

Policy Board Meeting

Monday, October 27, 2008 - 11:00 A.M.

Vineland City Hall - City Council Caucus Room, First Floor

Seventh and Wood Streets

AGENDA

- a. Flag Salute, Open Public Meetings Law Announcement
- b. Roll Call
- c. Approval of Minutes: July 28, 2008
- d. Communications
- e. Report of the Technical Advisory Committee – Robert Brewer, Chairman
- f. Chairman's Remarks
- g. Report of the Executive Director - Timothy G. Chelius
- h. New Business
 1. Resolution 0810-23: Amending the SJTPO FY 2009 Unified Planning Work Program to Add Funds for the Preparation of an SJTPO Coordinated Regional Human Service Transportation Plan
 2. Resolution 0810-24: Approving the Selection of Abrams-Cherwony & Associates as Consultants for the Preparation of the SJTPO FY 2009 Regional Human Service Transportation Plan
 3. NJDOT Updates: Shore Connection Projects, Beesley's Point Bridge , NJ Route 52 Project
- i. Public Comment
- j. Adjournment

SOUTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Policy Board Meeting

Monday, July 28, 2008 - 11:00 A.M.

Vineland City Hall , 1st Floor Caucus Room

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Chairman Daniel Beyel, followed by the flag salute. Mr. Chelius then advised that the requirements of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act were met through 48-Hour Notice on March 11, 2008 to The Press of Atlantic City, The Bridgeton Evening News, The Daily Journal, Today's Sunbeam, and to the Clerks of the four member counties. Also, the Notice was posted on the designated bulletin board in Vineland City Hall. Attendance of members was then taken by roll call:

ATTENDANCE:

Members:

Daniel Beyel, Cape May County (By Phone)
Thomas Russo, Atlantic County (By Phone)
Douglas Rainear, Cumberland County (Not Present)
Charles Sullivan, Salem County (By Phone)
Scott Evans, Atlantic City (Not Present)
Jeffrey Ridgway, Pittsgrove Township (Not Present)
Leonard Desiderio, Sea Isle City (By Phone)
Robert Romano, City of Vineland
Howard Immordino, NJDOT (Representing Thomas Wospil)
Pippa Woods , NJ Transit
Kathleen Aufschneider, SJTA

Also in attendance:

James Pierson, Angelini, Viniar & Freedman (By Phone)
James Smith, Cape May County
Robert Brewer, Cumberland County
Brian Wahler, NJ Turnpike Authority (By Phone)
Timothy Chelius, SJTPO
Monica LoGuidice, SJTPO
William Schiavi, SJTPO
Alicia Tillett, SJTPO

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 17, 2008

On Motion by Mayor Desiderio and seconded by Freeholder Sullivan, the minutes of March 17, 2008 were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Robert Brewer reported that at the July 14, 2008 meeting, TAC recommended Board approval of the following scheduled action items.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Chelius reviewed the summary of NJDOT sidewalk construction, explaining that NJDOT had asked SJTPO to help identify areas around schools that did not provide sidewalks. Mr. Chelius reported that staff completed the study and submitted the information to NJDOT, who stated that they will be building sidewalks in three of the locations including Middle Township , Bridgeton , and Vineland . Mr. Chelius stated that he will send the sidewalk maps to Board members who were not present at the meeting.

SOUTH JERSEY TRAFFIC SAFETY ALLIANCE

Executive Director Chelius reported that a package of Alliances' accomplishments and plans for the upcoming months will be mailed to Board members.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution 0807-14: Adopting the SJTPO 2035 Regional Transportation Plan

On Motion by Mayor Desiderio and seconded by Vice Chairman Russo, Resolution 0807-14 was opened for discussion. William Schiavi reported that Federal legislation requires that MPO's update their Plan every four years, which must address a twenty year timeline. Mr. Schiavi stated that some purposes of the Plan include setting the table for the Capital Programming, individual projects, conformity, policy and priorities, emphasizing Safety being a top priority.

Executive Director Chelius explained that the RTP and programs are tested to ensure that they do not violate any of the applicable air quality rules that are set by USEPA. He stated that the Plan is tested for air quality emissions and those emissions are compared to the budgets that are set by USEPA. He explained that the extensive testing process began in April including the meeting of the Interagency Consultation Group who reviewed and endorsed the planning assumptions, followed by the 30 day required public comment period and hearing. He further stated that the SJTPO passed all applicable tests, which then allows the TIP to be endorsed since it comes from a conforming RTP.

