



Daniel P. Sullivan, Chairman
Mary K. Murphy, Executive Director

THE PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Freeholder Director Matthew Holt, Chairman
County Executive Joseph DiVincenzo, Vice Chairman

THE PROJECT PRIORITIZATION COMMITTEE

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

Joint Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2011

I. Roll Call of Members

PEDC Chairman Matthew Holt, Freeholder, Hunterdon County, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. There were 10 members of the PPC and 10 members of the PEDC present. One more PPC member arrived after approval of the minutes for a total of 19 individual members, two of whom are members of both committees.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 20th joint meeting was made by Somerset County, seconded by Jersey City and carried with 15 affirmative votes. Warren County abstained.

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 14th PPC teleconference was made by Morris County seconded by Jersey City and carried with eight affirmative votes. Essex, Hudson and Monmouth counties abstained.

III. Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) Report

RTAC Chairman Michael Lysicatos reported on the activities of the August 17th RTAC meeting. He said the RTAC had a chance to review all items on the joint committee agenda and had no major questions. Also at the meeting, the RTAC approved Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (UTCD) inventory training courses for the Subregional Training Program. Mr. Lysicatos said the RTAC also continued discussions on how best to integrate Transportation Management Association (TMA) participation in RTAC activities.

Freeholder Feyl announced that former RTAC chair, Deena Cybulski, had been promoted to the position of Morris County Director of Planning and Development.

IV. Action Items:

PEDC Action Item 1: Approval of the FY 2012 Project Development Work Program (PDWP)

Rich Stoolman, Central Staff, thanked the committee members and RTAC for their work with NJTPA staff and NJ Transit to resolve concerns about the PDWP that were raised at the June 20th joint meeting. He said that NJ Transit addressed each concern that was recorded in the meeting minutes and a revised NJ Transit portion of the PDWP was emailed to the Trustees and RTAC on August 1st. He distributed an addendum to the PDWP that reflected all changes made to the document since then.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Bergen County, seconded by Somerset County and carried unanimously.

PEDC Action Item 2: Approval of a series of modifications to the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Beth Johnson, Central Staff, outlined three modifications to the FY 2012 UPWP that were recommended by Central Staff.

- The first proposed using \$200,000 in available funding from the Planning and Needs Assessment Studies consultant effort line item in the UPWP to support the Morris/Warren County Rail Corridor Study, which will build on recommendations from the completed Morris County Infrastructure and Land Use Analysis by addressing vertical height clearance and weight constraints along the rail line. She said the action will not add additional funding to the FY 2012 budget.
- The second modification involves reprogramming \$85,000 in FY 2011 FHWA PL funds to the FY 2012 Equipment budget line item. Ms. Johnson explained that deliveries of several equipment items for the FY 2011 Subregional Technology Library and for Central Staff were received after the close of FY 2011, and for accounting purposes these transactions are considered completed in FY 2012 and must be paid from the FY 2012 account.
- The third modification will modify the FY 2012-2013 Subregional Studies program budget in Volume III of the UPWP by reallocating funding for the Sussex County Complete Streets Study to three FY 2012 subregional studies to be undertaken by Hudson County/Jersey City, Morris County and Passaic County. Ms. Johnson said Staff will assist Sussex County with their Complete Streets work and that the county concurs with the modification. This action will not add additional funding to the FY 2012 budget, as the funds have already been authorized.

There was no further discussion.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Jersey City, seconded by Warren County and carried unanimously.

PEDC Action Item 3: Approval of an amendment to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for Northern New Jersey (Plan 2035) and the NJTPA's Regional Air Quality Conformity Determination on the FY 2012 TIP and the amended Plan 2035

Lois Goldman, Central Staff, explained that federal regulations require that the long-range plan be amended to reflect the removal of ARC tunnel project from the RTP's project index and financial plan in order to keep the plan in compliance with federal mandates. Ms. Goldman said the amendment also includes the addition of the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Hudson Bergen Light Rail extension, west across Route 440 in Jersey City. Jersey City Councilman Michael Sottolano said he was delighted to see the extension project advance.

Ms. Goldman reported that the action also includes approval of the Regional Air Quality Conformity Determination on the Amended Plan and the FY 2012-2015 TIP. She said a public comment period (ending August 22nd) for the amendment was held concurrently with the TIP. She said there was one comment from Middlesex County requesting that funding released by the canceled ARC project be applied to Amtrak's proposed Gateway Project— a New York-New Jersey rail tunnel along the canceled ARC route.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Jersey City, seconded by Warren County and carried unanimously.

