

Board Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2023 | Online Meeting

ATTENDEES & REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

New Jersey Department of Transportation, **Eric Powers**
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, **Keith Henderson**
New Jersey Governor's Appointee, **Ed Potosnak**
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, **James Mosca**,
Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee, **Jonathan Korus**
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy & Planning Office, *(not represented)*
Burlington County, **Tom Stanuikynas, Matt Johnson**
Camden County, **Ilene Lampitt**
Gloucester County, **Nick Cressman, Will Fleming**
Mercer County, **Leslie Floyd**
Bucks County, **Robert Harvie, Rich Brahler, Evan Stone**
Chester County, **Brian O'Leary, Josh Maxwell**
Delaware County, **Christine Reuther**,
Montgomery County, **Scott France, Matt Edmond**,
City of Camden, **June Morton**
City of Trenton, **Michael Kolber**
City of Chester, **Peter Rykard**
City of Philadelphia, **Chris Puchalsky**

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Federal Highway Administration, New Jersey Division, **Jason Simmons**
Federal Highway Administration, PA Pennsylvania Division, *(not represented)*
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region III, *(not represented)*
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II, *(not represented)*
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, *(not represented)*
Federal Transit Administration, Region III, *(not represented)*
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, **Jody Holton**
New Jersey Transit Corporation, **Lou Millan**
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, *(not represented)*
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, **Sachin Shankar**
Delaware River Port Authority, **Tonyelle Cook-Artis**
Port Authority Transit Corporation, **Rohan Hepkins**
New Jersey Office of Planning Advocacy, **Donna Rendeiro**
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, **Michael Shorr**

DVRPC CO-COUNSEL

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel: **Jonathan Bloom**
New Jersey Co-Counsel: **Thomas Coleman**

GUESTS

PennDOT, David Alas
City of Philadelphia, David Kanthor
PennDOT, David Alas
City of Philadelphia, Martine DeCamp
Montgomery County, Matt Popek



Connecting People, Places & Prosperity in Greater Philadelphia

DVRPC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related nondiscrimination mandates in all activities. DVRPC's public meetings are always held in ADA-accessible facilities, and held in transit-accessible locations whenever possible. Translation, interpretation, or other auxiliary services can be provided, generally free of charge, to individuals who submit a request at least seven days prior to a public meeting. For more information, visit www.dvrpc.org/GetInvolved/TitleVI or call (215) 592-1800.

Public Participation Task Force, Jerrett Johnson
Delaware County Planning Commission, Gina Burritt
Delaware County TMA, Tracy Barusevicius
SEPTA, Liz Smith
Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia, Patrick Monahan
PPTF, Bonita Cummings
PPTF, Patricia Kidd

DVRPC STAFF

Ariella Maron, Alyssa Driscoll, Renee Wise, Jackie Davis, Stacy Bartels, Jesse Buerk, Travis Spotts, Karin Morris, Amy Lam, Alison Hastings, Gina Myers, Elise Turner, Shoshana Akins, Najah Jackson, Patty Elkids, Matt Gates, Sean Greene, Jason Crouch, Richard Murphy, Ethan Fogg, Greg Krykewycz, Brad Lane, Kelsey McElduss, Liz Compitello, Van Doan, Rebecca Wetzler, Jonathan Alexander, Marissa Cruse, John Coscia, Brett Fusco, Devon Rogers, Mike Boyer, Paul Smith, Shawn Megill Legendre, Glenn McNichol, Alyson Dressman, Christopher Mulroy, Amy Verbofsky, Kevin Murphy, Christopher Linn

CALL TO ORDER: CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Eric Powers called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was a public comment made by Charlie Reichner, a resident of Bucks County. He brought up the conditions of a twelve-mile section of Route 611, North of Doylestown, that he would like to see repaired and replaced. He collected over 900 signatures on a petition to have this repair placed as a project added to the PA Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). He sent this petition and a written comment to the DVRPC Board as a public comment on a Non-Action Item. A more formal and detailed response from PennDOT was pending at the time of the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Meeting Minutes of July 27, 2023

ACTION: Approve minutes of the Board Meeting on July 27, 2023.

