DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

PLANNING COORDINATING COMMITTEE/

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

February 8, 2005 Meeting Highlights

DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

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

   Michelle Webb, the PCC/RTC Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. **Transportation Director's Report**

   Don Shanis reported that the DVRPC Board passed all actions recommended at the January 4 PCC/RTC meeting. This included the $9.8 million in "flex" federal highway funds for SEPTA operations.

   He also informed members of upcoming meetings/important dates (listed below):
   - February 9: Federal Highway Administration (NJ) Human Factors in Transportation Workshop at DVRPC.
   - February 10: Central Jersey Forum at the Sarnoff Corporation in Princeton, New Jersey.
   - February 24: Extended DVRPC Board Meeting on the Long Range Plan.

3. **Report on Regional Citizens Committee Activities**

   Warren Strumpfer reported that Karen Friedman was elected as the RCC alternate to the RTC. He said that the RCC was concerned about pedestrian movements in the Lancaster Closed Loop Traffic Control System project. They were also concerned with bike and pedestrian movements proposed in the operational improvements to the Ben Franklin Bridge. They strongly suggest that public input be incorporated into this project at an early stage. He informed the PCC/RTC that the RCC supported continued efforts to search for solutions to SEPTA's financial crisis and appreciated the distribution of the Long Range Plan policy earlier in the month.

ACTION ITEMS

4.   **Highlights of the Meeting of January 4, 2005**

The highlights from the January 4 meeting of the PCC/RTC were presented for adoption.

> Motion: *by Lorraine Brill, seconded by Kenneth Lomax, 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 six TIP amendments which were submitted for consideration.

a.   TIP Action NJ05-05: TCDI Project Funds for New Jersey FY06 Round (DB#D0204), Various Counties.
DVRPC requested to amend the FY 2005-2007 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) to FY05 in the amount of $500,000 in federal STP-STU funds.

b.   TIP Action NJ05-06: Perry Street Reconstruction (DB# D018), City of Trenton
The City of Trenton requested to amend the FY 2005-2007 TIP for New Jersey by adding a project back into the TIP, the Perry Street Reconstruction project using $997,000 STP-STU funds.

> Motion: *by Brian Cuccia, seconded by Warren Strumpfer, to approve TIP Actions; NJ05-05 and NJ05-06 to amend the FY 2005-2007 TIP for New Jersey by adding funding for Transportation and Community Development Initiative and Perry Street Reconstruction project.*

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

c.   TIP Action NJ05-07: Route 295, Tomlin Station Road to Route 45, Rehabilitation (DB# 00372A), Gloucester County
NJDOT requested to amend the FY 2005-2007 TIP for New Jersey by adding a FY05 final design phase of $1.5 million in federal Interstate Maintenance funds.

d. TIP Action NJ05-08a: Route 38 Pedestrian Bridge (DB #00347), Camden County.

NJDOT requested to amend the FY 2005-2007 TIP for New Jersey by advancing this project from "Concept Development" in the Study and Development section to the Highway program of the TIP by adding $640,000 to the final design phase in FY05. This project is to proceed through NJDOT's "hyperbuild" process.

e. TIP Action NJ05-08b: Camden Infrastructure Improvement Plan - Cramer Hill Development (DB# 02395), Camden County

NJDOT requested to amend the FY 2005-2007 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the preliminary design phase of the Cramer Hill Access project by $2.5 million state funds in order to commence with an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project.

> Motion: *by Warren Strumpfer, seconded by Catherine Popp-McDonough, to approve TIP Actions; NJ05-07, NJ05-08a and NJ05-08b to amend the FY 2005-2007 TIP for New Jersey by adding the Route 295, Tomlin Station Road to Route 45 project and advancing the Route 38 Pedestrian Bridge and Camden Infrastructure Improvement Plan - Cramer Hill Development projects.*

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

f. TIP Action PA 05-14: Pottstown Pedestrian/Bicycle Promenade (MPMS #61709), Montgomery County.
PENNDOT requested to amend the FY 2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back into the TIP, the Pottstown Pedestrian/Bicycle Promenade Project, using $502,000 in Transportation Enhancement Funds (with a 20% toll credit match) for FY05 construction phase.

> Motion: *by Pete Scirrotto, seconded by Leo Bagley, to approve TIP Actions PA05-14 to amend the FY 2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the* Pottstown Pedestrian/Bicycle Promenade Project *(MPMS #61709).*

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

6. **Expansion of the RTC Membership to Include a Representative of the Delaware Valley's Academic Community**

    Don Shanis stated that the addition of a new member from academia to the PCC/RTC would help incorporate the views of an important regional resource into the transportation planning process. The action requested was to recommend the addition of a representative of the Delaware Valley's academic community to the PCC/RTC as a non voting member. Members of the committee said that though it was a good idea, guidelines or criteria for selecting an academic representative needed to be developed and approved. It was felt that interest by the various academic institutions in the region in participating in the PCC/RTC needed to be gauged. It was felt that representatives from both New Jersey and Pennsylvania institutions would be appropriate. Brian Cuccia put forward a motion to delay approval of the motion until selection guidelines had been developed and distributed to the committee.

