

Highlights from the October 21st, 2021 Transportation Operations Task Force Meeting (Held via Zoom)

1. Welcome & Introductions

Chris King, the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), thanked everyone for attending.

2. Severe Weather Preparation and Response – Hurricane Ida

The Transportation Operations Task Force (TOTF) meeting was held as a roundtable discussion concerning the region's preparation, response, and recovery to Hurricane Ida.

After Mr. King presented an overview of the storm and its impact, the following agencies provided a review from their agency's perspective:

- New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT)
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
- Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA)
- Burlington County Bridge Commission (BCBC)
- Chester County Department of Emergency Services
- Montgomery County Department of Public Safety
- Burlington County Office of Emergency Management
- Philadelphia Streets Department
- Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
- Delaware River Bay Authority (DRBA)
- Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA)
- Port Authority Transit Corporation (PATCO)
- Transcom

General Takeaways:

- Resources and personnel stretched thin, but all responded well
- Ferocity of storm and accompanying tornadoes were beyond forecasters' expectations
- Specific resources will be sought by agencies due to increased flooding frequency and storm intensity; i.e. high-water vehicles, storm warning systems





Transportation Operations Task Force (TOTF)

- Coordination with construction and IT departments just as vital as with operations and maintenance
- Floodplains may need to be redefined in the future as these 500 and 100 year floods occur more frequently
- More granular maps would be useful for preparation and response
- FHWA working to ensure relief funds are available for those in need

3. Two Minute Agency Reports

DRPA: Walt Whitman Bridge I-76 Corridor Rehabilitation Project is wrapping up ahead of schedule; Franklin Square Station will soon be LET

FHWA: Regional ITS Architecture (ARC-IT) for New Jersey has been updated

PennDOT: Variable Speed Limits (VSL) are up and running along I-76; PennDOT Innovation Days will take place November 2 -4.

4. New Business

a. Next meeting dates

January 20th, 2022 April 21st, 2022 July 21st, 2022 October 20th, 2022