

Board Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2024 | Online Meeting

ATTENDEES & REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

New Jersey Department of Transportation, **Eric Powers**
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, **Keith Henderson**
New Jersey Governor's Appointee, **Ed Potosnak**
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, **Larry Shifflet**
Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee, **Jonathan Korus**
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy & Planning Office, **Michael Shorr** (PA DCED)
Burlington County, **Tom Stanuikynas**
Camden County, **Ilene Lampitt**
Gloucester County, **Nick Cressman**
Mercer County, **Leslie Floyd**
Bucks County, **Evan Stone**
Chester County, **Josh Maxwell**
Delaware County, **Christine Reuther**
Montgomery County, **Scott France**
City of Camden, **June Morton**
City of Trenton, **Michael Kolber**
City of Chester, *(not represented)*
City of Philadelphia, **Chris Puchalsky**

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Federal Highway Administration, New Jersey Division, **Jason Simmons**
Federal Highway Administration, PA Pennsylvania Division, **Gene Porochniack**
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region III, *(not represented)*
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, **Jody Holton**
New Jersey Transit Corporation, **Lou Millan**
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, *(not represented)*
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, **Pat Patterson**
Delaware River Port Authority, **Jalila Parker**
Port Authority Transit Corporation, **Rohan K. Hepkins**
New Jersey Office of Planning Advocacy, **Donna Rendeiro**
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Michael Shorr *(acted as Pennsylvania Governor's Policy & Planning Office representative)*

DVRPC CO-COUNSEL

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel: **Jonathan Bloom**
New Jersey Co-Counsel: **Thomas Coleman**

GUESTS

Bucks County, Rich Brahler
Burlington County, Matthew Johnson
Chester County, Brian O'Leary

Delaware County, Gina Burritt
Gloucester County, Jackie Huston
Gloucester County, Bill Fleming, Jacqueline Houston
Mercer County, Matt Lawson
Montgomery County, Matt Popek
Philadelphia Streets Department, David Kanthor
PennDOT, David Alas
PPTF, Jerrett Johnson
PPTF, Judith Fagin
PPTF, Patricia Kidd
SEPTA, Leslie Richards

DVRPC STAFF

Ariella Maron, Alyssa Driscoll, Renee Wise, Jackie Davis, Windeline Desir, Jesse Buerk, Travis Spotts, Najah Jackson, Alison Hastings, Gina Myers, Elise Turner, Shoshana Akins, Najah Jackson, Patty Elkis, Jason Crouch, Richard Murphy, Ethan Fogg,, Brad Lane, Van Doan, Betsy Mastaglio, Brett Fusco, Mike Boyer, Paul Smith, Shawn Megill Legendre, Alyson Dressman, Christopher Mulroy, Kevin Murphy, Shereen McKellar, Spencer Gober, Joe Banks, Bill Laidlaw, Tom Edinger, Karin Morris, Tammy DiMeo, Greg Diebold, Tyrell Powell, Maria Meraz, Matthew Galenas, Mark Morley, Karen Cilurso, Dan Snyder, Anthony Gordon.

CALL TO ORDER: CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Eric Powers called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Chair Powers said he was pleased to be meeting with everyone virtually and looked forward to the in-person Board Retreat next week in Burlington County.

Executive Director's Report

- a. *IIJA Updates-* As of December 2023, the Delaware Valley Region has received 31 IIJA Transportation awards totaling over \$458 Million from 16 different programs. Since then, Camden County received an \$8 Million INFRA program grant, and SEPTA received \$317 Million from the FTA to support the replacement of the Market-Frankford Line railcars. DVRPC will provide award status updates every six months.

