

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of July 26 2012

Location: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
190 N. Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Membership Present

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
New Jersey Department of Transportation
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
New Jersey Governor's Appointee
Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy & Planning Office
Bucks County
Chester County

Delaware County

Montgomery County

Burlington County
Camden County

Gloucester County
Mercer County
City of Chester
City of Philadelphia
City of Camden
City of Trenton

Non-Voting Members

Federal Highway Administration
New Jersey Division
Pennsylvania Division

Representative

Joyce Paul
David Kuhn
James Mosca
Brett Tanzman
Adam Gattuso
Andrew Paris
Diane Ellis-Marseglia
Terence Farrell
Ronald Bailey
John McBlain
John Pickett
Leslie Richards
Turea Hutson
Steve Nelson
Carol Ann Thomas
Louis Cappelli, Jr. Esq.
Andrew Levecchia
Richard Westergaard
Donna Lewis
Whitney White
Rina Cutler
(not represented)
Jeffrey Wilkerson

Sandra Brillhart
Camille Otto

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| U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region III | (not represented) |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II | (not represented) |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III | (not represented) |
| Federal Transit Administration, Region III | (not represented) |
| Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority | Byron Comati |
| New Jersey Transit Corporation | R. J. Palladino |
| New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection | (not represented) |
| Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection | (not represented) |
| Delaware River Port Authority | Barbara Holcomb |
| Port Authority Transit Corporation | (not represented) |
| Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development | Lisa Worden |
| New Jersey Office for Planning Advocacy | Katherine Meade |

DVRPC Co-Counsel

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|-------------------------|----------------|
| Pennsylvania Co-Counsel | James Kilcur |
| New Jersey Co-Counsel | Thomas Coleman |

DVRPC Staff: Barry J. Seymour, Donald Shanis, Richard Bickel, John Ward, Elizabeth Schoonmaker, Chris Puchalsky, Patti Elkins, Zoe Neaderland, Ted Dahlburg, Chris Linn, Candace Snyder, Paul Smith, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Pennsylvania Department of Transportation | Linda Guarini (Dist. 6) |
| | David Boehm |
| New Jersey Department of Transportation | Andrew Clark |
| New Jersey Transit | R. J. Palladino |
| Delaware River Port Authority | Mark Lopez |
| Cross County Connection TMA | William Ragozine |
| Uptown Entertainment and Development Corporation | Aissia Richardson |
| | Zhane Adams |
| | Chika Duru |
| | Shaquille Hewlety |
| | Jordan Morgan |
| | Lexus Timbers |
| | Leandra Hanfield |

Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc.
Citizen Cheltenham Township

Sue Herman
Bridget Chadwick

Call to Order - Chair's Comments

Chair Louis Cappelli called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

Bridget Chadwick, Cheltenham Township, commented on the new transportation bill (MAP21), the greenhouse gas target for 2015, the growth of vehicle miles traveled, and TIP projects that increase the capacity of roads.

1. Minutes of Meeting of June 28, 2011

On a Motion by Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Mr. Kuhn, the minutes of June 28, 2012 were approved as distributed.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Action

Elizabeth Schoonmaker, DVRPC Manager, Office of Capital Programs, presented to the Board the following TIP Actions:

a. NJ12-27: Route 9, over Jobs Creek Bridge (DB #11368), Burlington County

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2012 - 2015 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Route 9, over Jobs Creek Bridge (DB# 11368) to the TIP with \$1,400,000 Bridge funds (within the four-year TIP period, FY12 – FY15) accordingly: \$500,000 for FY13 preliminary engineering, \$800,000 for FY14 final design, and \$100,000 for FY15 right-of-way. Additionally in the out years, \$3,500,000 Bridge funds will be programmed for construction in FY18. The project description will be updated to include the specific scope of work.

This project was in the Study and Development Program and has now “graduated” to the TIP: this means that after developing a preferred alternative, a specific scope of work has been determined. The project provides funding for replacing the existing two-lane bridge over Jobs Creek (Structure Number 0302151) with a new two-lane, single-span structure. The proposed bridge will have two lanes and shoulders supported by concrete beams on concrete abutments supported by piles. Retaining walls will be required along the south side of the widened roadway but the entire structure would remain within the

existing right-of-way. About 800 feet of bridge approach roads will be reconstructed at each end of the bridge. All safety features such as bridge parapets, shoulder width, roadway curvature, and guiderail will be included and no design exceptions are proposed.

