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**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**REGIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**  
**April 11, 2017 Meeting Highlights**  
**DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA**

**1. Call to Order - Chairperson's Comments**

Thomas Shaffer (Chair, Delaware County) welcomed RTC members and called the meeting to order.

**2. Deputy Executive Director's Report**

DVRPC Deputy Executive Director John Ward announced that at their March meeting, the Board approved the recommendations that the RTC forwarded to them from our March voting except for one NJ TIP Amendment. The Cooper's Poynt Roads Reconstruction Project (a TIGER project in the City of Camden) was tabled in order to get some additional administrative issues worked out between the FHWA-NJ Division and the City of Camden.

Mr. Ward thanked all those that voted electronically for the Action Items from the March RTC agenda. Mr. Ward noted that the RTC meeting was snowed out in March but DVRPC wanted to make sure this body had an opportunity to weigh-in on the Action Items that were to go to the Board.

Mr. Ward noted that on March 8, bipartisan legislation to repeal the MPO Coordination Rule passed in the Senate by unanimous consent. The bill had been "hotlined," which allowed it to proceed without debate and without a vote so long as no Senators raised objections. Next, the bill must pass the House where identical legislation has been introduced.

Mr. Ward reported that on March 30, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee passed the MPO Rule Repeal legislation (H.R. 1346) by voice vote. There were no amendments and the vote was unanimous in support.

Mr. Ward called the RTC's attention to the fact that the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) just completed its cost estimate of H.R. 1346. The CBO found that under the rule, MPOs will incur administration costs to comply. Under the repeal bill, MPOs would save about \$80 million per year over the four-year 2018-2021 period. The repeal bill can now go to the House floor as is.

Mr. Ward noted that since Tom Shaffer and Monica Etz have two meetings remaining as Chair and Vice Chair, he will be reaching out to some members over the next month to ask them to serve on a Nominating Committee for new RTC officers for FY18. At the May meeting, the RTC will officially designate the Nominating Committee and at the June meeting the Nominating Committee will offer nominations for officers and the RTC will be asked to vote for those nominations or others nominated from the floor.

Mr. Ward noted that there are some recent publications available, including: 2000 - 2015 Travel Trends in the Delaware Valley Region, Congestion Management Process (CMP) Newsletter: Understanding Congestion on Pennsylvania's Highways, and Municipal Implementation Tool #029 - Effective Use of Tax Incentives within Greater Philadelphia.

Mr. Ward reminded the RTC that the DVRPC Board Meeting will take place on April 27, there is a Goods Movement Task Force meeting on April 12, a Public Participation Task Force meeting on April 12, and a Regional Safety Task Force meeting April 28.

The next RTC Meeting is **Tuesday, May 9, 2017**.

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

No public comments were stated.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **4. Highlights of the Meeting of February 14 and Reaffirm Votes from March 14, 2017**

The highlights from the February 14, 2017 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: by *Barbara Holcomb*, seconded by *Matt Lawson* that the RTC adopt the minutes of February 14, 2017

Motion: by *Matt Edmond*, seconded by *June Morton* to reaffirm the March 14, 2017 electronic voting.

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

#### **5. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions**

##### **a. PA17-33: Woodland Avenue over SEPTA, City of Philadelphia, (MPMS #98232) – Add Project Back into the TIP and Increase Construction Cost**

SEPTA has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Woodland Avenue over SEPTA project (MPMS #98232) back into the TIP and funding a construction cost increase in FY18 in the amount of \$7,000,000 (\$3,500,000 STP/\$3,500,000 Local). This would increase the total estimated cost for the project to \$11,800,000. Federal funds would be flexed (transferred) to SEPTA.

Motion: by *Michelle Webb*, seconded by *Zoe Robertson* that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action PA17-33, SEPTA's request that DVRPC amend the FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Woodland Avenue over SEPTA project (MPMS #98232) back into the TIP and funding a construction cost increase in FY18 in the amount of \$7,000,000 (\$3,500,000 STP/\$3,500,000 Local). This would increase the total estimated cost

for the project to \$11,800,000. Federal funds would be flexed (transferred) to SEPTA.

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

**b. PA17-34: PA 663 Traffic Study, I-476 to PA 309, (MPMS #108907), Bucks County – Add New Study to the TIP**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new \$100,000 transportation study, the PA 663 Traffic Study, I-476 to PA 309, (MPMS #108907), to the TIP for STUDY in FY19 (\$100,000 STATE 581).

Motion: by *Richard Brahler*, seconded by *Jonathan Korus* that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action PA17-34, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new \$100,000 transportation study, the PA 663 Traffic Study, I-476 to PA 309, (MPMS #108907), to the TIP for STUDY in FY19 (\$100,000 STATE 581).

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

**c. PA17-35: PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Projects (2016), (Various MPMS #s), Various Counties – Add New Projects to the TIP**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC approve the list of recommended projects for the 2016 PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund and amend the FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the seven selected projects to the DVRPC regional program, using \$5,865,000 in Statewide Multimodal funding (STATE 411) for engineering and construction. These are additional funds to the region.

Motion: by *Jim Mosca*, seconded by *Barbara Holcomb* that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action PA17-35, PennDOT's request that DVRPC approve the list of recommended projects for the 2016 PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund and amend the FY2017 – 2020 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the seven selected projects to the DVRPC regional program, using \$5,865,000 in Statewide Multimodal funding (STATE 411) for engineering and construction. These are additional funds to the region.

