



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2002
10AM**

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

8th Floor—Main Conference Room

The Bourse Building, 111 South Independence Mall East, Philadelphia, PA 19106

1. Call to order

Co-chairs Elizabeth Voras of PennDOT and John Coscia of DVRPC called the meeting to order. All Task Force members were recognized and the July 10, 2002 meeting notes were approved by the committee. Due to the special nature of the meeting (i.e., the observance of the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Goods Movement Task Force), it was noted that several guests were present including founding members of the Task Force and members of the National Freight Stakeholders Coalition. Mr. Coscia also commented on the commemorative pen and pencil holders (shaped as shipping containers) which were distributed to the committee members.

2. Freight Planning in the Delaware Valley: 1992-2002

Don Shanis of DVRPC discussed the evolution of DVRPC's freight planning program from 1992-2002, and also considered future opportunities and challenges. The Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force, the centerpiece of the agency's effort, first met on December 15, 1992.

A key component of the Task Force has been its three subcommittees: Data, Planning, and Shippers. In recognition of their efforts, Task Force subcommittee chairs Rick Crawford, Kelvin MacKavanagh, and Gary Shields were presented with service awards.

The Goods Movement Task Force has greatly benefitted from the active support of all sectors of the freight community. Shana Baker of FHWA presented a letter from US DOT's Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, Emil Frankel, which commended the Task Force's many partners for their participation and contributions.

A true hallmark of the Task Force has been the strong leadership afforded by its co-chairs. Keith Chase, one of the Task Force's first chairs, praised Elizabeth Voras for her key role in the committee's success. Bob Baker, founding Task Force member and now DVRPC Vice Chairman, then thanked John Coscia for his commitment to incorporating freight concerns into the metropolitan transportation planning process.

3. **FY 2004 Work Program Concepts**

Ted Dahlburg discussed the development of the DVRPC FY 2004 Work Program and concepts for potential, new freight-related studies. The Work Program consists of continuing, phased, and new studies; it totals approximately 130 studies at a funding level of \$15 million.

Input on the contents of the Work Program will be provided by all DVRPC committees and member governments. The Board Work Program Committee will review this input and then issue a draft work program in December. The DVRPC Board will consider formal adoption of the Work Program at its January 23, 2003 meeting.

Nine potential freight-related studies were developed by staff with the aid of Task Force members. Any new studies recommended by the Goods Movement Task Force must compete with all potential new studies for the limited funding which is available. A voting system has been created so that, among the nine concept studies, the Task Force can identify those studies with the broadest support.

Following presentation and discussion about the concept studies, the Task Force members voted on the candidate work program concepts. The concept studies which received the highest number of votes were: *Economic Benefits of the Delaware Valley Freight Network*; *Freight Origin-Destination Commodity Flow Estimates*; *Brownfields Database*; and the *Application of ITS to South Jersey Ports*. These results will be conveyed to the Board Work Program Committee.

4. **Freight Trends and Freight Rail**

Lance Grenzeback, a Principal and Senior Vice President of Cambridge Systematics, discussed emerging trends in freight transportation and the Mid-Atlantic Rail Operations Study. (This slide presentation can be found in the freight planning section of the DVRPC web site at: www.dvrpc.org)

The evolution of the nation's freight transportation system can be summarized as follows: the 18th Century: the Sail Era; the 19th Century: the Rail Era; and the 20th Century: the Truck Era. The 21st Century, the Information Era, will be characterized by long-haul transport by water, rail, and air and the rapid expansion of north-south trade.

With just moderate economic growth, import/export freight tonnage could double by 2020 and domestic freight tonnage could increase by 60%. Without additional capacity or improved productivity, highways will become more congested and logistics costs will rise. A key public policy issue is the ability of the truck and rail freight systems to handle the growing volume of freight. Today, the rail industry is stable, productive, and competitive with enough business and profit to operate, but it is not in a position to replenish its infrastructure quickly or grow rapidly.

The Mid-Atlantic Rail Program has identified \$6.2 billion in near, medium, and long-term improvements. This program represents a policy-driven expansion of the rail-freight system which will accommodate growth and relieve some of the pressure on highways.

