

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of September 28, 2006

Location: The Villanova Conference Center
601 County Line Road
Radnor, PA 19087

Membership Present

Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Joyce Paul

New Jersey Department of Transportation

James B. Lewis

New Jersey Governor's Appointee

Sonia Frontera

Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee

Richard W. Hayden, Esq.

Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office

Joanne R. Denworth

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Larry M. King
Robert Hannigan

Bucks County

Lynn Bush

Chester County

Carol Aichele
Ronald T. Bailey

Delaware County

John Pickett

Montgomery County

Kenneth Hughes

Burlington County

Jerald R. Cureton, Esq.
Carol Ann Thomas

Camden County

Thomas J. Gurick
Edward Fox

Gloucester County

Charles E. Romick

Mercer County

Matthew Lawson

City of Chester

William Payne

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	Joung Lee
Pennsylvania Division	Matt Smoker
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region III	Guy Ciarrocchi Elvis Solivan
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	Robert Box
Delaware River Port Authority	Linda Hayes
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Kevin Gallagher
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	(not represented)
Regional Citizens Committee Chairman	Warren Strumpfer

DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel
New Jersey Co-Counsel

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

DVRPC Staff:

Barry Seymour, Donald Shanis, Chick Dougherty, Richard Bickel, John Ward, Patty Elkis, John Griffies, Candace Snyder, Phyllis Robinson, Jane Meconi, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	James Mosca
New Jersey Department of Transportation	Jerry Mooney Brian Cuccia
Chester County	Lee Whitmore
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	Catherine Popp-McDonough
Cross County Connection Transportation Management Association	William Ragozine
Railroad Consultant	Kelvin MacKavanaugh
Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions (RRTS)	Sue Herman

Call to Order

Chair Joanne R. Denworth called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Chair Denworth introduced and welcomed Robert Box, General Manager, Port Authority Transit Corporation and Guy Ciarrocchi, Regional Director, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No public comments were stated on non-agenda items.

1. Minutes of Meeting of July 27, 2006

On a **Motion** by Mr. King, seconded by Mr. Payne, the minutes of the Board meeting of July 27, 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 NJ07-01: Penn's Landing Water Shuttle Ramp Infrastructure Improvements, DRPA / PATCO

DRPA / PATCO has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, the Penn's Landing Water Shuttle Ramp Infrastructure project, using \$1 million DEMO funds provided through a SAFETEA-LU earmark. The Section 5309 Capital Bus discretionary funds were provided to Penn's Landing Corporation (PLC), and with coordination and concurrence from FTA, DRPA has agreed to serve as the public partner/sponsor of the project. The funding will be programmed in FY07 (\$500,000 Section 5309 Bus Discretionary funds/\$125,000 local match provided by PLC), with \$250,000 Section 5309/\$62,5000 local match programmed in both FY08 and FY09. The project will provide for the infrastructure improvements needed to build ramps into the river as part of the water shuttle/water taxi system planned for operation on the Philadelphia side of the Delaware River between Spring Garden and Catherine Streets. Four ramps will be built, and the water shuttles have already been purchased. PLC is already working with the Departments of Environmental Protection and Environmental Protection Agency regarding any required permits.

Financial constraint will be maintained as this project uses specially earmarked transit Bus Discretionary funds.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee (PCC/RTC) and the Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) that the Board approve TIP Action PA07-01.

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

MOTION by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Cureton, that the Board approve TIP Action PA07-01, DRPA/PATCO's request that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, the Penn's Landing Water Shuttle Ramp Infrastructure project, using \$1 million Section 5309 Bus Discretionary funds/ \$250,000 local match.

b. TIP Action NJ07-01: Public Safety Security Equipment, DRPA / PATCO

DRPA / PATCO has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new project to the TIP, the Public Safety Security Equipment Project, using new FTA Section 5340 Growing States and High Density funds, newly provided through SAFETEA-LU. The \$80,000 a year (\$64,000 Section 5340 funds/\$16,000 Local match) would be programmed in Fiscal Years 2007 through 2010 for PATCO system safety improvements such as radios, security cameras, lighting, security vehicles, and computer equipment.

