

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
PLANNING COORDINATING COMMITTEE/
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
September 5, 2006 Meeting Highlights
DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

1. Call to Order - Chairman's Comments

Catherine Popp-McDonough welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Tom Branigan was introduced as the new RTC representative for the City of Philadelphia Streets Department, replacing Michelle Webb.

2. Deputy Executive Director's Report

Don Shanis (DVRPC) informed the RTC of the September 28, 2006 DVRPC board retreat. At the retreat, attendees will discuss DVRPC's priorities as well as the 2008 Planning Work Program.

Dr. Shanis and DVRPC Executive Director, Barry Seymour, will hold individual meetings with county commissioners in the region, beginning this fall. These meetings will serve to strengthen the relationship between the counties and DVRPC and also help to identify each County's priorities for the future.

The Transportation Funding and Reform Commission will meet at DVRPC from 10:30am to 1:30pm on September 15, 2006. Each registered participant will have five minutes to contribute information on the outlook for future transportation funding.

Dr. Shanis reminded the RTC that the Freight for a Day event, sponsored by Ted Dahlburg (DVRPC) is scheduled for September 20, 2006. Matthew West was also introduced as the new RTC Staff Coordinator, replacing Ted Dahlburg in this role.

3. Report on Regional Citizens Committee Activities

Lorraine Brill provided information on the most recent RCC meeting. Meeting minutes from the July 18, 2006 meeting were included in the RTC meeting materials packet.

ACTION ITEMS**4. Highlights of the Meeting of July 11, 2006**

The highlights from the July 11, 2006 meeting of the PCC/RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Brian Cuccia, seconded by Matt Lawson to adopt the highlights for the July 11, 2006 PCC/RTC meeting.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Elizabeth Schoonmaker presented 2 TIP amendments for consideration.

a. TIP Action PA07-01: Penn's Landing Water Shuttle Ramp Infrastructure Improvements (Proposed New DEMO Project), DRPA/PATCO

DRPA/PATCO has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, the Penn's Landing Water Shuttle Ramp Infrastructure project, using \$1 million DEMO funds provided through a SAFETEA-LU earmark. The funding will be programmed in FY07 (\$500,000 Section 5309 Bus Discretionary funds/\$125,000 local match provided by PLC), with \$250,000 Section 5309/\$62,5000 local match programmed in both FY08 and FY09.

The project will provide for the infrastructure improvements needed to build ramps into the river as part of the water shuttle/water taxi system planned for operation on the Philadelphia side of the Delaware River between Spring Garden and Catherine Streets. PLC is already working with the Departments of Environmental Protection and Environmental Protection Agency regarding any required permits.

Motion: by Brian Cuccia, seconded by Kenneth Lomax to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, the Penn's Landing Water Shuttle Ramp Infrastructure project, using \$1 million Section 5309 Bus Discretionary funds/ \$250,000 local match.

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

b. TIP Action NJ07-01: Public Safety Security Equipment (Proposed New Section 5340 Project), DRPA/PATCO

DRPA/PATCO has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new project to the TIP, the Public Safety Security Equipment Project, using new FTA Section 5340 Growing States and High Density funds, newly provided through SAFETEA-LU. The \$80,000 a year (\$64,000 Section 5340 funds/\$16,000 Local match) would be programmed in Fiscal Years 2007 through 2010 for PATCO system safety improvements such as radios, security cameras, lighting, security vehicles, and computer equipment.

As part of Section 5340 of the new SAFETEA-LU legislation, two new funding mechanisms were created; New Jersey was the recipient of funds for both the Growing States and the High Density programs. The Growing States and High Density Programs add a new method of distributing a small portion of transit funding. Growing States is distributed based on population forecasts and high density funding, which was made available to only 7 states in the country, is apportioned to urbanized areas based on population density. DRPA and NJ TRANSIT have just recently agreed to the regional suballocation of these funds, and a total of \$264,188 federal 5340 funds (annually) have been suballocated to DRPA/PATCO for use on the PATCO system. \$200,188 Section 5340 combined with \$50,047 local match will be programmed as an annual increase in funds available to the PATCO existing Preventive Maintenance project, DB #DR034, with the remaining \$80,000 a year (\$64,000 Section 5340 funds/\$16,000 Local match) programmed in the new Safety Security Equipment project.