MOTION by Mr. Mosca, seconded by Ms. Reuther. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions

Jesse Buerk, DVRPC Manager, Office of Capital Programs, presented the following TIP Actions to the Board.

PRESENTATION.

- a. PA23-73: Statewide Multimodal Transportation Fund Projects (various MPMS#s) Various Counties – Accept New Projects into the TIP [Action Item Description.](#)

Board Discussion:

Mr. Harvie clarified that the section of road discussed here is different from the one referenced in the public comment heard today.

ACTION: Approve TIP Action PA23-73, PennDOT's request that DVRPC accept the listed Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) projects, as well as their additional funds into the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania. Three projects with a total amount of \$5,372,000 State 411 funding will be added to the TIP for Construction in FY24:

- Hillman Drive Extension (MPMS #118392) - \$1,089,000 State 411 (Delaware County)
- Colledgeville Road Safety Improvement/Multi Use Trail (MPMS #118387) - \$2,933,000 (Montgomery County)
- State 411, Route 611 Improvements Willow Grove Interchange (MPMS #118389) - \$1,350,000 State 411 (Montgomery County)

MOTION by Ms. Morton, seconded by Mr. Edmond. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

- b. PA23-74: Projects PA23-74: Projects of Significance (MPMS #115472), SEPTA – Add New Projects to Program [Action Item Description.](#)

Public comments were submitted by Jarrett Johnson [\[Comments\]](#)

ACTION: Approve TIP Action PA23-74, SEPTA's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project, the SEPTA Rebirth of Southwest Philadelphia Transportation Network project, to the Projects of Significance Program (MPMS #115472) in the amount of \$25,000,000 RAISE funding for the FY24 ERC phase; and adding the Regional Rail Master Plan Implementation project to the project description.

MOTION by Mr. Pulchalsky, seconded by Ms. Lampitt. Motion passed, with an abstention from the City of Chester.

- c. PA23-75: Maintenance and Transportation Facilities (MPMS #102569), SEPTA – Add New Projects to Program [Action Item Description](#).

ACTION: Approve TIP Action PA23-75, SEPTA's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project, the SEPTA Depot Zero-Emission Bus (ZEB) Power Resiliency project, to the Maintenance and Transportation Facilities Program (MPMS #102569). The total cost estimate for the project is \$100,000,000 (\$80,000,000 5339C/\$20,000,000 LOC). SEPTA is requesting to add the \$80,000,000 5339C funding, which are additional funds to the region, to the TIP. The \$20,000,000 local match is already accounted for in the program.

MOTION by Ms. Reuther, seconded by Ms. Morton. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

- d. PA23-76: Wyebrook Road over East Brandywine Creek (MPMS #86280), Chester County – Add New Act 13 Bridge Project to the TIP [Action Item Description](#).

ACTION: Approve TIP Action PA23-76, Chester County's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, Wyebrook Road over East Brandywine Creek (MPMS #86280) in the amount of \$2,500,000; programmed as follows: \$175,000 ACT 13 for the Preliminary Engineering (PE) Phase in FY24; \$175,000 ACT 13 for the PE Phase in FY25; \$200,000 ACT 13 for the Final Design (FD) Phase in FY25; \$25,000 ACT 13 for the Right-of-Way (ROW) Phase in FY25; \$150,000 ACT 13 for the FD Phase in FY26; \$25,000 ACT 13 for the Utility (UTL) Phase in FY26; \$500,000 (\$250,000 ACT 13/\$250,000 LOC) for the Construction (CON) Phase in FY26; and \$1,250,000 Local funding for the CON Phase in FY27.

MOTION by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Harvie. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

- e. PA23-77: Lincoln Highway Streetscape Project (MPMS #111761), Chester County – Add New Project to the TIP [Action Item Description](#).

