

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
PLANNING COORDINATING COMMITTEE/
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
May 6, 2008 Meeting Highlights
DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

1. Call to Order - Chairman's Comments

Matthew Lawson (Mercer County) welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. Deputy Executive Director's Report

Don Shanis (DVRPC) updated the members on the April 24, 2008 Board meeting, and stated that the Board passed all Actions recommended by the RTC.

3. Report on Regional Citizens Committee Activities

John Boyle (RCC) provided information on the RCC meeting held on April 15, 2008. Mr. Boyle stated that the RCC had approved the Public Comment Period Action Item, but the RCC has recommendations on how they are presented to the public. He also stated that Jerry Kane (SEPTA) conducted a presentation on SEPTA's New Payment Technologies Project and Mr. Boyle stated that this can lead to the interoperability of transit. (Please refer to the April 15, 2008 Meeting Minutes of the DVRPC RCC for specific details.)

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the Meeting of April 1, 2008

The highlights from the April 1, 2008 meeting of the PCC/RTC were presented for adoption.

A motion was made to change the action on the Fiscal Year 2009 Planning Work Program Amendment for the Woodhaven Road Extension Traffic Study from "tabled" to "removed from the agenda."

Motion: by Brian Cuccia, seconded by John Boyle to adopt the highlights for the April 1, 2008 PCC/RTC meeting, including changing the action from "tabled" to "removed from agenda" on the Fiscal Year 2009 Planning Work Program Amendment for the Woodhaven Road Extension Traffic Study.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Elizabeth Schoonmaker (DVPRC) presented seven TIP amendments for consideration.

a. PA07-92: Penn's Landing Ferry System (MPMS #84470), DRPA – Proposed New DEMO Project

DRPA has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new DEMO project to the TIP, Penn's Landing Ferry System (MPMS #84470) by programming \$2.25 million (\$1,800,000 provided by a FTA Section 5309 Bus earmark, and \$450,000 local match provided by DRPA). \$100,000 (\$80,000 DEMO/\$20,000) will be programmed for preliminary engineering in FY08. The remaining funds (\$1,720,000 DEMO/\$430,000 local match) will be programmed for construction in FY08.

Motion: by Catherine Popp-McDonough, seconded by Pippa Woods to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new DEMO project to the TIP, Penn's Landing Ferry System (MPMS #84470) by programming \$2.25 million (\$1,800,000 provided by a FTA Section 5309 Bus earmark, and \$450,000 local match provided by DRPA).

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

b. PA07-93: Philadelphia Zoo Intermodal Transportation Improvements (MPMS #84473), Philadelphia – Proposed New DEMO Project

On behalf of the Philadelphia Zoo, the City of Philadelphia has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new DEMO project to the TIP, Philadelphia Zoo Intermodal Transportation Improvements (MPMS #84473) by programming \$1.190 million (\$952,000 provided by a FTA earmark (PA ID #22), and \$238,000 local match) for the preliminary engineering phase to develop intermodal transportation improvements in coordination with the Philadelphia Streets Department, FTA, SEPTA, PIDC, and PennDOT.

A question was asked whether the proposed improvements would "take away park land". The answer given was "No".

The project will not take away park land that is currently used as public park space, but it is technically part of Fairmount Park, as is the rest of the 42 acres occupied by the Zoo. The Zoo is located on what is all technically Fairmount Park property, but is long term leased to the Zoo. The parcel that is currently occupied by the Letitia House is part of what is under the Zoo's purview and was previously used for parking and an office but was considered too remote and has fallen into disrepair and is currently vacant. As part of the proposed project, the Letitia House parcel will be turned back into a formal parking lot. It is technically park land (hence the need for all the proper federal reviews "4F" etc., that go along with that) but it is not and has not been used as public park space for many, many years. For better public

exposure and use, the Letitia structure itself will be moved nearer to Girard Avenue which is closer to its original context as a rowhouse on a street.

Motion: by Chivas Grannum, seconded by John Boyle to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new DEMO project to the TIP, Philadelphia Zoo Intermodal Transportation Improvements (MPMS #84473) by programming \$1.190 million (\$952,000 provided by a FTA earmark (PA ID #22), and \$238,000 local match) for the preliminary engineering phase to develop intermodal transportation improvements in coordination with the Philadelphia Streets Department, FTA, SEPTA, PIDC, and PennDOT.

