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**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**April 9, 2019 Meeting Highlights**

**DVRPC Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA**

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

Barbara Holcomb (Chair, DRPA) welcomed RTC members and called the meeting to order.

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

John Ward, DVRPC Deputy Executive Director, reported that at their March meeting, the Board approved all the action items that the RTC recommended to them which included 10 TIP Amendments and approval of 22 Regional Trails Program grant awards.

Mr. Ward reported that last Tuesday, April 2, DVRPC opened a competitive funding round for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program for DVRPC's five Pennsylvania counties. The program makes \$25 million available for projects that will improve air quality and/or reduce traffic congestion. Applications are due to DVRPC by COB June 28. Examples of eligible CMAQ projects include congestion reduction and traffic flow improvements, pedestrian and bicycle projects, transit improvement programs, and transit vehicle replacements, among others. Public agencies and public-private partnerships are eligible to apply for the funds. For this round of funding, with the exception of SEPTA applications, the Program is not accepting diesel-retrofit projects, advance technology vehicles (e.g. hybrid cars, electric vehicles, or CNG vehicles), or alternative fuel vehicles due to processing delays of Buy America requirements. All applicants are expected to meet with DVRPC staff for a mandatory one-on-one meeting sometime before Friday, May 31, 2019 at our office or at PennDOT District 6 office in King of Prussia. More information on the CMAQ Program can be found on our website at [www.dvrpc.org/cmaq](http://www.dvrpc.org/cmaq).

Mr. Ward noted that last Thursday, April 4, a federal judge dismissed the lawsuit against the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC) brought by the Owners-Operators Independent Drivers Association (a truckers' group) that would have eliminated an essential funding stream to SEPTA and other public transit agencies across the state. Act 44 of 2007 required the PTC to pay PennDOT \$450 million a year to be dispersed to public transit agencies throughout PA. The truckers' suit claimed that increases in turnpike tolls that went to support public transit constituted an illegal barrier to interstate commerce. Although the judge decided against the suit, the truckers' association indicated that they intend to appeal. Although, very important to SEPTA and other public transit agencies, this is a short-lived victory since the \$450 million a year is set to be reduced by law to \$50 million a year in 2022. Mr. Ward noted this is good news for now but we still need a stable long term funding source for our transit needs as well as our highway needs.

Mr. Ward called the RTC's attention to the fact that April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Every day, at least nine Americans die and 100 are injured in distracted driving

crashes. Cell phones, dashboard touchscreens, voice commands and other in-vehicle technologies pose a threat to our safety. The National Safety Council tells us to ignore the distractions and just drive. For more information on distracted driving and to help get the word out, visit [www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org).

Mr. Ward noted that April 29 to May 3 is Air Quality Awareness Week and it marks the start of ozone season, which runs through September. The Air Quality Partnership monitors ozone levels, provides air quality forecasts, and offers tips that you can take to reduce air pollution. To see the daily air quality forecast, get tips, and sign up for alerts, visit [www.airqualitypartnership.org](http://www.airqualitypartnership.org).

Mr. Ward noted a recent DVRPC publication; Tourism and Transportation: Evaluating Accessibility in Greater Philadelphia.

Mr. Ward called the RTC's attention to a number of upcoming meetings, including: Goods Movement Task Force Meeting April 12, Transportation Operations Task Force meeting April 18, and the DVRPC Board Meeting – April 25.

**The Next RTC Meeting is Tuesday, May 7, 2019.**

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

No public comments were stated.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **4. Highlights of the March 12, 2019 RTC Meeting**

The highlights from the March 12, 2019 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

*Motion: by Jim Mosca, seconded by June Morton that the RTC adopt the highlights of March 12, 2019.*

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

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

Kwan Hui, DVRPC, presented 4 TIP actions.

#### **a. NJ18-065: Bus Acquisition Program (DB #T111), NJ TRANSIT – Federalize**

NJ TRANSIT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2018 TIP for New Jersey by federalizing the line item, Bus Acquisition Program, DB#T111, by increasing the FY19 ERC phase with \$1,636,000 prior year unobligated Section 5339 federal funds (FY16: \$363,000/FY17: \$1,273,000) from \$26,364,000 STATE to \$28,000,000 (\$26,364,000 STATE/\$1,636,000 Section 5339). The result of this action would federalize a non-federally funded NJ TRANSIT program in the TIP and Statewide TIP (STIP). Per the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) request, funds must be shown in the TIP's fiscal year that NJ TRANSIT would submit a grant application for FTA approval in order to obligate the funds.

Motion: by *Andrew Levecchia*, seconded by *Matt Lawson*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action NJ18-065, NJ TRANSIT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2018 TIP for New Jersey by federalizing the line item, Bus Acquisition Program, DB#T111, by increasing the FY19 ERC phase with \$1,636,000 prior year unobligated Section 5339 federal funds (FY16: \$363,000/FY17: \$1,273,000) from \$26,364,000 STATE to \$28,000,000(\$26,364,000 STATE/\$1,636,000 Section 5339).

