

# DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

## PLANNING COORDINATING COMMITTEE/ REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

February 10, 2004 Meeting Highlights

DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

### 1. Call to Order - Chairman's Comments

Curt Noe, the RTC Chair, called the meeting to order.

### 2. Transportation Director's Report

Don Shanis stated that all proposed January 2004 TIP and Work Program amendments were approved by the Board. The TCDI program was approved by the Board. However, the Board encouraged the RTC to continue discussions on how to run the TCDI program next year. The Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director of DVRPC to acquire all of the 8<sup>th</sup> floor office space. The Light Rail is opening in mid March. The Pennsylvania Turnpike is increasing tolls by 42%. SAFETEA discussions are still underway due to budget crisis. The Parking Authority has been given another 10 years to operate in Philadelphia. DVRPC staff is working on intersections and traffic forecasting regarding the I-95 Interstate.

### 3. Report on Regional Citizens Committee Activities

RCC recommendations to the Board for January 22, 2004 were distributed. Reporting of RCC activities will be deferred until next month. Ernest Cohen reported that the RCC approved of the list of TE projects.

## ACTION ITEMS

### 4. Highlights of the Meeting of January 6, 2004

The highlights from the January 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the PCC/RTC were presented for adoption.

**Motion:** *by Lee Whitmore, seconded by Brian Cuccia, to adopt the PCC/RTC meeting highlights as presented.*

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

## 5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Elizabeth Schoonmaker presented two TIP amendments which were submitted for consideration.

### a. TIP Action PA03-44: I-95/PA Turnpike Interchange, Bucks County (MPMS #13347)

The Pennsylvania Turnpike requested to modify the FY 2003 TIP for Pennsylvania (FY2003-2006) for the I-95/PA Turnpike Interchange project (MPMS #13347) by increasing the final design phase of the project to \$60 million, with \$10 million Federal Interstate Aid (FAI) programmed in FY04, \$25 million programmed in both FY05 and FY06, and utilizing advance construct procedures for that funding. Further, remove Turnpike funding as the match and allow the use of 100% federal funds by means of "Toll Credit match" for the \$60 million final design phase only. Remaining right of way, utility and construction phases will be shifted back one year.

***Motion:** by David Johnson, seconded by Robert Hannigan, to approve TIP Action PA03-44 to modify the FY 2003 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the final design phase to \$60 million using \$10 million FAI in FY04, \$25 million in FY05 and FY06, and utilizing advance construct procedures for that funding. 100% federal funds by means of "Toll Credit match" will be used for the \$60 million final design phase only and right of way, utility, and construction phases will be shifted back one year.*

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

### b. TIP Action NJ04-03: Transit Car Upgrade/Overhaul, DRPA/PATCO (DB #DR046)

The Delaware River Port Authority/Port Authority Transit Corporation (DRPA/PATCO) requested to amend the FY 2004 TIP for New Jersey (FY2004-2006) by changing the scope and title of an existing TIP project, Transit Car Upgrade/Overhaul Vickers Car (DB #DR046). The Transit Car Upgrade/Overhaul (DB #DR046) will change the title of the project to "Purchase/Rebuild PATCO Cars" and replace the description with the following: "This project will provide for the replacement of PATCO's existing car fleet, either through new car purchase or complete rebuilding of existing cars."

***Motion:** by Carol Thomas, seconded by Brian Cuccia, to approve TIP Action NJ04-03 to amend the FY 2004 TIP for New Jersey by changing*

*the scope and title of an existing TIP project, Transit Car Upgrade/Overhaul (DB #DR046).*

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

## **6. Pennsylvania Transportation Enhancements Selection Process 2003-2004**

PENNDOT has allocated \$8.926 million in highway TE funds and FTA has targeted \$2 million in transit funds to the DVRPC region. A regional competition began in August 2003, with applications due by October 30, 2003. Submitted applications were evaluated and scored based on established criteria. The Pennsylvania TE Subcommittee met on January 29, 2004, to review the scoring and select projects. The Subcommittee will present its recommended set of projects for Board approval and amendment into the FY2003 TIP for PA. DVRPC requested the PCC/RTC recommend that the DVRPC Board approve the selection of TE projects.

### **a. Selection of Recommended Projects**

DVRPC requested the approval of the selection of the TE 2003-2004 project recommendations.

**Motion:** *by Catherine Popp-McDonough, seconded by Robert Hannigan, to approve the selection of the TE 2003-2004 project recommendations.*

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

### **b. TIP Action PA03-45: Transportation Enhancements Selection Process 2003-2004**

DVRPC requested to amend or modify the FY 2003 TIP for Pennsylvania (FY2003-2006) as required by adding the TE projects at the appropriate time.

**Motion:** *by Gregory Brown, seconded by Robert Hannigan, to approve TIP Action PA03-45 to amend the FY 2003 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the selected TE projects at the appropriate time.*

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

### **c. Inactive "Warning Letter" Procedure**

DVRPC requested the sending of a "warning letter" to project sponsors on TE projects that have been inactive for 6 months. If 90 days following the

“warning letter” it still remains inactive, a recommendation will be made to drop the project from the TIP.

**Motion:** *by Lee Whitmore, seconded by Robert Hannigan, to approve of the sending of a “warning letter” to project sponsors on TE projects that have been inactive for 6 months and dropping TE projects from the TIP that remain inactive for 90 days following the “warning letter”.*

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

**7. Transportation Management Association (TMA) and Mobility Alternatives Program (MAP) Work Programs for FY 2005 in Pennsylvania**

Sarah Oaks presented two separate programs for approval - The PENNDOT TMA Assistance Grant Program and the DVRPC Mobility Alternatives Program. Six TMAs plus the City of Philadelphia and SEPTA have applied for funding, and the draft work programs for each have been reviewed and approved by their respective counties. The programs were recommended for PENNDOT consideration with CMAQ funds.

