

ROUTE 18
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

**COMMUNITY
PARTNERING TEAM**

CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT NO. 5

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

PLACE: Conference Room 3C
New Jersey Department of Transportation
1035 Parkway Avenue, P.O. Box 600
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

DATE: June 24, 2002

SUBJECT: Steering Committee Meeting No. 5

ATTENDEES:

Mr. Steve Lavelle	(SL)	New Jersey Department of Transportation	609-530-3762
Ms. Pamela Garrett	(PG)	New Jersey Department of Transportation	609-530-2721
Mr. Stephen Mikulak	(SM)	New Jersey Department of Transportation	609-530-6558
Mr. Thomas Loughlin	(TL)	City of New Brunswick	732-745-5007
Mr. Paul Nowicki	(PN)	Gannett Fleming, Inc.	908-755-0040
Mr. Darryl Johnson	(DJ)	Gannett Fleming, Inc.	908-755-0040
Mr. Jeff Grob	(JG)	Vollmer Associates	212-366-5600
Mr. Fred Correale	(FC)	Vollmer Associates	212-366-5600
Ms. Martine Culbertson	(MC)	M.A. Culbertson, LLC	856-795-8485

SUMMARY:

To provide brief overview of project status, review of the CPT Group meetings held to date, discussion of issues and recommendations from the Group meetings; to identify agenda items for next CPT meeting and future steps for the Community Partnering Team (agenda attached).



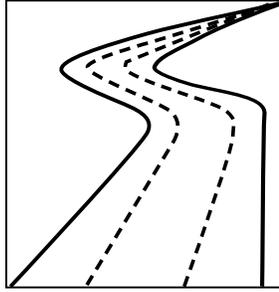
POINTS OF DISCUSSION:

1. (SL) asked for a brief update of project status items which (PN) provided indicating that the project is proceeding on schedule: preliminary structures design, geometry, borings, utilities, and right-of-way – completion date remains end of July.
2. (SL) noted that the schedule to award construction is June 2004.
3. (DJ) reviewed the issues for Design Development (listed on Design Development Group Meeting No. 2 – June 13, 2002 Prioritization Summary)
4. (SL) requested Steering Committee members to review the draft Design Development minutes and get any changes to (DL). ACTION
5. (SL) asked (MC) to develop a master status sheet to have a running list of issues and recommendations. (MC) will coordinate with (DJ) and (PN) to maintain the master. ACTION
6. (SL) noted that if there is a development encroachment such as New and Neilsen in the future, it will impact the schedule. He acknowledged the suggestion by (DJ) to have monthly coordination meetings with (TL) and City staff.
7. (DJ) reviewed the Design Development Group items from the minutes:
 - a. A safety workshop to be conducted with the police, fire and EMS specialists to review safety and security along the corridor and in Boyd Park
 - b. Determination of utilities replacement needs in the floodplain is under examination
 - c. Speed limit to be posted at 35 miles per hour and designed for 45 miles per hour
 - d. Mayor wishes to have wider promenade crossing at Richmond and Hiram Street
8. (SL) asked Gannett Fleming to present the pedestrian overpass concept at Hiram Street at the next CPT meeting. ACTION
9. (TL) commented that the Mayor is to meet with Tov Manor in the coming week. (SL) to follow-up with Bill Birch regarding the meeting held at NJDOT.
10. (SL) asked (SM) if Community Relations met with the City Officials. (SM) responded that (TL) inclusion on the Steering Committee was the result of the discussions held by phone.
11. (SL) would like the police station issue resolved as soon as possible so there is no delay to the schedule. Recommendation by the Design Development group and the City is for advanced acquisition, i.e. demolish the building but leave the fuel station, however the process for land to be acquired verses demolished has not been determined. (SL) suggested that (DJ) and (PN) meet with Right-of-Way to determine the process. ACTION
12. (DJ) discussed the results of the traffic analysis done at George and Commercial. It indicates a low level of service and failure once the new design is implemented. (SL) indicated that to incorporate capacity improvements would be a change in project scope, which would delay the project schedule. He encouraged (TL) to have the Mayor speak to the Commissioner regarding the creation of a new project to address George Street issues. (SL) agreed that striping and signal timing changes could be incorporated with in this project to aid in the flow of traffic in that intersection. ACTION
13. (PN) presented the Boyd Park meeting minutes for review. (JG) explained the different options to (SL). The recommended option by the Boyd Park Enhancement Group is Option #3. It is a good enhancement to the Park and may make better use of the existing Park pavilion/concession area.
14. (SL) asked to have a whole picture rendering for Boyd Park area to be created by (JG) for the next CPT meeting. ACTION
15. (SL) suggested that (DJ) speak with Rutgers regarding a memorandum of understanding regarding the walkway in front of the boat house and their support for the improvements in the City Docks area. ACTION
16. (SL) asked (MC) to add a status of implementation category to the master status sheet of issues. ACTION
17. The Steering Committee then discussed the Corridor Aesthetic Group meeting progress. The meeting minutes have not been received by Todd Smircina to date, however (PN) noted that that many concepts have been presented to the group and modifications and refinements have occurred:

