



DELAWARE VALLEY GOODS MOVEMENT TASK FORCE

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2002

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by the Goods Movement Task Force co-chairs: John Brown of PennDOT (substituting for Deputy Secretary Liz Voras) and John Coscia of DVRPC. All committee members introduced themselves. The January 9, 2002 meeting notes were approved by the committee.

2. US 130 Brooklawn Circles Concept Development Report

Chris King of DVRPC summarized a report which recommends improving safety and mobility through the Brooklawn Circles in Camden County. The Concept Development Report, completed in cooperation with the Borough of Brooklawn and New Jersey DOT, is based on the collection of transportation data, an evaluation of deficiencies, and coordination with community stakeholders.

Data were collected on traffic operations occurring in the two circles along US 130 in Brooklawn and in the immediate vicinity on the approach roads. Accidents and peak period congestion were identified as the primary problems associated with the circles. Other key issues included the difficulty in making left turns from the East Circle onto Creek Road, the low vertical clearance of the Conrail overpass, flooding problems, and cut through traffic using local streets. Each of these factors has a negative impact on truck movements.

The report identifies a set of short range actions such as signing and striping which is intended for immediate implementation. A range of improvement concepts to address the more significant safety and congestion issues is also identified.

3. Pennsylvania 2002 Joint Rail Freight Seminar

Ted Dahlburg updated the Task Force on preparations for the Pennsylvania 2002 Joint Rail Freight Seminar to be held at the Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing from May 8-10, 2002. The seminar is widely regarded as the premiere rail freight conference in the country and DVRPC is proud to serve as this year's host. Two optional events including golf and a trip to the Franklin Institute have been planned for May 8. That same evening, the seminar will kick-off with a reception at the hotel.

The second day of the conference will include expert panels on railroad security and funding issues. Don Shanis of DVRPC will serve as moderator for a special Town Hall Forum with senior railroad officials. Manny Stamatakis of DRPA is the luncheon keynote speaker. In the afternoon, a 30 mile train excursion will depart right from the hotel. The excursion will utilize rail locomotives and cars furnished by Bennett Levin, and will showcase Philadelphia

freight and rail facilities largely using CSX rail lines.

The last day of the conference will feature the new PennDOT rail freight video and panels on rail corridors and customer initiatives. At the closing luncheon, Senator Arlen Specter will speak and the annual scholarships will be awarded to students who have successfully completed the railroad conductor program at the Community College of Philadelphia. Task Force members were encouraged to attend the conference, lend their support through sponsorships and giveaways, and invite elected officials to attend the rail excursion.

4. Aerial Photography of the Delaware Valley

Glenn McNichol of DVRPC described DVRPC's aerial photos, updated in 2000, which are now available. The digital orthophoto imagery acquisition methodology used in 2000 offers several advantages and improved products. For example, the images can be corrected for image displacements, they provide a uniform scale, and they can be used to measure distances. The photos cover the entire 3,833 square mile Delaware Valley Region (nine counties) and Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem Somerset, and Ocean counties in New Jersey.

The photos are available digitally on CD-ROM by county or municipality in either TIFF or MrSID file formats. Black and white digital imagery "tiles" each show approximately 1.6 square miles. Using a Geographic Information System (GIS), individual tiles may be joined to form a seamless view of a larger area. Paper prints of individual tiles are also available at two convenient scales: 1"=200' and 1"=400'. The aerial photographs are useful to engineers, developers, and others. DVRPC's photos of the region date from 1959 and have been updated in 5-year increments since 1965.

5. Pennsylvania Rail Freight...*The best track for our future!*

John Brown introduced the new rail freight video prepared by PennDOT. The video, approximately 12 minutes in length, is an educational tool for the general public which touts the benefits of the state's rail freight industry. DVRPC has helped distribute copies of the video to local railroads, counties, and cities.

Railroads have a great history in the state and, today, Pennsylvania has more freight railroads than any other state in the country with 68. Collectively, these railroads move more than 120 million tons of freight in and out of the state each year. Railroads help lower the cost of goods to consumers, create jobs, and are environmentally friendly. New areas of emphasis are safety, research, and technology.

