

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
November 12, 2014 Meeting Highlights
DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

1. Call to Order - Chairperson's Comments

Leo Bagley (Chairperson, Montgomery County) welcomed RTC members and called the meeting to order.

2. Deputy Executive Director's Report

John Ward (DVRPC) announced that the Board approved all of the action items recommended by the Committee at the RTC meeting on October 7, 2014.

Mr. Ward noted that he attended the PennDOT Planning Partners meeting the previous week. The agenda included discussion about the Multimodal Transportation Fund, the Green Light Go program, MAP-21 Performance Measures, TAP, PennDOT's LRP and Comprehensive Freight Plan, P3's, PennDOT's Safety Program, and the Transit Capital Planning Tool. Additionally Secretary Schoch addressed the group.

Mr. Ward reported that DVRPC went through the Federal Certification Review process November 5 and 6 and that it went well. There were no corrective actions suggested and the final report will be out next year.

Mr. Ward clarified that staff is developing and refining work scopes for DVRPC's FY 2016 Work Program. The draft document will be distributed to the Board at the December Board Retreat and released for public comment.

Mr. Ward noted that the Board Retreat will be taking place on December 11 and DVRPC will be presenting our Regional Excellence Awards.

Mr. Ward called the RTC's attention to the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund re-fill discussion. Assemblyman Wisniewski introduced a bill last week, which includes a tax on petroleum products gross receipts. The good news is there is active discussion on this important issue.

Mr. Ward congratulated the Cross County Connection TMA on celebrating their 25th Anniversary.

Mr. Ward announced that two new reports have just been published: Data Snapshots - Regional Economic Cluster Analysis, and Investing in People & Places: Greater Philadelphia's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Mr. Ward noted that there is a Public Participation Task Force meeting on December 9, an Information Resources Exchange Group meeting on December 10, a Regional Safety Task Force meeting on December 16, and a Regional Aviation Committee meeting on December 18.

Mr. Ward reminded RTC members that the next RTC meeting will be taking place on **Tuesday, January 6.**

3. Public Comment on Any Agenda and Non-Agenda Item

No public comments were stated.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the Meeting of October 7, 2014

The highlights from October 7, 2014 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Matthew Lawson, seconded by Randy Waltermeyer to adopt the highlights for the October 7, 2014 RTC meeting.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Rick Murphy (DVRPC) presented eight TIP amendments for consideration.

a. PA15-07: Montgomery County Act 13 Local Bridges, (Various MPMS #s), Montgomery County – Add Proposed New Projects to the TIP

Montgomery County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding three new local bridge projects to the TIP for preliminary engineering, final design, right-of-way, and construction in FY15, FY16, and FY17 in the amount of \$2,905,000 (using the \$1,261,703 2014 allocation of Act 13 funds, combined with \$143,297 of unallocated balances from the County's 2013 allocation, for a total of \$1,405,000 Act 13 funds, plus \$1,500,000 of local County funds). These are additional funds to the region.

Motion: by Tom Shaffer, seconded by Michelle Webb to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

PA15-07, Montgomery County's request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding three new local bridge projects to the TIP for preliminary engineering, final design, right-of-way, and construction in FY15, FY16, and FY17 in the amount of \$2,905,000 (using the \$1,261,703 2014 allocation of Act 13 funds, combined with \$143,297 of unallocated balances from the County's 2013 allocation, for a total of \$1,405,000 Act 13 funds, plus \$1,500,000 of local County funds). These are additional funds to the region.

b. PA15-08: Municipal Bridge Retro-Reimbursement Program, (MPMS #102105), Various Counties – Add Proposed New Projects to the TIP

DVRPC is requesting that the Board approve the list of projects recommended for funding as part of the DVRPC Municipal Bridge Retro-Reimbursement Program and amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding eleven (11) new

municipal bridge projects to the TIP for retro-reimbursement in order for funds to be drawn down for reimbursement at the appropriate time, and to increase the Later Fiscal Years funding in FY19 by \$356,906 State 183/\$89,577 Local and FY21 by \$3,904,569 State 183/\$976,542 Local, in order to select additional candidates. Currently, there is \$6 million of State 183 funds combined with \$1,500,000 local funds available in FY16, FY17 and FY18 (\$2 million state for each year with a 20 percent local match required from project sponsors).

