

ROUTE 18  
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

---

**COMMUNITY  
PARTNERING TEAM**

---

CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

**COMMUNITY PARTNERING TEAM  
MEETING NO 1 REPORT**

May 28, 1999

**DATE:** May 18, 1999  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Conference Room, Middlesex County Planning Offices,  
Elks Building, City of New Brunswick

**ATTENDEES:**

Members  
Herb August  
Robert Grimm  
Linda Hunter  
Thomas Kelso  
Thomas Loughlin  
Glenn Patterson  
Joseph Piccone  
Todd Smircina  
Robert Spear  
Mona Terrell  
George Ververides  
Richard Wallner  
Frank Wong  
Alternates  
Brian Deegan  
Tony Gambilonghi  
Robert Gamgort  
Edward Kozack  
Invited Guests  
James Amon  
Anna Ashkenes  
James Baisley  
Bob Belvin  
Jon Carnegie  
John Donnelly  
Sgt. Ken Herman

**REPRESENTING:**

Keep Middlesex Moving, Inc.  
New Jersey Turnpike Authority  
University Mews Homeowners Assoc.  
Dewey Heights Area Neighborhood  
City of New Brunswick, Administration  
City of New Brunswick, Planning  
Raritan Gardens  
Carpender Road Area Neighborhood  
Rutgers, The State University of NJ  
NJ TRANSIT  
Middlesex County Planning Dept.  
Dept. of Engineering & Roads  
Rutgers, The State Univ. of NJ  
  
City of New Brunswick, Engineering  
Middlesex County Planning Dept.  
Johnson & Johnson  
Rutgers, The State University of NJ  
  
Delaware & Raritan Canal Commission  
Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Com.  
New Brunswick Development Corporation  
New Brunswick Historical Association  
MSM Regional Council  
Piscataway Township  
Borough of Highland Park



**ATTENDEES (con't):**

Douglas Joyce  
 Ken Koschek  
 Linda LaSut  
 Carl Nittinger  
 Randy Prescott  
 Carl Spataro

**REPRESENTING:**

East Brunswick Township  
 NJ DEP, Office of Program Coordination  
 NJTPA  
 NJ DEP, State Historic Preservation Office  
 Federal Highway Administration  
 Middlesex County Office of Eco. Development

## Invited Guests - Alternates

Lee Feldman	NJ Motor Truck Association
Victoria Martinez	Federal Highway Administration
Charles Scott	NJ DEP, State Historic Preservation Office
Steering Committee	
Bill Birch	NJDOT, Division of Project Management
Bill Cochran	NJDOT, Community Relations
Elkins Green, Jr.	NJDOT, Division of Project Management
Michael Morgan	Gannett Fleming
Paul Nowicki	Gannett Fleming
Martine Culbertson	M. A. Culbertson
Visitors	
Ben Gindville	Gannett Fleming
John McCleerey	NJDOT, Division of Project Management
Rose Ann Scotti	NJDOT
Glenn Stevens	Gannett Fleming
Al Tavares	NJDOT, Bureau of Mobility Strategies
Obi Ufondu	NJDOT, Assistant Project Engineer
Bob Werkmeister	NJDOT, Local Gov't. Services

**1. PURPOSE OF MEETING**

To define the purpose, goals, structure, and roles of the Community Partnering Team; present the current project status; review existing conditions; define Route 18 transportation improvement needs; and identify community issues. (Agenda attached).

**2. MEETING SUMMARY**

Bill Cochran, NJDOT opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and presented the program overview. He then introduced Paul Nowicki, the project manager from Gannett Fleming and Martine Culbertson, the facilitator for the CPT. Martine reviewed the agenda and then asked Bill Birch, the NJDOT project manager to present the project purpose and goals.

Bill explained that the NJDOT has established this Community Partnering Team as a mechanism to keep the community informed and reach consensus on issues from a local perspective as part of the final scope development process. He asked the participants to introduce themselves and who they represent.

To assist participants in becoming a team, Martine conducted a number of exercises to identify team members and define roles. She then reviewed the CPT Handbook and asked members to review the handbook materials and send any comments to her office. The team generated Team Agreements (see attachment). Any media questions which arise concerning the project should be referred to Mr. John Dourgarian at the NJDOT Press Office (609-530-2124).

