

Meeting Highlights

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was held at the South Brunswick Public Works Building in Monmouth Junction, NJ. There were 49 participants, including representatives from 10 municipalities, three counties, two MPOs, and various agencies and organizations (for-profit and non-profit). Forum Chair Bill Neary introduced South Brunswick Planning Director Bryan Bidlack and thanked him for hosting. Mr Bidlack introduced Deputy Mayor Joseph Camarota who spoke briefly before a round of short introductions around the room. NJTPA Executive Director Mary Ameen joined for her first meeting.

Forum Business

Bill Neary noted the Forum's original mission: to discuss east-west access and mass transit in the region and its evolution beyond mobility to regional planning, and framed the day's agenda with this role. Because there was no quorum at the September 24th meeting, Mr. Neary asked for a motion for the last two meetings' highlights. Matt Lawson motioned and George Ververides seconded. All in attendance voted in favor of approving the highlights by affirmation; none were opposed.

Mr. Neary announced that the bylaws require voting members to annually elect a Chair or Co-Chairs from among current voting members. DVRPC Executive Director Barry Seymour invited any other candidates to step forward; seeing none he requested a motion to vote. Tom Vigna motioned, and George Ververides seconded. All in attendance voted in favor of electing Bill Neary to Chair the Forum for 2019; none were opposed.

Corridor Study Update

Councilman David Cohen addressed the Forum regarding the Steering Committee proposal to initiate a new planning study for the Central Jersey region. He called for voting membership to 1) formally request an update to the 2010 NJDOT Route 1 Regional Growth Strategy in light of changes in transportation technology and 2) gather new data related to the 2006 NJ TRANSIT Route 1 Regional Growth Strategy. He asked municipal representatives to submit issues relevant to their locality to be included in a new study, and mentioned an ad-hoc committee in Princeton that discusses transportation options and wishes to broaden its membership to other municipalities.

County representatives introduced the high-level scope of work proposed. It recommends the Forum Collect and Analyze Data using existing MPO resources and budget, Create Alternative Scenarios to plan for an unknown future, and Develop Strategies and Recommendations: part of a less-defined, long-term process at this point. Matt Lawson stressed the need to plan for funding options far in advance of work, citing the current goal of drafting a proposal for the MPO's by next August. He invited interested members to join the re-convening Action Team to work on identifying next steps and help to advance the study.

Barry Seymour added that it would be appropriate to keep NJDOT engaged. There may be opportunities for other sources of funding, but the first question is "what do you want to know" as local officials.

MPO Showcase Data-Collection

MPO staff presented data analysis and visualization from their Congestion Management Processes (CMP) and Key Destinations to demonstrate the level of analysis possible for the Forum as part of the Corridor Study Update.

- Tom Edinger, DVRPC, presented the CMP and its alternative strategies to mitigate congestion that don't add capacity;
- Matt Gates, DVRPC, discussed DVRPC's travel demand model and travel trends, which can model what-if scenarios, e.g. for various Autonomous Vehicle scenarios;
- Bob Diogo presented on NJTPAs Travel Demand Model and two tools: RTM enhanced and the Small Area Land Use Impact Tool (SALUIT);



- Jeffrey Vernick presented on system connectivity and CMP through a sample set of origins & destinations within the NJTPA region.

Corridor Study VOTE & Action Team Call for Participation

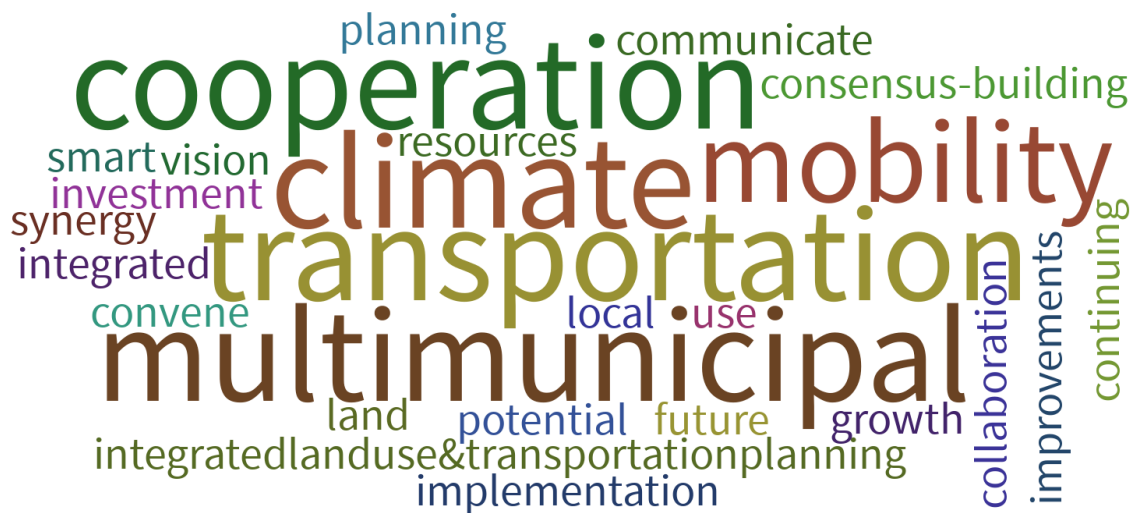
Mr. Neary asked members to vote on whether to reconvene the Action Team to further define a scope of study. Mr. Seymour added that the MPOs are willing to work with the committee and commit some time to pull data for the initial effort and, while its work program is on a funding cycle, other funding sources including DOT and grants were options to consider.