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

The Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee (PCC/RTC) recommends that the Board approve TIP Action NJ12-27.

No public comments was received.

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

MOTION by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Kuhn; that the Board approve TIP Action NJ12-27, NJDOT's request to amend the FY2012 - 2015 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Route 9, over Jobs Creek Bridge (DB# 11368) to the TIP with \$1,400,000 Bridge funds (within the four-year TIP period, FY12 – FY15) accordingly: \$500,000 for FY13 preliminary engineering, \$800,000 for FY14 final design, and \$100,000 for FY15 right-of-way. Additionally in the out years, \$3,500,000 Bridge funds will be programed for construction in FY18. The project description will be updated to include the specific

b. NJ12-28: Route 29, Cass Street to Calhoun Street, Drainage (DB #07319B), Mercer County

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2012 - 2015 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Route 29, Cass Street to Calhoun Street, Drainage project (DB# 07319B) to the TIP with \$1,300,000 STP funds (within the four-year TIP period, FY12 – FY15) accordingly: \$350,000 for FY13 preliminary engineering, \$850,000 for FY14 final design, and \$100,000 for FY15 right-of-way. Additionally in the out years, \$2,400,000 STP funds will be programmed for construction in FY17.

This project is a breakout of Route 29, Drainage Improvements (DB# 07319). Flooding and drainage problems have been reported along Route 29 from milepost 2.94 to milepost 4.34 which is the southern section of the original parent project. Property owners, municipal officials and state officials have complained about flooding to the NJDOT and requested assistance in

mitigating the floods affecting the areas. Residents of the “Island” neighborhood, which lies just west of the northern section of Route 29, have identified Route 29 as a specific cause of frequent flooding of that neighborhood.

Based on available information, it is perceived that Route 29, storm sewer systems and Delaware River are the primary causes of the flooding. This project will address the cause of flooding within Route 29 right of way.

Following the Concept Development Study of Route 29, Drainage Improvements (DB# 07319), NJDOT’s Capital Program Committee (CPC) had three recommendations: the Southern Section (milepost 2.94 to milepost 4.34), the Northern Section (Mile Post 5.45 to Mile Post 6.74), and an area requiring further study. This TIP Action addresses the breakout project for the Southern Section (Route 29, Cass Street to Calhoun Street, Drainage (DB# 07319B)). The CPC decided at the end of the Concept Development Study that the Northern Section did not have a cost effective solution and approved a no build option. The original “parent” project (DB#07319) will be dropped. Lastly, an additional flooding problem witnessed during Hurricane Irene will be studied and added to the Study and Development Program (Route 29, Assunpink and Pond Run Flooding Study (DB# 07319A)).

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

The TIP’s current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as the project is exempt from the regional Air Quality Analysis.

c. NJ12-29: Route 29, Drainage Improvements (DB #07319), Mercer County

NJDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2012 - 2015 TIP for New Jersey by deleting Route 29, Drainage Improvements (DB# 07319) from the TIP, as a new breakout project (see TIP Action NJ12-28) will address the critical flooding area in the southern section of this project, and the northern section did not have a cost effective solution. This deletion removes \$1,000,000 STP funds accordingly: \$400,000 for FY12 preliminary engineering, \$500,000 for FY13 final design, and \$100,000 for FY14 right-of-way.

Following the Concept Development Study of Route 29, Drainage Improvements (DB# 07319), the Capital Program Committee (CPC) had three recommendations: the Southern Section (milepost 2.94 to milepost 4.34), the Northern Section (Mile Post 5.45 to Mile Post 6.74), and an area requiring further study. The Southern Section will be broken out to its own project (Route

29, Cass Street to Calhoun Street, Drainage (DB# 07319B)). The CPC decided at the end of the Concept Development Study that the Northern Section did not have a cost effective solution and approved a no build option. Lastly, an additional flooding problem witnessed during Hurricane Irene will be studied and added to the Study and Development section of FY2012 DVRPC TIP for New Jersey document (Route 29, Assunpink and Pond Run Flooding Study (DB# 07319A)).