While DVRPC was not selected for Round 1 of the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Community grant, staff will be meeting with the City of Philadelphia and PennDOT to discuss Round 2 strategies and have requested a debrief with the FHWA to find ways to strengthen the grant application. [\[IIJA\]](#) [\[INFRA Awards\]](#) [\[WHYY Article\]](#)

- b. *PennDOT Awarded Funds-* The region has received \$58.2 Million from 3 different PennDOT funding awards: Transportation Systems Management And Operations Capital Funding(TSMO), HSIP Set Aside Program, and Automated Speed Enforcement Funding
- c. *PATCO TOP Project -* The PATCO TOP project is shifting its focus from promoting the FREEDOM Share card to improving its Automated Fare Collection software by introducing new fare products and enhancing cost efficiency. This change is expected to be completed by the June 30, 2024, deadline for the grant period.
- d. *Publications-* DVRPC has three new resources available on its website this month.
 - i. *Greater Philadelphia Housing Submarkets Tool: A Regional Approach to Housing Affordability.* This tool helps municipalities across Greater Philadelphia confront the growing housing affordability crisis. [\[Housing Submarkets\]](#)
 - ii. *Connections 2050 Web Map Viewer.* This web map viewer allows users to toggle on/off various layers that inform, and are included in, the Long Range Plan, such as Planning Centers, Freight Centers, Airports, and Land Use Vision. [\[Connections 2050 Web Map Viewer\]](#)

- iii. *Voices of Environmental Justice Communities: Shaping an Equitable Long-Range Plan.* DVRPC staff engaged members of Environmental Justice communities to understand their needs and perceptions of various transportation projects through a set of focus groups in July and August of 2023. This was done in preparation for an update to DVRPC's Long Range Plan and associated region-wide environmental Justice analysis. [\[Voices of Environmental Justice Communities\]](#)
- e. *Events* - DVRPC hosted the E-Micromobility Summit on February 8, with over 200 attendees, in person and online. The event focused on e-micromobility's growing presence in communities, along with associated challenges and possible solutions to those challenges. On February 29, DVRPC is launching the Healthy Communities Task Force's Indoor Air Quality Meeting Series: Housing Quality and Health, which will focus on residential indoor air quality. [\[Register Here\]](#)

Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

There was one public comment on an Agenda Item submitted prior to the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2024

ACTION: Approve minutes of the Board Meeting on January 25, 2024.

MOTION by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Cressman. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Richard Murphy, DVRPC, Manager, Office of TIP Development and Maintenance, presented the proposed TIP Actions to the Board. [PRESENTATION](#) Note that Action Items were combined for discussion and voting purposes.

- a. PA23-94: I-95 BS5: Delaware Avenue Extension (MPMS #103563), City of Philadelphia – Cashflow CON Phase [Action Item Description](#)
- b. PA23-95: Roosevelt Boulevard over Wayne Junction (MPMS #83736), City of Philadelphia – Increase CON Phase [Action Item Description](#)

A public comment was submitted by Jerrett Johnson [\[Comment\]](#)

ACTIONS:

- Approve TIP Action PA23-94, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by cash flowing \$9,642,000 (\$7,714,000 NHPP/\$1,928,000 State 581) of the Construction (CON) Phase funding for the Delaware Avenue Extension (MPMS #103563) project from FY2024 to FY2027.
- Approve TIP Action PA23-95, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the Construction (CON) Phase of the Roosevelt Boulevard over Wayne Junction (MPMS #83736) project by \$20,569,000 (FY24: \$13,125,000 (\$10,000,000 NHPP/\$3,125,000 State 581) and FY25: \$7,444,000 (\$5,955,000 NHPP/\$1,489,000 State 581)).

