



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

10AM, Wednesday, April 16th, 2008

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

Task Force Co-Chairs Don Shanis of DVRPC and Eric Madden of PennDOT called the quarterly freight advisory committee meeting to order. All Task Force members were recognized, new attendees were welcomed, and the January 16th, 2008 meeting notes (which were emailed to the committee members prior to the meeting) were approved by the committee.

Later in the meeting, Denise Pyers, PennDOT's newly appointed Bureau Director of Rail Freight, Ports, and Waterways, was recognized.

2. Rating the Region: The State of the Delaware Valley

Mary Bell of DVRPC presented the findings of the Commission's *Rating the Region* report which updates the 1993 report of the same title, and provides an objective, quantifiable analysis of the relative strengths and weaknesses of the Delaware Valley Region.

The report compares 13 metropolitan areas in terms of human environment, economy, transportation, and civic environment. Some of the regional strengths that were identified in the report include: a strong healthcare network, many colleges and universities, low crime rate, high educational attainment, relatively less congestion, shorter commutes, and a higher percentage of homeowners. Perhaps the biggest strength is that the Philadelphia Metropolitan Area boasts the most diverse economy of any of the areas studied. Some challenges that emerged from the report were the gap between cities and suburbs in terms of most categories assessed, and the aging regional population.

3. Creating a Vision for the Central Delaware River Waterfront

Harris Steinburg, FAIA, founding Executive Director of PennPraxis, presented an overview of the planning process and key elements of *A Civic Vision for the Central*

Delaware. The limits of the study area extended along the Delaware River from Oregon Avenue to Allegheny Avenue. Although the study area did not directly cover major port areas, Task Force member Nicholas Walsh of PRPA and others met with the study team to discuss port activity and expansion plans.

The key elements of the project are an extension of Philadelphia's signature street grid to the waterfront, as well as the creation of an open space interconnected network of over 1,100 acres of former industrial land along the central waterfront. It is believed that this approach will spur future private development in a economically beneficial and environmentally sustainable pattern.

This planning effort generated significant interest and discussion. Thousands of people attended the many public meetings which helped shape the vision.

4. **City Avenue Revitalization**

Terry Foley, a long-time friend of the committee from his years at PRPA, presented the City Avenue Revitalization Plan. Mr. Foley is now the President and CEO of the CityAve Special Services District. The plan focuses on economic revitalization of the corridor along City Avenue in Philadelphia and Lower Merion, as well as the surrounding area.

The corridor is the region's center for the television and radio industries, hosts 2 colleges, and contains a very strong commercial district. The revitalization plan focuses on three critical elements: a zoning overlay, a new streetscape, and a safety capital improvement program.

5. **A National View of Freight Transportation**

Kate Quinn, Team Leader for Federal Highway Administration's Office of Freight Management and Operations, presented a snapshot of freight flows in the United States. Nationally, freight shipments are expected to nearly double through 2035, while they are forecasted to have much more than a doubling in terms of value. These trends are expected to lead to at least a doubling of truck trips. In terms of congestion, 11% of the National Highway System is estimated to currently experience congestion, while in 2035 that number is forecasted to grow to 40%.

Ms. Quinn also spoke about the Truck Speed and Reliability data that is currently being collected by FHWA. More than 300,000 trucks are being tracked to determine the average truck speeds on the National Highway System. This will better allow them to determine where bottlenecks that affect reliability exist. Ms. Quinn's office is also involved in the Corridors of the Future program, of which I-95 is one.

This overview of freight trends is helpful to decision makers, planners, and the public in understanding the magnitude and importance of freight transportation in the economy. It also serves as a prelude to a commodity flow analysis for the Philadelphia Consolidated Statistical Area being prepared by DVRPC staff which will be presented at the July meeting. A copy of Ms. Quinn's presentation can be found on the DVRPC website.

