

ROUTE 18
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

**COMMUNITY
PARTNERING TEAM**

CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT NO. 7

PROJECT: ROUTE 18 - Section 2F, 7E, and 11H
City of New Brunswick
Middlesex County, New Jersey

PLACE: Conference Room 3A
New Jersey Department of Transportation
1035 Parkway Avenue, P.O. Box 600
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

DATE: October 18, 2002

SUBJECT: Steering Committee Meeting No. 7

ATTENDEES:

Mr. Steve Lavelle (SL)	New Jersey Department of Transportation	609-530-3762
Ms. Luciana Costa Toller (LC)	New Jersey Department of Transportation	609-530-8244
Ms. Pamela Garrett (PG)	New Jersey Department of Transportation	609-530-2721
Mr. Stephen Mikulak (SM)	New Jersey Department of Transportation	609-530-6558
Mr. Thomas Loughlin(TL)	City of New Brunswick	732-745-5007
Mr. Paul Nowicki(PN)	Gannett Fleming, Inc.	908-755-0040
Ms. Martine Culbertson (MC)	M.A. Culbertson, LLC	856-795-8485

SUMMARY:

To provide brief overview of project status, review of the CPT Group meetings held to date, discussion of issues and recommendations from the Group meetings; to identify agenda items for next CPT meeting and future steps for the Community Partnering Team (agenda attached).



POINTS OF DISCUSSION:

1. (SL) opened the meeting and asked for the project status. (PN) responded with:
 - (a) Right-of-way is the critical path item on the project schedule. (PN) to copy (SL) on the progress meetings with Bill Birch. ACTION
 - (b) Title work is completed.
 - (c) Final right-of-way is due by mid-November.
 - (d) Advanced relocation is underway.
 - (e) Structures coordination underway with SME's. Need to schedule meeting with QA Team leader with new process. Initial design due date is February 26, 2003 and final design submission is due December 2003 with construction award in June 2004.
2. (SL) noted that in addition to QA review, there should be an independent constructability review. Consider hiring independent firm to examine staging and conduct a constructability workshop. ACTION
3. (SL) expressed the need to identify the Resident Engineer for the project now and there will be a consultant for inspection, CPM examination and claims. ACTION
4. (PN) reviewed the environmental coordination. In December a contract modification will be executed to do the permitting work. It has been submitted to PG as CAM No. 6. The final design CAM is to be submitted as No. 7 and CAM No. 8 is the water and sewer work. ACTION
5. (PN) noted that utilities are moving forward. The project is on schedule. There are a few footprint issues:
 - (a) Newell Avenue/Phelps Avenue access
 - (b) Richmond Street pedestrian overpass
 - (c) Initial jurisdictional meeting with the City of New Brunswick, Middlesex County and NJDOT
 - (d) Finalize streetscape elements
6. (SL) requested that Luciana Costa Toller be added to the CPT and CPT group meetings. She will be working on this project to assist Bill Birch and Steve Lavelle. (MC) to make revisions and provide a CPT Handbook. ACTION
7. (SL) asked (MC) to revise the list of issues and recommendations. (MC) will coordinate with (DJ) and (PN) to include all refinements up to date. ACTION
8. (PN) noted the importance of the jurisdictional meeting to resolve maintenance and operational issues for corridor aesthetics such as lighting, sidewalk cleaning and trash collection. The meeting would be with the City, County and Rutgers. ACTION
9. (PG) noted the request by Steve Hardegen, SHPO to consider restoration of the view shed at Antilles field in one area. The removal of trees however may be an environmental issue. (PN) stated that he would be meeting with Frank Wong, Rutgers University to discuss Antilles Field and the Boathouse walkway area. ACTION
10. (SL) questioned lighting, signage and signal layouts. (PN) noted that coordination with NJDOT staff is on-going and on schedule. It is necessary to maintain the Boyd Park Enhancements Group to address the design such as the pavilion and other elements to be finalized.
11. The Security Workshop was well attended. Issues will be added to the issues matrix. (SL) requested an Emergency Management Plan be created to address any problematic concerns. The security workshop information will be presented at the next CPT Meeting No. 16. ACTION
12. Concerning the Richmond Street Pedestrian overpass, (TL) noted that the City does want the overpass. The majority of the council wants both the overpass and right in. (TL) acknowledged the safety issue in keeping Richmond open would create a worse condition than existing. (JG) to do pedestrian overpass renderings. ACTION
13. (SL) asked if a Local Officials meeting was needed prior to the Public Information Center. (SM) will coordinate with (TL) to determine logistics with the Mayor. The noise walls for the Route 18 project are Type 1. The moratorium is on Type 2 walls. ACTION
14. (SL) asked about the Police Station building. (PN) responded that it is resolved and in the right of way process on schedule. ACTION
15. The option to have only one opening to Route 18 between Newell Avenue and Phelps Avenue now

