

ROUTE 18  
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

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**COMMUNITY  
PARTNERING TEAM**

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CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

**COMMUNITY PARTNERING TEAM  
MEETING NO. 16 REPORT**

**DATE:** June 3, 2003  
**TIME:** 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Hyatt Regency Hotel, City of New Brunswick, NJ  
**ATTENDEES:** Listed at the end of the report

**1. PURPOSE OF MEETING**

To present the project status and design refinements; to discuss cost saving options; to provide construction staging and traffic management schemes and to identify public information and community outreach efforts needed during construction. (Agenda attached)

**2. MEETING SUMMARY**

Martine Culbertson opened the meeting by welcoming CPT members including new members. Members and visitors introduced themselves. Martine emphasized that the project is now moving into a new phase where new membership includes representatives for traffic management and public information and awareness efforts during construction. A summary matrix of the recommendations of the CPT issues was distributed for members to review in addition to Steering Committee meeting reports and a revised list of members for their CPT Handbook Volume 2.

Paul Nowicki provided the project status by reviewing the Public Information Center meeting and the current activities via a PowerPoint presentation (see PowerPoint presentation handout). Paul also reviewed the design development elements and asked Jeff Grob to present the potential concepts for the bicycle/pedestrian underpass. The following comments were noted:

- Dimensions: 3.5x5.0/14' wide 8/9'
- Design so all wheel carriers can go down steps
- Continuous lighting
- Bike continuity to other bike path essential
- Preference for stone: 18 or for slope: 12
- Preference for concrete: 2 or for plaster: 6 or for mixed: 6
- Maintenance of slope a concern
- Create images of options w/Albany St. Bridge in background
- Preference: 12 in favor mosaic
- Regarding mosaic, it may not be seen so is it needed
- regarding a mosaic, a flat exposed surface is more likely to be used for graffiti than tile Work or mosaic



Darryl Johnson then presented information on understanding and managing construction costs (see the PowerPoint handout). He distributed a Construction Cost Questionnaire and explained each of the elements to consider if cost savings can be applied or the element is needed as proposed. The following comments were noted:

1. concrete vs. bituminous
  - 3ft. visual difference
  - stripe would be there in either case
3. make the connection real
  - will it connect
  - could it be a separate project at a later date?
4. sewer line is a betterment
  - while roadway is open, allows improvement to be done
5. curbing will stay type of material
  - granite vs. concrete (durability (3 to 1 and look)
  - granite type - 6' split face finish
  - Belgian block --look at
6. sidewalk materials
  - range if savings - all concrete vs. sp. pavers
7. form liners problematic in appearance vs. "real" stone veneer  
SAMPLES - BDS
8. form liners on retaining walls for bridge structures vs. real materials 10% - 20% 2-4 ml.
9. VMS complements - 2 miles north (parts of other)  
Rt. 1 on sign - must  
other at Rail Bridge ? need or not
10. Shiny or 355,000 painted
11. 116,0000 importance of roadway
12. Pedestrian lighting at bus stops and into Park
13. Chg. of materials and number of sidewalks - concrete - asphalt
14. symmetrical vs. one sidewalk way into Boyd at Commercial
15. Boyd Park lighting - reduce to ramp and amphitheater.
  - c. functional/maintenance
  - c. the aesthetics for quality of the needs and to enhance community
  - c. 5-10 years maintenance into contract
  - c. value considerations next to go back to task force

During lunch CPT members discussed the items for cost savings. They were encouraged to note comments on why a particular item is important for example: safety, quality of life, ease of access etc. A summary of the questionnaires is attached.

A presentation was then given by Joe Livingston of Gannett Fleming regarding construction staging (see PowerPoint handout). The following comments were noted:

## **STAGING ISSUES AND IDEAS**

- Advance Utility Relocations
- Location of Staging Areas
  - state owned property
  - police site, city docks
- Prevent Construction from Leaving Materials in Open Space - Tree Protections Effort
- Information Lane - toll free/website
- KMM - Emergency, Fax Network
- Communication Plan Network

Stage 2 New St.

- Traffic Slow Down Due to Construction and Reduction of Lane Widths
- Traffic Will Go to George St. - increased flow on George St.
- Construction in Downtown City Impacts

Stage 3 - Albany St. - limited

- Commercial Ave. - limited turns - signal out
- Impact on city streets
- Detours: George St. and New St.

Stage 4 – Commercial Avenue - rt. in, rt. out

- Albany open
- New St. most traffic - Commercial signal removed

Stage 5 - George St./Albany St.

Stage 6 - George Street

- Limited area, pinch point
- Commercial Avenue open

Stage 7 - Clean up

Stage 8 - Final paving - middle final const.

- Boyd Park - begins Stage 5 - 8
- City Docks area - not available until Stage 7
- Lanes Closures - limited - not during shut downs

## **Other Comments on Construction Staging**

- USA Coach Bus - contact and coordination, also Academy Bus
- Neilsen two-way during Commercial Ave. construction
- Contractor Incentives
- Accelerate Noise Wall Structures for Stage 2
- Newell Phelps - Stage 1 - can you do Labor Center Way same time
- Jersey Ave., Johnson Park (Dewey clearance area) areas for potential Park n' Ride Option (Sears Lot)
- High Occupancy vehicle priority
- Effect on Int. 9 need to consider traffic shift
- Cut down construction time from 41 months - Night, option to accel.
- Utilities coordination - look to advance and coordinate
- Float materials on Raritan -- access to Boyd Park City Docks – option, old police site - access and maintenance
- Barge Access for Construction
- Newspaper coordination and link to local newsletters
- Radio and Traffic announcements
- NJ TV Network
- NJDOT website – njcommuters.com

In summary, Paul noted the project schedule. Final Design to be completed by February 2004 with construction to let in June 2004. Construction activity in the area visible in the summer or fall of 2004. The construction is anticipated to occur over a 41-month time frame. The next steps for the project in the following months are: coordination with the City on jurisdictional agreements, utilities coordination, archeology regarding the historic New Brunswick tavern, and CPT task force group meetings to close corridor aesthetic design elements (July-September).

