

**ROUTE 52 CAUSEWAY REPLACEMENT PROJECT
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 5 REPORT**

DATE: November 11, 2004
 TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 LOCATION: Office of Michael Baker, Jr., Princeton, NJ - Conference Room

ATTENDEES:	REPRESENTING:	PHONE:
Carol Beske (CB)	ACT Engineers, Inc.	609-918-0200
Lourdes Castaneda (LC)	FHWA	609-637-4237
Nick Caiazza (NC)	NJDOT, Environmental Services	609-530-2991
Martine Culbertson (MC)	M. A. Culbertson, LLC	856-795-8485
Sylvester Fryc(SF)	Michael Baker Jr., Inc.	609-734-7971
Fred Gottemoeller (FG)	RG&A	301-490-6088
Dave Lambert (DL)	NJDOT, Div. of Project Mgmt.	609-530-4235
Mike Sidani (MS)	Michael Baker Jr., Inc.	609-734-7964

1. PURPOSE OF MEETING

To review project schedule and status, to discuss final design revisions, permitting process issues and determine next steps for public outreach. (Agenda attached)

2. MEETING SUMMARY

I. Project Status

(MS) began the meeting stating that the project is moving forward. There is an aggressive schedule to be met. The purpose of the meeting is to determine next steps over the coming months in preparation for the upcoming public outreach program ahead of the Construction of Contract A.

(DL) noted the status of the project schedule. Final Design for Contract A to be finished in December. There are a few outstanding issues to be resolved such as the location of fishing piers and determination of homeland security measures.

(MS) noted that it was not clear what the recommendations for the homeland security measures would be, however Baker will be preparing a report that would define the recommended measures. No existing criteria are known, but they are reviewing ASHTO and FHWA highway security documentation and will conduct an assessment of existing facilities. The report will indicate any cost-effective methods to address homeland security such as surveillance cameras, alarm systems and lighting. *ACTION ITEM*

A discussion of maintenance and operation of such measures was pursued recognizing that NJDOT is responsible for the roadway, however certain elements involve the responsibility of the municipalities. Mike noted that they would consult with the local law enforcement and county agencies. Dave Lambert directed that the report should be given to Nat Kasbekar, the new NJDOT Project Manager and that the proposed measures presented in the report should not hold up the project schedule. *ACTION ITEM*

The project is expected to be advertised in late May, bids accepted in July, award date in late August or September with construction to begin in the fall of 2005 for Contract A.

II. Pilot Piling Demonstration Program

Documentation is currently being composed by Baker and will be reviewed by NJDOT. The bids are expected in the first week of December with an award in January. The selected contractor has from January until March to complete the demo pile driving. The work in the water is restricted due to environmental constraints, between March 31 through July, for protection of a number of species. The Pilot Pile Program has to be completed before March 31st. The results will be documented and ready by May. The piling demo is an estimated 8 - 10 week process. *ACTION ITEM (See Comment Box Below)*

Note – Subsequent to this Steering Committee Meeting, NJDOT has decided not to implement the Pilot Piling Demonstration Program. This decision was based upon evaluating the high costs involved with the program that far outweigh the benefits that could be received from the program at this point. The NJDOT and the Design Team will continue to minimize impacts of pile driving on the existing bridges.

III. Revisions to Final Design - Contract A

(SF) presented a review of the revisions to the Final Design plans since the Steering Committee last met. The items are listed below:

1. Access on Garrett Island has been redesigned to allow maintenance vehicle access as requested by NJDOT, in addition to pedestrian and fishing access.
2. Two ITS signs have been added to the project. One northbound and one southbound on, the Garden State Parkway. They will be designed and constructed as part of this project,

however the maintenance and operation will be under the jurisdiction of the Garden State Parkway. There is on-going coordination with GSP on the design criteria. (SF) noted that there would be no posted detours for the project.

