



DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

REGIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

April 7, 2015 Meeting Highlights

DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA

1. Call to Order - Chairperson's Comments

Rich Brahler (Chair, Bucks 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 March 10, 2015.

Mr. Ward noted that DVRPC is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and with that in mind he will be mentioning something from the past at each RTC meeting -This Month in DVRPC History.

In April 1966 the Board Meeting was held at the PennDOT office on Radnor-Chester Road in St. David's. The Board appointed a Deputy Executive Director and approved his job responsibilities. The Board approved a staff member to attend the Bureau of Public Roads Traffic Forecasting School. The Board signed a 5-year lease for 16,000 square feet in the Penn Square Building at \$4.25 a square foot.

In April 1975 there were two Board meetings. The first meeting was a special meeting to approve Community Development Block Grant applications from the counties related to the DVRPC Housing Allocation Plan. The Board Chairman was Joseph Catania from Bucks County. The Board approved a Work Program Amendment to add a project to develop a SEPTA Bicentennial Public Information System. The system would be designed to handle public inquiries concerning how to use the transit system during the year of the Bicentennial.

In April 1985 the Board approved a Work Program amendment to add a 2-year Municipal Solid-Waste Management Study. The Board authorized the Chairman to send a letter to PA Governor Thornburg urging him to advance PA Turnpike expansion projects between Norristown and Philadelphia and at the Blue Route and I-95 interchanges.

In April 1995 Andy Warren, Bucks County Commissioner, was thanked for his service as DVRPC Board Chair as he stepped down to accept the position of PennDOT District 6 District Administrator. The Executive Assistant to the NJDOT Commissioner presented a video which explained NJ Governor Whitman's proposal for reauthorizing the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund. After a discussion it was agreed that DVRPC prepare an endorsement to support the Governor's proposal which would fund reauthorization through a combination of increased appropriations from general revenues, constitutional dedication of additional monies from the existing gas tax, a continuation of an existing surcharge on motor vehicle registrations and debt refinancing.

In April 2005 the Board took action on 17 TIP amendments including one to increase the ROW cost by \$9M for Chester Valley Rail Line based on a jury award. This was part of the US 202 Section 300 project. PATCO announced that they were about to begin Preliminary Design on their smart card fare collection system.

Mr. Ward asked RTC members to mark their calendars for DVRPC's 50th Anniversary event on June 30th at Dilworth Plaza. More information will be forwarded along to RTC members.

Mr. Ward thanked Ed Williams and Novella Hinson from the City of Camden for having Mayor Redd available to speak at last week's Public Participation Task Force meeting which had a special focus on the City of Camden.

Mr. Ward announced that the Stand up for Transportation event will be held at Dilworth Plaza Thursday April 9th 9:00 to 1:00. Secretary Richards, former Governor Rendell, and Congressman Schuster are scheduled to speak.

Mr. Ward reported that Candy Snyder, Director of Communications and Public Affairs, is retiring after almost 30 years at DVRPC.

Mr. Ward called attention to some new reports including: Philadelphia Regional On-Board Transit Survey, and the Camden County Highway Master Plan.

Mr. Ward noted that there is a Board Policy Analysis Committee meeting this Friday (April 10), a Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force Meeting on April 15, and a Public Participation Task Force meeting on May 13.

Mr. Ward reminded RTC members that the next RTC meeting will be taking place on **Tuesday, May 12, 2015.**

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

No public comments were stated.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the Meeting of March 10, 2015

The highlights from March 10, 2015 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by Barbara Holcomb, seconded by Alan Miller to adopt the highlights for the March 10, 2015 RTC meeting.

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

5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

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

a. PA15-37: Passyunk Avenue Drawbridge Over the Schuylkill River, (MPMS #62694), City of Philadelphia – Cost Increase

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the construction phase by \$7,502,000 (FY15: \$1,804,000 NHPP/\$1,197,000 STP/\$750,000 State 185, FY16: \$1,804,000 NHPP/\$1,197,000 STP/\$750,000 State 185).

The increase to this project is due to the District recommending that the entire structure be painted, which would extend the service life of the structure and provide more efficient construction operation as compared to making structural steel repairs and spot zone painting. The removal of submarine cables, installation of wireless communication/ITS, removals of contaminated materials, additional mobilization, additional structure repairs which include inspection and additional Construction Engineering or Inspection (CENG) are also included in the cost increase.

Motion: by Andrew Stober, seconded by Linda Guarini to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

That the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP Action PA15-37, PennDOT's request that DVRPC modify the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the construction phase by \$7,502,000 (FY15: \$1,804,000 NHPP/\$1,197,000 STP/\$750,000 State 185, FY16: \$1,804,000 NHPP/\$1,197,000 STP/\$750,000 State 185).

