

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ITS Technical Task Force Meeting Minutes September 9, 2002

The following are highlights from the meeting of the ITS Technical Task Force held on Monday, September 9, 2002 at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission Conference Room. A list of attendees is attached.

Agenda Item #1: Welcome and Individual Updates

Karl Ziemer, Delaware River Port Authority, welcomed the Technical Task Force members and thanked them for coming. The minutes from the last meeting held on June 10, 2002 at the South Jersey Transportation Authority Administration Building were approved. The first item of business was the individual updates. Each person in attendance introduced themselves and added any relevant ITS updates from their agency. Some of the highlights included:

- ▶ The City of Philadelphia has recently began a program of using cardboard signs for the Highway Patrol to use as signs for detour routes.
- ▶ SEPTA is currently working on a traffic signal preemption system for Route 10 and Girard Ave. Construction for the new bus operation center is 75% complete.
- ▶ The Delaware DOT is upgrading all of the traffic signals in the city of Wilmington and introducing variable speed limit signs on I-495.
- ▶ New Jersey DOT is currently working on a plan install a traffic signal system on several approached to the Ben Franklin Bridge.
- ▶ PennDOT is planning to have 36 more CCTV cameras operational by the end of the year, mostly along the US 202 corridor.
- ▶ DRPA announced that CCTV cameras should be in place on the Ben Franklin Bridge by the end of the year and the new Traffic Management Center is currently in final design.
- ▶ Region II of the Federal Transit Administration and the New Jersey Division of the Federal Highway Administration are sponsoring a one-day workshop on Transit Compliance with the National ITS Architecture. It is intended to bring together affected agencies to share

information on agency plans for ITS and to coordinate regional ITS Architecture development activities involving transit. It will be held October 4, 2002 at Rutgers University. For more information, contact Eva Lerner- Lam at 201-567-0088, ext. 11.

Agenda Item #2: Regional ITS Initiatives

PA Turnpike ITS Meeting

Stan Platt, DVRPC, reported on several ITS issues. The first was a brief overview of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's Intelligent Transportation System Program. The program prioritizes areas of the Turnpike in terms of ITS technology, of which the Philadelphia area has the highest. The new system will focus on providing traveler information.

Application of ITS to Ports in the Philadelphia Region

The Delaware River Maritime Enterprise Council (DRMEC) is undertaking a number of initiatives to increase cargo activity at ports in the Southeast Pennsylvania. One of the programs' initiatives is to track cargo and equipment from the shipper's point of consignment through the marine terminal and onto its destination. DRMEC initiatives also present an opportunity to enhance the goods movement element of the regional architecture, and improve traveler information for truckers.

Municipal Closed Loop Traffic Signal Systems

There are currently forty closed loop traffic signal systems in PennDOT's District 6 region, with forty more in the planning and design stage. Many of the closed loop traffic signal systems in the region do not comply with regional architecture and operation and maintenance plans are sometimes ignored. A new policy would require municipalities and counties to comply with minimum PennDOT procurement and functional requirements and cooperate with other municipal systems to increase traffic signal benefits.

I-95 Corridor Coalition Communication Project

John Ward, DVRPC, also presented information on several ITS items. The first topic was the I-95 Corridor Coalition Nextel Phone Project. Through PRIMIS funds, DVRPC has purchased thirty Nextel phones for a two year subscription period. DVRPC is developing a directory that will include name and contact information available for distribution. Phones have been distributed to nine different agencies in the Region.

I-95 Corridor Coalition Incident Management Course

As part of the I-95 Corridor Coalition's Annual Meeting, the Coalition is hosting an Advanced Incident Management Operations Course on October 1, 2002 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. This one-day seminar will give responders the opportunity to discuss their operations, share successes, determine the need for upgrades, and make recommendations for improvements. Other topics to be addressed are responder safety, site management, and incident clearance.

