

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS
RELATED TO DVRPC BOARD ACTION ITEMS

January 25, 2018

Agenda Item:

2a. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Action
PA17-70: US 202, DeKalb Pike, Section 610 (Design Only), (MPMS #50364),
Montgomery County

From: Leonard Fritz

County: Gloucester

Zip Code: 08094

Date Received: 01/12/2018

Comment/Question: I do not understand how a "decrease in travel lane widths" requires additional right-of-way, and all of the rest of the above statement indicating "increases" when it has already been done. That is simply wasteful and not acceptable.

Draft response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board, DVRPC Office of Capital Programs, and PennDOT.

In response to comments provided by Mr. Leonard Fritz of Kelly Engineers regarding the DVRPC's January Board Action Items with respect to the PA TIP Action:

The decrease in travel lane widths is not the cause of the additional right-of-way acquisitions. The decrease in travel lane widths is part of the mitigation strategy to reduce the impervious area and to ultimately obtain compliance with the current stormwater management regulations and requirements. If the travel lane widths were not reduced, the number of additional stormwater management best management practices (BMPs) (i.e., additional BMP basins) needed for the project would have been more, which would have resulted in substantially more right-of-way acquisitions.

The travel lane width reduction requires significant re-design of the grading, traffic control staging, signing and pavement marking, traffic signals, and drainage design which will be incorporated into the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Plan and Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Plan as part of NPDES Permit package as well as the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E) package.

The additional right-of-way acquisitions are required to incorporate BMP basins, drainage system revisions, and recent private development tie-ins. New guide rail and

clear zone requirements require guide rail re-design resulting in additional right-of-way acquisitions. To maintain temporary access to some properties during certain construction activities, additional temporary construction easement acquisitions are needed. H&H revisions are required due to updated design requirements and increased impervious on adjacent re-developed private properties which lead to bridge and culvert re-design and additional right-of-way acquisitions. Drainage design revisions will require additional utility coordination and relocation. The current interpretation of the ADA regulations requires re-design to incorporate additional ADA compliant curb ramps and additional sidewalk. Lastly, the majority of the additional acquisitions are for temporary construction easements to make proper driveway adjustments due to the elimination of the knock-out blocks.

From: John Boyle

County: Gloucester

Zip Code: 08094

Date Received: 01/22/2018

Comment/Question: Comments from the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia Bike lanes were proposed along this segment 20 years ago and we have long supported bike lanes on US 202. However, research and experience have shown that a 5-foot bike lane on a high-speed arterial road is not a treatment that will accommodate cyclists of all ages and abilities. We support bicycle facilities on this road that are physically separated from motor vehicle traffic. This could either be protected bike lanes or an off-road shared use path. This road segment has now also been designated as the preferred route for the September 11th National Memorial Trail and will partially complete a Circuit Trails connection between the Schuylkill River Trail and the US 202 Bikeway between Montgomeryville and Doylestown.

Draft response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board, DVRPC Office of Capital Programs, and PennDOT.

During the planning phase for the Section 600 Corridor which started in the mid 1990's, the five- foot bike lanes next to the travel lanes were identified for inclusion (from Johnson Highway to PA 309), but not protected bike lanes or off-road shared used path (SUP). A portion of this corridor, designated as Section 65N (from Hancock Road to PA 309) through Upper & Lower Gwynedd and Montgomery Twps. was constructed and completed in late 2012. Due to the nature of the Section 600 corridor, which is a highly-developed area with building structures and commercial parking lots close to the roadway, incorporating either protected bike lanes or off-road SUP would increase property, environmental, and permitting impacts that would result in major delays to the project.

In the case of the Section 700 Corridor (202 Parkway), the inclusion of a shared-use path was identified early in the planning phase and built as part of the project. A proposed SUP along the Section 600 corridor would have to be pursued as a separate future project and discussed with local, county and regional planners.

Thank you for your continued engagement and involvement in the region's planning.

2b. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Action
PA17-71: Park Road Trail, (MPMS #71198), Chester County

From: Leonard Fritz
County: Gloucester
Zip Code: 08094
Date Received: 01/12/2018

Comment/Question: Why is it that this phase is required to be included in PennDOT when the previous phases were not. If the same sources of funds are not available this year, would they not have an opportunity to get those funds next round?

Draft response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board, DVRPC Office of Capital Programs, and PennDOT.