3. Type of median lighting has been selected as a single fixture. (NC) noted the need to have the lighting reviewed by SHPO. Baker will coordinate. *ACTION ITEM*
4. The left turn lane at Shore Road has been extended resulting in a shift in alignment of Shore Road that eventually impacts the adjacent property.
5. The left turn at Rte 9 Island and McArthur Boulevard has additional capacity added to the design based upon a request from the community. This work has already been done.
6. The pier shape is being advanced using a cross between the flare top and straight column designs. A rendering will be provided to the Steering Committee and should be sent to SHPO for review. *ACTION ITEM*
7. The railing option proposed at the past public meeting has been modified so the vertical balusters are straight rather than curved. The other option for a horizontal rail was dismissed since the public noted concern that children may be tempted to climb on the railing.

(NC) recommended that updated renderings of the final versions of the piers, railing and lighting be provided to the Steering Committee, reviewed by SHPO and distributed to the CPT members for their handbooks. *ACTION ITEM*

IV. Anticipated Revisions to Final Design - Contract A

1. A left turn is being considered at Braddock Avenue, in lieu of a center turning lane. In order to meet the proper distance between successive left turns, the Crate's Furniture property will most likely be impacted a total take.
2. A new issue is the angle of the intersections in realigning Mays Landing and Broadway. Baker is examining the options to realign these roads.
3. The left turn at Shore Road will be restricted due to the congestion and safety concerns on Broadway. The proposed signal a few blocks north to improve traffic circulation in this area was turned down by the community. Baker is examining additional signage or other options to address this issue. The project limit will not be expanded and this issue does fall under City jurisdiction. Coordination is on going. *ACTION ITEM*
4. With the closure of Palen Avenue there were concerns raised by the neighborhood on Pleasure Avenue that is will have more traffic as a cut thru street. This is under the City's jurisdiction and Baker has assisted the City in examining the proposed option to sign Pleasure Avenue as two-way for the first block and then one way (out only) beyond.
5. There is a flooding issue in the area of Bay Avenue, which the City wishes to address at this time given the replacement of the causeway. The City has hired Baker to provide the engineering required to raise the profile of the roadway in this area. Nick and Lourdes asked that this work effort be considered as an ER rather than a CED with independent utility.

Lourdes will review this issue with FHWA and Baker will coordinate with Nick on an ER document. *ACTION ITEMS*

IV. Permitting Process Update

(SF) provided an update on the permitting process.

- (a) Baker is sending DEP options for addressing their comments. The fishing pier width needs to be wide enough for emergency vehicle access. These are multi-use piers not just for fishing so the width will be not be wider than necessary to accommodate emergency vehicle. (SF) will be coordinating with DEP to review the proposed modified fishing piers. *ACTION ITEM*
- (b) The heron rookery impacts are a concern from April 1st through August 15th. Definition of impact needs to be identified such as noise restrictions and or visual restrictions. There is a need for construction activity during this time frame to erect the structure. Baker will coordinate with Amy Greene Associates and DEP to determine the definition of rookery impacts. There is also an on-going discussion regarding an escrow fund established to address potential mitigation. *ACTION ITEM*
- (c) There is on-going coordination with SHPO. Nick requested that the Cultural Resource Report be finalized and to send revised renderings on the piers, railing and lighting to SHPO for comment. (FG) will also produce two renderings of the wall to be constructed in front of the Somers Point Mansion (one in brick and one in concrete form). He noted that since this wall is not from the time period, it might be better to design it as inconspicuous rather than incorporate it as part of the mansion. These renderings should be sent to Dan Campbell, Somers Point Mansion Curator, and SHPO for comment. *ACTION ITEMS*
- (d) A new historic representative for Ocean City needs to be identified since Mary Lou McDowell explained to M.A. Culbertson that she is still on the Mayor's committee but not the historic representative. *ACTION ITEM*
- (e) The contract for the Pilot Demo Program should be sent to Army Corps for their review and comment. *ACTION ITEM*
- (f) There is on-going coordination with the Coast Guard. Proposed marine traffic closures should be reviewed by them and the location of the fishing piers. They may require special lighting given their locations in the channel. Coordination has been with Gregory Waverly. The individual who currently contacted M. A. Culbertson is Mr. Bill Brazier, Bridge Management Specialist, from the Virginia Office, 5th Coast Guard District. *ACTION ITEM*
- (g) (NC) recommended that Baker create a milestone schedule for the DEP and Coast Guard, which indicates the critical permitting comments and completion dates. Send to Bob Cubberley and Charles Scott as well as Coast Guard. *ACTION ITEM*