MOTION by Mr. Pulchalsky, seconded by Ms. Reuther. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

- c. PA23-96: US 202 and PA 29 Sinkhole Remediation (MPMS #107175), Various Counties – Add New Project to the TIP [Action Item Description](#)
- d. PA23-97: Ridge Pike: School Lane to Belvoir Road/Interchange Area Bridges (MPMS #110444), Montgomery County – Cashflow CON Phase [Action Item Description](#)

ACTIONS:

- Approve TIP Action PA23-96, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania adding a new project to the TIP, US 202 and PA 29 Sinkhole Remediation (MPMS #107175) in the amount of \$13,500,000 programmed as follows: \$1,500,000 State 581 funds for the Preliminary Engineering (PE) Phase in FY24 and \$12,000,000 STU for the Construction (CON) Phase in FY24.
- Approve TIP Action PA23-97, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by cash flowing \$40,309,000 (\$21,050,000 TPK/\$7,907,000 STP/\$7,500,000 STU/\$2,889,000 State 183/\$935,000 LOC) of the Construction (CON) Phase funding for the Ridge Pike: School Lane to Belvoir Road/Interchange Area Bridges (MPMS #110444) project from FY2024 to FY2025 through FY2031 programmed as follows: \$22,300,000 (\$21,050,000 TPK/\$1,000,000 STU/\$187,000 State 183/\$63,000 LOC) in FY25, \$2,500,000 (\$2,000,000 STU/\$375,000 State 183/\$125,000 LOC) in FY26, \$4,375,000 (\$2,000,000 STP/\$1,500,000 STU/\$656,000 State 183/\$219,000 LOC) in FY27, \$2,500,000 (\$1,500,000 STP/\$500,000 STU/\$375,000 State 183/\$125,000 LOC) in FY28, \$2,500,000 (\$2,000,000 STP/\$375,000 State 183/\$125,000 LOC) in FY29, \$5,625,000 (\$2,000,000 STP/\$2,500,000 STU/\$844,000 State 183/\$281,000 LOC) in FY30, and \$509,000 (\$407,000 STP/\$77,000 State 183/\$25,000 LOC) in FY31.

MOTION by Mr. Shifflet, seconded by Mr. France. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

3. Adoption of Regional Safety Targets Update to Satisfy MPO Requirements Under the Federal Transportation Performance Management (TPM) Process

Kevin Murphy, DVRPC Associate Director of Communications and Engagement, presented the following action to the Board. [Action Item Description](#) [PRESENTATION \(slide 12\)](#)

ACTION: Adopt the attached regional safety targets update and agree to plan and program roadway safety projects to meet or exceed the targets.

MOTION by Ms. Lampitt, seconded by Ms. Floyd. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

4. FY24 Work Program Amendments - CRRSAA Funding

Shawn Megill-Legendre, DVRPC Office of Climate and Environment, presented the following action to the Board. [PRESENTATION \(slide 34\)](#)

- Project 23-23-100: Support for Implementation of RAISE Award for Construction of the Camden County LINK Trail [Action Item Description](#)
- Project 23-62-400: New Jersey Local Concept Development: Dinosaur Trail, Gloucester County (4 years) [Action Item Description](#)

ACTIONS:

- Amend the FY2024 UPWP to add the project 23-23-100: Support for Implementation of RAISE Award for Construction of Camden County LINK Trail with \$400,000 in CRRSAA funds.
- Amend the FY2024 UPWP to add the project 23-62-400: New Jersey Local Concept Development: Dinosaur Trail, Gloucester County with \$700,000 in CRRSAA funds.

MOTION by Ms. Morton, seconded by Mr. Stanuikynas. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. One Minute Reports

Eric Powers, NJDOT, informed the Board that Francis O'Connor is now serving as the NJDOT Acting Commissioner. Mr. Powers attended the February AASHTO meeting in Washington DC, where reducing highway fatalities to zero was a major topic of discussion. An excellent initiative advancing this effort is the USDOT National Roadway Safety Strategy (NRSS) Allies in Action program. PennDOT, SEPTA, and NJDOT have joined the program. [\[Allies in Action\]](#)

Ed Potosnak, NJ Governor's Appointee, thanked Chair Powers for his comments on the AASHTO meeting. He mentioned that Tuesday, February 27, New Jersey Governor Murphy will present his FY25 Budget. Mr. Potosnak highlighted the importance of this budget for the work of DVRPC.

