

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
PLANNING COORDINATING COMMITTEE/
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
June 9, 2009 Meeting Highlights
DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

1. Call to Order - Chairman's Comments

James Mosca (PennDOT) welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. Deputy Executive Director's Report

Don Shanis (DVRPC) updated the members on the May 28, 2009 Board meeting, and stated that the Board passed all TIP Actions recommended by the RTC. Dr. Shanis also mentioned that The Board approved the slate of proposed candidates for Fiscal Year 2010 DVRPC Board Officers as follows: Chair: Louis Cappelli, Jr., Esq, (Camden County), Vice Chair: David Mandelbaum (Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee), Secretary: Charles Romick (Gloucester County), and Treasurer: Joseph Hoeffel (Montgomery County). Finally, Dr. Shanis mentioned that DVRPC's Dr. Thabet 'Zak' Zakaria will be retiring at the end of June.

3. Report on Regional Citizens Committee Activities

Warren Strumpfer (RCC) provided information on the RCC meeting held on May 19, 2009. (Details of the meeting can be found in the May 19, 2009 Meeting Minutes of the DVRPC RCC.)

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the Meeting of May 12, 2009

The highlights from the May 12, 2009 meeting of the PCC/RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Catherine Popp-McDonough, seconded by Jessica Savidge-Lucas to adopt the highlights for the May 12, 2009 PCC/RTC meeting.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

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

a. NJ09-25: Egg Harbor Road, Hurffville-Cross Keys Road to Hurffville-Grenloch Road (DB #D0503), Gloucester County – Add Final Design Phase

Gloucester County has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2009-2012 TIP for New Jersey by programming a final design phase for Egg Harbor Road, Hurffville-Cross Keys Road to Hurffville-Grenloch Road (DB #D0503), in FY09 (\$850,000 STP-STU).

Funding for the final design phase will be provided by DVRPC's Local Scoping line item (DB #X80B). The final design phase was programmed but not authorized in the FY2008 TIP, and cannot advance unless it is programmed. Construction totalling \$13 million is currently programmed.

Motion: by Jessica Savidge-Lucas, seconded by Leo Bagley to recommend that the Board modify the FY2009-2012 TIP for New Jersey by programming a final design phase for Egg Harbor Road, Hurffville-Cross Keys Road to Hurffville-Grenloch Road (DB #D0503), in FY09 (\$850,000 STP-STU). Funding for the final design phase will be provided by DVRPC's Local Scoping line item (DB #X80B).

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

b. PA09-42: Programming of Low-Bid Savings on SEPTA Recovery Act Projects (MPMS #s: 60585, 77190, 77187, and 60557), Various Counties

SEPTA has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by shifting funds and adding projects to the TIP using funds made available from low-bid savings on projects initially selected for funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and recommended for DVRPC Board approval in February, 2009. SEPTA has experienced a 19% reduction in cost due to low bids on 20 projects to date, and requests that funds be programmed accordingly:

1. Frazer Yard Wood Catenary Poles (\$4,118,100 – MPMS #60585 – Track, Signal, Catenary and Bridge Renewal/ISRP)
2. R7 Chestnut Hill East Station Amenities and Improvements (\$1,903,760 MPMS #77190 – Station and Loop Renewal/ISRP)
3. R8 Chestnut Hill West Retaining Walls (\$683,700 – MPMS #77190 – Station and Loop Renewal/ISRP)
4. Overhaul of the Norristown Substation (\$5,162,200 – MPMS #77187 – Shops, Yards, and Support Facilities/ISRP)
5. Replacement of the R3 Langhorne Station Building (\$2,319,174 – MPMS #77190 – Station and Loop Renewal/ISRP)
6. Rehabilitation of Morton, Folcroft, and Clifton-Aldan Station Buildings (\$2,617,765 – MPMS #77190 – Station and Loop Renewal/ISRP)
7. Norristown Route 100 Fiber Optic Cable (\$4,197,600 – MPMS #60557 – System Improvements/EC)

Motion: by Brendan Cotter, seconded by Anthony Santaniello to recommend that the Board modify the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by shifting funds and adding projects to the TIP using funds made available from low-bid savings on projects initially selected for funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and recommended for DVRPC Board approval in February, 2009.

