

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of May 28, 2015

Location: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
190 N. Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Membership Present

Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
New Jersey Department of Transportation
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Joyce Paul
Dave Kuhn
James Ritzman
James Mosca
Chris Howard
(not represented)
Nedia Ralston
Diane Ellis-Marseglia
Michele Kichline
Ronald Bailey
John McBlain
Linda Hill
Valerie Arkoosh
Jody Holton
(not represented)
Andrew Levecchia
Richard Westergaard
(not represented)
(not represented)
Denise Goren
Edward Williams
(not represented)

New Jersey Governor's Appointee
Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy & Planning Office
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

Non-Voting Members

Federal Highway Administration
New Jersey Division

Calvin Edghill

Pennsylvania Division

Jonathan Crum

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,
Region III

Neil B. Paradise

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II	(not represented)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III	(not represented)
Federal Transit Administration, Region III	(not represented)
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	Byron Comati
New Jersey Transit Corporation	Lou Millan
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
Delaware River Port Authority	(not represented)
Port Authority Transit Corporation	(not represented)
New Jersey Office of Planning Advocacy	Alan Miller
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	(not represented)

DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel	Andrew Bockis
New Jersey Co-Counsel	Douglas Heinold

DVRPC Staff: John Ward, Patty Elkis, Chris Puchalsky, Paul Smith, Elizabeth Schoonmaker, Alison Hastings, Rick Murphy, Kwan Hui, Taghi Ozbeki, Tom McGovern, Elise Turner, Julia Strapp, Rob Graff, Mike Boyer, Brett Fusco, Sean Greene, Mary Bell, Dave Anderson, John Griffies, Chris Linn, John Coscia, Jr., and Renee Wise.

Guests

Montgomery County Planning Commission	Brian O’Leary
Montgomery County Planning Commission	Matthew Edmonds
Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions	Sue Herman
Pennoni Associates, Inc.	Don Shanis

Call to Order - Chair’s Comments

Chair Diane Ellis-Marseglia called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and asked if there was any press in the room or anyone recording the meeting. The Chair announced that John Ward will be sitting in for Barry Seymour.

Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

No public comments were stated.

Action Items

1. Minutes of Meeting of April 23, 2015

A **motion** was made by Mr. Kuhn, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve the minutes of April 23, 2015.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP Actions)

Elizabeth Schoonmaker, DVRPC Capital Program Manager, presented the following TIP actions to the Board:

2a. PA15-42: Paper Mill Road over Darby Creek (Worrall Bridge/CB #221) (Act13), (MPMS #103525), Delaware County

Delaware County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new Act 13 local bridge project, Paper Mill Road over Darby Creek (Worrall Bridge, County Bridge #221, MPMS # 103525) to the TIP in the amount of \$1,415,000 (FY15: PE \$200,000, CON \$250,000; FY16 FD \$100,000, ROW \$15,000, CON \$850,000) using the County's 2013 and 2014 allocation of Act 13 funds. These are additional funds to the region.

Worrall Bridge is a single span concrete rigid frame bridge, carrying Paper Mill Road over Darby Creek in Newtown Township, Delaware County. The bridge was built in 1927 and spans 36 feet with a curb to curb width of 22 feet. This bridge has a posted weight restriction of 15 tons, Except Combinations 20 Tons and qualifies for Act 13 funding.

The superstructure condition is rated as 'Fair', exhibiting typical 1/8 inch wide transverse and diagonal cracking with efflorescence and surface map cracking. The concrete surrounding the deck inlets is heavily deteriorated with exposed and corroded reinforcing steel. Due to the structure type, there is no separate deck component. Work performed will be analysis of the existing structure and design of a rehabilitated or new structure. Rehabilitation or reconstruction will include installation of scour countermeasures, minimal approach roadway work and upgrading safety features to current standards. A temporary crossing will be provided for reconstruction as the bridge is situated on a dead end road.

Financial constraint will be maintained as these funds are additional to the region.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

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

MOTION by Mr. McBlain, seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board approve the following TIP action:

PA15-42, Delaware County's request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new Act 13 local bridge project, Paper Mill Road over Darby Creek (Worrall Bridge, County Bridge #221, MPMS # 103525) to the TIP in the amount

of \$1,415,000 (FY15: PE \$200,000, CON \$250,000; FY16 FD \$100,000, ROW \$15,000, CON \$850,000) using the County's 2013 and 2014 allocation of Act 13 funds. These are additional funds to the region.