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

**b. PA19-50: Citywide Resurfacing 105 & 106 (MPMS #105488 & #108090), City of Philadelphia – Cost Increase, Cost Decrease, and Scope Change**

The City of Philadelphia has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2019 TIP for Pennsylvania by decreasing funding of the Citywide Resurfacing 105 project (CW 105) (MPMS #105488) by 7,621,000, and increasing the funding and scope of the Citywide Resurfacing 106 project (CW 106) (MPMS #108090) by 7,621,000 in an effort to establish the correct corridors and funding levels for each contract.

Motion: by *Angie Dixon*, seconded by *David Kanthor*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action PA19-50, the City of Philadelphia's request that DVRPC amend the FY2019 TIP by decreasing the construction phase, for the Citywide Resurfacing 105 project (CW 105) – MPMS #105488 by a total of \$7,621,000 (FY20: \$1,500,000 STU/\$375,000 Local; FY21: \$1,000,000 STU/\$250,000 Local; FY22: \$3,597,000 STU/\$899,000 Local); increasing the construction phase of the Citywide Resurfacing 106 project (CW 106) – MPMS #108090 by adding \$8,167,000 (FY20: \$437,000 STP/\$1,500,000 STU/\$484,000 Local; FY21: \$1,000,000 STU/\$250,000 Local; FY22: \$3,597,000 STU/\$899,000 Local); removing the final design phase, of CW 106, in FY20 (\$437,000 STP/\$109,000); and changing the scope of CW 106 to include the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street corridor from Snyder Avenue to Spring Garden Street, removing the G Street and Rising Sun Avenue corridors, and modifying the limits of the Front Street Corridor, from Ellen Street to Girard Avenue, to Ellen Street to Kensington Avenue.

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

**c. PA19-51: Henry Avenue Corridor Safety Improvements, Phase 1 & Phase 2 (MPMS #80104 & #102134), City of Philadelphia – Draw Funding Down from Regional Safety Initiatives Line Item**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2019 TIP for Pennsylvania by drawing down funding from the Regional Highway Safety Initiatives (HSIP) line item (MPMS #57927) to fund two projects: Henry Avenue Corridor Safety Improvements, Phase 1 (MPMS #80104); and Henry Avenue Corridor Safety Improvements, Phase 2 (MPMS #102134), for a total cost of \$18,800,000.

Motion: by *Katie Winfree*, seconded by *Crystal Gilchrist*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action PA19-51, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2019 TIP for Pennsylvania by drawing down funding from the Regional Highway Safety Initiatives (HSIP) line item (MPMS #57927) to fund two projects: Henry Avenue Corridor Safety Improvements, Phase 1 (MPMS #80104); and Henry Avenue Corridor Safety Improvements, Phase 2 (MPMS #102134), for a total cost of \$18,800,000. These projects will be programmed as follows: MPMS #80104; final design phase in FY19 for \$1,000,000 HSIP, utility phase in FY19 for \$350,000 HSIP, and construction phase in FY20 for \$6,790,000 HSIP and in FY21 for \$5,000,000 HSIP; MPMS #102134, final design phase in FY19 for \$700,000 HSIP, utility phase in FY20 for \$150,000 HSIP, and construction phase in FY21 for \$4,810,000 HSIP.

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

**d. PA19-52: Easton Road Roundabout (MPMS #111024), Bucks County – Add PE Phase Back into TIP**

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2019 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding the Preliminary Engineering phase back into the TIP for the Easton Road Roundabout project (MPMS #111024) by programming the Preliminary Engineering phase in FY19 in the amount of \$500,000 sHSIP. These are “discretionary” HSIP funds that are additional funds to the region. The overall cost of this project is \$3.1 million.

Motion: by *Rich Brahler*, seconded by *Jim Mosca*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

TIP Action PA19-52, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2019 TIP by adding the Preliminary Engineering phase back into the TIP for the Easton Road Roundabout project (MPMS #111024) by programming the Preliminary Engineering phase in FY19 in the amount of \$500,000 sHSIP.

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

**6. DVRPC FY2020 Work Program Amendment: Project 20.41.050 Competitive Program and Project Management**

Ryan Gallagher, DVRPC, explained that this project enables DVRPC staff to provide assistance to PennDOT to ensure the timely selection and delivery of traditional and non-traditional local projects in an effort to enhance the transportation system within our region. This will require an expansion of DVRPC staff to include an additional engineer who will work on PennDOT Program and Project Management.

Motion: by *Jim Mosca*, seconded by *Brian Styche*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

Modification of the FY2020 Planning Work Program project #20.41.050, Competitive Program and Project Management by increasing funding by \$180,000 (\$144,000 STU / \$36,000 State 581). Further, modify the FY2019 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the FY2019 PE phase of MPMS #66460, TAP Project Engineering and Management DVRPC, by \$180,000 (\$144,000 STU / \$36,000 State 581).

