

# DELAWARE VALLEY GOODS MOVEMENT TASK FORCE

QUARTERLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force 10:00 A.M., Wednesday, October 16, 2013 8th Floor—DVRPC Main Conference Room 190 North Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106

# 1. Call to Order

Co-chairs Barry Seymour of DVRPC and Toby Fauver of PennDOT called the quarterly freight advisory committee meeting to order. Mr. Seymour welcomed all new and returning committee members. Following this brief recognition, all attendees were invited to introduce themselves and their affiliations.

The minutes from the prior Task Force meeting on July 17, 2013 were circulated. It was noted that any modifications/corrections can be transmitted to DVRPC's Mike Ruane.

DVRPC has applied for 1 AICP Certification Maintenance Credit for eligible meeting attendees. Eligible attendees should check the AICP website for availability.

All PowerPoint presentations will be made available on-line at: <a href="http://www.dvrpc.org/asp/committee/committee.aspx?p=DVGMTF">http://www.dvrpc.org/asp/committee/committee.aspx?p=DVGMTF</a>

## 2. I-95 in Philadelphia: Action Item 14-02

PennDOT's Elaine Elbich, PE, a Portfolio Manager at District 6-0 provided an overview of the improvements to rebuild I-95 in Pennsylvania. The phases of work on I-95 have been organized by priority and work is currently underway. The project includes improvements to ramps, city streets and the I-95 mainline structure. Ms. Elbich provided an overview of the phases which will occur as construction continues through 2025.

The next mainline phase to occur is expected to begin in 2016. Further details of the phases are available online at the project website: www.95revive.com.

The committee was called to support Action Item 14-02: "That the members and friends of the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force support the I-95 reconstruction project, commit to make full use of information resources about the project, help share information about the project, and work collaboratively with PennDOT to promote safe and informed driving habits." The committee unanimously supported the action.

# 3. Delmarva Freight Study

Dan Blevins of the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO) described how the study uses detailed commodity flow data and how it will test the impacts of decisions such as infrastructure investments, changes in regulations, and modal shift impacts. This study is a multi-state, multi-MPO effort to develop a comprehensive evaluation of the freight transportation system and its operations on the Delmarva (Delaware-Maryland-Virginia) Peninsula. The project utilizes various data sets including Transearch commodity flows to create a planning tool based on a Cube Cargo model.

The exercise has engaged various state and local entities to work collaboratively on issues relating to a complex network of freight infrastructure for a unique geographic region. The project has engaged all the stakeholders, helping to better inform all parties about the role of various aspects of the regional freight system. In addition, the project is expected to provide recommendations for improvements based on different planning scenarios that will affect the various freight corridors identified in the study.

The study is ongoing, with refinements to the scenarios currently being explored. An estimated completion date is set for March 2014.

## 4. Braskem America

Braskem America, an international chemical processing company, has an American headquarters in Philadelphia and an operation at Marcus Hook, Delaware County. Braskem is the largest thermoplastics manufacturer in North and South America. Marcus Hook Facility Manager Jeremy Glisson provided an overview of the company's operations worldwide as well as specific operations at the Marcus Hook facility.

The Marcus Hook Braskem facility produces polypropylene which is the key ingredient in a variety of consumer products from coffee cups and lids to diapers and car components. The Marcus Hook facility processes feedstock composed of a propylene/propane mix which is put through a splitter providing consumer grade propane and propylene for use in the production of polypropylene resins. While the facility formerly utilized feedstock from the Marcus Hook refinery operation, it now relies more heavily on truck and railcar movements. The facility has 8 rail car unloading stations, which is expected to be expanded to 10 in the near future, as well as 3 truck unloading stations. This allows the facility to accept 10-12 railcars per day and move 50 trucks per day through the facility. The shutdown of the Marcus Hook refinery tripled the flow of feedstock from outside the Marcus Hook location.

# 5. DVRPC Reports on Immigration

Mary Bell and Cristina Arlt of DVRPC presented an overview of immigration in the Delaware Valley region. The discussion included the findings of a recent data report on the foreign-born population in Greater Philadelphia which showed a rapid growth since 1990. The uptick in immigration in the region, moving away from European origins and toward South/Central American and Asian populations has made the region more diverse. Though the percent of the

Page 3

population that is foreign-born continues to trail other major metropolitan areas, the increase in foreign-born population has helped to replenish the population losses in some communities.

# 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:

## Jim Runk ...... Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association

The highway funding continues to be a concern for the industry and questions remain heading into the current budget decision period.

# Michael Carroll..... City of Philadelphia

The Coalition for American Gateways and NAFTANEXT have approached the City about being involved with these efforts and to expand regional engagement.

# Rich Galasso Trucking

Expressed concerns from the truck carrier community about issues with illegal lane shifts through I-95 construction zones by motorists, and inquired about proper solid striping and other methods to reduce these incidents.

# Roy Kardon ..... Traffic Club of Philadelphia

Announced upcoming events including the October 19<sup>th</sup> Breast Cancer Eradication Making Strides, October 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Outing and November 15<sup>th</sup> Industry Outing at KIPC in Bucks County.

## Toby Fauver ..... PennDOT

Discussed budget status in Pennsylvania, no information available as of yet but progress expected in the coming weeks. Discussion of a possible Multi-modal fund of \$80-130 million for projects across modes at 70:30 match.

## Talvin Davis.....NJ DOT

Announced that the FY13 Freight Rail Assistance Program has selected \$13 million in projects that several of which are located in the Delaware Valley. FY 14 is on schedule and expected to authorized during the fiscal year. Talvin also thanked DVRPC freight staff for joining NJ DOT staff in Trenton for a semiannual meeting to discuss state and regional freight issues.

