

Board Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2024 | 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, **Larry Shifflet**
Pennsylvania Governor's Appointee, **Jonathan Korus**
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy & Planning Office, **Anthony Luker**
Burlington County, **Tom Stanuikynas**
Camden County, **Ilene Lampitt**
Gloucester County, **Nick Cressman, Emily McGrath**
Mercer County, **Mathew Lawson**
Bucks County, **Richard Brahler**
Chester County, **Josh Maxwell**
Delaware County, **Christine Reuther**
Montgomery County, **Scott France**
City of Camden, **Edward Williams**,
City of Trenton, *(not represented)*
City of Chester, *(not represented)*
City of Philadelphia, **Chris Puchalsky, Martine DeCamp**

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Federal Highway Administration, New Jersey Division, **Jason Simmons**
Federal Highway Administration, PA Pennsylvania Division, **Gene Porochniak**
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, **Jeremy Colangelo-Bryan**
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, *(not represented)*
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, **Patrick Patterson**
Delaware River Port Authority, **Darlene Callands**
Port Authority Transit Corporation, **Rohan K. Hepkins**
New Jersey Office of Planning Advocacy, *(not represented)*
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, **Michael Shorr**

DVRPC CO-COUNSEL

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

GUESTS

Bucks County, Evan Stone
Bucks County TMA, Stephen Noll
Burlington County, Carol Thomas
Chester County, Patty Quin

Chester County, Brian Styche
City of Philadelphia, Martine Decamp
City of Camden, June Morton
Connect The Dots, Stephanie Fuetes
Delaware County, Gina Burritt
Delaware River Port Authority, Jalila Parker
Dewberry, Jack Kanarek
Drive Engineering, Jason Mills
DVGMTF, Kelvin MacKavanagh
McCormick Taylor, Micheal Russo
Montgomery County, Matt Edmond
Montgomery County, Matt Popek
New Jersey, Laura Wilton
NJDOT, Megan Fackler
PennDOT, David Alas
PennDOT, Kristin Mulkerin
Philadelphia Bicycle Coalition, Patrick Monahan
PPTF Judith Fagin
PPTF Lee Wolfe
PPTF, Jerrett Johnson
Urban Engineers, Danielle Baer

DVRPC STAFF

Alison Hastings, Alyson Dressman, Alyssa Driscoll, Ariella Maron, Amy Lam, Brett Fusco, Chris Mulroy, Elise Turner, Ethan Fogg, Gina Myers, Glenn McNichol, Greg Krykewycz, Jackie Davis, Jesse Buerk, Karin Morris, Mike Boyer, Najah Jackson, Renee Wise, Richard Murphy, Shawn Megil Legendra, Shoshana Akins, Spencer Gober, Thom Stead, Travis Spotts, Vanessa Doan, Widel Desir

CALL TO ORDER: CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Eric Powers called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Executive Director's Report

- a. *Air Quality Awareness Week*- National Air Quality Awareness Week was May 6-10, 2024. DVRPC marked the occasion by calling attention to important air quality issues and promoting actions individuals can take to make a difference. [\[DVRPC News-Air Quality Awareness Week Kicks Off Ozone Season\]](#)
- b. *Regional Trails Update*- DVRPC received 37 applications for the Regional Trails Program. The selection committee of DVRPC member counties and cities, along with PA and NJ representatives and the Circuit Trails Coalition, are currently reviewing the applications and will select candidates to recommend to the Board for award.
- c. *New Jersey TASA*- DVRPC completed a review of the candidates for New Jersey's Regional Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) program and is recommending to NJDOT that five projects, totalling over \$20 million and representing projects in each of the New Jersey counties DVRPC serves, be invited to apply.
- d. *Safe Streets for All*- DVRPC submitted a proposal for the latest round of SS4A funding to advance the Regional Vision Zero Plan.
- e. *Publications*- A user guide for DVRPC's Plan-TIP Project Evaluation Criteria is now available on DVRPC's website. can also be found on DVRPC's website. [\[Plan-TIP Project Evaluation Criteria\]](#)
- f. *Events* - In addition to a recap of recent meetings, Ms. Maron shared information on two upcoming workshops hosted by DVRPC in partnership with the University City District that will focus on the Intersection of Complete Streets and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. [\[At the Intersection of Complete Streets and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design: An Introductory Workshop- Ticketleap\].](#)

Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

DVRPC received five written comments regarding agenda items. One public comment by Ross Abel was made during the meeting. He asked for support of the TCDI project in Montgomery County, which was echoed in his written comment as well. [\[Public Comments\]](#)

ACTION ITEMS

1. Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2024

ACTION: Approve minutes of the Board Meeting on April 25, 2024.

MOTION by Ms. Reuther, seconded by Mr. Potosnak. 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 proposed TIP Actions to the Board. [PRESENTATION](#). Note that Action Items e and f were combined for voting purposes.

- a. PA23-110: Concrete Arch Bridge Repair (MPMS #113416), Various Counties– Add New Project to the TIP [Action Item Description](#)

ACTION: Approve TIP Action PA23-110, PennDOT’s request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project, the Concrete Arch Bridge Repair Project, in the amount of \$100,000 State 185 funds for the ROW phase in FY24.

