



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

10AM, Wednesday, April 18th, 2007

Coffee was available at 9:30AM, and a light lunch was served following the meeting.

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

8th Floor—Main Conference Room

190 North Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106

1. Call to order

Co-Chairs Don Shanis of DVRPC and Sharon Daboin of PennDOT called the meeting to order. All Task Force members were recognized, new attendees were welcomed, and the January 17th, 2007 meeting notes (which were emailed to the committee members) were approved by the committee.

As a reminder, the remaining Goods Movement Task Force meeting dates for 2007 are as follows:

- Wednesday, July 18
- Wednesday, October 17

2. DVRPC Grade Crossing Management System

A special introduction was given by Tom Woll, who is the Federal Railroad Administration's Program Manager for the US DOT National Grade Crossing Inventory Program. Mr. Woll observed that the US DOT grade crossing inventory is an important tool for MPOs and its planning partners, especially with the new emphasis on safety. He laid out how the information is collected by the FRA, and noted that it is the responsibility of the states and the railroads to keep the database up-to-date. He then proceeded to point out some of the inventory tools on the FRA website (www.fra.dot.gov) that may be useful.

Ted Dahlburg discussed DVRPC's development of a grade crossing management system that will initially focus on the Pennsylvania portion of the Delaware Valley. The key to this important effort is fostering cooperation among various agencies and the railroads. Mr. Dahlburg showed how PennDOT staff is collecting and updating crossing and "GPS" data at each location. He then indicated how SEPTA staff is performing ortho-rectifications of all of the rail lines, and is ultimately working towards the creation of a "linear referencing system" for each line. A follow-up on this important effort will be presented to the Task Force at the July 18 quarterly meeting.

3. DVRPC Aviation Update

Roger Moog, DVRPC's Manager of Aviation Planning, discussed recent issues and events impacting the Delaware Valley aviation infrastructure. Aviation activity and services are a vital aspect of the Delaware Valley's economy and an important feature of the region's freight network.

Mr. Moog discussed the physical constraints and need for growth at the Philadelphia International Airport. He also discussed the Federal Aviation Administration's new flight patterns and the opposition being raised to them in Delaware County. He also updated the committee on the status of the Willow Grove Naval Air Station, which once looked like it might be sold for development, but now is proposed to be retained for aviation purposes. A discussion surrounding the creation of a more regional approach to aviation, like that conducted by the Port of New York and New Jersey, followed.

4. I-95 Girard Avenue Interchange Improvements: Vine Expressway to Allegheny Avenue

Several improvements are under design for I-95 in Pennsylvania, one of the region's key facilities for freight activity. Elaine Elbich of PennDOT and Mark Rhoads of URS Corp. presented an overview of the improvements, with a focus on I-95 between the Vine Expressway and Allegheny Avenue. Ms. Elbich discussed the project in terms of the greater work going on along I-95, and was followed by Mr. Rhoads who detailed the proposal to reconstruct the I-95 and Girard Avenue interchange.

5. Freight Planning for the Wilmington Region

WILMAPCO, DVRPC's sister agency serving the Wilmington, Delaware region, and its consultants have just completed a draft freight and goods movement analysis. Dan Blevins, Principal Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the study findings and recommendations.

6. FHWA: Leading the Way in Freight

The FHWA is helping address the nation's freight transportation challenges through a number of initiatives. Tony Furst, Director of FHWA's Office of Freight Management and Operations, highlighted some of these, such as the *Framework for A National Freight Policy* and the freight professional development program. Mr. Furst is a retired officer from the United States Coast Guard (USCG), and Commander Spencer Wood from the USCG, Sector Delaware Bay, joined in thanking Mr. Furst for the leadership afforded by his office.

(Note: Mr. Furst's PowerPoint presentation will be posted to the freight page of the DVRPC website.)

7. Two-minute Reports

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

- Sharon Daboin PennDOT
- Jim Badgley NJ DOT
- Don Shanis DVRPC
- Edward King Shippers Subcommittee
- Rick Crawford Data Subcommittee
- Kelvin MacKavanagh Planning Subcommittee
- Tom Carolan Traffic Club of Philadelphia
- Paul Delp Lansdale Warehouse
- Matt Anderson Chester County Planning Commission
- Zoe Robertson GVF Transportation Management Assoc.
- Keith Mullins Edwards and Kelcey
- Michael Kirkpatrick Delaware DOT

8. Old/New Business

The next scheduled meeting of the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force is July 18th, 2007. George Schoener, Executive Director of the I-95 Corridor Coalition, is the scheduled guest speaker.