5. Two-minute Reports

Task Force and Subcommittee chairs and Task Force members and guests provided the following updates on the activities of their companies and agencies:

Liz Voras and John Brown	PennDOT Rail Freight Plan and Assistance Program
Talvin Davis	New Jersey DOT Freight Plan
John Coscia	South Jersey Port ITS and Drayage Study; Pennsylvania Rail Seminar photo album
Rick Crawford	Data Subcommittee; update request for freight links on the DVRPC website
Kelvin MacKavanagh	Planning Subcommittee; CMAQ Program
Gary Shields	Shippers Subcommittee; 2003 ASLRRA Annual Meeting; Winchester and Western Short Line Award Freight Stakeholders TEA-21 Reauthorization Agenda
Jean Godwin	Delaware River Dredging Re-analysis
Ray Heinzelmann	Salem Branch railroad project
Tom Collard	Oct. 16 FHWA Freight Planning Workshop
Spencer Stevens	Traffic Club of Philadelphia golf outing
Bruce Hochman	

6. Old and New Business

The 2003 meeting dates for the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force were adopted by the committee as follows: January 17, April 16, July 9, and October 8. Steve Kale of the Oregon DOT is the scheduled guest speaker for January 17. The meeting was adjourned and was followed by a light lunch.

Attendees

Affiliation

Adams, Peggy	Port of Bucks
Baker, Shana	FHWA
Bastian, Lugene	PennDOT
Belke, Carl	Genesee & Wyoming, Inc.
Belmonte, Kathy	DVRPC
Borowski, Don	New Jersey DOT
Blair, Jim	Reebie Associates
Blanchard, Roy	Blanchard Company
Boylan, James	Tyburn Railroad
Brown, Greg	PennDOT
Brown, John	PennDOT
Campbell, David	Delaware DOT
Carolan, Tom	Green Field Transport
Cassel, Mark	TMA of Chester County
Chang, David	University of Pennsylvania
Charlton, Cecile	Delaware County TMA
Chase, Keith	Gannett-Fleming
Clark, Charles	FRA
Collard, Tom	Southern Railroad of New Jersey
Coscia, John	DVRPC
Coyle, Gerald	Evans Delivery Co.
Crawford, Rick	Norfolk Southern
Cuccia, Brian	New Jersey DOT
Cunningham, Jim	PTL Truck Line
Dahlburg, Ted	DVRPC
D'Andrea, Hank	South Jersey Port Corporation
Davis, Talvin	New Jersey DOT
Dimpsey, Kathy	FHWA
Dub, Avri	Traffic Club of Philadelphia
Duffy, Ed	PIDC, Food Distribution Center
Fiscina, Carmine	FHWA, Philadelphia Metro. Office
Fisher, Kevin	Nexus Distribution
Foley, Terry	Amtrak
Gemma, Tony	Roadway
Godwin, Jean	AAPA
Golden, Doug	Main Line Management
Grenzeback, Lance	Cambridge Systematics
Hanssens, John	Philadelphia International Airport
Harder, Frank	The Tioga Group
Hayes, Linda	DRPA
Heinzelmann, Ray	DRPA
Herrmann, Paul	Phila. Belt Line
Hochman, Bruce	Traffic Club of Philadelphia
Kirkpatrick, Michael	Delaware DOT
Kraft, Jerry	New Jersey Turnpike
MacKavanagh, Kelvin	Railroad Consultant
May, Jeff	Urban Engineers
McCreavy, John	SMS/Penn-Jersey Rail Lines

McGowan, Gerry	UPS
McGuckin, Tim	IBTTA
Millard, Chip	TCRPC
Noe, Curt	Camden County
O'Brien, Dominic	Phila. Regional Port Authority
Packer, Herb	PennPORTS
Powers, Eric	New Jersey DOT
Powers, John	New Jersey DOT
Roth, Darrin	ATA
Ryan, Dick	Bombardier
Saggiomo, Angelo	Brooks Provisions
Schmidt, Peggy	Partnership TMA
Shanis, Donald	DVRPC
Shields, Gary	Subsidiary Railroads of Bethlehem Steel Corp.
Shoaf, Bill	Shoaf Group
Siekerman, Don	Pa. Motor Truck Assoc.
Stevens, Spencer	FHWA
Sussman, Michael	Strategic Rail Finance
Sutch, Jeff	SMS/Penn-Jersey Rail Lines
Thomas, Carol	Burlington County
Tiley, Dennis	PennDOT
Torrey, Dave	Westgate Global Logistics
Turner, Robert	Phila. Belt Line
Vilain, Pierre	Econsult Corp.
Voras, Elizabeth	PennDOT
Weiner, Harvey	Dependable Distribution
Weissman, Neil	AAA Mid-Atlantic
Wilson, Larry	Philadelphia Office of Strategic Planning
Winkler, Fred	Winchester and Western Railroad
Zakutny, John	The PASHA Group