



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

## **Joint Meeting**

### **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

## **Minutes** **October 17, 2011**

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### **I. Roll Call of Members**

PEDC Chairman Matthew Holt, Freeholder Director, Hunterdon County, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. There were 11 members of the Planning and Economic Development Committee (PEDC) and 12 members of Project Prioritization Committee (PPC) present.

### **II. Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 22<sup>nd</sup> and September 12<sup>th</sup> joint meetings was made by Morris County, seconded by Jersey City and carried with 15 affirmative votes. Bergen and Union counties abstained.

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 2<sup>nd</sup> PPC teleconference was made by Morris County, seconded by Jersey City and carried with 11 affirmative votes. Essex County abstained.

### **III. Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) Report**

RTAC Chairman Michael Lysicatos reported on the activities of the October 12<sup>th</sup> RTAC meeting. Referring to one action item on the October 17<sup>th</sup> joint PEDC/PPC agenda (Action Item #2 below), which involved NJTPA acceptance of a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Transportation, Community and System Preservation program grant, Mr. Lysicatos said the RTAC supports acceptance of the grant. He emphasized the need for continued communication

between Central Staff and RTAC members regarding pursuit of new funding sources, a key element of the Board-approved Strategic Business Plan being implemented in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Mr. Lysicatos reported also that the committee was briefed by the NJTPA division directors on tasks proposed for the FY 2013 UPWP update. He said that, also at the meeting, John Ciaffone, President, TransOptions provided a detailed overview of New Jersey's eight Transportation Management Associations (TMAs). The Committee members were also informed that the NJTPA will host a two-day National Highway Institute (NHI) course in November, entitled Introduction to Federal-Aid Right of Way Requirements for Local Public Agencies.

#### IV. Action Items:

##### 1. Approval of FY 2012 local CMAQ initiatives funding for New Jersey's Clean Construction Program Phase 1

Liz DeRuchie, Central Staff, reported that Governor Christie issued Executive Order #60 establishing the New Jersey Clean Construction Program (NJCCP) to install pollution-control devices on off-road construction equipment used on selected NJDOT projects in urban areas, where cumulative exposure to pollution can create a disproportionate impact on residents of densely populated communities. She said the action will provide CMAQ funding that will allow the NJTPA to partner with NJDOT and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to implement approximately 175 equipment retrofits at NJDOT construction projects in the region. The overall cost of Phase 1 of the NJCCP is estimated at \$2,500,000; the NJTPA will contribute 32 percent (\$800,000 in FY 2012 CMAQ funds).

Melinda Dower, NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Diesel Risk Reduction Team joined the meeting later. She said the retrofit effort will be implemented over three years, and then evaluated in terms of logistics, contractual issues, and actual reduction in emissions, for purposes of eventually recommending mandatory equipment clean air standards for all construction in the state.

Tom Wospil, NJDOT, urged the NJDEP to apply for federal authorization of the CMAQ funds for the program as soon as possible so that NJDOT can process the application in an expeditious manner.

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

##### 2. Approval of three amendments to the FY 2012 UPWP

Beth Johnson, Central Staff, presented three proposed modifications to the FY 2012 UPWP:

- Addition of Transportation, Community and System Preservation (TCSP) grant funded effort—Ms. Johnson explained that the NJTPA was awarded a competitive grant in the amount of \$130,440 through the FHWA's TCSP program to develop community-based visions for transit-oriented development in Hackensack and the Union County

Sustainability Corridor between Plainfield and Elizabeth.

- Addition of development of a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Guidance Report that builds on the FHWA grant-funded Climate Change Vulnerability Analysis Tool Pilot Project. The report will identify a range of climate change adaptation strategies. This action will transfer \$20,000 of available funds from the Planning and Needs Assessment Studies consultant budget to the pilot program's consultant budget.
- Budget modification to add local CMAQ funds to support TMA ridesharing computer upgrade — Upon assuming the administration of the TMA program from NJDOT, the NJTPA now supports the RidePro computer program used by the TMAs to match commuters with shared rides. To continue support of the program in FY 2012, this action will allocate \$25,000 from the FY 2012 Local CMAQ Initiatives program to the FY 2012 UPWP Budget, under Direct Expenses.

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

3. Endorsement of the FY 2011 two-year New Freedom Program (FTA Section 5317) funds for the portion of the Allentown-Bethlehem urban area within the NJTPA region (portions of Warren and Hunterdon Counties)

David Schmetterer, Central Staff, reported that subsequent to Board endorsement of project proposals for the New Freedom grant program in May, 2011, Central Staff was informed by New Jersey Transit that approximately \$18,000 in unallocated New Freedom funds for the Allentown-Bethlehem Urban Area are available for emerging needs for expanded demand response services in Warren and Hunterdon Counties.

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

## V. Information Items

1. Solicitation for input into the FY 2013 Unified Planning Work Program

Karen Shannon, Central Staff, said there will be multiple opportunities for formal and informal comment from the subregions before and during the drafting of the FY 2013 UPWP, which is slated for Board approval in March. The FY 2013 UPWP development schedule was distributed along with the Table of Contents page listing Volumes I through VII, a summary of federal and state planning priorities and a letter from US DOT to NJDOT describing emphasis areas for statewide planning processes and products to be considered for 2013. Ms. Shannon highlighted, by division, several proposed Central Staff activities for the UPWP program, and she pointed out the relationship between activities proposed for the work program and the goals outlined on the NJTPA Strategic Business Plan Strategy Map, which also was distributed.

