

# DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

## BOARD COMMITTEE

### Minutes of Meeting of October 25, 2001

Location: Commission Offices  
111 S. Independence Mall, East  
The Bourse Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

#### Membership Present

#### Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Joyce Paul

New Jersey Department of Transportation

William S. Beetle

Governor of New Jersey's Appointee

Anthony T. Drollas, Jr.

Governor of Pennsylvania's Appointee

(not represented)

Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office

Robert E. Baker, Jr.

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Larry M. King

Bucks County

Timothy Kohler

Chester County

Colin A. Hanna  
William H. Fulton  
Charles C. Coyne

Delaware County

John E. Pickett

Montgomery County

Kenneth Hughes

Burlington County

Jerald R. Cureton, Esq.  
Carol Ann Thomas

Camden County

J. Douglas Griffith

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Gloucester County  | Charles E. Romick                    |
| Mercer County  | (not represented)                    |
| City of Chester  | (not represented)                    |
| City of Philadelphia   | Lawrence Wilson                      |
| City of Camden   | (not represented)                    |
| City of Trenton  | Andrew Carten                        |
| <u>Non-Voting Members</u>  |                                      |
| Federal Highway Administration<br>New Jersey Division<br>Pennsylvania Division | (not represented)<br>Spencer Stevens |
| U.S. Department of Housing and Urban<br>Development, Region III                | (not represented)                    |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III                               | (not represented)                    |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II                                | (not represented)                    |
| New Jersey Office of State Planning  | David Hosjak                         |
| Federal Transit Administration, Region III                                     | Michele Destra                       |
| Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority                             | Christopher Patton                   |
| New Jersey Transit Corporation   | Brent Barnes                         |
| Port Authority Transit Corporation   | Thomas R. Hickey                     |
| Delaware River Port Authority  | Linda Hayes                          |
| New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection                              | (not represented)                    |
| Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection                            | (not represented)                    |
| Pennsylvania Department of Community and                                       |                                      |

Economic Development  
Regional Citizens Committee Chairman

Ronald K. Bednar  
Patrick Starr

DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel  
New Jersey Co-Counsel

Timothy J. Carson  
Thomas J. Coleman

DVRPC Staff: John J. Coscia, John B. Claffey, Barry Seymour, William Greene, Charles Dougherty, Richard Bickel, Thabet Zakaria, Michael Ontko, Nicole Seitz, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Robert Hannigan  
Greg Brown (Dist. 6-0)

New Jersey Department of Transportation

James Lewis  
Al Prant  
Brian Cuccia

South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization

Michael Reeves

New Jersey Alliance for Action

Phil Beachem

Cross County Connection TMA

William Ragozine

**Call to Order**

Chairman Jerald R. Cureton, Esq. called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag was recited.

**Public Comments**

Comments from the public were invited to be heard on non-agenda items. No comments were stated.

**1. Minutes of Meeting of September 20, 2001**

On a **motion** by Mr. Beetle, seconded by Mr. Hanna, the minutes of the meeting of September 20, 2001 were approved as distributed.

**2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions**

John B. Claffey, DVRPC staff, briefed the Board on the following TIP Actions:

Pennsylvania Portion of the TIP

a. TIP Action PA 0149 - Exton Community Circulator (Chester County)

Chester County has requested that DVRPC modify the TIP by adding \$500,000 (\$400,000 CMAQ, \$100,000 local) to a prior TIP project, the Exton Community Circulator (TIP #6871), in FY02 to fund two additional years of operation of the "Whirl" demonstration bus route.

Service on this route was initiated this year and ridership is exceeding initial expectations and is regularly increasing according to the county. The service performs three functions: moving commuters to the Exton R5 station; taking commuters from Exton station to area business parks; and providing mid-day service between neighborhoods and retail centers. Because of expanded functions, there have been cost increases from the original proposal.

Fiscal constraint will be maintained by drawing funds from the DVRPC Competitive CMAQ Program (TIP #0571).

There will be no impact on the TIP's conformity finding since this project was included in the regional air quality conformity analysis.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee (PCC/RTC) and the Regional Citizens Committee (RCC).