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed and the TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as the project is exempt from the regional Air Quality Analysis.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC that the Board approve TIP Action NJ12-28 and TIP Action NJ12-29.

No public comments were received.

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

MOTION by Mr. Kuhn, seconded by Ms. Lewis, that the Board approve the following TIP Actions:

- (1) TIP Action NJ12-28, NJDOT's request to amend the FY2012 - 2015 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Route 29, Cass Street to Calhoun Street, Drainage project (DB# 07319B) to the TIP with \$1,300,000 STP Funds (within the four-year TIP period, FY12 – FY15) accordingly: \$350,000 for FY13 preliminary engineering, \$850,000 for FY14 final design, and \$100,000 for FY15 right-of-way. Additionally in the out years, \$2,400,000 STP funds will be programmed for construction in FY17.
- (2) TIP Action NJ12-29, NJDOT's request to amend the FY2012 - 2015 TIP for New Jersey by deleting Route 29, Drainage Improvements (DB# 07319) from the TIP, as a new breakout project (see TIP Action NJ12-28) will address the critical flooding area in the southern section of this project, and the northern section did not have a cost effective solution. This deletion removes \$1,000,000 STP funds accordingly: \$400,000 for FY12 preliminary engineering, \$500,000 for FY13 final design, and \$100,000 for FY14 right-of-way.

3. DVRPC FY13 Work Program Amendment: Supplemental Traffic Counting Equipment Purchase

John Ward, DVRPC Associate Director, Planning Division, Intermodal Planning Unit, explained to the Board that the PennDOT Bureau of Planning and Research has requested that DVRPC perform a vehicle classification traffic counting program along various roadways in the five county Pennsylvania portion of the region. This new program requests a 16 vehicle-type classification scheme which differs from our traditional 13 vehicle-type classification scheme. Because our existing traffic counting equipment is calibrated for the traditional scheme, many of these counts will be done manually while other counts will require the acquisition of new equipment. Many of the requested count locations are on interstate facilities where parking alongside the shoulder of the roadway for an extended period of time creates unsafe conditions for both the data collectors and the travelling public. To address the need to gather this data in a safe manner, DVRPC will purchase and deploy video equipment to record the traffic stream. The vehicle classification information will be safely transcribed in the office from the recorded video using a manual traffic counting device with video mode. Funding from this project will allow DVRPC to purchase the appropriate equipment to fulfill PennDOT's request to provide a comprehensive set of traffic data.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC.

No public comments were received.

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

MOTION by Mr. Mosca, seconded by Commissioner Farrell, that the Board amend the DVRPC Fiscal Year 2013 Work Program to include the "Supplemental Traffic Counting Equipment Purchase" and authorize staff to purchase the equipment.

Rina Cutler, City of Philadelphia, commented that the summer may not be the best timeframe for counting traffic.

4. Election of Fiscal Year 2013 DVRPC Board Officers

The Nominating Committee met in June; however, a consensus for a slate of officers was not reached. Nominations were called from the floor for FY 2013 DVRPC Board officers and Barry Seymour, Executive Director, explained that there must be a majority vote from each state and a majority of two state representatives in favor thereof for the nominated candidate.

Two nominations were received for Chair.

On a **motion** by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Commissioner Richards, Commissioner Diane Ellis-Marseglia, Bucks County, was nominated for Chair.

On a **motion** by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Mosca, Commissioner Terence Farrell, Chester County, was nominated for Chair.

There being no additional nominations from the floor for Chair the nominations were closed. A roll call vote was then taken by the Board Recording Secretary. From the 18 voting Board members, the results were as follows: Commissioner Terence Farrell total votes 11 including two of the state representatives from each state; Commissioner Diane Ellis-Marseglia total votes 5. The City of Camden was absent and Camden County abstained.

By the majority vote, Commissioner Farrell was elected as Chair of the DVRPC board for FY 2013.

Commissioner Ellis-Marseglia congratulated Commissioner Farrell, however expressed her disappointment with the DVRPC election process. She understood by being a current Board officer that she would be considered for the next Chair. It seems to be an inequitable process whereas some counties repeatedly held the Chair position and others only a few times or not at all. This situation needs to be discussed among DVRPC and the Board members to reach a solution to revise the DVRPC Bylaws and be sure the counties alternate for the chair position.

