

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of February 28, 2013

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

Membership Present

Representative

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

Joyce Paul
David Kuhn
James Ritzman
James Mosca
Brett Tanzman
Ronald Henry
Kathleen Bruder
Lynn Bush
Terence Farrell
Ronald Bailey
John McBlain
Leslie Richards
Turea Hutson
Carol Ann Thomas
Andrew Levecchia
Richard Westergaard
Donna Lewis
Jacqueline Parker
Rina Cutler
(not represented)
(not represented)

Non-Voting Members

Federal Highway Administration
New Jersey Division
Pennsylvania Division
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,
Region III

Sandra Brillhart
(not represented)

(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	Tony Cho
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	Byron Comati
New Jersey Transit Corporation	(not represented)
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Cosmo Servidio
Delaware River Port Authority	Barbara Holcomb
Port Authority Transit Corporation	John Rink
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	Lisa Worden
New Jersey Office for Planning Advocacy	Katherine Meade

DVRPC Co-Counsel

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

DVRPC Staff: Barry J. Seymour, Richard Bickel, John Ward, Patty Elkis, Richard Murphy, Chris Puchalsky, Michael Boyer, Greg Krykewycz, Paul Smith, Stan Platt, Elizabeth Schoonmaker, Thomas McGovern, Mary Bell, Taghi Ozbeki, John Coscia, Jr., and Renee Wise.

Guests

New Jersey Governor's Appointee	Amy Herbold
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (Dist. 6)	Linda Guarini
Cross County Connection Transportation Management Association	William Ragozine
3M New Jersey	Leah Picone
Clean Air Council	Dennis Winters
RK & K Engineers, Inc.	Mahmood Shehata
Delaware County Planning Department	Thomas Shaffer
Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc.	Susan Herman
Montgomery County	Bridget Chadwick

Call to Order - Chair's Comments

Chair Terence Farrell called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

Public comments were submitted about TIP Actions by Bridget Chadwick of Montgomery County. Susan Herman of the Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc. submitted comments about the Public Participation Task Force. A response from DVRPC followed.

1. Minutes of Meeting of January 24, 2013

On a Motion by Mr. Levecchia, seconded by Mr. Kuhn, the minutes of January 24, 2013 were approved as distributed.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP Actions)

Elizabeth Schoonmaker, DVRPC Capital Program Manager, Office of Capital Programs, presented the following TIP actions to the Board.

a. PA13-21: Additional Design Start Funding Provided to the DVRPC Region, (Various MPMS#s), Various Pennsylvania Counties

PennDOT is requesting that DVRPC amend the FY2013-2016 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding \$10,100,000 (\$2,800,000 State 185/\$2,500,000 State 581/\$4,800,000 State 183) design funds in FY13 to five TIP projects. This action advances three with construction programmed in Later Fiscal Years, one project that was on the Illustrative Unfunded List, and another new bridge project that is advancing. This action reflects an effort to make sure projects are in the design pipeline should there be a new revenue source, and a statewide initiative has made FY13 state funds available to PennDOT Districts throughout the state. These state funds are additional funds to the DVRPC region.

Funds have been made available to advance final design for the following projects in the DVRPC region:

- 1) *\$2,600,000 for Vine Street Expressway Bridges Over I-676 Expressway (PAB) – Part 3 (MPMS# 80054), City of Philadelphia.* This project involves replacing two superstructures over I-676 in the City of Philadelphia and is the first phase of the three Vine Street Bridge contracts to advance. This section is located at the

Free Library Pedestrian Bridge (Shakespeare Park) north of Logan Circle and the intersection realignment of 20th and Winter Street. \$2,403,000 is already programmed for final design in the current TIP. This TIP Action is to increase the final design phase by \$2,600,000 for more engineering due to the bridges needing to be replaced, instead of rehabilitated. The improvements include superstructure replacement with steel and concrete decks, pier removal and abutment modifications to accommodate the new superstructure and minor approach roadway work. An existing opening between 20th Street and the Free Library Pedestrian Bridge will be capped over with new superstructure as a part of this project. Approach roadway work will include reconstructing the Ben Franklin Parkway from 20th Street to 21st Street. There are existing sidewalks along both sides of 20th Street, Ben Franklin Parkway and Winter Street that will be replaced in kind. Existing bike lanes along Ben Franklin Parkway and 20th Street will also be replaced in kind. Enhancements along the Franklin Institute at the intersection of Winter Street and the Ben Franklin Parkway, and enhancements at the Free Library Pedestrian Bridge will have funding contributions from MPMS# 79473 and 85059 respectively. The construction cost of this project is estimated at \$78,500,000.

