

# DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

## BOARD COMMITTEE

### Minutes of Meeting of June 26, 2003

Location: Commission Officer  
The Bourse Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
111 S. Independence Mall, East  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

#### Membership Present

#### Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Joyce Paul

New Jersey Department of Transportation

Brent Barnes

Governor of New Jersey's Appointee

Deirdre Naughton, Esq.

Governor of Pennsylvania's Appointee

Caroline Anderson Novak

Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office

Joanne R. Denworth

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Larry M. King

Bucks County

(not represented)

Chester County

Colin A. Hanna  
Charles C. Coyne

Delaware County

John E. Pickett

Montgomery County

Louis F. Gould, Jr., Esq.  
Kenneth Hughes

Burlington County

Carol Ann Thomas

Camden County

Thomas J. Gurick  
J. Douglas Griffith

Gloucester County

Charles E. Romick

Mercer County	(not represented)
City of Chester	William Payne
City of Philadelphia	Gary Jastrzab
City of Camden	(not represented)
City of Trenton	(not represented)
<u>Non-Voting Members</u>	
Federal Highway Administration New Jersey Division	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Division	(not represented)
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region III	(not represented)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III	(not represented)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II	(not represented)
New Jersey Office of Smart Growth	Herman Volk
Federal Transit Administration, Region III	Keith Lynch
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	Christopher Patton
New Jersey Transit Corporation	James Schwarzwald
Port Authority Transit Corporation	Cheryl Spicer
Delaware River Port Authority	Anisah Abiola
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	Ronald K. Bednar

Regional Citizens Committee Chairman

Dennis Winters

DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel  
New Jersey Co-Counsel

Timothy J. Carson, Esq.  
Thomas Coleman, Esq.

DVRPC Staff: John J. Coscia, Donald S. Shanis, William Greene, Thabet Zakaria, Charles Dougherty, Richard Bickel, Candace Snyder, Phyllis Robinson, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Robert Hannigan  
Greg Brown (Dist. 6-0)

New Jersey Department of Transportation

Brian Cuccia  
Mike Russo

Camden County

Curt Noe

Delaware River Port Authority

Linda Hayes

Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission

Roger Sager

Cross County Connection Transportation  
Management Association

William Ragozine

**Call to Order**

Secretary of the Board, Thomas J. Gurick presided at the meeting in the absence of Chairman Charles H. Martin and called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

**Public Comments**

Comments from the public were invited to be heard on non-agenda items. No comments were stated.

**1. Minutes of Meeting of May 22, 2003**

On a **motion** by Mr. Coyne, seconded by Mr. Payne, the minutes of the meeting of May 22, 2003 were approved as distributed.

**2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions**

Donald S. Shanis, DVRPC staff, briefed the Board on the following TIP Actions:

a. TIP Action PA03-27: Section 5310 Capital Assistance Grants – Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by programing funds for the Federal Transit Administration's Section 5310 Program [formerly Section 16(b)(2)], which provides capital assistance to private nonprofit corporations that provide transportation services for senior citizens and people with disabilities. Every year PENNDOT coordinates an application process for this program and this year has selected six agencies in the DVRPC region to program a total of \$1,077,300 for the purchase of 19 vehicles. The agencies receiving funding in the DVRPC region are:

- Bucks County Transport, Inc., Bucks County, federal share \$194,560, Total Cost \$243,200
- Cerebral Palsy Association of Chester County, Inc., Chester County, federal share \$195,520, total cost \$244,400
- Community Transit of Delaware County, Inc., Delaware County, federal share 179,520, total cost \$224,400
- Cerebral Palsy Association of Delaware County, Delaware County, federal share \$79,840, total cost \$99,800
- The Arc of Chester County, Chester County, federal share \$39,920, total cost \$49,900
- Suburban Transit Network, Montgomery County, federal share \$172,480, total cost \$215,600

Financial Constraint will be maintained as these are additional funds to the state. The TIP's conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt.

b. TIP Action PA03-28a: Downingtown Pedestrian/Bikeway – Chester County

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY 2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by removing this project which is currently programmed with \$472,000 Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds in FY04. The Borough is unable to complete this project which was selected as a TE project, and has requested to withdraw from the process as there have been severe staff cuts in the Borough.