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

b. PA15-38: Race Street Connector, (MPMS #92417), City of Philadelphia – Add Project Back in to TIP

The City of Philadelphia has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding this project back in to the TIP for FY15 construction in the amount of \$1,300,000 STU.

The project was originally funded through a PA Community Transportation Initiative (PCTI) grant to the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC). Funding was eventually directed to another project which could obligate in the September 2012 PCTI timeframe due to Race Street Connector project delays including ongoing negotiations with the Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA) and associated delays in obtaining final ROW clearance. As a result, the City requested to move the PCTI funding to MPMS# 92413, Manayunk Bridge Pedestrian Trail. Since that time, DRWC has continued to negotiate a License Agreement with DRPA that will satisfy PennDOT right of way (ROW) clearance requirements for the Race Street Connector project. That document is now ready to be executed by both parties, and the project could be let in June of 2015. The City of Philadelphia has requested that the construction phase be added back in to the TIP so that the project can advance.

Motion: by Barbara Holcomb, seconded by Andrew Stober to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

That the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP Action PA15-38, the City of Philadelphia's request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding this project back in to the TIP for FY15 construction in the amount of

\$1,300,000 STU.

Motion passed. One vote was cast against the motion.

c. PA15-39: Statewide Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Program, (Various MPMS #s), Various Counties – Add New Projects to TIP

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding 13 statewide Highway-Rail Grade Crossing (RRX) projects to the TIP in the amount of \$2,626,000 RRX for construction in FY15, FY16, FY17 and FY18. These are additional funds to the region.

Motion: *by Tom Shaffer, seconded by Nicholas Baker* to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

That the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP Action PA15-39, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding 13 statewide Highway-Rail Grade Crossing (RRX) projects to the TIP in the amount of \$2,626,000 RRX for construction in FY15, FY16, FY17 and FY18. These are additional funds to the region.

- 1) Hillendale Road Grade Crossing project between Fairville Road and Virginia Plaza in Pennsbury Township, Chester County – MPMS #103210. \$191,000 RRX to install a railroad warning device in FY15.
- 2) Fairville Road Grade Crossing between US 1 and Sunny Ridge Lane in Pennsbury Township, Chester County – MPMS #103212. \$212,000 RRX to install railroad warning lights in FY16.
- 3) Bayard Road Grade Crossing between Hillendale Road and Rosedale Road in Kennett Township, Chester County – MPMS #103213. \$225,000 RRX to install railroad warning lights in FY18.
- 4) Hickory Hill Grade Crossing between Hillendale Road and PA 52 in Kennett Township, Chester County – MPMS #103214. \$219,000 RRX to install railroad warning lights in FY17.
- 5) Chambers Road Grade Crossing between Hillendale Road and Baltimore Pike in New Garden Township, Chester County – MPMS #103215. \$208,000 RRX to install railroad warning lights in FY18.
- 6) Jansen Avenue Grade Crossing between PA 291 and Old Tinicum Island Road in Tinicum Township, Delaware County – MPMS #103216. \$273,000 RRX to install railroad warning lights in FY16.
- 7) Main Street Darby Borough between 5th and 7th streets in Darby Borough, Delaware County – MPMS #103217. \$338,000 RRX (FY17: \$150,000 RRX, FY18: 188,000 RRX) for the installation of railroad warning lights.
- 8) Ashton Road Grade Crossing between Tolbut Street and Jenny Place in the City of Philadelphia – MPMS #103218. \$214,000 RRX for the installation of railroad warning lights in FY18.
- 9) Blue Grass Road Grade Crossing between Gregg Street and Welsh Road in the City of Philadelphia – MPMS #103219. \$214,000 RRX for the installation of railroad warning lights in FY18.
- 10) SR 2093 Railroad LED Lights at four locations in Buckingham and Ivyland Townships in Bucks County. Wilson Road between Thomas Drive and Greenley Avenue, Creek Road between New Hope Road and Lower Mountain Road, New Hope Road between Creek Road and Durham Road, and Lower Mountain Road

between Lookaway Court and Creek Road - MPMS #104607. \$26,000 RRX for the installation of railroad LED lights in FY15.

11) Hatfield Railroad LED Lights on Schwab Road between Deer Run Road and Orvilla Road, Vine Street between Main Street and Butler Avenue, and Bergey Road between Richmond Road and Penn Street in Hatfield Borough and Hatfield Township, Montgomery County.– MPMS #104608. \$18,000 RRX for the installation of railroad LED lights in FY15.

12) Penn Avenue Grade Crossing between the intersections of 4th and 10th Streets in Marcus Hook Borough, Delaware County – MPMS #104609. \$270,000 RRX for the installation of railroad warning devices and high type surface in FY15.

13) Erickson Avenue Grade Crossing between the intersection of 3rd Street & Old Tinicum Island Road in Tinicum Township, Delaware County – MPMS #104610. \$218,000 RRX (FY17: \$69,000 RRX, FY18: \$149,000 RRX) for the installation of warning devices.