Mr. Schiavi then stated that financial outlook anticipates that funding will be flat in the future noting that the SJTPO region has received between 4 to 6 percent of the State funds historically. He then explained the planning process, noting that many public comments received during public involvement process included the desire for transit oriented development, better transit including bus rapid transit, protecting the environment, developing bike paths, and bike friendly roads. Finally, Mr. Schiavi stated that the RTP meets all planning requirements. With no further comment, Resolution 0807-14 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

2. Resolution 0807-15: Approving the SJTPO FY 2009-2012 STP-SJ Local Lead Program

On Motion by Mayor Desiderio and seconded by Freeholder Sullivan, Resolution 0807-15 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius summarized the Local Lead chart included in packets explaining that it includes ten years, since NJDOT now includes ten years of programming in the TIP. He stated that most of the

projects include resurfacing with a couple of design projects. With no further comment, Resolution 0807-15 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

3. Resolution 0807-16: Approving the FY 2009 Local CMAQ Project List

On Motion by Howard Immordino and seconded by Mayor Desiderio, Resolution 0807-16 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius explained that the FY 2009 CMAQ program includes approximately \$1.9 million in funding, which he further explained covers all county and agency requests. With no further comment, Resolution 0807-16 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

4. Resolution 0807-17: Adopting the SJTPO FY 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program

On Motion by Freeholder Sullivan and seconded by Vice Chairman Russo, Resolution 0807-17 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius reported that a formal Public Involvement process and hearing took place for the FY 2009-2012 TIP that includes approximately \$145 million in projects. He then reviewed the summary project list and thanked Monica LoGuidice and Nancy Hammer for putting together the TIP materials.

Mr. Chelius stated that during the formal public comment period, comments were received by Tom Garrett from South Jersey Wheelmen, and will be incorporated in the final TIP. With no further comment, Resolution 0807-17 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

5. Resolution 0807-18: Self Certifying the SJTPO Transportation Planning Process

On Motion by Kathleen Aufschneider and seconded by Mayor Desiderio, Resolution 0807-18 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius explained that the Self Certification Resolution simply outlines the federal requirements that SJTPO needs to meet. With no further comment, Resolution 0807-18 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

6. Resolution 0807-19: Approving an Amendment of Subcontract Agreement for the Commissioner's Pike Phase IV Scoping Project

On Motion by Freeholder Sullivan and seconded by Vice Chairman Russo, Resolution 0807-19 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius explained that due to the complexity of the project, additional time is needed for completion. With no further comment, Resolution 0807-19 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

7. Resolution 0807-20: Approving Consultant Selection for the FY 2009 Road Safety Audit Project Development

On Motion by Kathleen Aufschneider and seconded by Howard Immordino, Resolution 0807-20 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius explained that this will provided consultant assistance for the recommendations that arose from previous Road Safety Audits including signalization and bike paths. The Consultant Selection Committee consisting of Cape May County Engineering, Atlantic County Regional Planning, and SJTPO reviewed the 4 proposals received and recommends Orth Rodgers & Associates in association with A-Tech Engineering, Inc., which provides a 19% DBE allocation. With no further comment, Resolution 0807-20 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

8. Resolution 0807-21: Requesting that the South Jersey Transportation Authority Accept Funds for South Jersey Travel Demand Model Peer Review

On Motion by Mayor Desiderio and seconded by Kathleen Aufschneider, Resolution 0807-21 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius explained that this situation arose towards the end of FY 2008 where PB Americas, Inc., the consultant who was hired to do an extensive project of completely revamping the SJ Travel Demand Model, was unable to finish the project on time. PB America's is aware that the funding for the project expired on June 30, 2008, and are willing to complete the project at their own cost in FY 2009.

However, during FY 2008, SJTPO also contracted with a consultant (Dr. Michael Anderson), a civil engineering professor who is an expert in this field, to conduct a Peer Review of the products that PB America's would provide. Federal Highway Administration requires that there be an independent peer review for model work with federal funds. Mr. Chelius stated that the only glitch is that there is no funding programmed for FY 2009 for Dr. Anderson to conduct the Peer Review and there are no products to review. With this resolution, SJTPO is proposing that SJTA accept funds from PB America's, Inc. then administer the funds to Dr. Anderson.