V. Next Steps for Public Outreach

1. (MC) distributed an updated contact list for the RT52 Community Partnering Team. Martine noted there are a number of changes to the membership and their contact information.
2. (DL) requested that a meeting be scheduled with the CPT to inform them of the progress and modifications to the design since the last public meeting prior to meeting with the general public. The meeting should be held once the outstanding issues such as the fishing piers are resolved.
3. (MS) indicated that the outstanding issues would require coordination over the next few months. Revised maps, renderings, display boards and models are to be prepared by (FG) and Baker. The CPT meeting will be tentatively scheduled for end of first quarter 2005 depending on the progress with the outstanding issues.
4. (MC) will draft an information letter to be sent to the CPT members informing them of the progress to date, the upcoming Pilot Piling Program, and the next steps to meet with the CPT once the outstanding design elements have been approved by the agencies and to hold a PIC meeting in the spring of 2005. *ACTION ITEM*
5. (MC) will submit revisions for the web site and additional information to update and enhance the web site for the CPT and public to review, including reports, renderings, FAQs, and CPT information. *ACTION ITEM*
6. (CB) will check with Tony Marsella on press information to be announced prior and during the Pilot Piling Program to inform the public of the activity to be happening in the channel. *ACTION ITEM*
7. (MC) will provide meeting minutes to all Steering Committee members and send an approved pdf file to post on NJDOT web site. *ACTION ITEM*

VI. Jurisdictional Agreement

(MS) mentioned that Baker will be coordinating with the municipalities and the County regarding Jurisdictional Agreements needed for operation and maintenance of certain structure and elements.

The meeting was adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

3. NEXT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

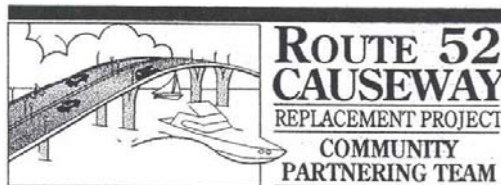
Date : February, 2005 (tentative)

Time : 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location : Office of Michael Baker, Jr., Princeton, 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
RT52 CPT Facilitator



*ROUTE 52 CAUSEWAY REPL
Steering Committee Meeting Nc*

**ROUTE 52 CAUSEWAY REPLACEMENT PROJECT
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 5**

AGENDA

DATE: November 10, 2004
TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Office of Michael Baker, Jr., Princeton, NJ - Conference Room A

- **Project Status and Schedule Update**

- **Pilot Pile Demonstration Program**

- **Project Revisions Since Last Steering Committee Meeting:**
 - Emergency/Maintenance Access To Garrets Island.
 - VMS Signs On Garden State Parkway (MP 23.9 N.B. And MP 31.4 S.B.)
 - Revised Median Lighting (Single Fixture), Pier and Railing Shapes
 - Segmental Box Maintenance Lighting
 - Shore Rd. LT Lane Stacking Length Revision

- **Pending Revisions (Contract B):**
 - Braddock Ave. Revision – LT Lane Realignment, Acquisition Of Crate Furniture.
 - Somers Point Redevelopment Plan
 - Mays Landing Rd. / Broadway Intersection Revision
 - 9th Street Drainage

➤ **Permitting Process Update**

- **NJDEP Land Use Coastal Permit Application**
 - Responding to Public and Agency Comments
 - Fishing Pier Access
 - Heron Rookery Restrictions/Mitigation
- **NJDEP Green Acres**
 - State House Commission Meeting -set for 12/13/04
- **SHPO**
 - Historic Site Council Meeting –targeting 2/19/05
- **ACOE**
 - Responding to Review Comments
- **USCG**
 - Ongoing Coordination

➤ **Homeland Security**

➤ **Jurisdictional Agreement**

➤ **Next Public Meeting**