



**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

April 6, 2021 Meeting Highlights

This Meeting was held as a Webinar

1. Call to Order - Chairperson's Comments

Peter Rykard (Chair, City of Chester) welcomed RTC members and called the meeting to order.

2. Deputy Executive Director's Report

John Ward, DVRPC's Deputy Executive Director welcomed everyone and expressed his hope that RTC members' families and their colleagues are all safe and well. Mr. Ward noted that every couple of weeks we have been hearing of some relaxing of the restrictions around COVID but we have also been recently hearing about some bounce back in the numbers of positive cases. We have made some good progress but we still have to stay vigilant and follow the CDC Guidelines.

Mr. Ward reported that at their March meeting, the Board approved the five TIP amendments that the RTC recommended to them. Those were the only action Items that came through the RTC last month but there are plenty for them to consider this month.

Mr. Ward called the RTC's attention to the fact that he is retiring in June. Mr. Ward thanked RTC members for their loyal attendance, steady participation and frequent questions.

Mr. Ward reported that the PA TMAs are back with us and Rob Henry from the Greater Valley Forge TMA will be sitting in the TMA seat which has been vacant since Cecile Charlton retired. It has been a little while but Rob did represent the PA TMAs a few years back. This seat is a non-voting member seat but Rob is welcomed and encouraged to offer any comments or questions on any agenda items.

Mr. Ward noted some upcoming virtual meetings including: Goods Movement Task Force – 4/14, Transportation Operations Task Force – 4/15, Regional Safety Task Force – 4/16, Board and Executive Committee Meeting - 4/22, Urban Waterfront Action Group Meeting – 4/27, and Public Participation Task Force - 5/6.

Mr. Ward noted that the next Regional Technical Committee (RTC) meeting is **May 11**.

3. Public Comment on Any Agenda and Non-Agenda Item

Public comments were stated by John Boyle (Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia) and Adam Spector (Friends of Newtown Rail Trail) in support of Action Item number 9 (DVRPC Regional Trails Program Phase 8 Grant Awards). Public comments were also stated by Jeffrey Gold (resident of Northampton Twp.) and Joe Johnson in opposition to Action Item 9 (DVRPC Regional Trails Program Phase 8 Grant Awards).

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the March 9, 2021 RTC Meeting

The highlights from the March 9, 2021 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Jim Mosca seconded by Jonathan Korus that the RTC amend the highlights of the March 9, 2021 RTC meeting.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

5. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Kwan Hui (DVRPC) presented five TIP actions.

a. NJ20-067: Route 76/676 Bridges and Pavement (DB #11326), Camden County – Remove Project from the TIP

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2020 TIP for New Jersey by removing the \$117 million (M) NHPP funded construction (CON) project, Route 76/676 Bridges and Pavement (DB #11326), from FY23 (\$30 M), FY24 (\$57 M), and FY25 (\$30 M) of the TIP, which will be replaced/broken out into three new projects (DB #s 11326B, 11326C, and 11326D). The programming of the three new projects (DB #11326B, 11326C, and 11326D) will be detailed per subsequent TIP Action NJ20-068. The project's updated total cost will be reflected by the new breakout projects.

b. NJ20-068: Rt. 76, Bridge over Klemm Avenue, Conrail and South Branch of Newton Creek, Contract 1 (DB #11326D), Route 76, Nicholson Road, Advanced Utility Relocation, Contract 2 (DB #11326B), Route 76/676 Bridges and Pavement, Contract 3 (DB #11326C), Camden County – Add New Breakout Projects to TIP

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2020 TIP for New Jersey by adding three new breakout projects from the Route 76/676 Bridges and Pavement (DB #11326) project, totaling \$175.1 million (M) (\$93.4 M NHPP/\$81.7 M CRRSAA-FLEX), to the TIP: Rt. 76, Bridge over Klemm Avenue, Conrail and South Branch of Newton Creek, Contract 1 (DB #11326D) for an \$89.9 M NHPP funded construction (CON) phase in FY21, Route 76, Nicholson Road, Advanced Utility Relocation, Contract 2 (DB #11326B) for a \$3.5 M NHPP funded Utility (UTL) phase in FY22, and Route 76/676 Bridges and Pavement, Contract 3 (DB #11326C) for an \$81.7 M CRRSAA-FLEX funded CON phase in FY23.