2b. PA15-43: Troxel/Orvilla Road (SR 1004) Bridge Repair, (MPMS #104955), Montgomery County

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Troxel/Orvilla Road (SR1004) Bridge Repair project to the TIP for FY15 construction in the amount of \$1,320,000 (\$1,056,000 STU/\$264,000 State 581).

PennDOT is requesting funding due to the imminent need for repairs which have resulted in the recent closing of the bridge on Orvilla Road. The six mile detour for approximately 7,000+ vehicles that use the bridge daily is a significant hardship for the local community. Troxel/Orvilla Road is a key connecting roadway between PA 309 and PA 463. If approved, the District will be ready to advertise for construction on April 30, 2015, which will allow for repairs to be completed and the bridge to be reopened to traffic by approximately November 30, 2015.

Troxel/Orvilla Road over the West Branch of the Neshaminy Creek is a stone arch bridge that was closed on March 16, 2015. The proposed scope of work includes reconstruction of the spandrel walls and the wingwalls as needed, excavation and replacement of the arch backfill with lightweight concrete, and the reconstruction of the stone masonry parapets with reinforced concrete cores tied to a full-width moment slab. A moment slab is a type of support for a structure to ensure the structure does not rotate. The approach and bridge roadway will be resurfaced and guiderail attachments replaced. The project also includes the installation of scour protection measures. The improvements will strengthen and restore the structure to a non-structurally deficient status.

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

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

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

MOTION by Ms. Goren, seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board approve the following TIP action:

PA15-43, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Troxel/Orvilla Road (SR1004) Bridge Repair project to the TIP for FY15 construction in the amount of \$1,320,000 (\$1,056,000 STU/\$264,000 State 581).

2c. PA15-44: Swanson Street Reconstruction, (MPMS #70231), City of Philadelphia

The City of Philadelphia has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by advancing the PE phase of the Swanson Street Reconstruction project from FY20 to FY15 and reprogramming the PE phase in the amount of \$600,000 STP with toll credit match.

Formerly a rail and truck freight corridor in what was primarily an industrial area, significant retail development has occurred in the surrounding area over the past 10-20 years, and the roadway has deteriorated to the point that full reconstruction and other roadway upgrades are necessary to safely accommodate increased traffic. Preliminary Engineering is ready to advance. The rest of the phases would be considered during the FY2017 TIP Update process. The project scope involves the reconstruction of the existing roadway to provide a new roadway surface, including footway, medians and curbs, new drainage and storm water management improvements, street lighting, pavement markings, landscaping, and a new signal at the Snyder Avenue intersection.

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

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

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

MOTION by Mr. Ritzman, seconded by Mr. Kuhn, that the Board approve the following TIP action:

PA15-44, the City of Philadelphia's request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by advancing the PE phase of the Swanson Street Reconstruction project from FY20 to FY15 and reprogramming the PE phase in the amount of \$600,000 STP with toll credit match.

3. DVRPC FY2015 Work Program Amendment: Facilitating Dialogue on Municipal Actions to Protect and Improve Water Quality in the Delaware River Basin

Patty Elkis, DVRPC Planning Division Director, explained that from the preservation of large tracts of forested headwaters to enforcing a riparian buffer ordinance, municipalities play a key role in maintaining and restoring water quality in the Delaware River Basin. Across the basin, the degree and success of implementation varies widely among the 800-plus municipalities, which all have local control of land use in PA and NJ. Many different actors, from non-profits to state agencies, assist municipalities in

conservation, preservation, and restoration practices. However, many municipalities struggle with the codification, enforcement and implementation of conservation tools. DVRPC, working with a wide range of content experts and Municipal Technical Assistance Advisory Panel (MTAAP) will identify which conservation tools and support services are most effective and where; and make recommendations for how to better support or incentivize municipalities to implement these tools to improve or maintain water quality.

The William Penn Foundation awarded DVRPC \$385,385 to carry out this project, and DVRPC is providing \$57,343 in funds for a total \$442,728 project. Approximately \$100,000 will be dedicated to stipends for members of the MTAAP who are content experts and will need compensation for participating in the process. DVRPC will develop individual contracts for MTAAP members outlining expectations and deliverables such as participation in meetings, presentations at meetings, written narrative, written feedback, and other potential tasks such as conducting certain municipal interviews and/or facilitating certain focus group discussions.

