

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of April 26, 2007

Location: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Main Conference Room 8th Floor
190 N. Independence Mall, West
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Membership Present

Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs	Joyce Paul
New Jersey Department of Transportation	Brian Cuccia
New Jersey Governor's Appointee	Sonia Frontera
Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office	Joanne R. Denworth
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	James Ritzman
Bucks County	Dave Johnson
Chester County	Ronald T. Bailey
Delaware County	John Pickett
Montgomery County	Kenneth Hughes
Burlington County	Jerald R. Cureton, Esq. Carol Ann Thomas
Camden County	Edward Fox
Gloucester County	Charles E. Romick
Mercer County	Matthew Lawson
City of Chester	William Payne
City of Philadelphia	Gary Jastrzab

City of Camden	Edward Williams
City of Trenton	(not represented)

Non-Voting Members

Federal Highway Administration New Jersey Division	Joung H. Lee
Pennsylvania Division	(not represented)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region III	(not represented)
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III	(not represented)
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II	(not represented)
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New Jersey Office of Smart Growth	(not represented)
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Federal Transit Administration, Region III	(not represented)
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Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	David Fogel
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New Jersey Transit Corporation	Richard Roberts Jerry Lutin
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Port Authority Transit Corporation	Cheryl Spicer
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Delaware River Port Authority	Linda Hayes
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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
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Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Kevin Gallagher
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Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	(not represented)
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Regional Citizens Committee Chairman	Warren Strumpfer
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DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel New Jersey Co-Counsel	Timothy J. Carson, Esq. Thomas Coleman, Esq.
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DVRPC Staff: Barry J. Seymour, Donald S. Shanis, Chick Dougherty, Richard Bickel, Thabet Zakaria, Joseph Hacker, Karen Cilurso, Candy Snyder, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	James Mosca Linda Guarini (Dist. 6) Jonathan Korus (Dist. 6)
SEPTA Visitor (bring your child to work day)	Bryon Comati Christopher Comati
Cross County Connection Transportation Management Association	William Raggiozine
Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission	Glenn F. Reibman
U. S. Census Bureau	Philip Lutz Ted Roman
University of Pennsylvania	Paul DesRober Rebecca Crouse Emily Schwartz Ashley Hahn Laura Goldberg

Call to Order - Chair's Comments

Chair Joanne R. Denworth called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No public comments were stated on non-agenda items.

Barry J. Seymour, Executive Director, noted that "Bring Your Child to Work Day" is celebrated every year on the fourth Thursday in April and welcomed Christopher Comati who joined his father Bryon Comati from SEPTA.

1. Minutes of Meeting of March 22, 2007

Warren Strumpfer commented that he incorrectly reported the Regional Citizens Committee (RCC) as recommending approval of TIP Action PA07-27 from the March 22, 2007 Board meeting. The RCC did not approve this TIP Action as stated in the March Board minutes. The meeting minutes will be corrected to reflect this change.

On a **Motion** by Mr. Romick, seconded by Mr. Cuccia, the minutes of the Board meeting of March 22, 2007, were approved as revised.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Charles Dougherty, DVRPC staff, pointed out the announcement for public review of the DVRPC Draft FY 2008 TIP for New Jersey (distributed to the Board) and noted that copies are available.

Mr. Dougherty then presented to the Board the following TIP actions:

a. TIP Action NJ07-16: Mercer County Reflective Pavement Markings/Roadway Safety Improvements, Mercer County

Mercer County has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for New Jersey by changing the title of the Mercer County Reflective Pavement Markings Project (DB #D0412) to Mercer County Roadway Safety Improvements. This change will allow the county some flexibility to implement various types of safety improvements on county roadways such as reflective pavement markings and striping, but also to include guiderails and other easily implementable treatments that will improve roadway safety. All four of the New Jersey counties (Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer) have Reflective Pavement Marker programs funded at \$500,000 every other year, and DVRPC recommends that the pavement marker programs in each of the four New Jersey counties be re-named accordingly in the updated FY08 New Jersey TIP that becomes effective October 1, 2007, to allow all counties greater flexibility in approved methods and funding to implement projects that improve the overall safety and visibility of various roadways in the county.

The new project title and project description will read:

Mercer County Roadway Safety Improvements

Description: This program will provide for the installation and maintenance of items including reflective pavement markings (including both striping and raised reflective markers), reflective object markers, reflective roadway delineators, guiderail, and other treatments that improve the overall safety and visibility of various roadways in the county.

Financial constraint will be maintained as no additional funds are being requested.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this modification as this project is exempt from the regional air quality analysis.

After favorable recommendation was received from the Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee (PCC/RTC) and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Cuccia that the Board approve TIP Action NJ07-16, by changing the title of the Mercer County Reflective Pavement Markings project (DB #D0412) to Mercer County Roadway Safety Improvements and modifying the project description to read:

This program will provide for the installation and maintenance of items including reflective pavement markings (including both striping and raised reflective markers), reflective object markers, reflective roadway delineators, guiderail, and other treatments that improve the overall safety and visibility of various roadways in the county.

- b. TIP Action PA07-34: Deferrals Resulting in Technical Deletions from the TIP (MPMS numbers 63492, 64494, 14296, 14492, and 14891), Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by deferring current phases for the following three projects in the TIP to reflect a more accurate let schedule and maintain fiscal constraint of the TIP.