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

c. PA07-94: PA 309/PA 63 Connector Project – Phase I (MPMS #16438), Montgomery County – Cost Increase

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the right-of-way phase of the PA 309/PA 63 Connector Project - Phase I (MPMS #16438), by \$9 million (\$7,200,000 STP/\$1,800,000 State) and cash flowing the construction phase through FY11. 59 right-of-way purchases are required for this project, and cost more than anticipated.

Motion: by Leo Bagley, seconded by Brian Cuccia to modify the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the right-of-way phase of the PA 309/PA 63 Connector Project - Phase I (MPMS #16438), by \$9 million (\$7,200,000 STP/\$1,800,000 State) and cash flowing the construction phase through FY11.

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

d. PA07-95: US 202: Exton Bypass to US 202 Section 400 Project (MPMS #83612), Chester County – Proposed New Project

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, US 202: Section 300 Surface Improvements (MPMS #83612), and programming \$2.4 million in Act 44 funds for construction in FY08.

Motion: by David Johnson, seconded by Leo Bagley to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, US 202: Section 300 Surface Improvements (MPMS #83612) and programming \$2.4 million in Act 44 funds for construction in FY08.

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

e. **PA07-96a: I-95 Bridge Rehabilitation Analysis (MPMS #83803), Philadelphia – Proposed New Project**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, I-95 Bridge Rehabilitation Analysis, (MPMS #83803) and programming \$380,000 for preliminary engineering in FY08 for the analysis of temperature and live load stresses and conceptual retrofits for cracking at connection details.

f. **PA07-96b: I-95 Bridge Repair (MPMS #82619), Philadelphia – Proposed New Project**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, I-95 Bridge Repair, (MPMS #82619) and programming \$9.297 million State Act 44 funds for construction in FY08. Identified as one of the new Act 44 funded projects in October of 2007, and included in the Draft FY2009 TIP, this project shows \$5.703 million Act 44 in FY09 of the FY2009 Draft program. This project provides for emergency repair of 42 bridge structures on I-95 between the Delaware state line and the Scudder Falls Bridge in Bucks County. The project includes bridge inspections, ratings, development of final repair plans, and repair. The funding needed for the project has increase due to an expanded scope since the number of bridges to be included in this contract has been upped from 17 to 42 structures. The repairs will extend the service life of the structures by approximately 10 years.

Motion: by Linda Hayes, seconded by Catherine Popp-McDonough to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, I-95 Bridge Rehabilitation Analysis, (MPMS #83803) and programming \$380,000 for preliminary engineering in FY08 for the analysis of temperature and live load stresses and conceptual retrofits for cracking at connection details; and to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, I-95 Bridge Repair, (MPMS #82619) and programming \$9.297 million State Act 44 funds for construction in FY08.

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

g. PA07-97: Lancaster Avenue Signals (MPMS #57898), Philadelphia – Add back In

The City of Philadelphia has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back into the FY07 TIP, Lancaster Avenue Signals (MPMS #57898), by programming an additional \$1.08 million to provide for ADA project elements that are required due to PennDOT's recent update of design standards to more accurately reflect ADA requirements.

Motion: by Chivas Grannum, seconded by Natasha Goguts to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back into the FY07 TIP, Lancaster Avenue Signals (MPMS #57898), by programming an additional \$1.08 million to provide for ADA project elements that are required due to PennDOT's recent update of design standards to more accurately reflect ADA requirements.

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

6. Fiscal Year 2009 Planning Work Program Amendment

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. Lafayette Street Extension Traffic Study

Matthew Gates (DVRPC) asked the RTC to modify the Fiscal Year 2009 Work Program to add the Lafayette Street Extension Traffic Study. This project involves the widening of Lafayette Street in Norristown from Barbadoes Street to Ford Street; its extension from Ford Street to Conshohocken Road, including a new connecting road to Ridge Pike; local road improvements to Ridge Pike, Diamond Avenue, Lucetta Street, and Conshohocken Road; a new interchange with the Pennsylvania Turnpike; and a new partial interchange with the Dannehower Bridge. This project has received environmental clearance, and will soon begin final design.

For this work, DVRPC will focus its travel simulation model on the Lafayette Street corridor. The focused model will be calibrated to base-year conditions and then the model will be run for No-Build and Build conditions for 2015 and 2035. Daily and peak hour traffic forecasts, including intersection turning movements will be prepared.

