

ROUTE 18  
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

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**COMMUNITY  
PARTNERING TEAM**

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CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT NO. 16**

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

**DATE:** June 21, 2004

**TIME:** 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Conference Room 4C, NJDOT Office, Trenton, NJ

**ATTENDEES:**

Mr. Steve Lavelle (SL)	NJDOT, Div. of Proj. Mgmt.	609-530-2546
Mr. Sharad Rana (SR)	NJDOT Project Mgmt	609-530-2196
Ms. Amy Polachak (AP)	NJDOT, Environmental	609-530-5353
Mr. Stephen Mikulak (SM)	NJDOT, Office of Community Relations	609-530-6558
Mr. Thomas Loughlin (TL)	City of New Brunswick	732-745-5007
Mr. George Ververides (GV)	Middlesex County Dept. of Planning	732-745-3013
Mr. Bob Spear (BS)	Rutgers, The State University	732-932-6966
Mr. Jeff Lanigan (JL)	MBI-GS	609-947-2835
Ms. Martine Culbertson (MC)	M.A. Culbertson, LLC	856-795-8485

**SUMMARY:**

To present project status and schedule, to review outstanding issues; to discuss the draft Communications Plan and to determine next steps for issues resolution and community outreach efforts (Agenda attached).

**POINTS OF DISCUSSION:**

1. (SL) noted that final submission and comments were progressing. The project will be advertised in November 2004, awarded mid-January 2005 and construction would begin in the spring.
2. There are two advanced utility contracts. Some work initiated. (SL) to get schedules for Verizon activity and PSE&G. Will look to get schedules. ACTION ITEM
3. NJDOT Resident Engineer for the advanced utility work is currently Sharon Pullen under the Field Manager in the North Brunswick field office.



4. There is an advanced demo contract for the Police Station, Cumberland Farms and Dettmer property.
5. Create fax transmittals for communicating information on the utilities work. City and Rutgers prefer fax transmittal as communication source. ACTION ITEM
6. Pre-Advertisement meeting to be held this afternoon. Comments and questions to be submitted in writing.
7. Construction management contract to be posted shortly. Contract will include construction inspection, communication, and specialists in scheduling environmental and claims. This was posted and the proposals received July 28, 2004.
8. Jurisdictional agreements were reviewed by Gannett Fleming and sent out to City, County and Rutgers by Mike Horan. Once the draft agreements have been reviewed and comments submitted to the NJDOT, a meeting will be scheduled to discuss issues. ACTION ITEM. The meeting was held on July 27, 2004.
9. Right-of-way is in condemnation process. Parcels in progress: Riverside Towers parking study, J&J parcel working on settlement and rights of entry for Rutgers parcel in legal dept. The developments after the meeting: Riverside Towers – parking study completed, J&J – A revised offer sent, Rutgers – Right of Entry documents sent to Frank Wong and the issue elevated to Commissioner's office.
10. Web cameras are to be set up by Kurt Offschneider, NJDOT Traffic Ops. To be coordinated for Utility hook-up.
11. (MC) to continue draft of Communications Plan and review with task force members. Distribute comments to Steering Committee.
12. NJDOT is continuing to look at construction cost reduction opportunities (cost reduction team). Cost saving changes are in review. Value engineering has some non-feasible recommendations.
13. Team would like to examine possible circulation pattern options to ease traffic on George Street and Commercial Avenue:
  - (a) Assistance in finding locations for park n'rides
  - (b) Buses need dedicated bus lanes examine George and Neilsen as possible one-way flow
  - (c) Congestion Relief task force to discuss options - Chris Barretts, Bob Spear, NJTRANSIT, KMM, and Lee Steiner. (MC) to develop list of names. ACTION ITEM. Include one representative each from County and the City.
14. Provide to (SR) final lists of special events, annual events and other projects to be under construction. ACTION ITEM. The list to be incorporated into the Contract Specifications.
15. The Agnew House as reviewed by the Historic Council, has an issue with the spatial relation of the noise wall to the house. This issue is on going as to whether the house will be moved if feasible or consideration of acquisition and demo under assessment. (AP) to speak with Pam on status. ACTION ITEM. Further to this meeting, it is being followed

up with NJDEP to defer the relocation of Agnew House until Route 1/Route 18 Interchange project.

16. The movement of trees is cost prohibitive by the contractor due to their size, manual labor and they can not be guaranteed as new plantings can be. The City can organize a community group to re-locate those trees they wish to move to other City property. Who will bear the cost? Neither the City nor the NJDOT has shown willingness to pay.
17. Note that comments on the lane situation should be that two lanes in both directions will be maintained at all times, not same number of lanes since in some stages it may be reduced from three to two lanes.
18. (SL) outlined next steps: comments on the cost reduction options to be completed, communications plan in draft to be reviewed, and next CPT outreach would be in the fall. He adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

### **KEY ACTION ITEMS**

#### Tom Loughlin (City of New Brunswick)

- Items No. 8, 13, 14 and 16

#### Frank Wong/Bob Spear (Rutgers University)

- Items No. 8, 9, 14 and 13

#### Kiran Patel/Sharad Rana (Project Management)

- Items No. 2, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 13

#### Pam Garrett/Amy Polachak (Environmental/Historic)

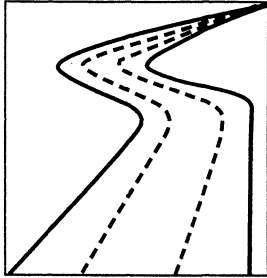
- Item No. 15

#### Martine Culbertson (CPT Facilitation)

- Items No. 5, 6, 8, 11, 13 and 14

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



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**AGENDA**

Monday, June 21, 2004

*Conferece Room 4C, NJDOT Office, Trenton, NJ, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.*

Objective: To present project status and schedule, to review outstanding issues; to discuss the draft Communications Plan and to determine next steps for issues resolution and community outreach efforts.

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Agenda and Goals
- Project Status and Schedule

II. Project Items

- Rutgers Subcommittee Report
- Congestion Relief: Buses and Circulation Flow
- Other Outstanding Issues
- Environmental/Agency Coordination
- Draft Communications Plan
- CPT/Task Forces/Public Outreach

III. Summary and Close

- Action Items / Next Steps
- Closing Comments

