

# **QUARTERLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

#### 10 AM | February 15, 2023

8th Floor, American College of Physicians Building | DVRPC Main Conference Room 190 N Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106-1520

#### 1. Call to Order

Kristen Scudder of the DVRPC called the quarterly freight advisory committee meeting to order. Ms. Scudder welcomed all task force members and friends and called on everyone to introduce themselves. She also introduced Ariella Maron and Genevieve Clifton to the task force, who then both gave a few words as well.

Any modifications or corrections can be transmitted to DVRPC's Kristen Scudder (kscudder@dvrpc.org).

## 2. Port of Camden Access and Infrastructure Resiliency Project

James Winckowski, PE, CME, Camden County and Richard Barrington, WSP, joined us to share about the Port of Camden Access and Infrastructure Resiliency Project. This project will upgrade a functionally obsolete and structurally deficient truck route to improve access to the Port of Camden from I-676 by reconstructing nearly three miles of key roadway infrastructure. Project elements include truck turning radius improvements, pavement reconstruction, resurfacing and reconstruction of curbs and sidewalks, new storm water drainage and green infrastructure, sewer repairs, ADA ramps, traffic calming, new traffic signals and crosswalks, improved street lighting, striping, and new signage.

James discussed how equity was a principal concern of the study as the freight route moves through some of the lowest income tracts in Camden. James also explained the process of acquiring the \$25 million MARAD grant needed to initiate the project. Richard spoke about the specific design elements of the route. He spoke about the difficulty for trucks in making turns at tight intersections as well as utilizing bumpouts and signage to incentivize truck drivers to use the preferred route. Another important aspect of the project is the stormwater management component which will separate the combined sewer system along portions of the route and incorporate rain gardens to reduce flood burden on surrounding communities.

## 3. Industry Spotlight: Freight Rail Update

As one of the two Class I freight railroads operating in Greater Philadelphia, CSX plays a significant role in supporting the regional economy. **Kurt Miles, Business Development with CSX Transportation** provided an update on recent freight rail trends and highlight major projects and service improvements that have a direct impact on the region.

Kurt began by speaking about CSX's history, assets, and place within the wider freight network. He then discussed their markets and the rail operator's focus on safety – especially with HAZMAT cargoes. Recent acquisitions, such as Pan Am Southern, should increase CSX's efficiency and services throughout the Northeast. In addition, he discussed the significance of the Howard Street Tunnel improvements in Baltimore, which will allow for double stack clearance along their "I-95" corridor. He briefly discussed the use of new technology, such as drones, in their maintenance operations. Kurt also mentioned CSX's work on rectifying labor issues within the organization, such as by providing paid leave for rail workers.

#### 4. Two-minute Reports

The following Task Force and Subcommittee chairs and Task Force members provided updates on the activities of their companies and agencies:

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Brendan shared that the SJPC has started a master planning effort at their terminals in Camden. Some of the goals of this effort include looking to increase capacity and organize terminal layout. The delivery of monopile segments has also begun at the Paulsboro terminal and in the next year the facility will be complete and manufacturing will begin. He also mentioned that a new berth is coming to the Port of Salem.

#### Paul Delp......Lansdale Warehouse Co.

Paul shared that the annual Supply Chain Mega meeting will be held on October 11, 2023. More information can be found at <a href="https://www.tcop.wildapricot.org/event-5034303">www.tcop.wildapricot.org/event-5034303</a>. The Mini-Mega meeting geared towards network for young professionals will be held on March 15, 2023 at the Manayunk Brewery with presentations on the logistics market today and ITS career paths. More information can be found at <a href="https://www.tcop.wildapricot.org/event-5101323">www.tcop.wildapricot.org/event-5101323</a>.

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Genevieve introduced members of her team including Bhavan Kapadia who is the primary contact for New Jersey's Rail Freight Improvement Projects. He is interested in hearing committee members' priorities for investment.

The New Jersey Transaction Conference will be April 18-20 at the Tropicana Hotel in Atlantic City and will feature multiple presentations from NJDOT freight and planning staff. The New Jersey State Freight Plan is currently under final approval with FHWA and will be made available when it is approved.

The next New Jersey Freight Advisory Committee Meeting will be on March 17, 2023.

#### Dan Blevins......WILMAPCO

Dan shared that the Delaware State Freight Plan has been approved by FHWA. Maryland has also recently released theirs as well.

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Todd shared that Sector Delaware Bay has begun planning for monopile movement out of the Port of Paulsboro. They continue to regularly staff inspectors at the Navy Ship Yard and are looking forward to the wind farm tending vessels that will be built there in the near future.

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Kristen shared that The Eastern Transportation Coalition Freight Academy will be held on June 11-16, 2023. Applications are currently open until February 17<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found at <a href="https://www.freightacademy.org">www.freightacademy.org</a>. She also shared two grant opportunities on behalf of the Maritime Administration:

- The 2023 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) NOFO is now available. Applications will be due on April 28, 2023 and more information can be found at <a href="https://www.maritime.dot.gov/office-port-infrastructure-development/port-and-terminal-infrastructure-development/2019-port-1">www.maritime.dot.gov/office-port-infrastructure-development/port-and-terminal-infrastructure-development/2019-port-1</a>.
- The 2023 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) NOFO is now available. Applications are due on February 28, 2023 and more information can be found at <a href="https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise-nofo"><u>www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise-nofo</u></a>.