As part of Section 5340 of the new SAFETEA-LU legislation, two new funding mechanisms were created; New Jersey was the recipient of funds for both the Growing States and the High Density programs. The Growing States and High Density Programs add a new method of distributing a small portion of transit funding. Growing States is distributed based on population forecasts and high density funding, which was made available to only seven states in the country, is apportioned to urbanized areas based on population density. DRPA and NJ TRANSIT have just recently agreed to the regional suballocation of these funds, and a total of \$264,188 federal 5340 funds (annually) have been suballocated to DRPA/PATCO for use on the PATCO system. \$200,188 Section 5340 combined with \$50,047 local match will be programmed as an annual increase in funds available to the PATCO existing Preventive Maintenance project, DB #DR034, with the remaining \$80,000 a year (\$64,000 Section 5340 funds/\$16,000 Local match) programmed in the new Safety Security Equipment project.

Financial constraint will be maintained as this project uses new program funds to the region.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC that the Board approve TIP Action NJ07-01.

The RCC also recommended approval, however, requests that DVRPC strongly recommend that new radios, computers, cell phones, etc., be compatible with other state agencies' equipment (i.e., first responders, emergency preparedness agencies, etc.) and comply with state technology standards for inter-operability.

Mr. Dougherty responded that DRPA is an active member of the regional training security working group and works consistently with the other transit operators to be sure that their equipment is mutually compatible.

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

MOTION by Mr. Gurick, seconded by Mr. Lewis, that the Board approve TIP Action NJ07-01, DRPA/PATCO' request that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new project to the TIP, the Public Safety Security Equipment Project, using \$80,000 (\$64,000 Section 5340/\$16,000 local match) in FY07 through FY10.

3. Amendment to the Pennsylvania Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Procedures to Amend or Modify the Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Dougherty explained to the Board that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

exists between DVRPC, PennDOT, and SEPTA to establish agreed upon expedited procedures for modifying or amending the TIP for the Pennsylvania portion of the region, as permitted by federal regulations. The MOU is structured in a tiered manner, allowing some changes to occur without further action by DVRPC, other changes to occur by an administrative action of the Executive Director, while all other changes require a formal action by the Board. From time to time the MOU may require changes to respond to new situations, to improve its clarity or to streamline the process.

The recently adopted FY2007 TIP for Pennsylvania includes a new element, the Interstate Management Program, which lists the projects on the Interstate System that are to be managed on a statewide basis and funded through a new statewide formula program. The projects within our region must still be listed in the DVRPC TIP. However, because those projects are to be managed on a statewide basis, they are subject to the requirements of the MOU that exists between PennDOT, FHWA and FTA for the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

The PCC/RTC recommends that the Board approve the addition of a new subsection (III. E.) to the *Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Special Procedures for Expediting TIP Amendments and Modifications for the Pennsylvania Portion of the DVRPC Region* to address the new statewide Interstate Management Program, to read as follows:

E. Statewide Interstate Management Program

PennDOT has established a statewide Interstate Management Program with designated funding through the Financial Guidance formula allocation process. This programming concept is also consistent with the Department's philosophy of managing the Interstate System within Pennsylvania as a single, statewide asset. The funds are distributed dependent upon statewide need as determined by a technical review of candidate projects. Interstate maintenance projects will be the only projects under this program; it will not address interstate completion projects or any capacity adding projects. PennDOT Districts will still retain project management responsibility for the interstate projects within their geographical areas. Continued coordination between PennDOT and the MPO/RPOs will be an integral part of the IM Program's success.

The parties agree that modifications and amendments to the Interstate Maintenance Program shall be governed by the *Memorandum of*

Understanding, Procedures for TIP and STIP Modifications agreed to by PennDOT, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration.

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

MOTION by Mr. King, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the Board approve the revised Pennsylvania Memorandum of Understanding on Procedures to Amend or Modify the TIP to include subsection **E.** to Section III entitled **Statewide Interstate Management Program.**

4. Approval of Draft DVRPC Title VI compliance Plan and Public Outreach

Candace Snyder, DVRPC staff, explained to the Board The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have had a longstanding policy of actively ensuring nondiscrimination under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act in federally funded activities. Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act provides that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. During the past six years, a renewed emphasis on Title VI issues and environmental justice has become a more integral focus of the transportation planning and programming process. This renewed commitment to Title VI has, and continues to be, reflected in the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's (DVRPC's) Work Program, publications, communications, public involvements efforts, and general way of doing business.

