

SOUTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Policy Board Meeting

Monday, November 28, 2011 - 11:00 A.M.
Vineland City Hall, 1st Floor Caucus Room

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m. by Executive Director Timothy Chelius, followed by the flag salute. Mr. Chelius then advised that the requirements of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act were met through Annual Notice on January 25, 2011 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
Frank Sutton, Atlantic County (By phone)
William Whelan, Cumberland County (By phone)
Bruce Bobbitt, Salem County (Not present)
Lorenzo Langford, Atlantic City (Not present)
Jeffrey Ridgway, Pittsgrove Township (By phone)
Leonard Desiderio, Sea Isle City (Not present)
Robert Romano, City of Vineland (By phone)
Thomas Wospil, NJDOT (By phone)
Louis Millan, NJ Transit (By phone)
Samuel Donelson, SJTA (By phone)

Also in attendance:

Keith Davis, Esq., Nehmad, Perillo & Davis (By phone)
Leslie Gimeno, Cape May County
Robert Brewer, Cumberland County
Kathleen Hicks, City of Vineland
Eric Powers, NJDOT (By phone)
Sandra Brillhart, FHWA (By phone)
Patty Leech, FHWA (By phone)
Brandon Minde, Governor's Authorities Unit (By phone)
Richard Morton, Resident
Nancy Ridgway, Resident
Fred Winkler, Winchester & Western Railroad
Timothy Chelius, SJTPO
David Heller, SJTPO
Monica LoGuidice, SJTPO
Michael Reeves, SJTPO

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 26, 2011

On Motion by Vice Chairman Sutton and seconded by Committeeman Ridgway, the minutes of September 26, 2011 were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

Executive Director Chelius stated that all correspondence was included in Board packets.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson Kathleen Hicks reported that at the November 14, 2011 meeting, TAC recommended Board approval of the following scheduled action items: Resolution 1111-40 through 1111-44.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Chelius stated that all correspondence was included in Board packets.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Beyel stated that this is his last official meeting, and he then thanked the Board for supporting him as Chairman for the past ten plus years. He also thanked staff, counties, and State agencies for their cooperation in all the improvements that have been made in the region, especially with safety. He then wished everyone a happy holiday season and happy New Year.

SOUTH JERSEY TRAFFIC SAFETY ALLIANCE

Executive Director Chelius reported that Teresa Thomas is currently at a press conference to announce the unveiling of the "Share the Keys" program that the Alliance has been developing partly in reaction to the tragedy of the football players of Mainland High School. He then highlighted the poster included in the packets which is an example of some of the Alliance's work.

Freeholder Director Whelan questioned how the schools and organizations were chosen for the program, commenting that Cumberland County doesn't seem to be represented. Mr. Chelius explained that further outreach will be done with more instructors being recruited into the program. Ideally, they would like to see every high school in the SJTPO region to experience the program. Mr. Whelan emphasized that he wants to make sure that Cumberland County is contacted, and Mr. Chelius stated that the Alliance will reach out to the County representatives that are involved with the SJTSA. Mr. Whelan stated that he would like to know whether or not Cumberland County was informed, and whether or not they failed to respond, and Mr. Chelius stated that he would check with Teresa and let him know.

DESIGNATING THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chairman Beyel announced the nominating committee for the 2012 Policy Board Officers which include: Freeholder Lenny Desiderio, Cape May County; Freeholder Sutton, Atlantic County; Freeholder Director Whelan, Cumberland County; and Freeholder Bobbitt, Salem County.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution 1111-40: Approving an Amendment to the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program to Add Cumberland County Resurfacing Projects

On Motion by Committeeman Ridgway and seconded by Freeholder Director Whelan, Resolution 1111-40 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius reported that due to approximately \$2.0 million available from FY 2011 projects, County Engineers met and agreed to program a series of Cumberland County mill and overlay projects for the following roadways; CR655 (Lincoln Avenue) from Chestnut Ave. to Atlantic Co. Line; CR671 (Union Road) from CR552 Mays Landing Road to Atlantic Co. Line; and CR672 (Brewster Road) from CR655 (Lincoln Ave.) to CR540 (Landis Ave.) for a total of \$1.9 million. With no further comment, Resolution 1111-40 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

2. Resolution 1111-41: Approving an Amendment to the FY 2011-2012 Unified Planning Work Program to Modify a Salem County Subregional Work Program Task III Project

On Motion by Freeholder Director Whelan and seconded by Committeeman Ridgway, Resolution 1111-41 was opened for discussion. Michael Reeves reported that Salem County's original approved FY 2012 Subregional Transportation Work Program included, at a total cost of \$30,000, two Task III projects which included: a Transportation Plan Update; and a County-wide Human Service Transportation Plan (HSTP) Study.

Salem County is proposing that the study be replaced with a human service transportation origin-destination study. Once completed, the survey would provide input into the general HSTP study to be reprogrammed into the County's FY 2013 Subregional Work Program. The proposed modification would not change the amount originally budgeted for their FY 2012 Subregional Task III program or the objective and description of the project included under Task III-a Transportation Plan Update. With no further comment, Resolution 1111-41 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Mayor Romano joined the conference call.

