

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 13, 2001**

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by RTC Chair Carol Thomas. The Highlights of the October 9, 2001 meeting were approved with no changes.
2. Jack Claffey, DVRPC Assistant Executive Director for Transportation Planning, presented the highlights of the October 25, 2001 DVRPC Board meeting. The Board approved the TIP action presented. The FY 2003 work program is progressing.
3. Charles Dougherty, DVRPC Associate Director of Transportation Planning presented the following TIP actions:

Action PA0151 - PennDOT's request to add the I-95 Corridor Coalition ITS project. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has awarded two grants totaling \$135,000 to the I-95 Corridor Coalition for ITS-related work (FY2001 funding for \$65,000 and FY2002 funding for \$70,000). Notification of the FY2001 funding did not arrive until the end of the last fiscal year. Therefore, the combined amount will be programmed in FY02. This project will further expand efforts related to the Philadelphia Agile Port System Project. It will collect information on traffic conditions and drayage movements (containers moving to and from the ports and intermodal facilities) and make that information available to truckers, dispatchers, and city and regional traffic system managers as an aid in scheduling truck flow in and out of the ports, airport, and regional intermodal hubs. The total proposed project budget is \$300,000.

MOTION 110101: Winters

SECOND: Hannigan

That the Board approve TIP Action PA 0151, PennDOT's to amend the FY 2001-2004 TIP for PA by adding the I-95 Corridor Coalition ITS project using two grants awarded to the I-95 Corridor Coalition totaling \$135,000 (FY2001 funding for \$65,000 and FY2002 funding for \$70,000) and programming the combined amount into FY02.

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

Action NJ 0201 - NJ DOT's request to that DVRPC amend and/or modify the TIP to reflect adjustments in cost, schedule, or scope of the following three existing TIP projects:

1. Route 1 / CR 571 Penns Neck Area EIS (DB# 031) - Mercer County
Increase the cost of the Final Scope Development phase in FY02 by \$2.2 million (NHS) for additional work on the Environmental Impact Statement.
2. Route 130 / 30 Collingswood Circle (DB# 155B) - Camden County
Add the Final Scope Development phase to FY02 (funded through NJDOT line item) and move the Final Design phase to FY03. FSD was only just authorized.

3. Route 295 Rigid Pavement (DB# 99373) - Burlington / Camden Counties
Move \$2.885 million of the multi-year construction phase funding from FY02 to FY05.
Final Design is taking longer than anticipated.

MOTION 110102: Brill

SECOND: Cuccia

That the Board approve TIP Action NJ 0201, NJ DOT's request that the Board approve TIP Action NJ 0201, a request by NJDOT to reflect adjustments in cost, schedule, or scope of the following three existing projects in the FY 2002-2004 TIP:

*1. Route 1 / CR 571 Penns Neck Area EIS (DB# 031) - Mercer County
Increase the cost of the Final Scope Development phase in FY02 by \$2.2 million (NHS) for additional work on the Environmental Impact Statement.*

*2. Route 130 / 30 Collingswood Circle (DB# 155B) - Camden County
Add the Final Scope Development phase to FY02 (funded through NJDOT line item) and move the Final Design phase to FY03.*

*3. Route 295 Rigid Pavement (DB# 99373) - Burlington / Camden Counties
Move \$2.885 million of the multi-year construction phase funding from FY02 to FY05.*

Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.

4. John Coscia, Jr., DVRPC Transportation Planner, presented a list of high priority problem areas for the four New Jersey counties that were developed as part of the 'New Jersey Problem Identification and Prioritization' project. This list is a subset of a larger inventory of problem areas that were identified by analyzing NJDOT management system data, input from the New Jersey counties, various corridor studies, etc. The New Jersey subcommittee of the RTC was then asked to identify which problem areas were a high priority. Those that were selected were included in the list presented at the meeting and will be sent to NJDOT for consideration to be included into the Study and Development program.

MOTION 110103: Bayer

SECOND: Hayes

That the Board approve the list of "DVRPC Priority Problem Areas for Inclusion in the NJ Study and Development Program", and forward the list to the New Jersey Department of Transportation as DVRPC's list of candidate projects for the Study and Development program.

5. Charles Dougherty presented a request for a change in the functional classification of the of Campus Drive in Burlington County from an Urban Local Road to an Urban Collector. The land has recently become available for an extension which would connect it with Route 130. Based on projections this new road would carry traffic volumes sufficient to qualify for this classification. The MPO must approve the change before NJ DOT may submit the request to FHWA.

That the Board approve the change to the functional classification of Campus Drive (including the proposed extension from Sunset Road to Salem Road) from Urban Local to Urban Collector in Burlington Township, Burlington County, New Jersey.

