

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ITS Technical Task Force Meeting Highlights March 9, 2007

The following are highlights from the ITS Technical Task Force (TTF) meeting held on Friday, March 9, 2007 at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's Conference Room. A list of attendees is attached.

Agenda Item #1: Welcome & Introductions

Carmine Fiscina, Federal Highway Administration, Chairman of the Technical Task Force, welcomed the Technical Task Force members and thanked them for attending.

Each person in attendance introduced themselves and added any relevant ITS updates from their agency. Some of the highlights include:

- ▶ The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC) has recently updated their website. Information on traffic cameras, message signs, detour routes, road construction, and single lane closures is now available on the *Travel Conditions Map* page. The PTC is continuing its Six-Lane Widening Project between the Valley Forge and Norristown interchanges and is entering into the Valley Forge Phase of construction.
- ▶ The Pennsylvania State Police Consolidated Dispatch Center in Norristown has completed the connection with PennDOT and currently has access to all of their CCTV video feeds.
- ▶ PennDOT has acquired six new Emergency Service Patrol (ESP) trucks to extend their ESP coverage throughout District 6 including all of I-76, I-95, I-476, US 202 and US 422. Also the I-76 ITS equipment project has recently been let.
- ▶ The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) has recently completed installing GPS tracking devices on all of its bus and Trolley lines. Their website has also been updated to include "*Train View*" which provides real time travel information for all regional rail trains on the system.
- ▶ The City of Philadelphia is implementing a pilot project to install 18 surveillance cameras at 7th and Girard Avenue. Part of the project includes adding 30" x 30" sign stating that the area is under the surveillance of the Philadelphia Police Department. The cameras are often used more for forensic purposes than crime deterrence.

Agenda Item #2: Pennsylvania State Police: Philadelphia Highway Transition

Sgt. Robert Tyler, Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), gave a presentation on the status of transferring the patrol responsibilities for I-76, I-676, and I-95 within Philadelphia from the Philadelphia Police department to the PSP. The interstate rollout has been designed to take place in a phased approach over the next two years to ensure that a sufficient number of Troopers are staffed at Philadelphia. Phase 1 began on January 17, 2007 along Interstate 76 at City Line Avenue to Montgomery Drive. Phase 2 will begin on April 14, 2007 on I-76 from Montgomery Drive to South Street. Timing of other phases is yet to be determined.

As part of the roll out, Troopers receive various training such as DUI testifying and recognition, search and seizure, and quick clearance policies and procedures. Also additional troopers have been trained as Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Specialists (CARS), Technical Collision Investigators (TCI) and motor carrier enforcement officers. The entire effort has involved a great deal of cooperation from many stakeholders such as the Philadelphia Police Department Traffic Unit, Communications and Detective Units, Philadelphia Traffic Court, Philadelphia Parking Authority and PennDOT.

Agenda Item #3: Interactive Detour Route Mapping (IDRuM)

Matt West, DVRPC, presented a prototype web-based interface that incorporates PennDOT's official detour routes along highways in District 6-0. This project resulted from DVRPC's involvement in regional ITS efforts with a goal of converting existing detour route data into a more useful format. The general design process involves a labor intensive method that transforms the hard-copy data into GIS digital data / graphic data that can be converted into Flash animation. The software used is Macromedia Flash which is an affordable, off the shelf software that users are able to download for free.

A demonstration of the project was provided and well received by the task force. Future applications for this effort include expanded software options, integration with other data such as traffic signals, ITS equipment location and expanding the geographic region to include New Jersey.

Agenda Item #4: Regional Safety Action Plan

Rosemarie Anderson, DVRPC, gave a presentation on the Regional Safety Action Plan. The plan focuses on reducing crashes and fatalities on the regional roadway system. It provides a roadmap for effective cooperation, collaboration and coordination among safety professionals and stakeholders. The plan was developed through a data driven process incorporating the 4Es of safety conscious planning – engineering, education, enforcement and emergency medical services. The plan documents agreed upon priority emphasis areas such as Curb Aggressive Driving, Reduce Impaired Driving, Increase Driver Safety Awareness, and Improve Design/Operation of Intersections.

Presented were several strategies that may relate to stakeholders from the ITS Technical Task Force:

Engineering

- ▶ Increase the use of protected left turn signals as appropriate
- ▶ Time signals (pedestrian count down signals) to accommodate pedestrians
- ▶ Improve signage and delineation for curves and other changes in roadway alignment
- ▶ Add signs where needed (advance warning, pedestrians, etc)

Enforcement

- ▶ Utilize automated enforcement techniques systems
- ▶ Increase publicity of enforcement
- ▶ Use of red light running cameras for detection
- ▶ Implement photo radar
- ▶ Monitor travel speeds on approaches

Emergency Medical Services

- ▶ Implement various levels of signal pre-emption
- ▶ Increase the use of Closed Circuit TV (CCTV)
- ▶ Increase usage of GIS/GPS technologies in locating crash scenes and tracking responder units/equipment
- ▶ Improve "wireless automatic location" capabilities.

