

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
PLANNING COORDINATING COMMITTEE/
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
March 7, 2006 Meeting Highlights
DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

1. Call to Order - Chairman's Comments

Brian Cuccia, PCC/RTC Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Mr. Cuccia announced to the members that Kris Kolluri has been named Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation. Additionally, Mark Stout has replaced Dennis Keck as Assistant Commissioner for Planning and Development for the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

2. Transportation Director's Report

Don Shanis (DVRPC) informed the members that a Board Policy Committee Meeting was held at the DVRPC offices on Thursday, March 2, 2006. Topics covered in the meeting were: Economic Development Strategy, Renumbering I-95 in Bucks and Mercer counties, and PA Interstate Highway Management Program.

Dr. Shanis stated that the ITS Coordinating Council met at the DVRPC offices on February 16, 2006. The meeting focused on the state of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) in the Delaware Valley region.

Dr. Shanis continued by stating that the Central Jersey Transportation Forum Meeting was held at the Sarnoff Corp., in West Windsor, NJ, on March 3, 2006. Topics discussed were the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) study, and the CR571 corridor study.

Lastly, Dr. Shanis informed the members of the re-organization of DVRPC staff within the Transportation Planning division. Changes include: The office of Travel Monitoring has been transferred to the Intermodal Planning Unit; the creation of the Office of Transit, Bicycles, and Pedestrian Planning within the Intermodal Planning Unit; The Office of Long-Range Planning (excluding Bicycle Planning) and the Congestion Management Process activities have been re-assigned to the Capital Program Development Unit which has been renamed the Transportation Plans, Programs, and Implementation Unit; the Office of Congestion Management has been renamed the Office of Transportation Operations Management; and the Office of Corridor Planning has been renamed the Office of Safety and Corridor Planning.

3. Report on Regional Citizens Committee Activities

Lorraine Brill informed the members that the RCC did not approve February, 2006 TIP Actions PA05-60: US 202 Section 700(MPMS #'s S47396, 16731, and 47395), Bucks and Montgomery Counties, and PA05-62: Bethlehem Bridge over Cooks Creek (New Proposed Project MPMS #73009, Montgomery County. Lastly, Ms. Brill stated that the RCC is concerned about the lack of Bike/Ped facilities included in the I-95/PA Turnpike Interchange Bucks County, Phase II project.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the Meeting of February 7, 2006

The highlights from the February 7, 2006 meeting of the PCC/RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Jim Mosca, seconded by Catherine Popp-McDonough to adopt the highlights for the February 7, 2006 PCC/RTC meeting.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Elizabeth Schoonmaker presented 9 TIP amendments for consideration.

a. TIP Action NJ06-07: Sen-Han Transit Bus Replacement Program(DB #X065), Camden County

Camden County has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2006-2008 TIP for New Jersey by programming \$100,000 CMAQ per year for an initiative to replace the current fleet used by Sen Han Transit to provide modified fixed route transit service which is open to the general public as well as senior citizens and persons with disabilities in Camden County. Seven vehicles of the original fleet were purchased with CMAQ funds several years ago, but they have accumulated significant mileage and need to be replaced. \$100,000 per year will enable a phasing in of new vehicles over time until the whole fleet can be replaced. Any costs above the \$100,000/year will be provided by the County or the Senior Citizens United Community Services (SCUCS) which is the designated agency for coordinating special transit services. The project would be included as a component of the Local CMAQ Initiatives Line Item (DB #X065) using \$100,000 per year of the existing \$845,000. Over \$745,000/year for other initiatives will still be available.

Motion: by Carol Thomas, seconded by Curt Noe to modify the FY2006-2008 TIP for New Jersey by programming \$100,000 CMAQ per year for an initiative to replace the current fleet used by Sen Han Transit to provide modified fixed route transit service which is open to the general public as well as senior citizens and persons with disabilities in Camden County.

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

b. TIP Action NJ06-08: Tuckahoe Road (CR 557) Section 6, Marsh Lake Branch to Route 40 (DB #D026, Future Projects), Gloucester County

Gloucester County has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2006-2008 TIP for New Jersey by programming \$2.5 million STP-STU funds for the FY06 construction phase of the Tuckahoe Road (CR 557), Marsh Lake Branch to Route 40 project. This local project is now ready to advance to construction. The project will provide for the reconstruction of the existing roadway to include shoulders, improve the geometry of horizontal curves, as well as improve the existing conditions of two intersections (Blue Bell Road and US 40/Brewster Road). This project would be funded by the DVRPC Future Projects Line Item DB #2026. Currently, \$6.401 million STP-STU is available in the Line Item for selected projects.

