

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of May 26, 2016

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

Sean Thompson
Thomas Wospil
James Ritzman
James Mosca
Chris Howard
(not represented)
Nedia Ralston
Diane Ellis-Marseglia
Michelle Kichline
Brian O’Leary
Linda Hill
Valerie Arkoosh
Jody Holton
Carol Thomas
Andrew Levecchia
Theresa Ziegler
Leslie Floyd
(not represented)
Clarena Tolson
(not represented)
Stephani Register

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

Calvin Edghill

Pennsylvania Division

(not represented)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,
Region III
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
Federal Transit Administration, Region III
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority

David Marable
(not represented)
(not represented)
Katie Berrillo
Byron Comati

New Jersey Transit Corporation
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Delaware River Port Authority
Port Authority Transit Corporation
New Jersey Office of Planning Advocacy
Pennsylvania Department of Community and
Economic Development

Lou Millan
(not represented)
(not represented)
Barbara Holcomb
Phil Spinelli
Gerard Scharfenberger

Erick Emerson

DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel
New Jersey Co-Counsel

Frederick Strober
Thomas Coleman

DVRPC Staff: Barry Seymour, John Ward, Chris Puchalsky, Elizabeth Schoonmaker, Alison Hastings, Kwan Hui, Rick Murphy, Greg Krykewycz, Taghi Ozbeki, Mike Boyer, Mary Bell, Tom McGovern, Van Doan, Zoe Neaderland, Elise Turner, Brett Fusco, Sean Greene, Chris Linn, Andrew Svekla, Ben Gruswitz, Betsy Mastaglio, Rob Graff, Reuben MacMartin, Sarah Moran, Thom Stead, Sandy Clark, Ken Peters, and Renee Wise.

Guests

PennDOT
PennDOT 6-0
Pennoni Associates
SEPTA
PlanPhilly
Bergmann Associates

Jennifer Granger
Jonathan Korus
Donald Shanis
Elizabeth Smith
Jim Saksa
Pattie Guttenplan

Call to Order - Chair's Comments

Vice Chair Nedra Ralston called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and asked if there was any press in the room.

Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

No public comments were stated. One non-agenda item was received prior to the meeting seeking information on community revitalization. A response was provided, and shared with the Board.

Action Items

1. Minutes of Meeting of April 28, 2016

The Board adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Ms. Tolson, seconded by Mr. Howard, to approve the minutes of April 28, 2016.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP Actions)

Elizabeth Schoonmaker, DVRPC Associate Director, Transportation, presented the following TIP actions to the Board:

2a. PA15-84: Downingtown Train Station Rehabilitation, (MPMS #93586), PennDOT (Chester County)

Jennifer Granger, PennDOT, explained that PennDOT's Bureau of Public Transportation Services and Programs has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new \$75,436,000 project, Downingtown Train Station Rehabilitation, (MPMS #93586), into the TIP, accordingly: \$7,936,000 (\$6,349,000 Section 5337/\$1,587,000 State 341) for Final Design in FY16; \$11,000,000 total for Right-of-Way in FY16 (\$8,250,000 (\$6,600,000 Section 5337/\$1,650,000 State 341) and in FY17 (\$2,750,000 (\$2,200,000 Section 5307/\$550,000 State 341); \$1,500,000 (\$1,200,000 Section 5307/\$300,000 State 341) for Utility in FY17; and a total of \$55,000,000 (\$26,000,000 Section 5337/\$18,000,000 Section 5307/\$11,000,000 State 341) for Construction in FY19. Funds will be provided by PennDOT's Statewide Keystone Corridor Line Item of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307/5337 and State 341 funds and are additional funds to the region.

A new Downingtown Station will be constructed at a location that is less than half a mile east of the existing station on SR322/Brandywine Avenue on a section of tangent track in Downingtown Borough, as a result of the Alternative Analysis conducted by PennDOT with Amtrak, SEPTA, and local communities in 2013. The proposed new station will continue to serve Amtrak and SEPTA train service, will be ADA accessible, and will provide 500-foot long high level long boarding platforms, approximately 850–950 parking spaces, bicycle and pedestrian access, site lighting and security. The development of site configuration details will continue as PennDOT purchases the property and works towards the goal of creating a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) as a Public Private Partnership (P3) with a to-be-determined developer. The existing station is an enclosed shelter with a low level platform, has 360 parking spaces, and is not ADA accessible.