- 2) *\$2,200,000 for Vine Street Expressway Bridges Over I-676 Expressway (PAC) - Part 2 (MPMS# 88768), City of Philadelphia.* This project involves replacement of two superstructures over I-676 in the City of Philadelphia and is the second of the three Vine Street Bridge contracts to advance. There is no final design funding on the current TIP. This section is located at the 19th Street Bridge over I-676, north of Logan Circle; the Family Court Pedestrian Bridge over I-676, north of Logan Circle and the 18th Street Bridge over I-676, north of Logan Circle. Part two of a three part breakout of MPMS# 80054. All existing structures to be reconstructed are non-composite prestressed concrete adjacent box beams with asphalt wearing surfaces supported by concrete abutments and a center concrete pier. The improvements include replacement with steel and concrete decks, pier removal and abutment modifications to accommodate the new superstructure and minor approach roadway work. Both the 18th Street and 19th Street Bridges have existing sidewalks on each side that will be replaced in kind. The construction cost of this project is estimated at \$112,899,000.
- 3) *\$2,500,000 for Roosevelt Boulevard over Wayne Junction (WAV) Viaduct (MPMS# 83736), City of Philadelphia.* This project involves rehabilitating or replacing the bridge carrying Roosevelt Boulevard SR 0001 over Roberts Road, Wayne Avenue Station, Clarissa Street, Germantown Avenue, and N. Gratz Street. The existing bridge is 2,589 feet in length and carries two 12-foot northbound lanes, three 12-foot southbound lanes, shoulders, and a center median barrier. The rehabilitation or replacement will include deck replacement,

superstructure and substructure repairs, bridge painting, bearing maintenance, evaluation of pin & hangers, fatigue analysis, and seismic analysis. The project will be constructed under traffic. This project has been on the Illustrative Unfunded List. The construction cost of this project is estimated at \$80,000,000.

- 4) \$300,000 for I-95 Overhead Bridges (MPMS# 88407), Delaware County. This new project entails rehabilitation and painting of eight (8) bridges spanning I-95 in the City of Chester. The estimated construction cost of this project is \$30,000,000. The bridges are the Crosby Street Pedestrian Bridge, Edgemont Avenue, Madison Street, Upland Street, Potter Street, Walnut Street Pedestrian Bridge, Chestnut Street and Melrose Avenue. The Potter Street and Melrose Avenue bridges will have their decks replaced.

The Chestnut Street Bridge will have a bituminous overlay and the rocker bearings reset. The Upland Street Bridge deck will have an LMC overlay. All bridges will have miscellaneous concrete repairs, have the protective fence repaired or replaced, and will be painted.

- 5) \$2,500,000 for US 202, Dekalb Pike, Section 610 Johnson Highway to Morris Road (Design Only) (MPMS# 50364), Montgomery County. This Section 600 of US 202 project is currently in final design. This MPMS# contains design phase only. Improvements include widening US 202 from two to four or five lanes and intersection improvements at major intersections. The limits of Section 600 are from Johnson Highway to PA 309. See MPMS #'s 63491, 63486, and 63490 for construction sections. Construction of these projects is estimated at \$200,000,000.

Financial constraint will be maintained, as these funds are additional to the region. The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by these actions.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

A public comment was received by Bridget Chadwick of Montgomery County, regarding the need to reduce VMT and GHG emissions. She suggested that halting non-transit projects was necessary in order to further this goal.