Financial Constraint will be maintained and the TIP's conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt.

c. TIP Action PA03-28b: Cayuga Street Bridge, City of Philadelphia

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY 2003-2006 TIP for Pennsylvania by removing this project. The City of Philadelphia has elected to cancel this bridge removal project as it was determined that the sufficiency rating of the bridge is better than originally stated. The project is currently programmed with a FY04 right-of-way phase (\$80,000 Bridge/\$15,000 State/\$5,000 Local Match) and an FY05 construction phase (\$1.6 million Bridge/\$300,000 State/\$100,000 Local Match).

Financial Constraint will be maintained and the TIP's conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee (PCC/RTC) for the Board to approve TIP Action PA03-27, PA03-28a, and PA03-28b.

Favorable recommendation was also received from the Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) that the Board approve TIP Action PA03-27, PA03-28a, and PA03-28b. However, additional comments were stated for TIP Action PA03-27 as follows: "In addition, the RCC believes that each applicant should have to undergo a consultation with the Clean Cities Program informing them of the benefits of alternative fuel vehicles, and that each application should be accompanied by a letter confirming that this consultation has occurred".

Mr. Coscia responded that the RCC's recommendations will be forwarded to the applicants for consideration.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Gould, seconded by Ms. Thomas that the Board approve

the following TIP Actions:

- (1) PA03-27 – PENNDOT’s request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for Pennsylvania (FY 2003-2006) by adding funds into the TIP for the FTA’s Section 5310 Program (MPMS #62150). This amendment will program a total of \$1.077 million (\$861,840 Section 5310 funds/\$215,460 Local Match) in FY03.
- (2) PA03-28a – That the Board approve TIP Action PA03-28a, PENNDOT’s request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for Pennsylvania (FY 2003-2006) by deleting the Downingtown Pedestrian/ Bikeway project (MPMS #65902) from the TIP. The project was programmed with \$472,000 TE funds in FY04.
- (3) PA03-28b – PENNDOT’s request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for PA (FY2003-2006) by deleting the Cayuga Street Bridge project (MPMS #17722) from the TIP. The project was programmed with a FY04 right-of- way phase (\$80,000 Bridge/\$15,000 State/\$5,000 Local Match) and an FY05 construction phase (\$1.6 million Bridge/\$300,000 State/\$100,000 Local Match).

d. TIP Action NJ03-10: Camden County Civic Center Access Study, Pennsauken, Camden County

Camden County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY 2003-2006 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new project into the TIP, the Camden County Civic Center Access Study. The request is to use \$800,000 from the DVRPC Local Scoping line item to begin assessing the need for improvements to local roads and highway access modifications in the surrounding areas of the site of the proposed Civic Center in Pennsauken in the vicinity of NJ Routes 73, 90, 130, and County Route 644/Haddonfield Road.

Financial Constraint will be maintained by drawing down funds from the DVRPC Local Scoping. The TIP’s conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC that the Board approve TIP Action NJ03-10.

The RCC also recommended approval of TIP Action NJ03-10 and, in addition, the subcommittee recommends that the study include consideration of transit access to the Southern New Jersey Light Rail Line and the Atlantic City Line, as well as bicycle and pedestrian connections to neighboring communities.

Mr. Coscia responded that the RCC's recommendations will be forwarded to the Camden County Freeholders for their consideration.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Barnes that the Board approve TIP Action NJ03-10, Camden County's request to amend the FY 2003 TIP for New Jersey (FY 2003-2005) by adding a new project into the TIP, the Camden County Civic Center Access Study, Pennsauken. The project will be programmed with \$800,000 STP-STU funds which will be drawn down from the DVRPC Local Scoping for a FY03 Local Preliminary Design (LPD) phase.

