# Connecting INDUSTRY and PLANNERS with FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION

# **QUARTERLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

**10 AM | Ocotber 7, 2020** Zoom Webinar

# 1. Call to Order

Committee co-chair Barry Seymour of DVRPC called the quarterly freight advisory committee meeting to order. Mr. Seymour welcomed all task force members and friends.

THE DELAWARE VALLEY

GOODS MOVEMENT

TASK FORCE Ødvrpc

Highlights from the previous freight advisory committee meeting on July 8, 2020 were shared in the chat box. Any modifications or corrections can be transmitted to DVRPC's Kristen Scudder (kscudder@dvrpc.org).

### 2. Regional Trade Gateways: Delaware River Port Forum

Representatives from PhilaPort and South Jersey Port Corporation joined the committee for presentations and a panel discussion to discuss the impacts of the port complex on the regional economy, ongoing projects and major activity, and highlights of future plans.

**Sean Mahoney, Director of Marketing at PhilaPort,** shared an update on the effects of Covid-19 on port operations. Operations and throughput are normal and have even increased in some cases. The recent Delaware River Channel Deepening Project has allowed the Packer Avenue Terminal to begin accepting Post-Panamax ships at depths up to 43ft and planning to reach depths of 45 feet. Matching landside infrastructure now allows the port to handle 900,000 TEUs, and a new 100,000 square-foot warehouse at the Tioga Marine Terminal has increased paper pulp products by around 100,000mt. Future expansion programs include property expansion, warehouse development, and highway access improvements.

**Brendan Dugan, Assistant Executive Director/ Business Development at South Jersey Port Corporation (SJPC),** provided a history of SJPC and an overview of their terminal facilities and global cargo. SJPC is investing in upgraded rail infrastructure for ship to rail movements to take advantage of rail connections in South Jersey and the robust and expanding Midwest and Great lakes rail services. Brendan also shared about the Port's involvement with the New Jersey Wind Port, a project that supports New Jersey's transition to 100% clean energy by 2050. Upgrades at the Paulsboro Marine Terminal, scheduled for 2021) will enable this terminal to handle the weight of wind turbine parts for the wind port construction. Other future projects at SJPC terminals include the addition of more dockside rail access, direct access to I-295 at Paulsboro, and clean air and environment modernization programs.

A discussion followed both presentations where Mr. Mahoney and Mr. Dugan were asked about marketing the whole the Delaware River's port activity, advantages and challenges of landside highway and rail infrastructure, crane innovations, and shifting cargo trends. Highlights included discussion around the opportunity to better connect with the Lehigh Valley via freight rail. Mr. Mahoney highlighted that inland rail access is desirable but service timing, cost, and other challenges exist, in addition to the physical access. Mr. Dugan discussed the recent improvements in rail service in South Jersey but emphasized getting improved capacity will be a challenge as restrictions exist on the Pennsylvania side of the river. The group also had a brief conversation about the importance of marketing the Delaware River port activity in its totality as the division into five individual reporting ports diminishes the national and global view of the river's robust port activity.

### 3. Two-minute Reports

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

#### Kelvin MacKavanaugh ...... MacKavanagh Railroad Consulting

Announced that the New Jersey Transaction Conference will take place virtually on October 20, 2020. Events will be live and presentations recorded for online viewing until November 19th.

Announced that the U.S DOT, as required under the FAST Act, developed a National Freight Strategic Plan that was released on September 3, 2020. The primary purpose of the Plan is to inform infrastructure planning, coordinate investments, and support future freight efficiencies that improve shippers' experience. The Plan will assess the conditions and performance of the Nation's multimodal freight system and identify corridors and bottlenecks for the movement of freight produced by American energy, agriculture, manufacturing, and natural resources industries. It will provide a strategic framework to guide strategic initiatives, support multi-jurisdictional and cross-sector collaboration, and identify freight data gaps.

Mike Rimer......Pennsylvania Department of Transportation-CPDM

Announced that PennDOT's Virtual Statewide Freight Forum will be held on November 5, 2020. It will be a full-day workshop with opportunities for participants to share insights and provide feedback on Pennsylvania's Freight Movement Plan.

#### Genevieve Clifton ......New Jersey Department of Transportation

Announced that the New Jersey Rail Freight Assistance Program deadline is this coming Friday, October 9. Those who are interested in learning more about future submissions can reach out to Genevieve for more information.

