet at DVRPC on September 15, 2006 at which time public input will be heard.

g. Local Elected Officials Caucus

Mr. Seymour asked for the Board's thoughts as to whether there would be any value to convene a regional caucus with municipal elected officials.

The Board generally agreed that convening a caucus of elected officials could be beneficial and believe this should be discussed further.

h. County Commissioner/Freeholders Briefings

Mr. Seymour announced briefings to present an overview of DVRPC have been scheduled for county commissioners and freeholders.

11. Committee Reports

The following committee reports were distributed to the Board for their review:

a. Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee

Dr. Shanis reported that Catherine Popp-McDonough, SEPTA, is the newly elected Chair for the PCC/RTC and Matt Lawson, Mercer County will be Vice-Chair.

In addition to those items reported under the appropriate agenda items other items of interest at the meeting were the staff updates on the *Regional Transit Database* and *Tracking the Progress to 2030*.

b. Goods Movement Task Force (GMTF)

Dr. Shanis reported that a presentation was given by Tom DeMarino, International Transport Manager of IKEA Wholesale, Inc. entitled *IKEA Distribution Services 2010+*. Mr. DeMarino candidly discussed distribution and social goals and practices for IKEA. In 2004, the Swedish home retailer had 202 stores worldwide. By 2010, it projects to have more than 350 stores.

c. Land Use and Housing Committee

Richard Bickel pointed out the Land Use and Housing Committee Highlights (distributed to the Board). In particular, Mr. Bickel brought the Board's attention to the report's attachment entitled *Opportunities for Commonwealth Leadership to Revitalize Pennsylvania* written jointly by the Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania and 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania. This document compliments DVRPC's work on Older Suburbs and Revitalization of Older Communities. The document is intended as a briefing for governors, state senators, and representatives. The document contains background information about the Commonwealth's situation for older communities as well as recommended programs to assist in implementation.

Mr. Seymour added that DVRPC was requested to endorse the document. No action will be taken as a Board, however, the document has been distributed to the member governments if they wish to endorse all or part of the document.

Mr. Bickel also announced the Housing Committee is now the Land Use and Housing Committee and will continue to meet quarterly to focus on housing

and land use issues.

d. Central Jersey Forum, July 20, 2006

Dr. Shanis reported that Barry Seymour and Mark Stout (NJDOT) are the two new co-chairs for the Central Jersey Forum

Dr. Shanis also noted two presentations of interest given at the meeting as follows: (1) Economic Development and Transportation in Central Jersey; and (2) Advancing US 1 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT).

12. One Minute Reports

William Payne, Chester City, announced that the Chester Waterfront has been transformed from a vacant area to a usable, people friendly complex. The first horse race will take place on September 10, 2006.

Thomas Gurick, Camden County, announced that on July 29, 2006 a ribbon cutting ceremony for a new boat house will be held at Cooper River Park.

Warren Strumpfer, RCC Chair, commented that he was impressed with the DRPA Transit Study website and the DVRPC Smart Growth Program.

Robert Hannigan, PennDOT, announced that PennDOT's 12-Year Program TIP's will be forwarded to the State Transportation Commission on August 3, 2006 for approval. After approval, the TIP's will become part of the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) and then forwarded to the Federal agencies for approval.

Cheryl Spicer, Port Authority Transit Corporation, announced that the new Smart Cards will be distributed to the customers selected for the pilot program. If the pilot program is successful, full service should be implemented by January 2007.

Mr. Seymour announced that on August 1, 2006 Governor Rendell will be cutting the ribbon for the new Franklin Square Park at 6th and Race Streets in Philadelphia.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Attachments:

- (1) PCC/RTC Recommendations to the Board for July 27, 2006
- (2) RCC Recommendations to the Board for July 27, 2006

Additional Documents Distributed to the Board:

- (1) *Alert*, July, 2006
- (2) *TravelSmart*, July, 2006

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Membership Present

Representative

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Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	Robert Hannigan
New Jersey Department of Transportation	Jerry Mooney
New Jersey Governor's Appointee	Sonia Frontera
Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office	Joanne R. Denworth
Pennsylvania Counties	Carol Aichele Lee Whitmore
New Jersey Counties	Jerald R. Cureton, Esq. Carol Ann Thomas
City of Camden	Edward Williams
City of Philadelphia	(not represented)

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	James Mosca Linda Guarini (Dist. 6-0)
Chester County	Charles Coyne
Delaware County	Charles Doyle Rebecca Ross Merissa Trusz Robert Van Osten

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DVRPC Staff:

Barry Seymour, Donald Shanis, Chick Dougherty, Richard Bickel, John Ward, Thabet Zakaria, Ted Dahlburg, Elizabeth Schoonmaker, Joseph Hacker, Candace Snyder, and Jean McKinney.

