

# **Board Meeting Minutes**

May 22, 2025 | Online Meeting

# **ATTENDANCE**

## **BOARD MEMBERS AND VOTING ALTERNATES**

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, **Kristin Mulkerin** Pennsylvania Governor's Policy & Planning Office, **Michael Shorr** 

Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee, vacant

New Jersey Department of Transportation, Eric Powers

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Keith Henderson

New Jersey Governor's Appointee, Ed Potosnak

Bucks County, Richard Brahler

Chester County, Josh Maxwell

Delaware County, Christine Reuther

Montgomery County, Scott France

Burlington County, Tom Stanuikynas

Camden County, Ilene Lampitt

Gloucester County, Bill Flemming, Nick Cressman

Mercer County, Matt Lawson

City of Camden, June Morton

City of Trenton, Lisa Serieyssol

City of Chester, Paul Fritz

City of Philadelphia, Chris Puchalsky

## NON-VOTING REPRESENTATIVES TO THE COMMISSION

Federal Highway Administration, New Jersey Division, (not represented)

Federal Highway Administration, PA Pennsylvania Division, Ronnique Bishop

Federal Highway Administration, (not represented)

Federal Transit Administration, (2 seats, not represented)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, (3 seats, not represented)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, (2 seats, not represented)

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, (not represented)

New Jersey Office of Planning Advocacy, Lisa Avichal

Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, (not represented)

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Pat Patterson

Delaware River Port Authority, Darlene Callands

New Jersey Transit Corporation, Louis Milan

Port Authority Transit Corporation, Rohan Hepkins

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, Jody Holton

#### **DVRPC CO-COUNSEL**

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel: **Jonathan Bloom** New Jersey Co-Counsel: **Steve Raymond** 

# 1. Call to Order, Chair's Comments, Roll Call

Chair Josh Maxwell called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Executive Director Ariella Maron called roll and confirmed quorum.



# 2. Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

No public comments were made at this meeting. Written public comments can be found here.

# 3. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Ariella Maron provided updates on bike month, new federal funding requirements, and highlighted new resources available on DVRPC's website.

- The <u>Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) web search tool</u> contains a listing of all projects in DVRPC's Pennsylvania counties that will seek federal funding in fiscal years 2025 to 2028.
- The <u>Title VI Compliance Tool for the Greater Philadelphia Region</u> web map assists DVRPC staff, member governments, planning partners, and the general public consider Civil Rights (Title VI) concerns when carrying out planning activities, project development, and programming.
- The <u>Small-Scale Manufacturing brochure</u>, a part of the Municipal Implementation Toolbox, discusses small-scale manufacturing, and how it can be used as a tool for economic development and commercial corridor revitalization.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

# 4. Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2025

ACTION: Approve minutes of the Board Meeting on April 24, 2025.

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

# 5. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Rick Murphy, DVRPC, Manager, Office of TIP Development and Maintenance, presented the items to the Board. Actions A, B, and C were voted on together. **DVRPC Board Meeting May 2025 (Slide 2)** 

- a. PA25-050: Coatesville Train Station (MPMS #87534), PennDOT Increase CON Phase <u>Action</u> Item <u>Description Public Comment</u>
- b. PA25-051: Downingtown Train Station Rehabilitation (MPMS #93586), PennDOT Add Project Back into the TIP Action Item Description Public Comment
- c. PA25-052: Parkesburg Station Improvements (MPMS #108843), PennDOT Add Project Back into the TIP <u>Action Item Description</u>

### **ACTIONS:**

- Approve TIP Action PA25-050, PennDOT Bureau of Rail, Freight, Ports, and Waterways' request that DVRPC amend the FY2025 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the FY25 Construction (CON) Phase of the Coatesville Train Station project by \$9,000,000 (\$7,200,000 Section 5337/\$1,800,000 State 341) and reprogramming as follows: FY25: \$19,000,000 (\$15,200,000 Section 5337/\$3,800,000 State 341).
- Approve TIP Action PA25-051, PennDOT Bureau of Rail, Freight, Ports, and Waterways' request that DVRPC amend the FY2025 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Downingtown Train Station Rehabilitation project back into the TIP, in the total amount of \$34,422,000, programming \$18,672,000 (\$8,950,000 Section 5307/\$5,988,000 Section 5337/\$3,734,000 State 341) in FY25 and \$15,750,000 (\$10,600,000 Section 5337/\$2,000,000 Section 5307/\$3,150,000 State 341) in FY27 for the Construction (CON) Phase.
- Approve TIP Action PA25-052, PennDOT Bureau of Rail, Freight, Ports, and Waterways' request that DVRPC amend the FY2025 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Parkesburg Station Improvements project back into the TIP in the amount of \$5,000,000 (\$4,000,000 Section 5337/\$1,000,000 State 341) for the Construction (CON) Phase in FY25.

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

d. NJ-097: Route 30, Cooper Street to Grove Street (DB #15375), Camden County – Increase CON Phase <u>Action Item Description</u>

**ACTION:** Approve TIP Action NJ24-097, NJDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2024 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the CON Phase of the Route 30, Cooper Street to Grove Street (DB #15375) project by \$16.95 M NHPP from \$46.5 M NHPP to \$63.45 M NHPP in FY25.

