

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**BOARD COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Meeting of September 25, 2008

Location: The HUB at the Cira Centre  
2929 Arch Street Mezzanine  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Membership Present

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

New Jersey Department of Transportation

New Jersey Governor's Appointee

Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee

Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Bucks County

Chester County

Delaware County

Montgomery County

Burlington County

Camden County

Gloucester County

Mercer County

City of Chester

City of Philadelphia

City of Camden

City of Trenton

Representative

Joyce Paul

David A. Kuhn

James A. Carey  
Joseph Neal

David Mandelbaum

Joanne R. Denworth

James Ritzman

Lynn Bush

Ronald Bailey

John E. Pickett

Kenneth Hughes

Carol Ann Thomas

Louis Cappelli, Jr., Esq.

Charles E. Romick

Matthew Lawson

William Payne

Rina Cutler

(not represented)

Andrew Carten

Non-Voting Members

Federal Highway Administration New Jersey Division Pennsylvania Division	(not represented) Matt Smoker
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region III	John G. Bravacos
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III	John Kennedy
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II	(not represented)
New Jersey Office of Smart Growth	(not represented)
Federal Transit Administration, Region III	(not represented)
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	Byron Comati
New Jersey Transit Corporation	Pippa Woods
Port Authority Transit Corporation	Robert Box Cheryl Spicer
Delaware River Port Authority	James McQuilkin
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	William Purdie
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Kevin Gallagher
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	Toni Crawford-Major Ronald Bednar
Regional Citizens Committee Chairman	Warren Strumpfer
<u>DVRPC Co-Counsel</u>	
Pennsylvania Co-Counsel	Timothy J. Carson, Esq.
New Jersey Co-Counsel	Thomas J. Coleman, Esq.

DVRPC Staff: Barry J. Seymour, Dougherty, Richard Bickel, John Ward, Elizabeth Schoonmaker, Michael Boyer, Robert Graff, Suzanne McCarthy, Thomas McGovern, John Griffies, Candace Snyder, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	James Mosca Linda Guarini (Dist. 6)
New Jersey Department of Transportation	Brian Cuccia
Federal Highway Administration, Pennsylvania Division	Michael Herron

Cross County Connection TMA  
Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission  
New Jersey Turnpike Authority

William Ragozine  
Glenn Reibman  
Brian Wahler

### **Call to Order - Chair's Comments**

David A. Kuhn , Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

### **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

No public comments were stated.

#### **1. Minutes of Meeting of July 24, 2008**

On a **Motion** by Mr. Romick, seconded by Mr. Payne, the minutes of the Board Meeting of July 24, 2008 were approved as distributed.

#### **2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Action**

Elizabeth Schoonmaker, Manager, Office of Capital Programming, presented the following TIP Actions for approval.

##### **a. PA09-01 - Conshohocken road Bridge over Industrial Tract Bridge Replacement project (MPMS #16237), Montgomery County**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Conshohocken Road Bridges over Industrial Tract, Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #16237) back into the FY2009 TIP as a Transition List project and programming \$13 million in Act 44 funds in FY09 for construction, therefore increasing the total project cost by \$6 million from previous estimates. This action would become effective October 1, 2008, as the first amendment to the recently adopted FY2009 TIP for PA.

Construction for this project is programmed in the FY2007 TIP for \$7 million; however, the funding was not obligated due to the late availability of the PS&E package. The \$6 million increase is due to increased steel, concrete and mobilization costs, as well as the addition of sinkhole repair items, a third retaining wall, and utility relocations as part of the construction estimate.

This project includes the replacement of two structurally deficient bridges carrying Conshohocken Road over the industrial railroad tracks of Mittal Steel and associated roadway work in Plymouth Township. Three retaining walls, approach roadway work, and utility relocations will also be included in the project. Both existing structures are currently weight restricted to 15 tons for

standard trucks and 24 tons for tractor trailers and are in need of immediate replacement. No bicycle or pedestrian facilities will be included in this project.

This project is also a companion project to Elm Street over Reading Railroad and Plymouth Creek Bridge Project (MPMS# 16191), which is currently in design. The Elm Street Bridge is in danger of being posted, but can't advance to construction until the two Conshohocken Road bridges are replaced.

