

ROUTE 18
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

**COMMUNITY
PARTNERING TEAM**

CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT NO. 11

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

PLACE: Council Chambers, City Hall
City of New Brunswick, NJ

DATE: June 24, 2003

SUBJECT: Steering Committee Meeting No. 11

ATTENDEES:

Mr. Steve Lavelle (SL)	New Jersey Department of Transportation	609-530-3762
Mr. Bill Birch (BB)	New Jersey Department of Transportation	609-530-3003
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
Mr. Darryl Johnson (DJ)	Gannett Fleming, Inc.	908-755-0040
Mr. Jeff Grob (JG)	Vollmer Associates	212-366-5600
Ms. Martine Culbertson (MC)	M.A. Culbertson, LLC	856-795-8485

SUMMARY:

To present results of cost savings questionnaire and CPT Meeting No. 16; to discuss the cost budget and design scope; and to determine next steps for the CPT (agenda attached).

POINTS OF DISCUSSION:

After introductions, (SL) began the meeting with the review of the cost savings questionnaire. The discussion for each item is detailed in the following points. (see attached questionnaire summary report)

1. Ques. Item No.1: Use concrete and granite curbing in the high visibility pedestrian areas such as the Type A sidewalk. GF to identify these specific areas ACTION
2. Ques. Item No. 2: Remains in project due to safety and commitment to the City community.



3. Ques. Item No. 3: Remains in project, however the level of architectural treatments and detail to be determined. Preference for SK-2 or SK-3
4. Ques. Item No. 4: Typically since it is not being impacted, it is not required by NJDOT to be replaced. However future correction would require tearing up Route 18. If historic, it is not to be touched. The alignment has been moved, so there is no impact to the existing line. The issue is concern for flooding and the storm sewer drainage can be consolidated. NJDOT and the City would need to cost share this improvement since deemed as betterment. Need to confirm with DEP.
ACTION
5. Ques. Item No. 5: Reduce granite curbs to Type A sidewalk areas where there is high visibility from pedestrians. The suggestion of Belgian Block at George Street is not appropriate due to maintenance and durability concerns in this high traffic area. The City and County standard for curbing is 6", however NJDOT Safety wants 4" mountable curbing. GF to respond to NJDOT Safety comment that 4" curbing will be used in the mainline Route 18, but 6" curbing will be used on the CD roadway and in the City area. ACTION
6. Ques. Item No. 6: 12' wide concrete surface in the current design doesn't include base material. A 6" sub base material is needed to support the wider sidewalk surface. Use sub base material in the high visibility pedestrian areas. Modify sidewalk detail needed for sub base stability and durability.
ACTION
7. Ques. Item No. 7: Use "real" stone veneer along the CD roadway and form liners along mainline Route 18. GF to identify areas appropriate for stone veneer such as in pedestrian areas versus form liners in the retaining walls on the mainline. ACTION
8. Ques. Item No. 8: Bridge architectural details need to be reviewed by NJDOT. Harry Capers expressed concerns to Dave Byers. Use "real" stone veneer in high visibility areas and form liner on "car side". GF to the cost savings advantages and review Capers comments. ACTION
9. Ques. Item No. 9: This item must be reviewed with NJDOT Traffic Operations to determine if it is a critical need or if the two other signs will service the traffic message area sufficiently. ACTION
10. Ques. Item No. 10: Use the standardized signs outside the City proper area such as before the Paulus Boulevard "gateway area" and after the City area. 3 to 4 signs can be standard sign surfaces, but keep the 12 signs within the City painted. This would reflect a 25 % saving. GF to determine the exact signs and cost adjustment. ACTION
11. Ques. Item No. 11: Remains in project due to value. The cost savings are slight over the high benefits of keeping it in the project.
12. Ques. Item No. 12: Keep in project due to safety and commitment to the City. Break away with 6" curbing gives traffic calming effect. GF to address comment. ACTION
13. Ques. Item No. 13: Cost sharing of maintenance for electrical cost is a jurisdictional issue. Antilles Field is not impacted - cost savings
14. Ques. Item No. 14: Remains in project. Use concrete in the high pedestrian use areas. It is a lasting material. The crush stone does not work. It washes away. Coordinate with Jim Campbell to minimize paths with material selection as appropriate. Optimize paths, no crush stone and concrete in the high pedestrian traffic areas. GF to meet with Jim Campbell to identify areas. ACTION
15. Ques. Item No. 15: Lighting details to be coordinated with Jim Campbell and the City. With nighttime events, lighting of steps and paths important for safety. Determine standard lighting versus optional lighting on steps and in park areas. GF to identify impacts to the Park and coordinate with the City. ACTION
16. Ques. Item No. 16: There have been complaints to the Mayor's office. It is warranted at terminal of a highway ramp. It is a maintenance and upkeep concern for NJDOT. Add signal to the inventory or determine if County could maintain this traffic signal. Keep in the project and determine maintenance responsibility. ACTION
17. Color renderings of the Underpass need to be reviewed by the Corridor Aesthetics CPT Group.
ACTION
18. Consider possible sponsorship of art mural in the underpass or in Boyd Park areas by corporations such as J&J or by NJDOT art funding sources or NJTRANSIT or FHWA. City does not have art program. ACTION