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Hanna, seconded by Mr. King that the Board approve TIP Action PA 0149, Chester County's request to amend the TIP by adding back the implementation phase of the Exton Community Circulator project (TIP #6871) at a total cost of \$500,000 (\$400,000 CMAQ, \$100,000 local) in FY02 for two additional years of operation of the "Whirl" bus route.

3. **DVRPC FY 2002 Planning Work Program Amendment: Smart Growth Policy for Sewer and Water Infrastructure (bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties) - 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania**

Barry Seymour, DVRPC staff, explained to the Board that the Environmental

Protection Agency's *Making Smart Growth Work: Community Innovations and Responses to Barriers* grant program has funded a study "Smart Growth Policy for Sewer and Water Infrastructure". The study area covers Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties in southeastern Pennsylvania and will be managed by 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania. Phase I of the project focuses on sewer systems and growth patterns and is divided into 3 tasks over a one year time frame. Task 1 involves case studies and is to be completed by a consultant through a competitive process. Tasks 2 and 3 are to be completed by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), due to DVRPC's unique ability to perform the required tasks. The DVRPC analysis will provide a regional inventory of current and projected sewer service areas and their current capacities. DVRPC will also determine the current population within sewer service areas and the degree of new housing constructed within existing sewer service areas, within newly expanded service areas, and within areas not served by central sewers. This study will help to relate development patterns to the availability of sewer service.

Funding for this project will be \$30,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, via a subcontract with 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania.

Favorable recommendation was received from the RCC.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Pickett that the Board approve amending the DVRPC FY 2002 Planning Work Program to include the Smart Growth Policy for Sewer and Water Infrastructure Project for Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties.

#### **4. Proposed Amendment to the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan**

Michael Ontko, DVRPC staff, briefed the Board on two proposed amendments to the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan.

a. Mansfield Township Board of Education, Mansfield Township, Burlington County

Mr. Ontko explained that the Mansfield Township Board of Education is proposing to build a new elementary school to meet the needs of Mansfield Township. The site for the school, located in a zone previously targeted for agricultural preservation, is not currently designated for sewer service on the Mansfield Township Wastewater Management Plan or the Tri-County Water

Quality Management plan. However, the proposed school must be located in a designated sewer service area because projected wastewater flows from the school would easily exceed, 2,000 GPD. The school will not require an expansion of current wastewater treatment facilities. The school will use a wastewater treatment plant that has already been designed and permitted with a 25,000 GPD allocation for municipal use. The Township has designated 12,000 GPD of this allocation for the proposed school.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Tri-County Water Quality Management Board.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Paul; that the Board approve the amendment to the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan entitled Mansfield Township Board of Education, Mansfield Township, Burlington County by adopting Resolution No. B-FY02-005.

- b. Northern Burlington County Regional School District, Mansfield Township, Burlington County

Mr. Ontko explained to the Board that this amendment is for the expansion of the sewer service/franchise area for the Mapleton at Mansfield Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). The expansion is necessary to accommodate the proposed construction of a middle School. In addition, the existing High School is to be connected to the Mapleton at Mansfield WWTP. The existing treatment plant serving the High School is to be decommissioned.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Tri-County Water Quality Management Board.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Romick, seconded by Mr. Griffith; that the Board approve the amendment to the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan entitled Burlington County Regional School District, Mansfield Township, Burlington County by passing Resolution No. B-FY02-006.

5. **Approval of Board Committee Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2002**

Chairman Cureton announced the Board Committee Schedule for Calendar Year

2002 (copy attached) as follows:

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| January 24, 2002  | June 27, 2002  |
| February 28, 2002 | July 25, 2002  |
| March 28, 2002    | September 26, 2002   |
| April 25, 2002    | October 24, 2002   |
| May 23, 2002      | December 6, 2002 (Combined with Board<br>Retreat, time and location<br>to be determined) |

Mr. Coscia announced that Commissioner Hanna, Chester County, pointed out a conflict with the December 6, 2002 Board Retreat date (Pennsylvania dinner in New York City). Another date will be established and forwarded to the Board.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Baker; that the Board approve the Board Committee Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2002 and directed staff to amend the December 6, 2002 Board Retreat date.

