

ROUTE 18
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS
**COMMUNITY
PARTNERING TEAM**
CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT NO. 20

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

DATE: Monday, November 21, 2005

TIME: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

PLACE: Middlesex County Planning Conference Room, Elks Building,
New Brunswick, NJ

ATTENDEES

Tony Bene	NJDOT, Construction	732-308-4073
Martine Culbertson	M. A. Culbertson, LLC	856-795-8485
Brian Dorf	Greenman – Pedersen, Inc. - Communications Team Ldr	732-729-7855
Tony Gambilonghi	Middlesex County Planning Dept.	732-745-3843
Lisa Ginther	MBI-Gluckshaw	609-392-3100
Darryl Johnson	Gannett Fleming	908-755-0040
Larry Kolodziej	Middlesex County Engineering Dept.	732-745-3283
Jennifer Lane	Rutgers University	732-445-2430x650
Stephen Lavelle	NJDOT, Division of Project Mgmt.	609-530-2546
Thomas Loughlin	City of New Brunswick - Administration	732-745-5007
Paul J. Maticera	MBI-GluckShaw	609-392-3100
Steve Mikulak	NJDOT, Community Relations	609-530-6558
Paul Nowicki	Gannett Fleming	908-755-0040
Amy Polachak	NJDOT, Environmental Services	609-530-5353
Joanne Shultz	NJDOT, Construction	732-828-1095
Tim White	City of New Brunswick - Engineering	732-745-5056
Frank Wong	Rutgers University	732-445-2430x604

MEETING PURPOSE

To review project status and schedule, discuss proposed design modifications, jurisdictional agreements, environmental coordination and prepare for the Pre-Stage Briefing and New Street interchange closure. (Agenda attached)



POINTS OF DISCUSSION

1. Martine Culbertson, RT 18 facilitator opened the meeting on behalf of NJDOT. After introductions, Steve asked Tony Bene to provide an update on construction activity.
2. Tony Bene, NJDOT Resident Engineer, briefly noted the following activities: the serpentine walls are underway, utilities are on-going, continuous of clearing, a temporary signal to be installed and Albany street work. No traffic patterns changes. The concrete pour for the pedestrian overpass at Carpender Road may influence northbound traffic flow.
3. Brian Dorf, Communications Team Leader, noted the growing email/fax list of 300 plus. Current issues relate to sight distance on Carpender Road (possible signage or mirror to aid in one opening for entering and exiting), mud and dust issue in the Dewey Heights. City refers calls to Brian to address and Tony will send Brian to speak with residents or businesses with concerns. Conti has been responsive to issues.
 - (a) Conti has a subcontractor to clean the streets and it was done by the time Brian went out to examine the street.
 - (b) Bus service is a concern for Rutgers. They have made some service modifications and have incorporated bus system flexibility to be responsive.
 - (c) Johnson & Johnson's representative, Vince Pomparelli contacted Brian about the condition of the work site and they identified where to maintain materials.
 - (d) Erin Phalon has been added to the Steering Committee and databases as the Acting Communications Director.
4. Steve Lavelle questioned Tony on the status of the NJDOT approved project schedule. The baseline schedule is due back today (11/21/05). Steve will review the schedule with John McCleerey. It is estimated that Stage will begin in January 2006. *ACTION ITEM*
5. Gannett Fleming has revised the Jurisdictional Agreement maps based upon items discussed at the meeting held with the City and must now be reviewed by NJDOT.
 - (a) Maps to go to John McCleerey, Bob Alu and Steve Lavelle for review prior to distribution to the City to confirmed all items were addressed. *ACTION ITEM*
 - (b) Martine provided a draft copy of the minutes from the meeting to the City. The report also must be reviewed by John McCleerey, with the maps prior to final distribution. *ACTION ITEM*
6. Regarding the pedestrian lighting and the update of load centers, the meeting has not been set yet between PSE&G, the City and NJDOT. The PSE&G contact information to be provided to the City by Darryl Johnson. *ACTION ITEM*
7. The status of removing parking on Paulus Boulevard in order for NJDOT to assume jurisdictional maintenance for snow clearance was questioned by Steve Lavelle. Tom Loughlin responded that the City's position is to ban parking during snow storms to allow NJDOT to clear the roadway around the new circle. John McCleerey to discuss this issue with NJDOT Maintenance for review and approval. *ACTION ITEM*