Motion: by Jessica Savidge, seconded by Curt Noe to modify the FY2006-2008 TIP for New Jersey by programming \$2.5 million STP-STU funds for the FY06 construction phase of the Tuckahoe Road (CR 557), Marsh Lake Branch to Route 40 project.

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

c. TIP Action PA05-64a: Upper Merion/Bridgeport Township Wide Traffic Signal Closed Loop (MPMS #58662), Montgomery County

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a signal project back into the TIP, the Upper Merion/Bridgeport Township-wide Traffic Signal Closed Loop signal project (MPMS #58662), programming \$4 million for construction in FY06 (\$1 million CMAQ/\$250,000 local) and FY07 (\$2.2 million CMAQ/\$550,000 local). This project was originally selected as part of a previous round of the DVRPC CMAQ Competitive Program, has been under design locally, and is now ready to advance to construction. The system will be a closed loop system with central monitoring provided via fiber optic connection to the township building and PENNDOT's Control Center. The project contains approximately 70 signals and is part of the Deployment Plan for the I-76

Corridor ITS traffic management plan.

d. **TIP Action PA05-64b: PA 309 Connector Project (MPMS #16438), Montgomery County**

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing FY06 and FY07 programming for the project by \$11.5 million. The request is to increase the right of way phase by \$4.34 million, advance it, and program it in FY06 (\$4.6 million HWY/\$1.150 million state) and FY07 (\$600,000 HWY/\$150,000 state). Furthermore, this request calls for increasing the utility phase by \$5 million, and program \$2 million HWY/\$21,000 DEMO/\$505,000 state in FY06, and \$2 million HWY/\$500,000 state in FY07. Final design for the project calls for some refining of the alignments and required right of way acquisitions. Complex utility issues include a high tension electrical facility and substations that run through the project, and several utility poles that must be relocated. This project will correct the disjointed and inadequate road system serving the north/south movement between PA 309 and the PA Turnpike Lansdale Interchange. There will be a two lane roadway connection by upgrading two existing two lane roads (Wambold Rd. and Township Line Rd.) and connecting them with a two lane roadway approximately one mile in length. Construction for this project is included in the Later Fiscal Years of the Preliminary Draft FY07 TIP Update presently underway, and estimated costs for the construction phase have been revised from \$45 million to \$65 million.

Motion: by Leo Bagley, seconded by Lee Whitmore to amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a signal project back into the TIP , the Upper Merion/Bridgeport Township-wide Traffic Signal Closed Loop signal project (MPMS #58662), programming \$4 million for construction in FY06 (\$1 million CMAQ/\$250,000 local) and FY07 (\$2.2 million CMAQ/\$550,000 local); and to modify the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing FY06 and FY07 programming for the PA 309 Connector Project by \$11.5 million.

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

e. **TIP Action PA05-64c: Germantown Avenue over Cresheim Creek (Bridge) (MPMS #57899), Philadelphia**

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the preliminary (\$766,000 HWY/\$190,000 state) and final design (\$300,000 HWY/\$75,000 state) and utility phases (\$4.6 million HWY/\$1.150 million state) to the Germantown Avenue Reconstruction North project in FY07 and FY08, and increasing the right of

way (\$276,000 HWY/\$69,000 state) in order to get the project ready for construction (which is programmed in current TIP in FY09). The scope of the project is the reconstruction of Germantown Avenue from Allens Lane to Mermaid Lane, a distance of approximately 3,350 feet. The project will include the reconstruction of the roadway, drainage improvements, replacement of the existing SEPTA trolley track facilities, as well as new curbing, sidewalk, street lighting, trees, and utilities as needed. The project will also include the rehabilitation of the existing stone arch bridge over Cresheim Creek which runs parallel to Cresheim Valley Drive. The project title and description will be edited to reflect the proper scope. See also MPMS #48191 (TIP ACTION PA05-64d) which previously contained the roadway reconstruction portion of this project. Construction for this project is shown as beginning in FY07 in the Preliminary Draft FY07 TIP Update presently underway, and estimated costs for the construction phase have been revised from \$800,000 to \$13 million. Construction phases for the two projects combined have been revised from approximately \$5 million to \$19 million.

f. **TIP Action PA05-64d: Germantown Avenue Reconstruction (MPMS #48191), Philadelphia**

PENNDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the final design phase (\$161,000 HWY/\$40,000 state) and utility phase (\$2.760 million HWY/\$690,000 state) in FY07 to the Germantown Avenue Reconstruction South project in order to get the project ready for construction (which is programmed in FY09 in the current TIP). The scope of the project is the reconstruction of Germantown Avenue from Ashmead Street to a point south of Church Lane, a distance of approximately 2,000 feet. The project will include the reconstruction of the roadway, drainage improvements, replacement of the existing SEPTA trolley track facilities, as well as new curbing, sidewalk, street lighting, trees, and utilities as needed. The project title and description will be edited to reflect the proper scope, which will be roadway reconstruction of the one section of roadway instead of two. See also MPMS #57899 (TIP ACTION PA05-64c) which will advance the section of roadway adjacent to Cresheim Valley Drive. Construction for this project is shown as beginning in FY07 in the Preliminary Draft FY07 TIP Update presently underway, and estimated costs for the construction phase have been revised from \$4 million to \$5.2 million. Construction phases for the two projects combined have been revised from approximately \$5 million to \$19 million.

Motion: by Michelle Webb, seconded by Kenneth Lomax to modify the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the preliminary (\$766,000 HWY/\$190,000 state) and final design (\$300,000 HWY/\$75,000 state) and utility phases (\$4.6 million HWY/\$1.150

million state) to the Germantown Avenue Reconstruction North project in FY07 and FY08, and increasing the right of way (\$276,000 HWY/\$69,000 state) in order to get the project ready for construction (which is programmed in current TIP in FY09); and to modify the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the final design phase (\$161,000 HWY/\$40,000 state) and utility phase (\$2.760 million HWY/\$690,000 state) in FY07 to the Germantown Avenue Reconstruction South project in order to get the project ready for construction (which is programmed in FY09 in the current TIP).

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

g. **TIP Action PA05-65a: Upper Darby Earmark (New Proposed DEMO Project, MPMS #74799), Delaware County**

POSTPONED

h. **TIP Action PA05-65b Tidal Schuylkill River Greenway & Trail (New Proposed DEMO Project, MPMS #68067), Philadelphia**

The City of Philadelphia has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding phases and increasing the funding for an existing TIP project, the Tidal Schuylkill River Greenway & Trail, using SAFETEA-LU DEMO #1189 for \$1.344 million DEMO combined with a \$336,000 local match for design in FY06 and construction in FY07.

Originally selected as part of the DVRPC Competitive CMAQ Program, the goal of the project is to provide an extension of the Schuylkill River Trail from Locust Street to South Street, including landscaping and lighting. The project sponsor is the Schuylkill River Development Corporation (SRDC). SAFETEA-LU DEMO #1189 will provide the federal funding combined with local match funds from a State Capital Assistance Grant and the Army Core of Engineers.

i. **TIP Action PA05-65c: Schuylkill Gateway Project (New Proposed DEMO Project, MPMS #74824) Philadelphia**

The City of Philadelphia has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project into the TIP, the Schuylkill Gateway Project (MPMS #74824) using two SAFETEA-LU earmarks totaling \$1.7 million DEMO funds. The Schuylkill River Development Corporation (SRDC) is the sponsor of the project which will provide for the design and the construction of operational, structural, and aesthetic improvements to the Walnut Street Bridge, Chestnut Street Bridge, Schuylkill Avenue and Station Square at 30th Street Station. Improvements will included streetscape, crosswalk, curb, and sidewalk

improvements. SAFETEA-LU earmark ID #4815 and 357 will supply the funding accordingly: FY06 preliminary engineering (\$120,000 DEMO/\$30,000 local match); FY06 final design (\$120,000 DEMO/\$30,000 local match); FY07 construction (\$1.460 DEMO/\$365,000 local match).

Motion: by Deborah Schaaf, seconded by Michelle Webb to modify the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding phases and increasing the funding for an existing TIP project, the Tidal Schuylkill River Greenway & Trail, using SAFETEA-LU DEMO #1189 for \$1.344 million DEMO combined with a \$336,000 local match for design in FY06 and construction in FY07; and to amend the FY2005-2008 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project into the TIP, the Schuylkill Gateway Project (MPMS #74824) using two SAFETEA-LU earmarks totaling \$1.7 million DEMO funds.

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

6. Fiscal Year 2006 Planning Work Program Amendments

To respond to the needs of member governments and agencies, work program changes and additions are brought to the PCC/RTC to permit the timely undertaking of technical activity.

a. Ben Franklin Bridge West-side Roadways Congestion Mitigation Project

Tom Walker (DVRPC) asked the RTC to recommend to the Board to amend the FY2006 Planning Work Program to add the project, Ben Franklin Bridge West-side Roadways Congestion Mitigation Project.

Motion: by Matthew Lawson, seconded by Jerry Lutin to recommend to the Board to amend the FY2006 Work Program to add the project, Ben Franklin Bridge West-side Roadways Congestion Mitigation Project.