**6. Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) Report**

Patrick Starr, RCC Chairman, pointed out two “in other business” items listed on the *Recommendations to the Board for October 25, 2001* (copy attached). These items dealt with (1) better coordination between the Pennsylvania and New Jersey Turnpike Commissions, the Delaware River Port Authority, and DVRPC; and (2) the Schuylkill Valley Metro.

John J. Coscia, Executive Director, commented that responses to the inquiries listed on their recommendations will be prepared.

**7. Development of the DVRPC FY 2003 Planning Work Program**

Mr. Coscia briefed the Board on the Highlights and recommendations from the October 19, 2001 DVRPC FY 2003 Planning Work Program Meeting. Nine new projects were selected for inclusion in the Work Program totaling \$630,000.

To financially accommodate the list of new projects it was agreed to move the Route 45 Corridor Study (\$90,000) and the “Central New Jersey Forum” (\$90,000)



to the TIP thus reducing the funding needed for new projects to \$450,000.

Staff was directed to resolve the remaining \$50,000 funding difference during preparation of the Draft 2003 Planning Work Program.

**8. Household Travel Survey**

Dr. Carlos Arce, President of NuStats, presented to the Board the results of the Household Travel Survey which was conducted for DVRPC and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPA) areas. The survey examined the activities of travel; trip purpose; trip rates by purpose, travel modes, household daily trip rates by mode, workers, vehicles, and ethnicity; and person daily trip rates by gender and welfare recipients.

**9. Call to Action - New Jersey Transit's Strategic Plan**

Brent Barnes, New Jersey Transit (NJ TRANSIT), presented to the Board New Jersey Transit's Strategic Plan entitled *Call to Action* (distributed to the Board). Mr. Barnes explained that the Plan provides a glimpse of NJ TRANSIT's short and long-term outlook based on the policies that are in place today. It also presents a set of action plans which outline goals and objectives that may help meet the State's public transportation needs. The document focuses on three key challenges facing NJ TRANSIT: (1) how to secure funding to operate, maintain and enhance the existing public transportation system; (2) how to address rail and bus congestion and capacity constraints through investments, partnerships and intergovernmental cooperation; and (3) how to select and fund the construction and ongoing operation system expansion investments.

**10. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Coscia reported on the following items.

- a. Ronald Bednar, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, has been elected as President of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association and Brent Barnes, New Jersey Transit, has been elected President of the New Jersey Chapter.
- b. Letter from Pascal T. Deon, Sr., Chairman of SEPTA (distributed to the Board) with regard to the retirement of Jack Leary.

- c. Delaware Valley Risk Management Consortium, DVRPC, University of Pittsburgh, and Drexel University, November 6, 2001 at DVRPC - Partnering together with the University of Pittsburgh and Drexel University this consortium will develop a set of information technologies which includes an interactive, intelligent spatial information system. This system will address the problem of coordination in emergency management and bring together three technologies: (1) interactive communications, both through internet and secured intranet networks; (2) GIS and remote sensing imagery which would provide graphic representation of changes in the area; and (3) an intelligence reasoning by computer models to provide estimates of known losses or probabilities of likely consequences that can result from an event.
- d. Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission (STC) Public Hearing on October 12, 2001 - The Public Hearing was well attended and the DVRPC member governments presented their projects for the STC consideration. Mr. Coscia mentioned that the Chester County presentation was outstanding because of their collective participation from the county officials and private sector.
- e. Freight Workshop held at DVRPC on October 9, 10, and 11, 2001 - The National Freight Workshop consisted of five metropolitan area teams attended from various parts of the U.S. DVRPC's freight program process was presented and training sessions were conducted on freight planning.
- f. DVRPC Board Retreat, December 5, 2001 at the Mansion, Voorhees, New Jersey - Mr. Coscia announced that our partners for the Board Retreat this year would be the New Jersey Alliance for Action and the Greater Philadelphia First Corporation. The theme for the Board Retreat is *Teaming Up for Transit - A Coalition for Public Transit Initiatives*.
- g. Proposed DVRPC Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony - In the Spring, 2002, Mr. Coscia would like to schedule an Annual Dinner and bring together between 200 and 300 distinguished leaders in the nine county region. Awards could be presented to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to regionalism. He also suggested that grants and/or scholarships could be awarded for regional excellence.
- h. PennDOT Planning Partners Conference, Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, October 30-November 1, 2001 - Mr. Coscia reported that DVRPC is hosting the PennDOT Planning Partners Conference at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel in Philadelphia.