Andrew Levecchia, Camden County, asked if this amendment is part of the FY15 Work Program or the FY16 Work Program. Ms. Elkis responded that it is part of the FY15 Work Program. Dave Kuhn, NJDOT, asked whether the funding was secured through a competitive application for which DVRPC staff applied or if the William Penn Foundation reached out to DVRPC. Ms. Elkis responded that the Foundation reached out to DVRPC and explained the work they wanted to have done and asked DVRPC to put together a proposal. John McBlain, Delaware County, asked at what type of municipal actions will DVRPC look. Ms. Elkis responded that it will depend on the area and where it falls in the watershed. In more headwater areas DVRPC will be looking at more preservation activity, in the more suburban and urban areas the Commission may look at suburban restoration or stormwater management, among other actions. Mr. McBlain asked if DVRPC will look at funding options for municipalities since there may be more regulations. Ms. Elkis responded that there may not be new regulations proposed but that DVRPC will try to assist with communicating municipal needs through this project.

Byron Comati, SEPTA, asked why this work program amendment is coming up so late. He asked if there would have to be a reshuffling of resources and funding for this and if there are other implications of taking on this work so late. Mr. Ward responded that there is the ability to stretch this out over 19 months. Mr. Comati responded that he does not want other work to be comprised by this late project and is concerned that staff will have to be used for this and taken from other work responsibilities. Ms. Elkis responded that the staff that would be used for this project are different staff than those used for other work DVRPC is doing for SEPTA. Mr. Ward responded that DVRPC traditionally adds projects throughout the year. Ms. Elkis responded that this is very typical to add a project at this time and that this is a \$450,000 project and that \$100,000 will go out as stipends to members of a technical assistance panel who will do a lot of this work. Staff will not be taken from other projects for this work. Chris Howard, New

Jersey Governor's Authorities Unit, asked if DVRPC will be contacting the Delaware River Basin Commission for this work. Ms. Elkins responded that the Commission has spoken with their Executive Director and will be working with them going forward.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

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

MOTION by Mr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Kichline, that the Board amend:

The DVRPC Fiscal Year 2015 Work Program to include the "Facilitating Dialogue on Municipal Actions to Protect and Improve Water Quality in the Delaware River Basin" project.

4. Authorization to Open a Public Comment Period for Amendments to the Connections 2040 Long-Range Plan; Draft FY 2016 TIP for New Jersey; and the Draft Conformity Finding of the Connections 2040 Long-Range Plan, FY 2015 TIP for Pennsylvania, and FY 2016 TIP for New Jersey

Sean Greene, DVRPC Manager of Air Quality Programs, explained that federal law and planning regulations require the development of a Long-Range Plan (LRP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in order for the metropolitan region to be eligible to receive federal transportation funds. The creation of the LRP and TIP are to be done by the MPO in cooperation with the state and transit operators, and must provide opportunity for input and comment by the public. A minimum 30-day public comment period must be conducted prior to a formal action to adopt the LRP and TIP. The final conformity rule promulgated by US EPA (40 CFR 51 and 93) requires that the LRP or TIP must not cause new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of federal standards; and that Transportation Plans and Programs conform to the applicable State Implementation Plans (SIP) for air quality. Staff requests to open a 30-day public comment period on these three processes with proper public notification; to publish the amendments to *Connections 2040 Long-Range Plan*, the Draft FY 2016 TIP for New Jersey, and Draft Conformity Finding documents; to post them on the Internet; to make copies available at certain public libraries; and to hold public meetings.

DVRPC periodically amends the LRP to incorporate changes to regionally significant projects, reflect changes to the financial plan, and to maintain fiscal constraint of the LRP. In 2015, DVRPC anticipates amending the LRP by adding two regionally significant transit projects.

DVRPC develops a TIP for the New Jersey portion of the region every two years (the New Jersey and Pennsylvania TIPs are updated in alternate years). Work began in November 2014 on the development of the FY 2016-2019 TIP for New Jersey. The

New Jersey Subcommittee of the RTC has been working on developing a draft TIP that meets the requirements of the federal laws and regulations, including those concerning financial constraint, air quality, plan consistency, and environmental justice. DVRPC plans to adopt the FY 2016 TIP no later than the September 2015 Board meeting so that the state can submit their FY 2016 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) to the federal agencies for review and approval.