- e. TIP Action NJ03-11: Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis, DVRPC on Behalf of the Central New Jersey Transportation Forum

DVRPC is requesting on behalf of the Central Jersey Transportation Forum to amend the FY 2003-2006 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new project into the TIP, the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Alternatives Analysis. The analysis is the first step in determining whether BRT would be a viable alternative for relieving congestion and enhancing mobility in the Route 1 corridor area including Lawrence, West Windsor, Princeton, Plainsboro and South Brunswick Townships. It will be a multi agency effort undertaken by NJDOT, NJ TRANSIT, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority and DVRPC, with NJ TRANSIT taking the lead. All agencies will contribute funding to the total project cost of \$916,000. This request is to draw down \$260,145 STP-STU funds from the DVRPC Future Projects to fund DVRPC's contribution to this project of which \$151,800 would be used by DVRPC for the Public Involvement, Scoping and Agency Coordination component, with the balance (\$108,345) to be contributed to financing the other tasks in the study (e.g. alignment, land use, travel demand, and environmental issues).

Financial Constraint will be maintained by drawing down funds from the DVRPC Future Projects. The TIP's conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC for the Board to approve TIP Action NJ03-11.

The RCC also recommended that the Board approve TIP Action NJ03-11 and, in addition, suggests that a similar study be considered for Gloucester County.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Ms. Paul, that the Board approve TIP Action NJ03-11, DVRPC's request on behalf of the Central Jersey Transportation Forum, to amend the FY 2003 TIP for New Jersey (FY2003-2005) by adding a new project into the TIP, the Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis. The project will be programmed with \$260,145 STP-STU funds which will be drawn down from the DVRPC Future Projects for an FY03 PLS (Planning Study) phase.

### **3. DVRPC Annual Self-Certification of the Regional Transportation Planning Process**

Mr. Coscia explained to the Board that the final Rulemaking on the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) Metropolitan Planning Requirements dated October 28, 1993 requires that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) annually certify to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration that its transportation planning process is addressing the major issues facing the area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements.

Rulemaking for the new TEA 21 has not been adopted as of this date, but it is presumed that the Annual Self Certification Requirements remain the same.

Section 450.334 of the Final Rulemaking lists specific requirements which must be addressed as follows:

1. Improvements to the transportation system in the region have been the result of continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process carried out by state and local officials.
2. The transportation planning process, including the adoption of the TIP, is consistent with the Clean Air Act and is in conformance with the applicable State Implementation Plans.
3. Private citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of transportation agency employees, other affected employee representatives, private providers of transportation, and other interested parties were provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the TIP and planning process.
4. The TIP includes a financial plan that demonstrates how the TIP can be implemented, indicates resources from both public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be available, and recommends innovative financing techniques.



5. DVRPC's planning process is administered in accordance with FTA Circular 4702.1, Title VI, and DVRPC employment practices comply with FTA Circular 4704., Equal Employment Opportunity Guidelines for Grant Recipients.
6. DVRPC's programs are conducted consistent with Title 49 CFR Part 23 as implemented by FTA Circular 4716.1A regarding disadvantaged business enterprise programs.
7. The Region's public transit operators have certified that they are making special efforts to provide transportation services which can be utilized by elderly and handicapped persons.
8. Congestion Management System phase-in requirements for non-attainment Transportation Management Areas have been met.
9. Environmental justice for low income and minority populations is being addressed.
10. The provision of 49 CFR part 20 regarding restrictions on influencing certain activities has been met.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC that the Board adopt the DVRPC Self-Certification of the Regional Transportation Planning Process.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. King, seconded by Ms. Naughton, the Board adopt Resolution No. B-FY03-005 (copy attached) certifying that the DVRPC Regional Transportation Planning Process is in conformance with federal regulations implementing TEA-21, the Clean Air Act Amendments, and other federal legislation.

**4. Adoption of the DVRPC FY 2004 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey (FY2004-FY2006)**

Charles Dougherty presented to the Board the DVRPC FY 2004 TIP for New Jersey. Mr. Dougherty explained that Federal law and planning regulations require the development of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the metropolitan region to become eligible for federal transportation funds. The creation of this document is to be done by the MPO in cooperation with the state and the transit operators, and must provide opportunity for input and comment by the public.

Every year DVRPC develops a TIP that covers the four New Jersey counties located in the DVRPC region: Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer. The New Jersey Subcommittee of the RTC has been working with staff since the fall of 2002 on the DVRPC FY 2004 TIP for New Jersey that meets the requirements of the federal laws and regulations, including those concerning financial constraint and air quality.