Rina Cutler, City of Philadelphia, also commented that the City of Philadelphia has not chaired the Board for many years. Ms. Cutler recommended that the Nominating Committee be disbanded and the Bylaws be revised so that the chairs would rotate, therefore, giving all board members a chance to be Chair.

Commissioner Farrell thanked the Board for their support and votes of confidence and wants to move forward as Chair in a unified manner. Commissioner Farrell then thanked Freeholder Cappelli for his service as DVRPC Chair for Fiscal Year 2012.

Nominations were then taken from the floor for Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer as follows:

On a **motion** by Mr. Tanzman, seconded by Freeholder Cappelli, Commissioner James Simpson with alternate David Kuhn, New Jersey Department of Transportation, was nominated to serve as Vice Chair to the Board.

There being no additional nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed and Commissioner Simpson/Mr. Kuhn was unanimously elected as Vice Chair.

On a **motion** by Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Ms. Cutler, Commissioner Leslie Richards, Montgomery County, was nominated to serve as Secretary of the Board.

There being no additional nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed and Commissioner Richards was unanimously elected as Secretary.

On a **motion** by Mr. Tanzman, seconded by Ms. Paul, Freeholder Cappelli, Camden County, was nominated to serve as Treasurer of the Board.

There being no additional nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed and Freeholder Cappelli was unanimously elected as Treasurer of the Board.

Chair Cappelli then handed the meeting over to the newly elected Chair, Commissioner Farrell.

5. Update of Transportation Safety Action Plan

Zoe Neaderland, DVRPC Manager, Office of Transportation Safety and congestion Management, explained to the Board that in 2007, the DVRPC Board adopted DVRPC's first safety action plan. That document helped DVRPC fulfill the requirement from SAFETEA-LU that MPOs integrate safety into their planning process.

That 2007 document was thoroughly updated and re-adopted in 2009. The 2009 update strengthened the technical approach and continued close work with the Regional Safety Task Force (RSTF). The RSTF is a multidisciplinary group that has met quarterly since 2005. It includes strong participation by PennDOT, NJDOT, NHTSA, FHWA, the counties, and a wide range of other agencies including police departments, safety education programs, and non-profit organizations.

Staff has worked closely with the RSTF on the 2012 Transportation Safety Action Plan. The technical analysis has continued to improve, but the most significant update in the 2012 plan relates to effectiveness. The RSTF adopted a goal, objectives, and measures in 2011. The recommended strategies in the 2012 plan have shifted from general ones to specific strategies and actions that can be

measured. At each RSTF meeting, participants discuss a set of the actions, refine them, and volunteer to take steps appropriate to the agency they represent. The RSTF endorsed the 2012 update at its June 19 meeting.

The basic outline of the plan parallels and is coordinated with the Strategic Highway Safety Plans required of state DOTs. It analyzes 22 federal safety emphasis areas and identifies the ones that contribute to the most fatalities. In the Delaware Valley the same seven key emphasis areas emerged from the analysis as in 2009 although their order shifted. These seven emphasis areas are contributing factors to 95% of crash fatalities in the region. The RSTF focuses on one emphasis area per meeting. After cycling through the seven emphasis areas, it evaluates results and starts the next plan update.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC.

No public comments were received.

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

MOTION by Commissioner Richards, seconded by Commissioner McBlain, that the Board accept the 2012 Transportation Safety Action Plan as a coherent regional approach to reducing crash fatalities and injuries, as well as the cost and congestion that result from crashes.

6. The Delaware Valley Freight Center Inventory: Taking Stock of a Vital Regional Asset

Ted Dahlburg, DVRPC Manager, Office of Freight Planning, explained to the Board that *The Delaware Valley Freight Center Inventory* prepared by the DVRPC Office of Freight Planning defines a hierarchy of freight activity centers, profiles 44 freight centers spread throughout the Delaware Valley, and highlights the connections between transportation and land use planning. The identified freight centers are made up of six different land use types that generate significant employment and freight-related activity: light manufacturing, heavy manufacturing, transportation, utility, distribution, and quarry/mining.