- i. Commissioners Handbook - Mr. Coscia announced that a new Commissioner's Handbook would be mailed to all Board members and alternates in the near future.

## **11. Transportation GIS and Aerial Photography Status Report**

Michael Ontko reported to the Board on the status of the Region-Wide Transportation GIS Project and the Year 2000 Imagery Acquisition Project.

Mr. Ontko explained that a consultant team worked with DVRPC to help determine alternative methods for creating a shared transportation GIS system. In this process, the consultant interviewed 23 different groups in an effort to develop a summary of each participants current GIS resources and capabilities. A "Technology Ramp" was developed which provides a conceptual blueprint for participants which are at various levels of GIS development to progress to a Common Linear Referencing System (LRS) and create a total regional consistency. With the understanding of the participants' current GIS assets, a method for development of a Common LRS, and guidelines and standards for linework and data files, an implementation plan will be developed. Each implementation plan will be unique since each participant will have different hardware, software and staff capabilities as well as different kinds of contributing linework and data.

Mr. Ontko then commented on the Year 2000 Imagery Acquisition Project status. DVRPC expects to have received all of the products from the vendor and copies are being distributed to all member governments. The primary product is the digital orthophotography files in TIFF format which are delivered in county groupings. Compression files (MrSID), a more manageable file (1.1 mb size) will also be available and forwarded to counties, cities, PennDOT and NJDOT. In November, staff will hold an in-house training session for DVRPC staff and any member government staff. The class will address methods for viewing and plotting imagery.

## **12. Committee Reports**

Chairman Cureton commented that the following committee reports were distributed to the Board for their review: (1) Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee; (2) Regional Housing Committee; (3) Information Resources Exchange Group; (4) Goods Movement Task Force; (5) ITS Coordinating Council; and (6) Tri-County Water Quality Management Board.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was stated.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Cureton commented on the excellent feedback from the Southern New Jersey Chamber of Commerce for the presentation made to them by Mr. Coscia and himself on October 23, 2001.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

### Attachments:

- (1) PCC/RTC Recommendations to the Board for October 25, 2001
- (2) RCC Recommendations to the Board for October 25, 2001
- (3) Resolution numbers B-FY02-005 and B-FY02-006
- (4) Schedule of Board and Executive Committee Meeting dates for Year 2002

### Additional Documents distributed to the Board:

- (1) *Alert*, October 2001
- (2) *Freight Lines*, October 2001
- (3) *TravelSmart* October 2001
- (4) Brochure entitled: *Great Places with Transit*, Summer/Fall 2001

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of Meeting of October 25, 2001**

Location: Commission Offices  
The Bourse Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
111 S. Independence Mall East  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Membership Present

Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Joyce Paul

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Larry M. King

New Jersey Department of Transportation

William s. Beetle

Governor of New Jersey's Appointee

Anthony T. Drollas, Jr.

Governor of Pennsylvania's Appointee

(not represented)

Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office

Robert E. Baker, Jr.

Pennsylvania Counties

Timothy Kohler

New Jersey Counties

Jerald R. Cureton, Esq.  
Carol Ann Thomas

City of Camden

(not represented)

City of Philadelphia

Lawrence Wilson

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Robert Hannigan  
Greg Brown (Dist. 6-0)

New Jersey Department of Transportation

Brian Cuccia

Chester County

Colin A. Hanna

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | Charles C. Coyne                            |
| Delaware County  | John E. Pickett                             |
| Montgomery County  | Lewis F. Gould, Jr. Esq.                    |
| Montgomery County Planning Department                            | Kenneth Hughes                              |
| Burlington County  | Jerald R. Cureton, Esq.<br>Carol Ann Thomas |
| Camden County  | Thomas J. Gurick<br>J. Douglas Griffith     |
| Gloucester County  | Charles E. Romick                           |
| Federal Highway Administration<br>Pennsylvania Division          | Spencer Stevens                             |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III                 | Daniel Ryan                                 |
| New Jersey Office of State Planning                              | David Hosjak                                |
| Federal Transit Administration, Region III                       | Michele Destra<br>Janet Kampf               |
| New Jersey Transit Corporation                                   | Brent Barnes                                |
| Port Authority Transit Corporation                               | Fran O'Brien                                |
| Pennsylvania Department of Community and<br>Economic Development | Ronald K. Bednar                            |
| Regional Citizens Committee Chairman                             | Patrick Starr                               |
| Cross County Connection TMA                                      | William Ragozine                            |
| Eddie Battle Associates  | Eddie Battle                                |
| Vollmer Associates   | Jeremy Alvarez                              |
| <u>DVRPC Co-Counsel</u>  |   |

