



DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
January 11, 2022 Meeting Highlights
This Meeting was held as a Webinar

1. Call to Order - Chairperson's Comments

Matthew Lawson (Chair, Mercer County) welcomed RTC members and called the meeting to order.

2. Deputy Executive Director's Report

DVRPC's Deputy Executive Director Patty Elkis welcomed everyone and wished everyone a happy New Year. Ms. Elkis noted that we are still meeting virtually, especially with the spread of the Omicron variant, which seems to be everywhere. Ms. Elkis commented that much as she would like to get us back to meeting in person, we will continue to wait to do that until it is safe; hopefully by this spring.

Ms. Elkis called the RTC's attention to the fact that at the RTC's November meeting, the RTC recommended three TIP Actions, and one FY22 Work Program amendment on receiving a \$1.26 million grant from the William Penn Foundation for Circuit Trails. The Board met in December and approved all of those items. The RTC did not meet in December and this is our next meeting after that November meeting.

Ms. Elkis reported that the big news at our November meeting was the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, otherwise known as the IIJA. The other acronym it is known by is the BIL (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law). Our December Board retreat focused on the BIL, with presentations by

- Charles Small of USDOT giving an overview of the IIJA
- Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, talking about opportunities for NJ
- Larry Shifflet talking about opportunities in the bill for PA, and
- Erich Zimmerman of NARC talking about new opportunities in the bill for MPOs

After the presentations, Board members went into four break-out rooms to discuss different aspects of the bill, including competitive and formula funding programs, and we are having a follow up Board Policy meeting next Tuesday, Jan 18, from 1:00 pm. to 3:00 p.m., to further discuss how our region can leverage new opportunities in the bill.

Ms. Elkis noted that there will be many federal grants available through the BIL, and it can seem overwhelming. DVRPC is working on a coordinated process to keep up with the many opportunities within the Act that include creation of a dedicated webpage of IIJA resources, attending webinars and other interactive meetings on the BIL, and bi-weekly internal staff meetings with an IIJA Action Team made up of staff with expertise in different programs of the BIL. Some potential roles for us could be facilitating joint applications, match-making between like-minded partners, or leading certain initiatives. Ms. Elkis noted that one webinar she attended last week said that NOFOs (Notices of Funding Opportunities) are expected to start appearing in mid-February, and that it is important to have a plan of action ahead of time. To be proactive, we need to

continue to build understanding on the opportunities and which ones to independently or jointly go for. Ms. Elkis noted that there is a lot of value in sharing information and collaborating on certain opportunities, so she proposed that RTC members coordinate on the BIL on a consistent basis, through a regularly scheduled meeting over the next 4-6 months. To get a feel for how many RTC members are interested in this, we will be conducting a poll and will follow up with a Zoom invite about this potential meeting.

Ms. Elkis called the RTC's attention to the fact that we have two grant programs available. One is the Travel Options Program (TOP) which was launched in December, and funds creative and practical projects that measurably reduce the number of single occupant vehicles. There is a mandatory online [information session](#) for interested applicants on January 12 at 2:00 p.m. The second opportunity which opens on February 1, is for the Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) funding round for the PA side of the region. Eligible applicants are local governments, transit agencies and TMAs, and the program supports smart growth initiatives that implement the LRP and up to \$1.2 million may be available. A major change to this program from years past is that the local match is no longer required. Interested applicants are encouraged to attend an information webinar on February 14th. In addition, on January 18th, DVRPC will be releasing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for all consultants who wish to bid and conduct TCDI studies on behalf of project sponsors.

Ms. Elkis called the RTC's attention to the fact that DVRPC has some recent products available on DVRPC's website including: Data Snapshot 2.6: Series 2, No. 6 Regional Economics: Traveler Accommodations Sector; Travel Market Analysis for NJ TRANSIT Atlantic City Rail Line; DVRPC FY2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey (FY22-FY25); Bicycle LTS and Connectivity Analysis; 2020 Camden CBD Cordon Data; New Jersey Trails Inventory Map; Cecil B. Moore Avenue Public Engagement Webmap; and DVRPC Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Threshold webmap.

Ms. Elkis announced that DVRPC's Camden Health Element of the City of Camden Master Plan was awarded the Outstanding Plan award by NJ Chapter of APA. Ms. Elkis congratulated the City of Camden and DVRPC's Amy Verbofsky and Derek Lombardi, who are the principal authors of the plan.

Meeting Reminders: ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

- Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force, 1/14/2022
- A Joint Meeting of the HCTF and Futures Group -Benefits and Burdens: Transportation and Equity - January 26
- Public Participation Task Force: January 26
- Board Meeting: January 27

The Next RTC meeting will be February 8, 2022.