- (1) US 202, Morris Road to PA 63, Hancock Road (Section 65S), (MPMS #63491), Montgomery County
- (2) US 30, Lancaster Avenue and Waterloo Road, (MPMS #14296), Chester County
- (3) Darby/Paoli Road over Little Darby Creek Bridge Replacement, (MPMS #14891), Delaware County

The \$38.5 million construction phase of US 202, Morris Road to PA 63, Hancock Road (Section 65S), (MPMS #63491), is not expected to begin until FY11. Funding has been pushed back to reflect a more accurate let schedule and will instead be programmed to fund the cost increase for the widening of US 202, from Hancock Road to PA 309, (MPMS #63492), which is a higher priority for Montgomery County and is estimated to be let for construction in FY08.

Construction phases for the US 30, Lancaster Avenue and Waterloo Road, (MPMS #14296), and Darby/Paoli Road over Little Darby Creek Bridge Replacement (MPMS #14891) projects have also been deferred based on the updated estimated let dates of FY11.

The deferral of the construction phase of US 202, Section 320, Swedesford Road to Route 29 (Section 320), (MPMS #64494) in Chester County will be addressed at a future meeting.

Pickering Road over Pickering Creek Bridge Replacement (Bridge #315) (MPMS #14492) in Chester County, expects to advance to construction in FY08 and will not be deferred as was proposed by PennDOT earlier in the month.

Phases being pushed out of the four year TIP program results in “technical deletions” of several projects. All of the projects deferred as part of this action will continue to show in the program with funding captured in “Later Fiscal Years” and their let date noted. DVRPC will keep a running list of any project that has been shifted back significantly since the beginning of the FY07 fiscal year, October 1, 2006. This list will be considered at the time of the FY09 PA TIP update which begins in the fall of 2007, along with the issue of whether to add new projects to the program.

Financial constraint will be maintained.

The TIP’s current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Pickett, that the Board approve TIP Action PA07-34, PennDOT’s request to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by technically deleting MPMS # 63491, 14296, and 14891 in order to coincide with revised let dates and maintain fiscal constraint of the TIP.

c. TIP Action PA07-35a: Route 322, Commodore Barry Bridge and I-95 2nd Street Interchange (MPMS #57780), Delaware County

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC modify the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by programming an additional \$18.093 million funding for the Route 322/Commodore Barry Bridge/I-95/2nd Street new interchange project (MPMS #57780). This project which is nearing the end of the final design phase currently shows a \$35 million construction phase. The request for additional funds (detailed in the attached notice from PennDOT) is for:

- \$1.280 million in final design (\$800,000 STU/\$200,000 State in FY08 and \$224,000 STU/\$56,000 state in FY09) for design of several items including: a new bridge over Front Street to avoid costly utility relocations and associated relocation design delays; signage; drainage; environmental mitigation; and a traffic management plan.
- \$175,000 state funds in FY07 for additional utility costs related to Amtrak

agreements and contingencies.

- \$16.638 million for construction (\$8.366 million Highway/\$2.091 million state in FY09 and \$4.945 million highway/\$1.236 million state in FY10). Total costs are higher than currently reflected because the May 2006 project construction estimate (\$43.5 million) was not included in the FY07 TIP update, combined with additional bridge; drainage, signage, and equipment requirements.

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this modification as this project is already included in the regional air quality analysis.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC that the Board approve TIP Action PA07-35a.

The RCC recommends that the Board not approve TIP Action PA07-35a, unless context sensitive solutions are applied to the project, improvements to 2nd Street are made to make the thoroughfare more friendly to bicyclists and pedestrians, and there is an exploration of transit options for the Commodore Barry Bridge, as well as for greater connections to the Chester Transportation Center.

William Payne, City of Chester, responded that consideration has been given for bicycle and pedestrian accessibility from 291 to Front Street.

John Pickett, Delaware County, responded that, with regard to transit, efforts are underway to improve the transit station on Highland Avenue in Chester. Also there is a bus route along 3rd Street.

Mr. Seymour commented that, although it seems transit access/improvements are being considered, the RCC's recommendations will be forwarded to PennDOT for their review.

After discussion, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Payne, seconded by Mr. Pickett, that the Board approve TIP Action PA07-35b, PennDOT's request to modify the FY07 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding \$18.093 million to the Route 322/Commodore Barry Bridge/I-95/2nd Street new interchange project (MPMS #57780) accordingly: increasing the final design phase by \$1.280 million (\$800,000 STU/\$200,000 State in FY07 and \$224,000 STU/\$56,000

state in FY08); increasing the FY07 utility phase by \$175,000 state

funds; increasing the construction phase by \$16.638 million (\$8.366 million Highway/\$2.091 million state in FY09 and \$4.945 million highway/\$1.236 million state in FY10).

d. TIP Action PA07-35c: US 202, TR 252 to US 30 (Section 300 Design) (MPMS #13945), Chester County

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a previously obligated project back into the TIP, US 202, PA 252 to US 30 (Section 300 Design) (MPMS #13945), and increasing the engineering phases by \$11.8 million in FY07, FY08, FY09, and FY10. The additional \$11.8 million will be used to cover cost increases in the design contract (approximately \$7.5 million) as well as the Congestion Management Process (CMP) efforts (approximately \$4.5 million).