The FY 2004-2006 TIP for the New Jersey portion of the DVRPC region contains nearly 200 projects totaling \$911 million for phases to be advanced during the next three years, including \$434 million on projects primarily addressing the highway system and \$477 million per year on transit projects for DRPA/PATCO and NJ TRANSIT. The New Jersey TIP averages over \$300 million per year for transportation projects.

The projects in the TIP represent the region's transportation priorities. The TIP lists all projects that intend to use federal funds, along with all state funded projects whether or not they are regionally significant. The TIP has been fiscally constrained to the available financial resources identified by NJDOT and negotiated for this region's projects. All air quality non-exempt projects have been included in the regional conformity analysis.

The Draft TIP document was made available for public review during a 30-day period which ended on June 5, 2003. The document was published on the Internet, copies were placed at 15 major public libraries in New Jersey, and two public meetings were held to give the public the opportunity to pose questions about the process and projects to state, county, transit, and DVRPC staff. The meetings were held in Camden and Mount Laurel, New Jersey. Legal notices of the public comment process and the public meetings were published in the *Inquirer*, the *Tribune*, *La Actualidad*, the *Trenton Times* and the *Courier Post*. Media releases were also issued preceding the public comment period.

In response to Title VI and Environmental Justice concerns, outreach was targeted to specific communities as well as to the region as a whole. DVRPC sent notices of the public comment period and the scheduled public meetings to several hundred individuals and organizations, including those that represent traditional and underserved transportation users, minority and low income populations, chambers of commerce, and the welfare-to-work community. This year a presentation on the TIP and the TIP development process was provided to the DVRPC Environmental Justice Task Force.

Many of our partner agencies contributed responses to the comments we received. The comments and responses and the recommended changes to the Draft were

distributed to the Board.

The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAAA) require that Transportation Plans and Programs conform to the applicable State Implementation Plans for air quality and follow the Final Conformity Rule provided by US EPA and DOT. Funding of new projects in non-attainment areas such as the DVRPC region is dependent upon the TIP and Plan being found to conform to the purposes of the applicable SIP and the CAAA. TIPs may be determined to conform if their projects are drawn from a conforming regional Plan.

DVRPC's conformity analysis of the Horizons 2025 Transportation Plan and the FY 2004 TIP determined that emissions of monitored pollutants for each analysis year is less than the permitted budgets and that the TIP and the Plan contribute to the achievement and maintenance of the national ambient air quality standards. The TIP has been found to conform with the requirements of the CAAA as set forth in the Final Conformity Rule.

The FY 2004 TIP for New Jersey is fiscally constrained to funds reasonably available to the region.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC that the Board adopt the DVRPC FY 2004 TIP for New Jersey.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Denworth, that the Board adopt the DVRPC FY 2004 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey (FY2004 - FY2006) as the region's official selection of transportation projects for federal funding, by passing Resolution B-FY03-006 (copy attached).

**5. DVRPC FY 2004 Planning Work Program Amendment: Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis**

Dr. Shanis explained to the Board that through the studies of the Central Jersey Transportation Forum, it was determined that Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) may be viable in the study region and could provide a needed option to the single occupant vehicle. BRT was incorporated in the Forum's Action Plan as part of a four pronged approach to enhancing mobility and relieving congestion. The primary study area consists of Lawrence Township, West Windsor Township, Princeton Borough, Princeton Township, Plainsboro Township and South Brunswick Township in the US 1 corridor.

Sponsorship of the study will be a multi-agency effort – New Jersey Department of Transportation, New Jersey Transit, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, and Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission. NJ Transit will be the lead agency with DVRPC undertaking *Public Involvement, Scoping and Agency Coordination*.

The Alternatives Analysis Study is the first step in U.S. DOT's project development process. Its purpose is to establish purpose and need, define potential system components including alignment options, refine land use assumptions including Smart Growth initiatives, conduct an environmental screening, and produce interim reports (i.e., ridership, costs, environmental resources, and potential mitigation). Public involvement and agency coordination are integral components of the study. At the conclusion of the study a report is produced and a public hearing held.