9. **Special Event:** all Task Force members were invited to remain for the FHWA *Talking Freight* seminar immediately following lunch from 1PM-2:30PM. Tony Furst of the FHWA was one of the speakers and made his presentation “live” from the DVRPC conference room.

Meeting Participants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Abebe, Abiy	PennDOT District 6-0
Adams, Peggy	Port of Bucks
Allen, Walker	DVRPC
Anderson, Gastonia	DVRPC
Anderson, Matthew	Chester Co. Planning Commission
Badgley, Jim	NJDOT
Belke, Carl	Patrick Engineering
Blair, Jim	Global Insight
Blevins, Dan	WILMAPCO
Bocchinfuso, Sonny	PennDOT District 6-0
Boylan, James	Tyburn Railroad
Brady, James	GAI Consultants, Inc.
Carolan, Tom	East Coast Logistics
Crawford, Rick	Norfolk Southern
Cooper, John Thomas	Tredyffrin Township Planning Commission
Costello, Jay	Kinder Morgan
Cuccia, Brian	NJDOT
Daboin, Sharon	PennDOT
Dahlburg, Ted	DVRPC
Davis, Talvin	NJDOT
Delp, Paul	Lansdale Warehouse
DelSignore, Paul	TranSystems
Dietz, Edward	NJ Commerce Commission
Dougherty, Charles	DVRPC
Elbich, Elaine	PennDOT District 6-0
Fisher, Kevin	PMTA
Forrester, Linda	NJ DOT
Furst, Tony	FHWA
Garforth, Harry	SEPTA
Gates, Matt	DVRPC
Gemma, Tony	Roadway Express
Gibbs, Leslie	Atlas Traffic
Goetz, William	CSX
Gunner, Tim	DMJM Harris
Harvey, Dave	PRPA
Hayes, Linda	DRPA
Heebner, Roger	DMJM Harris
Heinzelmann, Ray	Gahagan & Bryant
Hillis, Jack	LTK Engineering
Howland, Jessica	DRMEC
Hubbard, Jack	PennDOT
Jones, Jocelyn	FHWA
Kenny, Tom	DADC
Kirkpatrick, Michael	Delaware DOT
King, Edward	Sunoco, Inc.

Kowalczyk, Stephen	TastyKake
Krakauer, Miki	NJDOT
Lakers, Joe	Polk County, Iowa
Lang, Mary Ann	PennDOT Distrcit 6-0
Lee, Joung	FHWA
Louch, Hugh	Cambridge Systematics
Ludasi, Andrew	NJDOT
MacKavanagh, Kelvin	MacKavanagh Railroad Consulting
McLaughlin, John	Transportation and Marketing
Miller, Nathan	SEPTA
Mullins, Keith	Jacobs, Edwards and Kelcey
Noll, Steve	Bucks County TMA
Odrick, Tamika	WILMAPCO
Pawson, John	DVRPC RCC
Powers, John	NJ DOT
Ratko, Wesley	Montgomery County Planning Comm.
Renner, Robert	Haines & Kibblehouse
Rhoads, Mark	URS
Robertson, Zoe	GVFTMA
Rowan, Jane	Schnabel Engineering
Salber, Terry	TastyKake
Schoonmaker, Elizabeth	DVRPC
Shanis, Donald	DVRPC
Siebeneicher, Bob	Camdon Iron & Metal Inc.
Spera, Dave	PMTA
Stevens, Spencer	FHWA
Stevens, Will	DVRPC
Thomas, Carol	Burlington County
Ten Siethoff, Brian	Cambridge Systematics
Turcich, Jim	Philadelphia Belt Line Rail Road
Van Auken, Kate	PennPorts
Wall, Brian	PennDOT
Wahler, Brain	NJ Turnpike Authority
Weiner, Harvey	Dependable Distribution
Wells, Tim	LTK Engineering
Wilk, Gene	NJ Turnpike Authority
Winkler, Fred	Winchester & Western Railroad Co.
Woll, Tom	FRA
Wood, Spencer	United States Coast Guard