

## DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

### **ITS Technical Task Force Meeting Highlights May 31, 2007**

The following are highlights from the ITS Technical Task Force (TTF) meeting held on Friday, May 31, 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 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:

- ▶ PennDOT began work installing fiber along I-76 to deploy ITS devices such as CCTV and VMS signs. An I-95 Traffic Management Plan is being developed.
- ▶ NJDOT began a reconstruction project on I-295 south of NJ 42 in Gloucester County. As part of this effort, they will be showing travel times on VMS signs approaching the construction zones. Work is still moving forward on the statewide operation center in Woodbridge, NJ with construction slated to be complete in December 2007 with a January/ February 2008 move in.
- ▶ The I-295/I-76/NJ 42 Incident Management Task Force conducted a joint meeting with the AC Expressway Incident Management Task Force on May 24, 2005 in Washington Township, NJ.

#### **Agenda Item #2: Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC) – Turnpike Roadway Information Program (TRIP),**

Lou Cortelazzi, PTC; Laurie Grey, PTC; Mary Farrell, Voice Net, gave a presentation on their newly launched Turnpike Roadway Information Program (TRIP). TRIP gathers information through automated data and video feeds from the PA Turnpike's 24/7 Traffic Operations Center along with information from roadway crews, police, and emergency responders. It then delivers it to the public via its interactive travel web map, service-plaza message boards, the toll free telephone call-in advisory system (866-976-TRIP (8747)), and the automated preferred traveler email and text message notification systems. This integrated communications network program enables the PTC to deliver accurate and consistent real-time travel information to nearly 190 million annual customers. The benefit of an integrated system is that no matter what service a traveler is using the messages are the same. The PTC is actively beginning to advertise this program to the newspapers and media and is working on putting together a brochure to promote

the program.

Future possibilities for TRIP include adding additional ITS devices (cameras, speed sensors etc.) to the interactive web map, providing information about other intersecting roadways, implementing a \*76 cell phone line for travel advisories and placing missing child/Amber alert photos on service plazas message boards. For additional information, visit the PA Turnpike web site at [www.paturndpike.com](http://www.paturndpike.com).

**Agenda Item #3: City of Philadelphia – Roosevelt Boulevard Red Light Camera Program;**  
Chris Vogel, Philadelphia Parking Authority (PPA)

Chris Vogler, PPA, gave a presentation on their Red Light Enforcement Camera Program that has been implemented along US 1- Roosevelt Boulevard. Currently, the City of Philadelphia had the only Red Light Running Camera Program in Pennsylvania and that the main goal of the program was safety. The program started specifically to address issues along Roosevelt Boulevard then moved into other areas of the City. The main criteria were intersection crashes which involved red light running. There are currently five intersections in the city with cameras, three on Roosevelt Boulevard at Grant Avenue, Red Lion Road and Cottman Avenue. Grant Avenue and Red Lion Road intersections were voted by State Farm Insurance Company as the second and third worst intersections in the country, respectively in 2004. The two other locations in Philadelphia are at Broad Street & Oregon Avenue and 34th Street & Grays Ferry Avenue. The first camera was installed at Grant Avenue on February 23, 2007 with a 120 day warning period before violations could be issued. The program has been successful and additional intersections have been approved for Roosevelt Boulevard at Mascher Street, Levick Street, Rhawn Street, Welsh Road and Southampton Road. Through a change in legislation, the warning period has now been reduced to 60 days. These new intersections are slated to be operational on June 1, 2007.

Characteristics of the program include 1) utilizes wet film technology, 2) cameras do not activate unless the signal is red; 3) a photograph is taken only if the vehicle crosses the stop bar after the signal turns red; 4) there must be two clear photographs of the vehicle in the intersection with the red signal displayed; 5) there are 31 codes where a ticket would not be issued e.g. funeral, fire, ambulance activity and vehicle position. There is a stringent review process with each image reviewed by PPA staff. Any rejected image and every fifth approved image are reviewed by PPA manager and all approved images are then sent to and reviewed by the Philadelphia Police Department who issue the violation.

The legislation is written under civil code, so there are no points associated with each violation, but there is a \$100 fine. Violators can request a hearing to dispute violation. When the Red Light Running legislation was first passed there were no enforcement penalties associated; in 2006 Philadelphia City Council gave the PPA enforcement tools stating that red light running

tickets were tied to regular parking tickets and are boot eligible with monetary fees attached for failure to answer a notice of violation

The program has been highly successful and data indicates that there has been a large decrease in red light running violations as well as a decrease in angle crashes. From observation, driver behavior on Roosevelt Boulevard has changed especially around intersections with cameras. A rapid program expansion is on horizon with the possible integration of speed cameras on US Route 1.

#### **Agenda Item #4: Status Reports**

##### **- RIMIS**

The RIMIS subcommittee is working out the details of selecting software as the web based platform to link traffic, transit, and emergency response agency operation centers in the Delaware Valley. The RIMIS subcommittee met immediately following this meeting.

##### **- TrafficLand**

TrafficLand has signed the initial agreement with PennDOT, and are awaiting PennDOT to sign the document. Once the agreement is signed, it should take less than 90 days to get District 6 on line. After that, it will take approximately 8 weeks for each district with anticipated phasing of District 11, 5, 2, 9 and 8. Within one year, all districts should be connected to TrafficLand.

#### **Agenda Item #7: Other Business**

The next meeting date for the ITS Technical Task Force is scheduled for September 21, 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)  | William Ragozine     | Cross County Connection TMA                           |
| 4)  | S/Cpl. W. E. Thomas  | Delaware River & Bay Authority Police                 |
| 5)  | Karl Ziemer          | Delaware River Port Authority                         |
| 6)  | Bill Hoffman         | FHWA - New Jersey                                     |
| 7)  | Carmine Fiscina      | FHWA - Philadelphia                                   |
| 8)  | Jason Bobst          | Greater Valley Forge TMA                              |
| 9)  | Wesley Ratko         | Montgomery County Planning Commission                 |
| 10) | Mark Smith           | New Jersey DOT  |
| 11) | Frank Prezioso       | New Jersey DOT  |
| 12) | Anthony Hacket       | New Jersey State Police                               |
| 13) | David Korecky        | New Jersey State Police                               |
| 14) | Manny Anastasiadis   | PennDOT District - 6.0                                |
| 15) | Dave Wolfe           | PennDOT District - 6.0                                |
| 16) | Peter Sisofo         | PennDOT District - 6.5                                |
| 17) | Jim Mosca            | PennDOT - Harrisburg                                  |
| 18) | PCM Mike Bartholomew | Pennsylvania State Police                             |
| 19) | Sgt. Robert Tyler    | Pennsylvania State Police                             |
| 20) | Lou Cortelazzi       | Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission                      |
| 21) | Lorie Gray           | Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission                      |
| 22) | Sam Console          | Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management – GIS     |
| 23) | Chris Vogler         | Philadelphia Parking Authority                        |
| 24) | Sgt. Doreen Dean     | Philadelphia Police Department Traffic District       |
| 25) | Rich Montanez        | Philadelphia Streets Department – Traffic Engineering |
| 26) | Stephen Jesiolowski  | SEPTA   |
| 27) | Mary Farrell         | Voice Net   |
| 28) | John Ward            | DVRPC   |
| 29) | Stan Platt           | DVRPC   |
| 30) | Chris King           | DVRPC   |
| 31) | Laurie Matkowski     | DVRPC   |
| 32) | Matt West            | DVRPC   |
| 33) | Chuck McGee          | DVRPC   |