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

No public comments were stated.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Highlights of the November 9, 2021 RTC Meeting

The highlights from the November 9, 2021 meeting of the RTC were presented for adoption.

Motion: *by Tonyelle Cook-Artis seconded by Brian McFadden* that the RTC adopt:

The highlights of the November 9, 2021 RTC meeting.

Motion passed with an abstention from Brian Leckie of NJDOT.

5. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Kwan Hui (DVRPC) presented three TIP actions.

a. NJ22-001: CR 537, CR 628, and CR 660 Guiderail Installation (DB #D1804), Burlington County – Add Project Back into the TIP

Burlington County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2022 TIP for New Jersey by adding the \$1.7 million STATE-DVRPC funded project, CR 537, CR 628, and CR 660 Guiderail Installation (DB #D1804), back into the TIP for FY22 Construction (CON), accordingly: \$138,000 14-STATE-DVRPC, \$872,000 15-STATE-DVRPC, \$266,000 16-STATE-DVRPC, and \$424,000 17-STATE-DVRPC. The two digits prior to STATE-DVRPC reflect the year that funds were appropriated by the State Legislature for project use.

b. NJ22-002: CR 655 (Fries Mill Rd), CR 610 (Clayton-Williamstown Rd) to NJ 47 (DB #D2015), Gloucester County – Add Project Back into the TIP

Gloucester County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2022 TIP for New Jersey by adding the \$3.671 million (\$2.935 million STBGP-PHILA/\$736,000 Local) project, CR 655 (Fries Mill Rd), CR 610 (Clayton-Williamstown Rd) to NJ 47 (DB #D2015), back into the TIP for FY22 CON.

Motion: *by Andrew Levecchia, seconded by Peter Rykard*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP actions:

NJ22-001, Burlington County's request that DVRPC amend the FY2022 TIP for New Jersey by adding the \$1.7 million STATE-DVRPC funded project, CR 537, CR 628, and CR 660 Guiderail Installation (DB #D1804), back into the TIP for FY22 Construction (CON), accordingly: \$138,000 14-STATE-DVRPC, \$872,000 15-STATE-DVRPC, \$266,000 16-STATE-DVRPC, and \$424,000 17-STATE-DVRPC.

NJ22-002, Gloucester County's request that DVRPC amend the FY2022 TIP for New Jersey by adding \$3.671 million (\$2.935 million STBGP-PHILA/\$736,000 Local) project, CR 655 (Fries Mill Rd), CR 610 (Clayton-Williamstown Rd) to NJ 47 (DB #D2015), back into the TIP for FY22 CON.

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

c. NJ22-003: Paratransit Vehicles (Various DB #s), Various Counties - Flex to NJ TRANSIT Small/Special Services Program (DB #T120) and Section 5310 Program (DB #T150): Burlington County Bus Purchase (DB #D1510), Camden County Bus Purchase (DB #D0601), Gloucester County Bus Purchase (DB #D9807), and Mercer County Bus Purchase (DB #D1011)

Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer Counties have requested, respectively, on behalf of BurLINK, the South Jersey Transportation Authority (SJTA), Gloucester County Division of Transportation Services (DTS), and Mercer County Transportation Resources to Aid the Disadvantaged and Elderly (TRADE) that DVRPC modify the FY2022 TIP for New Jersey by flexing (transferring) a total of \$2.396 million (M) CMAQ funds in FY22 to NJ TRANSIT, accordingly:

– \$1.102 M CMAQ from Burlington County Bus Purchase (DB #D1510, \$230,000) and Camden County Bus Purchase (DB #D0601, \$872,000 CMAQ) to NJ TRANSIT's Small/Special Services Program (DB #T120); and

– \$1.294 M CMAQ from Gloucester County Bus Purchase (DB #D9807, \$203,000 CMAQ) and Mercer County Bus Purchase (DB #D1011, \$1.091 million CMAQ) to NJ TRANSIT's Section 5310 Program (DB #T150).

As part of this request, the action would decrease Burlington County Bus Purchase (DB #D1510) by \$38,000 from \$268,000 CMAQ to \$230,000 CMAQ; decrease Camden County Bus Purchase (DB #D0601) by \$4,000 from \$876,000 CMAQ to \$872,000 CMAQ; increase Gloucester County Bus Purchase (DB #D9807) by \$24,000 from \$179,000 CMAQ to \$203,000 CMAQ; and increase Mercer County Bus Purchase (DB #D1011) by \$176,000 from \$915,000 CMAQ to \$1.091 million CMAQ, all in FY22 to accommodate the requests.