PPC Action Item 4: Approval of the FY 2012-2015 TIP Self-Certification

Martin Hofler, Central Staff, explained that, through self-certification, the NJTPA annually confirms it has followed all relevant federal regulations as part of the metropolitan transportation planning process, including the development of the Transportation Improvement Program.

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

PPC Action Item 5: Approval of the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the NJTPA's Regional Air Quality Conformity Determination on the FY 2012 TIP and the Amended Plan 2035

Mr. Hofler reported that list of projects in the \$10 billion FY 2012-2015 program represents the region's priorities as identified in the Regional Transportation Plan. He informed the committee of the possibility of proposed federal legislation that may reduce transportation funding once the legislation is passed.

Mr. Hofler reported that correspondence received during the public comment period included a letter containing eight questions regarding various projects from George Ververides, Middlesex County. Mr. Ververides indicated that the questions were answered to the County's satisfaction. David Behrend, Central Staff, reported that another letter was received from Middlesex requesting that the FY 2012 TIP include funding for new bus service from Plainsboro to the new Princeton medical center. He said the NJTPA is working with NJ Transit to identify funds for that purpose. He also reported that two other responses to the TIP/RTP public comment period were received. One was a resolution in support of the TIP from Roxbury Township, Morris County. The other was from the New Jersey Highlands Council, stating that the TIP poses no particular issues to Highlands projects. Mr. Behrend said he would provide any additional comments to the Board for their next meeting.

Ann Ludwig, Central Staff, highlighted various elements of a revised addendum to the FY 2012 TIP that reflected changes made to the document since it was previously distributed to the Trustees and RTAC.

Executive Director Mary K. Murphy pointed out that the CR 513, Prospect Street Bridge over Morristown Line project in Morris County and the Morris Avenue Bridge over Morristown Line project in Union County were not authorized in FY 2011, and their funding was reallocated to other projects. They were not programmed in the FY 2012 TIP. Karen Shannon explained that there have been discussions between NJDOT and NJ Transit, and a memorandum of understanding between the two agencies is in development to address funding and implementation of the two projects in FY 2012. David Kuhn, NJDOT, and Rich Roberts, NJ Transit said that the two agencies are working to find ways to move the projects forward soon. Ms. Murphy thanked Mr. Kuhn and Cheryl Brennan, NJDOT, for being there to answer any questions concerning the TIP.

Freeholder Holt inquired about funding for the NJDOT Local Aid program. Mr. Hofler said the Local Aid, Infrastructure Fund was down to \$10 million from \$17.5 million last year. Mr. Kuhn said that NJDOT has had to review old accounts for municipal projects that have not been completed and make use of unused funds from those accounts.

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

PPC Action Item 6: Approval of two administrative amendments to the FY 2010-2013 TIP to fund the TMA Shuttles and NJ Transit locomotive engine retrofits

Ms. Ludwig reported that the NJTPA and NJ Transit are requesting revisions to the TIP that are necessary to fund two programs that were approved by the Board in May. The administrative action will transfer \$2 million from the Local CMAQ Initiatives line item of the TIP to the following programs:

- Year Three of the Local Shuttle Program (\$1.2 million)
- Purchase of four rebuilt emissions reducing diesel locomotives engines (\$800,000)

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

PPC Action Item 7: Approval of three modifications to the FY 2010-2013 TIP to add funding to the Metropolitan Planning line item

Ms. Ludwig said it is necessary to reprogram \$6 million from two projects that were not authorized in FY 2011 to the Metropolitan Planning line item in the TIP. She explained that this line item supports subregional studies, local concept development studies, and the MUTCD sign inventory program. The two unauthorized projects are:

- Newton-Sparta Road Improvements, Sussex County (\$5 million)
- Monmouth County Bridge W7, W8, W9 (\$1 million)

Ms. Ludwig said the action will fully fund the FY 2012 UPWP and cover anticipated costs projected for FY 2013

A motion to approve the modifications was made by Essex County, seconded by Bergen County and carried unanimously.