In answer to a question from Jersey City Councilman, Michael Sottolano, Ted Matthews, Central

Staff explained that the MARAD Marine Highway Program is focused on intra-coastal freight movement, and a consultant effort proposed for the FY 2013 UPWP will develop an overall view of the economics behind intra-coastal barge and ship movements and develop criteria for determining the viability of proposed marine highway freight movement services.

## 2. Initiation of Local Planning Assistance Pilot Program

Scott Rowe, Central Staff, reported that staff has been working with NJDOT, NJ Transit, and the New Jersey Redevelopment Authority to identify pilot locations for planning and regulatory work that will facilitate transit and pedestrian-oriented environments. He said that discussions have been held with Morristown, Little Falls, Bound Brook, Essex County, East Orange, and Orange to advance various initiatives.

## 3. HUD grant update

Mr. Rowe reported that, on behalf of the North Jersey Sustainable Communities Consortium, the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers submitted an application for the HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant program on October 6<sup>th</sup>. He said the application was similar to that submitted last year, and a decision is expected by the end of 2011. The product envisioned from this grant is a sustainable plan that will support our regional transportation plan.

## 4. Legislative update

David Behrend, Central Staff, reported that Congress extended surface transportation authorization through March 31, 2012 but has not yet approved any appropriations bills for the fiscal year that began October 1<sup>st</sup>. He noted that a continuing resolution is funding the federal government through November 18<sup>th</sup>. He said the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee responsible for transportation approved a measure that would cut highway and transit funding by about 34 percent, but that proposal has not yet proceeded to the full Appropriations Committee. Mr. Behrend also reported that the congressional "super committee" charged with analyzing options for long-range deficit reductions are charged with developing its recommendations by late November 2011. Noting that the President's jobs bill proposal, which included \$50 billion for infrastructure investment, was effectively killed by the Senate, Mr. Behrend said the Administration plans to break up the bill into discrete components for Congressional consideration.

Executive Director Mary K. Murphy noted that the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration have advised the NJTPA to move forward with the TIP and UPWP based on existing funding levels. She said that, if reductions in transportation funding do occur, there will be significant work to be done by the standing committees to adjust existing capital and work programs.

## VI. Other

- Reminder: NJTPA Symposium: Improving Real-Time Operations, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Ms. Murphy announced that representatives from Government Accountability Office will visit the NJTPA offices this week to discuss the cancelled ARC project.
- Mr. Wospil thanked the NJTPA and subregions for their support in the effort to authorize unspent FY 2011 federal funding by September 30<sup>th</sup>. He said the region did lose \$5 million in FTA CMAQ funding that could not be authorized in time.
- Freeholder Director Holt said he could think of nothing more detrimental to the overall economy of the country than not addressing funding transportation properly.

## VI. Adjournment

At 11:15 a.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Middlesex County, seconded by Jersey City and carried unanimously.

**JOINT COMMITTEE  
ATTENDANCE  
October 17, 2011**

**Project Prioritization Committee**

VOTING MEMBERS	
Freeholder Gene Feyl (Chair)	Morris County
County Executive Thomas DeGise (Vice Chair)	Hudson County
Freeholder Director Matthew Holt	Hunterdon County
Freeholder Thomas Arnone	Monmouth County
Freeholder James Lacey	Ocean County
Donna Orbach	Bergen County
David Antonio	Essex County
George Ververides	Middlesex County
Tom Drabic	Sussex County
Liza Betz	Union County
Thomas Wospil	NJDOT
Lou Millan	NJ Transit

**Planning and Economic Development Committee**

VOTING MEMBERS	
Freeholder Matthew Holt (Chair)	Hunterdon County
Councilman Michael Sottolano	Jersey City
David Antonio	Essex County
Mike Gelin	City of Newark
Michael Lysicatos	Passaic County
Walt Lane	Somerset County
Liza Betz	Union County
David Dech	Warren County
Thomas Wospil	NJDOT
Lou Millan	NJ Transit
Lou Venech	Port Authority of NY & NJ

OTHERS	
Erik DeLine	Morris County
Naomi Hsu	Jersey City
Joseph Ettore	Monmouth County
Frank Scarantino	Ocean County
Brian Appezzato	Warren County
Sue Dziamara	Hunterdon County
Gerald Rohsler	Morris County
Melinda Dower	NJDEP
Mary K. Murphy	NJTPA Central Staff

Karen Shannon	NJTPA Central Staff
Beth Johnson	NJTPA Central Staff
Mark Solof	NJTPA Central Staff
David Behrend	NJTPA Central Staff
Scott Rowe	NJTPA Central Staff
Liz DeRuchie	NJTPA Central Staff
Amy Magnuson	NJTPA Central Staff
Beverly Morris	NJTPA Central Staff
David Schmetterer	NJTPA Central Staff