

Meeting Highlights

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was held at the Middlesex County Fire Academy in Sayreville, NJ. There were over 35 participants, including representatives from 6 municipalities, three counties, two MPOs, and various agencies and organizations (for-profit and non-profit). Bill Neary, Forum Chair, welcomed everyone and began a round of short introductions around the room. Mr. Neary introduced Middlesex County Freeholder Charles Kenny and thanked him for hosting us. Mr. Kenny thanked everyone for attending and talked about the importance of the Forum for Middlesex County, and said a few words about importance of transportation in commuting. Bill Neary started introductions around the room, then announced that there was no quorum so no votes could be taken. However, there would be an email votes for the resolutions that had to be voted on.

Forum Business

There was no vote on the meeting notes from the May 1 Forum meeting because there was no quorum. Bill Neary confirmed that the resolution in support of the Gateway project was approved at the May 1 meeting.

Incorporating Emerging Trends, Technologies, and Center-Based Development into the MPO Planning Process

There was a series of presentations from staff at DVRPC and NJTPA describing work they are doing to incorporate emerging trends and new technologies into their planning process.

- Networking Transportation – Jackie Davis from DVRPC discussed key digital technologies, such as real-time information, Big Data, connected and autonomous vehicles, same day delivery, and transportation network companies, and their impact on the transportation system, and the infrastructure, institutional and regulatory reforms necessary to prepare for them.
- Planning for Emerging Centers – Jeff Perlman from NJTPA described the Planning for Emerging Centers program at NJTPA, and the support it gives to communities that are planning for Transit Oriented Developments near their transit services. He talked about three communities in northern New Jersey that have used the program to support their efforts; Boonton in Morris County, Freehold in Monmouth County, and Green Brook in Somerset County.
- Alternative Fuels – Jennifer Fogliano of NJTPA presented information about alternative fuels and efforts by NJTPA to explore expanding the infrastructure needed for alternative fuels. She described three pilots to explore the needs of local communities; Montclair, Woodbridge and Secaucus. The pilot studies looked at the level of demand for expanded infrastructure and recommended regulatory and policy changes to support it. The final product is a guidebook that other communities can use to assess their own needs and undertake their own readiness planning.

North Brunswick Ordinances to Support the Charging of Electric Cars

Tom Vigna from North Brunswick discussed the town's new ordinance that established requirements for the provision of charging stations for electric vehicles in new residential developments. The charging stations are now a permitted use in every zone. The ordinance requires a 240 volt charging station for each new single family home and each condominium with assigned parking. The ordinance also specifies the speed of charging required at the station. Mr. Vigna also explained that the requirements charging stations will grow as more electric cars are registered, expanding the need for charging stations.

Corridor Study Update

Matt Lawson and Walter Lane described the need for updating of the existing Rt 1 RGS plan, and the interim steps that can be taken to advance the work as the Forum seeks out funding sources for an update. In the Home Rule state of NJ, County and regional Planners have the fragmented task of reaching out to municipalities individually to find out their wants/needs for residents. Because of this, a regional vision is difficult to establish. In the context of the period of rapid transformation in transportation technology, the Steering Committee proposes that the Forum establish a Vision for Central NJ. One of

the first steps will be collection and review of transportation and development data in the region. Before moving forward, however, buy-in from municipalities is needed. Mr. Lawson and Mr. Lane requested comments from Forum members and the public between now and the next Forum meeting. A vote to approve the Draft Scope of Work will be recommended at the next Forum meeting.

George Ververides introduced motioned to expand the Steering Committee to include more municipal representatives. This was seconded by Matt Lawson. Since there was no quorum, the motion will be voted on at the next meeting.

Other Business

- Scenario Planning in the Corridor - Nat Bottigheimer from the Regional Planning Association's NJ Office suggested that the plan update consider developing functional scenarios, not just physical scenarios. Functional scenarios would establish levels of functionality on the corridor's transportation infrastructure, such as LOS on highways, and frequency of service on transit services.
- Barry Ableman from the Office of Planning Advocacy informed the Forum about a DEP/EPA Brownfields workshop on October 9.
- Bill Neary talked about an upcoming conference on Access to Healthcare on October 18 in East Brunswick. He encouraged everyone to attend.

There were no further comments. George Ververides motioned to end the meeting. Bill Neary adjourned the meeting.

Attendees

Municipal Staff & Council Members			
David	Cohen	Councilman	Princeton
David	Kois	Business Advocate	Hillsborough Township
Jerry	Lutin		South Brunswick Township Planning Board
Les	Varga	Director	Plainsboro (Township)
Jeffrey	Wilkerson		City of Trenton
Tom	Vigna		North Brunswick

Counties			
Anthony	Gambilonghi	Supervising Planner, Transportation	Middlesex County Office of Planning
Walter	Lane	Planning Director	Somerset County
Matthew	Lawson	Principal Planner-Transportation	Mercer County
George	Ververides	Director	Middlesex County
Charles	Kenny	Freeholder	Middlesex County

Metropolitan Planning Organizations			
Michael	Boyer	Associate Director	DVRPC
Jaclyn	Davis	Program Manager	DVPRC
Zenobia	Fields	NJTPA	NJTPA
Tom	Schulze	NJTPA	
Barry	Seymour	Executive Director	DVRPC

Other Regional Bodies			
Basil	Giletto	Chair of Transportation Committee	Mid Jersey Chamber Of Commerce
Bill	Neary		Keep Middlesex Moving

State Departments			
Barry	Ableman	Principal Planner	NJ Secretary of State, Office for Planning Advocacy
Thomas	Clark		NJ TRANSIT
Tom	Houck	Sr. Transportation Planner	NJDOT
Robert	Tessier	Project Specialist	Department of Community Affairs
Mike	Viscardi	Assistant Director, Federal Projects Planning	NJ TRANSIT

Other			
Jim	Hess		AECOM
Jack	Kanarek		Dewberry
Arthur	Lehrhaupt		Plainsboro Twp.
Dennis	Martin		WSP USA



Marvin	Reed	Former mayor & CJTF Chair	
Terrence	Sobers		Sobers Consulting
Ralph	Widner		Princeton Mass Transit Trust Fund
Michael	Boyer	Associate Director	DVRPC
Jackie	Davis	Senior Planner	DVRPC
Zenobia	Fields		NJTPA
Lois	Goldman	Director, Regional Planning	NJTPA
Tom	Schulze		NJTPA