New project design efforts now include construction consultation for additional signs, signals and structures along the corridor, a greater level of effort for storm-water management, and other items associated with the advance bridge construction in Sections 310 and 311.

Additional CMP commitments include a group of comprehensive strategies developed with the TMA's (Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association (GVFTMA) and Transportation Management Association of Chester County (TMACC) for the additional service on bus routes, trains, and commuter shuttlebus lines. Public outreach efforts are also being expanded to a new brochure and updated web page.

This Section 300 project provides the design funding for the project which will ultimately widen approximately 6.7 miles of roadway, add one travel lane in each direction, implement interchange modifications, and the installation of noise walls for section 300 of US Route 202 which runs between Teddyfrin and Whiteland Townships in Chester County.

Section 300 of US 202 has been broken down into several different sub-sections for ease in construction management, and include mainline road construction projects and overhead structure/bridge projects. \$5.92 million has been previously obligated for the final design phase in FY05 and FY06.

Additional funding from this action will be programmed for preliminary engineering in FY07 (\$275,000 STU/\$69,000 State), FY08 (\$836,000 NHS/\$209,000 State), and FY09 (329,000 NHS/\$83,000 State); final design in FY07 (\$350,000 NHS/\$87,000 State), FY08 (\$800,000 NHS/\$200,000 State), FY09 (\$2,000,000 NHS/\$500,000 State), and FY10 (\$4,850,000 NHS/\$1,213,000 State).

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing

TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment.

After favorable recommendations was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the Board approve TIP Action PA07-35c, by adding a previously obligated project back into the TIP, US 202, PA 252 to US 30 (Section 300 Design), (MPMS #13945), and increasing the project by \$11.8 million by programming preliminary engineering in FY07 (\$275,000 STU/\$69,000 State), FY08 (\$836,000 NHS/\$209,000 State), and FY09 (329,000 NHS/\$83,000 State); final design in FY07 (\$350,000 NHS/\$87,000 State), FY08 (\$800,000 NHS/\$200,000 State), FY09 (\$2,000,000 NHS/\$500,000 State), and FY10 (\$4,850,000 NHS/\$1,213,000 State).

e. TIP Action PA07-35d: Gulph Road Over Trout Run Bridge Replacement (MPMS #57678), Chester County

PennDOT has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a project back into the TIP, the Gulph Road Over Trout Run Bridge Replacement project (MPMS #57678), and programming \$1.7 million state funds for construction in FY07. This project involves the replacement of an existing structurally deficient and functionally obsolete, weight posted, historic stone arch bridge located in a detailed FEMA study area. The bridge design will have to comply with the historic nature of the area as well as the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office, whose purpose is to identify and protect the architectural and archaeological resources of Pennsylvania. A stone facing and an arched underside are required to satisfy various regulatory agencies, and existing or comparable stone will be used along the outside and along the parapet of the bridge. The proposed structure will have a span of 68.5 feet and will carry two 10 foot lanes and two 4 foot shoulders. A 24 inch water main, a 24 inch and 8 inch sanitary sewer lines and 4 inch gas main required relocation as part of this project. Funding will be programmed in FY07 (\$1,700,000 State).

Financial constraint will be maintained by making adjustments to other existing TIP projects whose schedules or costs have changed.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment as this project is exempt from the regional air quality analysis.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the

Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Bailey, that the Board approve TIP Action PA07-35d, by adding a project back into the TIP, the Gulph Road Over Trout Run Bridge Replacement project, (MPMS #57678), and programming \$1,700,000 State for construction in FY07.

- f. TIP Action PA07-36: Whitemarsh Township Street Improvements (proposed new DEMO Project) (MPMS #74937/74816), Montgomery County

Whitemarsh Township has requested that DVRPC amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new DEMO project to the TIP, Whitemarsh Township Street Improvements (Proposed New DEMO Project), (MPMS #74937/74816), by programming DEMO funds provided by two (2) SAFETEA-LU earmarks, (ID# 3516) \$640,000; (ID# 2556) \$1.2 million, and a \$625,000 local match provided by Whitemarsh Township in FY07, FY08 and FY09. The project will include improvements necessary to enhance pedestrian movement, safety, and calm traffic along Germantown Pike (SR 3053), from Joshua Road (SR 3014) to Church Road. The project will also include the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Church Road and Germantown Pike; the installation of new curb, curb bump-outs, sidewalks, ADA ramps, pedestrian crosswalks, street furniture, lighting, traffic signal modification, on-street parking, and landscaping. The final design phase will be funded by 100% local funds. Funding will be programmed for final design in FY07 (\$165,000 Local match); construction in FY08 (\$920,000 DEMO/\$230,000 Local match) and FY09 (\$920,000 DEMO/\$230,000 Local match). Any additional funds required to complete the project will be provided locally.

Financial constraint will be maintained as this project uses specially earmarked DEMO funds provided by SAFETEA-LU.

The TIP's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this amendment.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC for approval of TIP Action PA07-36.

The RCC also recommended approval of TIP Action PA07-36, however, noted that although the project contains favorable items, the RCC is opposed to earmarks.

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

MOTION by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Bailey, that the Board

approve TIP Action PA07-36, Whitemarsh Township's request to amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new DEMO project to the TIP, Whitemarsh Township Street Improvements, (Proposed New DEMO Project), (MPMS #74937/74816), and programming final design in FY07 (\$165,000 Local match); construction in FY08 (\$920,000 DEMO/\$230,000 Local match) and FY09 (\$920,000 DEMO/\$230,000 Local match).