8. There is an issue with tractor-trailers getting stuck on Paulus Boulevard attempting to make u-turns. There is not adequate space and it has now happened twice that tow trucks had to pull the vehicles out of the area.

(a) Brian Dorf and Tom Loughlin confirmed these incidents and the suggestion for signage at Paulus to prohibit large vehicles from using the roadway. *ACTION ITEM*

(b) It was also suggested that the signage to be placed on Route 1 to use Ryders Lane for u-turns be posted as soon as possible. Darryl Johnson to coordinate with John McCleerey. *ACTION ITEM*

9. Tony Bene noted a new issue has surfaced regarding pole relocation by public service in Boyd Park and they are attempting to save any trees possible during this temporary condition in the park while relocating poles.

10. Steve Lavelle noted that he would direct John McCleerey to initiate the signal agreements with Tim Swedo, NJDOT Traffic Signals. *ACTION ITEM*

11. Tony Bene noted that they have not received approvals for the electrical submittals for temporary lighting. The paperwork was submitted in August and he has not received the approvals to date. John McCleerey to follow-up when coordinating with Tim Swedo. *ACTION ITEM*

12. A follow-up jurisdictional agreements meeting should be scheduled to review the modifications from the meeting held with the City (if possible prior to December 15th pre-stage briefing). The County and Rutgers should participate in the next Jurisdictional Agreements meeting to review the revisions. *ACTION ITEM*

(a) The City is requesting that the County maintain the Pedestrian Cyclist Underpass at Albany Street. Larry Kolodziej will discuss with John Reiser prior to next jurisdictional agreements meeting. *ACTION ITEM*

(b) Frank Wong noted a possible project to extend the boathouse, which would result in possible modifications to the jurisdictional agreements. He will provide the status at the next jurisdictional agreements meeting. *ACTION ITEM*

13. Darryl provided the status of the proposed roundabout concepts, which are under analysis by Gannett Fleming. They are producing a design and cost estimate to each option under consideration to John McCleerey. Steve Lavelle recommended that the analysis be completed immediately and since it may effect the traffic mitigation plans it would be beneficial to resolve this prior to the pre-stage briefing meeting (12/15/05). *ACTION ITEM*

(a) One option is to build one roundabout "quickly" at Ryder's Lane and George in lieu of a temporary traffic signal which was suggested as part of the traffic study done by Urbitran for the City, County and Rutgers. The other roundabout could be then be done at Gibbons and George.

(b) The timeframes, costs and constructability considerations are under analysis.

- (c) There is also funding consideration (capital program committee approval) and time needed to implement a temporary traffic signal versus that of the construction of one or two of the roundabouts must be carefully considered in the analysis and final decision.
- (d) Given the closure of New Street interchange in January, the need to resolve this issue is pressing.

14. The site plans for the Richmond Street pedestrian overpass are under development to be approved by the City. Current plans do not show the suggested flip of the switch back ramp.

(a) Paul Nowicki noted the need for HDR to submit the plans with NJDOT Access Bureau in order to determine and apply for the access permit for entrance into the north side of the park. Tom Loughlin noted that HDR is producing the plans under a County contract. Larry Kolodziej will discuss with John Reiser. *ACTION ITEM*

(b) Darryl Johnson to assist City in providing the contact information for the NJDOT Access Bureau to HDR. *ACTION ITEM*

15. Amy Polachak provided information on the environmental issues and an update on the environmental control team effort.