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

c. PA09-43: Route 232 Corridor and Intersection Improvements (MPMS #57625), Bucks County – Add Final Design Phase

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by programming a final design phase for Route 232 Corridor and Intersection Improvements (MPMS #57625), in FY09 (\$500,000 HSIP). This project is already programmed for \$2.560 million for construction, but final design has not yet been started and needs to be programmed in order to advance. It was expected that design would be completed in-house by District 6, but it will now be done by a consultant.

d. PA09-44: Pottstown Business District Pedestrian/Bicycle Promenade (MPMS #61709), Montgomery County – Proposed TE Project Deletion

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by removing the FY09 construction phase (\$502,000 STE) from the Pottstown Business District Pedestrian/Bicycle Promenade project (MPMS #61709); thereby deleting the project from the TIP per the sponsor's request. The priorities of Pottstown Borough have changed.

e. PA09-45: Bethlehem Pike Streetscapes (MPMS #74801), Montgomery County – Proposed New DEMO Project

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new DEMO project to the TIP, Bethlehem Pike Streetscapes (MPMS #74801), and programming an \$800,000 SAFETEA-LU earmark (Fed ID# 1153, PA ID# 377) in FY09 for construction, acknowledging a toll credit match.

f. PA09-46: PA 611 over Cooks Creek Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #86860), Bucks County – Proposed New Project

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project into the TIP, PA 611 over Cooks Creek Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #86860), and programming a total of \$3,482,000 for preliminary engineering (\$400,000 Bridge/\$100,000 State), utility (\$40,000 Bridge/\$10,000 State), right of way (\$40,000 Bridge/\$10,000 State), and final design (\$480,000 Bridge/\$120,000 State) phases in FY10, and construction in FY11 (\$1,826,000 Bridge/\$456,000 State) for the total replacement of the Cooks Creek Bridge.

Motion: by David Johnson, seconded by Catherine Popp-McDonough to recommend that the Board modify the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by programming a final design phase for Route 232 Corridor and Intersection Improvements (MPMS #57625), in FY09 (\$500,000 HSIP); that the Board amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by removing the FY09 construction phase (\$502,000 STE) from the Pottstown Business District Pedestrian/Bicycle Promenade project (MPMS #61709); thereby deleting the project from the TIP per the sponsor's request; that the Board amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new DEMO project to the TIP,

Bethlehem Pike Streetscapes (MPMS #74801), and programming an \$800,000 SAFETEA-LU earmark (Fed ID# 1153, PA ID# 377) in FY09 for construction, acknowledging a toll credit match; and that the Board amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project into the TIP, PA 611 over Cooks Creek Bridge Replacement Project (MPMS #86860), and programming a total of \$3,482,000 for preliminary engineering (\$400,000 Bridge/\$100,000 State), utility (\$40,000 Bridge/\$10,000 State), right of way (\$40,000 Bridge/\$10,000 State), and final design (\$480,000 Bridge/\$120,000 State) phases in FY10, and construction in FY11 (\$1,826,000 Bridge/\$456,000 State) for the total replacement of the Cooks Creek Bridge.

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

g. NJ09-26: Guiderail Inventory and Management Program in Gloucester County (DB #TBD) and Burlington County (DB #TBD) – Proposed New Project

Gloucester and Burlington Counties have requested that DVRPC amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for New Jersey by adding 2 new projects to the TIP and programming a total of \$1,600,000 STP-STU for a new Guiderail Inventory and Management Program in both counties. These funds must be authorized in Federal Fiscal Year 2009, or the project will not be able to advance with this funding source. The project will not be carried over to the FY10 TIP for New Jersey.

h. NJ09-27: CR 630 Egg Harbor Road Resurfacing, CR 603 to Salina Road (DB #TBD), Gloucester County – Proposed New Project

Gloucester County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new project to the TIP and programming \$1,050,000 STP-STU in FY09 for construction of CR 630 Egg Harbor Road Resurfacing, CR 603 to Salina Road (DB# TBD), in Washington Township to provide for milling and overlay of this section of roadway. The CED is complete, but can not be submitted to NJ DOT Local Aid until a DB number has been assigned. This project was originally a part of the Stimulus project candidates submitted by Gloucester County, but was removed from the list due to constraint.

These funds must be authorized in Federal Fiscal Year 2009, or the project will not be able to advance with this funding source. The project will not be carried over to the FY10 TIP for NJ.

i. NJ09-28: Mercer County Roadway Safety Improvements (DB #D0412), Mercer County – Cost Increase

Mercer County has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2009-2012 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the FY09 construction phase of the Mercer County Roadway Safety Improvements Project (DB #D0412), by a total of \$455,000 STP-STU.

Motion: by Carol Thomas, seconded by Jessica Savidge-Lucas to recommend that the Board amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for New Jersey by adding 2 new projects to the TIP and programming a total of \$1,600,000 STP-STU for a new Guiderail Inventory and Management Program in both counties; and that the Board amend the FY2009-2012 TIP for New Jersey by adding a new project to

the TIP and programming \$1,050,000 STP-STU in FY09 for construction of CR 630 Egg Harbor Road Resurfacing, CR 603 to Salina Road (DB# TBD), in Washington Township to provide for milling and overlay of this section of roadway; that the Board modify the FY2009-2012 TIP for New Jersey by increasing the FY09 construction phase of the Mercer County Roadway Safety Improvements Project (DB #D0412), by a total of \$455,000 STP-STU.