Motion: by Tom Shaffer, seconded by Michelle Webb to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

PA15-08, DVRPC's request that the Board approve the list of projects recommended for funding as part of the DVRPC Municipal Bridge Retro-Reimbursement Program and amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding eleven (11) new municipal bridge projects to the TIP for retro-reimbursement in order for funds to be drawn down for reimbursement at the appropriate time, and to increase the Later Fiscal Years funding in FY19 by \$356,906 State 183/\$89,577 Local and FY21 by \$3,904,569 State 183/\$976,542 Local, in order to select additional candidates. Currently, there is \$6 million of State 183 funds combined with \$1,500,000 local funds available in FY16, FY17 and FY18 (\$2 million state for each year with a 20 percent local match required from project sponsors).

c. PA15-09: Knox Covered Bridge, (MPMS #102586), Chester County – Add Proposed New Project to the TIP

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new bridge project, Knox Covered Bridge, to the TIP for construction in FY16 in the amount of \$600,000 STU. This project is for the rehabilitation of the structurally deficient (SD) Knox Covered Bridge in Tredyffrin Township, Chester County. Located in Valley Forge National Park, the bridge is an important crossing of Valley Creek carrying nearly 2,000 vehicles daily. The bridge requires extensive repairs to the deck and approaches in order to remain in service.

d. PA15-10: Rapps Dam Covered Bridge, (MPMS #103253), Chester County – Add Proposed New Project to the TIP

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new bridge project, Rapps Dam Covered Bridge, to the TIP for construction in FY16 in the amount of \$600,000 (\$480,000 STU/\$120,000 State 185).

Motion: by Randy Waltermeyer, seconded by Tom Shaffer to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Actions:

PA15-09, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new bridge project, Knox Covered Bridge, to the TIP for construction in FY16 in the amount of \$600,000 STU.

PA15-10, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new bridge project, Rapps Dam Covered Bridge, to the TIP for construction in FY16 in the amount of \$600,000 (\$480,000 STU/\$120,000 State 185).

e. PA15-11: PA 309 Environmental Mitigation, (MPMS #98706), Montgomery County – Add Project Back in to the TIP

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back in to the TIP, PA 309 Environmental Mitigation, in FY15 in the amount of \$650,000 State 581 funds for construction.

Motion: by Jim Mosca, seconded by Barbara Holcomb to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

PA15-11, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back in to the TIP, PA 309 Environmental Mitigation, in FY15 in the amount of \$650,000 State 581 funds for construction.

f. PA15-12: I-95 Central and South Philadelphia Project Development, (MPMS #TBD), City of Philadelphia – Add Proposed New Study Project

The City of Philadelphia has requested that the DVRPC Board amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new study project, I-95 Central and South Philadelphia Project Development to the TIP for \$4,000,000 in FY15 (\$2,000,000 Federal/\$2,000,000 Local). The \$2,000,000 of local funds comes from the City of Philadelphia's Capital Budget.

Motion: by Jim Mosca, seconded by Barbara Holcomb to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

PA15-12, City of Philadelphia's request that DVRPC Board amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new study project, I-95 Central and South Philadelphia Project Development to the TIP for \$4,000,000 in FY15 (\$2,000,000 Federal/\$2,000,000 Local).

g. PA15-13: Statewide Pennsylvania Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Selected Projects, (MPMS #64984), Various Counties – Add Proposed New Projects

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a competitive federal program established by MAP-21 for projects that contribute to alternative transportation, including on and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities. MAP-21 subdivided half of the Pennsylvania TAP program funding to areas based on population and the other half for projects anywhere in the state. All TAP funds must be awarded through a competitive process whether the funds are regional MPO funds or from the statewide allocation.

Motion: by Rich Brahler, seconded by Tom Shaffer to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

PA15-13, the list of projects selected by PennDOT's statewide TAP selection process, and that these projects be amended into the FY2015 TIP for PA in FY15 and FY16 and be drawn from the line item (MPMS #64984) at the appropriate time for obligation (PA TIP Action 15-13).

h. NJ14-44: Mercer County Signal Project, CR 533, (DB# D0702), Mercer County – Advance and Increase Construction Phase

Mercer County has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2014 - 2017 TIP for New Jersey by advancing the FY20 construction phase to FY15, switching funds from federal STP-STU to STATE-DVRPC funds and increasing the construction cost by \$3,000,000 for the Mercer County Signal Project, CR 533, (DB #D0709), and to also update the description.

Motion: by Matt Lawson, seconded by Andrew Levecchia to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

NJ14-44, Mercer County's request that DVRPC amend the FY2014 - 2017 TIP for New Jersey by advancing the FY20 construction phase to FY15, switching funds from federal STP-STU to STATE-DVRPC funds and increasing the construction cost by \$3,000,000 for the Mercer County Signal Project, CR 533, (DB #D0709), and to also update the description.

6a. Fiscal Year 2015 Work Program Amendment: Building the Circuit

Chris Linn (DVRPC) explained that the William Penn Foundation has awarded DVRPC \$7 million to resume a re-grant program providing funding to counties, municipalities, non-profits, and other multi-use trail builders to complete priority segments of the Circuit, Greater Philadelphia's regional multi-use trails network. Implementation of the Circuit is identified as a regional priority in *Connections 2040: Plan for Greater Philadelphia*.

Motion: by Jeannette Brugger, seconded by Linda Guarini, that the RTC recommend the Board add Building the Circuit to DVRPC's FY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program.