(a) Antilles Field - Conti determined in a structural evaluation that the Antilles Field wall would be damaged with the construction activity to be done below that area. The length of wall is an estimated 150 feet. Rutgers is estimating the cost to remediate. It has been decided that:

- (1) The wall will be removed and if possible stored
- (2) NJDOT will rebuild the foundation
- (3) Rutgers will fund the remediation to put the wall back (may include constructing wall that cannot be stored)
- (4) SHPO requested a Memorandum of Agreement between NJDOT and Rutgers, which NJDOT will draft. *ACTION ITEM*

(b) Agnew House - DGA has recommended that NJDOT apply for condemnation of the property which means NJDOT is to acquire the property. The final determination of preservation, relocation within the property or off site will be evaluated once the acquisition process is completed. Currently the evaluation for acquisition is underway. *ACTION ITEM*

(c) Mock-Up Meeting - The shop drawings were completed Friday and form liners are to be produced. David Earl and Cindy Cronin-Bloom from NJDOT Landscaping have been handling the meetings to date. Once the mock-up samples have been produced a meeting can be scheduled with the CPT members to be part of the review of the mock ups (Mayor Cahill, Tom Loughlin, City Historic Society Rep-Bob Belvin, County Historical Commission Rep-Anna Ashkenes and SHPO rep-Steve Hardegen). Joanne Shultz to inform Martine when the mock-ups are available so the meeting can be scheduled. Brian Dorf to assist in coordination effort. *ACTION ITEM*

(d) Environmental Control Team - Amy Polachak is responsible for these meetings which are addressing vibration, county dredging, storm water controls, remediation of sites (Duberry handling hazmat).

16. A comment was noted that there is a paving project in the area. NJDOT Section 18 and Route 1. There is also City work around Albany Street.

17. Rutgers provided way finding signage and bus information to John McCleerey last week. There is a need to determine where the signs will be placed on George Street. Darryl Johnson inquired as to the status of the other suggestions from the study: left hand turn restriction and no parking areas. Steve Lavelle requested that a meeting be scheduled with John McCleerey, Rutgers, City, County and Urbitran to review the study findings and determine recommendations to implement. Jennifer Lane, Rutgers, is working on scheduling this meeting. She needs to coordinate with John McCleerey. *ACTION ITEM*

18. Rutgers requested that the timing of the closure of New Street interchange be analyzed to see how best to deal with the timing of the start of the new semester, which begins on January 17, 2006. Conti may consider putting in detour routes prior to the start of the semester or wait until the first week of classes have begun. *ACTION ITEM*

19. Brian Dorf requested that a pdf map (an informational handout) be created to show the detour routes for the area. Draft of the map/handout should be available for comment at the pre-stage briefing. *ACTION ITEM*

20. Currently Gannett Fleming is working with Conti on the possibility of constructing the off and on ramps from New Street sooner so the entire interchange will not be out of service. Two moves may be available sooner than the estimated 9-11 months to have the New Street interchange in full operation. *ACTION ITEM*

21. Martine distributed a copy of the Pre-Stage Briefing draft agenda. It was suggested that Conti provide the proposed traffic mitigation they will be implementing and that a dry run meeting would be helpful in generating the specific information to be presented for the closure of New Street and detours to be in place. A tentative date of Monday, December 12 was agreed to and the location to be either the conference room at Elks, at Gannett Fleming or the field office conference room (to be determined). *ACTION ITEM*

22. Steve reviewed the key action items as listed below. He emphasized the need to have the results of the roundabout analysis as soon as possible and the meeting with Rutgers and Urbitran on other suggested mitigation efforts in preparation for the Pre-stage Briefing. the next jurisdictional meeting should be before December 15th if feasible. The meeting adjourned at noon.