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

- b. PA23-111: Reed Rd over Whetstone Run (MPMS #103521), Delaware County –Advance Funding to Current FY [Action Item Description](#)

Board Discussion

Ms. Reuther noted that this project had been planned for a long time. This recent action prompted Delaware County to revisit the criteria used to identify priority investments, including the inclusion of equity considerations.

ACTION: Approve TIP Action PA23-111, PennDOT’s request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by advancing \$500,000 BOF/Toll Credit to FY24 for the Preliminary Engineering (PE) Phase of the Reed Rd over Whetstone Run project (MPMS #103521).

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

- c. PA23-112: North Valley Road over Amtrak (MPSM #47979), Chester County – Delay CON Phase [Action Item Description](#)

A public comment was submitted by Jerrett Johnson [\[Comment\]](#)

ACTION: Approve TIP Action PA23-112, PennDOT’s request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by shifting \$12.655 M BRIP/Toll Credit from FY24 to FY29 (\$11.574 M BRIP/Toll Credit) and FY30 (\$0.926 M BRIP/ \$0.155 M STU/Toll Credit). This project will be carried on the Draft FY2025 TIP with CON funding beginning in FY25.

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

- d. PA23-113: I-76 Parallel Arterials Phase 2 (MPMS #119476), Montgomery County – Add New Project to the TIP [Action Item Description](#)

ACTION: Approve TIP Action PA23-113, PennDOT's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by adding a new project, I-76 Parallel Arterials Phase 2 (MPMS #119476) for CON in the amount of \$10,000,000 Green Light-Go (State 073) funding (FY24: \$3,500,000, FY25: \$3,500,000, FY26: \$3,000,000). These are additional funds to the region and are outside of the Core DVRPC Funding distributions.

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

- e. PA23-114: Federal Preventive Maintenance Program (MPMS #60317), SEPTA – Increase OP Phase [Action Item Description](#)
- f. PA23-115: Regional Rail Car and Locomotive Acquisition Program (MPMS #60638), Various Counties – Decrease PUR Phase [Action Item Description](#)

A public comment was submitted by Jerrett Johnson [\[Comment\]](#)

ACTIONS:

- Approve TIP Action PA23-114, SEPTA's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by increasing the FY24 Operations (OP) Phase of the SEPTA Federal Preventative Maintenance Program (MPMS #60317) by \$77,140,000 (\$61,712,000 Section 5337/\$15,428,000 LOC) to meet operating needs.
- Approve TIP Action PA23-115, SEPTA's request that DVRPC amend the FY2023 TIP for Pennsylvania by decreasing the FY24 Purchase of Equipment (PUR) Phase of the SEPTA Regional Rail Car and Locomotive Acquisition Program (MPMS #60638) by \$63,712,000 (\$61,712,000 Section 5337/\$1,935,000 State 1514/\$65,000 LOC).

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

3. **FY 2025 Project Selection for the Pennsylvania Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) Program**

Spencer Gober, DVRPC, Manager, Office of Community and Economic Development, presented the following action to the Board. [Action Item Description](#) [PRESENTATION \(slide 18\)](#)

We received three public comments during the public comment period, submitted by Ross Abel, Dominic Vasturia, and Hammam Aldouri. An additional fifteen comments were made after the public comment period closed and all were in support of this action. They are included in this document as well. [\[Comment\]](#)

ACTION: Approve the list of recommended FY2025 Pennsylvania TCDI projects and authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with each selected project sponsor and if applicable, contract with a qualified consultant to undertake the project in accordance with the scope of work and awarded amount.

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

4. **Subrecipient Scopes and Budgets for Trip Smart PA Program**

Greg Krukewycz, DVRPC, Director of Transportation Planning, presented the following action to the Board. [Action Item Description](#) [PRESENTATION \(slide 32\)](#)

ACTIONS: Approve the list of selected FY25-26 Travel Option Program (TOP) projects totaling \$1,235,600 million which consists of: New Jersey - \$225,000 (\$125K STBG-PHILA, \$100k CMAQ) and Pennsylvania - \$1,010,600 (STU), and approve amending the FY2025 DVRPC UPWP to add \$287,500 to project 25-80-100.

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS

5. **Updates on Major Equity Initiatives** [PRESENTATION \(slide 44\)](#)

Jackie Davis, DVRPC, Manager, Office of Long Range Planning, Greg Krukewycz, DVRPC, Director of Transportation Planning, and Jesse Buerk, DVRPC, Manager, Office of Capital Programs presented on Major Equity Initiatives. While DVRPC has many initiatives underway, this presentation focused on Connections 2050 focus groups, the findings from an analysis of the Pennsylvania TIP, and an update and overview of the Supporting Communities program.

Board Discussion

Referencing her experience with reevaluating the way Delaware County is prioritizing projects, Ms. Reuther asked DVRPC how the traditional tools used to prioritize projects, which have inherent bias in them, can be reevaluated to support a more equitable future. Jesse Buerk recognized that DVRPC has made efforts to develop data sets that bring nuanced information beyond the physical condition of an area or the number of vehicles. He also noted that this is part of the continuation of the TIP analysis. Greg Krykewycz noted that community outreach is part of the Supporting Communities program..