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed. The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt from the regional air quality analysis.

b. PA09-02: Germantown Avenue Roadway Reconstruction (South) at Ashmead (MPMS #48191), Philadelphia

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Germantown Avenue Roadway Reconstruction (South) at Ashmead (MPMS #48191) back into the FY2009 TIP, as a Transition List project, revising the project limits and scope, and programming \$12.5 million for final design and construction, a total project increase of \$7.3 million from previous estimates. Funding will be programmed for the previously obligated final design phase in FY09 \$250,000 (\$200,000 FED HWY/\$50,000 State) and construction in FY09 (\$6,548,000 STP/\$0 Toll credit match) and FY10 (\$5,800,000 STP/\$0 Toll credit match) as part of the FY2009 TIP. This action would become effective October 1, 2008, as the second amendment to the recently adopted FY2009 TIP for Pennsylvania.

This project is programmed for construction in the FY2007 TIP (\$5.2 million); however, the funding has not be obligated. The project increase is due to the expansion of the scope of the project, as well as an outdated estimate. Also contributing to the cost increase are increased asphalt and concrete costs, installation of a new water main, and a compressed time schedule.

This project's original scope included the reconstruction of Germantown Avenue from Ashmead Street to a point south of School lane, including drainage improvements replacement of the existing SEPTA trolley track facilities, new curbing, sidewalks, street lighting, trees, utilities, and streetscape improvements. The revised project scope now includes the addition of a separate roadway section of Germantown Avenue from High Street to Walnut Lane and related water and sewer plans for the city of Philadelphia Water Department. The revised project also includes roadway improvements and improvement of the north bound track area, removal of granite blocks, removal of SEPTA tracks and replacement with new SEPTA T-rails and concrete. Both the north and south bound improvements include new sidewalks, new street lighting, new trees, and streetscape improvements.

This project is also a companion project to Germantown Avenue North Section (MPMS# 57899) which is under construction. Reconstruction of the southern section of Germantown Avenue would complete the entire Germantown Avenue reconstruction; thus improving the socioeconomic condition of the neighborhood surrounding this project. This project has undergone intense coordination with SEPTA, general public, elected officials, and special interest groups. SEPTA will be responsible for track inspection.

The funding for Germantown Avenue Roadway Reconstruction (South) (MPMS# 48191) has been provided by the Highway (MPMS #79927) and Bridge (MPMS # 79929) Reserve line items as well as the available funding from the South Street over Schuylkill River Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS# 17724) in the FY2009 TIP, as the construction funding for this project was obligated under the FY2007 TIP.

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed. The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt from the regional air quality analysis.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee (PCC/RTC) that the Board approve TIP Action PA09-01 and TIP Action PA09-02.

The Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) also recommended approval of TIP Action PA09-01 and PA09-02, however, the RCC is concerned about cost escalation of these projects, and requests that cost increases are spelled out specifically in TIP documents. The RCC also recommends that the bridge shoulders remain/be preserved and accommodate bicycle/pedestrian uses, recommends the addition of bicycle racks as part of Germantown Avenue streetscape improvements, and restoration of trolley service on Germantown Avenue.

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

**MOTION** by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the Board approve the following TIP Actions:

- (a) TIP Action PA09-01, PennDOT's request to amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Conshohocken Road Bridges over Industrial Tract - Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #16237) back into the FY2009 TIP and programming construction in FY09 (\$13,000,000 Act 44) for the replacement of two bridges; and

- (b) TIP Action PA09-02, PennDOT's request to amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Germantown Avenue Roadway Reconstruction (South) at Ashmead (MPMS #48191) back into the FY2009 TIP; revising the project limits and scope. Funding will be programmed for final design in FY09 (\$200,000 FED HWY/\$50,000 State) and construction in FY09 (\$6,548,000 STP/\$0 Toll credit match) and FY10 (\$5,800,000 STP/\$0 Toll credit match).