Motion: by Leo Bagley, seconded by Natasha Goguts to modify the Fiscal Year 2009 Work Program to add the Lafayette Street Extension Traffic Study.

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

7. Letter of Support for Delaware and Lehigh Drive Pennsylvania Byway Designation

On August 21, 2007, a Letter of Interest for Pennsylvania Byway designation was submitted for the Delaware and Lehigh Drive Byway (D&L). Traveling south to north, the proposed D&L byway route starts in Bristol Borough and follows roughly along the Delaware River to the City of Easton for a length of nearly 63 miles. The Sponsor of the D&L, The Heritage Conservancy, is requesting a Letter of Support from DVRPC. Evangeline Linkous (DVRPC) asked the RTC to recommend that the Board approve a Letter of Support for the Delaware and Lehigh Drive Pennsylvania Byway.

Motion: by David Johnson, seconded by Thomas Shaffer to recommend that the Board approve a Letter of Support for the Delaware and Lehigh Drive Pennsylvania Byway.

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

8. Creating a Transit Vision for the Philadelphia Region

The University of Pennsylvania Planning Studio, led by James Kise, with student presenters, Emily Oaksford, Michael Robinson, Jessica Schmidt and Michelle Mulcahy, presented the results of their 2050 Transit Vision for the Philadelphia Region. This studio, funded in part with a grant from the William Penn Foundation, has developed an overview of transit in years 1950, 2000 and 2050 for the greater Delaware Valley with DVRPC as the principle client. Oriented to the policy professional, this material will be an input into DVRPC's Regional Transit Vision report, which also integrates the results of FTA funded Dots & Dashes outreach project to generate a comprehensive view how transit can benefit and shape the region in the long term.

INFORMATION ITEMS

9. Camden Metro Regional Trails Vision Poster

Christopher Linn (DVRPC) presented information on the Camden Metro Region Trails Vision poster, which advocates for an interconnected network of multi-purpose trails through South Jersey stretching from the City of Camden to the Pinelands. Developing such a network will provide the area's urban and suburban residents abundant opportunities for healthful recreation, non-motorized transportation and economic and community revitalization. Created in concert with the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy and other local stakeholders, the Vision poster is meant to quicken the pace of trail development by showing local leaders, public agencies, non-profit groups and the citizens of the South Jersey the region's significant untapped trail potential.

10. **Airport Zoning Seminar**

Roger Moog (DVRPC) informed the committee about the Airport Zoning Seminar, which was held on Monday, May 12, 2008 at DVRPC offices. About 50 townships who have not adopted the necessary airport height restriction zoning have been invited, as well as county planners, and fourteen airports. The seminar focused on the Pennsylvania side of the region, since the lack of conformance does not occur in New Jersey.

11. **One Minute Reports**

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

12. **Old Business and New Business**

13. **Meeting Adjournment**

Motion: by Brian Cuccia, seconded by Catherine Popp-McDonough to adjourn the PCC/RTC Meeting.

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

The next scheduled meeting of the PCC/RTC is June 10, 2008.

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 River Joint Toll Bridge Commission
 Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force
 Federal Highway Administration - NJ Division
 Federal Highway Administration - PA Division
 Federal Transit Administration - Region III
 Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
 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
 Natasha Goguts
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Thomas Shaffer
 Linda Hayes
 John Boyle
 Lorraine Brill
 Jeff Taylor
 Matthew Lawson
 Leo Bagley
 Brian Cuccia
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Pippa Woods
 (not represented)
 Jim Mosca
 (not represented)
 Deborah Schaff
 Chivas Grannum
 Kenneth Lomax
 Catherine Popp-McDonough

Representative

Glenn Reibman
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Matthew Smoker
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 Brian Wahler
 William Ragozine
 (not represented)
 Peter Quinn
 Don Steele
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)
 (not represented)

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

Martin Hull – IBI Group
Alex Flemming – SEPTA
Smitha Mathew – City of Philadelphia Streets
Andrew Levecchia – Camden County Improvement Authority
Warren Strumpfer - RCC
Steve Buckly – City of Philadelphia
Ernest Cohen - RCC

DVRPC Staff

Gastonia Anderson
Charles Dougherty
Matthew Gates
Evangeline Linkous
Christopher Linn
Richard Murphy
Elizabeth Schoonmaker
Donald Shanis
John Ward
Matthew West