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Delaware Valley, DVRPC is required to adopt a Title VI Compliance Plan which addresses such issues as responsiveness to Title VI requirements for project selection in the DVRPC Work Program, the TIP and our Long-Range Plan, as well as providing evidence of public outreach techniques that encourage the involvement of all of the region's citizens. This document establishes a framework for DVRPC's efforts to ensure compliance with Title VI and related statutes regarding nondiscrimination and Environmental Justice.

The Draft Plan (distributed to the Board) should be released for a 45-day public comment period that is scheduled to begin on October 2 and end on November 16, 2006. This comment period would include public notification to 2500 citizens, business leaders, governments and organizations; documentation in regional libraries; legal notices; media outreach; public meeting(s); and placement on the Commission's Website. In the meantime, the Draft Plan, along with the Board's Self-Certification Resolution and a Title VI Assurance letter, will be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) as part of their Compliance Report to FHWA. In December, 2006, the Board will be asked to review comments received during the public comment period and to adopt a final Title VI Compliance Plan.

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. Payne, that the Board authorize staff to open a 45-day public comment period on October 2, 2006 for the purpose of gathering public and agency comments on the Draft DVRPC Title VI Compliance Plan.

5. DVRPC Fiscal Year 2007 Planning Work Program Amendments

John Ward, DVRPC staff presented the first four DVRPC FY 2007 Planning Work Program Amendments listed on today's agenda as follows:

a. Philadelphia Bicycling Ambassador Program, (City of Philadelphia)

This project was one of the 34 projects selected by the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission to receive funding under the 2005/2006 Transportation Enhancements/Home Town Streets/Safe Routes to School (TE/HTS/SRS) regional competition. The Philadelphia Bicycle Ambassador program involves distributing bicycle safety information on Philadelphia streets and at community events to reduce the number of bicycling-related injuries and fatalities. The objective is to help all road users (cyclists, motorists & pedestrians) better share the road and off-road trails as well as create more livable neighborhoods by helping to increase the number of trips made by bicycle.

The cost and source of funds will be \$360,000 in Federal PE Funds and \$90,000 match from the City of Philadelphia.

Jerald Cureton, Burlington County, commented that very often bicyclists ride on the wrong side of the road and accidents are caused. Bicyclists need to be educated on the laws for their own safety.

Mr. Ward replied that this program will include educating the community on safety and other cyclists' issues.

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. Payne, that the Board

amend the DVRPC FY2007 Planning Work Program to include the *Philadelphia Bicycling Ambassador Program*.

b. US 202 Section 700 Traffic Study, Phase III, Montgomery and Bucks Counties

PennDOT is preparing plans for a new US 202 Section 700 Parkway. Under phases I and II, DVRPC provided traffic forecasts within the study area for a No-Build and four Build alternatives. Under Phase III of this project, DVRPC will provide additional modeling services, as requested, in order to complete the environmental clearance document and proceed to final design. These include quantifying the impact of the Parkway on facilities north of the study area, including US 202 and other roads in the Section 800 and PA 611 corridors; and continuing to coordinate with PennDOT, their consultants, and members of the US 202 Community Task Force.

The cost and source of funds will be \$175,000 from PA State Motor License Funds.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC.

The RCC recommended that the Board amend the DVRPC FY 2007 Planning Work Program to include the US 202, Section 700 Traffic Study, Phase III only if the study is expanded to include impacts on bicyclists and pedestrians and if the impacts that are being studied are better defined.

Donald Shanis, DVRPC Deputy Executive Director, responded that DVRPC does consider bicycle and pedestrian facilities on all projects, however, this project is to evaluate traffic forecasts to see if volume increases or decreases. Dr. Shanis added that there are bicycle trails in the surrounding areas and that this portion of the road does contain a 12 foot shoulder next to the roadway.

After discussion, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Ms. Bush, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the Board amend the DVRPC FY2007 Planning Work Program to include the *US 202 Section 700 Traffic Study, Phase III*.

c. Bucks County Regional Traffic Study Phase II, Bucks County

In FY 05, DVRPC was asked by PennDOT to participate in and manage a regional traffic study in lower central Bucks County comprised of the following municipalities: Wrightstown Township, Newtown Township, Newtown Borough, Lower Makefield Township, Upper Makefield Township, Northampton Township, and Yardley Borough. The objective of the study is to work with local stakeholders to identify viable immediate, short-term, and long-term recommendations to ensure regional safety and mobility, adequate

accommodation of all legal road users, and the provision of regional access to and from the area's operating quarries. During the fourth quarter of FY 06 funds became available from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to engage technical consulting services. The FY 07 supplemental funds from PennDOT will provide for DVRPC's continued active participation in, and management and completion of the Bucks County Regional Traffic Study including management of the selected consultant; and completion of related commitments made as a result of our participation to date.

