

ROUTE 18
 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS
COMMUNITY PARTNERING TEAM
 CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT NO. 23

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

DATE: December 14, 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	Telephone	Email
Tony	Bene	NJDOT, Resident Engineer	732-729-7853	anthony.bene@dot.state.nj.us
James	Campbell	New Brunswick Parks	732-745-5112	jcampbell@cityofnewbrunswick.org
Martine	Culbertson	M. A. Culbertson, LLC	856-795-8485	maculbertson@verizon.net
Brian	Dorf	Greenman – Pedersen, Inc.	732-729-7855	bdorf@gpinet.com
Brian	Dorr	Gannett Fleming	908-755-0040	bdorr@gfnet.com
Bob	Farmer	NJDOT, Maintenance	732-247-5775	robert.farmer@dot.state.nj.us
Lisa	Ginther	MBI-Gluckshaw	609-392-3100	lginther@mbigluckshaw.com
Glenn	Holzlohner	NJDOT, Maintenance	732-738-3202	glenn.holzlohner@dot.state.nj.us
Michael	Horan	NJDOT, Jurisdiction Dept.	609-530-5645	michael.horan@dot.state.nj.us
Darryl	Johnson	Gannett Fleming	212-967-9833x5259	djohnson@gfnet.com
Larry	Kolodziej	Middlesex County Engineering	732-745-3283	
Jennifer	Lane	Rutgers, Public Safety/Trans	732-932-4807	jlane@publicsafety.rutgers.edu
Tom	Loughlin	City of New Brunswick Admin.	732-745-5007	tloughlin@cityofnewbrunswick.org
John	McCleerey	NJDOT, Project Mgmt.	609-530-2466	john.mccleerey@dot.state.nj.us
Jack	Molenaar	Rutgers, Public Safety/Trans	732-932-4827	jmolenaar@publicsafety.rutgers.edu
Mark	Rollo	NJDOT, Project Mgmt.	609-530-2510	mark.rollo@dot.state.nj.us
JoAnne	Schutz	NJDOT, Construction	732-729-7850	joanne.schutz@dot.state.nj.us
George	Ververides	Middlesex County Planning	732-745-3013	george.ververides@co.middlesex.nj.us
Frank	Wong	Rutgers, Capital Planning	732-445-2430x604	fawong@rci.rutgers.edu

MEETING PURPOSE

To present project status and schedule, construction activity, traffic and communications update; review design modifications, environmental coordination and discuss the revised jurisdictional agreements. (Agenda attached).



MEETING SUMMARY

1. Martine Culbertson, CPT facilitator opened the meeting with introductions. Mark Rollo is the new NJDOT Program Manager replacing Steve Lavelle. Lucy Sanderson is the new NJDOT Community Relations Coordinator replacing Steve Mikulak.
2. Tony Bene provided the current construction status: New Street is open, working on Commercial Avenue retaining walls, 90% posts in place for panels on the southern side, working on Antilles Field, Tabernacle, and traffic will shift to put in culvert. There will be a deck pour at Albany Street and on-going public service and utilities installation.
3. Request made to keep access ramps at Commercial open as long as possible. *ACTION ITEM*
4. Conti would like to stage the pedestrian underpass work at the same time as the demo work for Albany Street. It is anticipated for the spring. It will be a 72-hour bridge closure.
5. Q -When do you see New Street ramp to Route 18 southbound open..
A - There is a need to finish the Lyle culvert-estimated timeframe would be January/February.
6. A comment was raised regarding pedestrian access on southbound sidewalk from Highland Park. One sidewalk is out and there is now signage indicated to "use other sidewalk".
7. Currently there is an issue with traffic backing up at pm peak George, Neilsen and Commercial. Burnett is closed due to utility work until early spring. Neilsen light at Commercial backs up now. This is reason for request to keep Route 18 southbound ramp open as long as possible.
8. Traffic advisory emails need to stay up to date and if possible provide advance information regarding traffic detours.
9. Request to examine the Tabernacle right angle is difficult to get on Route 18 and if possible look to create gradual left turn and improve the access at this location. The public service pole line duct system work is the cause of delay. Once staircase is done, consider creating Commercial merge area. Northwest ramp is critical. Tom to meet with Tony and Brian Dorr later today. *ACTION ITEM*
10. A comment was raised as to the status of the signal timing at Paulus Boulevard. City has received a petition from Dewey Heights to provide dedicate lefts. Modification of signal timing is under review and Gannett Fleming to review with Tom Loughlin. *ACTION ITEM*.
11. The New Street Bridge will be painted in the spring. *ACTION ITEM*