The public outreach program will meet all state and federal requirements concerning public involvement. The outreach program will engage stakeholders in useful dialogue on how to make BRT work in the community and will educate the public regarding the study's purpose, benefits and effects. This will be conducted with the assistance of a consultant. Coordination will be maintained with NJ TRANSIT, the Greater Mercer Transportation Management Association, the Central New Jersey Transportation Forum, the New Jersey Department of Transportation, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, municipalities, and others. Efforts will be made to engage members of the general public, developers, municipal leaders and other stakeholders such as the business community, and other institutions. The program will emphasize feedback and dialogue. Consensus building is a goal of the public outreach program.

This project is exempt from the regional air quality conformity finding.

The total project cost is \$916,000 of which \$260,145 (STP-STU funds from the FY 2003 TIP) is DVRPC's share.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Ms. Naughton that the Board amend the DVRPC FY 2004 Planning Work Program to include the Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis.

## 6. DVRPC Disclosure of Public Records Policy

Mr. Coscia requested that this item be tabled as a result of additional revisions which must be made to the DVRPC Disclosure of Public Records Policy.

On a **motion** by Ms. Denworth, seconded by Mr. King, the Board unanimously agreed to **table** the action for the DVRPC Disclosure of Public Records Policy.

**7. Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) Funding Requests in Chester and Montgomery Counties**

Patty Elkis, DVRPC staff, explained to the Board that PENNVEST is an independent agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania managed by a 13-member Board of Directors and chaired by the Governor, which provides funding for drinking water, wastewater treatment and stormwater management projects. The Program provides long-term loans through a revolving loan fund to municipalities, authorities and some private entities at below-market interest rates. Limited grant funds are also available.

PENNVEST has forwarded two applications to DVRPC for review for consistency with the regional plan as follows:

- Borough of Avondale, Chester County - Request for \$3,400,000 PENNVEST loan to upgrade and expand the existing treatment plant which serves the Borough of Avondale, and some customers in New Garden Township. The upgrade would eliminate problems of overload and achieve compliance with the NPDES permit effluent limits. Expansion would be from 0.3 MGD to 0.5 MGD.
- Pennsylvania Suburban Water Company, Montgomery County - Request for \$883,025 Pennvest loan to construct facilities at the existing Meyers Tract water treatment facility to remove arsenic from the drinking water currently supplied to Perkiomen Township and Schwenksville Borough. Currently raw water arsenic levels exceed the recommended EPA and DEP guidelines.

These projects in Avondale and Schwenksville serve to alleviate existing problems and are in areas already developed or identified as Future Growth Areas as designated in the DVRPC Year 2025 Plan. As such, these projects are consistent with the goals and policies of the regional plan.

After favorable recommendation was received from the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Ms. Denworth, seconded by Mr. Gould that the Board authorize the Executive Director to send letter notifying PENNVEST of consistency with Horizons 2025 Plan for the funding requests in the Borough of Avondale, Chester County, and for the Pennsylvania

Suburban Water Company in Perkiomen Township and Schwenksville Borough, Montgomery County.

**8. Election of DVRPC Board Officers for FY 2004**

Presiding Chairman Gurick reported the nominating committees slate of proposed Board officers for FY 2004 as follows:

Chairman: Thomas J. Gurick, Camden County  
Vice Chairman: Allen D. Biehler, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Secretary: Jerald R. Cureton, Burlington County  
Treasurer: Charles H. Martin, Bucks County

There were no nominations from the floor. The slate of Board officers for FY 2004 proposed by the nominating committee were unanimously elected by acclamation.

**9. Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) Report**

Dennis Winters, RCC Chairman, reported on two additional items from the RCC meeting held on June 17, 2003 as follows:

- (1) PENNDOT I-76 Project in South Philadelphia: The RCC asks PENNDOT to supply the minutes, community groups invited and attendance lists for the three public meetings held regarding the I-76 project in South Philadelphia. the RCC also requests the PENNDOT provide an update regarding overhead signage for this project; there is the need for context sensitive design when providing for signage in this area.
- (2) Spring Mountain Road Bridge (TIP PA03-28c): The RCC recommends that consideration be given to including bicycle and pedestrian facilities per AASHTO guidelines on the Spring Mountain Road Bridge because of its close proximity to the Perkiomen Trail and Spring Mountain Ski Area.