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

## **7. PA TMA Competitive Grant Program Awards**

Patty Elkis, DVRPC, explained that DVRPC launched a new competitive grant program (CGP) for TMAs on November 1, 2018 as an opportunity to support the TMAs and MAP contractors in southeastern Pennsylvania with their important work related to transportation issues of reducing traffic congestion, improving air quality by lowering vehicle emissions, facilitating multimodalism, embracing new technology, and promoting commute alternatives to the single-occupant vehicle. The TMA CGP provides a mechanism for the eligible TMAs and MAP contractors to supplement their regular Work Programs with additional funding to carry out supplemental activities that are core to their missions, and that concurrently help implement the region's long range plan. The program could be used to bolster and leverage existing, effective strategies, or be applied to new initiatives, provided the activities are CMAQ eligible.

Motion: by *Jim Mosca*, seconded by *Tom Shaffer*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

These TMA CGP proposals:

- 1) Delaware County TMA Social Media Outreach
- 2) GVFTMA Educational Campaign Along the US 422 Corridor
- 3) PTMA Promoting Biking as a Commute Option

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

## **8. Adoption of DVRPC's Limited English Proficiency Plan**

Alison Hastings, DVRPC, explained that DVRPC is committed to upholding the principles and intentions of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and related nondiscrimination mandates in all of the Commission's work, including publications, products, communications, public input, and decision-making processes. Language barriers may prohibit people who are Limited in English Proficiency (also known as LEP persons) from obtaining services, information, or participating in public planning processes. To better identify LEP populations and thoroughly evaluate the Commission's efforts to provide meaningful access, DVRPC has produced a Limited English Proficiency Plan (or LEP Plan). DVRPC's LEP Plan follows U.S. DOT's policy guidance to conduct a four-factor analysis and create a five step implementation plan.

Motion: by *Matt Lawson*, seconded by *Andrew Levecchia*, that the RTC recommend the Board adopt:

DVRPC's Limited English Proficiency Plan as part of the Commission's Title VI and Public Outreach Programs.

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

## **PRESENTATION ITEMS**

### **9. St. Albert The Great School Future Cities Competition Award Recipient**

The Philadelphia Regional Future City Competition provides a fun and exciting educational engineering program for middle school students that combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a "hands-on" application to present their vision of a city of the future. DVRPC sponsored a Regional Vision Award at this year's competition and the students from St. Albert the Great School showcased their winning entry.

### **10. Tourism and Transportation: Evaluating Access to Tourist Attractions in Greater Philadelphia**

Karen Cilurso, DVRPC, explained that in accordance with the FAST Act of 2015, DVRPC incorporated an evaluation of the economic impact of tourism and the existing multimodal accessibility of tourist attractions and potential improvements into the Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018 work programs. The process and findings were presented.

### **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 11:51 AM.

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is **Tuesday, May 7, 2019.**

## **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

### **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  
Phila Port  
Pottstown Urban Transit  
Select Greater Philadelphia  
South Jersey Port Corporation  
South Jersey Transportation Authority  
Transportation Operations Task Force  
US EPA - Region II  
US EPA - Region III  
US Department of Housing and Urban Development

### **Representative**

Monica Etz  
David Caulfield  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Sachin Shankar  
Jim Mosca  
(not represented)  
Kathleen Winfree  
Rich Brahler  
(not represented)  
Andrew Levecchia  
Brian Styche  
Thomas Shaffer  
Theresa Ziegler  
Matthew Lawson  
Crystal Gilchrist  
David Kanthor  
(not represented)  
Angela Dixon  
June Morton  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Barbara Holcomb  
Blanca Quinde  
(not represented)  
Brian McFadden  
Frances Harwell  
Bryan Proska

### **Representative**

(not represented)  
Kelvin MacKavanaugh  
(not represented)  
Jennifer Crobak  
Tim Lidiak  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
Ronda Urkowitz  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)  
(not represented)

## **ATTENDANCE (cont'd)**

### **Other Member Representatives and Guests**

Stephen Fowler – NJDOT  
Samantha Safara – HDR  
Kathy Angelucci - St. Albert the Great School  
John Shrenk – St. Albert the Great School  
Sophia Werbo - St. Albert the Great School  
Marina Gilk - St. Albert the Great School  
Sean Brennan - St. Albert the Great School  
Kaitlyn Angelucci - St. Albert the Great School  
Jacob Alvarez - St. Albert the Great School  
Matthew Machione - St. Albert the Great School  
Jack O'Rourke - St. Albert the Great School  
Bill Comer – SEPTA CAC

### **DVRPC Staff**

John Ward  
Patty Elkis  
Elizabeth Schoonmaker  
Karin Morris  
Stacy Bartels  
Dave Anderson  
Ryan Gallagher  
Karen Cilurso  
Mike Boyer  
Kwan Hui  
Jesse Buerk  
Rick Murphy  
Shoshana Akins  
Alison Hastings  
Natalie Cramer  
Addison Larson  
Al Beatty  
Tom Edinger  
Najah Jackson  
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.