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

MOTION by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Ms. Richards, that the Board approve the following TIP action:

1) PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2013-2015 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding \$10,100,000 (\$2,800,000 State 185/\$2,500,000 State 581/\$4,800,000 State 183) design funds in FY13, and update project titles and descriptions as needed, to the following five TIP projects:

- 1) \$2,600,000 State 183 for Vine Street Expressway Bridges Over I-676 Expressway (PAB) – Part 3 (MPMS# 80054), City of Philadelphia.
- 2) \$2,200,000 State 183 for Vine Street Expressway Bridges Over I-676 Expressway (PAC) - Part 2 (MPMS# 88768), City of Philadelphia.
- 3) \$2,500,000 State 185 for Roosevelt Boulevard over Wayne Junction (WAV) Viaduct (MPMS# 83736), City of Philadelphia.
- 4) \$300,000 State 185 for I-95 Overhead Bridges (MPMS# 88407), Delaware County.
- 5) \$2,500,000 State 581 for US 202, Dekalb Pike, Section 610 Johnson Highway to Morris Road (Design Only) (MPMS# 50364), Montgomery County.

b. NJ12-51: CR 553, Buck Road, Section 2, Resurfacing (DB# D1301), Gloucester County

Gloucester County is requesting that DVRPC amend the FY2012 – 2015 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new \$2,500,000 project, CR 553, Buck Road, Section 2, Resurfacing (DB# D1301), for construction in FY13. Funds will be made available by other projects that have schedules that have slipped to next year or later, or additional obligation authority made available to DVRPC by NJDOT.

The project involves the resurfacing and safety improvements to County Route 553 from Thornwood Drive (prior federal resurfacing section) in Elk Township to the intersection of Sewell Street, County Route 628 at the CONRAIL rail grade crossing at the municipal boundary with the Borough of Glassboro. The existing roadway has deteriorated with numerous surfaces cracking throughout its length. The roadway has not been resurfaced for over 20 years. The existing bridge parapets at Still Run, Bridge 8-J-1 have deteriorated and require replacement; the bridge structure itself is sound. The guiderail at the bridge approaches need to be upgraded to current standards including new crashworthy end treatments.

The project will create a smoother consistent cross slope through milling the existing cartway and resurfacing with 2 ½ inches of hot mix surface course, minor reconstruction

of existing failed pavement areas, replacement of existing curb and upgrade of existing pedestrian facilities to ADA standards. New long life traffic stripes and markings as well as raised pavement markers and signing will be installed. The project will include the installation of a traffic signal at the existing all-way stop intersection with Clayton-Aura Road, County Route 610. ADA compliant pedestrian crossing facilities will be constructed at the proposed traffic signal. Existing guiderail at the bridge approaches to Still Run, Bridge 8-J-1 will be replaced to current standards. The existing deteriorated parapets at this bridge will be replaced at its current footprint but also to current standards with the proper safety shape. This barrier shape will be tied into the replacement of the existing bituminous surface with concrete pavement over the bridge to address any future settlement.

The existing guiderail will be upgraded to current standards by maintaining as well as replacing the end treatments with current crashworthy ones. New spacer blocks and any substandard posts will be replaced. The existing vegetation under the guiderail will be maintained. Non-vegetative surface treatment will not be utilized. This project will smooth out this condition as well as provide a more consistent transition and offset for the travel lanes as well as a more consistent cross slope. Bicycle safe grates and NJDEP ECO compliant heads and grates will be constructed to comply with current storm water regulations. No new drainage will be constructed however. The existing drainage structures at the Stanger Avenue intersection have deteriorated walls and have silted in and will be reconstructed in-kind.

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed, or by using additional obligation authority made available to DVRPC by NJDOT. All projects listed contribute to fiscal constraint. The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment, as this project is exempt.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

A public comment was received from Leonard Fritz of Gloucester County who questioned whether this project would provide for a bicycle lane either now or in the future. DVRPC responded that this project will have bicycle compatible shoulders though no formal bike lane will be striped on the road at this time. Gloucester County's proposed bike trail extension parallels this road and is proposed to be a separate trail from the roadway. A public comment was received from Bridget Chadwick of Montgomery County, who requested that additional information be added to the TIP Action to ensure that traffic calming would be implemented where needed and that pedestrian/bicycle/transit infrastructure improvements are properly communicated. DVRPC responded that these comments will be forwarded to the project manager for review.

c. **NJ12-52: CR 678, Harrison Street (Mantua or Berkley Road), Resurfacing (DB# D1302), Gloucester County**

Gloucester County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2012 – 2015 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new \$1,500,000 project, CR 678, Harrison Street (Mantua or Berkley Road), Resurfacing (DB# D1302), for construction in FY13. Funds will be made available by other projects that have schedules that have slipped to next year or later, or additional obligation authority made available to DVRPC by NJDOT.

