

# Public Information Center

## CENTRAL GATEWAY TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

### Meeting Report

**Date:** April 30, 2007  
**Time:** 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
**Location:** Camden County Council on Economic Opportunity  
538 Broadway  
Camden, NJ 08103

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization / Address</u>	<u>Phone / E-mail</u>
Joseph Perno		
Alyce E. Ali		
Mary Whetfield		
Mary Timmons	952 Pine St. Camden, NJ	856-541-9268
Dewitt Timmons	952 Pine St. Camden, NJ 08103	856-541-9268
Ray Lamboy	129 N. Broadway Camden, NJ	856-338-1177
Rigaberto Aquino	431 Pine St. Camden, NJ 08102	
Felipe Aquino	434 Pine St. Camden, NJ 08103	
Ronald B. Evans	327 Pfeiffer St. Camden	856-365-8294
Peter Kroll	NJ Conservation	856-342-6523 / <a href="mailto:peter@njconservation.org">peter@njconservation.org</a>
Lillian M. Murphy	508 Trenton Ave., Camden, NJ 08103	856-966-1678
F. Mone		
Lillie McCoy	513 Spruce St., Camden, NJ 08103	856-541-4417
Sheila Roberts	521 S. 8th St., Camden, NJ 08103	609-519-5335
Oscar Spencer	1442 Haddon Ave. Camden, NJ 08103	<a href="mailto:Spencer1442@comcast.net">Spencer1442@comcast.net</a>
Vicki Mapp	Camden County OEO	
Stew Weldman	420 S. 5th St., Camden, NJ	856-966-0170
Veronica Murphy	NJDOT - DPPD	(609) 530-8142
Evens Marcellus	NJDOT - DPPD	(609) 530-2850
Patricia Feliciano	NJDOT - OCR	
Leroy H. Gould	NJDOT - DPPD	
Kenneth Burkhardt	McCormick Taylor, Inc.	(856) 793-0800
John Mullen	McCormick Taylor, Inc.	(215) 592-4200
Ken Deats	McCormick Taylor, Inc.	(215) 592-4200
Jonathan Wetstein	McCormick Taylor, Inc.	(215) 592-4200

### Purpose of Meeting

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) held a Public Information Center (PIC) to inform local residents, officials and the business community of the City of Camden's Central Gateway Traffic Circulation Improvement Project. The PIC was held at the Camden County Council on Economic Opportunity, 538 Broadway in Camden on Monday, April 30, 2007 from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. The public was invited to examine conceptual design plans and exhibits, ask questions and discuss issues with representatives from NJDOT.

### Meeting Displays

- Central Gateway Traffic Circulation Improvement Project plan
- Project Area Aerial map (Community Facilities)
- Project Area Aerial map (Land Use)
- Project Area Aerial map (Zoning)
- Stakeholder Comments maps, including:
  - Comprehensive Comments
  - Transportation – Circulation & Access
  - Transportation – Traffic & Geometry
  - Economic Development
  - Schools, Parks & Recreation

### **Meeting Handouts**

- PIC Meeting Notice
- Comment Form
- Study Fact Sheet

### **Summary of Discussion**

Seventeen (17) residents attended a Public Information Center (PIC) to review recent studies and stakeholder comments regarding transportation improvements in the Central Gateway Traffic Circulation Improvement Project Area. NJDOT staff and other members of the study team were on hand to answer questions and comments from the attendees. A summary of comments received during the meeting follows.

Several displays were used to summarize the information gathered during informational interviews and special purpose meetings. Field work observations and major transportation routes were highlighted on a large aerial. Additionally, comments heard at the informational interviews held April 3 and April 5 were displayed on a series of aerials, grouped into five (5) categories: Comprehensive Comments; Transportation – Circulation & Access; Transportation – Traffic & Geometry; Economic Development; and Schools, Parks & Recreation. Visitors were given the opportunity to make comments on the displays.

Several topics of conversation occurred over the course of the evening in one on one discussions with the attendees. Topics included proposed redevelopment projects, wayfinding, traffic and pedestrian safety and socioeconomic impacts related to transportation improvements.

Comments from Ronald B. Evans (327 Pfeiffer Street, Camden, NJ 08105, 856-365-8294):

- Kaighns Avenue from 8<sup>th</sup> Street to 7<sup>th</sup> Street is currently one way (westbound). He would like to make it two way. Also the turn-off of 8<sup>th</sup> Street from I-676 is dangerous.
- He is a member of Kaighn Avenue Collaborative Enterprise (KACE). He would like NJDOT to present the Central Gateway plans during the next KACE meeting on May 15 at 1:30 p.m. NJDOT agreed to attend this meeting.
- He stated that there is flooding on Kaighn Avenue from 8<sup>th</sup> Street to Mt. Ephraim Avenue. He indicated that:
  1. Pennoni is studying the flooding.

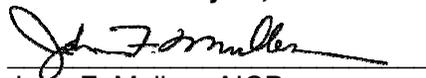
2. Pennoni is working on the preliminary streetscape design for Kaighn Avenue, from Haddon Avenue to Broadway.
  3. He would like these improvements to potentially attract new business to the corridor.
- He stated that in the 1960's, the construction of I-676 thru Camden destroyed this neighborhood by displacing 3,800 families. He indicated that KACE and residents in the area will fight to ensure any proposed developments have a positive effect on surrounding neighborhoods and the community as a whole.
  - He stated he is concerned about what regard Campbell's Soup Company has for the community. He would like Campbell's Soup Company to engage the community in its development planning process.

Other comments received during the meeting included:

- **Lansdowne Avenue and Haddon Avenue**, at this intersection, motorists are having difficulty turning on and off of Haddon Avenue to and from Lansdowne Avenue. Due to Lansdowne Avenue's narrow cartway, vehicles in violation of the off-street parking ban are contributing to congestion along the corridor. It was suggested that stricter parking enforcement may help alleviate this problem.
- **Mt. Ephraim Avenue and Ferry Avenue** intersection is difficult making left-turns. The traffic signal is missing a split phase left arrow signal from Ferry Avenue onto Mt. Ephraim Avenues. The result has left numerous vehicles at peak hours waiting through several light cycles to make their turn.
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The meeting ended at 7:00 p.m.

Report prepared by:  
**McCormick Taylor, Inc.**



John F. Mullen, AICP