

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ITS Technical Task Force Meeting Minutes September 30, 2003

The following are highlights from the ITS Technical Task Force meeting held on Tuesday, September 30, 2003 at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission Conference Room. A list of attendees is attached.

Agenda Item #1: Welcome and Individual Updates

Rich Montanez, welcomed the Technical Task Force members and thanked them for coming. The minutes from the last meeting held on August 1, 2003 at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission 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 Delaware River Port Authority reported that during Hurricane Isabel, the DRPA command center was open from 3:00 pm until 7:00 am the next morning. An open line of communication between the state DOT's and TRANSCOM was established. No major impacts on traffic occurred.
- ▶ The I-95 Corridor Coalition's Incident Management Track is hosting their annual meeting October 7-8 in Baltimore, MD.
- ▶ DVRPC is currently developing the work program for fiscal year '05. DVRPC is working on submitting an Incident Management Project to develop potential legislation to assist the incident management project.
- ▶ PennDOT District 6-0 reported that the I-95 project has entered Stage II. This entails the reconstruction of the northbound lanes.
- ▶ FHWA reported that the US 202 & I-76 interchange will be completed in mid October, and most of the ITS work will be completed by the end of the month.
- ▶ The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission has installed traffic flow detectors and CCTV cameras at all toll plazas within the Philadelphia Region.

Agenda Item #2: New Jersey DOT's ITS Strategic Deployment Plan

Kurt Aufschneider, NJ DOT, gave a presentation concerning the ITS Strategic Deployment Plan for the State of New Jersey. New Jersey experiences \$7.3 billion lost annually in time, fuel, wages, etc. In addition, there were 330,000 accidents, resulting in 100,000 injuries and 700 fatalities. The FHWA concludes from their studies that ITS programs produce an 8:1 cost/benefit ratio, reduce incidents by 15%, increase capacity by 15-25%, and reduce incident related delay by up to 50%. New Jersey ITS began in 1992 and currently is responsible for 300 miles of fiber, 125 CCTV cameras, 70 VMS, and 12 HAR. The ITS Strategic Development Plan for New Jersey identifies a list of objectives that includes fiber optic communication, instrumentation, and information. The fiber optic communication is needed to connect business centers, provide diverse and redundant communication systems, and can be used in a variety of ways. Instrumentation of ITS encompasses interstates, feeder roads, high accident areas, and locations with alternative routes. Informational objectives includes providing real time information and customized information, expanding the use of VMS and HAR, and initializing a 511 system. Other ITS objectives comprise of developing a statewide architecture, utilizing ITS standards, improving tunnel operations, and expanding emergency services.

Agenda Item #3: New Jersey DOT Real Time Commuter Information Website

Kurt Aufschneider, NJ DOT, presented the Task Force with a follow up to the ITS Plan with an update to the NJ DOT website. The commuter page was created out of the webcams, which are popular with the general public. The webcams show pictures of major roadways and are periodically refreshed. The data is displayed on a map of the entire state, while information is collected from both TOC's. The map shows all state and interstate roadways. Construction information, accidents, and special events that effect traffic is provided. Details about the incident are revealed when a user clicks on an icon. The map is active 24/7.

Agenda Item #4: Update on SAFETEA Legislation

Carmine Fiscina, FHWA, gave a an update on the SAFETEA Legislation. The current legislation, TEA 21, expires on September 30, though Congress has passed a 30 day resolution and a five month extension. This will carry the current legislation over until February 29, 2004. SAFETEA, the next generation highway funding for the next six years will hopefully be in place by then. There are financial issues holding the bill up. The SAFETEA legislation, as the name indicates, will emphasize safety and transportation security. Policies of SAFETEA also include more discretionary money for continuing projects rather than starting new projects, streamlining the environmental process, and making the existing system more efficient.

Agenda Item #5: Incident Management Town Hall Meeting

Debbie Barol, Pennsylvania State Senator Constance Williams' Office, informed the Task Force that the Senators' s Office will be hosting a meeting on October 23rd to discuss transportation incident management.

The meeting will focus on state initiatives needed to improve traffic incident management. The Office is currently working on incident management legislation and would like to hear from local police and emergency responders to hear their issues. Quick clearance, abandoned vehicles, and liability are some of the topics to be covered. A question and answer period will follow the meeting.

Agenda Item #6: PRIMIS Update

Stan Platt, DVRPC, gave a brief PRIMIS update. The initial phase of PRIMIS includes developing a common regional database, a concept of operations, functional requirements, and an interim PRIMIS. Products of the initial phase comprises of an implementation plan, a memo of understanding, and a decision on whether or not to proceed to design. Future phases include design and software development, deployment, validation and acceptance testing, and training. A PRIMIS subcommittee has been established to advance the Interim PRIMIS.

Agenda Item #7: Other Business

The next meeting date has been set for Monday, **November 17, at 9:30 AM** at DVRPC.

**ITS Technical Task Force Meeting
May 29, 2003**

Attendance List:

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| 1) | Patrick Barney | South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization |
| 2) | Dave McCann | Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission |
| 3) | Lou Belmonte | PennDOT - District 6 |
| 4) | David Wolfe | PennDOT - District 6 |
| 5) | Manny Anastasiadis | PennDOT - District 6 |
| 6) | George Dunheimer | PennDOT - District 6 |
| 7) | Robert Hannigan | PennDOT Central Office |
| 8) | Michael Pack | PennDOT Central Office |
| 9) | Walt Green | Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission |
| 10) | Mark Cassel | TMA of Chester County |
| 11) | Carmin Fiscina | Federal Highway - Philadelphia |
| 12) | Michael Roberson | Federal Highway - New Jersey |
| 13) | William Ragozine | Cross County Connection TMA |
| 14) | John Bukowski | SEPTA |
| 15) | Scott Perley | Mobility Technologies |
| 16) | Rich Montanez | City of Philadelphia |
| 17) | Jim Hilbert | SmartRoute Systems |
| 18) | James Levy | Montgomery County Planning Commission |
| 19) | Karl Ziemer | Delaware River Port Authority |
| 20) | Tony Walano | New Jersey DOT |
| 21) | Mark J. Smith | New Jersey DOT - Traffic Operations South |
| 22) | Kurt Aufschneider | New Jersey DOT - Traffic Operations |
| 23) | Lt. Col. Al Kernagis | New Jersey State Police |
| 24) | David Lacy | Upper Merion Twp Police |
| 25) | Sgt. Roy Pettway | Philadelphia Police |
| 26) | Sgt. Tim McDonald | Pennsylvania State Police |
| 27) | Susan Young | Delaware County TMA |
| 28) | Debbie Barol | Sen. C. Williams' Office |
| 29) | John Ward | DVRPC |
| 30) | Stan Platt | DVRPC |
| 31) | Chris King | DVRPC |
| 32) | Laurie Matkowski | DVRPC |
| 33) | Keith Hartington | DVRPC |