The Downingtown Station is a component of the Keystone Corridor rail service between Philadelphia and Harrisburg. Sharing some of the operating characteristics of the Northeast Corridor (NEC) main line, the Amtrak-owned and operated Philadelphia-Harrisburg segment (104 miles) is a mature passenger corridor, with frequent intercity trains (14 Amtrak round trips per average workday, which operate on the NEC beyond Philadelphia to New York from Harrisburg) and SEPTA commuter trains for part of the route between Downingtown and Philadelphia. There are 22 Amtrak stops and 42 SEPTA stops per weekday at the Downingtown Station. Amtrak ridership numbers for the station are 61,435 riders (FY14-15). This line has multiple tracks, full electrification, and grade separation from the highway grid.

Financial constraint will be maintained as these are additional funds to the region. All projects listed contribute to fiscal constraint.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

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

MOTION by Mr. O’Leary, seconded by Mr. Ritzman, that the Board approve the following TIP action:

PA15-84, PennDOT’s Bureau of Public Transportation Services and Programs’ request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Pennsylvania by adding a new \$75,436,000 project, Downingtown Train Station Rehabilitation, (MPMS #93586), into the TIP, accordingly: \$7,936,000 (\$6,349,000 Section 5337/\$1,587,000 State 341) for Final Design in FY16; \$11,000,000 total for Right-of-Way in FY16 (\$8,250,000 (\$6,600,000 Section 5337/\$1,650,000 State 341) and in FY17 (\$2,750,000 (\$2,200,000 Section 5307/\$550,000 State 341); \$1,500,000 (\$1,200,000 Section 5307/\$300,000 State 341) for Utility in FY17; and a total of \$55,000,000 (\$26,000,000 Section 5337/\$18,000,000 Section 5307/\$11,000,000 State 341) for Construction in FY19. Funds will be provided by PennDOT’s Statewide Keystone Corridor Line Item of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307/5337 and State 341 funds and are additional funds to the region.

2b. NJ16-030: Gloucester County Multi-Purpose Trail Extension - Glassboro Elk Trail, (DB #D1203), Gloucester County

Gloucester County has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2016 - 2019 TIP for New Jersey by adding a \$1,000,000 FY15 STATE-DVRPC funded Right-of-Way (ROW) phase in FY16 and by delaying the \$2,000,000 STATE-DVRPC funded Construction (CON) phase from FY16 to FY17. ROW was on the previous FY2014 TIP with the same cost for advancement in FY15, but the project did not encumber ROW funds in time.

Funds will provide for the construction of a multi-purpose trail, “Glassboro-Elk Trail,” from the Elk Township Recreation Park via Whig Lane (CR 619) over Route 55 to Sewell Street (CR 628) and pass the Glassboro Sports Complex to end at Delsea Drive (NJ 47) and at the end of the Rowan University campus near Girard Avenue in Glassboro Borough. The trail in the Elk Township Recreational Park will connect to the existing Elephant Swamp Trail that extends into Salem County. In addition to connecting trails and a future rail station, the Glassboro-Elk Trail will be able to link people to existing and planned transit facilities that include various NJ TRANSIT bus routes and a planned bike lane link to the Glassboro Arts District along High Street.

Financial constraint will be maintained as STATE-DVRPC funds that are from a previous year and are not encumbered can be carried over to future years for encumbrance. Encumbrance means that proper authorization has been obtained before State Transportation Trust Fund dollars are financially committed or “reserved” from an

appropriation to ensure that funds for a project phase will be available when payment is due. All projects listed contribute to fiscal constraint.

Calvin Edghill, FHWA NJ, asked if this is a project off of the “swap list” and if any federal funds had been used previously for design. Elizabeth Schoonmaker, DVRPC, responded that it is and that DVRPC will work with NJDOT to find out the project’s history and whether it includes federal funds before final design.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Regional Technical Committee.

The Board adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Ms. Ziegler, seconded by Mr. Levecchia, that the Board approve the following TIP action:

NJ16-030, Gloucester County’s request that DVRPC modify the FY2016 - 2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey by adding a \$1,000,000 FY15 STATE-DVRPC funded Right-of-Way (ROW) phase in FY16 and by delaying the \$2,000,000 STATE-DVRPC funded Construction (CON) phase from FY16 to FY17.