3. Benjamin Franklin Parkway Transportation Enhancement (TE) Project, City of Philadelphia

Ryan Gallagher, DVRPC staff, explained to the Board that PennDOT is requesting approval of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway Transportation Enhancement (TE) Project as one of the TE discretionary funded projects selected by the Secretary of Transportation for the DVRPC region. This \$1.58 million project will be funded from a variety of sources, with \$750,000 federal funds from the Secretary's Transportation Enhancement Discretionary Funds. Additional funding for the project will be provided by: the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) (\$80,000); the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Main Street Program (\$500,000); and DCED Tourism (\$250,000). The project will involve the creation of a new public plaza within an existing park in the 1600 block of Cherry Street in the City of Philadelphia. The plaza will accommodate a new Parkway Visitor's Information Center co-located with a café. In addition, the PHLASH stop has been moved adjacent to the proposed information center. This action will also add the project to the FY07 TIP for Pennsylvania (TIP Action PA07-46a) for design in FY07 (\$80,000) and for construction in FY07 (\$1,500,000) as MPMS #80477.

Financial constraint will be maintained as this project uses funding from the Secretary's Discretionary Transportation Enhancement Fund combined with sources provided by DCNR and DCED.

The region's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this action as this project is exempt from the air quality analysis.

Gary Jastrzab, City of Philadelphia, commented that the City Planning Commission prepared a study which examined ways to improve and revitalize the city's parks and plazas within the municipal services core. The Benjamin Franklin Parkway TE Project is consistent with this study and helps other projects of this kind to move forward.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Jastrzab, seconded by Mr. Cureton, that the Board

approve PennDOT's request to include the Benjamin Franklin Parkway Transportation Enhancement Project as one of the discretionary TE funded projects selected by the Secretary of Transportation for the DVRPC region. Further, amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania (TIP Action PA07-46a) by adding this project to the TIP as MPMS #80477. \$750,000 federal Discretionary TE funds will be provided for the project for construction in FY07, combined with \$80,000 DCNR funds for design and \$750,000 for construction from DCED.

4. John F. Kennedy (JFK) Boulevard Clock Project, City of Philadelphia

Mr. Gallagher explained to the Board that PennDOT is requesting Board approval of the JFK Boulevard Clock Transportation Enhancement (TE) Project as one of the discretionary TE funded projects selected by the Secretary of Transportation for the DVRPC region. This \$28,750 project will be federally funded by the Secretary's Transportation Enhancement Discretionary Funds. The project will involve the purchase and installation of a pedestal clock outside the 30th Street Amtrak Station. The clock will be a re-creation of railroad clocks which were common in times past, and will be designed for an outdoor, urban setting to be utilized by all passers by. The clock will be maintained by the City of Philadelphia and the Schuylkill River Development Corporation. This action will also add the project to the FY07 TIP for Pennsylvania (TIP Action PA07-46b) for construction in FY07(\$28,750) as MPMS #80478.

Financial constraint will be maintained as this project uses funding from the Secretary's Discretionary Transportation Enhancement fund.

The region's current conformity finding will not be impacted by this action as this project is exempt from the air quality analysis.

Mr. Strumpfer, RCC Chair, inquired if this project would qualify for the City's One-Percent-for-Art Program?

Mr. Seymour responded, he believes that those funds apply to new construction only. Mr. Jastrzab confirmed that to be so.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Jastrzab, seconded by Mr. Lawson, that the Board approve PennDOT's request to include the JFK Boulevard Clock Transportation Enhancement Project as one of the discretionary TE funded projects selected by the Secretary of Transportation for the DVRPC region. Further, amend the FY2007-2010 TIP for Pennsylvania (TIP Action PA07-46b) by adding this project to the TIP as MPMS #80478, programming \$28,750 Discretionary TE funds for construction in FY07.

5. DVRPC Fiscal Year 2007 Planning Work Program Amendments

a. Princeton Junction Station Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

Richard Bickel, DVRPC staff, explained to the Board that West Windsor Township is currently working with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) and NJ Transit to develop a Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) plan for the Princeton Junction station. The township has retained the Hillier Group to perform consultant services to prepare the TOD plan, and is desirous of supplementing the current work program with additional public involvement activities to be scheduled later this spring.

NJDOT, on behalf of the township, has requested that DVRPC support an amendment to the FY 2007 Planning Work Program to undertake the additional public involvement activities. The TOD planning activities support regional, county and local planning goals; are consistent with the on-going coordination activities of the Central Jersey Forum; supports the Route 1 Regional Growth Strategy under development by NJDOT, other state agencies, the corridors counties and municipalities; and also supports the complementary Bus Rapid Transit planning for the Route 1 corridor and vicinity currently underway.

To implement the proposed supplemental public involvement activities, DVRPC would execute a contract with NJDOT and a separate contract with the Hillier Group and West Windsor Township.

The funding source will be from the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) state planning research funds.

Matthew Lawson, Mercer County, commented that West Windsor Township Mayor Shing-Fu Hsueh is conducting a massive public outreach effort for this project. Most public support is positive, however, some negative issues are arising. It is hoped that all concerns will be considered as this project moves forward.