6. Mark Stout, NJ DOT Manager of Capital Programs and Funds Management, presented an overview of the NJ DOT Capital Investment Strategy document. The strategy is a term used to explain techniques used to link policy decisions to plans, projects, and performance. The strategy examines a variety of issues connected to bridge program performance, pavement conditions, safety issues, congestion, and bicycle and pedestrian improvements. NJ DOT is required to submit the document to the State Legislature on March 1 along with the Capital Program.
7. Laurie Matkowski and Chris King, DVRPC Transportation Planners, presented an overview of the ITS planning efforts underway in the region. Federal regulations require Metropolitan Planning Organizations to adopt a strategy to integrate ITS into the planning process and to develop a Regional ITS Architecture. DVRPC is involved in a variety of activities to adhere to these requirements, including developing a regional ITS policy, developing an institutional coordination framework, establishing incident management task forces and providing relevant ITS training to stakeholders. The DVRPC committee structure provides an opportunity for linkage and information sharing among agencies. The regional Architecture for the Delaware Valley is now available on CD-ROM.
8. Jerry Coyne, Manager, DVRPC Office of Transportation Studies, presented an overview of the report entitled, “National Highway System Connectors to Freight Facilities in the Delaware Valley Region”. The study contains an analysis of roadway connectors between the National Highway System (NHS) and the gates of 12 selected intermodal freight terminals in the region. The study includes specific recommendations for the roadways serving each facility, including improved signage, new lanes and signals, pavement rehabilitation, interchange reconfiguration, and new access roads.
9. Joshua Saks of the Policy Analyst, Clean Air Council presented an overview of the Green Commute Program. The program serves to promote telecommuting in the region. To that end, the CAC maintains a database of telecommuters and employers which allow telecommuting. The CAC also acts as a resource of telecommuting information, which they distribute to the database through mailings, activities, and events, as well as housing a resource center with articles and books regarding current telecommuting practices. The project is funded by PennDOT and managed by DVRPC.
10. David L. Cohen, Executive Director of the City Avenue Special Services District, gave an overview of the District and the City Avenue - Manayunk Circulator bus which they currently administer. The shuttle, called CART (for City Avenue Regional Transit), is operated by Krapf’s Coaches, and is in service 6 days a week, Friday and Saturday until midnight. Designed to reduce congestion, improve access, and promote transit use, the shuttle is part of the Nextbus system of real-time information. Commuters can access the system via the web, and will be advised of the next scheduled arrival at their selected stop. In addition, five stops are equipped with real-time LED information displays, which show when the next bus is due.

Busses are equipped with transmitters, and the information is uplinked to the system via satellite. The bus is funded through CMAQ. The project is managed by DVRPC.

11. Jack Claffey announced that the Transportation Enhancements applications, with the list of candidate projects, is now available. Also, the calendar of meetings for 2002 is now available. Due to a conflict with a New Jersey public holiday on February 12, the February meeting will be held one week earlier than originally scheduled, on February 5.
12. Next meeting: January 8, 2002.

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Meeting of November 13, 2001
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members

PA Department of Transportation
PA Department of Environmental Protection
PA Governor's Policy Office
NJ Department of Transportation
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
NJ Department of Community Affairs
Bucks County
Chester County
Delaware County
Montgomery County
City of Chester
Philadelphia Office of Transportation
Philadelphia City Planning Commission
Philadelphia Department of Streets
Burlington County
Camden County
Gloucester County
Mercer County
City of Camden
City of Trenton
Delaware River Port Authority
New Jersey Transit Corporation
Southeastern PA Transportation Authority
Delaware Valley Citizens' Transportation Committee
DVRPC Regional Citizens Committee

Representative Present

Robert Hannigan
(not represented)
Greg Brown
Brian Cuccia, Al Prant
(not represented)
(not represented)
David Johnson
Lee Whitmore
Tom Shaffer
Leo Bagley
(not represented)
Robert Ravelli
(not represented)
Tom Branigan, Michelle Smith
Carol Thomas
J. Douglas Griffith
Morris Bayer
Danielle Tucker
(not represented)
Melissa Kaplan
Linda Hayes
Kathy Vossough
Richard Burnfield
Lorraine Brill
Dennis Winters

Non-Voting Members Present

Pennsylvania TMAs
Federal Transit Administration
South Jersey Port Corporation

Representative

Peter Quinn
Janet Kampf
Hank D'Andrea

Guests

Mark Stout, Bob Harris, NJ DOT
Claudia Gordon, Andrea Jordan, Vadim Fleysh - City of Philadelphia Department of Streets
Tanya Seaman - Central Philadelphia TMA
Warren Strumpfer - Regional Citizens Committee
Joshua Saks - Clean Air Council
David L. Cohen - City Avenue Special Services District