

ROUTE 18  
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

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**COMMUNITY  
PARTNERING TEAM**

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CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

**PRE-STAGE BRIEFING MEETING REPORT**

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

**DATE:** December 15, 2005

**TIME:** 10:00 a.m. - Noon

**PLACE:** Hyatt Regency, New Brunswick, NJ

**ATTENDEES**

(See attached list at end).

**PURPOSE OF MEETING**

To prepare for Stage 2, the closing of the New Street interchange and related construction activity; discuss the traffic detours; review communications and obtain input from CPT members on issues and recommendations. (Agenda attached).

**MEETING SUMMARY**

1. Martine Culbertson, CPT Facilitator, opened the meeting asking participants to introduce themselves and provide one key word or thought regarding the upcoming closure of New Street interchange. This list is attached to the meeting minutes in alphabetic order.
2. Martine reviewed the agenda and provided a brief summary of the Community Partnering Team (CPT) efforts. She noted that additional information is available on the project specific web site at [www.njcommuter.com](http://www.njcommuter.com) under Road Construction Updates select Route 18 Reconstruction New Brunswick. Information on the CPT and prior meeting reports are listed under Community Outreach. Martine welcomed the new members of the CPT and acknowledged the Steering Committee. A yellow highlighter has been distributed to CPT members and attendees of the meeting. It shows the project email address in addition to the web site as a reminder for accessing information, or providing input.



3. John McCleerey, NJDOT Project Manager, acknowledged the progress of the project and the purpose of this briefing to prepare for closure of New Street interchange. John asked Brian Dorf, the Communications Team Leader to provide an overview of the construction activity and communication efforts. Brian provided an update of the Route 18 reconstruction activity through a series of photos of the corridor. The images are available for viewing on the web site.

4. Mike Prudente, the Project Manager from the contractor, Conti Enterprises, presented the list of activities to occur in preparation and during the New Street interchange closure and reconstruction. Mike noted a list of controlling factors to consider in determining the actual date for the closure of the New Street interchange. (See the power point presentation slides on the web site). The interchange closure and reconstruction will require an estimated 11 months.

Questions raised during Mike's presentation:

Q - Can the ramps for New Street in to and out of the City be constructed sooner than the rest of the reconstructed interchange?

A - Conti is looking into constructing them and opening them earlier than the rest of interchange and will provide the timing as soon as it is determined.

Q - Will there be lane closures during the New Street closure?

A - It will be necessary to close lanes when the steel girders are placed due to safety. They anticipate the lane closures to occur at night and only for a limited time period. There are fourteen girders so it may require 3 to 4 nights to do this work safely. There are other options for moving around this area during this period of time.

5. The estimated time for the closure of the interchange would be late January or early February depending on the factors, which must be addressed prior to closure. Based on weekly monitoring of activities, a notice will be sent via the Traffic Advisory emails distributed by Brian Dorf when the specific date is determined and it will be posted on the web site.

6. Darryl Johnson, Gannett Fleming Deputy Project Manager, provided information on the anticipated traffic detours to be implemented upon the closure of the New Street interchange. A detour handout was distributed at the meeting and is available on the web site. Darryl noted that signal timing modifications will be implemented as needed and the City is looking at "way finding" signs to assist motorists within the City. A left turn from Ryders Lane to George Street will be restricted. NJDOT is currently analysis options to address traffic concerns at the intersection and it is the intent to have traffic mitigation in place during the New Street interchange closure. Signage is under review to assist motorists as certain locations and VMS (variable message signs) will be implemented in certain areas to alert motorists.

Questions raised during Darryl 's presentation:

Q - Will there be a light at Commercial and Neilsen?

A - It will be in place to assist in traffic mitigation. Brian Dorf will add information concerning the traffic mitigation items to the Traffic Advisory emails.

Q - What is the definition of nighttime work verses daytime work?

A - Night time work is from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. which is when the contractor may implement lane closures to do any work where necessary to ensure the safety of workers and motorists. Off roadway work is done during the daytime hours with possible stopping of traffic to move equipment or should an incident occur requiring temporary lane closure.

