



mission

dvrpc's mission is to proactively shape a comprehensive vision for the region's future growth. We will do so by providing technical assistance and services; conducting high priority studies that respond to the requests and demands of member states and local governments; fostering cooperation among various constituencies to forge a consensus on diverse regional issues; determining and meeting the needs of the private sector; and continuing ***public outreach*** efforts that promote two-way ***communication*** and enhance ***public awareness*** of regional issues and of DVRPC.



THE COMMISSION

Established in 1965, the *Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC)* provides comprehensive, coordinated planning for the orderly growth and development of the bi-state region.

As an interstate, intercounty and intercity agency, DVRPC advises on regional policy and capital funding issues concerning transportation, economic development, the environment and land-use. To satisfy the broadest constituency, we foster cooperation among member governments and agencies, private sector organizations, and the public. We also work closely with a host of agencies, including state departments of transportation, community affairs and environmental protection, the federal government, and regional transportation providers. No matter who we're serving, DVRPC is dedicated to delivering critical data and consulting services that will enhance the planning efforts for our nine-county metropolitan region.

DVRPC is governed by an 18-member Board which establishes regional policy, defines committee duties and adopts the annual work program. A 10-member Executive Committee oversees general operations and fiscal matters. Our planning and service functions are split among the Office of the Executive Director, Office of Public Affairs and three divisions: Transportation Planning, Regional Planning and Administration.

Financial support for the organization's diverse activities comes from federal, state, county, city, operating agencies, and private sector funds.

THE REGION

- Sixth largest metropolitan area in the nation
- Approximately 4,000 square miles
- Home to over 5 million residents and 2.8 million jobs
- Comprised of nine counties:

Pennsylvania

Bucks
Chester
Delaware
Montgomery
and Philadelphia counties

New Jersey

Burlington
Camden
Gloucester and Mercer counties

- Offers a diversity of educational and business opportunities
- Five dozen four-year colleges and universities
- More than 25 medical schools and teaching hospitals comprising the famous Medical Mile
- Headquarters to 15 Fortune 500 companies
- World's largest market for foreign currency options
- Safest of the ten large metropolitan areas in the US
- Vibrant tourism, cultural, and entertainment industries: Independence Mall, Avenue of the Arts, Camden Waterfront, First Union Center

Message from the Executive Director and Board Chair

Times have changed. As individuals, we are thinking differently and we are taking a serious look at our priorities. As an organization, DVRPC is also taking a look at where we've been and where we're going. We're constantly flexing our priorities to meet new demands and moving to the forefront those that most directly affect the citizens of this region.

Communicating our goals, getting feedback on our efforts and changing direction to accommodate the input we receive has given us a new focus. With the adoption of *Horizons*, the Year 2025 Long-Range Plan for the Delaware Valley, DVRPC's staff and Board placed public involvement right up front.

We have utilized our website to make information available to the broadest range of individuals. We have issued thousands of copies of the Plan to more

citizens than ever before. And, we have made our intent clear to more municipal, county and state leaders than ever. Our goal now is to make the Long-Range Plan a reality.

The point of our corridor studies, watershed evaluation, mobility alternatives and outreach efforts is *people*. The citizens of this region suffer the consequences of bad decisions and reap the rewards of the progress we make. We continue to believe that we represent the consensus of what is right for the Delaware Valley. We all want cleaner air, greater mobility, freedom of choice and an incomparable quality of life.

We at DVRPC have much to offer the region—through our professional and experienced staff, through a Board that represents many interests and through the knowledge that we are moving steadily toward the goal of fair and honest access to the best this region has to offer.

Whether we are serving as a source of information, focusing on bringing the region's leaders together to resolve issues or providing insights into the needs of our citizens, we have the clear mission to lead. We plan to move the Delaware Valley ahead, even in these times of insecurity and change. It is our role...and it is the right thing to do.



