

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ITS Technical Task Force Meeting Highlights January 28, 2008

The following are highlights from the ITS Technical Task Force (TTF) meeting held on Friday, January 28, 2008 at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's Conference Room. A list of attendees is attached.

Agenda Item #1: Welcome & Introductions

Bill Hoffman, Federal Highway Administration, Chairman of the ITS 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:

- ▶ FHWA: On December 26, 2007, a bill (H.R. 2764), was passed that rescinded previously granted earmarks. Many of these earmarks have been unspent. Earmarks within our region that have been rescinded include two for the PA Turnpike, one for Towamencin, Montgomery County, two applications by DRPA, Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and Roosevelt Boulevard.
- ▶ PennDOT: PennDOT has issued a notice to proceed on the PA 23 Corridor that includes closed loop systems, CCTVs, VMS and a tie in back to PennDOT TMC to operate the signal timing plans during an incident along I-76.
- ▶ SEPTA: A new paratransit dispatch center is under design/construction. The center will include GPS tracking to determine on-time performance. An RFI for fare collection systems will also be released by the end of February.
- ▶ New Jersey: A red light running program is being initiated in New Jersey where local municipalities can set up their own program. The revenue from these programs will be shared between the respective county and municipality and must be designated for transportation improvements.

On March 1st, a primary offense cell phone law will go into effect.

Agenda Item #2: PATCO's FREEDOM Card Fare Collection System

Maria Chua, PATCO, gave a presentation on PATCO's new smart card fare collection system called FREEDOM. The term FREEDOM describes a state of the art computer system that links together new Smart Cards and paper tickets, new vending machines, new entry/exit gates, and new parking gates.

The technology used to create the FREEDOM Card utilizes an embedded chip that carries more information than the magnetic stripe on old fare cards. The system, developed by Cubic Corporation, is one of the first to be compliant with the Regional Interoperability Standard for Electronic Transit Fare Payments which was developed by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and adopted by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) as the national contactless Fare Media Standard.

The FREEDOM Card can be purchased at the new automated vending machines which accept cash, and credit and debit cards. The new machines are located at each of the 13 PATCO stations along the 14.2 mile line through Southern New Jersey and Philadelphia. In addition to the smart card, riders are also able to purchase single-ride and roundtrip tickets from the new vending machines. The vending machine also sells a discounted SEPTA ticket.

Other features of the system include balance protection in case of loss or theft and autoload, which automatically adds value onto the smart card at the gate, offering the ultimate convenience of never having to stop to replenish the card. By this summer, commuters will also be able to use the FREEDOM card to pay for premium parking at PATCO's gated parking facilities between 5 and 10 a.m. The majority of PATCO parking will remain free.

The station installation process is expected to be completed by the end of February 2008. Once this is complete, the gates for the parking lots will be installed with an anticipated completion date in July 2008. Once the system is totally installed it will make the FREEDOM system the first contactless smart card system that covers both transit and ancillary parking.


Agenda Item #3: ITS REGIONAL ARCHITECTURE UPDATE:

The continuation of November's ITS Regional Workshop explored ITS Projects of Regional Significance. Projects that were associated with high priority market packages were identified along with a projected timeframe of implementation (on-going, short term or long term).

Major ITS deployment areas for Projects of Regional Significance include Traffic and Traveler Information (Integrated Corridor Management, Traffic Operation Centers, RIMIS, etc), Emergency Management (County 911 Center Enhancements, etc), Transit (Regional Smart Card, etc), and Maintenance and Construction (Work Zone Management, etc). Specific and general projects were identified along with the responsible agency. For more detailed information regarding the outcome of the workshop, please contact DVRPC.

Agenda Item #4: Other Business

The next meeting date for the ITS Technical Task Force is tentatively scheduled for April 2008. DVRPC is coordinating with the Delaware River Maritime Enterprise Council (DRMEC) to hold the meeting at a port in Philadelphia.

 DVRPC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC's website may be translated into Spanish, Russian, and Traditional Chinese online by visiting www.dvrpc.org. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages or formats, if requested. For more information, please call (215 238-2871).

Attendance List:

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| 1) | Richard Tesauro | American Red Cross |
| 2) | Richard Brahler | Bucks County Planning Commission |
| 3) | S/Cpl. W. E. Thomas | Delaware River & Bay Authority Police |
| 4) | Karl Ziemer | Delaware River Port Authority |
| 5) | Bill Hoffman | FHWA - New Jersey |
| 6) | Ek Phomsavath | FHWA - New Jersey |
| 7) | Carmine Fiscina | FHWA - Philadelphia |
| 8) | Cristina Ferrell | Greater Valley Forge TMA |
| 9) | Rob Henry | Greater Valley Forge TMA |
| 10) | Wesley Ratko | Montgomery County Planning Commission |
| 11) | Mark Smith | New Jersey DOT |
| 12) | Jim Hadden | New Jersey DOT |
| 13) | David Korecky | New Jersey State Police |
| 14) | Bernard Shalkowski | New Jersey State Police |
| 15) | Marie Chua | PATCO |
| 16) | Kathy Imperatore | DRPA / PATCO |
| 17) | Manny Anastasiadis | PennDOT District - 6.0 |
| 18) | Dave Wolfe | PennDOT District - 6.0 |
| 19) | Peter Sisofo | PennDOT District - 6.5 |
| 20) | Sgt. Rob Tyler | Pennsylvania State Police – Troop K |
| 21) | Michael Bartholomew | Pennsylvania State Police – Norristown CDC |
| 22) | Lou Cortelazzi | Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission |
| 23) | John Bukowski | SEPTA |
| 24) | Stephen Jesiolowski | SEPTA |
| 25) | Brendan Cotter | TMACC |
| 26) | Chris King | DVRPC |
| 27) | Laurie Matkowski | DVRPC |
| 28) | Rick Murphy | DVRPC |
| 29) | Stan Platt | DVRPC |
| 30) | John Ward | DVRPC |
| 31) | Matt West | DVRPC |