2c. NJ16-034: Streetscape Improvements along Clements Bridge Road (NJ 41), Phase 4, (DB #D1603), Barrington Borough (Camden County)

The Borough of Barrington in Camden County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2016 - 2019 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new break-out project, Streetscape Improvements along Clements Bridge Road (NJ 41), Phase 4 (DB #D1603), into the TIP for FY16 Construction (CON) with \$180,000 (\$163,000 DEMO/\$17,000 Local). Construction is ready for authorization and further delay in authorization will risk the de-obligation of federal FY2014 TAP funds.

This break-out project will complete Phase 4 of a previous, completed FY2008 NJ TIP project, Streetscape Improvements along Clements Bridge Road (CR 573), Phases 1-3, (DB #D0801). Phase 4 will slightly extend the limits of the Clements Bridge Road corridor improvement and has a total construction cost of \$930,141 (which includes costs for construction inspection/management, PSE&G work, and base bid). With the support of NJDOT, the earmark (NJ207) that provided for the completion of Phases 1-3 (DB #D0801) will also provide for the completion of the limits extended in Phase 4 (DB #D1603). In addition, this Phase 4 break-out project was awarded \$750,824 FY2014 federal TAP funds, and the Borough of Barrington will provide local contribution. Funds will provide for streetscape improvements along Clements Bridge Road (NJ 41) from Williams Avenue to the NJ Turnpike overpass to Hancock Drive. The section to be completed in Phase 4 (between Williams Avenue and the NJ Turnpike overpass) was planned for but not completed in the FY2008 NJ TIP project, Phases 1-3 (DB #D0801). Streetscape Improvements will include the following activities: removal and replacement of curbing and sidewalk along both sides, removal and replacement of trees throughout the project limits, installation of decorative street lighting with banner poles, installation of park benches, bicycle racks, breakaway bollards and trash receptacles, construction

of curb ramps and asphalt imprinted crosswalks.

Financial constraint will be maintained by additional funds to the region. All projects listed contribute to fiscal constraint.

A public comment was received from Joseph Russell of Camden County questioning whether bike lanes would be included with this project. The project sponsors responded that the county will be following the Complete Streets policy.

Favorable recommendation was received by the Regional Technical Committee.

The Board adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Levecchia, seconded by Ms. Floyd, that the Board approve the following TIP action:

NJ16-034, the Borough of Barrington's request that DVRPC amend the FY2016 - 2019 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new break-out project, Streetscape Improvements along Clements Bridge Road (NJ 41), Phase 4 (DB #D1603), into the TIP for FY16 Construction (CON) with \$180,000 (\$163,000 DEMO/\$17,000 Local).

3. DVRPC Regional Trails Program Grant Awards

Chris Linn, DVRPC Manager, Environmental Planning, explained that the following Circuit trail projects were developed in conjunction with their respective county sponsors and the PA County Circuit Working Group. Funding for both projects will be provided by DVRPC's Regional Trails Program, with funding through the William Penn Foundation. Pending approval, grants will be issued to support the following projects:

1. Martin Luther King Drive Trail Reconstruction, Philadelphia – \$500,000 grant, estimated total project cost: \$1.5 million, \$500k provided by PPR and \$500k provided by DCNR (pending)

This project will reconstruct the MLK Drive Trail from the Falls Bridge to the MLK Drive Bridge over the Schuylkill River, a distance of approximately 3.8 miles.

2. Chester Creek Trail Phase II Design and Engineering, Delaware County – \$208,907, estimated total project cost: \$417,814, \$208,907 provided by DCNR (pending)

This project will design and engineer an extension of the Chester Creek Trail from its current terminus at Creek Road to Bridgewater Road in Aston Township, a distance of approximately 1.3 miles.

Valerie Arkoosh, Montgomery County, questioned why funds are not being used for a new trail rather than for reconstruction. Mr. Linn responded that the MLK Drive Trail is unserviceable at this time and that it was built with substandard specifications. Byron

Comati, SEPTA, asked who holds the contract with the engineering firms. Mr. Linn responded that the county will. David Marable, U.S. HUD, asked if any part of the trail branches to the Philadelphia Zoo. Mr. Linn responded that the Westbank Greenway trail will connect to the Mantua Greenway which goes to the Zoo.

Favorable recommendation was received by the Regional Technical Committee.