Pre-construction phases have appeared on previous TIPs with 100% local funding provided by the local sponsors, Upper Uwchlan Township, Chester County. Based on information provided by the local sponsor that design will be completed in the spring of 2018, construction funding is being programmed on the 2017 TIP.

We appreciate your comment and continued involvement in the region.

3c. DVRPC FY 2018 Work Program Amendment: Pedestrian Facilities and Planning Portal

From: Dana Dobson
County: Camden
Zip Code: 08108
Date Received: 01/24/2018

Comment/Question: Tri-State Transportation Campaign supports this project and

would like to thank DVRPC for its commitment to pedestrian projects and data collection.

Draft response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Sidewalk Inventory project.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

5. DVRPC Regional Trails Program New Jersey Grant Awards

From: Craig Boddorff

County: Camden

Zip Code: 08108

Date Received: 01/23/2018

Comment/Question: Please continue (and accelerate if possible (I'm 67 years old!)) the construction of the Circuit. It's a relatively inexpensive enhancement to the quality of life in South Jersey.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

Accelerating the construction of the Circuit Trails is a primary and sustained objective of the Circuit Trails Coalition. The goal of the effort since it was officially launched in 2012 has been to complete construction of the Circuit by 2040. While this timeline is not as quick as we would like to see, projects cannot be constructed until right-of-way is acquired by a trail-building entity. Without willing sellers, right-of-way acquisition can be a slow and uncertain process. The DVRPC Board has been funding nearly all projects that have been able to acquire right-of-way and ready themselves for construction.

We appreciate your support of the Circuit and continued involvement in the region.

From: John Cucinotta

County: Burlington

Zip Code: 08075

Date Received: 01/23/2018

Comment/Question: rail trails are a benefit to any community. i have been using them

for decades. they present alternative means of transportation off the dangerous roadways of this state.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

From: Bob Wong

County: Mercer

Zip Code: 08550

Date Received: 01/23/2018

Comment/Question: My family fully supports the proposed actions of the three Regional Trails Program. Living in NJ with its high taxes will be much more satisfying if residents were provided higher levels of recreation and health related initiatives.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate you and your family's support and continued involvement in the region.

From: Chris Cominetto

County: Camden

Zip Code: 08003

Date Received: 01/23/2018

Comment/Question: as a dedicated cyclist I urge you to approve these projects.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

From: June Fisher
County: Burlington
Zip Code: 08055
Date Received: 01/23/2018

Comment/Question: This project will enhance the health and welfare of countless people in the Camden and Burlington County areas. Exercise such as this helps reduce the healthcare costs as well as improves the climate as less motor vehicles are on the road. Approve the funding.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

From: Lewis Rayner
County: Burlington
Zip Code: 08088
Date Received: 01/23/2018

Comment/Question: I strongly support these proposals and urge you to also.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

From: Silvia Ascarelli
County: Mercer
Zip Code: 08550
Date Received: 01/23/2018

Comment/Question: Please award all three grants for the Circuit Trail proposals. Every step of the Burlington-Camden Trail is vital, but so are the other two. Let's complete the Circuit!

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded

to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

From: David Gray

County: Mercer

Zip Code: 08512

Date Received: 01/23/2018

Comment/Question: Good news! Establishing rail trails is a worthwhile endeavor.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

From: Bruce Conord

County: Mercer

Zip Code: 08520

Date Received: 01/22/2018

Comment/Question: These trail are exciting projects that will provide multi-use recreation and improve access to varied communities as well as offer them a financial reward.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

From: Len Eisenberg

County: Camden

Zip Code: 08083

Date Received: 01/22/2018

Comment/Question: We are asking you to approve this action which is so important to so many of us out here in the biking, hiking and Jogging community.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

From: Michael Cannon
County: Camden
Zip Code: 08021
Date Received: 01/22/2018

Comment/Question: Great to see these steps towards making the Cross Camden County Trail a reality. Thanks! If you build it, I will ride! Simultaneously, I'm sorry to see the project progressing with such an unimaginative name. Green Horse Pike, anyone?

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

From: William Reynolds
County: Camden
Zip Code: 08034
Date Received: 01/24/2018

Comment/Question: I am in support of the use of the Rt 130 Rail bridge for the Region Trails Program.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.

From: John Boyle

County: Burlington

Zip Code: 08010

Date Received: 01/18/2018

Comment/Question: The Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia supports the approval of these awards.

Draft Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC's Regional Trails Program.

We appreciate your support and continued involvement in the region.