Ronald T. Bailey, Chester County, commented that the same problems exist for the development of TOD's within Chester County. He believes, that DVRPC could play a very vital role in providing a forum in which the counties could learn from each others experiences on how to approach the concerns of the public.

Mr. Lawson remarked according to present zoning worse consequences exist for traffic, parking, and scope of development than what is being proposed for the TOD project. It is important to educate the public that "doing nothing" may only create undesirable development. It is better to take an active role to develop what is most beneficial to their neighborhoods.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Lawson, seconded by Ms. Paul, that the Board approve the proposed DVRPC FY 2007 Planning Work Program amendment to enable the supplemental public involvement activities for the Princeton Junction Station Transit Oriented Development project to proceed on a timely basis.

b. Dots and Dashes: Games Playing for Long Range Consensus Building

Joseph Hacker, DVRPC staff, explained to the Board that In February 2007, a \$100,000 grant was awarded to DVRPC through the Federal Transit Administration's Public Transportation Participation Pilot Program (PTP Program). DVRPC's proposal, *Dots and Dashes: Game Playing for Long Range Consensus Building*, was one of eight pilot projects chosen nationally by the FTA. This winning project is designed to develop, implement and assess the priority of regional transit planning projects and to enhance the public outreach process through a unique communicative and consensus-building planning exercise.

The centerpiece of the pilot outreach program involves groups of participants affixing game pieces ("dots and dashes") to identify preferred transit projects on a game board (DVRPC's regional Transit Score map). These "Dots and Dashes" identify various nodes and links selected as preferred regional transit investments. The budget is constrained with choices drawn from an itemized project menu and the participants at each table are required to reach a consensus on the submitted map of choices. Dots and Dashes will provide quantitative findings to identify and prioritize regional transportation projects, as well as qualitative findings that can inform DVRPC's near term and long range planning efforts. Priorities derived from this exercise will also be utilized in the Board mandated Regional Transit Vision Project.

This project will not alter the region's conformity finding.

Edward Fox, Camden County, inquired if this program would examine new transit corridors or could use abandoned freight lines for transit opportunities?

Mr. Hacker responded that the pilot program could possibly go in that direction.

Mr. Bailey commented that with the present transit funding crisis he is concerned with the expectations of identifying new transit projects when there are problems maintaining existing transit operations.

Mr. Seymour agreed and commented that DVRPC will be working closely with the transit agencies and financial constraints will be taken into consideration.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Jastrzab, that the Board approve the DVRPC FY 2007 Planning Work Program Amendment to include the *Dots and Dashes: Game Playing for Long Range Consensus Building* project.

6. **Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) and the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) Relating to Transportation Planning Procedures**

Donald Shanis, Deputy Executive Director, explained to the Board that DVRPC and SEPTA have drafted a MOU which addresses cooperative procedures for carrying out transportation planning and programming as mandated in Federal Regulation 23CFR450.314(a) as follows:

“Metropolitan Planning Agreements between the MPO and the public transportation operators to cooperatively determine their mutual responsibilities in carrying out the metropolitan planning process. These responsibilities shall be clearly identified in written agreements among the MPO and the public transportation operators serving the metropolitan planning area.”

This MOU meets Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regulations specifying cooperative procedures for carrying out transportation planning (including corridor and subarea studies) and programming. This entails reciprocal roles and responsibilities for DVRPC and SEPTA system planning, including: development of population, employment and land use forecasts; transit system planning studies to sustain and ensure integrity of transit operations; consistent travel demand modeling in order for projects to retain Federal eligibility; and an agreed upon, staged evaluation process for transit project process prioritization.

Transit projects derived from system planning to meet specific needs are also covered by this MOU. These include roles and responsibilities for MPO approvals for project inclusion on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to maintain eligibility; mutual participation and oversight on advancing projects through planning steps such as transit concepts and Alternative Analysis, modeling forecasts; and public outreach. Transit environmental planning and review is also included as part of the Federal grant application process for transit projects. These roles and responsibilities include: assistance with Environmental Assessments (EA), Draft Environmental Impact Statements (DEIS) and other MPO planning programs; public outreach to insure compliance with Federal and state laws and regulations; and provide briefings and opportunities for input from MPO

members and staff. All of the steps outlined in the MOU ensure that the planning process between DVRPC and SEPTA is consistent, cooperative and in conformance with Federal and State regulations.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC that the Board approve the MOU between DVRPC and SEPTA.

The RCC also recommended approval, however, urged the Board to review the comments with regard to project planning and project implementation made by RCC members reported in the RCC minutes of April 17, 2007 (distributed to the Board). Also, the RCC is discouraged with current interactions between DVRPC and SEPTA.

Mr. Seymour responded that the MOU is intended to better integrate the planning and coordinating between DVRPC and SEPTA.

Mr. Strumpfer also commented that the Regional Transit Advisory Committee (RTAC) is very positive in interconnecting with the transit agencies.

Dr. Shanis added that the RTAC was developed to examine all transit projects and make recommendations to the Regional Transportation Committee and the Board.

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

MOTION by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Cuccia, that the Board approve the Memorandum Of Understanding between DVRPC and SEPTA on Transportation Planning Procedures.