Motion: by Carol Thomas, seconded by Jerry Lutin to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new project to the TIP, the Public Safety Security Equipment Project, using \$80,000 (\$64,000 Section 5340/\$16,000 local match).

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

6. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Pennsylvania

Chick Dougherty (DVRPC) explained that a new MOU between PennDOT and DVRPC for modifying or amending the TIP is necessary because of the new statewide Interstate management Program. PennDOT and DVRPC agreed that the most efficient way to handle this requirement is to amend the current MOU by incorporating language to address the Interstate management Program. The suggested amendment includes the addition of a subsection ("Section E") under "Section 3 Expedited Procedures", in the current MOU. This section would primarily reference the MOU stipulations already in place while adding more specific language related to the new Interstate Management Program.

Motion by Jim Mosca, seconded by Curt Noe, to recommend approval to incorporate language related to the Interstate Management Program into the current MOU between PennDOT and DVRPC.

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

7. Approval of Draft DVRPC Title VI Compliance Plan and Public Outreach

Candy Snyder (DVRPC) reviewed DVRPC's draft Title VI Compliance Plan and introduced Jane Meconi as the new staff member responsible for its implementation. This plan identifies the Title VI program area responsibilities as well as the responsibilities of the compliance manager liaisons. The second major portion of this document identifies four areas of planning involved in Title VI, which are: Communications and Public Involvement; Planning and Programming; Consultant Contracts; HR, Education, and Training. Public outreach and involvement will begin on October 2, 2006.

Motion by Lorraine Brill, seconded by Brian Cuccia to release the Draft Title VI Compliance Plan for a 45 day comment period.

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

8. Fiscal Year 2007 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.

John Ward and Don Shanis reviewed the proposed changes to the following work program projects.

a. Philadelphia Bicycling Ambassador Program

John Ward (DVRPC) asked the RTC to recommend to the Board to amend the FY2007 Planning Work Program to add the project, Philadelphia Bicycling Ambassador Program.

b. US 202 Section 700 Traffic Study, Phase III

John Ward (DVRPC) asked the RTC to recommend to the Board to amend the FY2007 Planning Work Program to continue the project, US 202 Section 700 Traffic Study, Phase III.

Jim Mosca (PennDOT) noted a correction to the work program description for this project. In the table listing funding allocations, the "Other (DCED)" category should be changed to "Other".

c. Bucks County Regional Traffic Study, Phase II

John Ward (DVRPC) asked the RTC to recommend to the Board to amend the FY2007 Planning Work Program to continue the project, Bucks County Regional Traffic Study, Phase II.

Sue Herman, a member of the Residents for Regional Traffic Studies, voiced a concern of many Upper Makefield Township residents in the vicinity of the VA cemetery. The concern is that the traffic impact related to the VA cemetery was not sufficiently reviewed in previous phases of this project. Sue suggested that the RTC make their intention to support this inclusion official by creating a subsequent motion.

Motion by Larry Shaeffer, seconded by Lorraine Brill to include in the Bucks County Regional Traffic Study, Phase II, considerations of trips generated by the VA cemetery as well as other upcoming developments.

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

d. Ambler Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID) Plan

John Ward (DVRPC) asked the RTC to recommend to the Board to amend the FY2007 Planning Work Program to add the project, Ambler Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID) Plan.

Motion by Lorraine Brill, seconded by Matt Lawson to amend the FY2007 Work Program to include the Philadelphia Bicycling Ambassador Program; US 202 Section 700 Traffic Study, Phase III; Bucks County Regional Traffic Study Phase II, including the motion to consider trips generated by the VA cemetery as well as other upcoming developments; and the Ambler Transit Revitalization Investment District Plan.

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

e. Quakertown Rail Restoration Alternatives Analysis

The Bucks County Planning Commission was granted \$60,000 for a FY 2007 Transit Support Program Special Study entitled "Newtown Bus Rapid Transit Phase II." However, after review of the findings from Phase I, the County has concluded further study is unnecessary and is relinquishing the

funds. At the same time they have also submitted a request for a \$60,000 TSP study to enhance the Quakertown Rail Restoration Analysis project effort.