Mr. Coscia responded that the RCC requests will be forwarded to PENNDOT for their consideration and action.

**10. Election of New Jersey County and Pennsylvania County Representatives to Serve on the Executive Committee for FY 2004**

The Board elected the following New Jersey and Pennsylvania County representatives to serve on the Executive Committee for FY 2004:

New Jersey Counties - Thomas J. Gurick, Camden County

**11. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Coscia reported on the following:

- a. 2003 Pennsylvania Governor's Conference on Transportation, Land Use and Economic Development, Hershey Lodge, May 28, 2003

Mr. Coscia reported that the Pennsylvania Governor's Conference was very well attended with a great mix of local and county elected officials, private sector, planning agencies, etc. – all of which are in leadership roles for transportation, land use and economic development. Sessions and meetings were held to identify the key issues in Pennsylvania which need to be addressed by state government on this subject. The state agencies will prepare a summary of the results of the meeting and an action plan.

- b. Results of the DVRPC Annual Awards Dinner

Mr. Coscia reported that the DVRPC Annual Awards Dinner was extremely successful with over 370 attendees consisting of elected officials, high level county officials, and the private sector.

- c. TransitChek Policy Committee Meeting, June 11, 2003

Mr. Coscia reported that TransitChek Policy Committee adopted their FY 2004 Budget. The Draft Marketing Plan was approved and comments will be accepted through the end of June. A final report will be distributed in mid-July.

The committee also approved allotting funds for continued membership in the new National Transit Benefits Association (NTBA).

FY 2003 sales topped \$18 million, a 10% increase over FY 2002 and program sales to date topped \$70 million.

- d. National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) Conference in Pittsburgh

Mr. Coscia reported that the NARC Conference in Pittsburgh had 350-400 attendees. Larry King, PENNDOT, was a speaker and Mr. Coscia presented the DVRPC Freight Planning Program as a national model.

## **12. Committee Reports**

The following Committee Reports were distributed to the Board for their review: (1) Information Exchange Resource Group; (2) Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee; (3) Regional Aviation Committee; and (4) Regional Housing Committee.

## **13. New Jersey Department of Transportation I-295/I-76/NJ 42 Interchange Direct Connection**

Mike Russo, Supervising Engineer, Project Scope Development, NJDOT presented an update of the I-295/I-76/Route 42 Interchange Reconstruction project, which began in the mid-1980s. Mr. Russo stated that the current Transportation Improvement Study (TIS) examines corrections to deficiencies in two projects – the main interchange and the missing moves. The presentation included details of a site map; issues such as substandard bridges, accident rates, local emergency responses; project purpose and need. Goals and objectives were highlighted, as well as community outreach, the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); environmental constraints; alternatives; and project schedule. Mr. Russo noted that NJDOT is working with DVRPC, utilizing the Commission's staff and environmental justice contacts.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was stated.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Attachments:

- (1) PCC/RTC Recommendations to the Board for June 26, 2003
- (2) RCC Recommendations to the Board for June 26, 2003
- (3) Resolutions B-FY03-005 and B-FY03-006



Additional Documents Distributed to the Board:

- (1) *Alert*, June 2003
- (2) *Freight Lines*, June 2003
- (3) *TravelSmart*, June 2003
- (4) Brochure entitled: *Great Places with Transit*, Spring/Summer 2003

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**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of Meeting of June 26, 2003**

Location: Commission Offices  
Bourse Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
111 S. Independence Mall, East  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Membership Present

Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Joyce Paul

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Larry King

New Jersey Department of Transportation

Brent Barnes

New Jersey Governor's Appointee

Deirdre Naughton, Esq.

Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee

Caroline Anderson Novak

Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office

Joanne R. Denworth

Pennsylvania Counties

(not represented)

New Jersey Counties

Thomas J. Gurick  
J. Douglas Griffith

City of Camden

(not represented)

City of Philadelphia

Gary Jastrzab

Guests

Chester County

Colin A. Hanna  
Charles C. Coyne

Delaware County

John E. Pickett

Montgomery County

Louis F. Gould, Jr., Esq.  
Kenneth Hughes

Burlington County	Carol Ann Thomas
Gloucester County	Charles E. Romick
Camden County	Curt Noe
City of Chester	William Payne
New Jersey Department of Transportation	Brian Cuccia Mike Russo
Federal Transit Administration, Region III	Keith Lynch
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	Christopher Patton
New Jersey Transit Corporation	James Schwarzwald
Port Authority Transit Corporation	Cheryl Spicer
Delaware River Port Authority	Anisah Abiola Linda Hayes
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	Ronald K. Bednar
Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission	Roger Sager
Cross County Connection Transportation Management Association	William Ragozine
Regional Citizens Committee Chairman	Dennis Winters
<u>DVRPC Co-Counsel</u>	
Pennsylvania Co-Counsel New Jersey Co-Counsel	Timothy J. Carson, Esq. Thomas Coleman, Esq.

DVRPC Staff: John J. Coscia, Donald S. Shanis, William Greene, Thabet Zakaria, Charles Dougherty, Richard Bickel, Candace Snyder, Phyllis Robinson, and Jean McKinney.

**Call to Order**

Thomas J. Gurick, presided in the absence of Chairman Martin and called the meeting to order at 11:52 a.m.

**1. Minutes of Meeting of May 22, 2003**

On a motion by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Ms. Paul, the minutes of the meeting of May 22, 2003 were approved as distributed.

**2. Contract Authorization: Regional Airport Security Profile Study**

Mr. Coscia reported that the product of the study is a report which documents the status of General Aviation (GA) / reliever security procedures and situations, including identification of short falls and needed capital investment in the Delaware Valley region. This study will inventory security procedures, gaps, and identify procedural improvement strategies and capital investment types/costs to upgrade the Regional Aviation Systems Program (RASP) security. Documentation of the regional findings will provide input to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) regarding, yet to be promulgated, federal standards for security enhancement at non-commercial airports. Capital City airport in the Harrisburg area will be included in the non-commercial survey and analysis. Also, Harrisburg International security status will be reviewed to the degree permitted by the TSA, who have responsibility for security at this non-hub commercial facility. In addition to the above objectives, a consultant will review and suggest methods to identify and track movements of based aircraft, as feasible, to better understand trends and behaviors of GA/business aircraft usage as it may relate to improved security.

A total of \$75,000 is allocated for the above contract from available funds in the FY 2003 Federal Aviation Administration Continuing Airport System Planning XX Grant.

A consultant selection committee comprised of representatives from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, PENNDOT, and NJDOT was formed to evaluate the proposals and to recommend a final selection consistent with the Request for Proposal scope.

The Executive Committee unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. King, seconded by Ms. Naughton that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate and execute a contract with the firm of choice to assist DVRPC with the Regional Airport Security Profile Study. If such negotiations prove not to meet the financial requirements of the Commission, to proceed on to negotiations with the second ranked firm.

**3. Appointment of Assistant Executive Director for Transportation Planning**

The Assistant Executive Director for Transportation Planning, Jack Claffey, has

retired (June 13, 2003). Per the provisions of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission By-Laws, Section 10, the appointment of the Division Directors shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

It is hereby recommended, by the Executive Director, that the Executive Committee approve Donald S. Shanis to fill the vacant Assistant Executive Director for Transportation Planning position.

The Executive unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. King, seconded by Ms. Naughton that the Executive Committee appoint Donald S. Shanis to fill the vacant Assistant Executive Director for Transportation position.

**4. Election of DVRPC Executive Committee Officers for Year 2004**

Presiding Chairman Gurick reported the Nominating Committee's slate of proposed DVRPC Executive Committee Officers for FY 2004.

Chairman: Thomas J. Gurick, Camden County  
Vice Chairman: Allen D. Biehler, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Secretary: Jerald R. Cureton, Esq., Burlington County

There were no nominations from the floor. The slate of Executive Committee Officers proposed by the Nominating Committee were unanimously elected by acclamation.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was stated.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.