

QUARTERLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

10 AM | January 18, 2024

Zoom Virtual Meeting

1. Call to Order

Ariella Maron, DVRPC, called the quarterly joint meeting of the freight advisory and transportation operation committee to order and welcomed all task force members and friends. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves in the chat.

Genevieve Clifton, NJDOT, welcomed everyone and shared that NJDOT has had some organizational changes, but she and the freight planning team will still be offering support to this task force.

2. Pennsylvania Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Truck Parking Study

Thomas Phelan, Senior Intermodal Advisor at Gannett Fleming, presented on the 2023 Pennsylvania Transportation Advisory Committee's (TAC) [Expanding Truck Parking in Pennsylvania](#) study. The TAC undertakes in-depth studies on important issues and serves as a liaison between PennDOT and the general public. This study was created to analyze the need for truck parking in the Commonwealth through the identification of priority corridors. It also provides a framework for evaluating potential truck parking locations and recommends a practical framework for public-private collaboration to address the need.

Ten corridors were identified across the state as having the greatest need for expanded truck parking. Four of these corridors are in the DVRPC region: I-76 from US-1 to I-95 in Philadelphia, I-95 in the Philadelphia area from the Delaware state line to I-276, the Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-76) from Exit 298 (I-176) to Norristown (I-476), and the Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-276) from Valley Forge (I-76) to I-95.

The largest barriers to expanding truck parking in urban areas are the lack of large parcel availability and high real estate prices. The study recommendations took this into consideration and focused on the identification of sites at large new developments like the Bellwether District in Philadelphia and the Keystone Trade Center in Lower Bucks County.

3. US DOT and Maritime Administration (MARAD) Grant Applications and Opportunities

Amanda Rutherford, US DOT Maritime Administration's (MARAD) Gateway Director for the Mid-Atlantic, shared information on upcoming US DOT and MARAD grant opportunities, requirements, and schedules. The following programs have upcoming deadlines:

- [Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity](#) (RAISE): Due February 28, 2024.
- [Port Infrastructure Development Program](#) (PIDP): Due April 30, 2024
- [US Marine Highway Program](#) (USMHP): Open in Fall 2024.

Amanda also shared some tips for applying to these programs. Some of these tips included watching the DOT webinars that provide tips for successful applications, utilizing DOT mapping tools that are tailored to these applications, reaching out to her for input, and coordinating with DVRPC and local governments on applications. Other projects around the country have been very successful in coordinating across multiple modes and levels of government.

To contact Amanda, you can reach out to her at Amanda.rutherford@dot.gov.

4. New Jersey DEP on the EPA Clean Ports Grant Program

Melissa Evanego, New Jersey DEP, shared information about the [EPA Clean Ports](#) funding program and the potential for opportunity in the DVRPC region. The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 provides the EPA with \$3 billion to fund zero-emission port equipment and infrastructure as well as climate and air quality planning at U.S. ports. This new funding program will build on EPA’s Ports Initiative that supports ports as a critical part of our infrastructure and supply chain and addresses public health and environmental impacts on surrounding communities. The notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) is expected in February 2024 and will close in May of 2024.

Eligible recipients of these grant include port authorities; state, regional, local, or tribal agencies, air pollution control agencies; and private entities in partnership with an eligible public entity. Melissa highlighted that NJDEP is interested in this grant and that it offers a much lower cost share (10-20%) than other federal grants. Due to New Jersey’s requirements for mobile cargo handling equipment modernization, they are more interested in trying to utilize this type of grant funding for upgrading to electric tugboats/harbor craft and battery electric rail switchers. NJDEP plans to put out a request for interest, but anyone who is interested in participating in this program can reach out to Melissa at Melissa.evanego@dep.nj.gov.

5. Two-minute Reports

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

Janice Marino Doyle NJDOT

Janice Shared that NJDOT’s 2024 Freight Advisory Committee Dates will be March 26th, June 20th, and November 21st. The New Jersey Truck Parking Study is underway and they will be coordinating with stakeholders and conducting social media outreach to raise public awareness about the impacts of truck parking.

Dan Farina DVRPC

Dan Farina gave a brief update on the Freight Futures scenario planning exercise. He noted the participation from members of the DVGMTF and that this feedback was instrumental in forming the scenarios and the resultant recommendations. He told members that DVRPC is finishing up the report and to keep a look out over the next few months for its publishing.

Valerie PiperPhilaPort

Valerie shared that PhilaPort is currently working on their strategic plan, “Destination 2040,” that is expected to be available in March 2024. They will also be releasing a design bid RFI for a new berth at the Southport Marine Terminal in the near future.

6. Old or New Business/Adjournment

The proposed 2024 meeting dates of the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force include:

- Wednesday, March 13th
- Tuesday, July 16th
- Thursday, October 17th

The meeting was adjourned.

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

Meeting Participants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Alexander, Jonathon	DVRPC
Austin, Mason	Philadelphia City Planning Commission
Blevins, Dan	WILMAPCO
Bower, Pat	PennDOT
Brahms, Matthew	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Brown, Kyle	Philadelphia Streets Department
Caba, Chris	York County Planning Commission
Chiaramonte, Stephen	WSP
Clark, Rickie	Federal Highway Administration
Clifton, Genevieve	New Jersey Department of Transportation
Cordero, Devyn	New Jersey Department of Transportation
Coyle, Gerard	Meridian Consulting Services
Cunniff, Mike	Holt Logistics
Delp, Paul	Lansdale Warehouse Co.
Disarro, Adam	NJ Transit
Driscoll, Alyssa	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Dugan, Brendan	South Jersey Port Corporation
Evanego, Melissa	NJ DEP
Fagin, Judith	Judith E. Fagin, PMP
Farina, Dan	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Galloway, John	Canopy Prospecting Inc./Eddystone Rail Co. LLC
Golembiewski, Michael	Berks County Planning Commission / Reading MPO
Greene, Sean	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Grenerth, Scott	TSPS
Hess, Jim	AECOM
Hite, Brian	Lehigh Valley Planning Commission
Kearns, Alan	NJ Transit
Kruger, Rebecca	USDOT/FMCSA
Luvara, Dave	Rhinehart Railroad Construction, Inc.
MacKavanagh, Kelvin	MacKavanagh Rail Consulting
Maniar, Nipa	New Jersey Department of Transportation
Marino-Doyle, Janice	NJDOT
Maron, Ariella	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
McGough, Matt	Berks County Planning Commission
McGowan, Hugh	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Meyer, Michelle	PSA Penn Terminals
Miller, Jim	Michael Baker
Molina, Jasmin	NJDOT
Morris, Doug	OOIDA
Parker, Scott	Jacobs Engineering
Phelan, Thomas	BHX Engineering & Planning, LLC
Phillips, Kaylen	DVRPC
Piper, Alan	Berks County Planning Commission / Reading MPO
Piro, Ian	DELCORA
Popek, Matthew	Montgomery County Planning Commission
Powers, Dan	City of Philadelphia
Pritchard, Mike	York County Planning Commission/York Area MPO

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Regosch, Christian	Bucks County Planning Commission
Roscoe, Michael	Schnabel Engineering
Rutherford, Amanda	DOT
Sankaran, Alex	Chester County Planning Commission
Scheerbaum, Gus	City of Philadelphia
Schiavi, Bill	SJTPO
Scudder, Kristen	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Stanuikynas, Tom	Burlington County
Strait, Aaron	Silvi Materials
Strauss-Wieder, Anne	NJTPA
Thomas, Debbie	MARAMA
Waldman, Gregory	Philadelphia City Planning Commission
Weber, Don	RK&K