



Citizens Advisory Committee Minutes

August 13, 2025

Location: via TEAMS

Attendance:

New Jersey: Reggie Haynes, Judy Boldurian, Daniel Coyle

Pennsylvania:

Emeritus Member(s): Jeffrey Kessler, Alan Becker, Robert Melikian

DRPA/PATCO: John Rink, GM; Cheryl Ansert, Administrative Coordinator; Robert Finnegan, CSSO; Elisabeth Klawunn, CMM

Potential Members: Lupe Diaz, Matthew Schwarz

Call to Order: Approval of May 14, 2025 meeting minutes.

Finance

GM Rink

DRPA Preliminary Traffic

- July 2025 total traffic was roughly around 27.8M. 64k less than previous year, primary reason for decrease is 2024 being a leap year and the extra day in 2024 contributed 135K of additional traffic.
- For the month of July, traffic grew by approximately 58,000 or 1.3% versus prior year.

DRPA Final Revenue & Traffic

- Final May YTD revenue was \$156.3M, \$5.2M, or 3.4% higher than the 2025 budget, higher traffic volume is driving revenue favorability.
- May YTD traffic was 20.1M, 390k or 2.0% higher than budget.

PATCO Ridership & Revenue

- May YTD revenue was \$5.9M. \$50k, or 0.9% higher than 2025 budget.
- May YTD ridership was 2.43M. 20k, or -1.0% less than 2025 budget. 100k, or 4.4% higher than 2024.

Preliminary Operating Expense

- Preliminary May YTD Operating expenses were \$73M, \$9.7M favorable to budget.
- This favorable variance is primarily driven by \$5.5M of savings from employee related costs, currently we have around 114 open positions out of 954 total budgeted positions. The majority of the \$4.2M savings on operating expenses is timing related.
- Total DRPA expenses are \$47.2M, 11.5% favorable to budget.
- Total PATCO expenses are \$27.5M, 12.1% favorable to budget.



General DRPA

Status of fired employee posting pictures of employees on DRPA website

GM Rink

- It's a former disgruntled employee who is posting an old photo from an issue that was dealt with and closed. We do not engage with this person.

Status of ongoing NJ legal issues.

GM Rink

- Talked to Mr. Hanson, he advised me that he will provide more details next month.
- We are filing a notice of appeal and it will soon be in the state and federal courts.

Possible live get-together to socialize with CAC members and potential new members

GM Rink

- I spoke to John about having a get together and we approve.
- If your plan is to have it at OPC, please work with Cheryl on coordinating this.

DRPA CAC Website page update

GM Rink

- Mike Williams is waiting for the Bios and other details for all the members to be emailed to him in order to complete the updates.

Bridge and Highway

Update on Bridge work for 100th year celebration/celebration planning update

GM Rink

- Jalila our Deputy CEO working on the 100th year celebration planning.
- We will have an update on the planning for next month.

Status of Commodore Barry Bridge access road work

CMM Klawunn

- We currently have 2 projects going on at the Commodore Barry Bridge.
- The painting project is continuing with some steel repairs on the PA approach span and they are installing some under deck work platforms in the NJ side of the span.
- We are doing concrete repairs on the approach.
- Starting in the fall we will be doing containment and painting.
- We currently have a contractor out there working on a weld project and anticipating finishing in September.
- There are wide load restrictions and lane closures in effect at this time.
- There is a painting project currently at the Betsy Ross Bridge.
- Platforms are being installed above the south side roadway.
- There are lane closures during this project.
- Anticipated completion is late 2026.



PATCO

Update on DRPA-PATCO recruiting for Public Safety-Police

CSSO Finnegan

- From our most recent Police Officer hiring we had 17 candidates, 16 of them went to the Police Academy and 1 was already a sworn officer and is completing their field training.
- We posted again on the 4th of August and already have 186 applicants. That number starts to decrease as we go through the process (written test, background checks, minimum qualifications).

Solar Energy savings update

CMM Klawunn

- The last update was given in June and we cannot give our next full update until June 2026.

Does Franklin Square meet ridership expectations?

GM Rink

- So far this year we have averaged about 31,150 riders per week. July has gone up to 3,800 and the first week in August we were over 4,500.

Update on overnight closures for station cleaning

GM Rink

- We have been rotating since July 7th. We started with Lindenwold and 8th & Market, moved to Broadway & 15th. Now we are back at Lindenwold and 8th & Market.

Ridership stats during evening hours by station vs. last month and last year (closure impact data)

GM Rink

- We went to a 2 hour headway on the owl overnight instead of a 1 hour.
- Ridership between those hours averages roughly 60 people. Before the numbers were about 64.
- Haven't seen much change in numbers of ridership.

Out-of-Service cars on PATCO trains have increased. Update on why there has been an increase

GM Rink

- Majority of cars that were out of service were due to HVAC related issues. July was the hottest month on record temperature wise so HVAC issue increased.

Has the agreement between PATCO and the City of Philadelphia been signed related to the Downtown Concourse?

GM Rink

- It has and we are moving forward with everything to be setup for September 1st.
- We will have our contractors in place with the Center City District to clean the areas of the city's concourse starting that day.



Plan for the incorporation of schedule changes in GTFS alerts and the schedules themselves

GM Rink

- Our focus has been getting the agreements and working with the city and the contractors to get the gates installed. We plan to work on GTFS after we get through the schedule changes.
- We will be uninstalling the gates over the stairway entrances at 12th & 13th and 15th & 16th.
- When we close at night we will move everyone out of the stations and we will shut the gates from 12:00 to 4:30. At 4:30am we will start the next train out of Lindenwold.

Questions from Social Media

Old Business

New Business

- Down to 5 voting members (Straso Jovanovski, Scott Cohen, Judy Boldurian, Grace Kimbaris, Steve Benigno)
- Bob has moved to Emeritus status June 30, 2025
- Lupe Diaz and Matthew Schwarz 1st meeting

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

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