**a. FY 2005 TMA Assistance Grant Work Program**

DVRPC requested that the PCC/RTC recommend that the Board approve the FY 2005 TMA Assistance Grant Work Program for a total of \$960,000 (\$762,000 CMAQ, \$192,000 local match).

**Motion:** *by Robert Hannigan, seconded by Lee Whitmore, to recommend that the Board approve the FY 2005 TMA Assistance Grant Work Program for a total of \$960,000 (\$762,000 CMAQ, \$192,000 local match).*

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

**b. FY 2005 MAP Work Program**

DVRPC requested that the PCC/RTC recommend that the Board approve the FY 2005 MAP Work Program for a total of \$816,000 (\$652,800 CMAQ, \$163,200 local match).

**Motion:** *by Robert Hannigan, seconded by Leo Bagley, to recommend that the Board approve the FY 2005 MAP Work Program without the \$32,750 reserve funding for a total of \$783,250 (\$626,600 CMAQ, \$156,650 local match).*

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

## **PRESENTATION ITEMS**

### **8. I-95 Corridor Reconstruction Project**

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the DVRPC, is undertaking a major redesign study of Interstate 95 between the Vine Street and Street Road interchanges. This redesign is being performed as part of the reconstruction of this segment of I-95. The goals of the study are to eliminate existing traffic bottlenecks and to accommodate projected 2030 traffic volumes. This study also is intended to make I-95 a better neighbor for residents and businesses along the freeway by mitigating noise, truck, and other adverse traffic impacts. The presentation was made by Mike Girman of PENNDOT and Chris Nemchik of Hill International, Inc.

### **9. Trenton Transportation Master Plan**

The preparation of a new transportation plan for the City of Trenton consists of two phases. Phase I, already completed, included a comprehensive multi-modal assessment of the Trenton transportation network. Phase II will define the package of projects, programs, and investments to guide the city's long term transportation plan. The presentation was made by Rachel Weinberger of Nelson Nygaard Consulting Associates.

### **10. Assessment of Land Use and Transportation: Solutions for the Route 413/513 Corridor**

This report is part of a two-year project that looks at the land use and transportation issues along the Route 413/513 corridor, involving the boroughs of Langhorne, Langhorne Manor, Penndel and Hulmeville and a small portion of Middletown Township in Bucks County. General and site-specific recommendations are discussed in the report based upon the study area's socio-economic profile, transportation and public transit services, land use and zoning as well as discussions with the project's Steering Committee. Mary Ng of DVRPC's Regional Planning Division made this presentation.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **11. Regional Integrated Multi-modal Information System**

Stan Platt briefed the RTC/PCC on the purpose of the Regional Integrated Multi-modal Information System (RIMIS) and the approach being employed to develop it.

**12. Mid-Atlantic Rail Operations Study**

Ted Dahlburg described the Mid-Atlantic Rail Operations Study (MAROPS) which addressed projected travel congestion and railroad choke points in the corridor while identifying \$6.2 billion rail improvement program over 20 years with \$750 million in projects located in the Delaware Valley.

**13. ecommute Project**

Stacy Bartels reported on the recent progress in the final phase of the ecommute pilot program.

**14. One Minute Reports**

Member and guests provided updates on the activities of their agencies.

**15. Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting of the PCC/RTC is March 9, 2004.

**ATTENDANCE****Voting Members**

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

**Non-Voting Members**

Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force  
 Federal Highway Administration - NJ division  
 Federal Highway Administration - PA division  
 Federal Transit Administration - Region III  
 NJ Turnpike Authority  
 New Jersey TMAs  
 Pennsylvania Bus Association  
 Pennsylvania TMAs  
 Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission  
 Philadelphia Regional Port Authority  
 Pottstown Urban Transit  
 South Jersey Port Corporation  
 South Jersey Transportation Authority

**Representative**

David Johnson  
 Carol Thomas  
 Curt Noe  
 Lee Whitmore  
 (not represented)  
 (not represented)  
 Andrew Carten  
 Justin Dula  
 Linda Hayes  
 Ernest Cohen  
 Lorraine Brill  
 Morris Bayer  
 Nick Angarone  
 Leo Bagley  
 Brian Cuccia  
 (not represented)  
 (not represented)  
 James Schwarzwald  
 (not represented)  
 Robert Hannigan  
 Greg Brown  
 Anthony Santaniello  
 Michelle Webb  
 Kenneth Lomax  
 Catherine Popp-McDonough

**Representative**

Kelvin MacKavanagh  
 (not represented)  
 (not represented)  
 Janet Kampf  
 (not represented)  
 William Ragozine  
 (not represented)  
 Peter Quinn  
 (not represented)  
 (not represented)  
 (not represented)  
 (not represented)  
 (not represented)

**ATTENDANCE (cont'd)**

US EPA - Region II (not represented)  
US EPA - Region III (not represented)

**Other Member Representatives and Guests**

Tom Clark - NJ Transit  
Michael J. Girman III - PENNDOT 6-0  
Jerry Mooney - NJDOT  
Chris Nemchik - Hill international  
Creighton Rabs  
Rachel Weinberger - Nelson Nygaard  
Dennis R. Winters - RCC  
Kathleen Zubrzycki – SEPTA

**DVRPC Staff**

Kathleen Belmonte  
Ted Dahlburg  
Charles Dougherty  
Patty Elkis  
Jacob Malikkal  
Linda McNeffer  
Elizabeth Schoonmaker  
Donald Shanis  
John Ward  
Thabet Zakaria