



## Highlights | June 26, 2018

### Topic: public participation in planning

**Task Force Attendees:** Scott Berman, Ken Boyle, David Cohen, Justin Cusick, Tammy Leigh Dement, Paul Glover, Eva Hayes, Jim Hopkins, Straso Javoninski, Bryan Proska, John Scott, Alonzo South, Sari Steuber, Daniel Swartley McArdle, and James Walsh

**Additional Attendees:** Candace Roberts, Mark Roberts, Bill Comer, Mike Clemmons, Valerie Brown, Jason Trenchard, Katie Carver, Suzanne Hagner, Rafi R., Shoshana Akins (Staff), Al Beatty (Staff), Alison Hastings (Staff), Mike Ruane (Staff), Andrew Svekla (Staff), Barry Seymour (Staff), Amy Verbofsky (Staff)

#### Welcome and Meeting Overview

Daniel Swartley McArdle opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and giving an overview of the meeting's purpose. Shoshana Akins then gave a brief overview of the agenda.

#### Presentations

**Alison Hastings...** *Manager of the Office of Communications and Engagements, DVRPC*

Alison Hastings gave a background on DVRPC's Public Records Policy and Public Participation Plan, which included the policy's and plan's purpose, how it is developed, and an overview of the recent public comment period. This presentation was made at the request of a few PPTF members and therefore had a focus on the PPTF's role in the Public Participation Plan and was longer than the presentations at the end of the meeting. Questions were taken after the presentation.

*The next four presentations were done as "lightning presentations", meaning short overviews of projects to give context for the public outreach strategy used and to provide context for the panel that followed.*

**Al Beatty...** *Transportation Planner, DVRPC*

Al Beatty presented on the Reviving Vine project, which a DVRPC project in Philadelphia County in the Chinatown neighborhood. This project used an Open House public outreach strategy. Initial recommendations for the study area were presented, and meeting attendees shared their feedback and additional ideas with DVRPC staff. This public input will inform final recommendations and will be included in the project report, to be published in summer 2018.



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### **Amy Verbofsky...** *Senior Transportation Planner, DVRPC*

Amy Verbofsky presented on the Camden Health Element, which a DVRPC project in Camden County for the City of Camden Planning Department. This project used a road show public outreach strategy. Staff have met with various community groups to present on the projects, develop a vision for a healthy Camden, and brainstorm strategies.

### **Andrew Svekla...** *Associate Manager of Smart Growth, DVRPC*

Andrew Svekla presented on the Station Area Planning for the King of Prussia Rail, which a DVRPC project in Montgomery County to expand regional rail service to King of Prussia. This project used a workshop public outreach strategy. Staff hosted a workshop with community stakeholders to develop strategies to enhance pedestrian and bicycle access to the proposed stations and identify opportunities for transit-supportive development.

### **Mike Ruane...** *Senior Transportation Planner, DVRPC*

Mike Ruane presented on the Marcus Hook Grade Crossing Study, which a DVRPC project in Delaware County to identify improvements for crossing safety. This project used a steering committee public outreach strategy. Staff hosted a steering committee with community stakeholders, local agencies, local officials and staff, and business stakeholders to coordinate and discuss potential improvements to the railroad crossing.

### **Q&A and Facilitated Panel Discussion**

#### **Shoshana Akins...** *All attendees participated*

Attendees asked questions to the speakers and had a facilitated discussion about the public outreach strategies used in DVRPC projects.

### **Member Discussion and Networking**

Many attendees stayed after to network and gather additional DVRPC reports and resources.

### **Committee Business and Upcoming Outreach, Events, and News**

Shoshana Akins announced that the next Task Force meeting will be August 9, 2018.