James Pierson, Esq. reviewed the proposal and found no problem with the exchange of money since PB America's Inc. is in breach of their contract. With no further comment, Resolution 0807-21 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

9. Resolution 0807-22: Recognizing the Services of Perry D. Barse

On Motion by Mayor Desiderio and seconded by Vice Chairman Russo, Resolution 0807-22 was opened for discussion. With no comment, Resolution 0807-22 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

NJDOT Update: Howard Immordino, NJDOT – Capital Investment Strategies

Howard Immordino reported that the contract phase for the Rt. 52 Bridge is proceeding and expect to have the contract out by late spring of next year. This will be another project considered GARVEE in the ten year program and will cost about \$300 million (\$30 million/year).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Executive Director Chelius introduced Alicia Tillett, SJTPO's Transportation Planner.

On Motion by Vice Chairman Russo and seconded by Kathleen Aufschneider, the Policy Board appointed Monica LoGuidice as acting Secretary in lieu of Freeholder Sullivan to sign resolutions. With no further comment, the motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Freeholder Sullivan thanked Monica for her help.

ADJOURNMENT

On Motion by Mayor Desiderio and seconded by Committeeman Ridgway, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Approved Minutes Certified Correct:

Charles R. Sullivan/mal



Monica LoGuidice *for*
Charles R. Sullivan, Secretary/Treasurer

SOUTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

RESOLUTION 0810:23: Amending the SJTPO FY 2009 Unified Planning Work Program to Add Funds for the Preparation of an SJTPO Coordinated Regional Human Service Transportation Plan

WHEREAS, the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) designated under federal law for the southern region of New Jersey, including Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem Counties; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of federally funded programs, such as the Job Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) program, New Freedom program, and others that help to develop and support transportation services for persons of low income, welfare recipients, senior citizens, and the disabled; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration and NJ Transit require that, as a basis for approval, applications for the above programs must be based on a Human Service Transportation Plan (HSTP) that identifies transportation needs, recommends strategies for meeting these needs, and includes a prioritized list of capital projects to implement these strategies; and

WHEREAS, counties must also demonstrate that, as a basis for human service transportation program funding approval, they are moving toward the attainment of, and have a schedule for, a coordinated and efficient human service transportation system; and

WHEREAS, SJTPO has administered the preparation of a 2007 Human Service Transportation Plan for the four SJTPO counties; and

WHEREAS, an update to the 2007 HSTP is needed to identify specific county human service transportation coordination strategies and a prioritized HSTP capital improvement plan, and to provide a regional perspective to the human service transportation planning process, and

WHEREAS, NJ Transit has made FTA New Freedom Program funding available to SJTPO for the purpose of updating the SJTPO HSTP and for a pilot or demonstration project coming out of the recommendations of the Plan Update.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Policy Board of the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization hereby amends the FY 2009 SJTPO Unified Planning Work Program by adding \$197,526 in FTA New Freedom program funding to a new Task 09/408: SJTPO Regional Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Policy Board requests that the South Jersey Transportation Authority execute the appropriate contractual arrangements with the consultant on behalf of the SJTPO.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true copy of a resolution adopted by the Policy Board of the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization at its meeting of October 27, 2008.

Charles R. Sullivan/mal

Monica LoGuidice for
Charles R. Sullivan, Secretary/Treasurer

SOUTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

RESOLUTION 0810:24 Approving the Selection of Abrams-Cherwony & Associates as Consultants for the Preparation of the SJTPO FY 2009 Regional Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan

WHEREAS, the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) designated under federal law for the southern region of New Jersey, including Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem Counties; and

WHEREAS, Federal Transit Administration planning funds are being inserted into the Fiscal Year 2009 SJTPO Unified Planning for the preparation of the SJTPO FY 2009 Regional Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, a Consultant Selection Committee, consisting of representatives of the Atlantic County Planning Department, Cumberland County Improvement Authority, New Jersey Transit, New Jersey Department of Human Services, and SJTPO was formed to recommend the selection of a consultant for the preparation of this Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Selection Committee forwarded their recommendation to the Technical Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, the TAC, at their meeting of October 14, 2008 recommended the selection of Abrams-Cherwony & Associates of Philadelphia, Pa., in association with Mundle and Associates of Philadelphia, PA, a certified ESBE firm in New Jersey; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Policy Board of the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization hereby approves the selection of the above consultant for the preparation of the SJTPO FY 2009 Regional Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Policy Board requests that the South Jersey Transportation Authority execute the appropriate contractual arrangements with the consultant on behalf of the SJTPO.

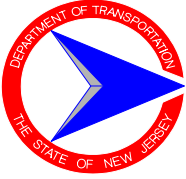
Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true copy of a resolution adopted by the Policy Board of the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization at its meeting of October 27, 2008.