DVRPC Staff: John J. Coscia, John B. Claffey, Barry Seymour, William Greene, Charles Dougherty, Richard Bickel, Thabet Zakaria, Michael Ontko, John Griffies, Candace Snyder, Phyllis Robinson, and Jean McKinney.

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Jerald R. Cureton, Esq. called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

#### **1. Minutes of July 26, 2001**

On a motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. King the minutes of July 26, 2001 were approved as distributed.

#### **2. Contract Authorizations**

John J. Coscia, Executive Director briefed the Board on the following Contract Authorizations:

##### **a. Bicycle Facilities on Existing Roadways Phase I, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties**

In the year 2000 DVRPC staff completed advance planning for bikeways and bicycle compatibility improvements to approximately 70 miles of urban, rural arterial and collector roadways along 13 corridors. Bikeway improvements to three of these corridors, totaling approximately 22 miles, have been programmed for implementation. These corridors include Susquehanna Road (Montgomery County), "Bicyclists' Baltimore Pike" (Delaware County); and Old Baltimore Pike (Chester County).

This project is intended to improve the service quality for bicycling on these routes, improve the region's air quality by reducing the number of single occupant vehicles, promote alternative travel modes, and encourage other measures which will limit emissions from mobile sources by improving and expanding bicycle facilities.

As determined in preliminary engineering, actions taken to reach these goals may include: bike route designation (including navigational signs), shoulder

delineation, widening and reconstruction; installation of bike lanes, warning signage; replacement of drainage grates; replacement of open swales contiguous to roadway shoulders with subsurface drainage systems, possible alterations in roadway operation (speed, parking), and the identification of right-of-way acquisition considerations. An engineering firm qualified in the design of bikeways shall be selected to perform this work.

\$252,400 in PennDot CMAQ Funds is available for this initiative.

Mr. Coscia commented that the Consultant Selection Committee has met and recommend the firm of Gannett Fleming to perform the scope of services associated with this project.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Mooney that the Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate and execute a contract with the Gannett Fleming to perform the scope of services associated with the *Bicycle Facilities on Existing Roadways Phase I* project. If such negotiations prove not to meet the financial requirements of the Commission, to proceed on to negotiations with the second ranked firm.

b. Open Space and Recreation Plan, Camden County and Riparian Buffer Assessment for New Jersey Watersheds

Mr. Coscia explained that the Open Space and Recreation Plan for Camden County and the Riparian Buffer Assessment for New Jersey Watersheds projects were presented and adopted as Work Program Amendments at the Board Meeting immediately preceding the Executive Committee Meeting. It is also necessary for the Executive Committee to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Camden County and the U. S. Forest Service for these two projects.

The Executive Committee unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

**MOTION** by Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. King; that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Camden County for the scope of work associated with the Open Space and Recreation Plan and to enter into a contract with the U.S. Forest Service for the scope of work associated with the Riparian Buffer Assessment for New Jersey Watersheds.



## **OLD BUSINESS**

No new business was stated.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Coscia pointed out the flyer (distributed to the Board) announcing the special workshop and meeting being conducted by the Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force. The special meeting will be held on **October 10, 2001** at the Down Town Club. Consul General of Brazil will be a guest speaker at the meeting. Mr. Coscia encouraged all Board members and alternates to attend.

Mr. Coscia also pointed out the flyer (distributed to the Board) pertaining to the first of five *National Operations Local Dialogue Sessions*. These sessions will allow local leaders to share perspectives on ways to improve transportation system performance and let national leaders learn about priorities that may guide national programs and transportation reauthorization legislation. He reported that a national conference will be held in Washington in October on the same subject.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.