**3. Fiscal Year 2009 Planning Work Program Amendments:**

a. South Street Bridge / I-76 Ramp Study

John Ward, DVRPC Associate Director, Intermodal Planning, explained to the Board that the City of Philadelphia is embarking on a project to replace the South Street Bridge, a structurally deficient bridge over the Schuylkill River and I-76 (Schuylkill Expressway) linking Center City Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania / West Philadelphia. The bridge structure currently includes ramps to and from I-76, although their design is lacking by today's standards (accel / decel length and left lane exit / merge). Attempts to ameliorate some of the ramp problems may infringe on the improved bicycle / pedestrian accommodations which are integral to the design of the new structure. Because of this, the public has recommended that the bridge be reconstructed without the ramps. As alternative ramps exist which may or may not accommodate traffic movement, the City of Philadelphia has asked DVRPC to study traffic impacts on the roadway network if the new bridge were not to be connected to I-76.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC that the Board approve the Planning Work Program Amendment for the South Street Bridge / I-76 Ramp Study.

The RCC also recommended approval with the following statement. The RCC supports the public process surrounding the South Street Bridge reconstruction, however, recommends that implications of public and alternate transportation are investigated during the reconstruction process. The RCC also recommends inclusion of better signage to alleviate potential traffic issues.

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

**MOTION** by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the Board amend the DVRPC Fiscal Year 2009 Planning Work Program to include the South Street Bridge / I 76 Ramp Study.

b. Bridgewater Road Extension Traffic Study

Charles Dougherty, DVRPC Director of Technical Services, explained to the Board that the “PennDOT Alternative Facility Tests” work program project enables DVRPC to conduct special travel demand analyses and traffic studies for PennDOT. PennDOT is evaluating alternatives for the extension of Bridgewater Road from its terminus in the Bridgewater Industrial Park to either PA 452 or US 322 in Delaware County. This project will provide traffic data and forecasts that are needed to evaluate the benefits and impacts of the various alternatives that are proposed for Bridgewater Road.

The cost and source of funds will be: \$60,000 in dedicated funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC that the Board approve the Bridgewater Road Extension Traffic Study Planning Work Program Amendment.

The RCC also recommended approval, however, also recommends the inclusion of bicycle and pedestrian counts in the study area as part of the modeling process.

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

**MOTION** by Mr. Pickett, seconded by Mr. Payne, that the Board amend the DVRPC Fiscal Year 2009 Planning Work Program to include the Bridgewater Road Extension Traffic Study.

4. Approval of DVRPC Recommended Projects for the Federal Safe Routes to School Program (FSRTS) Program

Mr. Dougherty explained to the that Board PennDOT has allocated \$12.6 million in Federal Safe Routes to School (FSRTS) funds statewide for the current 2008 cycle.

Unlike the Safe Routes to School Program administered by DVRPC, the Federal Safe Routes to School Program will be administered by PennDOT Central Office. They will be performing the application scoring and selection of projects statewide for the program. In order to ensure that regional input is considered, they asked DVRPC to provide a list of recommended projects for their consideration during the scoring and selection process. PennDOT recommended that the list consist of two projects from each county in a tiered format, with a first and second project identified for each county.

The 23 applications received for our region were sent to the members of the RTC Transportation Subcommittee for review along with the score sheet that PennDOT proposes to utilize for their scoring and selection process. The members reviewed the applications and based upon their recommendations the ten projects (distributed to the Board) were selected.

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

**MOTION** by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Ms. Bush, that the Board approve and direct staff to forward to PennDOT the ten DVRPC recommended 2008 Federal Safe Routes to School projects for our region.

**5. Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) Funding Request in Bucks County - Northampton Bucks County Municipal Authority - Harvest Acres Project**

Patty Elkis, DVRPC Associate Director, Comprehensive Planning explained that PENNVEST is an independent agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania managed by a 13-member Board of Directors and chaired by the Governor, which provides funding for drinking water, wastewater treatment, stormwater management and brownfield assessments and remediation projects.