Call to Order

Chair Joanne R. Denworth called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

1. Minutes of Meeting of June 22, 2006

On a **motion** by Mr. Hannigan, seconded by Ms. Thomas, the minutes of the meeting of June 22, 2006 were approved as distributed.

2. Contract Authorizations

John Coscia, Jr., DVRPC staff, presented to the Executive Committee the following projects for contract authorization approval:

- a. Scoping of Bridge 03D3600 (CR 670 Over a Branch of the Assiscunk Creek in Springfield Township) and Bridge 03D4110 (Bispham Street Bridge in Mount Holly) Burlington County, New Jersey

The County Bridge 03D3600 is located on CR 670 over a branch of the Assiscunk Creek in Springfield Township. CR 670 is classified as a rural major collector. Just west of the bridge are above ground jet fuel storage tanks that are the primary supply for Maguire Air Force Base. Jet fuel is transported to the base by two methods: an underground pipeline that passes beneath the creek just north of this bridge and by military/commercial tanker trucks (which must cross the bridge to get to the base). There is an historic house dating to 1775 located about 100 yards from the bridge.

The Bispham Street Bridge (County Bridge 03D4110) is on a local urban road in the Mount Holly Historic District (State and National Registers). It crosses over the North Branch Rancocas Creek and is immediately adjacent to the Frederick Schrayshuen House (cica 1870).

A consultant selection committee comprised of representatives from Burlington County and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission was formed to evaluate the proposals for rehabilitation of the bridges and to recommend a final selection consistent with the scope of the RFP. The committee recommends approval to contract with Vollmer Associates.

The estimated consultant cost is \$300,000 in Federal Highway Administration funds under the DVRPC Local Scoping Program.

The Executive Committee unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Mooney, that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate and execute a contract with Vollmer Associates for the scoping of the Bridge over a branch of the Assiscunk Creek in Springfield Township and the Bispham Street Bridge in Mount Holly, Burlington County, New Jersey.

b. Scoping of Improvements to the Intersection of CR 561 and CR 692 in the Township of Berlin, Camden County, New Jersey

According to Berlin Township officials, there has been a 30% increase in traffic volumes at the intersection of CR 561 (Haddon Avenue) and CR 692 (Franklin Avenue) since the recent widening of CR 561 in Gibbsboro and Voorhees. This increase in traffic has led to unacceptable levels of congestion at the intersection.

The scoping of the project will result in an alternatives analysis and the approval of the Categorical Exclusion Document.

The estimated consultant cost is \$150,000 in Federal Highway Administration funds under the DVRPC Local Scoping Program.

A consultant selection committee comprised of representatives from Camden County and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission was formed to evaluate the proposals and to recommend a final selection consistent with the scope of the RFP. The committee recommends approval to contract with the selected consultant.

The Executive Committee unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Thomas, that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate and execute a contract with the firm of choice for the scoping of improvements to the Intersection of CR 561 and CR 692 in the Township of Berlin, Camden County. If such negotiations prove not to meet the financial requirements of the Commission, to proceed on to negotiations with the second ranked firm.

c. Scoping Phase of Safety Improvements Along CR 571 from CR 638 (Clarksville Road) to CR 615 (Wallace-Cranbury Road), Mercer County, New Jersey

Princeton-Hightstown Road (CR 571) is a major east-west corridor which extends from the Monmouth County line to Princeton Borough. The roadway provides connections to several major state highway routes as well as the Northeast Corridor rail line. The study will examine safety and capacity improvements as well as bicycle and pedestrian mobility enhancements

between Clarksville Road (CR 638) and Wallace-Cranbury Road (CR 615).

A consultant selection committee comprised of representatives from Mercer County and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission was formed to evaluate the proposals and to recommend a final selection consistent with the scope of the RFP. The committee recommends approval to contract with the selected firm.

The estimated consultant cost is \$300,000 in Federal Highway Administration funds under the DVRPC Local Scoping Program.

The Executive Committee unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Mooney, that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate and execute a contract with the firm of choice for the scoping phase of safety improvements along CR 571 from CR 638 (Clarksville Road) to CR 615 (Wallace-Cranbury Road). If such negotiations prove not to meet the financial requirements of the Commission, to proceed on to negotiations with the second ranked firm.

3. DVRPC Planning Work Program Report - Fourth Quarter Fiscal Year 2006

The DVRPC Fourth quarter Fiscal Year 2006 Planning Work Program Report was distributed to the Executive Committee for their review.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.