The County would like to amend the FY 2007 planning work program to include the Quakertown Rail Restoration Analysis project. This project would be financially possible by reallocating the \$60,000 previously scheduled for Phase II of the Newtown Bus Rapid Transit study.

Motion by Leo Bagley, seconded by Kenneth Lomax to add the Quakertown Rail Restoration Alternatives Analysis project to the FY 2007 work program.

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

9. PennDOT Congested Corridor Improvement Program - Lansdowne Avenue Study

Steve Cunningham of Edwards and Kelcey presented findings associated with the Congested Corridor Improvement Program study that was recently completed for Lansdowne Avenue in Upper Darby Township and Lansdowne Borough, Delaware County. The study identifies immediate, short-term, and long-term recommendations aimed at reducing congestion along the corridor.

10. SEPTA Vehicle Procurement Programs

David W. Casper, Assistant Chief Engineer of SEPTA's New Vehicle Programs Department, provided an overview of the recently awarded Silverliner V Regional Rail Fleet and Trackless Trolley Procurements. This presentation described vehicle specifications as well as special amenities, budgets and the estimated schedule for delivery.

11. An Overview of the Office of Travel Monitoring

Scott Brady of DVRPC presented an overview of the Office of Travel Monitoring. The functions of the Office of Travel Monitoring consist of collecting and disseminating travel data. This information is used to track travel behavior and the efficiency of the transportation system and enable policy makers to fashion sound decisions concerning the planning, design and environmental impact of proposed transportation investments.

INFORMATION ITEMS

12. FY 2008 Work Program

John Griffies (DVRPC) noted that the schedule for the development of the FY 2008 Work Program was included in the RTC meeting materials packet. The schedule follows the pattern of development for previous work programs, except that the draft FY 2008 work program will be presented to the board in December, rather than October.

Counties were encouraged to submit project ideas directly to DVRPC staff so that an internal review can be made prior to the submission of projects to the board.

13. One Minute Reports

PCC/RTC Members and guests were invited to provide updates on the activities of their agencies.

14. Old Business and New Business

15. Meeting Adjournment

The next scheduled meeting of the PCC/RTC is October 10, 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

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

David Johnson
 Carol Thomas
 Curt Noe
 Lee Whitmore
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Alex Flemming
 Linda Hayes
 Larry Shaeffer
 Lorraine Brill
 Jessica Savidge
 Matthew Lawson
 Leo Bagley
 Brian Cuccia
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Jerry Lutin
 (not represented)
 Jim Mosca
 Linda Guarini
 Deborah Schaaf
 Tom Branigan
 Kenneth Lomax
 Catherine Popp-McDonough

Representative

Kelvin MacKavanagh
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Brian Wahler
 William Ragozine
 (not represented)
 Pete Quinn
 Don Steele
 David Harvey
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Martin Kotsch

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

Kathleen Zubrzycki - SEPTA
Matthew Anderson – Chester County Planning Commission
Greg Brown – PennDOT 6-0
Stephen Cunningham – Edwards & Kelcey
David Casper – SEPTA
Mary Ameen – NJTPA
Sue Herman – RRTS
Tom Caramanico – CEO Council for Growth
Ernest Cohen – SSAP
Darren Fava – CPTMA
Eric Larkin – UTCA-NJ
Frank Cavatio – PennDOT Central Office
Stan Niemczak – Edwards & Kelcey
Jim McQuilkin – DRPA

DVRPC Staff

Don Shanis
John Ward
Charles Dougherty
Joseph Chiarolanza
Sakinah Russell
Matt Gates
Patty Elkis
Jane Meconi
Ellis Kim
Zoe Neaderland
Rosemarie Anderson
Elizabeth Schoonmaker
Gregory Krykewycz
Joseph Hacker
Natalia Olson
Ryan Gallagher
Charles Henry
Richard Schafer
Paul Carafides
Scott Brady
Marianne Fasy
Kelly Rossiter