3. Resolution 1111-42: Approving the South Jersey Traffic Safety Alliance FY 2012 CPS Tri-State Conference Hosting

On Motion by Freeholder Director Whelan and seconded by Vice Chairman Sutton, Resolution 1111-42 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius highlighted the letter from Frederick Lyle, NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety stating that every two years a conference is held for child passenger safety training and research. Mr. Lyle has offered to partner with the Alliance on developing the program and co-hosting the conference, which is an honor. The resolution would confirm the SJTA's intent on partnering with NJ Division of Traffic Safety. With no further comment, Resolution 1111-42 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

4. Resolution 1111-43: Supporting the Garden State Parkway Interchange 9, 10, & 11 Improvements

On Motion by Vice Chairman Sutton and seconded by Committeeman Ridgway, Resolution 1111-43 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius explained that the Environmental Assessment has been received, and this action would confirm the SJTPO's support in the Interchange improvements.

Mr. Wospil stated that NJDOT also supports the project, adding that the job is scheduled for authorization in December 2012, which would not translate into a federal authorization of funds in FY 2012 because that ends September 30, 2012. NJDOT will move paperwork through the SJTPO Policy Board at the next meeting to move the construction phase, which is multi-year funded, from FY 2012, 2013 and 2014 until FY 2013, 2014 and 2015. With no further comment, Resolution 1111-43 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

5. Resolution 1111-44: Approving Revisions to Three Federal Transit Administrative Grants for SJTPO Congestion Management – Air Quality Funds

On Motion by Freeholder Director Whelan and seconded by Committeeman Ridgway, Resolution 1111-44 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius explained that there is unused funds in prior CMAQ grants, which allows a three year limit for operations. The additional funding would allow Cumberland County to run a third year of their Millville Shuttle, SJTA would be able to operate a third year of their Pomona Shuttle, and a bus purchase for SJTA, as well as increase NJ Transit administrative fee. With no further comment, Resolution 1111-44 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

6. Resolution 1111-45: Approving the Executive Director's Recommendation for Filling the Vacant Transportation Planner Position

On Motion by Committeeman Ridgway and seconded by Samuel Donelson, Resolution 1111-45 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius explained that this position is one of three vacancies currently listed in our Unified Planning Work Program. He further explained that Dave Heller has conducted extensive outreach, and Candice Dias is being recommended for the position. Ms. Dias possesses a Masters Degree in regional planning from Cornell University, is currently an instructor at Temple University, and is an accomplished writer and researcher. She would be filling Alan Huff's vacant position. Both this position and the Assistant Planner position are slotted as Range 5 in SJTA's salary range schedule, while waiting for final budget numbers from SJTA. With no further comment, Resolution 1111-45 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

7. Resolution 1111-46: Approving the Executive Director's Recommendation for Filing the Vacant Assistant Planner Position

On Motion by Vice Chairman Sutton and seconded by Committeeman Ridgway, Resolution 1111-46 was opened for discussion. Executive Director Chelius explained that the same outreach was conducted for the Assistant Planner position, and the recommendation of Andrew Tracy has been made. Mr. Tracy has two engineering degrees and would be assigned primarily to work with Dave Heller on the modeling and congestion management process, which is a very high priority for SJTPO after the Federal Certification Review and the two corrective actions that need to be completed by July. Mr. Tracy would also work with NJDOT with organizing safety and local lead projects. With no further comment, Resolution 1111-46 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

NJDOT UPDATES

Thomas Wospil thanked SJTPO staff and the subregions for getting through FY 2011, which was a record obligation for that region of the state. He commented that with FY 2012 underway, he would ask that the subregions get their authorization requests in as soon as possible so that there isn't a crisis at the end of the fiscal year, emphasizing that this helps in getting the jobs authorized sooner, and allows more time to redirect additional funding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Fred Winkler suggested a connecting bus service by NJ Transit from Vineland, Bridgeton, Salem to Wilmington, Delaware. He commented that there are three bus and transit services currently that dead end, and suggests that they get connected to Wilmington. Mr. Winkler stated that he has forwarded his suggestion to NJ Transit for their consideration. Mr. Chelius stated that he would include Mr. Winkler's comment as part of the ongoing public outreach for the Regional Transportation Plan.

BOARD COMMENT

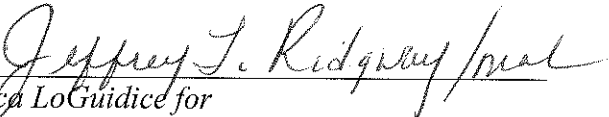
Executive Director Chelius commented that the cooperation of everyone and the leadership of Chairman Beyel, exemplify what the SJTPO is all about. Without the ability to attempt new challenges, none of this would have been accomplished, without the support of Chairman Beyel. He then thanked Chairman Beyel and wished him well.

Chairman Beyel agreed that communication and working together has always been an asset with the SJTPO.

ADJOURNMENT

On Motion by Freeholder Director Whelan and seconded by Chairman Beyel, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Approved Minutes Certified Correct:



Monica LoGuidice for
Jeffrey T. Ridgway, Secretary/Treasurer