PennDOT District 6 / Montgomery County EMC Video Sharing

PennDOT District 6 and Montgomery County are working on a video sharing project that will enhance the County's Emergency Management Center (EMC) by expanding the communication capabilities between the two sites. One of the goals of the project is to improve emergency response by allowing EMC personnel to view the scene of an incident through a video feed from the PennDOT CCTV cameras.

Agenda Item #3: I-95 Corridor Coalition Video Sharing Project

Steve Levine, TransCore, gave a presentation on a feasibility study of sharing video in the Delaware Valley Region. The I-95 Corridor Coalition has committed \$50,000 for the feasibility study, while DVRPC and PennDOT have committed funds for procurement and system integration of the video sharing. Both of these commitments are contingent upon the member agencies paying the operation and maintenance costs. A major benefit of sharing video will be the ability to coordinate a response to traffic control challenges caused by incidents and planned events. There are three technology cost alternatives being evaluated, depending on the quality of video desired.

Agenda Item #4: Center to Center Communication Discussion

Stan Platt, DVRPC, and Emiliano Lopez, FWHA, discussed some of the issues and concerns associated with center to center communications. Before an agency designs and builds a Traffic Operations Center, it is important to establish the appropriate ITS Standards needed to incorporate and facilitate communications with other centers. Compliance with regional and national Architectures is also imperative. An inventory of all existing and proposed Operation Centers systems should be conducted to coordinate their communication systems and prevent future problems.

Agenda Item #5: Other Business

- ▶ The next meeting date has been set for **Friday, October 18** at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's Conference Room.

**ITS Technical Task Force Meeting
September 9, 2002**

Attendance List:

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| 1) | Fred Pourki | Philadelphia International Airport |
| 2) | Emiliano Lopez | Federal Highway Administration |
| 3) | Marcy Rost | Delaware River Port Authority |
| 4) | Karl Ziemer | Delaware River Port Authority |
| 5) | Shawn Jalosinski | City of Philadelphia- Streets Department |
| 6) | Richard Montanez | City of Philadelphia- Streets Department |
| 7) | Lou Belmonte | PennDOT District 6 |
| 8) | Paul Lutz | PennDOT District 6 |
| 9) | Mark J. Smith | New Jersey DOT |
| 10) | Dave McCann | Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission |
| 11) | Hugh Lynch | Philadelphia Highway Patrol |
| 12) | Christopher Paris | Pennsylvania State Police |
| 13) | Brian E. Naylor | Pennsylvania State Police |
| 14) | Carol Ann Thomas | Burlington County Engineers Office |
| 15) | Larry K. Wilson | Philadelphia Office of Strategic Planning |
| 16) | Steve Buckley | Parsons Brinkerhoff |
| 17) | Tony Marino | South Jersey Transportation Authority |
| 18) | Dennis Culnan | South Jersey Transportation Authority |
| 19) | Chuck Chiarello | South Jersey Transportation Authority |
| 20) | Steven Levine | TransCore |
| 21) | Soloman Caviness | New Jersey Turnpike Authority |
| 22) | Jerry Kraft | New Jersey Turnpike Authority |
| 23) | Carmine Fiscina | Federal Highway Administration |
| 24) | Jessie Yung | Federal Highway Administration |
| 25) | Larry I. Bankert, Jr. | Gannett Fleming |
| 26) | Chip Millard | Tri County Regional Planning Commission |
| 27) | Al Sundara | Tri County Regional Planning Commission |
| 28) | Donni Johnson | Philadelphia Parking Authority |
| 29) | Randy Chepigan | SmartRoute Systems |
| 30) | Bob Hannigan | PennDOT |
| 31) | Kim Ferroni | PennDOT |
| 32) | Dennis Starr | PennDOT |
| 33) | Michael Pack | PennDOT |
| 34) | William Ragozine | Cross County Connection TMA |
| 35) | Lou Cortelazzi | Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission |

36)	Jim Bunting	DelDOT
37)	Teresa Lewandowski	DelDOT
38)	John Ward	DVRPC
39)	Stan Platt	DVRPC
40)	Chris King	DVRPC
41)	Laurie Matkowski	DVRPC
42)	Keith Hartington	DVRPC