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. Competitive Program and Project Management Cost Increase

John Coscia (DVRPC) asked the RTC to recommend that the Board amend the Fiscal Year 2009 Work Program by adding the Competitive Program and Project Management Cost Increase. This amendment is to increase the amount of funding for the Competitive Program and Project Management. NJDOT has requested that DVRPC assist them in managing the implementation of the Transportation Enhancement projects and other Local Lead types of projects by acting as an adjunct project manager. DVRPC has been working in this capacity for PennDOT over the past nine years and this increase in funding will allow DVRPC staff to provide this assistance to NJDOT.

Motion: by Carol Thomas, seconded by Linda Guarini to recommend that the Board amend the Fiscal Year 2009 Work Program by adding the Competitive Program and Project Management Cost Increase

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

b. Integrating Historic Preservation and Planning

Kelly Rossiter (DVRPC) asked the RTC to amend the Fiscal Year 2009 Work Program by adding the Integrating Historic Preservation and Planning project. DVRPC recently increased efforts to integrate historic and cultural resources into comprehensive regional planning through the project, Regional Transportation GIS Coordination. DVRPC has actively addressed the challenges facing older, first generation suburbs through its Strategies for Older Communities program, started in 1998. An extension of the Strategies program is a new marketing initiative, Classic Towns of Greater Philadelphia, which asks people to make smarter location choices by choosing to live, work, and play in a first generation suburb or urban neighborhood. Many of these Classic Towns have invested time, energy and funding into preserving the historic resources of their communities, recognizing that this fabric makes them unique and liveable.

Through this FY2010 project, DVRPC will expand the technical services offered to Classic Towns and older suburbs, find the region's preservation success stories, and create a complementary and comprehensive online guide with information about the current status of historic preservation planning within the region, success stories,

and preservation techniques, planning tools, marketing strategies, and funding available to municipalities. Such topics that may be covered in this online guide include: the Preserve America federal program, historically-sensitive streetscape improvements; the role of form-based codes in a historic district; green building codes and building reuse; appropriate signage ordinances; context-sensitive solutions and Smart Transportation; energy efficiency in historic buildings; and the benefits of enabling people to age in place.

Motion: by Brendan Cotter, seconded by Catherine Popp-McDonough to recommend that the Board amend the Fiscal Year 2009 Work Program by adding the Integrating Historic Preservation and Planning project.

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

c. Supplemental Route 55 Deptford Traffic Study

W. Thomas Walker (DVRPC) asked the RTC to amend the Fiscal Year 2009 Work Program by adding the Supplemental Route 55 Deptford Traffic Study. NJDOT has been requested by Deptford Township and Gloucester County to re-examine the need to improve the existing partial interchange at Rt. 55/Deptford Center Road. In FYs 04 and 05, DVRPC prepared 2025 traffic forecasts for extending Deptford Center Road eastward to Clements Bridge Road (CR 544) at Green Briar Court Road and completing the associated NJ 55 Freeway Interchange by adding the missing eastern quadrants. Currently the Deptford Center Road Interchange only serves traffic to/from the western quadrants; Deptford Mall and Almonesson Road (CR 621).

Under this supplemental work program, DVRPC will prepare updated 2035 forecasts for the No-build and Build alternatives for the NJ 55/Deptford Center Road Interchange.

The new 2035 traffic forecasts will incorporate the effects of updated DVRPC socioeconomic forecasts, recent development proposals, and current traffic growth trends. Traffic forecasts will include average daily and peak hour ramp and turning movement volumes under the No-build and Build alternative configurations. These forecasts will be transmitted to NJDOT and its consultants for use in the project level planning, evaluation, and design studies.

This study will be initiated and completed in FY10.

Motion: by Leo Bagley, seconded by Jessica Savidge-Lucas to recommend that the Board amend the Fiscal Year 2009 Work Program by adding the Supplemental Route 55 Deptford Traffic Study.

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

d. Fiscal Year 2009 Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) Grant Program

Karen Cilurso (DVRPC) asked the RTC to amend the Fiscal Year 2009 Work Program by adding the Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) Grant Program. The Transportation and Community Development Initiative

(TCDI) was created by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) in 2002 to support local development and redevelopment efforts in the individual municipalities of the Delaware Valley that implement municipal, county, state, and regional planning objectives. While the region continues to grow and prosper, there are still communities that face ongoing challenges and have lagged behind.