The cost and source of funds will be \$72,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Planning Funds and \$18,000 from Pennsylvania State Motor License Funds.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC. Dr. Shanis pointed out in the recommendation that *the scope of work should include consideration of the trips generated by the veteran's cemetery as well as other upcoming developments.*

The RCC also recommended approval, however, the RCC believes that the scope of work should include consideration of the trips generated by the veteran's cemetery as well as other upcoming developments. In addition, the committee believes that improvements are needed for bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The RCC also questions how congestion management is being handled and whether an evaluation of the outcome of these efforts is planned. Finally, the committee urges DVRPC to be vigilant in upholding its usual standards when undertaking this study.

Lynn Bush, Bucks County, strongly opposed the statement in the motion which included consideration of the trips generated by the veteran's cemetery as well as other upcoming developments and stated that the project activities have already been established by the Task Force.

Sue Herman, Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions (RRTS), stated that the traffic impacts to veteran's cemetery as well as other upcoming developments should be stated in writing and included in the motion and recommended to the Task Force for study.

Dr. Shanis commented that all of the traffic impacts from new development would be considered.

Ms. Bush again stated her strong objection to the statement and the specific mention of the veteran's cemetery.

After discussion, the Board adopted the following **motion as amended**:

MOTION by Ms. Bush, seconded by Mr. Hayden, that the Board amend the FY2007 Planning Work Program to include the Bucks County Regional Traffic Study Phase II.

d. Ambler Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID) Plan, Montgomery County

The Borough of Ambler is proposing to undertake a transit-oriented development planning study for the area around their SEPTA Regional Rail station in accordance with the requirements of the Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID) Act. Although the Borough was not successful in obtaining a TRID planning grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, PennDOT has agreed to provide \$75,000 of PL funding, matched by local services in kind, to fund the planning study. The borough intends to retain a consultant to undertake the study and DVRPC staff may assist in the consultant selection process.

The cost and source of funds will be \$75,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Planning Funds and \$25,000 match from the Borough of Ambler.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC.

The RCC also recommends approval, however, adds that improvements should address multi-modal use and facilities in the "Task" description.

Mr. Seymour responded that the scope of work (distributed to the Board) for this project is a summary and will be broaden as DVRPC continues to work with the communities.

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

MOTION by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Carten that the Board amend the DVRPC FY2007 Planning Work Program to include the *Ambler TRID Plan*.

e. Quakertown Rail Restoration Alternatives Analysis, Bucks County

The Bucks County Planning commission has submitted a request to relinquish the Bus Rapid Transit Phase II study, and use the \$60,000 allocated to them for this study in the Transit Support Program Special Study category for their

work program for the Quakertown Rail Restoration Alternatives Analysis.

The rail line in question is a section of the Bethlehem branch of SEPTA's Regional Rail system which was discontinued about twenty years ago due to a number of reasons. Recently, a feasibility study demonstrated that reactivation is possible. The overall study is currently funded at \$375,000 through a combination of federal and local funds granted to the Bucks County Planning Commission (DVRPC Board action in June 2006). Edwards and Kelcey has been selected as the consultant, and work is ready to proceed.

The Bucks County Planning Commission staff assures that once work is underway they will identify the work program element that would benefit the most from this additional funding, and will provide a detailed TSP work program at that time for the Commissioners to review. Until that time, a general work program for the overall study is attached.

The cost and source of funds will be \$60,000 FY 2007 Transit Support Program Special Studies Funding (gained through the return of funds from Bucks County from a study they no longer wish to pursue).

Mr. Seymour pointed out the revised Scope of Work (distributed to the Board) for this project.

Dr. Shanis added that the revised Scope of Work was a result of the consultant's suggestion that an expansion in the study limits may yield enhanced ridership results. Specifically, the study limits would be expanded to examine the possibility of providing service to the Merck Pharmaceutical facility in West Point. This site employs over 10,000 employees and therefore, would appear to merit further study. The Merck facility is located along the Stony Creek branch.

