

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc.

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION COMMITTEE

Freeholder Gene Feyl, Chairman
County Executive Thomas DeGise, Vice Chairman

Revised Minutes

May 9, 2011

I. Roll Call of Members

Chairman Feyl called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., and the roll was called. Thirteen voting members were present.

II. Salute to Flag

III. Action Item: Approval of Three Administrative Amendments to the FY 2010-2013 TIP

Eve Chamberlain, Central Staff, reported that revisions to the Transportation Improvement Program are needed to reflect funding source changes in state and federal funds for advancing two authorized projects that are ready for construction. The amendments involve the reallocation of federal funds that are no longer needed for work on the Route 7, Hackensack River Bridge (Wittpenn Bridge). Ms. Chamberlain said this project will now be funded under an agreement between the State of New Jersey and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ). She said the federal funding will now be allocated to the Route 35, Cheesequake Creek Bridge project in Middlesex County and the Route 130, Adams Lane project in Middlesex County. Additional funding for these two projects will be drawn from unobligated federal balances.

Hudson County Executive Thomas DeGise inquired about the certainty of the Wittpenn Bridge receiving the agreed-upon PANYNJ funding in a timely manner. He expressed concern that the action will expose the project, which has been set back multiple times in the past, to further delay. Tom Wospil, NJDOT, said the agreement between New Jersey and the PANYNJ calls for funding to be applied to the project in July, and if the PANYNJ does not provide the funding in a timely manner, the state will advance it and later be reimbursed. He noted the project schedule and said construction is anticipated to get underway this summer. Mr. DeGise said the project is of the highest priority for Hudson County. Lou Venech, PANYNJ, reported out that the Port Authority Board of Commissioners took action in March to authorize the Executive Director to negotiate an agreement with NJDOT for PANYNJ participation in the projects.

Mr. DeGise also expressed concern about the possibility that the project could be deemed ineligible for PANYNJ funding to be allocated to it because it does not connect directly to the Holland Tunnel. Mr. Wospil said it is the understanding of NJDOT that the project is eligible for PANYNJ funding, that it will be funded, and NJDOT will stand by the project. Mr. DeGise said that was a fair statement.

A motion to approve the amendments was made by Middlesex County, seconded by Ocean County, and carried unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m. by unanimous verbal acclaim.

Project Prioritization Committee
ATTENDANCE
May 9, 2011

VOTING MEMBERS	
Freeholder Gene Feyl (Chairman)	Morris County
County Executive Thomas DeGise (Vice Chairman)	Hudson County
Freeholder Matthew Holt	Hunterdon County
Freeholder Thomas Arnone	Monmouth County
Freeholder Angel Estrada	Union County
Rob Garrison	Bergen County
David Antonio	Essex County
George Ververides	Middlesex County
Frank Scarantino	Ocean County
Tom Drabic	Sussex County
Johanna Barba Jones	Governor's Authorities Unit
David Kuhn	NJDOT
Richard Roberts	NJ Transit
OTHERS	
Deena Cybulski	Morris County
Michael LaPlace	Passaic County
Mike Lysicatos	Passaic County
Thomas A. Wospil	NJDOT
Joseph Ettore	Monmouth County
John Lane	Hudson County
Lou Venech	PANYNJ
Mary K. Murphy	Central Staff
Karen Shannon	Central Staff
Mark Solof	Central Staff
Martin Hofler	Central Staff
David Behrend	Central Staff
Eve Chamberlain	Central Staff
Ann Ludwig	Central Staff
Jeffrey Perlman	Central Staff
Ted Ritter	Central Staff
Amy Magnuson	Central Staff
Beverly Morris	Central Staff