7. Martine asked participants for any input regarding outstanding issues or information the team should exchange in preparation of the New Street interchange closure. The following comments were noted:

#### Issues

- Girder lifts
  - Direct communication on lifts to EMS providers (fire & police)
  
- Albany Street Pedestrian/cyclist Underpass (box culvert)
  - Direct communication with EMS providers (fire & police)
  - Possible Traffic Mitigation task force meeting to review closure of Albany Street bridge work effort
  
- Parking
  - City has considered restricting parking however businesses expressed concern
  - City will continue to evaluate options to assist with traffic flow and parking
  - New and Nielsen - will have traffic light operations
  
- Gibbons Street
  - Drilling to set piles

8. In closing, Martine thanked everyone for their active participation as part of the CPT and for their input. She reminded them of the web site for information and the project email address to provide comments or questions. Brian Dorf is available at the NJDOT field office to assist in communication efforts and for brief presentations to constituents upon request. John McCleerey noted that the next meeting time for a possible pre-stage briefing would be in the late spring or summer if needed.

## NEXT MEETING DATE

### Route 18 CPT

DATE: Spring/Summer 2006

TIME: 10:00 a.m. - Noon

LOCATION: City of New Brunswick *(to be determined)*

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

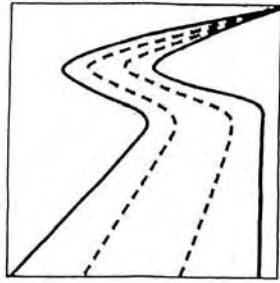
RT18 Facilitator

## ATTENDANCE

First Name	Last Name	Representing	Phone	Fax
		<b>Steering Committee</b>		
Tony	Bene	NJDOT, Construction	732-729-7853	732-729-7856
Martine	Culbertson	M. A. Culbertson, LLC	856-795-8485	856-795-8523
Brian K.	Dorf	Greenman – Pedersen, Inc.	732-729-7855	732-729-7856
Pamela	Garrett	NJDOT, Div. of Environmental Resources	609-530-2721	609-530-5306
Larry	Kolodziej	Middlesex County Engineering Dept.	732-745-3283	732-937-4585
Stephen	Lavelle	NJDOT, Division of Project Mgmt.	609-530-2546	609-530-5774
Thomas	Loughlin	City of New Brunswick	732-745-5007	732-435-0132
John	McCleerey	NJDOT, Division of Project Mgmt.	609-530-2466	609-530-5774
Steve	Mikulak	NJDOT, Community Relations	609-530-6558	609-530-2536
Frank	Wong	Rutgers, - Physical and Capital Planning	732-445-2430x604	732-445-5094
		<b>NJDOT Support Team</b>		
David	Earl	NJDOT, Landscape and Urban Design	609-530-5547	609-530-5526
Adam	Iervolino	NJDOT – Local Aid	732-308-4004	
Frank	McCombs	NJDOT – Local Aid	732-308-4035	
Bernard	Michaeli	NJDOT, Construction Inspection	609-530-8129	
Amy	Polachak	NJDOT, Div. of Environmental Resources	609-530-5353	609-530-5306
Joanne	Schutz	NJDOT, Construction	732-729-7854	732-729-7856
Khalid	Shaikh	NJDOT, Bureau Freight Planning & Intermodal	609-530-2476	
Lee	Steiner	NJDOT, Work Zone Traffic Control Unit	732-409-3260	732-308-4101
Andy	Swords	NJDOT, Bureau Freight Planning & Intermodal	609-530-2118	609-530-3723
John	Szafanski	NJDOT, Bureau of Construction	732-409-3270	732-308-4101
		<b>Consultant Team</b>		
Debbie	Chomow	Greenman – Pedersen, Inc.	732-729-7850	732-729-7856
Brian	Dorr	Gannett Fleming	908-755-0040	908-755-9849
Charlie	Fresolone	Conti Enterprises, Inc.	908-561-8005 x262	908-757-9115
Lisa	Ginther	MBI-GluckShaw	609-392-3100	609-392-6347
Pat	Hogan	Conti Enterprises, Inc.	908-561-8005 x240	908-757-9115
Darryl	Johnson	Gannett Fleming	908-755-0040	908-755-9849
Bill	Koepppe	Conti Enterprises, Inc.	908-561-8005 x241	908-757-9115

