



Connecting **INDUSTRY** and **PLANNERS**  
with **FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION**

THE DELAWARE VALLEY  
**GOODS MOVEMENT**  
**TASK FORCE** | 

## QUARTERLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**10 AM | April 9, 2025**

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

### 1. Call to Order

**Ariella Maron, Executive Director of DVRPC**, welcomed everyone and gave remarks about the variety of topics to be discussed during the meeting and their representation of the unique and beneficial work that MPO's like DVRPC and WILMAPCO provide for their stakeholders. Attendees were invited to go around the room and introduce themselves.

### 2. Recognition of Kelvin MacKavanagh

**Kristen Scudder, DVRPC**, presented Kelvin (who was in attendance virtually) with a plaque and certificate recognizing his many years of service not only to the Goods Movement Task Force, but to the transportation industry as a whole. Kelvin has been a fixture in the industry for over 50 years and has served in many roles working with major railroads such as CSX and his own consulting firm, in addition to organizations like the New Jersey Railroad Association (NJRRA) and the annual NJ TransAction Conference.

### 3. DVRPC Regional Freight Center Update

**Matthew Brahms, DVRPC**, shared the recently updated DVRPC Freight Centers with the group. Freight Centers are areas across the region with a concentration of facilities that generate significant amounts of freight traffic and employment in related sectors. These centers are used to better understand the region's transportation needs and inform the comprehensive planning process. Matthew shared the methodology for designating freight centers which included both a quantitative analysis and manual review of the results. In addition, Matthew noted that each center had their typologies reviewed as well, with thirteen switching from "Local Manufacturing and Distribution" to "Distribution and Logistics" reflecting the growth of some smaller existing centers into larger, more regionally focused logistics centers. Seven new centers were added overall with some existing ones splitting as well. Overall, Distribution and Logistics is the type of freight center most prevalent in our region with 27 out of 75 total.

### 4. Northern New Castle County Delaware Truck Origin-Destination Analysis

**Daniel Blevins, WILMAPCO**, shared the results of a recent analysis using Streetlight Analytics that looked at heavy-truck traffic in New Castle County. The analysis examined truck traffic between Delaware and Pennsylvania, as well as top paths for truck traffic between the Port of Wilmington and Harrisburg. Dan noted that they have begun to integrate new tools like Streetlight into their workflow and are using them to update older studies, such as one seeking to understand the flow of truck traffic between Delaware and Harrisburg conducted in 2003. The analysis showed that trucks from the Port of Wilmington are traveling as far as State College, PA (5%) with the most common destination being Lancaster (25%). An additional 10% of trucks make their way to Harrisburg. Each of the potential routes between Delaware and various destinations in PA were studied. According to the data, the preferred route to Harrisburg is by way of PA-41 with 60% of truck trips utilizing this path. Going forward, Dan noted that they would like to expand the analysis to Maryland, apply it to medium-duty vehicles, compare with county-to-county FAF and Streetlight Commodity Estimates, and analyze Delaware destinations.

### 5. Southern New Jersey Freight Rail Study

**Matthew Brahms, DVRPC**, provided an overview of the Southern New Jersey Freight Rail Study and the resulting recommendations. He noted that the purpose of the study is to better evaluate where investment into the South Jersey rail

network may be needed to expand market opportunities. Past studies have identified the Delair Branch as a limitation of South Jersey’s freight rail system that may hinder the advancement of specific port market opportunities and a more robust regional industrial economy, and this is still the case. Some additional challenges the market faces are height clearances, rail right-of-way conditions, and limited access to the national network. He noted that The Penns Grove Secondary has the highest density of rail activity with the system seeing less as it moves away from the river and deeper into South Jersey. Some of the industries served by rail in South Jersey include sand, aggregates, chemicals, glass, paper, food, building materials, scrap metal, and waste. Matthew commented that outreach to rail operators and rail users resulted in the documentation of additional trends in the area such as the decrease in coal movements, the movement of LNG by rail, and the growth in sand and aggregates within the region. Some opportunities that were noted included existing capacity for rail service, an attractive location, the presence of workforce training, and the shifting of sand shipments from trucks to rail. Recommendations were made regarding the preservation of existing infrastructure, promoting volume and job growth, as well as increasing resiliency across the system.

**6. Two-minute Reports**

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

**Stephen Chiaramonte.....WSP (for NJDOT)**

Stephen commented that NJDOT has wrapped up the first phase of their Statewide Truck Parking Study, with phase 2 starting this summer. They are also currently scoping their Statewide Freight Plan, the current plan expires in 2027. The NJDOT Windport transportation plan has now shifted to the Salem County Transportation Plan. It will be looking at truck routing and intersection improvements.

**Dennis Jones..... Northpoint Development, LLC**

Dennis noted that Northpoint has received a PennDOT Rail Freight Assistance Program grant for \$3.8 million to expand the Kinder Morgan terminal rail yard by adding 13,350 feet of new track and improve the current rail infrastructure.

**Jacob Cummings .....SJTPO**

Jacob stated that SJTPO has contracted WSP for freight planning efforts and will be starting a South Jersey Freight Advisory Committee. More details are to come but they look forward to collaborating with the DVGMTF.

**Paul Delp ..... Lansdale Warehouse**

Paul noted that the next Traffic Club Mega Meeting will be held in October. Look for details to come. The Penn State Center for Supply Chain Research has had student teams writing reports on increasing rail businesses and the shortline industry. These reports can be shared with those who are interested.

**Todd Wardwell ..... USCG Sector Delaware Bay**

Todd commented that in January there was a salt ship grounding on the Delaware River near the Ben Franklin Bridge. This was a lesson learned in understanding cargo priority as the salt onboard was believed to be a higher priority cargo than it was. The ship was successfully moved. The USCG has recently conducted multiple training workshops including a multi-port facility cyber-attack exercise and an exercise around the Commodore Barry Bridge.

**7. Old or New Business/Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Goods Movement Task Force is tentatively set to be held in person on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 10am. The meeting was adjourned.

*Any modifications or corrections to these highlights can be transmitted to DVRPC’s Daniel Farina (dfarina@dvrpc.org).*

**Meeting Participants**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Blevins, Dan	WILMAPCO
Boyer, Michael	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Brahms, Matthew	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Chiaramonte, Stephen	WSP
Cummings, Jacob	SJTPO
Davis, Austen	Montgomery County Planning Commission
Delp, Paul	Lansdale Warehouse Co.
Drewicz, Grace	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Fagin, Judith	Judith E. Fagin, PMP
Farina, Dan	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Flora, Paul	Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia
Frohlich, Parker	Bucks County Planning Commission
Fusco, Brett	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Greene, Sean	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Greenhaus, Daniel	Norfolk Southern
Jones, Dennis	NorthPoint Development
Levecchia, Andrew	WSP
Maron, Ariella	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Miller, Jim	Michael Baker
Nikolic, Tania	US Navy, DoD
Peck, Jacob	Sportsradar
Sankaran, Alex	Chester County Planning Commission
Scudder, Kristen	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Waldman, Gregory	Philadelphia City Planning Commission
Wardwell, Todd	USCG Sector Delaware Bay
Xiong, Chenfeng	Villanova University
Young, Lindsay	PhilaPort