The Board adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Ms. Tolson, seconded by Ms. Marseglia, that the Board approve:

Two Regional Trails Program Grant awards: Martin Luther King Drive Trail Reconstruction, Philadelphia – \$500,000 grant, estimated total project cost: \$1.5 million, \$500k provided by PPR and \$500k provided by DCNR (pending), and Chester Creek Trail Phase II Design and Engineering, Delaware County – \$208,907, estimated total project cost: \$417,814, \$208,907 provided by DCNR (pending).

4. Nominating Committee Recommendation of Officers for Fiscal Year 2017 DVRPC Board

DVRPC Executive Director Barry Seymour announced that the nominating committee has nominated candidates for Fiscal Year 2017 (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017) DVRPC Board Officers. Nominations were also available to be taken from the floor. Elections will take place at the regular June Board Meeting. The recommended candidates are as follows:

Chair, Valerie Arkoosh, Montgomery County
Vice Chair, David Kuhn, NJDOT
Treasurer, Nedra Ralston, PA Governor's Policy and Planning Office
Secretary, Lou Cappelli, Camden County

No nominations were received from the floor. Commissioners Arkoosh and Cappelli would also represent the Pennsylvania and New Jersey counties, respectively, on the Executive Committee.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. One Minute Reports

David Marable, US HUD, Region III, thanked DVRPC Executive Director Barry Seymour and Associate Director Mike Boyer for their participation in The City We Want & Need: a Mid-Atlantic Regional Convening on Habitat III at Penn's Institute for Urban Research. The event focused on raising awareness for urban area development.

Erick Emerson, PA DCED, reported that the Greenway Trails and Recreation program application deadline is June 30.

Clarena Tolson, City of Philadelphia, reported that the city of Philadelphia was selected as the number one downtown area in terms of bikeability by Walkscore. There is a party in the park to celebrate Indego on June 4. At the most recent WTS conference Indego won an award for the most innovative transportation solution.

Linda Hill, Delaware County, thanked DVRPC for their assistance with the Chester Creek Trail.

Michelle Kichline, Chester County, thanked DVRPC for the vote and assistance on the Downingtown project. Chester County is partnering with West Chester University to provide shuttle service to Exton train station to help reduce congestion and encourage the use of SEPTA. Last year Chester County was voted sixth happiest county and this year it was voted the fourth happiest county in the country.

Diane Ellis-Marseglia, Bucks County, reported that the county removed 500 feral cats from parks in the county and successfully spayed and neutered the cats. Inmates helped build cat houses for the cats that were not adopted.

Valerie Arkoosh, Montgomery County, thanked the Board for their nomination to serve as chair of the DVRPC Board. Last year the county launched a pilot bikeshare program in two of their parks. This year the county is offering bikeshare at another park; Norristown Farm Park on the Pennypack Trail. Ms. Arkoosh thanked SEPTA for piloting the Uber program to drive commuters to stations in Montgomery County.

Gerard Scharfenberg, NJ Office for Planning Advocacy, reported that his office has completed and submitted the report for the Bordentown grant.

Barbara Holcomb, DRPA, reported that the Port Impact Study that DVRPC completed was recently presented to the Port. The study has economic impacts and once the security elements of this study are filtered out hopefully it can be presented to the Board.

Lou Millan, NJTRANSIT, reported that they are currently conducting their customer satisfaction survey which can be completed online.

Byron Comati, SEPTA, reported that SEPTA's FY17 Capital Budget will be going to their board today and is \$545 million. The Uber/SEPTA partnership is happening now and is intended to help solve the parking problem at train stations. Mr. Comati thanked DVRPC for completing the SEPTA trackless trolley study which recommended a low or no emission vehicle deployment. SEPTA did win a grant for procuring all electric buses and 25 will be piloted soon. SEPTA will be introducing positive train control to two lines. Paoli Train Station reconstruction Phase I open house for the public will take place on June 8.

Calvin Edghill, FHWA NJ, reported that the rules for system performance measures for congestion, congestion air mitigation and freight programs were released last month.

DVRPC and NJDOT have submitted their comments on this and FHWA has reviewed them.

Thomas Wospil, NJDOT, reported that NJDOT and NJTransit are awaiting the outcome of the transportation trust fund renewal discussions. The draft of the transportation capital program for FY17 was released and hopefully that will be resolved soon. NJDOT will be celebrating its 50th year in existence this year and celebrations will be upcoming.

James Ritzman, PennDOT, thanked DVRPC for all of their work on the PA TIP.