Leslie Floyd, Mercer County, announced Mercer County's new County Executive, Dan Benson, will be joining the DVRPC Board Retreat.

Larry Shifflet, PennDOT, noted that the Pennsylvania Governor's budget address included comments on transportation. Details will be provided during the PennDOT House Appropriations Budget Hearing on March 4 at 10 am, and the PennDOT Senate Appropriations Budget Hearing on March 6 at 1 pm. [\[Pennsylvania House Meetings\]](#) [\[Pennsylvania Senate Meetings\]](#)

Michael Shorr, PA DCED, reminded the Board of two opportunities. The Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) Act 13 programs, which funds greenways, trails, and recreational programs, is open until May 31. The Multimodal Transportation Fund will be open for applications starting March 1, through July 31. [\[CFA Act 13 Programs\]](#) [\[Multimodal Transportation Fund\]](#) [\[CFA Application Schedule\]](#)

Christine Reuther, Delaware County, extended congratulations to SEPTA for receiving the grant from FTA, highlighting the importance of the 69th Street Station, the terminus for the Market Frankford Line, for Delaware County access. She noted that the county is exploring the possibility of an open space bond for the first time since 1990. [\[DVRPC's Open Space Bond Information\]](#)

Scott France, Montgomery County, announced that Commissioner Neil Makhija has been appointed to the DVRPC Board. The county recently held a press release to kickoff their flood study along the Perkiomen Watershed. The study covers 362 square miles across multiple counties and will involve collaboration with Burks, Bucks, and Lehigh Counties as well as ~55 municipalities within the watershed. Mr. France also promoted the March 14th council meeting for the Southeast section of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association. [\[Perkiomen Watershed Initiative Phase One Event\]](#) [\[APAPA Website\]](#)

Christopher Pulchalsky, City of Philadelphia, shared that the City won a ride and drive electric grant award. This grant will help to develop the workforce for the electric vehicle charging industry and is part of Mayor Parker's 100 Day action plan to support a safer, cleaner and greener Philadelphia with economic growth for all. [\[Ride and Drive Electric Grant Press Release\]](#)

Louis Millan, NJ Transit, shared that ridership has settled to the levels previously reported, with the normal, seasonal fluctuations being the only evident change. Relative to other transit agencies, NJT ridership seems to have recovered fairly well post-Covid, but the lost increment of riders and the associated lost fare revenue has created a significant fiscal challenge.

Rohan Hepkins, PATCO, shared in the excitement for the FTA grant for SEPTA and echoed Mr. Millan's report of ridership settling into a new normal.

Jalila Parker, DRPA, reported that a new chair was appointed to the DRPA and PATCO Board, Jim Schultz, and added a new member, Vaughn Ross, to represent Pennsylvania on the Board of Commissioners.

Jason Simmons, FHWA-NJ, gave two updates, the first following the theme of safety. New Jersey has over 30 direct recipients for Safe Streets for All planning grants. In order to promote collaboration and minimize duplication, the FHWA will start hosting bi-annual coordination meetings with these grant recipients from each MPO region that have an executed grant agreement. The second update regards shifting responsibilities: Mr. Simmons will go forward as the point person for Air Conformity and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ).

Michael Kolber, City of Trenton, announced that his last day in his position is Friday, February 23. He thanked DVRPC and Board members for the work that has been accomplished during his time on the Board.

Donna Rendeiro, New Jersey Office of Planning Advocacy, reported that the preliminary plan is on schedule to be presented to the State Planning Commission at their April meeting. State Planning Commission public hearings are still being set up to complete the goal of hosting in each of the 21 counties. Ms. Rendeiro also said they are working to get as much technical assistance and financial assistance to countries as possible.

6. Committee Reports

- a. [Regional Technical Committee](#)
- b. [Regional Safety Task Force](#)

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ACTION: *Adjourn the Board meeting and move into the Executive Session.*

MOTION by Mr. Cressman, seconded by Ms. Reuther. Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.