Martine then asked each team member to share one key issue which they wished to convey to the team or to describe their agency's role in the project process. She presented a summary of key issues and asked for comments. Each member had been asked to bring written issues which were collected and will be distributed to the CPT. Martine then asked Bill Birch to present the project status and current schedule.

Bill informed the CPT that the project is in final scope development, a semi-production mode of design that refines the initially preferred alternative and solves the issues of the project. Also included is completion of the environmental document, right-of-way, and access needs. It is estimated the project will require a three year period from now until construction depending on the proposed improvements. He asked Paul Nowicki to present the Route 18 corridor overview.

Utilizing a display board with an aerial photograph of the corridor, Paul described the existing conditions. Most importantly he identified the areas where traffic safety and deficiencies indicate a need for improvement. He then introduced Mike Morgan, deputy project manager from Gannett Fleming, to present existing traffic conditions in the area through a modeling and simulation computer program projected on the wall. Each area of congestion in the corridor was highlighted and enlarged to see the detail at each intersection and the flow of traffic. It was explained that the model can be used to examine different design alternatives for improvements in each area in the corridor.

Mike then turned the presentation back to Paul Nowicki to discuss the transportation needs and the action items for the next meeting. Transportation improvements are needed in the corridor to address safety and operational deficiencies. The agenda items suggested for the next meeting include: bike and pedestrian impacts, review of alternatives previous studied, the alternative currently proposed, environmental constraints, and identification of other potential developments in the corridor.

Martine then asked the team to consider the tentative date for the next meeting of Tuesday, June 15th and if the logistics and time were acceptable to the team. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held at same conference room and same time. She explained that a Fax/Transmittal letter will be sent to members to confirm the future meeting dates.

In closing, Martine asked for feedback from the attendees on the meeting and the construction partnering team strategy. The comments included: great job, good representation, on time, break into smaller groups for effective dialogue and use of time, regional information and data, how to value options realistically such as cost, type of criteria and measurements to apply, coordination with other proposals, awareness of permitting issues and mitigation requirements early as possible, indicate property impacts on alternatives, positive diverse group, very constructive, examine public access, track and chart process, continued commitment. Bill Birch presented closing comments thanking everyone for the attendance and to use the CPT as a means of communicating project information. Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

### **3. ACTION ITEMS**

- Members and Guests review the CPT Handbook and list of participants. Provide any comments to Martine Culbertson via phone, fax, or email. Fax issues if not handed in at meeting to Martine Culbertson Fax number: 609-795-5254.
- Martine Culbertson conduct meeting assessment, confirm date of next Community Partnering Team meeting, prepare agenda and materials, write and distribute meeting report.
- Paul Nowicki review agenda items, continue scope development studies, and coordinate with the Steering Committee on project information and agenda for the next meeting.

#### **4. NEXT MEETING**

Date: Friday, June 18, 1999

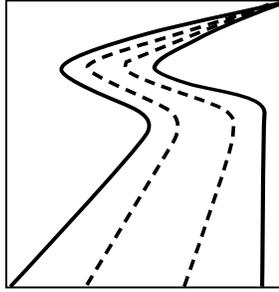
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Location: Middlesex County Planning Dept. Conference Room, New Brunswick

Report prepared by:

---

Martine Culbertson, CPT Facilitator



**ROUTE 18**  
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

---

**COMMUNITY  
PARTNERING TEAM**

---

CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

**AGENDA**

May 18, 1999

Objective: To define the purpose, goals, structure, and roles of the Community Partnering Team; present the current project status; review existing conditions; define Route 18 transportation improvement needs; and identify community issues.

- I. Welcome and Introductions
  - Program Overview
  - Purpose and Goals
- II. Community Partnering Team
  - Structure / Participants' Roles
  - Team Agreements
  - Community Issues
- III. Route 18 Transportation Improvements
  - Current Project Status and Schedule
  - Existing Conditions in the Corridor
  - Transportation Improvement Needs
- IV. Summary and Close
  - Meeting Schedule / Action Items
  - Feedback and Closing Comments



**State of New Jersey Department of Transportation**

Division of Project Management