19. Status of Tov Manor acquisition of roadway appears agreeable but City is continuing to coordinate regarding additional parking options. ACTION
20. (SL) asked that the membership for each of the CPT groups be reviewed and set for upcoming meetings in the fall. The new task forces are Traffic Management and Public Information & Awareness. The next CPT meeting is anticipated to be held in October or November, 2003. ACTION
21. A constructibility review is needed before Final Design. GF to coordinate with NJDOT for August. ACTION
22. As action items, Meg and Nick need to push the right-of-way and review Green Acres. Also need to progress permitting efforts with DEP by 4th week of August. Agnew House is not a take and (PG) has notified the owner. ACTION
23. Status of the contamination site currently J&J and the Commissioner has been notified. PSE&G and DEP need to make it a priority in order to maintain the project schedule. (BB) to produce briefing for the Commissioner. (PG) to prepare work plan with DEP for case manager coordination. ACTION
24. Fran Daly has replaced John Dourgarian in the NJDOT Press Office. A CPT Handbook has been sent to her. She is working on communications regarding the archeology efforts on the project.
25. Green Acres is set for September at State House.
26. Regarding the key action items for (TL):
 - (a) (TL) has spoken to Tov Manor and there is on going discussion of acquisition of the property necessary for the roadway connection. (TL) to schedule follow-up meeting. NJDOT offered to assist in addressing the parking options possible for Tov Manor if needed. ACTION
27. Regarding the key action items for (BB):
 - (a) There is on going coordination regarding the contamination site.
 - (b) The access has been resolved with Rutgers. Right-of-way coordination is on going with Frank Wong.
 - (c) (BB) will send out response to comment letters once received by Gannett Fleming. ACTION
 - (d) (SL) and (TL) to receive drafts of the Streetscape booklet given to Gannett Fleming from (JG). The draft copies are to be examined to determine whether they should be circulated before or after final design has been completed. The booklet does present an understanding of the community process for the development of architectural treatments for the project.
28. Regarding the key action items for Gannett Fleming:
 - (a) (SL) requested copies of all meeting minutes with DEP to be distributed to BB, PG, and SL. ACTION
 - (b) Constructability review is to be scheduled later under the new process.
29. Regarding key action items for M. A. Culbertson:
 - (a) (MC) will follow-up with Tom Kelso to determine a CPT alternate for the Dewey Heights neighborhood to attend future CPT meetings. ACTION
 - (b) (MC) will contact local police, fire, school, and EMS representatives to add to the team including Ward Sterling Board of Education rep, and EMS coordinator for Wood Johnson and St. Peters. (MC) will contact and provide CPT Handbooks. ACTION
30. (SL) requested that Gannett Fleming and the City set up meeting to discuss the jurisdictional agreements proposed for the project, especially those which may impact final design plans. ACTION
31. (SL) summarized the action items as listed below and adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m. Next Steering Committee meeting will be scheduled after the summer.