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

b. Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Transportation, Land Use, and Economic Development Integration Strategy and Action Plan

Barry Seymour (DVRPC) asked the RTC to recommend to the Board to amend the FY2006 Planning Work Program to add the project, Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Transportation, Land Use, and Economic Development Integration Strategy and Action Plan.

Motion: by Lee Whitmore, seconded by Deborah Schaaf to recommend to the Board to amend the FY2006 Work Program to add

the project, Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Transportation, Land Use, and Economic Development Integration Strategy and Action Plan.

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

7. Draft Conformity Finding

The public consultation period on the draft conformity finding for the NY-NJ-CT PM2.5 Non-attainment Area closed on March 2, 2006. Jienki Synn reported on the outcome of the public involvement process, and requested that the RTC recommend that the DVRPC Board adopt the draft conformity finding, which demonstrates that the DVRPC TIP and the Plan conform to the applicable final conformity guidance under the Clean Air Act as Amended (CAAA).

Motion: by Matthew Lawson, seconded by Curt Noe to recommend that the DVRPC Board adopt the draft conformity finding, which demonstrates that the DVRPC TIP and the Plan conform to the applicable final conformity guidance under the Clean Air Act as Amended (CAAA).

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

8. South Jersey PIDN Study

Marlin Peterson of DMJM Harris discussed the South Jersey Port Inland Distribution Network (PIDN) Study. The object of the study is to investigate the feasibility of creating a PIDN facility in South Jersey. A South Jersey PIDN facility could potentially offer benefits such as bolstering economic development initiatives and mitigating highway traffic impacts from maritime activity.

INFORMATION ITEMS

9. FY 2006 JARC Grant Program

Karen Cilurso (DVRPC) briefed the members of the RTC on the FY 2006 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Grant Program project ranking and prioritization. In southeastern Pennsylvania, there is an available balance of Fiscal Year 2004 and 2005 federal earmarks totaling \$5.348 million. In New Jersey, NJTRANSIT has a federal earmark of \$5.2 million statewide.

10. Seamless Transportation Service to and through the Region's Core

Joseph Hacker (DVRPC) provided the members of the RTC an update on the

FY06 project: Seamless Transportation Service to and through the Region's Core. Highlights included an overview of coordination efforts, method of analysis, data collection, mapping and remaining steps.

11. Travel Simulation Validation for Conformity

The federally mandated planning programs require that travel simulation models be validated with current travel information that is less than 10 years old. The DVRPC model, which is used in conformity analyses, traffic design data, air quality studies, and environmental impact statements, was recently validated with the 2000 Census, home interview survey, traffic and transit counts and other current information. Tom Walker (DVRPC) presented a brief overview of the 2000 Travel Simulation Model validation process and results.

12. One Minute Reports

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

13. Old Business and New Business

14. Meeting Adjournment

The next scheduled meeting of the PCC/RTC is April 4, 2006.

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

Representative

Richard Brahler
 Carol Thomas
 Curt Noe
 Lee Whitmore
 Edward Williams
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Alex Flemming
 Linda Hayes
 (not represented)
 Lorraine Brill
 Jessica Savidge
 Matthew Lawson
 Leo Bagley
 Brian Cuccia
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Jerry Lutin
 (not represented)
 Jim Mosca
 Linda Guarini
 Deborah Schaaf
 Michelle Webb
 Kenneth Lomax
 Catherine Popp-McDonough

Non-Voting Members

Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force
 Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
 Federal Highway Administration - NJ division
 Federal Highway Administration - PA division
 Federal Transit Administration - Region III
 ITS Technical Task Force
 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
 US EPA - Region II
 US EPA - Region III

Representative

Kelvin MacKavanaugh
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 William Ragozine
 (not represented)
 Peter Quinn
 Don Steele
 David Harvey
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Martin Kotsch

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

Greg Brown - PennDOT District 6-0
Kathleen Zubrzycki - SEPTA
Darren Fava - CPTMA
Andrea Jordan - Philadelphia Department of Streets
Jim McQuilkin - DRPA
Sue Herman - RRTS
Harry Laspee - Pennoni Assoc., Inc.
William Scarloti - Burlington County
Kelly Sheckler - EPA
Marlin Peterson - DMJM Harris
Manju Chandrasekhar - DMJM Harris
George Lyons - Philadelphia Historic Northwest Coalition
Andrew Maginnis - Philadelphia Historic Northwest Coalition

DVRPC Staff

Donald Shanis
Charles Dougherty
John Ward
Ted Dahlburg
Matthew West
Elizabeth Schoonmaker
Laurie Matkowski
John Madera
Ashley McBride
Tom Walker