## 5. DVRPC Updates and Upcoming Meetings

Dan Farina from the DVRPC shared updates on current and future work being undertaken by the DVRPC's freight planning section. In addition, he queried the meetings attendees on their preference for in-person or virtual meetings, desired meeting activities, and potential topics for future meetings.

## 6. Old or New Business/Adjournment

The upcoming 2023 meeting dates of the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force include:

- Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> (Virtual)
- Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>

The meeting was adjourned.

## **Meeting Participants**

Name Affiliation

Kristen Scudder Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Daniel Blevins WILMAPCO
Todd Wardwell USCG
Sean Greene DVRPC

Jim Miller Michael Baker International

Ahmed Farzana NJDOT
Stephen Chiaramonte NJDOT/WSP
Devyn Cordero NJDOT
Bhavin Kapadia NJDOT
Nipa Maniar NJDOT
Vincent Antes SJPC
Brendan Dougan SJPC

Kelvin MacKavanagh DVRPC Goods Movement Task Force
Paul Delp Lansdale Warehouse Company

Jaclyn Davis DVRPC Emily Goldstein DVPRC Jim Hess AECOM

Dave Kuhn

Kurt Miles CSX

Jim Miller Michael Baker International

Paul Myhre Maritime Exchange Cathy Spahr Delaware County

Andrew Turner Montgomery County Planning Commission

Dan Blevins WILMAPCO

Richard Barrington WSP

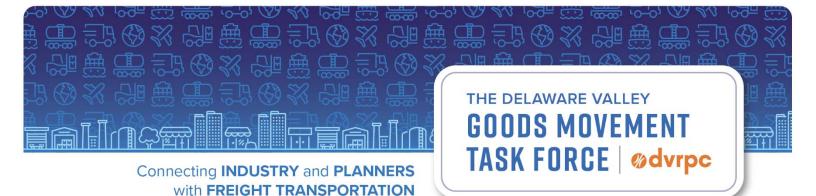
Jim Winckowski Camden County Ryan McNary PennDOT Michael Rimer PennDOT

Todd Evans Mount Laurel Fire Department

Benjamin Mandel CALSTART
Matthew Brahms DVRPC
Sean Greene DVRPC

Chad Ciotti Genesee and Wyoming Railroad

Dan Farina DVRPC
Ariella Maron DVRPC
Genevieve Clifton NJDOT



# **QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT**

## October 2022 – February 2023

Each quarter of the fiscal year provides a unique opportunity for DVRPC's Freight Program to perform essential and high-priority freight planning activities and to provide support to Greater Philadelphia's freight community. For the benefit of the members and friends of DVRPC's freight advisory committee, the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force, the following "progress report" has been compiled to highlight the range of accomplishments and tasks successfully completed by DVRPC staff during the specified period.

### October 2022

- Hosted the quarterly meeting of the DVRPC's freight advisory committee, the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force in conjunction with the DVRPC's Transportation Operations Task Force (10/20/22).
- Hosted the Lower Bucks Freight Access Study Steering Committee Meeting (10/28/22).

#### **November 2022**

- Presented to the New Jersey Railroad Association General Membership Meeting on ongoing DVRPC freight work progress and federal infrastructure grant opportunities (11/04/22).
- Participated in The Eastern Transportation Coalition Truck Parking Working Group Meeting with a spotlight on Truck Parking and Over-Dimensional Vehicle Industry Needs (11/04/22).
- Participated in the NCHRP 08-134 Workshop on Integrating Freight Movement into 21<sup>st</sup> Century Communities' Land Use, Design, and Transportation Systems (11/15/22).
- Participated in the New Jersey Freight Advisory Committee Meeting that included an update on the New Jersey Wind Port activities (11/18/22).
- Participated in the Technical Advisory Committee of the Southern Middlesex County Freight Movement Study (11/21/22).
- Hosted a class on DVRPC's freight planning program for UPenn's Transportation Methods Course (11/30/22).

#### December 2022

- Participated in PhilaPort's Comprehensive Strategic Facility Plan Virtual Workshop (12/08/22).
- Attended the Central Jersey Transportation Forum Meeting (12/15/22).

## January 2023

- Attended the Transportation Research Board's Annual Conference in Washington D.C. and participated in the Urban Freight Committee meeting (01/07/23 01/10/23).
- Participated in the DVRPC Futures Working Group scenario planning workshop (01/12/23).
- Participated in the Regional Technical Committee's Financial Planning Subcommittee Meeting (01/18/23).
- Participated in the DVRPC Congestion Management Process Advisory Committee Meeting (01/31/23).

### February 2023

- Participated in the quarterly meeting of the Pennsylvania Freight Working Group (02/07/23).
- Hosted the second Steering Committee Meeting for the Lower Bucks Freight Access Study (02/09/23).