KEY ACTION ITEMS

- A. Deliver jurisdictional agreement maps to John McCleerey and schedule next Jurisdictional Agreements Meeting with City, County and Rutgers. (Gannett)
- B. Gannett to complete analysis of roundabouts and present to NJDOT. (Gannett)
- C. Frank Wong to report on boat house project. (Rutgers)
- D. Tom Loughlin to present City's site plan for Richmond Street pedestrian overpass to the Commissioner. Gannett to provide Access Bureau information to HDR. (City)
- E. Draft Agreement for Antilles Field and coordinate with Rutgers and SHPO. (Polachak)
- F. Mock-up meeting to involve the City and cultural resource representatives. (Dorf)
- G. Rutgers to schedule meeting with John McCleerey, Urbitran, City and County. (Rutgers)
- H. Schedule dry-run meeting for Pre-Stage Briefing on December 12, 2005 in New Brunswick. (Culbertson)

Tom Loughlin (City of New Brunswick)

- Items No. 6, 8a, 12a, 14a, 14b, 15c, 17

Larry Kolodziej (Middlesex County)

- Items No. 12a, 14a, 17

Frank Wong / Jane (Rutgers)

- Items No. 12b, 15a, 17, 18

Steve Lavelle / John McCleerey (Project Management)

- Items No. 4, 5a, 5b, 7, 8a, 8b, 10, 12, 12a, 13, 15c, 17, 18, 19

Tony Bene (Resident Engineer)

- Item No. 4, 8a, 11, 15

Pam Garrett / Amy Polachak (Project Management-Environmental Services)

- Items No. 15a, 15b, 15c

Paul Nowicki / Darryl Johnson (Gannett Fleming)

- Item No. 5a, 6, 7, 8a, 8b, 11, 12a, 12b, 13, 14a, 14b, 15a, 19, 20

Brian Dorf (Communications Team Leader)

- Item No. 8a, 19

Martine Culbertson (CPT Facilitation)

- Items No. 12, 15, 19, 21

NEXT MEETING

Jurisdictional Agreements Meeting

Date: December 8 or 9, 2005 (tentative)

Time: 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Location: Middlesex Planning Conference Room, Elks Bldg., New Brunswick, NJ

Pre-Stage Briefing Meeting

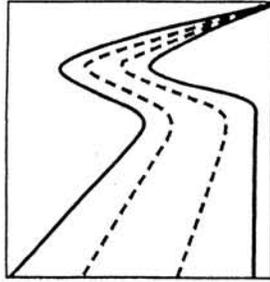
Date: December 15, 2005 (*Dry-Run December 12, 2005-Elks or Field Office*)

Time: 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Location: Hyatt Hotel, New Brunswick

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 CPT Facilitator



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STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 20

AGENDA

Monday, November 21, 2005

Middlesex County Planning Conference Room, Elks Building, New Brunswick, NJ

10:00 a.m. – Noon

Objective: To review project status and schedule, discuss proposed design modifications, jurisdictional agreements, environmental coordination and prepare for the Pre-Stage Briefing and New Street interchange closure.

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| 10:00 a.m. | I. Welcome and Introductions | |
| | • Agenda and Goals | Lavelle |
| | • Project Status and Schedule | McCleerey |
| | - Contractor Activities | Bene |
| | - Communications | Dorf |
| 10:30 a.m. | II. Project Items | |
| | • Jurisdictional Agreements Status | McCleerey |
| | • Design Modifications | Gannett |
| | - Proposed Roundabouts | |
| | - Richmond Street Pedestrian Overpass | |
| | - Site Plan for entrance near Field Office | |
| | • Environmental Coordination | Garrett |
| | - Antilles Field | |
| | - Agnew House | |
| | - Mock-ups, Env. Control Team | |
| | • New Street Closure - Traffic Study | McCleerey |
| | - Way Finding Signage | |
| | - Left turn parking restrictions | |
| | - Bus changes, Event restrictions | |
| | • Pre-Stage Briefing - December 15th | Culbertson |
| 11:30 a.m. | III. Summary and Close | |
| | • Action Items / Next Steps | Lavelle |

