

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

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT NO. 22

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

DATE: June 30, 2006

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

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

ATTENDEES

First Name	Last Name	Representing	Phone	Email
Martine	Culbertson	M. A. Culbertson, LLC	856-795-8485	maculbertson@verizon.net
Brian	Dorf	Greenman-Perderson, Inc.	732-729-7855	bdorf@gpinet.com
Brian	Dorr	Gannett Fleming	908-755-0400	bdorr@gfnet.com
Pam	Garrett	NJDOT, Env. Resources	609-530-2721	pamela.garrett@dot.state.nj.us
Lisa	Ginther	MBI-Gluckshaw	609-392-3100	lginther@mbi-gs.com
Larry	Kolodziej	Middlesex County Eng.	732-745-3283	
Jennifer	Lane	Rutgers - Public Safety	732-932-4807	jlane@publicsafety.rutgers.edu
Stephen	Lavelle	NJDOT, Div. Proj. Mgmt.	609-530-2546	steve.lavelle@dot.state.nj.us
Thomas	Loughlin	City of New Brunswick	732-745-5007	tloughlin@cityofnewbrunswick.org
Paul	Matacera	MBI-Gluckshaw	609-392-3100	pmatacera@mbi-gs.com
Bruce	McCracken	Middlesex County Prg	732-745-3250	bruce.mccracken@co.middlesex.nj.us
Jack	Molenaar	Rutgers	732-932-4827	jmolenaar@publicsafety.rutgers.edu
Paul	Nowicki	Gannett Fleming	908-755-0040	pnowicki@gfnet.com
Lucy	Sanderson	NJDOT, Comm. Relations	609-530-2110	lucy.sanderson@dot.state.nj.us
Joanne	Schutz	NJDOT	732-729-7850	joanne.schutz@dot.state.nj.us
Aaron	Tubbs	Conti Enterprises, Inc.		

MEETING PURPOSE

To review project status and schedule, discuss design modifications, jurisdictional agreements, environmental coordination and next pre-stage briefing. (Agenda attached).



POINTS OF DISCUSSION

1. Martine opened the meeting with introductions. Steve Lavelle asked Tony Bene to provide an update on construction activity. He introduced Aaron Tubbs from Conti to present the update.
2. Aaron Tubbs, Conti Project Manager, provided the following information regarding construction activity:
 - (a) New Street Bridge to be open in early fall (Sept or Oct. latest). Deck to be poured by next week.
 - (b) Carpenter pedestrian overpass truss to be assembled and placed within 2-3 weeks. Overpass completed within 4-6 weeks.
 - (c) Dewey Heights area - wall 15 delayed due to utility issue northbound regarding Verizon pole prevented sewer line work, relocate water line & electric.
 - (d) Wall 16 posts done, once panels approved, will sign off on production 3 -4 weeks
 - (e) Walls 15, 16, 1, 3 & 4 to be done by late July
3. Steve Lavelle questioned the project schedule. Tony noted that the project is behind schedule by only months. The current work effort should put it back on track.
4. The next work anticipated:
 - (a) Once New Street is open that is the NW ramp southbound into the City, work will begin on Albany Street Bridge. rebuild one third. Traffic shift required to do the work.
 - (b) Commercial Avenue will have a 30-day closure (33 days for in/out southbound).
 - (c) The ramp will not close at the same time as Commercial.
5. Steve questioned the percent complete. The project is 25% completed based on cost/time, 20% completed on activity.
6. Q - Will out-going New Street be under construction until all complete?
A - Open NW and Gannett Fleming will provide the schedule for outbound ramp at New Street coordinating with Tony Bene and Conti. *ACTION ITEM*
7. There will be a CPT pre-stage briefing one month prior to the closure of Commercial Avenue. Since the closure is anticipated in September, the pre-stage briefing should be scheduled for mid-August at the Hyatt (not on a Thursday, either Wednesday or Friday). *ACTION ITEM*
8. Question was raised regarding signal phasing to be adjusted, since the light backs-up due to phasing. Was the timing adjusted according to the information submitted by the study. Traffic signal should be analyzed. Steve Lavelle will follow-up with internal NJDOT and John McCleerey on the status of signal phasing. *ACTION ITEM*
9. Current situation for the State is that only essential State employees may be working next week due to State budget not ratified. There may be a temporary shutdown, which will also halt construction if no NJDOT inspectors are permitted to work.

