Highlights from the January 16th, 2020 Transportation Operations Task Force Meeting

1. **Welcome & Introductions**

   Chris King, the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), thanked everyone for attending. Each person in attendance introduced themselves.

2. **ITS and Operations: Current Status and Future Projections**

   Mr. King provided a retrospective of ITS and Operations in transportation over the past twenty odd years. He referenced such tools as traffic.com and NJcommuter.com, and noted that though many things have changed, the basic needs of the traveler have not. Integration across boundaries is essential for an effective transportation network: travelers do not care who owns the roads, they simply need them to function.

   Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Central Office (PennDOT): Overarching goal of PennDOT is to have an updated and comprehensive Regional Operations Plan (ROP) for each Regional Transportation Management Centers (RTMC) throughout the Commonwealth. For a project to receive Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) specific funding, the project must be included in the ROP. The ROP is set up to operate on a four year cycle and projects may be updated every two years. PennDOT is planning for dedicated funding for TSMO, and provide guidebooks that 'mimic' the currently used Design Manuals; to integrate TSMO into the fabric of projects, as opposed to being an add-on.

   PennDOT is prioritizing the upgrade of antiquated equipment and increasing the use of incident detection tools; CCTVs being one of many. Other enhancements include updating their central software to implement a Traffic Signal Module which will allow TMC operators to select predetermined signal plans during incidents to better manage traffic on secondary routes and the deployment of 511 Connect during significant incidents, which provides messages to motorists in a trapped queue.

   Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 6-0: ROP to be updated soon. As projects such as I-76 Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) move forward, PennDOT must integrate with SEPTA to share data seamlessly. Fiber network being expanded to gather data from arterials as well as limited access roadways. ITS infrastructure such as CCTV, Dynamic Message Signs, and travel time detectors will be deployed along several corridors including US 30 and US 422. Other Active Traffic Management strategies including flex-lanes, variable speed limits, queue detection, and ramp metering are also being explored, as well.

   New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT): NJDOT will implement several adaptive signal projects including (27 signals) to be implemented along RT 40/322 from Hamilton

Township to Pleasantville City. Other adaptive projects along RT 1 and RT 73, comprising 13 and 29 signals respectively are currently in construction. NJDOT has twelve additional adaptive projects in design throughout the south region. Smart Moves 2020 South to deploy a total of 27 Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) and Camera Surveillance System (CSS) along a variety of routes.

Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT): Will implement Artificial Intelligence (AI) via its Integrated Transportation Management System (ITMS), to both detect changes in congestion levels, and then take action to mitigate the detrimental effects. DelDOT received a $4.9M grant from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to help offset the $10M project. Full deployment to take three years and span three specific project areas.

Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC): The Transportation Operations Center (TOC) handles 12,000 calls per month and coordinates an extensive incident management program. PTC has a Connected/Autonomous Vehicle (CAV) roadmap that addresses best practices, infrastructure readiness, and an implementation plan. In conjunction with PennDOT, they are currently working on an AV Incident Response Plan to provide guidance on how to respond to incidents involving CAVs; also working together on various vehicle testing.

Operational Enhancements: HaasAlert have been placed on PTC vehicles to automatically alert WAZE users when approaching an incident; Incident Management Timelines fine-tuned and expanded; Truck Parking Management Systems to monitor spots at 10 service plazas; Lane Reservation System being coordinated with PennDOT and the Ohio Turnpike to avoid conflict and improve communication.

Montgomery County Planning Commission: Counties can play pivotal role in coordinating project development between PennDOT and local entities. In the case of I-76 ICM, the County is working to ensure other modes of transportation receive proper attention, including transit and bicycles. The county is developing a Complete Streets Policy that requires streets to be designed and operated to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists (including all vehicle types), and transit riders of all ages and abilities.

Port Authority Transit Corporation (PATCO): Ridership was up 3% and the highest in 25 years in 2019. By 2022, all thirteen stations will be fully ADA compliant. The Franklin Square Station is set to open in 2022, enabled by a $12.6M grant from Federal Transit Administration (FTA), which covers roughly 50% of the project.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), NJ Division: The USDOT released the Automated Vehicles (AV) 4.0 Guidelines and Policy Framework. The document includes ten principles: Prioritize Safety; Cybersecurity, Ensure Privacy and Data Security; Enhance Mobility and Accessibility; Remain Technologically Neutral; Protect American Innovation and Creativity;

Modernize Regulations; Promote Consistent Standards and Policies; Ensure a Consistent Federal Approach; and Improve Transportation System-Level Efforts.
Deployment of CAV equipment may be eligible for federal monies.

FHWA, PA Division: FY2020 INFRA grants open for applications until February 25th, winners to be announced June, 2020. Grant winners being held to higher standards moving forward; must show project success. Weigh-in Motion technology being expanding; could also be used for overall volume counts. PA Division enhancing its TSMO program, including updating the ROP and holding truck parking roundtables.

TRANSCOM: Making improvements in reducing the number of 'clicks' required to designate an incident in its system. Placement of a single point on a map will automatically infill a number of criteria. Working closely with DOTs and other authorities on consistent roadway ban restrictions and terminology. TRANSCOM incorporates NJ Transit, MTA commuter rail, and NYC Subway into its system; hopes to do the same with SEPTA in the near future.

Bucks County Planning Commission: Working on a freight study to analyze what effect the recently opened I-95 / PA Turnpike Interchange had on local businesses.

Burlington County Bridge Commission: Burlington-Bristol Bridge to be closed for construction for two weekends at the end of April. They are planning to hold an exercise on the bridge which focuses on a terrorist threat and the necessary response.

3. **2020 Meeting Dates**
   - April 16, 2020
   - July 16, 2020
   - October 16, 2020