# Paul Delp ...... Lansdale Warehouse Company

Highlighted the handout provided in the packets from American Chain of Warehouses, providing industry information and helping to link markets.

#### Bill Goetz ..... CSX

Announced the opening of the Philadelphia Energy Solutions unloading stations, capable of handling a full unit train per day.

## Gerry Coyle ..... Evans Delivery Co.

Highlighted the testimonies of Mr. Coyle and Mr. Goetz that were provided to the U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in New York City on July 26.

# Ed Duffy..... Duffy Associates

Announced the release of his book *Philadelphia: A Railroad History* and thanked the support of the committee and several members including John McCreavy, Fred Winkler, Bill Goetz and Harry Garforth who provided tremendous support and sources for the book.

## Lisa Worden ..... PA DCED

Announced that there will be a seminar at the Union League on November 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss the benefits of fleet conversion to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).

#### Debbie Bowden..... Maryland DOT

Announced that Maryland is currently in the process of expanding truck parking on I-95. In addition the I-95 Corridor Coalition's Freight Academy will open for registration in late October.

#### Ted Dahlburg ..... DVRPC

Recognized several committee members; Domenic O'Brien of PRPA for his election to President of the World Trade Center, Robert Uhl for his promotion to Superintendent of NuStar Operations in Paulsboro, and Tony Giobbi of CSX for 39 years of service as he has recently announced his plans to retire.

## Michael Ruane ..... DVRPC

Announced that the *Darby Borough Grade Crossing Study Phase II* is nearing completion and staff has been working as the sponsors of a Villanova University senior engineering class project exploring engineered solutions at the crossing. The staff would also like to extend its thanks to CSX and SEPTA for their support of the effort.

#### Barry Seymour ..... DVRPC

Announced that SEPTA has received a TIGER V grant for a joint project on the West Trenton line to separate the operations of SEPTA and CSX. Mr. Seymour also highlighted a memo prepared by DVRPC on the impacts of the recent bridge posting by PennDOT and a testimony by the Chamber of Commerce on the expected impacts on the region.

#### 7. ADJOURNMENT

The committee was adjourned for lunch. The meeting dates for 2014 are January 17, April 16, July 16, and October 15.

## **Meeting Participants**

#### <u>Name</u>

## **Affiliation**

DVRPC

Rickol Richard
Bickel, Richard
Blevins, Dan
Bowden, Debbie
Buerk, Jesse
Carroll, Michael
Coll, Edward
Coyle, Jerry
Crawford, Rick
Curran, Arthur
Dahlburg, Ted
Davies, Chuck
Davis, Talvin
Delp, Paul
Dominguez-Buckley, Natalia
Driemeier, Kale
Dub, Avri
Duffy, Ed
Eagan, John
Elbich, Elaine
Fauver, Toby
Galasso, Rich
Gallagher, Kevin
Geier, Bobbie
Glisson, Jeremy
Goetz, William
Greenhaus, Daniel
Guie, Kyle
Gulick, Sarah
Haak, John
Halloran, William
Harvey, David
Heinzelmann, Ray
Hetrick, Norm
Jennings, Tom
Johnson, Anthony
Johnson, Sterling
Kardon, Roy
Kearns, Alan
Kenny, Tom
Kirlin, Ed
Kopple, Jan
Krakauer, Miki
Livingston, Anthony
Loane, Jennifer
Lubic, Lori

Wilmapco Maryland DOT DVRPC City of Philadelphia, MOTU **Emerson-Proconex** Evans Delivery Co. Norfolk Southern McGuire AFB NJ DVRPC PennDOT NJDOT Lansdale Warehouse Co. PA DCED DVRPC Avri Dub CPA **Duffy Associates** Benesch PennDOT District 6-0 PennDOT **Galasso Trucking Service** KGC **DelDOT Planning Braskem America** CSX Norfolk Southern **GVF TMA** PennDOT Philadelphia City Planning The Traffic Club of Philadelphia PRPA Gahagan & Bryant Associates, Inc. Governor's Action Team (PA) Hill Wallack Partnership TMA Corps of Engineers, Phila. NAI Mertz NJ Transit M. Gerace PA State Rep. Bill Keller TranSystems NJDOT Freight Planning CABT **Braskem America** PennDOT

Ludasi, Andrew Martinez, Paul McAuliffe, Dan McClellan, Richard McCreavy, John Meade, Kate Mercer, Bill Miller, Jim Oliver, Gregory Patterson, Pat Paul, Andy Philpott, Bob Pinjar, Bob Prybella, John Reese, Thomas Rhoads, Mark Rook, Randy Ruane, Mike Runk, Jim Sauer, Al Seymour, Barry Shanis, Donald Sheppard, William Singer, Michael Skeels, Kevin Smtih, Anna Lynn Strauss-Wieder, Anne Stryker, Geoff Thomas, Adrienne Uhl, Robert Van Auken, Kate Vasell, Jay Wall, Brian Ward, John Ward, John Weening, Ron Westergaard, Rick White, Whitney Worden, Lisa Yamamoto, Ema

NJ DOT Norfolk Southern **DNM Logistics LLC** DRJTBC SMS Rail NJOPA **Braskem America** Michael Baker **Delaware DOT** PA DEP Venezia Bulk Transport **BDP** International CDM Smith WBCM Norfolk Southern URS AECOM DVRPC PA Motor Truck Assoc. **Regional Rail LLC** DVRPC Pennoni Associates Atlantic Rail Services, Inc. UPS **Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission** Parsons Brinkerhoff A. Strauss-Wieder, Inc. STV

NuStar Asphalt PennPorts/PennDOT PRC PennDOT DVRPC YRC Freight A. Strauss-Wieder, Inc. Gloucester County Planning GISI PA DCED City of Phila. MOTU