10. Brian Dorr provided the status of change of plans submitted:

- (a) Temporary roundabout to be implemented (signal will be removed)
- (b) Shorten walls at New and Commercial
- (c) Landscape at Highlands Plaza - extend wall to maintenance

11. Question: Will the temporary roundabout be in place by the time Rutgers students are back in session. Answer: yes, it will be in place by September 1st. Critical that it is in place at George Street. Steve directed that the temporary roundabout work effort move ahead with change of plan and not be delayed with other change of plan items. *ACTION ITEM*

12. The status of the permanent roundabout condition is currently under discussion. The permanent condition would require right of way acquisition and capital funding approval process. The City would like to see either the roundabout or a signal in that location as the permanent condition. Steve will follow-up with John McCleerey on the status. *ACTION ITEM*

13. Brian Dorr to give copies of change of plans to County, Rutgers and the City. The status of change of plan 4 and 5 are to be processed 6 weeks after plan 3 and then 6 weeks after plan 4. *ACTION ITEM*

14. Conti has an upcoming construction partnering meeting in which the Richmond Street pedestrian overpass will be discussed to determine how to overcome space constraints. The Richmond Street overpass is in the change of plan 5, which is an estimated 15 weeks away. *ACTION ITEM*

15. New access point for Boyd Park in area of former police station is in change of plan 3. The site plan has been put in for approval for access. The driveway cut plan has been approved. The access permit is now in process for approval.

16. There has been a change in sidewalk detail from stamped concrete to imprint asphalt. It is a new technology, which is a stamped resin for better durability and less maintenance. It should last longer, less deterioration.

17. Steve questioned the quality of work. Tony responded that Conti' quality of work to date would be termed outstanding.

18. The status of the mock-up team is the review of the sidewalk detail change and final staining colors to be examined. Charlie Fresolone, Conti environmental manager, is coordinating the effort and may schedule the next mock-up meeting late next week. Rutgers requested that they be invited to discuss the change in sidewalk material to stamped asphalt. *ACTION ITEM*

19. Rutgers questioned if the NJDOT bike pedestrian program unit has reviewed the sidewalk crossing detail from scored concrete to stamped asphalt. Steve will follow-up with John. Gannett noted that the NJDOT Landscape/Design Unit is a member of the mock-up team, which is reviewing this change. Steve will follow-up with John. *ACTION ITEM*

20. Steve questioned the status of the communications network and how it is working. It is running well. Brian Dorf noted that coordination and cooperation with police, City and CPT members is good. The J&J event went well. Local residents in the Newell Phelps and Carpender Road neighborhoods are informed. Fire Department has new chief. Brian and Martine to review and update the email lists. *ACTION ITEM*
21. The City noted a need for a new CAM access. It has not been functional. Brian Dorf to provide information for access. *ACTION ITEM*
22. Wilbur Dixon has changed position, so a new email address is needed for NJDOT Maintenance. Martine will confirm with John. *ACTION ITEM*
23. Steve requested that Brian Dorf issue Special Advisory email notices for direct traffic impacts such as lane changes and the upcoming shift of traffic. He must clear them with Erin Phalon, NJDOT Communications Director. *ACTION ITEM*
24. Brian Dorf noted a concern with duplicate records in the NJDOT email system. Lucy Sanderson (alternate for Steve Mikulak) recommended speaking with MaryAnn mason 609-530-3895 to assist with NJDOT computer issues. *ACTION ITEM*
25. City Market breakfast presentation done by Brian Dorf and Tony Bene was well received and complimented by the director, Colleen Connell. Martine will follow-up with the director to determine if they would like another status presentation prior to Commercial Avenue closure. She will also follow-up with Morteza Ansari at KKM regarding their members' meeting. *ACTION ITEM*
26. A follow-up jurisdictional meeting to be scheduled once comments received from the City have been reviewed internally. Comments were sent in from Frank Wong, Rutgers, however Gannett has not seen them. Steve to follow-up with John McCleerey on status of comments. City, County and Rutgers wish to be included in follow-up meeting and all should receive each other's comments for review. *ACTION ITEM*
27. The status of the Rutgers boathouse extension: Rutgers is contracting with Gannett Fleming to assist with the permitting regarding streamline encroachment. Paul is putting together the scope to be under contract with Rutgers. The extension would not be toward the highway but to the south of boathouse drive. Pam noted that changes in that area need to be coordinated with Green Acres. *ACTION ITEM*
28. The work near Antilles Wall will not incur impact. Analyzing as work is being done. The monitor is set up. Rutgers did not sign the memorandum of agreement to provide restoration due to financial constraints. Should mitigation efforts be needed as directed by DEP, NJDOT would be responsible party since no memorandum was signed by Rutgers. Pam noted that a section might be removed and replaced if an incident should occur within a specific section.
29. Regarding the Agnew House, the attorney for Dr. Babiak is working directly with the DAG office. NJDOT is proceeding with the condemnation process to acquire the property