Charles Sullivan/mal

Monica LoGuidice for

Charles R. Sullivan, Secretary/Treasurer



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SHORE CONNECTION PROJECTS – October 2008

Status of various “Shore Connection” congestion relief/elimination improvement projects:

COMPLETED

Route 47/55 intersection (south of Millville) was a significant problem during peak summer weekend periods. A signal was installed in late 2001 which solved the problem.

Route 49/50 Corridor – A Pipeline 4/Maintenance assignment was made during April 2005 by the Capital Program Committee, for improved corridor wide signing along Routes 49, 50 and intersecting county routes. The signing will assist the “return trips” from shore areas to make it easier for drivers to find and use alternate routes. The Department installed 13 new alternate route signs in the corridor in late June/early July.

Route 50/CR 610, Upper Township – Due to limited data, there was no basis for the request of a signal timing change at this intersection. The other recommendation for “No Turn on Red” signs determined not to be necessary once brush and trees cleared from the sight triangle. Tree trimming completed.

Route 9 Intersection, Dennis Township – Work was completed and Signal was activated on June 10, 2008.

Route 50/Tuckahoe Road, Upper Township – Signal timing improvements
The revised signal timing was placed into operation on August 4, 2008.

PROJECTS in MAINTENANCE

Upper Township, Cape May County

During July 2005, the following intersection operation improvements were advanced into the FY 2006 project pool as Maintenance projects (Pipeline 4).

Route 50/Hope Corson Road, Upper Township - New traffic signal to be constructed and driveway access improvements. Traffic Engineering met with the township engineer and worked out design issues. Revisions are being made to address County concerns regarding limited sight distance.

The agreement has been forwarded to Cape May County for their signature. The electrical design is on hold pending receipt of the signed traffic signal agreement. The agreement was originally forwarded to Cape May County in 2006 and the need for them to return the agreement was reiterated in February 2008.

Route 9/CR 625 Sea Isle Boulevard

On November 15, 2006, the Capital Program Committee approved a breakout of this project to add and lengthen turning lanes at Routes 9/625. This project is being designed by the NJDOT Rapid Design Team. Construction by NJDOT-Maintenance is scheduled for the fall of 2007 using FY 2008 Congestion Relief Program funding.

The Rapid Design Team (RDT) during the investigation in 2007 made following decisions: There is significant development proposed for the NW quadrant of the intersection, which would significantly impact the operation of the intersection as was proposed.

The widening along the southbound Route 9 roadway is prohibited due to the relocation of utility poles and ROW acquisitions along Route 9 southbound. Utility relocations and ROW acquisitions are beyond the capabilities of this unit.

Based upon the above, the project was not advanced.

PROJECTS in CAPITAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT (CPM)

Route 49/55 Interchange in Millville - Preliminary Design began in August of FY 2005 as Pipeline 2 project. Due to local concerns, the project was scaled back to eliminate an auxiliary lane through the interchange along Route 49. Approval to modify design signed February 2, 2007. This project will now include improvements to the Rt. 49/Wade Boulevard intersection.

The project has completed Preliminary Design and is now in Final Design. Right of Way is currently being acquired. A public information center was held in July 2008. The designer is performing a site investigation and preparation of a PAECE report.

Route 47/CR 610 (Petersburg Road) & Route 47/CR 611 (Tyler Road) in Dennis Township

The construction of the combined project started in April 2008 and will be completed in the end of the year.

As of September 2008, all construction work, excluding the ITS cameras, has been completed. The ITS camera work is still being negotiated to a resolution by the Resident Engineer. Otherwise, the roadway and signals are fully operational.

PROJECTS in DIVISION of PROJECT DEVELOPMENT (DPD)-updated 10/6/08 by DPD

The overall Route 47/55 Shore Connection Study (of which the following intersections were part) was removed from the Study and Development Program in January 2008 because no further “breakouts” are forthcoming.

Route 9/CR 550 (Ocean View Drive)

Utility pole and underground gas line relocation (cost estimated at \$150,000) represents roughly 50% of the total project cost. Since almost all proposed improvements would take place on CR550, DPD asked the Cape May County Engineer (Sept. 2007) to work with the utility companies directly. (The County can get utilities relocated at no cost). However, the County has not acted on this despite follow-up calls, and it appears to be a dead issue at the county level. DPD plans to request approval to remove the project from our program.

Route 47/347 and Route 49/50 Corridor Enhancements Concept Development Study

(Previously referred to as the Route 47 Reversible Lane Study) The concept was an alternative to building a 4 lane section, and would instead provide a 3-lane section with one lane having the ability to be reversed, or alternatively, use of an outside shoulder as a “peak period” lane to accommodate the heavy directional flow of weekend recreational traffic. The scope of this study also included identification of improved utilization of alternative routes, and potential passing lane opportunities and Intelligent Transportation System strategies for both corridors. Crash data analysis did not reveal obvious locations for passing lanes, and upon further study ITS strategies are deemed more appropriate than a reversible lane due to safety and context considerations.