6. Transportation and Logistics Management: New and Emerging Challenges

Professor Gerhardt Muller of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy discussed the driving forces and changes connected with freight transportation. Professor Muller was recently promoted to Full Professor at the Academy, and he has written or co-authored several papers, articles, and books on advanced concepts in intermodalism and logistics management, transportation communication systems and marketing, and port operations. His book, *Intermodal Freight Transportation*, is widely used as a basic reference on

intermodalism. (Note: Professor Muller's full PowerPoint presentation is available through the freight planning section of the DVRPC website at www.dvrpc.org)

The primary forces of change with respect to freight movement are: globalization and faster changes in trading patterns, new and emerging concepts and technologies, and deregulation/re-regulation. These forces impact cost, price, and service.

Developments in maritime operations to watch are: the growth of containerized cargo (expected to reach a 67% share of general cargo by 2005), high-speed intermodal vessels (both trans-Atlantic and coastal), and the growth in ship sizes (e.g., 7,000 TEUs).

An emerging concept, global freight village, includes the following characteristics: a cluster of intermodal, logistics, and/or distribution buildings; located within a secure perimeter; operated by a single management entity; and providing a range of support services to tenants and their operations. An example of a global freight village is Rungis, France outside of Paris.

An important challenge is the "people crisis" faced by the transportation and logistics industries. The industries are not well known, there is competition for brains and talent, and formal training programs are limited. More educational materials and programs such as textbooks, CD-ROMS, case studies, and apprenticeships and internships are needed.

7. Two-minute Reports

The following updates were provided by Task Force and Subcommittee chairs and Task Force members.

John Brown and Ran Marshall, PennDOT	Rail Freight Assistance Program; freight legislation
John Powers, New Jersey DOT	TransAction conference
John Coscia, DVRPC	Year 2025 Plan final report; May TIP hearings; Annual Dinner
Rick Crawford, Data Subcommittee	Freight Lines; TravelSmart
Kelvin MacKavanagh, Planning Subcommittee	National Freight Dialogue
Gary Shields, Shippers Subcommittee	Rail Freight Seminar; Fall Meeting
Jim Blair, Reebie Associates	Wilmington-Harrisburg Freight Study
Bruce Hochman, Traffic Club of Philadelphia	National Transportation Week luncheon
Jim Boylan, Tyburn Railroad	Election Day

8. Old and New Business

The next meeting of the Goods Movement Task Force is July 10, 2002. Pennsylvania State Senator Roger Madigan is the scheduled guest speaker.

Attendees

Bastian, Lugene
Belmonte, Kathy
Blair, Jim
Boylan, James
Braunwarth, Bob
Brimmer, Mike
Brown, John
Campbell, David
Carolan, Tom
Chang, David
Charlton, Cecile
Clark, Charles
Coscia, John
Coyle, Gerald
Crawford, Rick
Dahlburg, Ted
D'Andrea, Hank
Duffy, Ed
Fear, Gina
Fiscina, Carmine
Golden, Doug
Grimm, Melissa
Hayes, Linda
Hochman, Bruce
Kirkpatrick, Michael
MacKavanagh, Kelvin
Marshall, Ran
Matkowski, Laurie
Muller, Grehardt
O'Brien, Dominic
Powers, Eric
Powers, John
Renner, Robert
Rosen, Howard
Schmidt, Peggy
Shanis, Don
Shields, Gary
Shoaf, Bill
Stevens, Spencer
Sutch, Jeff
Tiley, Dennis
Torrey, Dave
Trachenko, Irina
Turcich, Jim
Weiner, Harvey
Wicklem, Greg
Winkler, Fred

Affiliation

PennDOT
DVRPC
Reebie Associates
Tyburn Railroad
Camden County Division of Planning
CSXT
PennDOT
Delaware DOT
Greenfield Transport
University of Pennsylvania
Delaware County TMA
FRA, Region 2
DVRPC
Evans Delivery Co.
Norfolk Southern
DVRPC
South Jersey Port Corporation
PIDC, Food Distribution Center
The Pasha Group
FHWA, Philadelphia Metro. Office
Main Line Management
DRPA
DRPA
Traffic Club of Philadelphia
Delaware DOT
Consultant-CSXT
PennDOT
DVRPC
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
Philadelphia Regional Port Authority
New Jersey DOT
New Jersey DOT
Haines & Kibblehouse
ALK Technologies
Partnership TMA
DVRPC
Subsidiary Railroads of Bethlehem Steel Corp.
Shoaf Group, LLC
FHWA, PA. Division
SMS/Penn-Jersey Rail Lines
PennDOT District 6-0
Westgate Transportation
BCITC
Philadelphia Beltline Railroad
Dependable Distribution
Keystone State Railroad Assoc.
Winchester and Western Railroad