ACTION: Approve TIP Action PA23-77, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, Lincoln Highway Streetscape project (MPMS #111761) in the amount of \$1,331,000 (\$1,281,000 State e581/\$50,000 LOC), programmed as follows: \$90,000 for the Preliminary Engineering (PE) Phase in FY23; \$90,000 for the Final Design (FD) Phase in FY23; \$50,000 for the Utility (UTL) Phase in FY23; and \$1,101,000 for the Construction (CON) Phase in FY24.

MOTION by Mr. Mosca, seconded by Mr. Maxwell. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

- f. PA23-78: St. Peter's Road Retaining Wall Project (MPMS #111572), Chester County – Add New Project to the TIP [Action Item Description](#).

ACTIONS: Approve TIP Action PA23-78, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project to the TIP, St. Peter's Road Retaining Wall Project (MPMS #111572) in the amount of \$5,500,000 State 581, programmed as follows: \$356,000 for the Preliminary Engineering (PE) Phase in FY23, \$330,000 for the Final Design (FD) Phase in FY24, \$72,000 for the Utility (UTL) Phase in FY25, \$72,000 for the Right-of-Way (ROW) Phase in FY25, and \$4,670,000 for the Construction (CON) Phase in FY26.

MOTION by Mr. Mosca, seconded by Mr. Maxwell. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

- g. PA23-79: Route for Change Short-term MEGA Grant Safety Projects Implementation: Transforming Philadelphia's Roosevelt Boulevard (US 1) (Various MPMS #s), Philadelphia County – Add New Projects to the TIP [Action Item Description](#)

Public comments were submitted by Ted Zellers [\[Comments\]](#)

Board Discussion:

Chris Pulchalsky corrected that this is funded by automated speed enforcement grants.

ACTION: Approve TIP Action PA23-79, the City of Philadelphia and PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding two new projects into the TIP in the total amount of \$78,000,000 MEGA, the US 1: Broad Street – Adams Avenue (MPMS #119822) project, in the amount of \$33,300,000 for Construction in FY26; and the US 1: Adams Avenue Old Lincoln Highway (MPMS #119836) project, in the amount of \$44,700,000 for Construction in FY26. The projects will be funded by the USDOT MEGA Grant Program. These funds are additional to the region and are outside the Core Funding distributions. PennDOT is also adding \$10 of regional federal STU funds to each project (\$20 total) at this time in order to process a 4232 that will allow PennDOT to establish an end date for the project so the City of Philadelphia can begin their design and receive credit towards their local match.

MOTION by Mr. Puchalsky, seconded by Ms. Morton. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

3. Adoption of the Conformity Determination of the Amendments to the Connections 2050 Long-Range Plan and FY 2023 TIP for Pennsylvania and Draft FY2024 TIP for New Jersey

Sean Greene, DVRPC Manager, Office of Freight and Clean Transportation, presented the following action to the Board. [Action Item Description. PRESENTATION \(slide 24\).](#)

Board Discussion:

Ed Potosnak asked whether conformance will become easier as buses, public transportation, passenger vehicles, and light and heavy duty vehicles are electrified. Mr. Greene responded that electric vehicles are one strategy to reduce emissions but meeting air quality standards in the future will require more comprehensive strategies. Climate change is impacting air quality and causing new challenges, such as increased wildfires. It is important to invest in projects that help to reduce pollution from our transportation system.

ACTION: Adopt the conformity findings of the Connections 2050 LRP, FY 2024 TIP for New Jersey, and FY 2023 TIP for Pennsylvania for Ozone and PM2.5 in the DVRPC planning area by adopting Resolution B-FY24-001.

MOTION by Mr. Potosnak, seconded by Mr. Edmond. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

4. Adoption of Draft Amendment 2 to the Connections 2050 Long-Range Plan

Jackie Davis, DVRPC Manager, Office of Long Range Planning, presented the following action to the Board. [Action Item Description. PRESENTATION \(slide 46\).](#)

ACTION: Adopt Amendment 2 to the Connections 2050 Plan for Greater Philadelphia, the region's Long-Range Plan, and revise the scope, funding, status, and/or timing of 16 major regional projects by adopting Resolution B-FY24-002.