TCDI provides a mechanism for these municipalities to undertake locally-directed actions to improve their communities, which in turn implements their local and county comprehensive plans and supports the goals and vision of the regional plan. Pennsylvania and New Jersey, as well as a number of counties within the region, have programs now underway to support community revitalization. The regional Transportation and Community Development Initiative seeks to support and leverage those programs, by providing funding of up to \$125,000 in selected municipalities to undertake planning, analysis or design initiatives for projects or programs which enhance development or redevelopment and improve the efficiency or enhance the regional transportation system. To date, over 100 planning projects have been funded in all nine counties to support local revitalization efforts. A significant number of those projects have since leveraged additional public or private investment to implement the recommendations of those plans.

Motion: by Curt Noe, seconded by Catherine Popp-McDonough to recommend that the Board amend the Fiscal Year 2009 Work Program by adding the Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) Grant Program.

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

7. PennVEST Application Review

DVRPC is reviewing 47 PennVEST applications (distributed throughout the five Pennsylvania counties) to ensure that they are consistent with city, county, and regional land use plans. Patty Elkis (DVRPC) provided an overview of the submitted applications.

The PCC/RTC has deferred action to DVRPC staff recommendation. The PennVEST Application Review will be presented to the RCC and the Board.

8. Annual Self-Certification of the Regional Transportation Planning Process

Federal regulations require that the Metropolitan Planning Organization self-certify that the Regional Transportation Planning Process is carried out in conformance with applicable federal regulations. Dr. Shanis (DVRPC) presented his recommendation for Board adoption.

Motion: by Linda Guarini, seconded by Natasha Goguts to recommend Board adoption of the annual self-certification of the Regional Transportation Planning Process.

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

9. Election of Fiscal Year 2009 Officers

The PCC/RTC nominating committee presented a slate of candidates for FY2010. The candidates nominated were Jessica Savidge-Lucas (Gloucester County) for the position of PCC / RTC Chairperson and Natasha Goguts (Chester County) for the position of Vice Chairperson.

Motion: by Catherine Popp-McDonough, seconded by Carol Thomas to elect Jessica Savidge-Lucas to the position of PCC/RTC Chairperson, and Natasha Goguts to the position of Vice Chairperson.

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

10. Ben Franklin Bridge Westside Traffic Mitigation Study

The Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA) has conducted a traffic study for the Ben Franklin Bridge west-side access and egress roadways, based on DVRPC 2030 projections of traffic volumes. These projections were analyzed and evaluated by McCormick Taylor using the VISSIM Traffic Simulation Model. The traffic improvement alternatives, mitigation effectiveness, and evaluation of the alternatives were presented by Mahmood Shehata of McCormick Taylor.

11. Connections – The Long-Range Plan for a Sustainable Future

The draft version of the Connections plan is out for public comment between May 22, 2009 and June 22, 2009 in anticipation of Board action in July. Patty Elkis (DVRPC) presented an overview of the Plan's vision for the future and key plan principles.

INFORMATION ITEMS

12. One Minute Reports

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

13. Old Business and New Business

14. Meeting Adjournment

Motion: by Catherine Popp-McDonough, seconded by Brendan Cotter 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 Tuesday, July 7, 2009.

DVRPC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website may be translated into Spanish, Russian, and Traditional Chinese online by visiting www.dvrpc.org. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages or formats, if requested. For more information, please call (215) 238-2871.

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
City of Philadelphia – City Planning Commission
City of Philadelphia – Department of Streets
City of Philadelphia – Mayor's Office of Transportation
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
Transportation Operations 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)
Brendan Cotter
(not represented)
Warren Strumpfer
Bridget Chadwick
Jessica Savidge-Lucas
(not represented)
Leo Bagley
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Jim Mosca
Linda Guarini
Anthony M. Santaniello
Darin Gatti
(not represented)
Catherine Popp-McDonough

Representative

Glenn Reibman
Kelvin MacKavanagh
(not represented)
Matthew Smoker
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Brian Wahler
William Ragozine
(not represented)
Rob Henry
Don Steele
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Martin Kotsch

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

Charles Carmall – Philadelphia Office of Transportation and Utilities
Briana Loobly – SEPTA
Robert Lund – SEPTA
Mahmood Shehata – McCormick Taylor
Jarrett Stewart – Springfield Montgomery County High School
Vincent Voltaggio – Gloucester County

DVRPC Staff

Richard Bickel
Karen Cilurso
John Coscia
Charles Dougherty
Patty Elkis
Richard Murphy
Kelly Rossiter
Elizabeth Schoonmaker
Don Shanis
W. Thomas Walker
John Ward
Matthew West
Thabet Zakaria