The Program provides long-term loans through a revolving loan fund to municipalities, authorities and some private entities at below-market interest rates. PENNVEST has forwarded one application to DVRPC for review for consistency with the regional plan as follows:

Bucks County

- Northampton Bucks County Municipal Authority (NBCMA) - Harvest Acres Project: the NBCMA is requesting a PENNVEST loan of \$818,224 to extend sanitary sewer lines 4,522 feet to serve up to 41 homes in the Harvest Acres subdivision area. There are at least 21 malfunctioning on-lot systems in this area that are degrading the water quality in the Little Neshaminy Creek, and a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection order has been issued. The Harvest Acres gravity sewer extension flows into an existing pump station known as Manchester Farms on the north side of the project area. The pump station was originally designed to accommodate the flows from this subdivision, but would need system upgrades and new permits to handle future increased flows.

This project serves to remedy an existing water quality problem due to malfunctioning septic systems in the Harvest Acres subdivision, and is



consistent with the 2030 Plan policy “To improve the surface water quality of all watersheds through the achievement of target water quality goals.” However, the project is within an area designed as Rural Conservation Lands on the 2030 Land Use Plan map and as the Bucks County Agricultural Heritage Area on the 2030 Conservation Focus Areas map. Although the malfunctioning septic systems need to be addressed, it is important to not expand the proposed sewer line extensions into the area designated for conservation in the long-range plan. To document the municipal utility authority’s intentions, the NBCMA Executive Director has issued a letter stating that the capacity of the Manchester Farms pump station will serve as the limiting factor for future flows from this area.

Because this project serves to alleviate an existing problem for existing homes and is not expected to generate additional growth in the designated conservation area, the project is consistent with the goals and policies of *Destination 2030, the Year 2030 Plan for the Delaware Valley*.

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 Ms. Denworth, that the Board authorize the Executive Director to send a letter notifying PENNVEST that the funding application request for the *Northampton Bucks County Municipal Authority (NBCMA) - Harvest Acres Project* is consistent with the Destination 2030 Plan.

## **6. Proposed Amendments to the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan**

Suzanne McCarthy, DVRPC Manager, Office of Environmental Planning, explained to the Board that In 1984, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection implemented a procedure to ensure that all requests for water quality permits are consistent with approved Wastewater Management Plans and the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan. New Jersey DEP reviews all permit applications and for those which are inconsistent with Wastewater Management Plans or the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan, the applicant may elect to seek a plan amendment.

DVRPC is the designated area-wide water quality management planning agency for the Tri-County area (Burlington, Camden and Gloucester counties), and DVRPC approval is one of several that amendment applicants must receive before New Jersey DEP will consider the amendment package to be complete.

The following amendments have been requested:

- a. Modification of the Camden County Municipal Utility Authority (CCMUA) Wastewater Management Plan, Camden County

Increases to the allotted wastewater flows and sewer service area of the CCMUA Delaware No.1 Sewage Treatment Plant in Camden City due to:

- Increased flow allocations from Bellmawr and Chesilhurst boroughs and Waterford and Winslow townships and,
- Elimination of the failing Sicklerville Sewage Treatment Plant and the Ancora Sewage Treatment Plant, both in Winslow Township, and transfer of their flows to the Delaware No. 1 Sewage Treatment Plant in Camden City.

After favorable recommendation for approval was received from the Tri-County Water Quality Management Board the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Romick, seconded by Lawson, that the Board approve the proposed amendment to the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan entitled: *Increase of Allotted Wastewater Flows and Sewer Service Area to the CCMUA Delaware No. 1 Sewage Treatment Plant from Bellmawr and Chesilhurst Borough, Waterford and Winslow Townships, and from the Closure of the Sicklerville and Ancora Sewage Treatment Plants, Camden County* by adopting Resolution No. B-FY09-001 (copy attached).

b. Early Childhood Education Center in Pemberton Township, Burlington County

This amendment would allow for the addition of an 18-acre sewer service area for a proposed Early Childhood Education Center in Pemberton Township, Burlington County, on behalf of the New Jersey Schools Development Authority.

After favorable recommendation was received from the Tri-County Water Quality Management Board, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Romick, that the board approve the proposed amendment to the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan entitled: *Early Childhood Education Center, Pemberton Township, Burlington County* by adopting Resolution No. B-FY09-002 (copy attached).