- a. pedestrian overpasses will be gateway “bookends” in the corridor
 - b. noise walls, pedestrian overpasses, and bridges have been presented
 - c. a list of recommendations will be part of the meeting minutes
 - d. time must be allocated at the next CPT for each group to review their recommendations to date
18. (SL) discussed the meeting logistics and agenda items for the next CPT meeting. It is to be at a different location than the Elks building if possible. (MC) explained the limited dates open at the Hyatt, but would develop a list of other locations (suggestions: Johnson & Johnson, the State Theatre, Rutgers facilities, other restaurants in the City). ACTION
19. (SL) asked that Gannett Fleming begin work on visual renderings for the public meeting. ACTION
20. (PG) present the next steps regarding Environmental efforts:
- a. Noise process – September public hearing
 - b. Right-of-Way - EA and CSD - need resolution of police station
 - c. Land Use representative – Robert Cubbenly – add in the Fall
 - d. Water Quality investigation will identify the issue of opening stream culverts
21. (SL) asked about the agenda items for the next CPT. (MC) explained that there are not river cruises in this area of the Raritan due to the water level. (TL) explained that it is too shallow to accommodate those types of vessels. As an alternative to a river cruise, (PN) suggested a Rutgers Bus Tour of the corridor for members to identify certain aspects of the corridor prior as part of the next CPT meeting or a presentation at the State Theater. (PN) will coordinate with (MC). ACTION
21. The agenda items suggested for the next CPT meeting are as follows:
- a. project status
 - b. group presentations – time allotted for groups to meet prior for review
 - c. closure of recommendations of design elements
 - d. outstanding issues
 - e. present project schedule: PIC combined with Noise Wall Hearing – Sept./Oct.
 - f. next steps for each CPT Group
23. (SL) requested a revised map (DL) be distributed at the next CPT meeting together with the revised list of members (MC). ACTION
24. (SL) noted that it is necessary to maintain the CPT members’ interest in this partnering team effort and to be certain there is strong attendance at the meeting. (MC) will send a fax and email to determine the best date in July to maximize participation at this next meeting. An appropriate new location will then be determined. ACTION

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
CPT Facilitator



ROUTE 18
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

**COMMUNITY
PARTNERING TEAM**

CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 5

AGENDA

June 24, 2002

Conference Room 3B, NJDOT Office, Trenton, NJ

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Objective: To provide brief overview of project status, review of the CPT Group meetings held to date, discussion of issues and recommendations from the Group meetings; to identify agenda items for next CPT meeting and future steps for the Community Partnering Team.

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 10:00 a.m. | I. Welcome and Introductions | |
| | • Agenda and Goals | Lavelle |
| | • Review of CPT Meetings | Culbertson |
| 10:15 a.m. | II. Project Items | |
| | • Project Status Overview | Lavelle/Nowicki |
| | • Boyd Park Enhancement | Morgan/Nowicki |
| | • Corridor Aesthetics | Nowicki/Grob |
| | • Design Development | Johnson |
| | • Environmental/Agency Coordination | Garrett |
| | • CPT Meeting No. 15 - Agenda Items | Culbertson |
| 11:15 a.m. | III. Summary and Close | |
| | • Project Schedule | Birch/Nowicki |
| | • Next CPT Steps | Culbertson/Mikulak |
| | • Action Items / Closing Comments | Lavelle/Kim |



State of New Jersey Department of Transportation

Division of Project Management