and then will work with SHPO on the relocation if feasible. Pam Garrett will continue to coordinate. *ACTION ITEM*

30. PSE&G was directed by DEP to work on the clean-up site. There is a coordination meeting next week. NJDOT will attend. It is hoped that the case manager doesn't delay this work and impact the project schedule. Pam will follow-up on the status and inform Steve if there are any impacts. *ACTION ITEM*

31. The Tov Manor sign issue was resolved through the adopt-a-highway program. The sign and landscaping to be done in coordination with NJDOT Landscaping Unit. John McCleerey was working with David Earl on this issue. From the prior meeting minutes, the City encouraged Brian Dorf to reach out to the other neighbors adjacent (Marie Speaks and Kathy Springer) to inform them of the Tov Manor sign and the type of landscaping to be developed. Steve will follow-up with John on the status and John to coordinate with Brian Dorf. *ACTION ITEM*

32. NJDOT has determined that the way finding signs are a high cost for limited value regarding the construction project (too many signs, not certain sufficient area for posting). Rutgers and the City submitted a revised number of signs and did not receive a response from NJDOT. Steve will review the issue with John McCleerey. *ACTION ITEM*

33. A question was raised as to the signal re-timing on George Street. Signal timing was also part of the Urbitran study and given to John McCleerey for phasing. NJDOT adjusts signal timing as needed on construction projects. Tony has not received any request to adjust the signals. Rutgers and the City would like NJDOT to examine George and Albany as recommended in the study results. Steve Lavelle will discuss with John and schedule a meeting to review the recommendations of the Urbitran study with internal NJDOT staff and then with the City, Rutgers and the County. Some of the traffic signals are under various jurisdictions (City, County and State) that require coordination to make adjustments. *ACTION ITEM*

34. The traffic signals jurisdictional agreements are done separately from the other jurisdictional agreements by the NJDOT Traffic Signal Department under Tim Swedo. John McCleerey will coordinate with Tim. *ACTION ITEM*

35. The turn around section of Paulus Boulevard will be completed with the improvements by the fall. The City will adjust the parking ordinance once it is under State jurisdiction. The question was raised as to when it will become State: when the improvements are done this fall or when the project is completed and signed off from the contractor. Steve will check internally as to timing and will inform the City. *ACTION ITEM*

36. There have been local requests to have a protected left turn on Route 18 northbound for Dewey Heights and a protected right turn for Raritan Gardens. This signal phasing would require a third phase at the Paulus Boulevard intersection, which will impact the traffic capacity on Route 18. Gannett Fleming will re-examine the timing and associated impacts. *ACTION ITEM*

37. Recommendation made to have the pedestrian head timing in sync with the traffic to minimize the phasing time. Gannett Fleming will examine and provide a memo. *ACTION ITEM*

38. The future condition is for vehicles to use George Street for u-turns. The signs for Paulus Boulevard of 'No Trucks' and 'No U-turns' have been added to the Change of Plan 3 by Gannett Fleming. The signage request that was made to encourage use of Ryders Lane, 'use Ryders Lane for u-turn' is under the NJDOT Maintenance to produce and mount. John will follow-up on the status with Maintenance. *ACTION ITEM*

39. Steve Lavelle asked for the status of the County facility to be built in Boyd Park. Larry Kolodziej will check with Middlesex County Engineering to determine if plans have been developed. It is necessary to examine this issue now to determine if any requirements for utilities are needed at the site and incorporate them into the jurisdictional agreements if appropriate. *ACTION ITEM*