7. Approval of DVRPC Recommended Recipients for the *Take Me to the River* Grant Program

Karin Morris, DVRPC Manager, Office of Smart Growth, explained to the Board that the *Take Me to the River* Grant Program is a new grant program funded through the William Penn Foundation and administered by DVRPC. Its mission is to bring new and visible attention to the city's riverfronts and increase access between neighborhoods and the riverfronts. It is targeted at funding low-cost, high-impact, catalytic projects to begin to realize the goals of recent riverfront planning work.

The William Penn Foundation has given DVRPC \$1 million dollars to award, as well as additional funding to design and administer the grant program. Eligible projects must be in the City of Philadelphia and relate to the Delaware or Schuylkill riverfront. Eligible categories include Capital (up to \$200,000 grant), Planning (up to \$100,000), and Programming (up to \$100,000).

DVRPC issued a call for Expressions of Interest on May 1, 2008, and received 46 proposals. Eighteen were selected to submit a formal application by August 22, 2008. The ten-member selection committee (made up of representatives from the Philadelphia City Planning Commission, DVRPC, DCED, DCNR, the William Penn Foundation, the Philadelphia Commerce Department, the Philadelphia Mayor's Office, and Penn Praxis) recently selected, through this competitive two-part application process, 13 award winners (list distributed to the Board).

The *Take Me to the River* selection committee recommends approval for DVRPC to notify these grant awardees, as well as contract with the recipients to disburse the funds and track the expenditure of these funds.

The Commission has received \$1.276 million from the William Penn Foundation, \$1 million of which is to be disbursed to the grant recipients, and \$276,000 for DVRPC to administer and manage these projects.

Rina Cutler, City of Philadelphia, requested that DVRPC make project and grant awardee lists available to Board members for review before Board approval is requested.

Barry Seymour, Executive Director, responded DVRPC would do so in the future.

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

**MOTION** by Ms. Denworth, seconded by Mr. Mandelbaum, that the Board approve the DVRPC recommended list of 13 recipients for the *Take Me to the River* Grant Program.

8. **Acceptance of Land Use Transportation and Economic Development (LUTED) Projects**

Michael Boyer, Manager, Office of Long Range Planning and Congestion Management, commented that at the July 24, 2008 Board Meeting this action item was tabled. After discussions, the Board requested DVRPC staff was directed to separate the New Jersey projects from the Pennsylvania projects and develop a revised list of transportation investments for Pennsylvania.

The revised list (distributed to the Board) now has the New Jersey projects removed, and the main focus is on highway and transit projects which are funded through the traditional funding streams and DVRPC funding channels. Also, the delineation between the consensus priority and other priority projects has been removed.

In the interim, DVRPC has met with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to clarify the next steps for this project. After Board approval, the LUTED report will be submitted to DCED and they will focus on various existing agency endeavors and evaluate any overlap between the DVRPC list of investments and ongoing work within the agencies. DCED will provide technical assistance and some financial assistance where the goals between the DVRPC list and their list align.

Mr. Seymour commented that Board acceptance of these projects will allow the projects to be considered as input into the development of the Long Range Plan. These, as well as other project submittals, will be subject to the Long Range Plan process and are not guaranteed to be selected.

Mr. Seymour also mentioned that DVRPC will continue the LUTED process with New Jersey.

Lynn Bush, Bucks County, questioned what role transportation would play in the final report in comparison to other factors, such as work force development or land use controls.

Mr. Boyer responded that many aspects were examined by the LUTED Committee, however, transportation issues were, by far, the major focus in terms of facilitating future growth. The vast majority of the report will deal with transportation.

Mr. Seymour added that in discussions with DCED one of the objectives is to link other state investments with these transportation projects.

Toni Crawford-Major, DCED, commented that transportation investments fuel economic growth investments.

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

**MOTION** by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Mr. Hughes that the Board accept the *Integrating Land Use, Transportation, and Economic Development Planning (LUTED)* set of transportation investments to

support coordinated planning and economic development in southeastern Pennsylvania and consider these investments in developing the transportation projects for inclusion in the *Connections* long-range plan.

**9. Approval of the Board Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2009**

Mr. Seymour presented to the Board the schedule of DVRPC Board Meetings for Calendar Year 2009 (distributed to the Board) for approval.