Based on extensive research and outreach efforts, the categorization of the region's Freight Centers has been broken down as follows: 8 Mega Freight Centers (basically, 1,500 contiguous acres or more in size), 13 Major Freight Centers (basically, 700-1,499 contiguous acres), and 23 Intermediate Freight Centers (basically, 250-699 acres in size). Profile sheets for each Freight Center contained

in the inventory provide the following information: land use and business summary, adjacent land use and buffer zones, Interstates and freeways, local/connector roadways, and rail access.

A draft version of *The Delaware Valley Freight Center Inventory* was reviewed and commented upon by DVRPC member government representatives and members of the DVRPC freight advisory committee.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC.

No public comments were received.

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

MOTION by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Mosca, that the Board accept the underlying policies and next steps identified in *The Delaware Valley Freight Center Inventory*.

7. DVRPC Regional Trails Phase II Grant Program Project:

Chris Linn, DVRPC Manager, office of Environmental Planning, explained to the Board that the Greater Philadelphia is a region blessed with a variety of opportunities to create a connected network of multi-use trails. The Regional Trails Program, administered by DVRPC, with funding from the William Penn Foundation, aims to capitalize upon these opportunities by providing funding for targeted, priority trail design, construction and planning projects that will promote a truly connected, regional network of multi-use trails.

Phase II of the program provides funding for multi-use trail planning and feasibility studies. In December 2011, the program received 26 applications for funding totaling \$1.2 million. To date, DVRPC approved 11 Phase II grants totaling \$496,000. Since that time, a revised version of the Forge to Refuge Trail Corridor Study (Delaware County) with a new budget of \$45,000 and scope has been reviewed by the Selection Committee and nominated for funding:

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC to amend *Connections* to include the revised project.

Public comments were received in favor of the Forge to Refuge Trail Corridor Study.

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

MOTION by Commissioner McBlain, seconded by Commissioner Richards, that the Board approve funding for the revised Regional Trails Phase II Grant Program Project, *Forge to Refuge Trail Corridor Study*.

8. One Minute Reports

Byron Comati, reported that SEPTA is co-hosting a three day APTA Transit Sustainability Workshop being held in Philadelphia beginning July 30. Rina Cutler is a keynote speaker as well as the Mayor of Philadelphia.

Sandra Brillhart, FHWA New Jersey Division, reported that FHWA is awaiting guidance as to how the new two-year transportation bill (MAP21) will be implemented. A FHWA website has been established (FHWA.gov/MAP21) with a summary of the new bill. The new bill largely focuses on safety and performance management; and will require the states to establish and meet some performance based goals.

Ms. Brillhart also mentioned that FHWA announced its menu of strategies designed to accelerate project delivery, and introduce new technology. One strategy being promoted is adaptive signal control technology. A webinar is scheduled on the subject.

Camille Otto, FHWA, Pennsylvania Division, reported that the I-95 Scudders Falls Bridge project has received the “finding of no significant impact” from FHWA. The Delaware River Toll Bridge Commission is now examining three options.

Barbara Holcomb, Delaware River Port Authority, thanked DVRPC staff member, Jane Meconi, for the exemplary work she did on preparation of the work program study for PATCO. PATCO is planning on embracing many of the recommendations from that report.

Ms. Holcomb also thanked DVRPC for allowing PATCO to participate in the TIGER-IV grant application. Although funding was not received for the bike ramp on the Benjamin Franklin Bridge project, the project did receive “rave reviews” it appears to a very worthy one and PATCO will continue to pursue funding for the project.

James Mosca, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, reported the new Transportation Bill, MAP 21, will be discussed in October, as part of PennDOT’s Planning Partners Meeting.

Mr. Mosca also reported that applications were due the end of June for the automated red light enforcement program. There has been an extension for that program and Mr. Mosca will keep the Board abreast of the progress.

Freeholder Louis Cappelli, Camden County, reported that the new Cooper University Medical School at Rowan University is now open. Nearly all of the students that will be attending the school are from Pennsylvania or New Jersey.

Freeholder Cappelli also commented that an agreement is close to being signed with Camden City for the establishment of a Metro Police Division of the Camden County Police Department. When established, this will nearly double the number of officers on the streets of Camden.