John J. Coscia
Executive Director



Timothy J. Carson, Esq.
Board Chair

leading

January 2002



SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
		1	2	3	4	5
		<i>New Year's Day DVRPC offices closed</i>				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	<i>Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday (Observed) DVRPC offices closed</i>					
27	28	29	30	31		

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Unless designated otherwise, all meetings listed on this calendar will be held in the DVRPC Conference Center located on the 8th Floor of The Bourse Building, 111 South Independence Mall East, Philadelphia, PA.

Meeting dates could change due to inclement weather or scheduling conflicts; please call DVRPC's General Reception number, **215-592-1800**, for meeting confirmation.

For information about other groups such as the Ozone Action Board, ITS Technical Task Force, Coastal Zone Management Team, Tri-County Water Quality Management Board or Urban Waterfront Action Group whose meeting dates were not finalized as of this printing, please consult the DVRPC website at www.dvrpc.org.

Mon., Jan. 7, 10 a.m.
Environmental Justice Public Involvement Task Force Meeting

Tues., Jan. 8, 10 a.m.
Regional Transportation Committee Meeting

Wed., Jan. 9, 10 a.m.
Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force Meeting

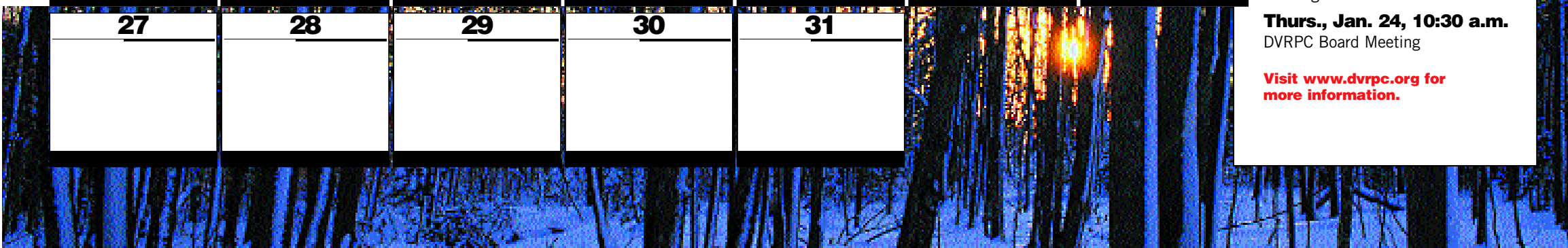
Thurs., Jan. 10, 10 a.m.
Greater Philadelphia Clean Cities Meeting

Thurs., Jan. 11, 10 a.m.
Regional Housing Committee Meeting

Tues., Jan. 15, Noon
Regional Citizens Committee Meeting

Thurs., Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m.
DVRPC Board Meeting

Visit www.dvrpc.org for more information.





DVRPC values and encourages public participation in its planning efforts. The

Commission reaches out to citizens in the region to engage them in a dialogue about transportation, land-use and environmental priorities. In conducting every study and plan, DVRPC takes advantage of the opportunity to connect and share information and ideas with the citizens of the region.

DVRPC has been actively engaging the public in the planning process since the 1970s when federal mandates outlined the basics of citizen involvement. Then, as now, the Commission went far beyond the minimal standards, establishing three citizen committees that have evolved into the Commission's Regional Citizens Committee. The Chairperson of the

Citizens Committee participates in regular Board meetings, making recommendations to the Board on environmental, transportation and land-use matters.

In all aspects of the agency's work, DVRPC strives to maintain early, frequent and continuous consultation with the public, to consider our policies and methods in the context of the communities directly impacted by our projects and to create an environment that encourages participation in development, assessment and decision making. At DVRPC, we believe that planning must be done with the public, as well as for the public.

A 1994 Presidential Executive Order directed every federal agency to make environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing the effects of all programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations to ensure fair

treatment. Fair treatment means that no group of people, including a racial, ethnic, or socio-economic group, should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal programs and policies.

In support of this mission, DVRPC has established two Environmental Justice Task Forces: one is a technical committee to review staff work in the area of mapping transportation improvements with the goal of overlaying low income and minority population data; the second committee is a public participation focus group that represents minority, low income, disabled, economic, religious, housing and educational groups.

connecting