R. Jeffrey	Lanigan	MBI-GluckShaw	609-392-1080	609-392-3428
Paul J.	Matacera	MBI-GluckShaw	609-392-3100	609-392-6347
Paul	Nowicki	Gannett Fleming	908-755-0040	908-755-9849
Mike	Prudente	Conti Enterprises, Inc.	908-561-8005	
		<b>Stakeholders</b>		
Morteza	Ansari	Keep Middlesex Moving, Inc. (KMM)	732-745-2326	732-745-7482
Fred	Bell	Piscataway Police, Traffic & Safety	732-562-7652	732-743-2510
Valerie	Bogan	Raritan Gardens		
William	Bradley	City of New Brunswick Fire Dept.		
Michele	Cade	Matrix Development Group	732-521-2900 x3055	609-395-9382
Douglas	Campbell	Robert Wood Johnson Univ. Hospital	732-937-8644; 8526	732-514-4837
Helen	Erdey	Carpender Road Neighborhood	732-247-3391	
John	Ferguson	Middlesex County, Office Emergency Mgmt	732-316-7104	732-727-8993
Wayne	Fiorino	Middlesex Co. Court House	732-981-2172	732-981-2178
Christine	Fowler	Keep Middlesex Moving (KMM)		
Dave	Hartkern	State Theatre	732-247-7200 x518	732-247-4005
Joseph	Herrera	Piscataway Township Engineering	732-562-6563	
Jennifer	Hollis	Rutgers University, Campus Info. Services	732-932-9342x2621	732-932-9359
Douglas	Joyce	Township of East Brunswick	732-390-6870	732-390-6898
Roger	Kuhlman	Johnson & Johnson	732-524-1607	732-524-3612
Jenn	Lane	Rutgers	732-445-2430x650	
Marie	Latimer	Raritan Gardens	732-247-0600	732-247-2832
Ari	Lewitter	Highland Park - First Aid Squad	917-751-2747	
Jay	Littman	Highland Park – Fire Chief	732-572-3333	
Brian D.	McMahon	Univ. of Medicine & Dentistry of NJ	973-972-1506	973-972-4540
Paul	McNicholas	NJ State Police	732-308-4006	732-308-4005
Leslie	McRae	Univ. of Medicine & Dentistry of NJ		
Walt	Mitcel	Suburban / Coach USA	732-213-8666	
Jack E.	Molenaar	Rutgers - Office of Univ. Planning & Dev.	732-932-6966	732-932-3442
Paul	Morrissett	Newell Avenue Neighborhood	732-331-8899	
Donald	Newton	Borough of Highland Park Police – Traffic	732-572-3800	732-572-0258
Vince	Pomparelli	Johnson & Johnson	732-524-6320	732-524-2309
Alex	Raybar	UMDNJ	732-235-9364	732-235-9366
Lou	Sasso	Robert Wood Johnson Univ. Hospital	732-937-8728	732-418-8199
Todd	Smircina	Carpender Road Neighborhood	732-545-5771	
Jim	Stapleton	Rutgers University, Campus Info. Services		
George	Ververides	Middlesex County Planning Dept.	732-745-3013	732-745-3201
Kyu	Whang	Rutgers, Physical & Capital Planning	732-445-2430x614	732-445-5094
Timothy	White	City of New Brunswick	732-745-5056	732-565-7531
Greg	Williams	Univ. of Medicine & Dentistry of NJ		
Jim	Wilno	NJTRANSIT	856-968-3827	
Greg	Wright	Academy Bus Co.	201-725-5612	732-932-3667





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CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

**PRE-STAGE BRIEFING**

STAGE 2 - Closure of New Street Interchange

**AGENDA**

Thursday, December 15, 2005

*Hyatt Hotel, New Brunswick, NJ*

*10:00 a.m. – Noon*

Objective: To prepare for Stage 2, the closing of the New Street interchange and related construction activity; discuss the traffic detours; review communications and obtain input from CPT members on issues and recommendations.

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Agenda and Goals

II. Stage 2 Details

- Project Status
- Construction Activity and Communication
- Contractor's Work Schedule
- Traffic Mitigation Detours
- Issues and Recommendations

III. Summary and Close

- Action Items / Next Steps



**ROUTE 18 PRE-STAGE BRIEFING  
MEETING REPORT - ATTACHMENT NO. 1**

**KEY WORD - New Street Interchange Closure**  
*(Alphabetic Order)*

- Alternate Routes +
- Ambulances
- Buses
- Challenge
- Clean
- Communication + + +
- Commuters
- Congestion
- Construction + +
- Construction Progress
- Cooperation
- Coordination +
- Dorf
- EMS Response
- Environment + +
- Environmental Mitigation
- Evening Access
- Finish
- George Street
- Go Forward
- Improvement
- Information +
- Inspection
- Least Inconvenience
- Momentum
- "Patience"
- Patient Care
- Planning + +
- Progress
- Public Awareness
- Safety + + + + +
- Scheduling
- Shop Drawings
- Solutions +
- Stakeholders +
- Timely
- TMAs
- Traffic Control
- Traffic Detours
- Traffic Flow
- Traffic Mitigation
- Traffic Safety +
- Vacation
- Village Access
- All of Above
- Happy Holidays