On a **motion** by Mr. Payne, seconded by Mr. Hughes, the Board unanimously approved Board Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2009 (copy attached).

**10. Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) Report**

Warren Strumpfer, RCC Chair, reported on the activities of the RCC Meeting of September 15, 2008.

Mr. Strumpfer requested the status of the RCC's inquiry to New Jersey Transit to reinstate the toll free customer service phone number from the newly instituted toll charge number.

Pippa Woods, New Jersey Transit, responded that the information was not available at present, however, a report would be presented to the RCC in the near future. Ms. Woods also commented that opportunities for a 511 number are being addressed.

Mr. Strumpfer also commented on the DVRPC New Jersey Legislature Safety Symposium and the DVRPC Alert article about the *US District Court of Appeals Vacates the Clean Air Interstate Rule*.

**11. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Seymour reported on the following:

a. Classic Towns of Greater Philadelphia

Mr. Seymour reported that the Classic Towns website ClassicTowns.Org is now on line. A very successful media launch was held on July 28, 2008 and a workshop is scheduled for October 2, 2008 to assist the selected communities on how to conduct their own marketing.

An event will be held on November 14, 2008 from 8 a.m.-11 a.m. that will highlight the region's older communities and neighborhoods and their development opportunities. Hosted by the Delaware Valley Smart Growth

Alliance, the event is being touted as “speed dating” for developers and communities. Each community or neighborhood will have ten minutes with developers to share their development opportunities and assets of their communities. Just like dating, each developer and community will be “testing” each other out to see if they are a match.

b. Connections Long-Range Plan

Mr. Seymour reported that development of the Long-Range Plan is progressing. A series of focus groups from Pennsylvania and New Jersey met to discuss their views of the region. Additional outreach and meetings are being scheduled for municipal officials, developers, and each of the nine counties. Also, the Plan development is being discussed today at the Retreat.

c. Regional Framework for Economic Development

Mr. Seymour reported that discussions were held at the April 24, 2008 Board Meeting on DVRPC’s opportunity to pursue funding from the Philadelphia Regional Office of the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) to prepare a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the DVRPC region. The CEDS process identifies priority economic development projects, and is used by the EDA to evaluate what projects to fund in a given region. Working with the Ben Franklin Partnership, Select Greater Philadelphia, EDA, and other economic development groups, DVRPC has agreed to prepare a policy framework which will help EDA select priority projects.

d. Planning for Sustainability Workshop

Mr. Seymour reported that DVRPC will host a two-day workshop on October 6 and 7, 2008 entitled *Planning for Sustainability: Green Codes and Planning* (agenda distributed to the Board). The objective of the workshop is to educate planning practitioners and decision makers to develop policies, plans, and codes for enhanced sustainability in order to facilitate an increase in local adoption of sustainable planning practices.

e. DVRPC Freight Plan Showcase

Mr. Seymour announced that on October 15, 2008, the DVRPC Goods Movement Task Force will host a Freight Plan Showcase which will give participants an opportunity to understand how freight moves through the region.

f. Transportation Funding

Mr. Seymour reported that Congress passed a bill to fund \$800 billion to the

Transportation Trust Fund. Unfortunately the tolling of I-80 which was an important piece of Act 44 for funding highways, bridges and transit has been defeated.

James Ritzman, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, commented that there is great concern for transportation funding, however, some other options are being considered.

David Kuhn, New Jersey Department of Transportation commented on the new proposal for tolling increases on the New Jersey Turnpike and the Garden State Parkway. However, these increases will only support about half of the funding needed by 2011 for the New Jersey State Highway Trust Fund.

Mr. Seymour also announced that Montgomery County is hosting a Transportation Forum on October 3, 2008 to discuss local funding.

## **12. Committee Reports**

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

- (1) Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee;
- (2) Information Resources Exchange Group, and (3) Regional Aviation Committee

## **13. One Minute Reports**

Lynn Bush, Bucks County, thanked Mr. Seymour for attending the Bucks County Seminar for Municipal Officials.