Motion: by *Rohan Hepkins*, seconded by *Michael Kolber*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve TIP action:

NJ22-003, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer Counties' request on behalf of BurLINK, the South Jersey Transportation Authority (SJTA), Gloucester County Division of Transportation Services (DTS), and Mercer County Transportation Resources to Aid the Disadvantaged and Elderly (TRADE) that DVRPC modify the FY2022 TIP for New Jersey by flexing (transferring) a total of \$2.396 million (M) CMAQ funds in FY22 to NJ TRANSIT, accordingly:

– \$1.102 M CMAQ from Burlington County Bus Purchase (DB #D1510, \$230,000) and Camden County Bus Purchase (DB #D0601, \$872,000 CMAQ) to NJ TRANSIT's Small/Special Services Program (DB #T120); and

– \$1.294 M CMAQ from Gloucester County Bus Purchase (DB #D9807, \$203,000 CMAQ) and Mercer County Bus Purchase (DB #D1011, \$1.091 million CMAQ) to NJ TRANSIT's Section 5310 Program (DB #T150). As part of this request, the action would decrease Burlington County Bus Purchase (DB #D1510) by \$38,000 from \$268,000 CMAQ to \$230,000 CMAQ; decrease Camden County Bus Purchase (DB #D0601) by \$4,000 from \$876,000 CMAQ to \$872,000 CMAQ; increase Gloucester

County Bus Purchase (DB #D9807) by \$24,000 from \$179,000 CMAQ to \$203,000 CMAQ; and increase Mercer County Bus Purchase (DB #D1011) by \$176,000 from \$915,000 CMAQ to \$1.091 million CMAQ, all in FY22 to accommodate the requests.

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

6. Pennsylvania Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TASA) Regionally Selected & Statewide Recommended Projects

Joe Natale (DVRPC) explained that the Pennsylvania Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TASA) is a competitive federal program established for projects that contribute to alternative transportation projects, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities. The two-year Pennsylvania TASA program provided approximately \$8 million TASA funds for projects in the DVRPC region and at least \$18+ million statewide.

Motion: by *Rich Brahler*, seconded by *Matt Edmond*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

The list of projects identified to be funded with the DVRPC regional sub-allocation of Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program funds, and that the list of projects be amended into the FY2021 PA TIP (TIP Action PA21-65) for \$7,945,000 TAU in the Transportation Alternatives Line Item –MPMS #64984 (funding for individual projects will be drawn down at the appropriate time).

Also, that the RTC recommend the Board approve the TASA subcommittee's recommended statewide TASA list of projects be sent to PennDOT Central Office for consideration for funding as part of the statewide TASA selection process.

Note that the TASA Line Item - MPMS #64984 will be updated to reflect the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law TASA funding allocation to the region once official financial guidance tables are released from FHWA and PennDOT.

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

7. Adoption of Regional Safety Targets to Satisfy MPO Requirements Under the Federal Transportation Performance Management (TPM) Process

Kevin Murphy (DVRPC) explained that Roadway Safety is part of the overall Transportation Performance Management (TPM) program, which FHWA defines as a strategic approach that uses system information to make investment and policy decisions to achieve national performance goals. The Safety Performance Management (Safety PM) Final Rule supports the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), as it establishes safety performance measure requirements for the purpose of carrying out the HSIP and to assess fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.

Motion: by *Jim Mosca*, seconded by *Tonyelle Cook-Artis*, that the RTC recommend the Board adopt:

The regional safety targets and agree to plan and program projects that contribute toward meeting or exceeding the targets.

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

8. DVRPC Regional Trails Program - Additional Phase 8 Grant Awards

Shawn Megill Legendre explained that the following actions on multi-use trail projects are recommended for Regional Trails Program by DVRPC staff in coordination with county and municipal partners. DVRPC will draw funds from previously unspent Regional Trails Program project funds. The Regional Trails Program is supported by the William Penn Foundation.

1. Add \$11,725 to the current award for the D&R Connector - Wellness Loop to Union Street in the City of Trenton to support increased design costs resulting from allocation of federal funds for construction. The awardee is Greater Trenton, Inc.

2. Grant \$59,356 for an engineering assessment and feasibility study of the construction of a trail on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Mule Bridge which crosses the Schuylkill River between Lower Merion Township and Philadelphia. The awardee would be the City of Philadelphia. The two actions above would result in the allocation of \$71,081 in additional funds to capital projects.

Motion: by *David Kanthor*, seconded by *Matt Edmond*, that the RTC recommend the Board approve:

These two Regional Trails Program actions.

