



Citizens Advisory Committee Minutes

May 14, 2025

Location: via TEAMS

Attendance:

New Jersey: Reggie Haynes, Judy Boldurian, Stephen Benigno, Grace Kimbaris

Pennsylvania: Tyrone Wesley, Robert Melikian, Scott Cohen

Emeritus Member(s): Jeffrey Kessler, Larry Davis, John Boyle, Tyrone Wesley

DRPA/PATCO: John Rink, GM; Jerry Sahi, CFO; Nicole Ochroch, PM; Cheryl Ansert, Administrative Coordinator

Potential Members: Scott Pileckas, Joseph Byham, Daniel Coyle

Call to Order : Approval of April 9, 2025 meeting minutes.

Finance

CFO Sahi

DRPA Preliminary Traffic

- April 2025 traffic was roughly around 4M. 19k better than last year.
- April YTD traffic is around 14.9M. 120k less than last year.

DRPA Final Revenue & Traffic

- Final February YTD revenue was \$57.3M, \$510k better than budget and \$9M higher than the previous year.
- Final January YTD traffic was 3.8M. 10k better than budget.

PATCO Ridership & Revenue

- Final February YTD ridership revenue was \$2.3M. \$36k higher than previous year.
- Final February YTD ridership was 930k, 40k better than previous year.

Preliminary Operating Expense

- February YTD operating expense is \$29.8M, which is \$3.2M favorable to budget.

Stephen Benigno: Do you track the people for fare evasion that don't pay tolls?

CFO Sahi

- Yes, we track those people.
- It is going up a little bit, especially during COVID.
- We are trying to do a couple of things to bring it down, but one of the latest things is a law that was passed which would cancel the registration of those that continue to evade the tolls.



General DRPA

Update on DRPA CAC webpage

Reggie Haynes

- The webpage needs to be updated based on our current memberships and the photos. Bios need to be updates and board members.
- Everyone will submit their own bios and DRPA will submit it to Mike Williams to update the webpage.

Update on power consumption savings from Solar Panels.

PM Ochroch

- Our solar year is March 1 through February 28, so within that year we produced 39,277 MW hours. This includes all solar energy that was consumed on site as well as exported back into the grid in that timeframe.
- June 2024 was our highest producing month and it is estimated that we saved over \$1,000,000 in energy cost.

Bridge and Highway

Update on Bridge work detours, details about the new metal movable barrier, and the mobile device that moves it.

PM Ochroch

- WWB has some upcoming lane outages in lane 7.
- BRB has no change for lane outages and 1 and 6 will remain closed.
- CBB has lane 1 out during the day for the weld project and lanes 2, 3, and 4 are out during the overnight hours for the new barrier install.
- The barrier installation at the CBB is expected to be complete in June. Until that work is complete, we will have 2 lanes into NJ and 3 lanes into PA.
- Collingswood Headhouse: The east headhouse is expected to close on Friday and the west headhouse will be open for public use. The west headhouse is not fully complete, but should be complete in the next six months.

PATCO

What is the possibility of exploring the idea of establishing a “twinning “ or partnership program between PATCO and a few exemplary rail systems worldwide?

GM Rink

- That’s a great idea, but right now we have other issues that we are dealing with and we would like to handle and accomplish those first.
- We will look into that in the future.



Update on any ongoing or upcoming initiatives regarding PATCO system modernization, particularly in terms of passenger safety features (platform screen doors, updated emergency communications)

GM Rink

- We are modernizing the Philadelphia stations, focusing first on 8th and 15th.
- Right now we do not have the money in the capital budget to consider platform screen doors.
- All of our call boxes and cameras have been updated.

Scott Cohen: How does construction coordinate with the events being held in Philadelphia next year? (FIFA, World Cup)

PM Ochroch

- We have a very aggressive schedule right now. The goal is to have final plans by Labor day so we can bid this project and get as much done by May 2026.

What opportunities exist for greater citizen involvement or public-private partnerships (PPPs) to support DRPA projects beyond the traditional scope of feedback and consultation?

PM Ochroch

- We are pretty conservative with our contracting schemes.
- Most of our federally funded projects require some level of community engagement.

GM Rink

- With Franklin Square we did engage with the historic park that oversaw the park and also with Chinatown prior to the design progress.
- There were multiple meetings with community groups in order to receive their feedback.

Update on Franklin Square Ridership

GM Rink

- Since the station opening we've had almost 18,000 riders. During the week we get anywhere from 400-500 riders per day. 8th & Market ridership has dropped 250-300 riders a day, transfers to Franklin Square.
- On the weekends we've had some good numbers using Franklin Square for various events.

Update on Station Closings for Cleanings

GM Rink

- We have been out in the subway power washing.

Update on discussions between DRPA and Philadelphia officials regarding homeless individuals in the SEPTA concourse.

GM Rink

- We had a meeting and we are waiting for the city to sign off on an agreement.
- DRPA will fund the gates that will go on the street level stairs and our police will open and close the stations.



Questions from Social Media

Old Business

New Business

Withdrew Nomination – William Loughney &
Daniel Coyle met his 3 meetings – emailed Thaddeus

Next CAC Meeting: June 11, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Next DRPA Meeting: DRPA Board Meeting on June 18, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.