The project involves resurfacing and safety improvements to County Route 678 from the intersection of Route 45, Bridgeton Pike in Mantua Township to the NJ Turnpike overpass in East Greenwich Township. The original road section has deteriorated, requiring overlay to maintain good rideability and prevent further degradation and more extensive improvements such as a complete reconstruction. Development has occurred along much of this road segment with some widening for shoulders and auxiliary turning lanes. This widening has been completed over the past 15 years by the adjoining development and has created an uneven riding surface as traffic transitions across the older and newer pavement at the opening joints.

The project will smooth out this condition and provide a more consistent transition and offset for the travel lanes as well as a more consistent cross slope. The project includes milling the existing cartway and resurfacing with 2 ½ inches of hot mix asphalt surface course, minor reconstruction of existing failed pavement areas, replacement of existing curb, and upgrade of existing pedestrian facilities to ADA standards. New long life traffic stripes and markings as well as raised pavement markers and signing will be installed. Bicycle safe grates and NJDEP ECO compliant heads and grates will be constructed to comply with current storm water regulations. The project will also include the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Berkley Road (CR 632) and Harrison Street (CR 678). ADA compliant pedestrian crossing facilities will be constructed at the proposed traffic signal.

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed, or by using additional obligation authority made available to DVRPC by NJDOT. All projects listed contribute to fiscal constraint. The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment, as this project is exempt.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

A public comment was received from Leonard Fritz of Gloucester County who questioned whether this roadwork would provide for, now or in the future, bicycle lanes.

DVRPC responded that this roadway will have bicycle compatible shoulders, but no formal bike lane will be striped at this time. A public comment was received from Jeff Taylor of Gloucester County who expressed concern about the proposed addition of the traffic light with CR 632, sight obstructions, and the flow of traffic continuing on to CR 678. He indicated that the shoulder is also a problem and has contributed to increased travel times; he suggested road widening in this area. Mr. Taylor also proposed a minor realignment and reinstallation of curbing at the intersection of New Jersey State Route 45 and CR 678. The Gloucester County Planning Division responded that the project will address obstructions and will include a dedicated left turn lane. Additionally the County responded that it does not have the jurisdiction to reconstruct that intersection.

d. NJ12-53: Pearl Street Bulkhead Replacement (DB# D1007A), Camden County

Camden County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2012 – 2015 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new \$600,000 project, Pearl Street Bulkhead Replacement (DB# D1007A), for construction in FY13. Funds will be made available by other projects that have schedules that have slipped to next year or later, or additional obligation authority made available to DVRPC by NJDOT.

This project is a breakout from the ARRA Martin Luther King Waterfront Connection Bike/Ped project (DB# D1007). The project will rebuild a bulkhead along the waterfront and mill and overlay Pearl Street from Marine Drive to the Delaware River. This will increase bike safety by providing striped bike lanes within the project area for the existing and future regional trail system.

The Regional Technical Committee had recommended the approval of this project in the amount of \$500,000 on February 5, 2013. Since the Regional Technical Committee has taken place, the cost estimate has been revised and Camden County is requesting a \$100,000 increase, for a total of \$600,000.

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed, or by using additional obligation authority made available to DVRPC by NJDOT. All projects listed contribute to fiscal constraint. TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment, as this project is exempt.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

A public comment was received from John Boyle of the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia who expressed support for the project.