DPD has met with Traffic Operations and ITS Engineering several times to discuss potential ITS strategies for these corridors. They were open to expanding the existing ITS infrastructure in the project area and have helped to select a number of proposed technologies. Summer 2006 traffic pattern/delay data has been collected and modeling of proposed ITS strategies has been conducted. At a meeting on January 24, 2007, Cumberland County, Cape May County and SJTPO supported conceptual ITS and intersection improvements along the subject corridors presented by the Department and offered input into their design. Dennis Township did not object to any of the preliminary recommendations presented to them on May 15, 2007.

DPD met with the ITS Engineering, Traffic Operations South and FHWA in May 2008 to present the proposed ITS improvements. DPD also met with the Office of Emergency Management in September 08 to discuss the proposed ITS improvements. Based on the comments received at these meetings, the proposed ITS improvements are being fine-tuned.

NEXT STEPS: Meet with the agencies involved with the project to obtain acceptance of the proposed ITS improvements. Break out Route 47 ITS project to add cameras at signals and allow control by Traffic Operations Center in Cherry Hill, and Shore Connection Traveler Information project.

Route 47/347/CR 670 Intersection, Maurice River Township – Study focused on potential addition of auxiliary northbound lane through the intersection. Additional ROW would be required if auxiliary lane proposed. This is a probable Pipeline 2 project in Concept Development with potential NJDEP/Pinelands issues (Pre-App meeting did not identify any fatal flaws). “Historic highway corridor” does not appear to be an issue.

A meeting with Township officials, Office of Community Relations and DPD was held to discuss the concept plan on November 22, 2005. The proposed concept was not received well. Concerns were mostly directed toward the need for creating a safe gap in traffic for local residents who wish to enter and cross Route 47. Local residents appear to be willing to accept the project only if a traffic signal is installed on Route 47 in Port Elizabeth (near the school), which they believe will provide the desired gaps in traffic. In December 2005, Capital Investment Planning & Development requested that DPD conduct a Tier 2 screening for a traffic signal in Port Elizabeth. The Traffic Engineering & Investigations bureau conducted signal warrant analysis for the intersections of Route 47 with CR 548 and CR 646 in February 2006 and neither intersection warranted a traffic signal based on off-season counts. Summer '06 traffic counts at this intersection do not warrant a signal either. Gateway signage or traffic calming may be appropriate methods for slowing traffic through Port Elizabeth.

Review of the project need in spring 2006 has revealed extreme variability in delays/queues at the intersection over several years for which data was collected (most recent year – 2002). New traffic observations were made in summer of 2006 and examination of this data reveals that delays at this intersection are not severe when compared with other nearby locations, such as Route 47/347 intersection in Dennis Township. Due to local opposition and insufficient project need, DPD has ceased efforts to pursue the addition of intersection capacity.

Next Steps: None. Project terminated.

Route 47/347 intersection, in Dennis Township - Addition of auxiliary lanes through the intersection. Additional ROW is required. This is a potential Pipeline 2 project with potential NJDEP-SHPO and Green Acres issues. During June 2005, concept plans were developed which avoid encroachment into the Belleplain State Forest. “Historic highway corridor” potential does not appear to be an issue. Local officials offered verbal support of the southbound auxiliary lane and improvements to Route 47 at a briefing in June 2006. They are opposed to the northbound auxiliary lane due to perceived safety issues.

Traffic data was collected in summer 2006, and examination of these data and preliminary traffic modeling reveals that severe southbound delays at this intersection are largely a result of the downstream traffic signals at CR 610 and 611. Queuing from these intersections backs up through the Route 47/347 intersection. Installation of the left-turn lanes at CR 610 and 611 will reduce queue length but will not eliminate congestion. And the addition of capacity at the 47/347 intersection will not yield sufficient benefit to justify the project because the 47/347 intersection is not the reason for delays. Due to lack of local support and the inability of this project to address the congestion problem, DPD has ceased efforts to pursue the addition of intersection capacity.

Next Steps: None. Project terminated.

Other projects anticipated for Concept Development include improving the intersection at **Route 50/CR 616 (Tyler Road)** and potential passing lane section on **Route 50 between Pennsylvania Ave and CR 610** in Upper Township. These projects were dropped because no initiation by the township or SJTPO.