DVRPC has worked closely with the Transportation Conformity Interagency Consultation Group (TCICG) to insure that the region has addressed the set of regulations issued by US DOT and US EPA concerning the impact of the LRP and TIP on air quality. The regulations prescribe specific emissions analyses and procedures to be performed, which DVRPC has employed under the guidance of the TCICG. The final conformity rule promulgated by US EPA (40 CFR 51 and 93) requires that the LRP and TIP must not cause new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of federal standards. Unless it is determined that the LRP and TIP “conform” to the Clean Air Act requirements and other applicable state air quality goals as embodied in each of the state implementation plans, US DOT cannot fund, authorize, or otherwise approve transportation programs or projects.

The Amendments to the *Connections 2040 LRP*, Draft FY 2016 TIP for New Jersey and the draft conformity documents will be available for public review during July 2015. Staff will review and respond to the comments received, and the RTC will prepare recommendations to the Board for adoption of the final amendments to the *Connections 2040 LRP*; FY 2016 TIP for New Jersey; and the conformity finding for the *Connections 2040 Long-Range Plan*, FY 2015 TIP for Pennsylvania, and FY 2016 TIP for New Jersey in September 2015.

Denise Goren, City of Philadelphia, asked what DVRPC is doing to engage the public about air quality conformity. Mr. Greene responded that DVRPC is using social media and the Commission’s website to educate the public. Alison Hastings, DVRPC Manager, Office of Communications and Engagement, added that the public now has the ability to submit comments through DVRPC’s website and that has helped involve the public.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

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

MOTION by Mr. Kuhn, seconded by Mr. Levecchia, that the Board authorize:

Staff to open a minimum 30-day public comment period for the purpose of gathering public and agency comments on the amendments to the *Connections 2040 Long-Range Plan*; the Draft FY 2016-2019 TIP for New Jersey; and the Draft Conformity Determination of the *Connections 2040 Long-Range Plan*, FY 2015 TIP for

Pennsylvania, and FY 2016 TIP for New Jersey; to issue proper public notifications; to publish the draft documents of the amendment to the Connections 2040 Long-Range Plan, FY 2016 TIP for New Jersey, and conformity findings on the Internet; to make copies available at certain public libraries; and to hold public meetings.

INFORMATION ITEM

5. Nominating Committee Report: Proposed Candidates for Fiscal Year 2016 DVRPC Board Officers

Mr. Ward announced that the nominating committee has nominated candidates for Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016) DVRPC Board Officers from New Jersey. Nominations were also available to be taken from the floor. Elections will take place at the regular June Board Meeting. The recommended candidates are as follows:

Chair, City of Camden, Mayor Dana Redd/Edward Williams
Treasurer, Gloucester County, Richard Westergaard

No nominations were received from the floor. The candidates for Pennsylvania will be reported at the June Board meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. One Minute Reports

Neil B. Paradise, USHUD, introduced himself and commented that he looks forward to attending future Board meetings.

Byron Comati, SEPTA, reported that SEPTA's Board is about to vote to execute a contract for electric locomotives. Those vehicles will hopefully be here in the next two to three years. There will be 18 of them and they will use the push-pull equipment. These will probably be multilevel and will provide for more carrying capacity per trip. This is new for SEPTA and ties in well with SEPTA's advanced capital funding program through Act 89.

Jonathan Crum, FHWA PA, reported that there will likely be a two month extension of MAP-21 and after that there may be an extension through the end of the year rather than a new bill. Additionally, FHWA PA has reorganized its office and Daniel Walston will be taking over as the new Board representative.

Calvin Edghill, FHWA NJ, reported that FHWA NJ was recently contacted by the USDOT Office of the Inspector General and they are conducting a review of STIP

oversight by federal division offices and FHWA NJ's office was selected again for an audit and process review. Part of that process will include interviews with the three MPOs and state DOT in representative areas. Mr. Edghill will send out a list of items that they will be targeting.

Edward Williams, City of Camden, thanked the nominating committee for nominating the City of Camden for the Chair position.

Michelle Kichline, Chester County, reported that the county is looking for a replacement for Ronald Bailey, former Director of Planning and thanked Mr. Bailey for his service..

John McBlain, Delaware County, reported that the county adopted the Comprehensive Open Space and Recreation Plan recently. A substantial amount of work is being done by SEPTA on the Media-Elwyn line and three viaducts are being rebuilt along with other work that affects the bus lines and trolley lines in the county.

Valerie Arkoosh, Montgomery County, reported that the county had a very successful bike to work day and thanked everyone for their involvement.

Andrew Levecchia, Camden County, reported that DRPA is unveiling their new PATCO rail cars today.

