

## MEMORANDUM OF MEETING

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**Project:** State Highway Project, Jersey City  
(Route 139 Rehabilitation/Replacement)

**Meeting Date:** Friday, May 21, 1999: 3:00 pm

**Place:** Office of Mayor Bret Schundler, 280 Grove Street, Jersey City

**Subject/Purpose:** To provide an update on progress of project, present new alternative

**Attending:** *See attached list*

**Memo Prepared By:** Rena Frankle, Reichman Frankle Inc.

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Henry Cole, Ernie Hutchins and John Kovar presented an overview of the State Highway Project, a brief history of the project to date, and a new alternative which provides for:

- Rehabilitation of the State Highway, keeping essentially the same project alignment, with a realignment of the eastbound lanes at Palisades Avenue to eliminate the jog in the road.
- Operational *improvements* at intersections of cross streets with the State Highway.
- A permanent steel open grating will be installed to carry westbound traffic during construction so that the westbound roadway can be rehabilitated; the grating will remain in place after construction is complete to provide a covering over the roadway below.
- Closing cross streets for construction will be staged to provide the least disruption to the community. Overnight construction will be utilized and will occur between the hours 9:00 pm to 5:00 am.
- Lighting and barriers will be designed to preserve the historic nature of the corridor.

Comments and discussion by community attendees included the following points:

- Can a pedestrian bridge be provided at the Palisade Ave. intersection?
- A bus stop along Palisade Ave. in the vicinity of Christ Hospital, was recently moved away from a "T" intersection which caused the elimination of several parking spaces along Palisade Ave. Can the bus stop be moved back and the parking spaces be used to replace those lost on westbound State Street at Palisade Ave.
- There are many 90-degree accidents at the intersections of Central, Oakland, and Baldwin with the State Highway, some of them fatal. These intersections do not have a high number of accidents, but have the most serious types of accidents.
- Eliminate or reduce the parking area at the Baldwin Ave. intersection to provide a better turning radius off the State Highway onto Baldwin.
- The northbound approach on Baldwin Ave. has located the stop bar back from the intersection. This condition leads to driver confusion and should be investigated for corrective action.
- Check into realigning eastbound State Highway to provide a left turn lane. Impacts to parking should be considered **not are not critical**.
- Eliminate or reduce the parking area at the Baldwin Ave. intersection to begin the realignment of the State Highway west of Baldwin Ave.
- Can the "orphan bridge" on Baldwin, which is badly deteriorated, be rehabilitated as part of the project (even though it is not within project limits)?
- Can the project be extended to J.F. Kennedy Blvd? NJDOT should check into limits of adjoining project.
- South of State highway residents in the senior housing complex along St. Paul's Ave. can not make a left turn onto St. Paul's Ave. due to the high number of vehicles along St. Paul's Avenue.
- All neighborhood associations should be added to the mailing list, for inclusion in subsequent meetings.

- Any lights which are to be installed as part of the project, should include a non-shatter type of glass due to vandalism.
- Provide more trees, greenery, landscaping, hanging baskets etc. as part of the project.
- Who will maintain State Highway and the improvements proposed?
- Can exit lanes (turning lanes) be provided on the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Viaduct.
- Check on hourly and daily traffic volumes along State Highway.
- A presentation of the new alternative should be provided to the Jersey City Planning Board.

Mayor Schundler expressed appreciation for the fact that the DOT understood that the value engineering concept proposed in May/June 1999 was not acceptable to the community, and that the DOT came back with a new concept.

Participants

PLEASE SIGN

560 Rt. 139

Jersey City

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