

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS
RELATED TO DVRPC BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

October 24, 2013

**BOARD
AGENDA ITEM:**

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

a. NJ14-01: Berlin Road Streetscape Improvements, Camden County, (DB# D1009) Camden County

From: Leonard Fritz

County: Gloucester

Zip Code: 08094

Date Received: October 17, 2013

Comment/Question: I am all for this project moving forward, especially with the traffic in this area. Will there be plans in the near future for a bike lane on this road? And are any other roads/streets connecting to the PATCO station slated for similar improvements in the near future?

Response: There are currently no plans to include a bike lane. If additional funding sources become available, Lindenwold Borough will consider additional improvements.

4a. DRJTBC Traffic and Revenue Forecasts

From: Leonard Fritz

County: Gloucester

Zip Code: 08094

Date Received: October 17, 2013

Comment/Question:

I am in support of this considering the number of accidents increasing recently on this particular bridge as well as the rest of the region. How far from the bridges will this study cover?

Response: The work that DVRPC would undertake for this Work Program project is in support of a "Level 3 - Investment Grade Traffic and Revenue Forecast" which is a certified document that will be used by bond rating agencies, financing agencies, and investors to evaluate the potential revenue stream that supports DRJTBC operations and capital projects. This project will be a revenue forecast study of the Commission's seven existing toll bridges plus the Scudder Falls toll-supported bridge. As such, this project is not intended to study traffic safety issues. Traffic safety elements will be part of the design phase of the bridge project.

From: Mark Harris

County: Philadelphia

Zip Code: 19101

Date Received: October 13, 2013

Comment/Question: I do not think that I-95 should be tolled. Alternate means should be found to fund the work, like increasing the fuel tax.

Response: The Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission (DRJTBC) is operated exclusively by the toll revenue from seven of the twenty main bridges under its jurisdiction, and must be entirely self-supporting in financing its operations. The DRJTBC voted in December

2009 to establish cashless tolling for the Scudder Falls Replacement Bridge. The action was taken due to the absence of federal and state transportation support for the project and because it would have been unfair to apply the financial costs solely to motorists using the Commission's seven current toll bridges. In addition, the existing toll structure would be insufficient to fund a project of this magnitude and raising tolls on other bridges to fund this project is not considered a viable alternative. The tolling issue is addressed in a November 2011 Addendum to the Environmental Assessment - I-95/Scudder Falls Bridge Improvement Project, which may be viewed at: http://scudderfallsbridge.com/PDF/ADDENDUMTOEA_NOV2011.pdf".