7. **Adoption of Principles for Transportation Reform in Pennsylvania and Authorization for the Executive Director to Send a Letter to Legislators in Southeastern Pennsylvania**

Mr. Seymour explained to the Board that in light of the findings and recommendations of the Pennsylvania Transportation Funding and Reform Commission, Governor Rendell's recent presentation and proposal for increasing funding for transportation in Pennsylvania, and a recent Analysis of Transportation Needs in Southeastern Pennsylvania; the DVRPC staff defined a draft policy position and recommends speaking out. Recognizing that there are a variety of proposals held by our member agencies the draft Principles for Transportation Funding Reform in Pennsylvania did not identify a preferred solution. Instead, the draft Principles recognized the need for increasing funding and called upon the State legislature to craft a solution. The Governor's proposal may be one viable solution, but it is not the only solution. What is essential is that any funding package be sufficient, predictable, dedicated and sustainable.

At its April 2007 meeting, the PCC/RTC members had a lengthy discussion of the draft Principles for Transportation and directed the Pennsylvania RTC subcommittee to revise the draft to address concerns about flexing highway funds to transit, private/public partnerships, options for additional tolling, uses and protection of funds from leasing the Pennsylvania Turnpike and other facilities.

A Pennsylvania Caucus was held before the Board Meeting to discuss the draft Principles and with the numerous concerns of all involved, it is the intent to **table** the adoption of these proposed Principles. It is recommended that a Board Policy Committee Meeting be scheduled in the near future to further discuss this item.

Mr. Seymour then added that DVRPC would, however, like to forward a letter (distributed to the Board) which has been prepared and would be sent to each Southeastern Pennsylvania State Senator and State Representative. This would not be to advocate a single package or approach, but rather to highlight the need for action and to support them to reach a solution. This letter does not provide the specificity of The Principles and would be signed by the Executive Director.

Discussion ensued and in review of the letter, revisions to the seventh paragraph were agreed upon (revised letter attached as part of these minutes).

Linda Hayes, Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA), requested that DRPA be included in future Pennsylvania Caucus Meetings.

Mr. Seymour agreed.

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

MOTION by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Pickett, that the Board authorize the Executive Director to send a letter as revised to the state legislators in Southeastern Pennsylvania urging action on Transportation funding.

8. FY 2007 New Jersey Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Grant Program

Karen Cilurso, DVRPC staff, explained to the Board that the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA-LU) includes a four-year (FY 2005 to FY 2009) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Initiative entitled the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP). This program is intended to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes. The CHSTP includes the Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Program (Section 5316), New Freedoms Program (Section 5317) and the Elderly Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310), and it reflects the overall goal of ensuring that communities, transit

providers, and human service agencies coordinate their activities and all resources provided through multiple federal programs.

SAFETEA-LU has revised the funding allocation for JARC dollars based on an urbanized area federal formula. The New Jersey federal share of the Philadelphia urbanized area allocation for Round 8 is \$340,534 and \$99,038 for Trenton

(Mercer County). The New Jersey federal share for the Philadelphia urbanized area allocation for Round 9 is \$358,959 and \$104,396 for Trenton, Mercer County (Round 9 funding amounts are estimates). A 50% non-U.S. Department of Transportation funds match is required for the JARC grant program. The required match for New Jersey applicants will be provided through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Department of Human Services, Transportation Innovation Fund, and county dollars.

FTA regulations for the JARC program require Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), in regions over 200,000 population, to select project applicants, commit to add projects to the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and evaluate the consistency of proposed projects. DVRPC solicited Job Access and Reverse Commute grant applications in January 2007 and received seven Letters of Intent from four New Jersey applicants.

For the New Jersey projects, DVRPC conducted email and phone coordination with the previously established New Jersey JARC Special Committee. The New Jersey JARC Committee found that:

- (1) All of the proposed projects are consistent with DVRPC's adopted Areawide JARC Plan;
- (2) All of the applicants are qualified to undertake the services proposed;
- (3) Each applicant will work with NJ Transit to complete the full application process; and
- (4) The proposed projects are ranked in accordance with the criteria and weights developed by DVRPC. These project priorities are attached. The committee wishes to emphasize that the final decision of project awards and funding amounts will be made by NJ Transit.

Jerald Cureton, Burlington County, inquired if the list of recommended projects (distributed to the Board) would be re-distributed to the Board after it is reviewed by New Jersey.

Ms. Cilurso responded that the final decision of project awards and funding amounts are made by NJ Transit and DVRPC does not review the changes.

After favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC and the RCC, the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Cuccia, that the Board approve the recommended New Jersey projects for the Job Access and Reverse Commute Grant Program and: (1) direct DVRPC staff to

forward the recommended project list to NJ Transit and FTA's New York Regional Office and, (2) commits to amend the regional TIP at such time as the FTA approves any or all of the proposed projects for funding by adopting Resolution No. B-FY07-007 (attached).

9. **Appointment of the Nominating Committee for Fiscal Year 2008 DVRPC Board Officers**

Mr. Seymour announced the members selected for the Nominating committee to propose a slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008) for DVRPC Board Officers as follows:

Joanne R. Denworth, Pennsylvania Governor's Office
Jerald R. Cureton, Esq, Burlington County
Charles F. Romick, Gloucester County
Carol Aichele, Chester County
James Ritzman, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Brent C. Barnes, New Jersey Department of Transportation
Gary Jastrzab, City of Philadelphia

The Chair for FY 2008 must be from New Jersey. The committee will report these candidates at the May Board meeting and elections will take place at the June Board meeting.