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

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

- 1) NJ12-51: Gloucester County's request to amend the FY2012 - 2015 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new \$2,500,000 project, CR 553, Buck Road, Section 2, Resurfacing (DB# D1301), for construction in FY13.
- 2) NJ12-52: Gloucester County's request to amend the amend the FY2012 – 2015 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new \$1,500,000 project, CR 678 Harrison Street (Mantua or Berkley Road), Resurfacing (DB# D1302), for construction in FY13.
- 3) NJ12-53: Camden County's request to amend the FY2012 – 2015 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new \$600,000 project, Pearl Street Bulkhead Replacement (DB# D1007A), for construction in FY13.

3. Fiscal Year 2013 Planning Work Program Amendments

Online Business and Technology Training Program (OBTT)

Jane Meconi, DVRPC Manager of Public Involvement, explained to the Board that the Online Business and Technology Training Program (OBTT) is a new initiative of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's (DCED's) Broadband Outreach & Aggregation Fund (BOAF). In a global economy increasingly reliant on technology and online communication, it is vital for Pennsylvania municipalities, businesses, schools, nonprofit organizations, libraries, and other stakeholders to have knowledge of and access to computer programs to enhance organizational efficiency. Frequently, individuals with limited knowledge of computers and online applications may be uncertain of investing in technology or seeking out a training program to learn more. At the same time, individuals may be interested in using these types of programs but may have limited financial resources to seek training.

The objective of the program is to provide program participants access to a suite of online computer training programs, including, but not limited to, Microsoft Office applications, operating systems, computer security, e-commerce/ e-marketing tools, website development, and other programs to help individuals sustain or grow their organizations. These training programs are aimed towards providing assistance to those wanting to adopt broadband-related technologies, but without the resources to do so. Programs are open to anyone, with attendees ranging from students to small business owners.

The OBTT program will be offered statewide, and will be managed by Local Development Districts, MPOs, and RPOs across Pennsylvania. Each region will receive 425 Technology Training Access “keys” to distribute to participants in the program.

DVRPC’s Office of Public Affairs will facilitate the OBTT program in the five-county southeastern Pennsylvania region, working closely with project partners across the Commonwealth. In addition to providing Technology Training Access “keys” and managing the program, DVRPC will develop a public outreach campaign (including media releases, e-mail “blasts,” newsletter articles, tweets, public meetings) to promote the project to an audience of nonprofit and community organizations, municipalities, schools, businesses, and the general public.

The contract will run for a term of twelve months from the date of settlement. DVRPC will enter into a contract as a subrecipient of the NEPA Alliance, which has been contracted by DCED as the lead agency for this project.

The cost and source of funds is \$39,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (Broadband Outreach and Aggregation Fund).

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

MOTION by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Mr. McBlain, that the Board amend the DVRPC FY 2013 Planning Work Program to include the Online Business and Technology Training (OBTT) project and allow the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the NEPA Alliance to operate the OBTT program in the five-county southeastern Pennsylvania region.

4. FY 2014 Pennsylvania New Freedom Project Recommendations

Grey Krykewycz, Manager of Transit, Bicycle, and Pedestrian Planning, explained to the Board that under SAFETEA-LU regulations, the New Freedom (FREE) and Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) grant programs are a component of a Coordinated Human Services Transportation Planning (CHSTP) process. The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) is the Governor’s designated recipient for the FREE and JARC programs. Local non-profit agencies, municipalities, as well as other transportation providers are eligible sub-recipients. SEPTA will work with all potential sub-recipients to develop full applications to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

FTA regulations require metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to conduct a “fair and equitable” selection process consistent with the adopted regional Coordinated

Human Services Transportation Plan. This includes plan updates, outreach, ranking and recommendation of project applicants, and adding projects to the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), pending grant approvals. Rating criteria include objectives from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) uniform state-wide application, and regional priorities including additional non-federal, non-state funding (financial sustainability) and cost per user. The recommended projects are listed in ranked order to help ensure flexibility should funding levels change.

The New Freedom grant program funds additional tools for disabled individuals seeking integration into the workforce and society. In the Pennsylvania portion of the DVRPC region, most project awards have been for facility investments beyond ADA requirements or travel training programs. The FY14 New Freedom program, which is allocated by federal formula, provides \$1,329,119 of FTA funds. PennDOT is anticipated to provide matching funds of \$319,324 for a total southeastern Pennsylvania FREE program of \$1,648,443 for FY2014. The list of recommended projects was originally approved by the Board for a two-year span (FY2013-14), and the second of these two years must now be reviewed and reapproved for updated FY2014 funding amounts.