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

MOTION by Ms. Bush, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the Board amend the DVRPC FY 2007 Planning Work Program to include a Special Study for the Quakertown Rail Restoration Alternatives Analysis.

Patty Elkis, DVRPC staff, presented the final DVRPC FY 2007 Planning Work Program listed on the today's Agenda to the Board as follows:

- f. Camden Metro-Region Trails Strategy, (City and County of Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties)

Once a vibrant rail hub, the City of Camden and the surrounding three-county area have a valuable network of inactive railroad rights-of-way, available to

form the basis of a city- and region-wide system of greenways and multi-use trails. These could give local residents green spaces for healthy recreation and non-motorized transportation, and foster economic and community revitalization with safe routes for recreation, errands and commuting.

The lead partners and their responsibilities for developing this Strategy are:

- *Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC)* will convene the partners and provide overall guidance based on their experience in regional trail building.
- *National Park Service (Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program)* will facilitate meetings.
- *Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC)* will give technical assistance with mapping and GIS (Geographical Information Systems).
- *New Jersey Conservation Foundation (NJCF)* will acquire property for trails and facilitate collaboration with other regional stakeholders.

Unused rail lines and other right-of-way opportunities will be studied for one year for a multi-use trails system to serve the City of Camden and connecting suburbs in Camden and Gloucester Counties, as well as western Burlington County. Trails could become part of the City and county parks systems.

By working with key stakeholders, a database and vision will be developed to insure the resources and policy guidance needed for a sustainable effort. This work will establish a Camden Regional Trails Team to gather and share information and enhance working relationships among City agencies/ organizations and organizations in the three counties. For example, Camden Greenways, Inc. (CGI), a lead volunteer advocate group in the City, would be empowered by putting their project in a bigger context and giving it more resources and marketability. CGI has been hampered by limited assistance from the City and lack of common ground with the development community. As RTC experienced with the City of Detroit, a larger complementary regional effort in the suburbs is needed to spark inner-city efforts.

South Jersey has considerable rail-trail potential, with Camden its historic hub. Thus, it will also be the hub for the future rail-trail system. Five years after completion of the one-year Trail Strategy project, it is expected that there will be at least 35 trail projects (either built or under development), 55 miles of trails completed and 300 miles of in-progress trails.

Work in the Camden metro area could be Phase I of a larger South Jersey initiative. While a multiple-year project is eventually anticipated, this one-year initiative will create a trails vision that is compelling, clear and memorable, and a strategy that will produce a regional trails system.

The Rails-to-Trails Conservancy is receiving a \$70,000 grant from the William Penn Foundation for this project. DVRPC will receive \$25,000 of this amount for its role in the project.

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

MOTION by Mr. Gurick, seconded by Mr. Cureton, that the Board amend the DVRPC FY2007 Planning Work Program to include the Camden Metro Region Trails Strategy and authorize the Executive Director to enter into a grant recipient agreement with Rails-to-Trails Conservancy.

6. Approval of Revised Date for December Board Meeting

Mr. Seymour requested approval from the Board to revise the December Board Meeting date now scheduled for December 7, 2006.

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

MOTION by Mr. Pickett, seconded by Mr. Gurick that the December Board Meeting date be scheduled and advertised for **Thursday, December 7, 2006**.

7. Approval of the Board Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2007

The Board Meeting schedule for Calendar Year 2007 (copy attached) was distributed to the Board for their approval.

Mr. Seymour noted that the date for the December 2007 Board meeting is to be determined.

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

MOTION by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Lawson, that the Board approve and advertise the Board Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2007 as distributed.

8. Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) Report

Warren Strumpfer, RCC Chair, reported on the activities on the RCC from their meeting of September 19, 2006.

Mr. Strumpfer specifically pointed out the White Paper (distributed to the Board and attached as part of these minutes) entitled: *Seamless Public Transportation*

Across NJ Transit-SEPTA-PATCO Frontiers and Beyond submitted to the Board and staff, as well as the region's transit operators, for consideration and as a proposed Planning Work Program project. In summary, Mr. Strumpfer stated that the project requests that the three major public transportation agencies work together as one to optimize intra-regional and inter-regional travel from the customers' point of view. These agencies must complete "missing links" to provide new travel options. They must promote their own and each other's services more effectively. They need to encourage longer trips that generate more revenues. All this is needed to help reduce the region's reliance on motor vehicles. Some of these goals can be met at a relatively low cost. This should be guided by a DVRPC Transit Committee. Moreover, these suggestions will benefit the Environmental Justice (EJ) community in a large way.