Commissioner John McBlain, Delaware County, reported that a study was released regarding the Marcus Hook Refinery and its reuses; most of which involve bringing natural gas there through the existing pipeline. The refinery has been brought by Delta Airlines and has created many jobs.

Commissioner Terence Farrell, Chester County, reported that the work on Route 202 and the slip ramp from the Pennsylvania Turnpike is progressing well.

10. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Seymour read a resolution to the Board to honor Donald Shanis, DVRPC Deputy Executive Director, for his dedicated service, contributions and accomplishments over his 39 years at DVRPC and to wish him a happy, healthy retirement.

Mr. Shanis thanked the Board and commented on his great respect for Mr. Seymour and the DVRPC staff. The region has a lot to offer and DVRPC, its Board, and partners should continue to work together and strive to move this region forward.

a. Board Retreat and Annual Awards

Mr. Seymour urged the Board to mark their calendars for the full-day Board Retreat scheduled for **December 6, 2012**.

b. Air Quality Summit

Mr. Seymour reported that DVRPC is hosting the Northeast Air Quality Summit on August 7 and 8, 2012 at the Loews Hotel in Philadelphia.

c. Classic Towns Photo Contest

A reception on August 15, 2012 at 6 p.m. at the Ambler Theater will be held for the Classic Towns Photo Contest (flyer distributed to the Board).

d. Public Participation Task Force

Orientation sessions have been held for the Public Participation Task Force. Three members have been identified to attend the PCC/RTC meetings and report activities to the Board.

e. By-Law Revisions

Revisions to the DVRPC By-Laws were distributed by email to the Board for their review.

f. Policy Analysis Committee

Mr. Seymour reported that he would like to schedule a Policy Analysis Committee Meeting in September for the Board to discuss a number of issues.

Mr. Seymour also announced that a report entitled *Accessing the Tidal Delaware* was available for Board review.

Lastly, Mr. Seymour reported that a positive response was received from the letter sent last month to the National Weather Service requesting that the code orange air quality status continue to be reported. The National Weather Service has consented to continue to report the Code Orange status.

11. Committee Reports

The following committee highlights were distributed to the Board for their review:
(1) Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee;
(2) Regional Community and Economic Development Forum; and (3) Delaware Valley goods Movement Task Force.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Cutler made a **motion** directing DVRPC staff to draft an amendment to the DVRPC Bylaws eliminating the current nomination process and allow for a rotation process of the Chair of the DVRPC Board.

Andrew Paris, Pennsylvania Governor's Policy and Planning Office, commented that he would not be willing to endorse any particular rotation of chair at this time but would fully endorse a revision to the bylaws for an equitable and fair election process.

Ms. Cutler responded that the equity issue can only be resolved if there is a rotation of Chairs and all voting members have a chance to become Chair. The members would be able to decline the chair if so desired. The City of Philadelphia has not chaired the DVRPC Board for a long, long, time and this is not acceptable.

Commissioner Ellis-Marseglia seconded Ms. Cutler's **motion**, however added that the rotation should begin with the counties who have not had the opportunity to be Chair for past several years.

Commissioner McBlain asked for clarification of the **motion** stated by Ms. Cutler.

Chair Farrell responded that the specific **motion** is to direct DVRPC staff to prepare text to establish a specific rotational schedule so that the counties and member agency representatives would rotate through the Chairmanship unless the specific representative declines.

Commissioner McBlain and Commissioner Richards agreed to a more in-depth discussion on the issue.

Ms. Cutler responded that she would be willing to suspend the motion until after the Board Policy Committee Meeting discussion on this issue. The **motion** was suspended.

Mr. Seymour commented that draft text to revise the bylaws with reference to the election process will be prepared and distributed to the Board before the Board Policy Analysis Committee Meeting for their review. The issue will be placed on the Policy Analysis Committee agenda for discussion as to how to proceed with the bylaw revision.

There being no further business, the meetings was adjourned at 11:48 p.m.

DVRPC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC public meetings are held in ADA and transit-accessible facilities. Auxiliary services can be provided to individuals who submit a request at least seven days prior to a meeting. For more information please visit the DVRPC website (www.dvrpc.org) or call (215) 238-2871.