



## **Citizens Advisory Committee Minutes**

**November 12, 2025**

**Location: OPC 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room**

### **Attendance:**

**New Jersey:** Reggie Haynes, Stephen Benigno, Grace Kimbaris

**Pennsylvania:** Scott Cohen

**Emeritus Member(s):** Larry Davis, Alan Becker, Tom Jordan, Jeffrey Kessler, Robert Melikian, Dan McArdle, Tyrone Wesley, Ben Saracco

**DRPA/PATCO:** John Rink, GM; Jerry Sahi, CFO; Cheryl Ansert, Administrative Coordinator; Mike Venuto, CE; Robert Finnegan, CSSO; John Hanson, CEO; Robert Hicks, COO

**Potential Members:** Lupe Diaz, Joseph Byham, Matthew Schwarz

**Call to Order:** Approval of October 8, 2025 meeting minutes.

### **Finance**

**CFO Sahi**

#### **DRPA Preliminary Traffic**

- October 2025 YTD traffic reached 40.6M, exceeding 2024 by 130k.
- The increase was primarily driven by continued strong traffic performance since July of this year. Over the past four months traffic has exceeded the same period in 2024 by 251 thousand vehicles.
- This strong performance effectively offset the 135k traffic boost that 2024 had due to leap year.
- For the month of October, traffic was approximately 56k or 1.4% higher than prior year.

#### **DRPA Final Revenue & Traffic**

- Final August YTD revenue was \$263.1M.
- Around \$11.5M, or 4.6% favorable to budget, higher traffic volume is driving this favorability.
- Versus 2024, revenue was favorable by around \$45.6M, primarily driven by toll increase implemented as of September 1, 2024.
- August YTD traffic was 34.0M.
- Around 1.22M, or 3.7% higher than budget, commercial vehicles were 7.7% and passenger vehicles were 3.4% higher than budget.
- Versus prior year traffic was 130k, or .4% favorable.

#### **PATCO Ridership & Revenue**

- August YTD revenue was \$9.4M, \$100k or 1% higher than 2025 budget, versus 2024 revenue was favorable by \$650k or 7.4%.
- August YTD ridership was 3.9M. 30k less than 2025 budget. 180k higher than 2024.

#### **Preliminary Operating Expense**

- Preliminary August YTD Operating expenses were \$121.8M, \$12.0M favorable to budget.



- This favorable variance is primarily driven by \$9.7M of savings from employee related costs, currently we have around 117 open positions out of 954 total budgeted positions. The majority of the \$2.3M savings on operating expenses is timing related.
- Total DRPA operating expenses are \$79.6M, 8.3% favorable to budget.
- Total PATCO operating expenses are \$42.2M, 10.3% favorable to budget.

### **General DRPA**

**Institutional History: Has a formal biography or comprehensive institutional history been written on the DRPA?.**

#### **CE Venuto**

- Mike Howard wrote a book on the Ben Franklin Bridge.
- Walter Andariese developed a history document from 1981, which documented the history of DRPA from Ben Franklin Bridge construction to the late 1970's.

### **Bridge and Highway**

**Status of active bridge and highway projects**

#### **CE Venuto**

##### **BRB Painting**

- Contractor is about 70% complete. Contractor and subs continue to blast and paint mid span of the bridge (both above and below the road), PA side (below the road), the steel barriers (between traffic and the maintenance walkway), and gantries.
- Work starting on Gantries J and I, steel connection repairs are occurring at mid span of the bridge (both above and below the road), Concrete spall and crack repairs of the piers are on going.
- Upcoming Traffic Impacts: November 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> there will be traffic slowdowns (15 min durations) between 10AM and 2PM, so contractor can lift work platforms over the roadway.
- Construction Contract No. BR-25-2024, BRB Gantry Cabinet Replacement anticipated to go to December Board. Work anticipated to start Spring 2026.

##### **CBB Painting**

- Contractor is continuing with steel and concrete repairs on the Pennsylvania approach.
- The underdeck work platform has been installed ahead of painting activities, which is expected to begin in March.

##### **WWB Pins**

- Work ongoing.
- Materials arriving on site
- Platforms are being installed at the NJ tower for temporary link installation and on the main span for upcoming steel work.

**PATCO-Active Rail Projects:** Status update on all active PATCO related rail projects

- PATCO Interlockings- Project is being presented to the November Board for approval. Work is expected to begin in January. Project duration is about 3.5 years.
- The construction portion of the Control Tower Project is wrapping up within the next month. The outstanding items include network integration and miscellaneous punchlist items. The current outlook is for the building to be open in early 2026.



### **Viaduct Project**

- Contractor is in the process of mobilizing. Work at Westmont is set to begin next and work at Collingswood is set to begin the week of November 24. Work will move in phases under the viaducts to minimize parking disruptions and road closures. Completion anticipated end of 2027.

### **Woodcrest Platform**

- For the Woodcrest Platform project, work at platform 1 is coming to an end and AP is getting ready to transition to platform 2 next month. At the Collingswood Headhouses, final work on the doors is being completed for completion at that station.

## **PATCO**

### **Fare Evasion Mitigation: What actions are being taken to reduce and avoid fare evaders?**

#### **GM Rink**

- Public Safety enforcement and future Capital project to replace faregates. Phase 1 in 2026. These new gates will stop people from pushing through them.

### **GTFS Schedule Changes: Status of the General Transit Feed Specification schedule change developments.**

#### **GM Rink**

- Per Jesse Pachell, we can internally publish static GTFS data for our general schedules, Weekday, Saturday, & Sunday as was previously accomplished by our external source.
- He is currently still determining the feasibility of publishing daily schedules for track work. He believes it is something we will be able to accomplish soon.
- The live data on their transit apps (Google Maps, Apple Maps) is what he has uploaded and it is all in working order.
- We are still exploring real-time with our SCADA system vendor.

### **Contactless Payments: Update on the addition of contactless credit card payment functionality.**

#### **GM Rink**

- Pilot install at 8<sup>th</sup> & Lindenwold anticipated on 12/10. Currently validating software, on-site employee training upcoming.
- Installation is delayed due to software issues. When we start, we will install 2 stations at a time.

### **Service & Maintenance: Update on the weekend station closures and cleaning schedules.**

#### **GM Rink**

- There are no weekend closures.
- Week-night and daily station cleaning is going well.
- With weeknight closures, we have been performing rail grinding on all of our switches. We have not been able to perform this level of maintenance in the past, due to the running of owl trains. We need the use of both tracks to perform this work, which takes approximately 3+ hours.

### **In-Tunnel Connectivity: Status of cellular service implementation within Philadelphia tunnels.**

#### **GM Rink**



- T-Mobile fully up in all subway stations.
- No movement from Verizon or AT&T.
- Comcast is scheduling Wi-Fi installation at Franklin Square.

### **Active Rail Projects: Status Update on all active PATCO related rail projects**

#### **GM Rink**

- Current active projects include Woodcrest Platform Rehabilitation, Roof & HVAC replacement, and rail grinding. The viaduct preservation contract is just starting.

### **Questions from Social Media**

#### **Old Business**

- Santa Train on 12/6

#### **New Business**

**Next CAC Meeting:** Teams January 14, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.

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

**Photos from Bridge and Highway**



Rt. 322 Eastbound



9<sup>th</sup> St Eastbound



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