Motion: by *Monica Etz*, seconded by *Andrew Levecchia*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP actions:

NJ20-067, NJDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2020 TIP for New Jersey by removing a \$117 M NHPP funded CON project, Route 76/676 Bridges and Pavement (DB #11326), from FY23 (\$30 M), FY24 (\$57 M), and FY25 (\$30 M) of the TIP, which will be replaced/broken out into three new projects (DB #s 11326B, 11326C, and 11326D).

NJ20-068, NJDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2020 TIP for New Jersey by adding three new breakout projects from the Route 76/676 Bridges and Pavement (DB #11326) project, totaling \$175.1 M (\$93.4 M NHPP/\$81.7 M CRRSAA-FLEX), to the TIP: Rt. 76, Bridge over Klemm Avenue, Conrail and South Branch of Newton Creek, Contract 1 (DB #11326D) for an \$89.9 M NHPP funded CON phase in FY21, Route 76, Nicholson Road, Advanced Utility Relocation, Contract 2 (DB #11326B) for a \$3.5 M NHPP funded UTL phase in FY22, and Route 76/676 Bridges and Pavement, Contract 3 (DB #11326C) for an \$81.7 M CRRSAA-FLEX funded CON phase in FY23.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

c. NJ20-072: Preventive Maintenance-Bus (DB #T135), NJ TRANSIT – Cost Decrease

NJ TRANSIT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2020 TIP for New Jersey by decreasing the FY21 Capital Acquisition (CAP) phase of the Preventive Maintenance-Bus (DB #T135) program line item by \$57.013 M SECT 5307 from \$108.655 M SECT 5307 to \$51.642 M SECT 5307 funds.

d. NJ20-073: NEC Improvements (DB #T44), NJ TRANSIT – Cost Increase

NJ TRANSIT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2020 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the FY21 Engineering, Right-of-Way, or Construction (ERC) phase of the Northeast Corridor (NEC) Improvements (DB #T44) program line item by \$17.848 M (\$22.744 M SECT 5307 increase/\$4.896 M SECT 5337 decrease) from \$8.537 M (\$3.641 M SECT 5307/\$4.896 M SECT 5337) to \$26.385 M SECT 5307.

e. NJ20-074: Rail Rolling Stock Procurement (DB #T112), NJ TRANSIT – Cost Increase

NJ TRANSIT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2020 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the FY21 CAP phase of the Rail Rolling Stock Procurement (DB #T112) program line item by \$49.081 M SECT 5307 from \$9.688 M (\$1.596 M SECT 5307/\$8.092 M STATE) to \$58.769 M (\$50.677 M SECT 5307/\$8.092 M STATE) funds.

Motion: by *Brian McFadden*, seconded by *Tonyelle Cook-Artis*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP actions:

NJ20-072, NJ TRANSIT's request that DVRPC modify the FY2020 TIP for New Jersey by decreasing FY21 CAP phase of the Preventive Maintenance-Bus (DB #T135) program line item by \$57.013 M SECT 5307 from \$108.655 M SECT 5307 to \$51.642 M SECT5307 funds.

NJ20-073, NJ TRANSIT's request that DVRPC modify the FY2020 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the FY21 ERC phase of the NEC Improvements (DB #T44) program line item by \$17.848 M (\$22.744 M SECT 5307 increase/\$4.896 M SECT 5337 decrease) from \$8.537 M (\$3.641 M SECT 5307/\$4.896 M SECT 5337) to \$26.385 M SECT 5307.