Mr. Puchalsky shared the challenges related to balancing funding for all projects within the region, while working to maximize federal discretionary funding awards. While the City of Philadelphia has been successful in federal competitive grant applications that focus on the needs of disadvantaged communities, he acknowledged that there is a tradeoff. Mr. Buerk acknowledged the nuance in these initiatives and that there is difficulty in finding balance with all the needs in the region.

Mr. France thanked Greg Krykewycz and the DVRPC staff who work on the Supporting Communities program.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. **DVRPC Nominating Committee Report: Proposed Candidates for FY 2025 Board Officers**

7. **One Minute Reports**

Eric Powers, NJDOT, urges those traveling for Memorial Day to drive safely. He also appreciated the presentations given and noted that doing work to ensure equity is important.

Keith Henderson, NJDCA, gave an update on the Fair Housing Act. The process of determining municipal, statewide affordable housing needs will be included in a report on statewide allocation of affordable housing obligations at the municipal level by September 16.

Ed Potosnak, NJ Governor's Appointee, announced NJ Governor Murphy's plans to endorse New Jersey Pact Real, which stands for New Jersey Protecting Against Climate Threats, Resilient Environment and Landscapes. The goal of this rule is to ensure that climate change is considered when making infrastructure choices to protect future generations. [\[NJPACT\]](#)

Tom Stanuikynas, Burlington County, presented at the DVRPC Public Participation Task Force. He thanked Wideleine Desir and DVRPC for the opportunity to participate.

Matt Lawson, Mercer County, reported that there was a lot of excitement at Mercer County's Safe Streets for All kick off meeting, which DVRPC is funding in all counties in the DVRPC region. Mercer County is looking forward to future grants, the prospect of implementing new policies, and potentially advancing projects for federal funding.

Kristin Mulkerin, PennDOT, updated the Board on the Transportation Alternative Set Aside (TASA) Awards. PennDOT received 137 eligible applications, and they were able to award 55 projects totalling \$49.5 million. The DVRPC region submitted 32 eligible applications and was awarded 13, totalling \$11.85 million. PennDOT is also celebrating the completion of repairs to I-95 at Cotton Avenue. [\[TASA\]](#)

Anthony Luker, PA Governor's Policy & Planning Office, thanked everyone involved in completing the important I-95 repairs. He also highlighted that the Governor launched the new tourism brand for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania called the Great American Getaway. It aligns with the Governor's economic strategy and the proposed \$18 million investment in tourism and business marketing. [\[Visit PA- Great American Getaway\]](#)

Christine Reuther, Delaware County, reported that the SEPTA Key Advantage program has started, and it's already expanded to cover Fair Acres Nursing Home. She's excited to be able to provide this benefit to a transit dependent population.

Scott France, Montgomery County, shared that the new Commissioner sponsored a summit on housing affordability and homelessness on April 20th. He acknowledged the challenges that come with facing this issue and affirmed the commitment to working with the planning commission and DVRPC to find solutions and utilize resources.

Martine DeCamp, City of Philadelphia, thanked DVRPC for its focus on equity and the presentation in today's meeting. She highlighted a parking inventory underway for University City, this is updated every five years. She also shared that the Streets Department received an award for outstanding structural engineering from the Susquehanna Chapter of the Association for Bridge Construction and Design. [\[University City Parking Inventory\]](#)

Jeremy Colangelo-Bryan, NJ Transit, noted that there are several events that are planned to cross state lines, such as the IFA World Cup and America 250, both coming in 2026. He also affirmed NJ Transit's efforts in advocating for different approaches to transit as they work to improve in many ways.

Ruhan Hepkins, PATCO, updated everyone on the Franklin Square station, which will be opening in the Fall 2024.

Gene Porochniak, FHWA-PA, highlighted several approaching application deadlines for US DOT discretionary grants. Included are the Low-Carbon Transportation Materials Grants Program on June 10, the Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program on June 17, and the Safe Streets for All Planning and Demonstration Grants on August 29. There is also a comment deadline approaching for the US DOT Federal Register Notice that was issued for a request for designations for the National Multimodal Freight Network. Lastly, he brought attention to the resources the US DOT recently published on asset management which include integrating highway asset management into planning and programming as well as integrating transit asset management. [\[Low-Carbon Transportation Materials Grants Program\]](#) [\[Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program\]](#) [\[Safe Streets for All Planning and Demonstration Grants\]](#) [\[Integrating Highway Asset Management into Planning and Programming\]](#) [\[Federal Register Notice for Designating the National Multimodal Freight Network\]](#)

Michael Shorr, PA DCED, reminded the Board that the Act 13 Programs are open, specifically highlighting the Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program, close at the end of May and the CFA multimodal transportation program is open through the end of July. [\[Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program \(GTRP\)\]](#) [\[Multimodal Transportation Fund\]](#)

8. Committee Reports

- a. [Regional Technical Committee](#)

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ACTION: Adjourn the Board meeting at 11:58 and move into the Executive Session.

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