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

MOTION by Mr. Cureton, seconded by Mr. Cuccia, that the Board approve the selected Nominating Committee to propose a slate of Board Officers for Fiscal Year 2008.

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

Warren Strumpfer commented on the above Board action of sending a letter to the Pennsylvania State Legislators with reference to the need to increase transportation and transit funding. Mr. Strumpfer is of the opinion that the State Legislators already are aware of the funding situation. As experts in transportation, he believes DVRPC should take a more aggressive stance and provide recommendations and guidance.

Mr. Strumpfer also commented that the RCC supports a change in the Pennsylvania Constitution to allow state fuel tax revenue to be allocated to all modes of transportation.

11. **Executive Director's Report**

Barry J. Seymour, Executive Director, reported on the following items:

a. American Planning Association (APA) Conference

With a record attendance of over 6100 attendees, the APA Conference held in Philadelphia on April 13-16 was a huge success. Mr. Seymour thanked the Board members and their staffs for their involvement.

Edward Fox, Camden County, inquired if anyone had information from the session at the APA Conference which brought together Regional Planning Directors to discuss the Philadelphia region.

Mr. Jastrzab responded that the only comment he had heard was from Janice Woodcock, Executive Director, Philadelphia City Planning, who attended the session and reported that the discussions with other City Planning Directors were very encouraging.

Kenneth Hughes, Montgomery County, recognized Mr. Seymour and thanked him for his hard work as a Co-Chair of the APA Conference.

b. Urban Land Institute (ULI) Infrastructure Forum

On April 19 at the ULI Infrastructure Forum, Mr. Seymour narrated a panel which discussed transportation funding. Members of the panel consisted of Secretary Biehler and Representatives, Geist, Argall, and McCall. In summarizing their discussion, the political climate does not favor new taxes or fees. Republicans are against the oil profits tax and the Democrats are against leasing the Turnpike. However, both parties hinted toward the need for a larger local share for transit.

c. South Jersey Chamber Forum

The South Jersey Chamber held a regional forum which discussed issues of gaming, growth in Atlantic City, issues of transportation funding and the state budget. It seems that the competitiveness of gaming in Philadelphia is not such a threat to New Jersey. New Jersey strives to market Atlantic City Casinos as upscale and as offering more non-gaming attractions. It has been found that the Atlantic City Casinos and the Las Vegas Casino have almost the same level of gaming revenue, however the non-gaming revenue is higher in Las Vegas.

d. Philadelphia Sustainability Awards

The Philadelphia Sustainability Awards are being held at the Academy of Natural Sciences on April 26, 2007. Mr. Seymour urged all Board Members and alternates to attend.

e. Congress for New Urbanism

The Congress for New Urbanism will be in Philadelphia on May 17-20.

f. DVRPC Annual Dinner

The DVRPC Annual Dinner is scheduled for June 5, 2007 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Philadelphia. Invitations have been mailed to all invitees.

g. Transportation Management Association Directors (TMA) and Mobility Alternatives Program Contractors Meeting - April 20, 2007

Dr. Shanis reported that the Executive Directors of the TMA's, the Clean Air Council, and DVRPC staff met to discuss the Mobility Alternatives Program (MAP) contract and reporting requirements.

12. The Importance of the Northeast Corridor's Tributary Rail Lines

Richard Roberts, Chief Planner, New Jersey Transit, presented to the Board the importance of the Northeast Corridor's Tributary Rail Lines, the need to maximize this transportation asset, the potential role that the commuter rail operators can play and how it can be compatible with AMTRAK's role.

13. The Role of Regional Agencies and Local Governments in Census 2010

Philip Lutz, Geographer, Philadelphia Region, Bureau of the Census presented to the Board the Local Update of Census Address (LUCA) Program which allows counties and local governments to use local knowledge and resources to review the census address list for the region. Mr. Lutz explained that DVRPC's role will be to continue to assist the Bureau of the Census with public communications, field office organization, recruiting and staffing.

14. Committee Reports

The following committee meeting highlights were distributed to the Board for their review: (1) Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee Meeting; (2) Information Resource Exchange Group; and (3) Goods Movement Task Force.

15. One Minute Reports

Mr. Seymour announced that Board member Joung Lee, Federal Highway Administration, New Jersey Division, has accepted a position with American Society of State Highway and Transportation Officials (ASHTO). Mr. Seymour thanked Mr. Lee for his participation and contributions.

Mr. Lee thanked Mr. Seymour and the Board and commented that it has been a great pleasure working with such a great organization as DVRPC.

Charles Romick, Gloucester County, reported that a ground breaking event took place the week of April 16 for the opening of a 7.5 mile Gloucester County Multi-purpose Trail.

Mr. Strumpfer commented that the RCC appreciates the effort put into the Gloucester County Multi-purpose Trail project. He also mentioned that Camden County has a similar project in Lindenwold, the United States Avenue Bridge over the Atlantic City Line, which is an excellent complete streets/bike path/traffic application.

Mr. Jastrzab thanked Mr. Seymour for all his efforts as Co-host of the APA Conference.