Paul Delp ...... Lansdale Warehouse

Announced that the 2020 Logistics Mega Meeting will take place virtually on October 7, 2020. Dr. John Langley from Penn State will be there to discuss the Third Party Logistics Study.

Brian Donovan..... Chester County Planning Commission

Announced the start of the Chester County Freight Plan work with DVRPC which will be looking at freight activity, facilities, and trends. This plan aims to identify and provide recommendations around freight needs in the county.

## 4. Old or New Business/Adjournment

Michael Ruane shared the upcoming 2021 meeting dates of the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force:

- Wednesday, January 13
- Wednesday, April 14
- Wednesday, July 14
- Wednesday, October 13

The meeting was adjourned.

#### **Meeting Participants**

Affiliation Name Atwood, Jonathan South Jersey Port Corporation **Badgley**, James Eastman-Linnett Associates LLC Barnhart, Elizabeth Conrail Norfolk Southern Baucom, Marlee Besold, Andrew Montgomery County Planning Commission Blanch, Emma Jacobs Engineering Brown, Corey **Delaware County Planning** Chiaramonte, Stephen WSP Cipriani, Eugene N. **Engineers Club of Philadelphia** Clark, Rickie Federal Highway Administration Clifton, Genevieve New Jersey Department of Transportation Cotter, Tim Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Crawford, Rick Norfolk Southern Davis, Jackie **Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission** Delp, Paul Lansdale Warehouse Co. NJ Transit Disarro, Adam Donovan, Brian **Chester County Planning** DuBose, Amanda Jacobs Engineering Dugan, Brendan South Jersey Port Corporation Duncan, Timothy Jacobs Engineering Elkis, Patty **Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission** Flumignan, Jeff Maritime Admin Fox, Joe PhilaPort Galasso, Rich **Galasso Trucking Services** Gallagher, Kevin **Kevin Gallagher Consulting Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission** Gates, Matt Gonzalez, Maridarlyn DVRPC Gruswitz, Ben **Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission** Heinzelmann, Raymond Gahagan & Bryant Associates AECOM Hess, Jim Holt, Christian Holt Logistics Johnson, Anthony Partnership TMA Johnson, Sterling H. Army Corps of Engineers Jones, Dennis United States Steel/KIPC Katzenberger, Jim Accelerx Group NJ Transit Kearns, Alan Mercado, Emilio U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Delaware Bay King, Chris **Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission** Kinney, George Lehigh Valley Planning Commission Krakauer, Miki Self Ludasi, Andrew NJ DOT Luvara, Dave Railroad Construction Co. of S. Jersey, Inc. MacKavanagh Rail Consulting MacKavanagh, Kelvin MacNeill, Meghan Conrail

<u>Name</u> Mahoney, Sean	<u>Affiliation</u> PhilaPort
Mancheno, Pablo	Jacobs Engineering
McCreavy, John	SMS Rail
Mensch, Erica	Navy
Miles, Kurt	CSXT
Montalvo, Byron	Holt Logistics
Morris, Doug	OOIDA
Nygard, Anne	DVRPC
Prinski, Amanda	PhilaPort
Regosch, Christian	Bucks County Planning Commission
Reimnitz, Amber	Michael Baker International
Rimer, Michael	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation - CPDM
Rogers, Debi	ICF- Environmental Planning
Roscoe, Michael	Schnabel Engineering
Ruane, Mike	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Saeedi, Rahil	CPCS
Salazar, Dan	Jacobs Engineering
Schiavi, Bill	SJTPO
Schoonmaker, Elizabeth	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Scott, Michael	WSP
Scudder, Kristen	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Seymour, Barry	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Sherman, Samuel	Delaware Department of Transportation
Soisson, Denise	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Theel, Jonathan Capt.	U.S. Coast Guard
Thomas, Debbie	MARAMA
Traiforos, Emily	GoRail
Vari, James	New Jersey Department of Transportation
Vasil, Tony	A. J. Vasil Associates, Inc.
Viscelli, Stephen	University of Pennsylvania
Walston, Dan	Federal Highway Administration - PA
Young, Lindsay	PhilaPort
Zochowski, Matthew	Mercer County Planning