Martine noted the following feedback comments:

### **Feedback Comments**

- Shrink time
- Good meeting
- Color copies of rendering underpass (bike path with Albany St. Bridge in background)
- Hurry up
- Noise barriers - a first
- Copies of construction staging
- Progress
- Concern for access on Commercial
- Intersection - hand controls
- Renew reduced scope/cost item
- Continuation of corridor aesthetic group meetings
- Allow CPT to review prior to final decision on cost saving elements

To close, Martine thanked the CPT members for their input on the questionnaires and for their continued support. The CPT members will receive notices of the CPT task force or group meetings to be scheduled in the coming months. The next step is a Steering Committee meeting in June and the next CPT meeting will be in the fall of 2003. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

### 3. ACTION ITEMS

- CPT Members review materials with their constituents and continue to provide input on design elements to the project team.
- NJDOT and Gannett Fleming will continue the final design process steps and coordinate with the City with respect to the other projects in the area.
- Vollmer Associates will produce and distribute color copies of the bike/pedestrian underpass concepts for inclusion in their Handbooks and to share with constituents.
- Martine Culbertson will provide CPT meeting report, assist with coordination and scheduling of Group meetings to be held in the coming months.

### 4. NEXT CPT MEETING

Date: Fall, 2003 (Groups to meet in August and September)  
Time: 9:00 a.m. - Noon  
Location: to be determined, City of New Brunswick, NJ

### 5. LIST OF ATTENDEES

<b>ATTENDEES:</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>	<b>PHONE/FAX #s</b>
<b><u>Members</u></b>		
Anna Ashkenes	Middlesex Cty. Cultural Com	
Morteza Ansari	KMM	732-745-2326
Ranae Bacon	New Brunswick Apartm	732-745-9200
Bill Bradley	New Brunswick Fire Dept	732-745-5169
Jim Campbell	New Brunswick Parks Dept	732-745-5112 ph 732-745-5140 fax
John M. Donelly	Piscataway Twp	732-562-6560
Helen V. Erdey	Carpender Rd	732-247-3391
Hamid Ghadimy	N.J.T.A.	732-247-0900 ph 732-247-5245 fax
Steven Hardegan	NJDEP-SHPO	609-984-0141
Linda Hunter	Carpendar Rd/Phelps Ave	732-828-7458
Darryl Johnson	Gannett Fleming	908-755-0040
Edward Kozack	Rutgers	732-932-6966
David Martella	New Brunswick Police Dept	732-745-5165
Bill McCabe	NJSP Construction	732-308-4006 ph 732-308-4005 fax
Robert McLaughlin	New Brunswick Fire Dept	732-745-5167 ph 732-246-3126 fax
Todd Smiruna	Carpender Rd	732-545-5771
Jose F. Sosa	Johnson & Johnson	609-702-9092
Bob Spear	Rutgers	732-932-6966
Cathie Springer	Newell Avenue	732-828-7458
George M. Ververides	Middlesex County Planning	732-745-3013
Kye-Jung Whang	Rutgers	732-445-2430

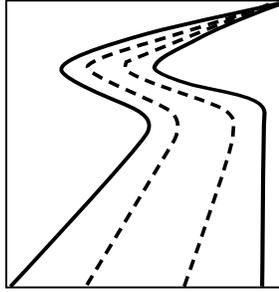
**ATTENDEES:****REPRESENTING****PHONE/FAX #s****Steering Committee**

Steve Lavelle	NJDOT, Division of Project Management	
Bill Birch	NJDOT, Division of Project Management	
Luciano Costa Toller	NJDOT, Division of Project Management	
Steve Mikulak	NJDOT, Community Relations	
Pam Garrett	NJDOT, Environmental Services	
Paul Nowicki	Gannett Fleming, Inc.	
Darryl Johnson	Gannett Fleming, Inc.	
Robert Matthews	Gannett Fleming, Inc.	
Joe Livingston	Gannett Fleming	
Jeff Grob	Vollmer Associates	
Noriko Maeda	Vollmer Associates	
Martine Culbertson	M. A. Culbertson, LLC	
Project Support		
Tony Bene	NJDOT Const	732-565-9681
Cindy Bloom-Cronin	NJDOT, Landscape & Design	
Harry Yeade	NJDOT Quality Assurance	609-530-4590
Phyllis St. Onge	M. A. Culbertson, LLC	
Michele Tomdri	Schlessinger Associates	609-924-1818 ph 609-924-8204 fax

Report prepared by:

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Martine Culbertson, CPT Facilitator



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CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

**CPT MEETING No. 16**

**AGENDA**

June 3, 2003

Hyatt Regency Hotel, City of New Brunswick, 10:00 a.m.

**Objective:** To present the project status and design refinements; to discuss cost saving options; to provide construction staging and traffic management schemes and to identify public information and community outreach efforts needed during construction.

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

- Agenda and Goals
- CPT Review
- Recommendation Summary Matrix

**II. Project Status**

- Public Information Center Meeting
- Current Activities

**III. Design Development**

**IV. Understanding and Managing Construction Costs**

- Presentation
- Questionnaire
- Breakout Group Presentations

**V. Lunch – Cost Management Discussion**

**VI. Building the Project - Workshop**

- Presentation
- Questionnaire
- Breakout Group Presentations

**VII. Summary and Close**



**State of New Jersey Department of Transportation**

Division of Project Management