MOTION by Ms. Lampitt, seconded by Mr. Mosca. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

5. Adoption of the Draft DVRPC FY 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey (FY24-FY27) NJ TIP

Rick Murphy, DVRPC Manager, Office of TIP Development and Maintenance, presented the following action to the Board. [Action Item Description. PRESENTATION \(slide 62\).](#)

ACTION: Approve the Draft DVRPC FY2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for New Jersey (FY24-FY27) and Recommended Changes as the region's official selection of transportation projects for federal funding, by passing resolution number B-FY24-003.

MOTION by Ms. Floyd, seconded by Ms. Morton. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

6. DVRPC FY 2024 Work Program Amendment: Add Funding for the I-95 TDM work to project 24-70-300

Stacy Bartels, DVRPC Manager, Office of TDM Strategy and Marketing, presented the following action to the Board.

[Action Item Description. PRESENTATION \(slide 93\).](#)

ACTION: Approve amending the FY2024 Work Program to add funding in the amount of \$232,500 for I-95 TDM outreach work for project 24-70-300 (MPMS# 106654).

MOTION by Mr. Mosca, seconded by Mr. Edmond. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

7. DVRPC FY 2024 Work Program Amendment: Phase II of Connectivity Options for US202 Section 200

Kelsey McElduff, DVRPC Phase II Connectivity Options, Rt 202 UPWP Amendment, presented the following action to the Board.

Action Item Description. [PRESENTATION](#) (slide 97).

ACTION: Amend the FY2024 UPWP to add project 23.52.180 Connectivity Options for US202 Section 200 (Phase II) in the amount of \$62,145 to support project completion in FY2024.

MOTION by Mr. O'Leary, seconded by Ms. Lampitt. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

8. 2020 Adjusted Urban Area Update for New Jersey

Matt Gates, DVRPC Associate Director, Travel Trends and Forecasts, presented the following action to the Board. **Action Item Description. [PRESENTATION](#) (slide 101).**

Board Discussion:

Patty Elkis noted that the RTC had a discussion and ended up making a recommendation that the Board approve this action contingent on the resolution of issues raised by NJDOT. Prior to the Board meeting, all of the issues raised by NJDOT have been resolved.

ACTION: Approve of the Adjusted Urban Area for Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer Counties.

MOTION by Ms. Floyd, seconded by Mr. Stanuikynas. All votes were cast in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

PRESENTATION ITEMS

9. Public Participation Task Force UPWP Development Considerations

Shoshana Akins, DVRPC Manager of Public Participation Planning, shared input from the Public Participation Task Force on the development of the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program. **[PRESENTATION](#) (slide 110).**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. One Minute Reports

Eric Powers, NJDOT, reported that Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti has been appointed by Governor Murphy to be his Chief of staff.

Keith Henderson, DCA, reported that there is a leadership change at the NJ Department of Community Affairs, The Governor has appointed a new Acting Commissioner, who was formerly the Director of the Local Division of Local Government Services. The appointment is awaiting Senate confirmation.

Ed Potosnak, echoed his excitement that Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti has been appointed by Governor Murphy to be his Chief of staff. He spoke about her transportation background and that he looked forward to her bringing her skills to a wider area.

Jim Mosca announced that he has accepted a new position and will be transitioning out of his current role. He thanked DVRPC for working with him throughout his time. David Alas will be the alternate for Deputy Secretary Shifflet until his position is filled.

Brian O'Leary, Chester County, thanked Ms. Maron for the keynote address she gave at Chester County's Sustainability Summit. He also thanked PennDOT for the TIP actions they sponsored in the meeting.

Christine Reuther, Delaware County, celebrated Delaware County's Sustainability Commission releasing its first report, [SustainDelcoPlan](#), which was accepted by Council. She mentioned that there are over 250 action items and delineates what the county can and cannot control, setting the tone for future discussions on where the county can lead implementation and where the county has a limited role.