Tom Vigna solicited volunteers to participate in regularly scheduled meetings to identify data collection needs for the MPOs and develop a detailed scope of work for funding by September 2019. Mayor Cantu advised that municipalities would only support something that has potential to produce real results, and would need to know what the end result of this study would look like in order to garner support. Matt Lawson said that his hope for the outcome would be consensus on the most important strategy for the region to focus on.

David Kois motioned a vote. Walt Lane seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed. Mr. Neary asked municipal representatives to report back to their superiors.

Web Development & Branding

Jackie Davis, DVRPC, discussed DVRPC's plans to develop an independent website, branding and content portal for the Forum as a result of Strategic Planning last year. She asked attendees throughout the meeting to log their thoughts on "What word(s) describe Central Jersey and/or the Forum?" 25 people responded and produced the following results:



Brief Updates & Dialogue

- Walt Late announced that he drove Somerset's EV model to the meeting.
- Cheryl Kastrenakes provided an update on GMTMA and Vision Zero
- Bill Neary announced that KMM is going under contract to host thirteen 1-hr shows on local radio. He also reminded municipalities and counties to submit a voting letter for the 2019 calendar year before the next (spring) meeting to maintain voting privileges. Mr. Neary adjourned the meeting.

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Attendees

Mayors			
Christopher	Bobbitt	Mayor	Township of Lawrence
Joe	Camorota	Dpty Mayor	South Brunswick Township
Peter	Cantu	Mayor	Plainsboro Township

Municipal Staff & Council Members			
Bryan	Bidlack	Director of Planning	South Brunswick Township
Theodore	Chase Jr	Council Member	Franklin Township
David	Cohen	Council Member	Princeton
Miriam	Cohen	Council Member	Monroe Township
David	Kois		Hillsborough Township
Borris	Malliard	Transportation Choices Task Group	Princeton
James	Parvesse	Municipal Engineer	Lawrence Township
Stephani	Register	Senior Planner	City of Trenton
Lori	Savron	Planning Director	Montgomery Township
Les	Varga	Director of Planning	Plainsboro Township
Tom	Vigna	Township Planner	North Brunswick
Ralph	Widner	Traffic & Transit Committee	Princeton

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

Metropolitan Planning Organizations			
Mary D.	Ameen	Executive Director	NJTPA
Kevin	Anderson	Long-range Planning Intern	DVRPC
Michael	Boyer	Associate Director	DVRPC
Jaclyn	Davis	Senior Planner	DVPRC
Bob	Diogo	Special Programs Manager, Modeling and Forecasting	NJTPA
Tom	Edinger	Senior Planner	DVRPC
Brian	Fineman	Director, Systems Planning, Data	NJTPA
Matt	Gates	Manager, Modeling and Analysis	DVRPC
Doug	Greenfeld	Manager	NJTPA
Arthur	Lehrhaupt		Plainsboro Township
Rikki	Massand		Landmarks Preservation Commission,



			Township of Montgomery
Tom	Schulze	Assistant Planner	NJTPA
Barry	Seymour	Executive Director	DVRPC
Jeff	Vernick	Manager, Performance Analysis and Planning	NJTPA

Other Regional Bodies			
Donna	Alison		Ridewise
Cheryl	Kastrenakes		Greater Mercer TMA
Bill	Neary		Keep Middlesex Moving

State Departments			
Tom	Houck	Sr. Transportation Planner	NJDOT
Brian	Leckie		NJDOT
Matthew	Safer		NJ TRANSIT
Robert	Tessier	Project Specialist	Department of Community Affairs
Mike	Viscardi		NJ TRANSIT

Other			
John	Manzoni		STV Inc
Widmarc	Dalce	Student Services Coordinator	MCCC
Ayesha	Dulasa		CDM Smith, Inc
Jim	Hess		AECOM
Jack	Kanarek		Dewberry
Katherine	Kish		Einstein's Alley
Jack	Molenaar		Rutgers
Dave	Schwartz		CDM Smith, Inc
Marvin	Ree	Former Mayor & CJTF Chair	Former Mayor Princeton / Forum Chair