Cheryl Spicer, Port Authority Transit Corporation (PATCO), reported that on April 24 the designation of the Collingswood Station as a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) project was announced. Some work is already underway and the goal is to improve economic development in that area and increase ridership on the PATCO line.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Attachments:

- (1) PCC/RTC Recommendations to the Board for April 26, 2007
- (2) RCC Recommendations to the Board for April 26, 2007
- (3) Resolution No. B-FY07-007
- (4) Revised Letter to Pennsylvania Legislators on Transportation Funding

Additional Documents Distributed to the Board:

- (1) Brochures from the U.S. Census Bureau entitled: *The U.S. Census Bureau: At Work for You; ACS - Living by the Numbers: Your Role in The American*

*Community Survey; and Will Your Community Be Ready for the 2020 Census
Local Update of Census Addresses Program?*

- (2) *Alert*, April 2007
- (3) *TravelSmart*, April 2007

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DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of April 26, 2007

Location: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Main Conference Room 8th Floor
190 N. Independence Mall, West
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Membership Present

Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs	Joyce Paul
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	James Ritzman
New Jersey Department of Transportation	Brian Cuccia
New Jersey Governor's Appointee	Sonia Frontera
Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office	Joanne R. Denworth
Pennsylvania Counties	Ronald Bailey
New Jersey Counties	Jerald R. Cureton, Esq Carol Ann Thomas
City of Camden	Edward Williams
City of Philadelphia	Gary Jastrzab

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	James Mosca Linda Guarini (Dist. 6) Jonathan Korus (Dist. 6)
Bucks County	Dave Johnson
Delaware County	John Pickett
Montgomery County	Kenneth Hughes

Camden County	Edward Fox
Gloucester County	Charles E. Romick
Mercer County	Matthew Lawson
City of Chester	William Payne
Federal Highway Administration New Jersey Division	Joung H. Lee
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority Visitor (bring your child to work day)	David Fogel Bryon Comati Christopher Comati
New Jersey Transit Corporation	Richard Roberts Jerry Lutin
Port Authority Transit Corporation	Cheryl Spicer
Delaware River Port Authority	Linda Hayes
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Kevin Gallagher
Regional Citizens Committee Chairman	Warren Strumpfer
Cross County Connection Transportation Management Association	William Raggozine
Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission	Glenn F. Reibman
U. S. Census Bureau	Philip Lutz Ted Roman
University of Pennsylvania	Paul DesRober Rebecca Crouse Emily Schwartz Ashley Hahn Laura Goldberg
<u>DVRPC Co-Counsel</u>	
Pennsylvania Co-Counsel New Jersey Co-Counsel	Timothy J. Carson, Esq. Thomas Coleman, Esq.

DVRPC Staff: Barry J. Seymour, Donald S. Shanis, Chick Dougherty, Richard Bickel, Thabet Zakaria, Joseph Hacker, Karen Cilurso, Candy Snyder, and Jean McKinney.

Call to Order

Chair Joanne R. Denworth called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

1. Minutes of Meeting of March 22, 2007

On a **motion** by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Bailey, the minutes of the meeting of March 22, 2007 were approved as distributed.

2. Contract Authorization: Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Technical Assistance

Charles D. Dougherty, DVRPC Staff, explained to the Board that The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), Division of Technical Services, Office of GIS, is seeking the services of a qualified Geographic Information Systems consultant to assist with the development of a multi-county, linear-referenced, addressable road centerline file and the development of web-based GIS applications.

Participants in this project include DVRPC, NJDOT, PennDOT, the counties of Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer, and the City of Trenton in NJ, and the counties of Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery, and the City of Philadelphia.

A consultant selection committee comprised of representatives from the PADOT, NJDOT, Bucks County, Burlington County and the DVRPC was formed to evaluate the consultants and recommend a final selection based on qualifications and responsiveness to the desired scope of the project. DVRPC issued a request for qualifications and received ten submittals. The committee reviewed the qualifications of each and invited three to submit detailed proposals in response to the scope of services in the Request For Proposals. All three firms were subsequently invited to meet with the committee to answer questions. The committee unanimously recommended one firm.

A total of \$604,000 is allocated for the above contract from available GIS funds in the FY 2007 DVRPC Work Program.

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

MOTION by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Paul, that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate and execute a contract with the selected firm, GeoDecisions. If such negotiations prove not to meet the financial requirements of the Commission, to proceed on to negotiations with the second ranked firm.

3. Appointment of Nominating Committee for Fiscal Year 2008 DVRPC Executive Committee Officers

Barry J. Seymour, Executive Director, announced the members selected for the Nominating Committee to propose a slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008) for DVRPC Executive Committee Officers as follows:

Joanne R. Denworth, Pennsylvania Governor's Office
Jerald R. Cureton, Esq, Burlington County
Charles F. Romick, Gloucester County
Carol Aichele, Chester County
James Ritzman, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Brent C. Barnes, New Jersey Department of Transportation
Gary Jastrzab, City of Philadelphia

The Chair for FY 2008 must be from New Jersey. The committee will report the proposed candidates at the May meeting and elections will take place at the June Executive Committee Meeting.

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

MOTION Ms. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Cuccia, that the Executive Committee approve the selected Nominating Committee to propose a slate of Executive Committee Officers for Fiscal Year 2008.

4. FY 2007 Planning Work Program Third Quarter Report

The FY 2007 Planning Work Program Third Quarter Report was distributed to the Executive Committee for their review.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

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