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

9. Adoption of DVRPC Fiscal Year 2023 Unified Planning Work Program and TIP Amendments

Patty Elkis (DVRPC) explained that DVRPC's FY23 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) incorporates the planning programs and support activities of DVRPC and its member governments for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. As the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Greater Philadelphia region, DVRPC is required by federal regulation to develop a UPWP. This document reflects the policy direction provided by the Board's Unified Planning Work Program Committee and input from state and federal planning partners, member governments, operating agencies and other regional organizations.

Three Key sections of the document include: 1) DVRPC's Core Work Program, 2) Supportive Regional Highway Planning Program, and 3) Transit Support Program.

Motion: by *Tonyelle Cook-Artis*, seconded by *Brian McFadden*, that the RTC recommend the Board adopt:

The Final FY23 Unified Planning Work Program, pending the resolution of any outstanding comments and issues. Further, that the RTC recommends that the Board approve the actions to amend or modify the FY2022 TIP for New Jersey and the FY2021 TIP for Pennsylvania as required.

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

BRIEF REPORTS

10. Chester County Active Transportation Inventory

Brian Styche (Chester County) explained that the TCDI funded Active Transportation Inventory (ATI) reviewed the regulatory comprehensive plans, zoning and subdivision/land development ordinances, and advisory planning documents relative to bike/ped development for all 73 Chester County municipalities for the presence of elements within each that require or recommend the development of active transportation facilities as part of the land development process. Final products include individual reports prepared for each municipality that include the review and assessment of those documents and recommendations for how to strengthen those ordinances and use other planning tools such as official maps to advance bike/ped development, along with a countywide summary document titled Bicycles, Pedestrians & Transit. The findings from this inventory have also helped planning staff to more readily identify on-road bicycle facility development opportunities that may be realized through the DVRPC Bike-Friendly Resurfacing Program.

PRESENTATION ITEMS

11. Bicycle LTS and Connectivity Analysis Webmap

Sarah Moran (DVRPC) presented the recently updated Bicycle LTS and Connectivity Analysis webmap, a regional screening tool that helps identify and rank roads where bicycle facility improvements would have the greatest local and regional connectivity benefit to the low-stress bicycle network. The improved tool includes a customized version with additional context about the analysis; a more flexible, user-friendly map in which to explore the data; an updated connectivity analysis to account for the stress induced by riding a bike up a steep slope; and a set of results weighted by the proportion of populations of interest under Title VI and environmental justice in the surrounding area, which encourages planners to be more intentional about incorporating equity into bicycle facility prioritization efforts. The new link is: www.dvrpc.org/webmaps/bike-lts/.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

12. One Minute Reports

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

13. Old and New Business

14. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:56 AM

The next scheduled meeting of the RTC is **Tuesday, February 8, 2022.**

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

Representative

Brian Leckie
Ruth Foster
(not represented)
Rudy Rodas
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
Jim Mosca
(not represented)
Jonathan Korus
Rich Brahler
(not represented)
Andrew Levecchia
Brian Styche
Tom Shaffer
Jackie Huston
Matthew Lawson
Matt Edmond
David Kanthor
Nick Baker
Kelley Yemen
June Morton
Peter Rykard
Michael Kolber
Tonyelle Cook-Artis
Blanca Quinde
Rohan Hepkins
Brian McFadden
Mary Ann Sandone

Representative

(not represented)
(not represented)
Brian Goodson
(not represented)
(not represented)
Renee Androckitis
(not represented)
(not represented)
Jacqui Baxter-Rollins
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)
(not represented)

US Department of Housing and Urban Development

(not represented)

Other Member Representatives and Guests

City of Philadelphia Department of Streets

Nathan Powers

City of Philadelphia Planning Commission

John Haak

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

David Caulfield

Montgomery County Planning Commission

Matthew Popek

Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc.

Susan Herman

DVRPC Staff

Patty Elkis

Barry Seymour

Shoshana Akins

Shawn Megill Legendre

Joe Natale

Joe Banks

Greg Krykewycz

Kwan Hui

Brett Fusco

Mike Boyer

Ryan Gallagher

Jesse Buerk

Rick Murphy

Elise Turner

Maridarlyn Gonzalez

Alison Hastings

Ben Gruswitz

Betsy Mastaglio

Sarah Moran

Karin Morris

Chris King

Van Doan

Karen Cilurso

Kevin Murphy

Kayla Bancone

Glenn McNichol

Amani Jones-Bey

Ian Schwarzenberg

Aaron Frait

Renee Wise

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