    > Motion: *by Brian Cuccia, seconded by Curt Noe, to recommend that the PCC/RTC delay approval of a new non voting member(s) from academia until selection criteria/guidelines have been developed and approved by the committee.*

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

7. **Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Transportation Enhancement (TE) Funding for the Kensington Depot Walkway, Philadelphia**

    Jacob Malikkal presented the Norris Square Civic Association (NSCA) re-submission of the Kensington Depot Walkway Project for FTA TE funding based on a newly reduced scope and budget. Originally recommended for cancellation by the Pennsylvania TE subcommittee in 2004, a meeting was held on January 20th, 2005 in the Governor's office between NSCA, SEPTA, City of Philadelphia Planning Commission, DVRPC and the project's consultants.

    The decision was made that federal funds could be used on portions of the project (sidewalk, lighting and street trees etc.) and improvements to the lot would be funded with other non-federal funds. The new scope will reduce funding from $675,000 to approximately $400,000 in total project costs.

    The action requested was to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve the change in scope and funding for the project, as well as a change in the

project title from the "Kensington Depot Walkway Project" to a new title, "Berks Street Station Enhancement Project". At the appropriate time, DVRPC will modify the TIP (TIP Action PA05-04) to indicate the proper level of funding under the appropriate FTA TE line Item (MPMS #60619).

> Motion: *by Catherine Popp-McDonough, seconded by Kenneth Lomax, to recommend that the Board approve the change in scope, including the reduction in funds from $675,000 to $400,000 ($320,000 TE / $80,000 Local Match), and change the project title from Kensington Depot Walkway Project to* **Berks Street Station Enhancement Project**.

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

8. Year 2030 Municipal Population and Employment Forecasts

Kevin Adams presented the PCC/RTC with the county and municipal population forecasts extending to the year 2030. The municipal population forecast model was updated with new census information in 2002. The resulting revision of population model trends and the extension to 2030 for all municipalities has been completed.

The DVRPC Board adopted the **county** employment forecasts to 2030 in July 2004. December 2004, saw the Board adopt the **municipa**l employment forecasts to 2030 for 7 of 9 counties in DVRPC's region. Bucks and Mercer Counties remained for adoption by the Board. The actions requested were to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve adoption of the revised municipal population forecasts for all counties to 2030 and the revised municipal employment forecasts to 2030, including Bucks and Mercer Counties.

> Motion: *by Warren Strumpfer, seconded by Curt Noe, to recommend the Board approve adoption of the revised municipal population forecasts for all counties to 2030 and the revised municipal employment forecasts to 2030, including Bucks and Mercer Counties.*

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

9. Pennsylvania Transportation Management Association Assistance Grant Program and Mobility Alternatives Program Work Program Approval

Sarah Oaks informed committee members that each year, PENNDOT solicits applications for the Transportation Management Assistance Grant Program. In the DVRPC region, six TMAs applied for the maximum funding available:

$160,000. Those TMAs were Bucks County TMA, the TMA of Chester County, Delaware County TMA, Greater Valley Forge TMA, Partnership TMA, and Central Philadelphia TMA. While each scope of work submitted was slightly different because of the needs of their various constituencies, the TMAs generally worked to provide a forum for various interests within their service areas to address and resolve transportation issues, as well as working to build coalitions to support regional transportation needs.

Each of the Counties approved their respective TMA's work programs with the exception of Chester County, which Lee Whitmore advised was in the process of approving the work program.

The action requested was to recommend that the DVRPC Board approve the FY 2006 TMA Assistance Grant work programs for a total grant of $160,000 each ($128,000 CMAQ, $32,000 local match) to the Bucks County, Chester County, Delaware County, Greater Valley Forge, Partnership, and Central Philadelphia TMAs, for a total program cost of $960,000 ($768,000 CMAQ, $192,000 local match)

> Motion: *by Lee Whitmore, seconded by Leo Bagely, to recommend the Board approve the FY 2006 TMA Assistance Grant work programs (pending Chester County approval of its work program) at a total cost of $960,000 ($768,000 CMAQ, $192,000 local match).*

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

A second presentation included the work programs for the Mobility Alternatives Program. This differs from the Assitance Grant Program in that it is a marketing program for alternatives to the single occupant automobile. Each of the participants undertakes the same work program. Participants in the program include the Bucks County, Chester County, Delaware County, Greater Valley Forge, and Partnership TMAs, as well as the City of Philadelphia Office of Strategic Planning, SEPTA, and DVRPC. Elements of the program include the Clean Air Partnership, the Share A Ride Program, and working directly with employers to encourage congestion reduction practices. In FY 2006, the City of Philadelphia plans to subcontract their work to the Clean Air Council. The program total is $816,000 ($625,800 CMAQ, $163,200 contractor match).