Presentation Items

6. SEPTA King of Prussia Rail Project

Elizabeth Smith, SEPTA, presented an update on the King of Prussia Rail Project, a planned extension of the Norristown High Speed Line to King of Prussia. The project recently held a series of public meetings to announce a recommended Locally Preferred Alternative for the project. SEPTA is expected to release the Draft Environmental Impact Statement later this year.

7. Rating the Region

Mary Bell, DVRPC Manager, Demographic and Economic Analysis, explained that the Rating the Region report provides a benchmark for the Greater Philadelphia region to compare itself against the 25 largest metropolitan areas in the country on a variety of indicators. The report highlights regional strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, and key findings from the draft report were presented.

Calvin Edghill, FHWA NJ, noted that the region can be affected by trends and that we can influence the local economy. Ladders of opportunity are critical in order to do this.

8. Executive Director's Report

a. DVRPC Board Policy Analysis Committee

Mr. Seymour announced that he would like to convene a meeting of the Board Policy Analysis Committee late in the summer to discuss funding options for regional projects. Once a date is chosen Board members will be notified and asked to participate.

b. Long Range Plan public workshops

Mr. Seymour reported that DVRPC's Long-Range Plan Outreach efforts included workshops at the Camden County Boathouse which took place on April 26 from 6 to 8 pm, the Chester County Historical Society which took place on

May 2 from 6 pm to 8 pm, and WHY?Y's Public Media Commons which took place on May 24 from 6 pm to 8 pm. All of the workshops were well attended and the input from the workshops will be gathered and incorporated.

c. Board Values, Concerns, Vision

Mr. Seymour noted that at the April Board meeting Board members were asked what they value, what concerns them about the region, and their vision for the region. Twenty-two responses were collected and values included things like diverse culture, safe neighborhoods, and trail systems. Concerns included the deterioration of transportation infrastructure, concentrated poverty, and transit access to underserved areas. Visions included job growth, expanded economy, and being a renewable energy hub.

d. TIP, Plan, and Conformity Public Meeting

Mr. Seymour announced that DVRPC will be holding a TIP, Plan, and conformity public meeting at DVRPC's offices on June 21 at 4:00 pm .

e. Performance Measures

John Ward, DVRPC Deputy Executive Director, gave a presentation on the Transportation Performance Management Rulemaking Status.

f. Upcoming Committee or Task Force Meetings

Mr. Seymour reported that there will be an Information Resources Exchange Group (IREG) meeting on June 8, a Transportation Operations Task Force Meeting (TOTF) meeting on June 13, a Regional Community and Economic Development Forum (RCEDF) on June 15, and a Public Participation Task Force (PPTF) meeting on June 15.

g. New Releases

Mr. Seymour noted that DVRPC has some new releases including: Alternatives Analysis for Roosevelt Boulevard Transit Enhancements, Modernization Scenarios for SEPTA Route 34 (Baltimore Avenue trolley), Making Freight Data More Accessible - SHRP2 C20: Local Freight Data Improvement, and Central Jersey Transportation Forum Planned Projects Status Report.

h. FY17 Work Program and PA Draft TIP

Mr. Seymour called the Board's attention to the recently completed FY17 Work Program and PA Draft TIP.

i. Classic Towns Tour

Mr. Seymour thanked Commissioner Mc Blain, Delaware County, for participating in the Classic Towns Trolley tour in Lansdowne and Media.

9. Committee Reports

The following committee reports were provided for the Board's review:

- (1) Regional Technical Committee
- (2) Public Participation Task Force

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. on a **MOTION** by Ms. Floyd, seconded by Mr. Levecchia.

The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, and related nondiscrimination statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website, www.dvrpc.org, may be translated into multiple languages. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages and formats, if requested. DVRPC public meetings are always held in ADA-accessible facilities and in transit-accessible locations when possible. Auxiliary services can be provided to individuals who submit a request at least seven days prior to a meeting. Requests made within seven days will be accommodated to the greatest extent possible. Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice by DVRPC under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint. Any such complaint may be in writing and filed with DVRPC's Title VI Compliance Manager and/or the appropriate state or federal agency within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory occurrence. For more information on DVRPC's Title VI program, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, please call (215) 238-2871 or email public_affairs@dvrpc.org.

I certify that this is a true and correct copy.

Renee Wise, Recording Secretary