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

e. NJ24-098: DVRPC Carbon Reduction Program (DB #D2305), Various Counties – Add New Project to the Program <u>Action Item Description</u>

#### **Board Discussion:**

Mr. Henderson asked how many EV charging stations this action represents. Mr. Murphy clarified that It's unknown at this time and will be determined during the design process.

**ACTION:** Approve TIP Action NJ24-098, Mercer County's request that DVRPC amend the FY2024 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Mercer County EV Charge Up program to the DVRPC Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) (DB #D2305) line item in the amount of \$1.8 M CR-TRENTON.

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

 f. NJ24-099: Extension of the Union Transportation Trail (Section #2) (DB#TBD1), Mercer County – Add New Project to the TIP <u>Action Item Description</u>

**ACTION:** Approve TIP Action NJ24-099, Mercer County's request that DVRPC amend the FY2024 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Extension of the Union Transportation Trail Section #2 (DB #TBD1) project into the TIP for CON in FY25 in the amount of \$1.995 M STBGP-TRENTON funding.

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

6. FY 2026 New Jersey TCDI Grant Program

Spencer Gober, DVRPC, Manager, Office of Community and Economic Development, presented the item to the Board. <u>Action Item Description</u> <u>DVRPC Board Meeting May 2025 (Slide 21)</u>

**ACTION:** Approve the list of recommended FY 2026 New Jersey TCDI projects for a total award amount of \$600,000.

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

 2050 v2.1 Employment Forecasts - Philadelphia Planning District Employment Reallocation Gregory Diebold, DVRPC, Planning Data Analyst, presented the item to the Board. <u>Action Item Description</u> <u>DVRPC Board Meeting May 2025 (Slide 33)</u>

**ACTION:** Adopts the 2050 Version 2.1 Employment Forecasts for the City of Philadelphia.

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

# **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 8. Monthly Presentation on the Development of Update: Connections 2050

  Jackie Davis DVRPC, Manager, Office of Long-Range Planning, presented the item to the Board.

  <u>DVRPC Board Meeting May 2025 (Slide 40)</u>
- DVRPC Nominating Committee Report: Proposed Candidates for the DVRPC FY26 Board
   Officers and Executive Committee DVRPC Board Meeting May 2025 (Slide 63)
   Chair Maxwell shared a draft officer slate with the Board.
- 10. Other Business

# a. One Minute Reports

Richard Brahler, Bucks County, announced the groundbreaking event of the Neshaminy Greenway Trail happening on May 29. The trail will eventually feature a 150-foot floating boardwalk across Lake Luxembourg, which is scheduled to be completed next year. Neshaminy Greenway Trail Project Overview

Christine Reuther, Delaware County, announced that Delaware County is working with Visit Delco, the tourism and convention bureau, to create a 10-mile run that will cover several historical sights and finish at the Philadelphia Union Stadium. <u>Delco 10-Miler Sign Ups</u>

Scott France, Montgomery County, shared the GVF Bikes! Event on May 29, sponsored by GVF TMA. The event will celebrate bike infrastructure and starts at the King of Prussia Park and Ride. GVF TMA Bike Ride

Chris Puchalsky, City of Philadelphia, thanked everyone who attended the opening of the Christian to Crescent trail opening. He acknowledged that projects can take a while to be completed, recalling the grant being awarded for this project in 2017. Christian to Crescent Opening Day Event

Eric Powers, NJ DOT, celebrated the repair of I-80 eastbound, which was affected by a sinkhole.

llene Lampitt, Camden County, reported some administrative changes with staff retirements at the county.

Matthew Lawson, Mercer County, announced that next week's Mercer County Transportation Conference, *Mercer in Motion*, is at registration capacity.

Jody Holton, SEPTA, reminded Board members that there is another week to submit comments on SEPTA's Operating and Capital Budget, and that the public comment period is closing May 28. She acknowledged that both the operating and capital budgets show a deficit, with the capital program needing to defer 25 projects and reduce scope for 19 projects. She also noted that 12 ADA projects had to be removed from the budget and the trolley modernization project is not fully funded at this time. SEPTA Fiscal Year 2026 Operating & Capital Budget Hearings

Louis Millan, NJ Transit, discussed ridership trends seen throughout the week on NJ Transit. The current rail transit ridership shows Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday reaching nearly pre-COVID ridership levels; Monday ridership at 60% of pre-COVID levels; Friday ridership remaining very low; and weekend ridership exceeding pre-COVID levels. The bus and light rail systems are right around pre-COVID ridership numbers.

Rohan Hepkins, PATCO, gave a ridership update on the new Franklin Square station. He said they are currently seeing around 500 daily riders, which leaves room for growth. On Saturday April 5, they saw 1,200 riders, possibly because of a protest happening in the city, which shows the potential it has to bring people to the Old City area.

Michael Shorr, PA DCED, reminded the Board that the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) Act 13 programs, including the Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program, are closing at the end of May, and that the Multimodal Grants will be closing at the end of July. CFA has also announced a mixed-use revitalization pilot program that will open June 1. PA Department of Community and Economic Development Programs and Funding Commonwealth Financing Authority

## b. Committee Reports

- i. Regional Technical Committee
- c. Old Business None
- d. New Business None

## 11. Adjournment

**ACTION**: Adjourn the Board meeting at 11:24 am and move into the Executive Committee.

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