> Motion: *by Leo Bagley, seconded by Pete Scirrotto, to table consideration of this action until the March RTC meeting in order to give committee members additional time to review the Clean Air Council's proposed work program.*

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

10. **Implementing Transit-Orientated Development: Four TOD Plans.**

   Karin Morris presented "Implementing Transit-Orientated Development (TOD): Four TOD Plans" to the PCC/RTC. The study makes recommendations on market, land use, access, zoning and development opportunities as a means of identifying and encouraging TOD implementation within the region. A feature of the study is a Strength, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) matrix for each area chosen for the TOD study, which includes the Girard station along SEPTA"S Broad Street Subway in Philadelphia; Lansdale Station, along SEPTA's Regional Rail R5, in Montgomery County; Thorndale station, along SEPTA's Regional Rail R5 in Chester County; and Woodbury, home to six NJ Transit bus routes, in Gloucester County.

INFORMATION ITEMS

11. **Current Status of Projects Managed by the DVRPC for PENNDOT District 6-0.**

   Ryan Gallagher reported that DVRPC currently manages 66 active projects for PENNDOT District 6-0. Summary information on each project along with a note on its current status was handed out during the meeting. A demonstration was also given on how to access the information online via the DVRPC website.

12. **One Minute Reports**

   PCC/RTC Members and guests provided updates on the activities of their agencies.

13. **Old Business and New Business**

   There was no old or new business discussed.

14. **Meeting Adjournment**

   The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting of the PCC/RTC is March 8, 2005.

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members	**Representative**
Bucks County	David Johnson
Burlington County	Carol Thomas
Camden County	Curt Noe
Chester County	Lee Whitmore
City of Camden	(not represented)
City of Chester	(not represented)
City of Trenton	Judy Adams
Delaware County	Justin Dula
Delaware River Port Authority	Linda Hayes
DVRPC Regional Citizens Committee	Warren Strumpfer
Delaware Valley Citizens' Transportation Com.	Lorraine Brill
Gloucester County	Pete Scirrotto
Mercer County	Matt Lawson
Montgomery County	Leo Bagley
NJ Department of Transportation	Brian Cuccia
NJ Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
NJ Department of Community Affairs	Herman Volk
New Jersey Transit Corporation	Jerry Lutin
PA Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
PA Department of Transportation	Robert Hannigan
PA Governor's Policy Office	Linda Guarini
Philadelphia City Planning Commission	Anthony Santaniello
Philadelphia Department of Streets	Michelle Webb
Philadelphia Office of Strategic Planning	Kenneth Lomax
Southeastern PA Transportation Authority	Catherine Popp-McDonough

Non-Voting Members	**Representative**
Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force	Kelvin MacKavanagh
Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce	Tom Caramanico
Federal Highway Administration - NJ division	(not represented)
Federal Highway Administration - PA division	(not represented)
Federal Transit Administration - Region III	(not represented)
ITS Technical Task Force	(not represented)
NJ Turnpike Authority	(not represented)
New Jersey TMAs	William Ragozine
Pennsylvania Bus Association	(not represented)
Pennsylvania TMAs	Peter Quinn
Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission	Walt Green
Philadelphia Regional Port Authority	David Raffaele
Pottstown Urban Transit	(not represented)
South Jersey Port Corporation	Bill Krebs
South Jersey Transportation Authority	(not represented)

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

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

Other Member Representatives and Guests
Eric Cheung - Clean Air Council/GPCCP
Pierce Ravacon - Baker Engineering
Hank D'Andrea - South Jersey Port Corporation
James McQuilkin - Delaware River Port Authority
Patricia De Carlo - NSCA
Claudia Gordon - City of Philadelphia
Barry Keppard - Greater Mercer TMA
Darren Fava - CPTMA
Roger Sager - DRJTBC
Kathleen Zubrzycki - SEPTA
John Boyle- RCC
Therese Donlan- Gloucester County Planning Commission
Laurie Actman - Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce

DVRPC Staff
Jean McKinney
Ryan Gallagher
Jacob Malikkal
Barry Seymour
Emi Faloughi
Ted Dahlburg
Elizabeth Schoonmaker
Donald Shanis
Kevin Adams
Sarah Oaks
John Madera
John Ward