Rick Westergaard, Gloucester County, reported that Gloucester County's feedback on the Master Plan has been great. He thanked DVRPC for their help in securing over 2,000 responses to the online survey.

Denise Goren, City of Philadelphia, reported that Philadelphia's bike share program, Indego, has been extremely successful and that over 50,000 rides have been taken thus far.

Presentation Item

7. Montgomery County Turnpike Interchange Study

Brian O'Leary and Matthew Edmonds, Montgomery County Planning Commission, explained that to encourage reinvestment in its business parks along the Pennsylvania Turnpike, Montgomery County conducted a land use and transportation study focusing on potential land use changes, Turnpike interchange improvements, and new Turnpike interchange locations.

8. Executive Director's Report

- a. National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Meeting

Mr. Ward reported that NACTO met recently at DVRPC. The focus of their meeting was to look at the design of Complete Streets and how that works with a variety of transit vehicles.

b. Roosevelt Boulevard Coordination

Mr. Ward noted that recently DVRPC organized a meeting with the City of Philadelphia, PennDOT, SEPTA, and several consulting firms to discuss Roosevelt Boulevard and integrate what is happening with the studies on Roosevelt Boulevard. Some of those studies include a TIGER Grant, an enhanced bus proposal, some safety initiatives and an operational analysis.

c. Fit City Philadelphia

Mr. Ward called the Board's attention to the fact that last week DVRPC cohosted a symposium that was intended to look at concepts for active design and strategies for improving health in communities and lifestyles. Ironically the meeting was held on the mezzanine and the only way to get to it was with an elevator.

d. The Planning Office of the Future

Mr. Ward reported that on June 3 DVRPC will be hosting a web conference called The Planning Office of the Future to explore how new technologies and challenges will change planning practice in the future. This will be held at Camden County Community College.

e. Healthy Communities Task Force

Mr. Ward noted that on June 8 there will be a Healthy Communities Task Force meeting. There will be a focus on air quality and health impacts and Commissioner Arkoosh will be speaking at that meeting.

f. Regional Aviation Committee

Mr. Ward announced that there will be a Regional Aviation Committee meeting on June 18 at Wings Field in Montgomery County. PennDOT Secretary Leslie Richards will be in attendance to speak about aviation.

g. Strategies for Older Suburbs Roundtable

Mr. Ward called the Board's attention to a Strategies for Older Suburbs meeting and Regional Economic Development Forum joint meeting which is being held jointly on June 19. The meeting will be looking at the use of property tax incentives to stimulate development in older boroughs in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

h. Incident Management Conference

Mr. Ward noted that DVRPC is putting together an Incident Management Conference at Citizens Bank Park on June 23. This meeting will include emergency responders and all the different disciplines that respond to traffic incidents on the highways.

i. DVRPC 50th Anniversary

Mr. Ward reported that DVRPC will be holding a 50th Anniversary event on June 30, at Dilworth Plaza from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be a press event at 9:30 and there will be a photo opportunity as well.

j. Photo Day

Mr. Ward called the Board's attention to Photo Day. DVRPC is asking individuals to take a picture about what you love about Greater Philadelphia and submit it through social media. DVRPC will be giving out two GoPro cameras to the selected photos.

k. Federal Certification Review

Mr. Ward announced that DVRPC passed the federal certification review and received a dozen commendations.

l. New Report Releases:

Mr. Ward reported that a few new reports have been released including: Spotlight on Immigrant Business Owners; Guidebook: Natural Gas for Refuse Fleets

10. **Committee Reports**

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

- (1) Regional Technical Committee
- (2) Public Participation Task Force

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. on a **MOTION** by Mr. Kuhn, seconded by Mr. Westergaard.

The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, and related nondiscrimination statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website, www.dvrpc.org, may be translated into multiple languages. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages and formats, if requested. DVRPC public meetings are always held in ADA-accessible facilities and in transit-accessible locations when possible. Auxiliary services can be provided to individuals who submit a request at least seven days prior to a meeting. Requests made within seven days will be accommodated to the greatest extent possible. Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice by DVRPC under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint. Any such complaint may be in writing and filed with DVRPC's Title VI Compliance Manager and/or the appropriate state or federal agency within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory occurrence. For more information on DVRPC's Title VI program, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, please call (215) 238-2871 or email public_affairs@dvrpc.org.

I certify that this is a true and correct copy.

Renee Wise, Recording Secretary