NJ20-074, NJ TRANSIT's request that DVRPC modify the FY2020 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the FY21 CAP phase of the Rail Rolling Stock Procurement (DB #T112) program line item by \$49.081 M SECT 5307 from \$9.688 M (\$1.596 M SECT 5307/\$8.092 M STATE) to \$58.769 M (\$50.677 M SECT 5307/\$8.092 M STATE) funds.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

6. Federal Functional Classification Change, Chester County

Brad Lane (DVRPC) explained that Gay Street between Matlack Street and New Street in West Chester Borough is currently part of the federal aid system, and is classified as an Urban Principal Arterial. The Borough has requested the removal of this stretch of Gay Street from the federal aid system, and reclassifying it as a Local Road.

Motion: by *Brian Styche*, seconded by *Thomas Shaffer*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

The requested Federal Functional Classification change in West Chester Borough, Chester County.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

7. DVRPC's new Travel Options Program (TOP)

Amy Bernknopf (DVRPC) explained that DVRPC's new Travel Options Program (TOP) is looking to fund innovative TDM projects to provide better access to more travel options across the region. Applicants went through a two-stage application process and a selection committee made up of representatives of partner agencies from throughout the region rated, scored and selected the finalists. DVRPC staff presented the projects that were recommended for funding by this committee, and requested action for the RTC to recommend Board approval of the TOP project slate for FY2021 and FY2022 projects.

Motion: by *David Kanthor*, seconded by *Andrew Levecchia*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

The TOP project slate for FY2021 and FY2022 projects.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

8. NJ 20-069 Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Program selected projects

Daniel Snyder (DVRPC) explained that the New Jersey Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Program (TA-SA) is a competitive federal program established to provide funds for community based “non- traditional” surface transportation projects designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the nation’s intermodal system. 28 TA-SA applications requesting approximately \$23.0 million were received from the DVRPC NJ region. Three (3) projects, totaling \$1.959 million are recommended from the DVRPC NJ region for TA-SA, which are as follows:

1. \$440,000 for Edgewater Park Township’s Heritage Trail Shared-Use Path and On-Road Improvements in Burlington County
2. \$1 million for Camden County’s Cooper River Bike/Ped Bridge Project at North Park Drive and Route 130 in Pennsauken Township
3. \$519,000 for the City of Trenton’s Greenwood Avenues Streetscape Project in Mercer County.

The three (3) recommended TA-SA projects will be added to the line item, Transportation Alternatives Program (DB #X107), in the FY2020 S/TIP for New Jersey.

Motion: by *Andrew Levecchia*, seconded by *Brian McFadden*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

The list of selected Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA-SA) projects and amend them into the FY 2020 S/TIP for New Jersey in the amount of \$1.969 million TA (TIP Action NJ20-069, DB #X107).

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

9. DVRPC Regional Trails Program Phase 8 Grant Awards

Shawn Megill Legendre (DVRPC) explained that the following multi-use trail projects are recommended for Regional Trails Program funding by a selection committee composed of representatives of the region’s counties and major cities, state natural resource agencies, and the Circuit Trails Coalition. The committee selected from among proposals submitted in response to a funding opportunity announcement released in September 2020. Applications were due in November and were subsequently assessed and prioritized based on project readiness, current funding and additional funds leveraged, catalytic potential, provision of new transportation and/or recreational opportunities to underserved populations and communities of color, and overall project quality.

Motion: by *Thomas Shaffer*, seconded by *Rich Brahler*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

These 14 Regional Trails Program grant awards.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

10. FY22 PA TMA Assistance and Mobility Alternatives Program (MAP) Work Programs and Budgets

Stacy Bartels (DVRPC) explained that the *TMA Assistance grant* program has been in operation since 1990 and is largely but not exclusively employer- and commuter-centric, aimed at reducing congestion and improving air quality by promoting alternatives to single-occupant vehicle travel, largely during peak hours. The *Mobility Alternatives Program (MAP)* was initiated in 1995 as an educational and outreach program targeted to specific employers, business parks or corridors selected each year within each TMA's service area. Both programs are funded with regional CMAQ dollars and support TMA or contractor tasks and projects that focus on Transportation Demand Management (TDM) techniques and options.