Mr. Seymour commented that the RCC's White Paper recommendations have been included with the other recommended projects for the Planning Work Program which will be discussed and considered in this afternoon's sessions on Developing the Work Program.

Mr. Strumpfer also mentioned the RCC's concern on the deadlock of the Delaware River dredging issue and inquired if DVRPC could become involved and help mediate a resolution before the elections.

Thomas Gurick, Camden County, commented that although he appreciates the RCC's frustration on this issue, he believes DVRPC should not become involved at this time.

9. Executive Director's Report

a. Transportation Funding and Reform Commission Meeting, September 15, 2006

Mr. Seymour reported that the Transportation Funding and Reform Commission has released a preliminary draft report assessing the State funding situation which includes a series of scenarios and some options for funding sources. One of the six "Public Listening Sessions" conducted across the state was held at DVRPC on September 15, 2006. A Summary of Statements made, as well as the statement made by Mr. Seymour was distributed to the Board.

Mr. Seymour inquired as to whether the board would like to meet on this critical issue before the final report is distributed, take a position, and support the local legislatures. The Board did not respond favorable to a meeting, however, would support DVRPC's position, if necessary.

b. Greater Valley Forge TMA Conference, September 27, 2006

Mr. Seymour reported that Allen Biehler, Secretary of Transportation was the speaker at the Greater Valley Forge TMA Conference held on September 27, 2006, and congratulated Peter Quinn for organizing this event.

c. Cross County Connection TMA Conference, September 13, 2006

Mr. Seymour reported that the Cross County Connection TMA held their annual event on September 13, 2006 with Steve Ditts, NJDOT Deputy Commissioner, as keynote speaker, and congratulated Bill Ragozine for organizing this event.

d. County Commissioner and Freeholder Briefings

Mr. Seymour reported that he and Dr. Shanis have met with elected officials, County Commissioners, and Freeholders in Delaware, Montgomery, Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester Counties . These meetings gave them an opportunity to introduce themselves and discuss DVRPC. Meetings with the remaining county officials are being scheduled.

e. TRB Future of MPO's Conference, August 27-29, 2006

This conference was successful in showing how other MPO's are evolving and how they are approaching their goals. Many MPO's share concerns with funding and what role they play.

f. FY 2007 DVRPC Planning Work Program

Mr. Seymour commented that the remainder of the day after the Board Meeting would be spent on the development of the DVRPC FY 2008 Planning Work Program.

Mr. Seymour also pointed out the letter of September 7, 2006 (distributed to the Board) with reference to *Proposed Regulations for Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning (docket No. FHWA-2005-22986)* which include specific comments from DVRPC.

10. Committee Reports

The following committee reports were distributed to the Board for their review:
(1) Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee;
(2) Information Resource Exchange Group; and (3) Intelligent Transportation Systems Technical Task Force.

11. One Minute Reports

David Fogel, SEPTA, announced that the new Frankford Transportation Center has opened its new 1000 space parking facility.

Freeholder Thomas Gurick, Camden County, commended Mr. Seymour and Dr. Shanis for their visits to the counties and encouraged the remaining counties to schedule a meeting.

Commissioner Carol Aichele, Chester County introduced Ronald T. Bailey the new Planning Director of the Chester County Planning Commission

Robert Box, Port Authority Transit Corporation, announced that the new Smart Card pilot program is in its second month. There have been some issues, however, things are going very well.

Andrew Carten, reported that the City of Trenton is utilizing a TCDI grant it received from DVRPC to update its Zoning Ordinance. In addition, the City has combined its 2006 TSP and SHRPP grant to hire a firm to assist them with the development of parking and sidewalk design standards for Trenton's downtown district.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Attachments:

- (1) PCC/RTC Recommendations to the Board for September 28, 2006
- (2) RCC Recommendations to the Board for September 28, 2006
- (3) Board and Executive Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2007

Additional Documents Distributed to the Board:

- (1) *Alert*, September, 2006

(2) *TravelSmart*, September, 2006

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of September 28, 2006

Location: The Villanova Conference Center
601 County Line Road
Radnor, PA 19087

Membership Present

Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Joyce Paul

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Larry M. King
Robert Hannigan

New Jersey Department of Transportation

James B. Lewis

New Jersey Governor's Appointee

Sonia Frontera

Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee

Richard W. Hayden, Esq.

Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office

Joanne R. Denworth

Pennsylvania Counties

Carol Aichele
Ronald T. Bailey

New Jersey Counties

Jerald R. Cureton, Esq.
Carol Ann Thomas

City of Camden

(not represented)

City of Philadelphia

Thomas a. Chapman
Gary Jastrzab

Guests

Bucks County

Lynn Bush

Chester County

Lee Whitmore

Delaware County

John Pickett

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Camden County	Thomas J. Gurick Edward Fox
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New Jersey Transit Corporation	Jerry Lutin
Port Authority Transit Corporation	Robert Box
Delaware River Port Authority	Linda Hayes
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Kevin Gallagher
Cross County Connection Transportation Management Association	William Ragozine
Railroad Consultant	Kelvin MacKavanaugh
Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions (RRTS)	Sue Herman

Regional Citizens Committee Chairman

Warren Strumpfer

DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel
New Jersey Co-Counsel

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

DVRPC Staff:

Barry Seymour, Donald Shanis, Chick Dougherty, Richard Bickel, John Ward, Patty Elkis, John Griffies, Candace Snyder, Phyllis Robinson, Jane Meconi, and Jean McKinney.

Call to Order

Chair Joanne R. Denworth called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

1. Minutes of Meeting of July 27, 2006

On a **motion** by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Ms. Aichele, the minutes of the meeting of July 27, 2006 were approved as distributed.

2. Contract Authorizations

a. Design and Printing Services for TransitChek Marketing Efforts

Stacy Bartels, DVRPC staff, explained to the Executive Committee that periodically the TransitChek program changes the concept and design of its marketing materials, to “freshen” the message to potential users. Staff received proposals (through an RFP) for design concepts and prices to develop new materials and handle any necessary printing. Similar RFPs have been issued in the past. This project was presented to and approved by the TransitChek Policy Committee at its annual meeting in June.

The estimated consultant cost is \$50,000 for the work in FY07, under a CMAQ grant (project # 7-44-030). This item was included in the annual budget also approved by the TransitChek Policy Committee. The one-year contract can be extended for two, one-year periods (total of three years).

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

MOTION by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Cureton, that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate and execute a contract with Alloysius, Butler and Clark for design and printing services for TransitChek marketing efforts.

b. Feasibility Study for Double-tracking the Section(s) of the Media Trolley Line from Woodland Avenue to the Blue Route (I-476)

Donald S. Shanis, DVRPC Deputy Executive Director, explained to the Executive Committee that SEPTA's Media trolley line (Route 101) is largely double-tracked along its entirety from 69th Street Terminal to Providence Road in Media Borough. However, in the vicinity of the Blue Route (I-476) to Woodland Avenue (PA-420), the route is single-tracked for approximately 1.5 miles, with double-track sections to both the east and west. Trolleys are frequently delayed in waiting for another trolley headed in the opposite direction to clear the single-track section of the route. Moreover, approximately three quarters of a mile of this single-tracked section (from Woodland Avenue to the Springfield Mall) could be double-tracked with relative ease as it is already graded for two tracks, and there are no significant bridges along this portion.

The principal focus of the study should concern estimating capital costs for the double-tracking options and additional operating costs if constructed. In addition, the study should assess the associated reduction in trolley trip times from double-tracking and a possible increase in ridership as a result.

A consultant selection committee comprised of representatives from the Delaware County Planning Commission, DVRPC, Springfield Township, Nether Providence Township, Delaware County TMA and SEPTA 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.

A total of \$60,000 is allocated for the above contract from available funds in the FY 2007 Pennsylvania Transit Support Program.

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

MOTION by Ms. Aichele, seconded by Mr. Hayden, that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate, and execute a contract with the selected firm to perform a feasibility study of double-tracking options for the Media Trolley Line from Woodland Avenue to the Blue Route (I-476). If such negotiations prove not to meet the financial requirements of the Commission, to proceed on to negotiations with the second ranked firm.

3. **Approval of the Executive Committee Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2007**

The Executive Committee Meeting schedule (copy attached) for Calendar Year 2007 was presented to the Executive Committee for approval.

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

MOTION by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Ms. Aichele that the Executive Committee Meeting schedule be approved as distributed.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 a.m.