appears to be supported with the street opening out to Clifton Avenue (now known as Labor Center Drive). (SL) explained that the roadway work required to connect to Clifton is not within the project limits and would greatly impact the project schedule due to right-of-way and funding. (SL) advised (TL) to have the Mayor meet with Commissioner Fox to determine if a funding mechanism and option is available to create the road needed. In order to meet the project schedule, the City would have to hand over the right-of-way without contingency. (SL) to discuss this situation with NJDOT management and (TL) to discuss with Mayor and Commissioner. (SL) requested that (PN) develop conceptual drawings for the option. ACTION

16. (PN) restated the need for jurisdictional meeting in order to determine responsibility for maintenance of sidewalks, lighting and other streetscape elements on the CD (Corridor Distributor) roadway so designs can be finalized. ACTION

17. (SL) noted need to resolve the Richmond Street right out only option or the cul-de-sac. Show both options at the Public Information Center (PIC) meeting. ACTION

18. (SL) reviewed the items for the Public Information Center (PIC) meeting:

- (a) corridor aesthetic elements developed by the CPT groups on display
- (b) proposed noise walls
- (c) model to be cleaned up and available for viewing
- (d) create another small model showing the details of aesthetic elements
- (e) noise contours, graphic

19. (TL) asked if Dimer Park is part of the project. (SL) stated that it is not part of this project but funded through another mechanism.

20. (PN) and (TL) discussed a property take of a garage in the Dewey Heights neighborhood and that the owner is trying to decide whether to stay or go. (PN) will follow-up with Meg Palmer, NJDOT Right-of-Way to track the status. There are eight locations warranted as parcel takes. They will be tracked parcel by parcel. (SL) stated that Nick must make this project effort a priority. (SL) to instruct (BB) to set up a meeting with right-of-way management. ACTION

21. (PG) is working with Dr. Babiak on the Agnew historic home as part of the environmental process. An environmental coordination workshop will be discussed at the next Steering Committee Meeting. ACTION

22. The PIC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 30, 2002 in New Brunswick at the Middlesex County Administration Building in the Freeholders Room from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A draft of the project information handout was reviewed. It will be mailed out by Gannett Fleming once approved. (SM) has the public officials mailing list for NJDOT Community Relations approval. ACTION

23. (SL) requested that (MC) create a CPT display board for the PIC meeting, presenting the accomplishments of the CPT groups and partnering team progress. ACTION

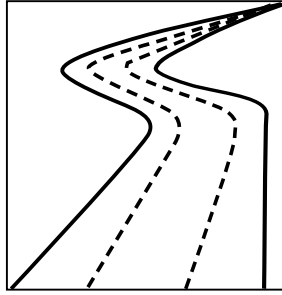
24. (SL) questioned ITS connections. (PN) responded that there are VMS units north of the project area and he will coordinate with NJDOT for ITS approval. ACTION

25. (SL) reviewed the schedule and adjourned the meeting:

- (a) PIC meeting - October 30, 2002
- (b) Steering Committee meeting to review comments - November, 2002
- (c) CPT Meeting No. 16 - December, 2002 (tentative)

We believe the foregoing to be an accurate summary of discussions and related decisions. We would appreciate notification of exceptions or corrections to the minutes within three (3) working days of receipt. Without notification, we will consider these minutes to be record of fact.

Martine Culbertson
CPT Facilitator



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**COMMUNITY
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STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 7

AGENDA

October 18, 2002

Conference Room 3A, NJDOT Office, Trenton, NJ

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Objective: To provide overview of project status and schedule, review of CPT meetings, discuss outstanding issues and recommendations; and prepare for Public Information Center meeting.

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| 1:30 p.m. | I. Welcome and Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agenda and Goals• CPT Review | Lavelle
Culbertson |
| 2:00 p.m. | II. Project Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Status and Schedule• Update of CPT Meetings and Progress<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Corridor Aesthetics Progress- Boyd Park Enhancements- Security Workshop- Design Development Issues• Environmental/Agency Coordination | Lavelle/Birch
Nowicki/Culbertson
Nowicki/Grob
Morgan/Grob
Nowicki
Johnson
Garrett |
| 2:30 p.m. | III. Public Information Center Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PIC Meeting Materials• Presentation and Display Materials | Mikulak/Culbertson
Nowicki/Johnson |
| 3:00 p.m. | III. Summary and Close <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short and Long Term Action Plans• Next CPT Steps• Closing Comments | Birch/Nowicki
Culbertson/Mikulak
Lavelle |