KEY ACTION ITEMS

Steve Lavelle

- (1) Elevate the contamination site issue in NJDOT in order to make it a priority for DEP and PSE&G.

Steve Mikulak

- (1) To check on any arts programs at NJDOT or FHWA.

Pam Garrett

- (1) Send PSE&G contamination report to GF for review.

Tom Loughlin

- (1) (TL) to schedule follow-up meeting with Tov Manor. NJDOT is available assist in addressing the parking options if needed.
- (2) Obtain draft Streetscape booklet and proposed cost savings refinements from Gannett Fleming.

Bill Birch (Luciana Costa-Toller)

- (1) Determine if sewer line replacement is a betterment and if so, send letter to the City stating options and coordinating cost sharing (Item 4).
- (2) Discuss with Traffic Ops the need for the ITS sign (Item 9).
- (3) Initiate jurisdictional agreement meeting with the City.
- (4) Coordinate with (PG) and (SL) on action plan for contamination site.
- (5) Follow-up with Dave Cook on project right-of-way status report.
- (6) Use right-of-way funds to move acquisition and early demolition of requested parcels.
- (7) Send out response to comment letters once obtained from Gannett and reviewed.
- (8) Review draft streetscape booklet once obtained from Gannett.

Jeff Grob

- (1) Revise architectural treatment concepts for the Route 27 bike/pedestrian underpass with Albany Street bridge in background.
- (2) Provide color renderings of the pedestrian underpass to (MC) for distribution to the Corridor Aesthetic CPT group for review and comment.

Gannett Fleming

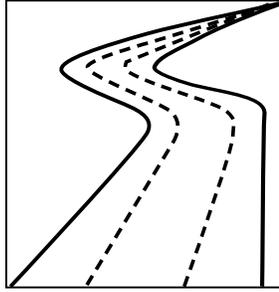
- (1) Determine high visibility areas and revise cost savings report based upon discussions at Steering Committee meeting on Items 1-16.
- (2) Respond to NJDOT safety comments on design elements and coordinate with (BB) and (SL).
- (3) Assist (BB) in determining the traffic signal ownership and maintenance by NJDOT or the County for the new traffic signal (Item 16)
- (4) Distribute DEP meeting minutes on contamination site and send to (BB), (PG), (SL) and (TL).
- (5) Conduct on-going coordination with Rutgers on access issues and jurisdictional agreements.
- (6) Assist in the coordination of jurisdictional agreement meetings with the City, Rutgers and County.

Martine Culbertson

- (1) Follow-up with Tom Kelso to determine alternate for Dewey Heights neighborhood.
- (2) Contact NJDOT staff and new community CPT members and provide CPT Handbooks.
- (3) Revise CPT members lists and distribute CPT Meeting No. 16 Report and Steering Committee meeting reports.
- (4) To check on any arts programs at NJTRANSIT or Middlesex County programs.

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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TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

**COMMUNITY
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CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 11

AGENDA

June 24, 2003

City of New Brunswick, City Hall Council Chambers, 9:30 a.m.

- Objective: To present results of cost savings questionnaire and CPT Meeting No. 16; to discuss the cost budget and design scope; and to determine next steps for the CPT.
- 9:30 a.m. I. Welcome and Introductions
- Agenda and Goals Lavelle
 - CPT Meeting No. 16 Recap Culbertson
- 9:45 a.m. II. Project Items
- Construction Cost Questionnaire Results Nowicki/Johnson
 - Cost Budget and Design Scope Lavelle/Nowicki
 - Environmental/Agency Coordination Garrett
- 10:45 a.m. III. Summary and Close
- Action Items / Next Steps Nowicki/Culbertson
 - Closing Comments Lavelle