Motion: by *Jim Mosca*, seconded by *Jonathan Korus*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

These FY22 TMA Assistance and MAP Contractor Work Programs and funding; and to amend the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania (PA21-33) to decrease the FY21 PRA phase of the Mobility Alternatives Programs (MAP)/Share a Ride Program (SAR) (MPMS #110429) by \$67,625 (\$53,300 CMAQ/\$14,325 Local) and to decrease the FY21 PRA phase of the Transportation Management Associations (TMA) (MPMS #111424) by \$134,000 (\$108,000 CMAQ/\$26,000 Local).

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

11. One Minute Reports

RTC Members and guests provided updates on the activities of their agencies.

12. Old and New Business

13. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is **Tuesday, May 11, 2021.**

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members

NJ Department of Transportation
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
NJ Department of Community Affairs
NJ Governor's Appointee
NJ Office for Planning Advocacy
PA Department of Community and Economic Development
PA Department of Environmental Protection
PA Department of Transportation
PA Governor's Appointee
PA Governor's Policy Office
Bucks County
Burlington County
Camden County
Chester County
Delaware County
Gloucester County
Mercer County
Montgomery County
City of Philadelphia – City Planning Commission
City of Philadelphia – Department of Streets
City of Philadelphia – OTIS
City of Camden
City of Chester
City of Trenton
Delaware River Port Authority
New Jersey Transit Corporation
Port Authority Transit Corporation
Southeastern PA Transportation Authority
Public Participation Task Force
Public Participation Task Force

Non-Voting Members

Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission
Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force
Federal Highway Administration - NJ Division
Federal Highway Administration - PA Division
Federal Transit Administration - Region III
Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
NJ Turnpike Authority
New Jersey TMAs
Pennsylvania TMAs
Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
Phila Port
Pottstown Urban Transit
Select Greater Philadelphia
South Jersey Port Corporation
South Jersey Transportation Authority
Transportation Operations Task Force
US EPA - Region II
US EPA - Region III
US Department of Housing and Urban Development

Representative

Monica Etz
Ruth Foster
(not represented)
Janice Venables
(not represented)
(not represented)
Sachin Shankar
Jim Mosca
(not represented)
Jonathan Korus
Rich Brahler
Tom Stanuikynas
Andrew Levecchia
Brian Styche
Tom Shaffer
Theresa Ziegler
Matthew Lawson
Matthew Edmond
David Kanthor
Nicholas Baker
Kelley Yemen
June Morton
Peter Rykard
Jeffrey Wilkerson
Tonyelle Cook-Artis
Blanca Quinde
Rohan Hepkins
Brian McFadden
Michael Clemmons
Noah Levine

Representative

(not represented)
Kelvin McKavanaugh
Brian Goodson
Eugene Porochniak
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Ronda Urkowitz
Rob Henry
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

Matt Popek – Montgomery County
Jackie Huston – Gloucester County
Carol Thomas – Burlington County
Lou Millan – NJ Transit
Lori Thompson – NJ Transit
John Boyle – Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia
Joe Johnson
Jeffrey Gold
Adam Spector – Friends of the Newtown Rail Trail
Samantha Safara – HDR

DVRPC Staff

John Ward
Barry Seymour
Elizabeth Schoonmaker
Patty Elkis
Greg Krykewycz
Mike Boyer
Will Stevens
Karin Morris
Amy Bernknopf
Cassidy Boulan
Glenn McNichol
Katie Nash
Kwan Hui
Brad Lane
Shawn Megill Legendre
Stacy Bartels
John Coscia, Jr.
Daniel Snyder
Linda McNeffer
Alison Hastings
Jesse Buerk
Rick Murphy
Shoshana Akins
Maridarlyn Gonzalez
Matt Gates
Mark Morley
Elise Turner
Najah Jackson
Renee Wise

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