6. Two-minute Reports

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

Eric Madden	PennDOT
Bob Miller	NJ DOT
Don Shanis.	DVRPC
Walker Allen	Data Subcommittee
Kelvin MacKavanagh.	Planning Subcommittee
Ted Dahlburg.	Shippers Subcommittee
Ted Dahlburg.	Traffic Club of Philadelphia
Jay Costello.	Allegheny Working Group
Lindsay Bernacki.	GVFTMA
Rob Graff.	DVRPC
Allison Hastings.	DVRPC
Bill Jones.	US EPA
Jim Boylan.	Tyburn RR
Peggy Adams.	Port of Bucks

7. Old/New Business

The remaining Goods Movement Task Force meeting dates for 2008 are:

Wednesday, July 16

Wednesday, October 15

Ed Miller of the Maryland DOT is the scheduled guest speaker for the July 16th meeting.

Meeting Participants

Name	Affiliation
Adams, Peggy	Port of Bucks
Allen, Walker	DVRPC
Anderson, Matthew	Chester Co. Planning Commission
Bastian, Lugene	PennDOT Rail Freight
Bernacki, Lindsey	GVFTMA
Blevins, Dan	WILMAPCO
Boylan, James	Tyburn Railroad
Breeman, Paul	Holt Logistics
Carolan, Tom	East Coast Logistics
Clemons, Tashia	FHWA - Dover, DE
Cohen, Ernest	DVRPC / RCC
Costello, Jay	Kinder Morgan
Cuccia, Brian	NJDOT
Dahlburg, Ted	DVRPC
Dasgupta, Arpan	NJ Governor's Office of Economic Growth
Delp, Paul	Lansdale Warehouse Co.
Denitz, Peter	HDR Engineering
Denny, Charles	Philadelphia Streets
DeYoung, Larry	L.A. DeYoung, Inc.
Dub, Avri	Traffic Club of Philadelphia
Duffy, Ed	Duffy Associates
Elkis, Patty	DVRPC
Engel, Karl	5K Logistics Inc.
Fedor, Nicholas	Independent
Foley, Terry	City Ave Special Services District
Forrester, Linda	NJDOT
Gallagher, Ryan	DVRPC
Giobbie, Tony	CSX Transportation
Graff, Rob	DVRPC
Greenle, Michael	PennPraxis
Hall, Octavia	Philadelphia City Planning Commission
Harder, Frank	Tioga Group
Hastings, Alison	DVRPC
Heebner, Roger	DMJM Harris
Hull, Marian	URS Corp.
Ingaglio, Philip	DDI Transportation
Iris, Ariel	Independent
Jaskiewicz, Frank	JzTI
Johnson, Sterling	US Army Corps of Engineers
Jones, Bill	U.S. EPA
Kenny, Tom	DADC
King, Edward	Sunoco
Krakauer, Miki	NJDOT
Lomax, Kenneth	City of Philadelphia OSP

Ludasi, Andrew	NJDOT
MacKavanagh, Kelvin	MacKavanagh Railroad Consulting
Madden, Eric	PennDOT
Miller, Bob	NJDOT
Parker, Bob	East Penn Railroad
Pyers, Denise	PennDOT Rail Freight
Quinn, Kate	FHWA
Ratko, Wesley	Montgomery County Planning Comm.
Rothe, Tanya	SEPTA
Shanis, Donald	DVRPC
Siebeneicher, Bob	Camden Iron & Metal, Inc.
Steinberg, Harris	PennPraxis
Sutch, Jeff	SMS Rail Lines
Thomas, Carol	Burlington County
Turcich, Jim	Philadelphia Belt Line RR
Wahler, Brian	NJ Turnpike Authority
Walsh, Nicholas	PRPA
Walston, Dan	FHWA
Wells, Tim	LTK Engineering
Winkler, Fred	Winchester & Western RR
Wolfe, Rick	Kinder Morgan
Young, Lindsay	DRMEC / The Howland Group