- Bucks County:
  - North Main Street Sidewalks, MPMS #107833; \$454,000
- Montgomery County:
  - Old York-Susquehanna Road Intersection Improvements, MPMS #107825; \$588,000
  - Bethayres Streetscape Plan, MPMS #107824; \$209,000
- City of Philadelphia:
  - City Avenue (US 1) Improvements, MPMS #107832; \$890,000
  - Logan Pointe Roadway Improvements, MPMS #107870; \$2,000,000
  - South St. to Christian St. Trail Extension, MPMS #107826; \$912,000
  - Make Way for Children Philadelphia, MPMS #107831; \$812,000

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

## **6. Fiscal Year 2017 Planning Work Program Amendment**

### **a. SolSmart "Fast Track" Advisor: Continuation of Technical Assistance to Municipalities in PA and NJ**

Liz Compitello, DVRPC, explained that DVRPC has been encouraged to apply for a grant to provide free technical assistance to two additional local governments in PA and up to three additional local governments in NJ in coordination with Sustainable Jersey. SolSmart is a national recognition and a no-cost technical assistance program managed by The Solar Foundation and funded through the U.S. Department of Energy's SunShot Initiative. DVRPC staff is currently serving as a technical advisor to eight municipalities in southeastern PA under the SolSmart program through a previously awarded round of funding. This funding award announcement is expected sometime in April for a May 1 start date with a six month work period, so staff is requesting a recommendation to the Board contingent on receipt of the award.

Deleted: invited

Motion by: *Matthew Lawson*, seconded by *June Morton* that the RTC recommend the Board amend:

DVRPC's FY17 UPWP to include *SolSmart "Fast Track" Advisor: Continuation of Technical Assistance to Municipalities in PA and NJ* (this is a conditional recommendation contingent on DVRPC being selected as a grant recipient).

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

## **PRESENTATION ITEMS**

### **7. VW Settlement Funding**

Sean Greene, DVRPC, explained that in October 2016, the U.S. government agreed to a \$14.7 billion settlement against Volkswagen (VW) for equipping more than 500,000 of its diesel vehicles with emissions testing "cheat" devices. Pennsylvania and New Jersey have been apportioned about \$170 million in funds to replace diesel vehicles to mitigate the air pollution emitted from VW vehicles that violated emission testing rules. Staff reviewed the framework of the VW settlement, identified project types that are eligible to access these mitigation funds, and reviewed the timeline and potential strategies to apply for funds for diesel vehicle replacements for the Greater Philadelphia Region.

### **8. Networking Transportation**

Brett Fusco, DVRPC, explained that *Connections 2045* sets a vision to use digital technologies and innovation to seamlessly network regional transportation. Doing so will provide more options in how to get around, reduce transportation costs, and more efficiently move people and goods with existing infrastructure. This report identifies key digital transportation technologies, emerging private service transportation providers, four scenarios investigating the future of shared mobility, and outlines infrastructure, institutional, and regulatory recommendations to achieve the vision.

## 9. PHS Civic Landscapes

Tammy Leigh DeMent, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, provided an update on PHS projects in Philadelphia including a review of several upcoming installations. There was also a discussion about a landscape design competition for the Philadelphia International Airport.

## 10. Building on Our Strengths: Evaluating Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Opportunities in Greater Philadelphia

Andrew Svekla, DVRPC, explained that *Building on our Strengths* is DVRPC's latest attempt to provide a systematic assessment of TOD investment opportunities throughout the region. DVRPC has developed a new rating system that evaluates rail transit station areas based on a number of demographic, physical, and market conditions that influence the potential success of TOD. By identifying station areas with greater TOD potential, we hope to provide a framework to guide public and private investment at and around rail stations.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### 11. One Minute Reports

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

### 12. Old and New Business

### 13. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is **Tuesday, May 9, 2017.**

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**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 – OTIS  
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  
Public Participation Task Force

**Representative**

Monica Etz  
Ruth Foster  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Gerard Scharfenberger  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Jim Mosca  
(not represented)  
Jonathan Korus  
Rich Brahler  
Carol Thomas  
Andrew Levecchia  
Brian Styche  
Tom Shaffer  
(not represented)  
Matthew Lawson  
Matthew Edmond  
David Kanthor  
Michelle Webb  
Angela Dixon  
June Morton  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Barbara Holcomb  
Jennifer Adam  
(not represented)  
Zoe Robertson  
Lennox Hyman  
Brian Trayler

**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 MacKavanaugh  
(not represented)  
Dan Walston  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Bill Ragozine  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Jacqueline Mandly  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Steve Mazur  
(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**

Kathleen Winfree - PennDOT  
Nathan Powers- Philadelphia Streets Department  
Lou Millan – NJ Transit  
Sue Herman – Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions  
Bill Comer – SEPTA CAC  
Debi Rogers – ICF Environmental Planning  
Tammy Leigh DeMent – Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

## **DVRPC Staff**

Barry Seymour  
John Ward  
Patty Elkis  
Karin Morris  
Liz Compitello  
Sean Greene  
Andrew Svekla  
Brett Fusco  
Tom Keenan  
Ken Peters  
Najah Jackson  
Kwan Hui  
Rick Murphy  
Jesse Buerk  
Alison Hastings  
Elise Turner  
Shoshana Akins  
Marco Gorini  
Keisan Gittens  
Renee Wise

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The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, and related nondiscrimination statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website, [www.dvrpc.org](http://www.dvrpc.org), may be translated into multiple languages. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages and formats, if requested. DVRPC public meetings are always held in ADA-accessible facilities and in transit-accessible locations when possible. Auxiliary services can be provided to individuals who submit a request at least seven days prior to a meeting. Requests made within seven days will be accommodated to the greatest extent possible. Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice by DVRPC under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint. Any such complaint may be in writing and filed with DVRPC's Title VI Compliance Manager and/or the appropriate state or federal agency within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory occurrence. For more information on DVRPC's Title VI program, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, please call (215) 238-2871 or email.