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

d. PA15-40: P3 Rapid Bridge Replacement ROW Phases, (Various MPMS #s), Various Counties – Add New Project Phases to the TIP

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the ROW phase for the Indian Run Drive over Indian Run bridge (MPMS #86306) in Wallace Township, Chester County in FY15 in the amount of \$3,000 s581, and by adding the ROW phase for the Wynnewood Road over East Branch of Indian Creek (MPMS #67373) in Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County in FY15 in the amount of \$3,000 s581. These are additional state funds to the region which will help prepare the statewide rapid bridge replacement program projects for construction.

Motion: by Randy Waltermeyer, seconded by Jim Mosca to recommend the Board approve the following TIP Action:

That the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP Action PA15-40, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2015 - 2018 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the ROW phase for the Indian Run Drive over Indian Run bridge (MPMS #86306) in Wallace Township, Chester County in FY15 in the amount of \$3,000 s581, and by adding the ROW phase for the Wynnewood Road over East Branch of Indian Creek (MPMS #67373) in Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County in FY15 in the amount of \$3,000 s581. These are additional state funds to the region which will help prepare the statewide rapid bridge replacement program projects for construction.

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

6. Fiscal Year 2015 Planning Work Program Amendment

a. Mercer County Guiderail Management Planning Initiative

Kwan Hui (DVRPC) explained that The Mercer County Guiderail Management Planning Initiative will provide an engineering assessment of guiderail installed along Mercer County highways and abutting off-network bridges maintained by the County. Analysis will include location and physical attributes, current condition, and design recommendations to bring

installations into compliance with current standards, considering also minor drainage and grading improvements to eliminate guiderail. Data will be loaded into Mercer County's existing computerized TAM/MMS application.

Motion: *by Matt Lawson, seconded by Andrew Levecchia* to recommend that the Board amend the FY 2015 Work Program to include the Mercer County Guiderail Management Planning Initiative.

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

7. Chester County Public Transportation Plan: Making the Case for Transit Investment

Randy Waltermyer (Chester County) presented an overview of the Chester County Public Transportation Plan, adopted in July 2014. The presentation considered how to propel Chester County and the Delaware Valley Region beyond a "state of good repair" to an expanded transit system that positions the region to compete globally.

8. Paoli Multimodal Transportation Center

Dave Koerner, SEPTA Project Manager, presented plans for the new Paoli Multimodal Transportation Center located in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

9. Beyond Basics: Opportunities for Advanced and Alternative Mitigations for Transportation Projects in Pennsylvania

Alison Hastings (DVRPC) and Cory Kegerise (Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC)) explained that DVRPC has partnered with the PHMC to incorporate historic preservation planning into comprehensive planning and explore advance and alternative mitigation for transportation projects. An overview was provided of this long-term partnership and the proposed opportunity for historic mitigation banking to allow for creative mitigation treatments and more meaningful mitigation outcomes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

10. Greater Philadelphia Future Forces

Mike Boyer (DVRPC) provided an update on recent work to identify potential driving forces that will have significant impact on the growth and development of the region.

11. One Minute Reports

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

12. Old Business and New Business

13. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:06 PM.

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is **Tuesday, May 12, 2015.**

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

(not represented)
Ruth Foster
(not represented)
(not represented)
Alan Miller
(not represented)
(not represented)
James Mosca
(not represented)
Linda Guarini
Rich Brahler
Carol Thomas
Andrew Levecchia
Randy Waltermeyer
Tom Shaffer
Tom Bianco
Matthew Lawson
Matt Edmonds
Jeannette Brugger
Nicholas Baker
Andrew Stober
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Barbara Holcomb
(not represented)
Ben Cornelius
Zoe Robertson
Harry Fox
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)
Kelvin MacKavanagh
(not represented)
(not represented)
(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)

ATTENDANCE (cont'd)

US EPA - Region III

(not represented)

US Department of Housing and Urban Development

(not represented)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

Joe DeFrancesca – NJ Transit

Tom Bianco – Gloucester County

David Koerner – SEPTA

Cory Kegerise - Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

John Manzoni – STV, Inc.

Bill Comer – Resident of Philadelphia

Sue Herman – Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions

Jim Saksa – PlanPhilly

Patricia Eliis – City of Philadelphia- Mayor's Office of Transportation

DVRPC Staff

John Ward

Patty Elkis

Candy Snyder

Elizabeth Schoonmaker

Kwan Hui

Rick Murphy

Greg Krykewycz

Sarah Oaks

Betsy Mastaglio

Will Stevens

Elise Turner

Jane Meconi

Amy Bernknopf

Alison Hastings

Mike Boyer

Dave Anderson

Renee Wise

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