12. Next week a mock-up meeting will be held to examine the anti-graffiti option for the boulders and to examine the paver detail along the river walk (Type B) as a change of plan for continuous sidewalk. *ACTION ITEM*
13. Access to City Dock site should be in January. It is necessary for Tony Bene to provide access timing to Tom Loughlin. *ACTION ITEM*
14. South end of Boyd Park construction and supply area is too close to the mature trees and there is a concern those trees are being damaged. Conti needs fence off the areas to protect the trees. *ACTION ITEM*
15. City has received comments regarding a traffic access issue for the Mt. Zion Church. Vehicles travel to George, Liberty to Neilsen. Cars turn left illegally. Tony and Gannett will review this movement with the City to determine what is safe and efficient. Possible to have no left turn Mon. - Fri. due to safety. There is a weave, sight distance and ramp merge to consider in this area. *ACTION ITEM*
16. The estimated time for Commercial Avenue to be open and Albany Street work completed would be end of 2007.
17. City will award to bid a project with state aid funding however the work cannot be done prior to the completion of the project construction timing. John McCleerey and Mark Rollo will speak with Dave Kuhn, NJDOT Director of Local Aid to determine if the time can be adjusted to prevent a time lapse and requirement to renew. *ACTION ITEM*
18. The Signal at George and New backs up Route 18 north. Also George backs up. The signal fluxuates with the pedestrian crossing and can't make right. Consider limiting meters so no parking during peak hours allowing right turn on George. John McCleerey noted that this issue can be discussed at a signals and access meeting is scheduled for January 16th. *ACTION ITEM*
19. A pre-stage briefing will be held prior to the Albany Street pedestrian underpass work, which will include representation from Highlands Park and regional traffic safety and EMS providers. Rutgers and the City recommend that this work be done in the summer in lieu of the spring. Graduation is May 16, 2007. *ACTION ITEM*
20. In order for the temporary roundabout to become a permanent condition, it would require right-of-way from Rutgers, which could be dedicated to the project. There is a need for County and Rutgers to review the updated design plans and utility relocation. *ACTION ITEM*
21. Due to the reduction in State funding for Rutgers athletic programs, the men's crew team has been cut. It will continue to be a club recreation sport, however the plans for the boathouse extension are no longer being pursued.
22. The Richmond Street Pedestrian overpass is in the project, however a design suggestion was offered to rehabilitate and create connections to the existing pedestrian overpass, which will access Boyd Park without adding another very large structure to the City landscape.

Gannett Fleming to provide plans to Tom Loughlin for review and consideration. *ACTION ITEM*

23. The Agnew House is in the condemnation process by the State DAG office. The decision as its final location to be determined only after State has authority to make the determination. *ACTION ITEM*

24. A number of graffiti prevention treatments were examined and found to be non-effective (changes the look - adds high gloss) or cost prohibitive. Graffiti removal products examined to date have also been less than acceptable in maintaining the color and appearance for the wall. They will be examining another product, which has less gloss. Tony Bene suggested an option might be to create a 10-year maintenance contract with Conti since they have the ability and experience with the re-staining of the walls. There is a power washing option for graffiti removal, but such an investment in the equipment would require consideration of a cost sharing program between County, City, Rutgers and NJDOT. More discussion is needed once the results of the graffiti options are finalized by Gannett Fleming. *ACTION ITEM*

25. Lighting fixtures to be selected by the City and supplied by PSE&G. Conti submitted lighting request. Gannett Fleming to check with Conti on the timeframe and then to coordinate and assist in meeting with PSE&G and the City. Gannett Fleming to coordinate with Rutgers on lighting in their area on George Street. *ACTION ITEM*

26. Written comment received in August from Rutgers. Map has been revised to reflect the walls under each party's jurisdiction. Revised maps will be distributed with the updated jurisdictional agreement text. Gannett Fleming to examine the ramp (backside Rutgers to maintain, however to determine if jurisdiction should be NJDOT on the Route 18 side). *ACTION ITEM*

27. A comment was raised concerning the definition of routine structural maintenance. Rutgers, City and County would like a more detailed definition and instructions on the repairs of minor cracks and spalls (special treatment of form liner noise walls). They would like to receive specs (types of pavement) so to understand the maintenance responsibility. *ACTION ITEM*

28. Under the jurisdictional agreement, NJDOT will provide for major structural repairs and the City is responsible for routine maintenance. However where sidewalk is adjacent to Route 18, NJDOT will have jurisdiction for routine maintenance along the roadway. In areas of the corridor where private property abuts the sidewalk, the municipality has jurisdictional and usually shifts the responsibility to the adjacent property owner. In areas where there are noise walls (Raritan Gardens) John McCleerey will check with the NJDOT Jurisdiction Department to determine the policy for such circumstances. *ACTION ITEM*

KEY ACTION ITEMS

Tom Loughlin (City of New Brunswick)

9, 12, 13, 18, 20, 22, 24, 25

Frank Wong (Rutgers)

20, 24, 25, 26

Larry Kolodziej/George Ververides (Middlesex County)

20, 24

John McCleerey (NJDOT Project Management)

3, 9, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28

Tony Bene (NJDOT Resident Engineer)

3, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 22, 24

Pam Garrett (NJDOT, Bureau of Environmental Project Support)

23, 24

Brian Dorr (Gannett Fleming)

3, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26

Martine Culbertson (M.A. Culbertson, LLC)

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NEXT MEETING - Pre-Stage Briefing

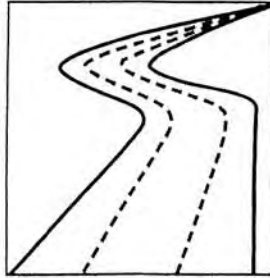
Date: Spring 2007

Time: 10 am - Noon

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

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. 23

AGENDA

Thursday, December 14, 2006

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

Objective: To present project status and schedule, construction activity, traffic and communications update; review design modifications, environmental coordination and discuss the revised jurisdictional agreements.

- 10:00 a.m. I. Welcome and Introductions
- Project Status and Schedule
 - Contractor Activities
 - Communications
- 10:15 a.m. II. Project Items
- Design Modifications
 - 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
- 10:30 a.m. III. Jurisdictional Agreements
- 11:30 a.m. IV. Summary and Close
- Action Items / Next Steps
 - Commercial Avenue Closure Feedback
 - Next Pre-Stage Briefing