John Bravacos, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) commented that the Neighborhood Civilization Project, a \$4 billion project across the nation will be announced on Monday, October 6, 2008. It is anticipated that most of our jurisdictions will not be included in the distribution of these funds. Most of the money will go to the Midwest, Ohio, Michigan, and California.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was stated.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No old business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Attachments:

- (1) Resolutions B-FY09-001 and B-FY09-002

- (2) Board and Executive Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2009
- (3) PCC/RTC Recommendations to the Board for September 25, 2008
- (4) RCC Recommendations to the Board for September 25, 2008

Additional Documents Distributed to the Board:

- (1) *Alert*, September, 2008
- (2) *TravelSmart*, September, 2008

DVRPC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website may be translated into Spanish, Russian, and Traditional Chinese online by visiting [www.dvrpc.org](http://www.dvrpc.org). Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages or formats, if requested. For more information, please call (215) 238-2871.



DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of September 25, 2008

Location: The HUB at the Cira Centre  
2929 Arch Street Mezzanine  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Membership Present

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs  
New Jersey Department of Transportation  
New Jersey Governor's Appointee

Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee  
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office  
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Camden County  
Chester County  
City of Camden  
City of Philadelphia

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

New Jersey Department of Transportation  
Bucks County  
Delaware County  
Montgomery County  
Burlington County  
Gloucester County  
Mercer County  
City of Chester  
City of Trenton

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban  
Development, Region III  
Federal Highway Administration, Pennsylvania Division

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III  
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority  
New Jersey Transit Corporation  
Port Authority Transit Corporation

Representative

Joyce Paul  
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James A. Carey  
Joseph Neal  
David Mandelbaum  
Joanne R. Denworth  
James Ritzman  
Louis Cappelli, Jr., Esq.  
Ronald Bailey  
(not represented)  
Rina Cutler

James Mosca  
Linda Guarini (Dist. 6)  
Brian Cuccia  
Lynn Bush  
John E. Pickett  
Kenneth Hughes  
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Charles E. Romick  
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#### DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel  
New Jersey Co-Counsel

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

DVRPC Staff: Barry J. Seymour, Dougherty, Richard Bickel, John Ward, Elizabeth Schoonmaker, Michael Boyer, Robert Graff, Suzanne McCarthy, Thomas McGovern, John Griffies, Candace Snyder, and Jean McKinney.

#### Call to Order

David A. Kuhn, Vice Chair, called the Executive Committee Meeting to order at 10:05 p.m.

1. Minutes of Meeting of July 24, 2008

On a motion by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Mr. Ritzman, the minutes of the meeting of July 24, 2008 were approved as distributed.

2. Contract Authorization: Update of DVRPC Travel Demand Models

Charles Dougherty, DVRPC Charles Dougherty, DVRPC Director of Technical Services, explained to the Executive Committee that the DVRPC Board has authorized staff to upgrade and improve its travel demand model. DVRPC has issued a Request for Proposals from qualified consultants to assist and advise staff in updating the commission's travel demand model. Advances in commercial software packages over the past 15 years necessitate a change in DVRPC's travel demand modeling software. Such a change will increase the accuracy and efficiency of transportation forecasts. DVRPC is also compelled to update and improve its travel demand model in order to assist in the planning and implementing of smart transportation solutions and to stay current with the state of the practice.

A consultant selection committee comprised of representatives from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, PennDOT, NJDOT, SEPTA, and NJ

TRANSIT was formed to evaluate the six proposals received and to recommend a final selection consistent with the scope of the RFP. The committee recommends Cambridge Systematics.

This will be a multi-year, multi-phase contract estimated to total \$600,000. The FY2009 Planning Work Program has allocated \$140,000 from available funds for this effort, with additional funds to be made available from the FY2010 and FY2011 Planning Work Programs.

The Executive Committee unanimously adopted the following motion:

MOTION by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Mr. Bailey, that the Executive committee authorize the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate, and execute a contract with Cambridge Systematics. 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 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2009

On a motion by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Mr. Bailey, the Executive Committee unanimously approved the Executive Committee Meeting schedule for Calendar Year 2009.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

DVRPC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website may be translated into Spanish, Russian, and Traditional Chinese online by visiting [www.dvrpc.org](http://www.dvrpc.org). Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages or formats, if requested. For more information, please call (921) 238-2871.