DVRPC's Pennsylvania CHSTP Selection Committee (comprised of representatives of each Pennsylvania county, an advocate for the disabled, and representatives of DVRPC's Public Participation Task Force) conferred on December 17, 2012 to reaffirm the projects originally selected last year and agree on appropriate FY2014 funding levels. The Selection Committee's recommended project list was shared with PennDOT's Bureau of Public Transportation (BPT) for review and approval on December 18, 2012, and received BPT approval (conditional on funding availability and appropriate performance tracking for grantees) on January 2, 2013. Accordingly, the Selection Committee recommends five (5) FREE projects for DVRPC Board approval. Should the Board approve the proposed project list, it will be formally submitted to PennDOT for funding confirmation.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

MOTION by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Ms. Richards that the Board re-approve the recommendations for FY 2014 PA New Freedom funding. There was also an administrative action to modify the TIP by increasing the FY14 Operating Phase by \$7,000 New Freedom funds (TIP Action PA 13-19).

5. Year 2040 Population Forecast Amendment: Upper Merion Township

Mary Bell, Manager of Demographic and Economic Analysis explained that population forecasts are an essential component of long-range transportation and land use planning. DVRPC last adopted population forecasts (in five-year increments through the year 2040) in January 2012. A negotiated settlement approved in June 2012 will result in additional residential development at the Village at Valley Forge, located on a 135-acre site in Upper Merion Township (Montgomery County, Pennsylvania). Montgomery County has requested that DVRPC amend its adopted 2040 population forecasts to reflect an increase of 2,254 residents by 2040 to account for this additional development.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

MOTION by Ms. Richards, seconded by Ms. Cutler that the Board amend the adopted 2040 Population Forecasts in five-year increments for Upper Merion Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, as presented, and revise the regional, county, and TAZ-level forecasts as appropriate.

DISCUSSION ITEM

6. One Minute Reports

Barbara Holcomb, Delaware River Port Authority, congratulated SEPTA on winning the 2012 Outstanding Transportation System award.

John Rink, PATCO, congratulated SEPTA on the award as well.

Byron Comati, SEPTA, reported that SEPTA was given the 2012 Outstanding Transportation System annual award last year even though the accolades are coming in now. He expressed his hope that the award will translate into more funding for SEPTA. SEPTA's General Manager just came back from Harrisburg to try to emphasize that point.

Tony Cho, FTA, reported that FTA released new categorical exclusions for transit projects a few weeks ago, which help simplify things. He asked everyone to please check FTA's website for more information on this. There is a lot of public outreach about this and webinars are available to explain things in further detail.

Brett Tanzman, N.J. Governor's Appointee, reported that this would be his last meeting as a Board member and representative for the New Jersey's Governor's Office. He introduced his replacement on the Board, Amy Herbold.

James Ritzman, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, reported on Governor Corbett's transportation plan and spoke about deregulating the oil company franchise tax and reducing the flat tax. He explained that the plan calls for the funding to be broken down into thirds, over five years; this will rise to \$1.8 billion per year in additional funding for transportation. Mr. Ritzman explained that the plan calls for funding to be broken out for roads, bridges, and transit with a multi-modal fund. There will be a call for projects once there is dedicated funding source to help. The multi-modal fund is flexible and can be used for many areas of transportation. There will also be bicycle and pedestrian funding included as well. The proposal is being discussed with Legislators now. Mr. Ritzman asked for everyone's support of the plan.

Terence Farrell, Chester County, reported that the Coatesville Train Station project is moving along and the county has requested proposals, which are due back in March. The proposals will be presented to the Coatesville Redevelopment Authority at that time. A successful pre-proposal conference was held two weeks ago. This is a \$20-25 million project and there is some money for rebuilding along Third Avenue.