40. The type of fencing to be utilized on the bridges is currently under safety review at NJDOT given the spacing of the bars. The City and Rutgers are opposed to the alternative of chain link fencing which will take away from the aesthetic intent of the area. Once review is completed, Steve will follow-up with John McCleerey and inform the City and Rutgers of the status. *ACTION ITEM*

41. Regarding the status of the "anti-graffiti" material treatment or method for removal, it is currently under analysis by Gannett Fleming. Tony is waiting to test, once the color staining of the walls has been approved and then can be applied to see results. *ACTION ITEM*

42. In summary, Steve noted the key items to address:

- (a) timing of the ramps and closures to be implemented in September (develop matrix)
- (b) review of Urbitran study results and recommendations
- (c) determine timing for the Albany Street box culvert (77 hour activity)
- (d) schedule pre-stage 3 briefing one month earlier than Commercial Avenue closure

43. The City and Rutgers expressed concern for the Albany Street box culvert to be done in the summer months with less traffic impact. Conti wishes to tie that work effort in with the demolition of stage A (Albany Street interchange work). Steve will review the issue with John and determine options for the addressing traffic impacts and timing. *ACTION ITEM*

44. In closing, Steve thanked everyone for their continued participation and effort. He emphasized the need to have the next pre-stage briefing at the appropriate time in advance of the Commercial Avenue closure. Martine to provide scheduling and logistics for pre-stage briefing. The meeting adjourned at 12:30pm.

KEY ACTION ITEMS

Tom Loughlin (City of New Brunswick)

- Items No. 18, 26, 33, 35

Frank Wong / Jack Molenaar / Jennifer Lane (Rutgers)

- Items No. 18, 26, 27, 33

Larry Kolodziej/George Ververides (Middlesex County)

- Items No. 26, 33, 39

John McCleerey / Steve Lavelle (Project Management)

- Items No. 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, 19, 22, 26, 31-38, 40, 41, 42a-c, 43

Tony Bene (Resident Engineer)

- Item No. 6, 8, 11, 18, 40, 41, 42a-c, 43

Pam Garrett (Project Management-Environmental Services)

- Items No. 29, 30

Brain Dorr / Darryl Johnson / Paul Nowicki (Gannett Fleming)

- Item No. 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 27, 36, 37, 40, 41, 42a-c, 43

Brian Dorf (NJDOT Communications Team Leader)

- Item No. 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 31

Martine Culbertson (CPT Facilitation)

- Items No. 7, 18, 20, 22, 25, 26, 42d, 44

NEXT MEETING - Jurisdictional Agreements Meeting

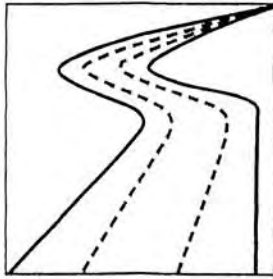
Date: mid-late August, 2006

Time: 10:00 am - Noon

Location: Hyatt Hotel, New Brunswick, conference room, (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 CPT Facilitator



ROUTE 18
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

**COMMUNITY
PARTNERING TEAM**

CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 22

AGENDA

Friday, June 30, 2006

*Middlesex County Planning Conference Room, Elks Building, New Brunswick, NJ
10:00 a.m. – Noon*

Objective: To review project status and schedule, discuss design modifications, jurisdictional agreements, environmental coordination and next pre-stage briefing.

- 10:00 a.m. I. Welcome and Introductions
- Project Status and Schedule
 - Contractor Activities
 - Communications
- 10:30 a.m. II. Project Items
- Design Modifications
 - Bridge Structures-New Rendering
 - Architectural Sidewalk Detail Changes
 - Proposed Roundabouts, Ryders Lane
 - Rutgers Boathouse Extension
 - Richmond Street Pedestrian Overpass
 - Site Plan for Boyd Park access near Field Office
 - Environmental Coordination
 - Mock-ups, Env. Control Team
 - Antilles Field
 - Agnew House
 - Jurisdictional Agreements Status
 - Conti Evaluation Partnering Issues
 - New Street Closure Feedback
 - Commercial Avenue Closure
- 11:30 a.m. III. Summary and Close
- Action Items / Next Steps