V. Information Items

1. Federal Surface Transportation Authorization update – David Behrend, Central Staff

Mr. Behrend gave an overview of the uncertain status of the surface transportation authorization law and the federal gas tax, which are set to expire at the end of September. He said Congress is working on extending the legislation, and it is very likely that there will be a reduction in federal transportation funding in the near future.

2. HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Application update

Mr. Behrend reported that the NJTPA is working again with the state Office of Planning Advocacy and Rutgers University to pursue a new HUD regional planning grant. He said the consortium that collaborated on the previous application last year will remain largely the same for this round and will build upon the preferred sustainability status that was achieved as a result of that application. He said the pre-application for the grant was due August 24th and the final application must be submitted by September 30th. He said the NJTPA will reach out to Board members and the subregions to reconfirm their support and provide them with more details.

Ms. Murphy said the letters of support provided by nearly all the subregions for the previous application will be updated and distributed to the subregions for their resubmission signifying endorsement shortly, and a resolution endorsing the planning grant application will be prepared for PEDC and Board approval.

Ms. Murphy noted that more PPC action will be needed on more NJDOT and NJ Transit TIP modifications, and she proposed a possible special meeting of the Committee the morning of the scheduled August 29th Board meeting (which was subsequently canceled due to Hurricane Irene and rescheduled for September 12th).

Ms. Murphy announced that the NJTPA recently secured a grant from FHWA's competitive Transportation, Community and System Preservation (TCSP) program. She said the \$133,000 grant will be combined with local matching funds to conduct planning for transit-oriented development along the Union County Sustainability Corridor, a proposed bus rapid transit service area running on-road and in a dedicated right-of-way from Plainfield to Elizabeth. Ms. Murphy said the grant will also fund transit-oriented development planning in downtown Hackensack in Bergen County.

VI. Presentation: NJ Transit Score Card and Budget – Rich Roberts, NJ Transit

Richard Roberts introduced a video of a recent presentation made to the NJ Transit Board. The presentation focused on [NJ Transit's "Scorecard"](#) (the initiative involving a quarterly survey of transit customer satisfaction), and the agency's operating budget and capital program.

Following the video, Mr. Roberts said NJ Transit's new direction entails managing operations against a number of financial targets and establishing a different kind of transparency on how customer service, funding availability and resource allocation are balanced. A brief general discussion ensued.

VII. Adjournment

At 11:45 a.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Middlesex County, seconded by Warren County and carried unanimously.

JOINT COMMITTEE
ATTENDANCE
August 22, 2011

Project Prioritization Committee

VOTING MEMBERS	
Freeholder Gene Feyl, Chairman	Morris County
Freeholder Matthew Holt, Vice Chairman	Hunterdon County
Freeholder James Lacey	Ocean County
Robert Garrison	Bergen County
David Antonio	Essex County
John Lane	Hudson County
George Ververides	Middlesex County
Joseph Ettore	Monmouth County
Tom Drabic	Sussex County
David Kuhn	NJDOT
Richard Roberts	NJ Transit

Planning and Economic Development Committee

VOTING MEMBERS	
Freeholder Matthew Holt, Chairman	Hunterdon County
Councilman Michael Sottolano	Jersey City
Freeholder Jason Sarnoski	Warren County
David Antonio	Essex County
Mike Gelin	City of Newark
Michael Lysicatos	Passaic County
Walter Lane	Somerset County
David Kuhn	NJDOT
Richard Roberts	NJ Transit
Lou Venech	Port Authority of New York & NJ

OTHERS	
J. C. Greller	Hudson County
Sue Dziamara	Hunterdon County
Erik DeLine	Middlesex County
Joseph Ettore	Monmouth County
Anthony Gamallo	Monmouth County
Cheryl Brennan	NJDOT
Jim Vare	NJDOT
Lou Millan	NJ Transit
Frank Scarantino	Ocean County
John Ciaffone	TransOptions
Kamal Saleh	Union County

David Dech	Warren County
Brian Appezzato	Warren County
Mary K. Murphy	Central Staff
Karen Shannon	Central Staff
Amy Magnuson	Central Staff
David Behrend	Central Staff
Martin Hofler	Central Staff
Ann Ludwig	Central Staff
Lois Goldman	Central Staff
Beth Johnson	Central Staff
Rich Stoolman	Central Staff
Keith Miller	Central Staff
Beverly Morris	Central Staff