Leslie Richards, Montgomery County, reported that the Markley St., Norristown High Speed Line Project is starting. The project is off to a good start and she would like to get the transportation funding burden further along for the counties. Ms. Richards appealed to the Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee, saying that the transportation funding bill match for transit is being increased significantly, which may impact future transit projects.

Lynn Bush, Bucks County, reported on the Commissioner's announcement about the restructuring of economic development functions in Bucks County. The county would like to centralize functions and engage municipalities in this and reinforce to them that economic development does not mean the same thing to all. The county has reached out to 54 municipalities and half have signed up to work with the county on this. It is moving along nicely but it is a major restructuring of economic development functions in the county.

Jacqueline Parker, Chester City, reported that the city is holding a kick-off and press conference for the Urban Waterway Federal Partnership in April. The Delaware River has been designated as one of their areas and the cities of Camden, Chester, Wilmington and Philadelphia as their target. Ms. Parker explained that this is a coming together of Federal agencies to discuss distressed areas along waterways and implored Board members to attend.

Cosmo Servidio, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, introduced himself and said he looks forward to working with everyone. He discussed the need for a balance between economic development, transportation, and the environment.

PRESENTATION

7. I-95/I-476 Interchange Improvement Feasibility Study – Phase 2

John Ward, DVRPC's Deputy Planning Director, Office of Planning, and Stan Platt, DVRPC's Manager of Transportation Operations Management, presented on the results of the study, including: feasibility; traffic benefits; and planning level cost estimates. In the initial I-95/I-476 Interchange Study the consultant identified 10 potential improvements, three of which were studied in more detail in the Phase 2 effort. The three interchange improvements studied were: from southbound I-476 to southbound I-95; from northbound I-95 to northbound I-476; and peak hour shoulder use on I-476.

8. Executive Director's Report

a. Public Listening Sessions

Mr. Seymour reported that DVRPC will be hosting a series of public listening sessions. The next one, on regional freight planning, is scheduled to take place on March 7 at 6:00p.m. in Lansdale, Montgomery County.

b. Pennsylvania and New Jersey Sustainability Forum

Mr. Seymour called the Board's attention to the Pennsylvania and New Jersey Sustainability Forum, which is taking place on March 12 at Temple University and is being hosted by the Delaware Valley Green Building Council.

c. Smart Growth Alliance Forum

Mr. Seymour called the Board's attention to the Smart Growth Alliance Forum, which is taking place on April 5 at 8:00 a.m. at PECO, Energy Hall, in Philadelphia. Communities from throughout the region will set up a display about development opportunities in their communities. The list of communities includes seven from New Jersey and seven from Pennsylvania. Mr. Seymour encouraged Board members to attend.

d. Classic Towns Nomination

Mr. Seymour reported that the Classic Towns recommendations are in. Seven communities have been recommended, including Woodbury, Hightstown, Newtown Borough, Malvern, Ridley Park, Glenside, and Chestnut Hill.

e. World Class Greater Philadelphia

Mr. Seymour called the Board's attention to World Class Greater Philadelphia, which is being run by the Economy League. This initiative is an effort to further promote the region and focus on funding infrastructure, business growth, and education, and talent development. There will be a program at WHYYY on March 18 to further explore these ideas.

f. Pennsylvania Transportation Funding Proposal

Mr. Seymour called the Board's attention to Pennsylvania's transportation funding proposal and Commissioner Farrell's op-ed piece in the Pottstown Mercury and Delaware County Times.

g. Penn Future Grant Proposal

Mr. Seymour reported that Penn Future has approached DVRPC and would like to work on a statewide project to link municipalities and school districts with Energy Service Companies to help finance energy-efficiency investments.

h. NARC Conference

Mr. Seymour reported that the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) Conference is taking place June 23 through 26 at the Sheraton Society Hill. There are opportunities for Board members to participate, present, and sponsor.

i. 2040 Plan Maps

Mr. Seymour called the Board's attention to the need for cities and counties to update their 2040 Long Range planning maps.

9. Committee Reports

The following committee reports were distributed to the Board for review:

- (1) Regional Technical Committee

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m. on a **MOTION** by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Mr. Levecchia.

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.

I certify that this is a true and correct copy.

Renee Wise, Recording Secretary