Agenda Item #5: PennDOT Regional Operations Plan (ROP)

Keith Mullins, Edwards & Kelcey, gave a presentation on PennDOT's District-6 Regional Operations Plan (ROP). The ROP is an outgrowth of PennDOT's recently approved Transportation Systems Operations Plan (TSOP) which sets the statewide direction for projects in intelligent transportation systems and operations. The Regional Operations Plan extends TSOP to the regional level, defines the strategic transportation operations program for the region, expands cooperative relationships between regional transportation operators and planning partners, and achieves uniformity across regions. On January 11, 2007, a Regional Operations Forum meeting was held to identify operations needs areas. Based on these needs, four task forces were identified for further discussion (Corridor & Congestion Management, Traveler Information, Institutional Coordination, Incident and Event Management) and will meet on Wednesday & Thursday, March 14-15, 2007. The goal of this effort is to have the ROP adopted in July 2007.

Agenda Item #6: Status Reports

- RIMIS

The RIMIS Functional Requirements is very close to being finalized. There are a few minor details to work out. The RIMIS subcommittee will meet immediately following his meeting.

- Emergency Evacuation Committee

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Counterterrorism Task Force, one of nine Task Forces in Pennsylvania, and was established in 1998 in response to a growing awareness to the threat of terrorist activity. The Task Force is led by the Executive Board consisting of the Emergency Management Coordinators of the five member counties. As part of this effort, a Transportation Subcommittee was created to coordinate traffic and transportation related issues associated with a regional event. This committee is currently developing a RFP to retain a consultant to develop an Emergency Evacuation Transportation Plan for the five-county region, which includes the City of Philadelphia, Bucks County, Chester County, Delaware County, and Montgomery County.

Agenda Item #7: Other Business

The next meeting date for the ITS Technical Task Force is scheduled for May 31, 2007 at 9:30 AM in the DVRPC conference room.

Attendance List:

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|---|
| 1) | Richard Tesauro | American Red Cross |
| 2) | Rich Brahler | Bucks County Planning Commission |
| 3) | Keith Schott | Chester County |
| 4) | William Ragozine | Cross County Connection TMA |
| 5) | S/Cpl. W. E. Thomas | Delaware River & Bay Authority Police |
| 6) | Shelley Warren | Delaware River Maritime Enterprise Council |
| 7) | Lindsay Young | Delaware River Maritime Enterprise Council |
| 8) | Karl Ziemer | Delaware River Port Authority |
| 9) | Keith Mullins | Edwards & Kelcey |
| 10) | Bill Hoffman | FHWA - New Jersey |
| 11) | Ekaraj Phomsavath | FHWA _ New Jersey |
| 12) | Carmine Fiscina | FHWA - Philadelphia |
| 13) | Peter Quinn | Greater Valley Forge TMA |
| 14) | Wesley Ratko | Montgomery County Planning Commission |
| 15) | Mark Smith | New Jersey DOT |
| 16) | Dean Rinaldi | New Jersey State Police |
| 17) | David Korecky | New Jersey State Police |
| 18) | Manny Anastasiadis | PennDOT District - 6.0 |
| 19) | Lou Belmonte | PennDOT District - 6.0 |
| 20) | Peter Sisofu | PennDOT District - 6.5 |
| 21) | Jim Mosca | PennDOT - Harrisburg |
| 22) | PCM Mike Bartholomew | Pennsylvania State Police |
| 23) | Lt. Frank McKorkle | Pennsylvania State Police |
| 24) | Sgt. Robert Tyler | Pennsylvania State Police |
| 25) | Lou Cortelazzi | Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission |
| 26) | Don Steele | Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission |
| 27) | David Harvey | Philadelphia Regional Port Authority |
| 28) | Rich Montanez | Philadelphia Streets Department – Traffic Engineering |
| 29) | John Bukowski | SEPTA |
| 30) | Stephen Jesiolowski | SEPTA |
| 31) | Bruce McKenzie | SEPTA |
| 32) | John Ward | DVRPC |
| 33) | Stan Platt | DVRPC |
| 34) | Chris King | DVRPC |
| 35) | Matt West | DVRPC |
| 36) | Rosemarie Anderson | DVRPC |
| 37) | Rick Murphy | DVRPC |