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

6b. Fiscal Year 2015 Work Program Amendment: Building Climate Hazard Resiliency in the City of Chester

Chris Linn (DVRPC) explained that the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) awarded DVRPC and its partners \$290k to implement recommendations from the recently adopted Chester City Climate Change Adaptation Plan. The project will focus on developing a green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) sketch plan, designing a GSI demonstration project, and implementing flood hazard mitigation strategies in the City of Chester, Pennsylvania.

Motion: by Tom Shaffer, seconded by Andrew Stober, that the RTC recommend the Board add Building Climate Hazard Resiliency in the City of Chester to DVRPC's FY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program.

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

6c. Fiscal Year 2015 Work Program Amendment: Analysis of Regional Transportation Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Rob Graff (DVRPC) explained that with support from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DVRPC will develop an in-depth analysis of scenarios to evaluate how various levels of uptake of electric vehicles (EVs), natural gas vehicles, and improved fuel economy gasoline vehicles (including hybrids of various levels) might affect transportation energy use and GHG emissions in the DVRPC region.

Motion: by Edward Williams, seconded by Lou Millan, that the RTC recommend the Board add Analysis of Regional Transportation Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions to DVRPC's FY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program.

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

7. Darby Borough Grade Crossing Study

Mike Ruane (DVRPC) presented an overview of a two phase study focusing on two highway-railroad grade crossings in Darby Borough, Delaware County. The study explores implementation strategies that serve to improve the safety and efficiency of all modes of transportation at the crossing.

8. Greener Pastures for New Farmers

Greater Philadelphia's nonprofit land trusts and government-led preservation programs are considered national leaders in farmland preservation. Simultaneously, a new generation of farmers is looking to start farms in and around Greater Philadelphia. Alison Hastings (DVRPC) presented findings from a recently released report that summarizes information regarding existing financial assistance programs for small and beginning farmers, and highlights a few nontraditional financing resources that aim to keep land in agricultural use.

INFORMATION ITEMS

9. One Minute Reports

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

10. FY 2015 First Quarter Report

Deputy Executive Director John Ward called the RTC's attention to the FY 2015 First Quarter Report which was included in the emailed RTC packet.

11. Old Business

12. New Business

13. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:41 AM.

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is **Tuesday, January 6, 2014.**

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members

NJ Department of Transportation
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
NJ Department of Community Affairs
NJ Governor's Appointee
NJ Office for Planning Advocacy
PA Department of Community and Economic Development
PA Department of Environmental Protection
PA Department of Transportation
PA Governor's Appointee
PA Governor's Policy Office
Bucks County
Burlington County
Camden County
Chester County
Delaware County
Gloucester County
Mercer County
Montgomery County
City of Philadelphia – City Planning Commission
City of Philadelphia – Department of Streets
City of Philadelphia – Mayor's Office of Transportation
City of Camden
City of Chester
City of Trenton
Delaware River Port Authority
New Jersey Transit Corporation
Port Authority Transit Corporation
Southeastern PA Transportation Authority
Public Participation Task Force (NJ)
Public Participation Task Force (PA)

Representative

Monica Etz
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Alan Miller
(not represented)
Patrick Patterson
James Mosca
(not represented)
Linda Guarini
Rich Brahler
Carol Thomas
Andrew Levecchia
Randy Waltermeyer
Tom Shaffer
Jessica Lucas
Matthew Lawson
Leo Bagley
Jeannette Brugger
Michelle Webb
Andrew Stober
Edward Williams
(not represented)
Regine Saintilien
Barbara Holcomb
Lou Millan
Ben Cornelius
Zoe Robertson
(not represented)
Jim Hopkins

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
NJ Turnpike Authority
New Jersey TMAs
Pennsylvania TMAs
Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
Philadelphia Regional Port Authority
Pottstown Urban Transit
Select Greater Philadelphia
South Jersey Port Corporation
South Jersey Transportation Authority
Transportation Operations Task Force
US EPA - Region II

Representative

(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Jonathan Crum
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
William Ragozine
(not represented)
(not represented)
Jacqueline Mandly
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

US EPA - Region III

(not represented)

US Department of Housing and Urban Development

(not represented)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

Joe Forkin – Delaware River Waterfront Corporation

Chuck Davies – PennDOT

Elaine Elbich - PennDOT

Dennis Winters – Clean Air Council

Sue Herman - Resident

Bill Comer – Resident

John Manzoni – STV Inc.

DVRPC Staff

John Ward

Patty Elkis

Chris Puchalsky

Elizabeth Schoonmaker

Kwan Hui

Rick Murphy

Chris Linn

Rob Graff

Mike Boyer

John Coscia, Jr.

Joe Banks

Katrina Lawrence

Alison Hastings

Amy Verbofsky

Ted Dahlburg

Mike Ruane

Brett Fusco

Shawn Megill-Legendre

Greg Krykewycz

Renee Wise

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