Matthew Edmond, Montgomery County, mentioned that his planning staff looks forward to the American Planning Association PA Chapter's annual meeting, where they will be leading half a dozen sessions including one with DVRPC' Patty Elkis on Open Space Preservation Programs. [\[APA PA Conference\]](#)

Christopher Pulchalsky, City of Philadelphia, notified the Board that the Philadelphia City Planning Commission released an update to the [Philadelphia Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan](#), which includes a map of a high quality bike network with the goal to have every resident living within a quarter mile from a high quality bike facility. By the end of 2023 there will be up to 50 miles of protected bike facilities. He also provided an update to the Chinatown Stitch: Reconnecting Philadelphia to Vine Street, a project that is exploring the capping of a portion of the Vine Street Expressway. Using what was learned from the first round of public engagement, the City has developed three concepts for the Chinatown Stitch cap and has opened a public [survey](#) to obtain feedback on the designs.

Louis Millan, NJ Transit, reported on the ridership data for NJ Transit: rail is at 73%, bus systems are in the high 80s, and light rail is around 90%. While these numbers are good, Mr. Milan noted that NJ Transit is expecting to experience a fiscal cliff once the Covid Relief Funds end. He also reported the work with NJDOT on the state's Long Range Plan and the State Rail Plan, and the agency's internal planning on proposed future investments.

Rohan Hepkins, PATCO, said that PATCO remains operating at 50% of pre-pandemic ridership, while bridges are at 90% to 93% of pre-pandemic levels. He noted that PATCO has not had a fare increase in the past 13 years, but that is a consideration in the coming years.

Jason Simmons, FHWA-NJ, said they are in the final approval stage of the NJ Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, and shared a reminder that the next round of competitive fundings for the SMART grants program is due October 10. He also reminded the Board that a federal government shut down would not affect the operation of the Federal Highway Association, but there might be a few delays. [\[NJ STIP\]](#) [\[FHWA Smart Grants\]](#)

Michael Shorr, PA Department of Community and Economic Development, shared that the Governor kicked off a process to develop the first statewide economic development strategy in nearly two decades. He also reminded the Board that the Statewide Local Share Account Program is currently open and accepting applications until November. The program is similar to the multimodal transportation program with around \$265 million in funding, and he encouraged people to review the wording that has been added to the program description. [\[Gov. Shapiro Economic Development Strategy\]](#) [\[Local Share Account Overview\]](#)

11. Executive Director's Report

- a. *FY'25 Work Program development status update* - Ms. Maron reported that DVRPC has received proposals from most of the member governments and they will be discussed on October 10th, after the RTC meeting.
- b. *Long Range Plan 2025*- DVRPC has started outreach for the Long Range Plan 2025. [\[LRP Survey\]](#)
- c. [\[Federal funding updates\]](#) - DVRPC was one of six community teams, and the only metropolitan region, awarded the Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) partnerships program to help develop tailored decarbonization strategies and clean energy solutions. DVRPC submitted this application in partnership with several other partners. With this support, DVRPC and its partners aim to identify the most impactful clean energy solutions for southeast PA and create a Regional Clean Energy Activation Hub. DVRPC consultant updates. Several other IIJA related updates were reported as well, including conditions awards from the NEVI program for seven locations, Safe Street For All is under contract with FHWA now, and DVPRC and SEPTA received the Areas of Persistent Poverty Grant. [\[Clean Energy to Communities Partnership Announcement\]](#)
- d. *NOFOs* - Several NOFO opportunities are available at the following links: [\[TOD Pilot\]](#) [\[SMART Grants\]](#) [\[Diesel Emissions Reduction Act\]](#) [\[Reconnecting Communities & Neighborhoods\]](#) [\[Pathways to Removing Obstacles\]](#)
- e. *FY '24 Budget Amendment* - Next month, at the October 27, 2023, Board meeting, DVRPC will present a proposed FY'24 budget amendment to the Executive Committee, reflecting the recent federal grant awards. .

12. Committee Reports

- a. [Regional Technical Committee](#)
- b. [Regional Safety Task Force](#)

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ACTION: Adjourn the Board meeting and move into the Executive session.

MOTION by Mr. O'Leary, seconded by Ms. Reuther. Motion passed. All votes were cast in favor of the motion.