

COMMUNITY PARTNERING TEAM MEETING NO. 3 REPORT

DATE: April 14, 2005
 LOCATION: Stumpo's Restaurant, Somers Point, NJ
 TIME: 10:00 a.m. – Noon

ATTENDEES: REPRESENTING: PHONE:

Members/Invited Guests		
Bob Bevilacqua	Michael Baker Jr., Inc.	609-734-7983
Jeanette Mar	FHWA	609-637-4203
Don Allen	NJDOT, ROW South	856-486-6748
Georgia Arnold	City of Ocean City	609-525-9444
Jon Austin	Somers Point Resident	609-927-4910
Mark Benevento	Somers Point Planning Board	609-601-8500
Michele Berenato	City of Ocean City	609-525-9297
Gus Bruno	Atlantic County Chamber of Commerce	609-645-2559
Dan Campbell	Somers Mansion Historic Site	609-927-2212
Joseph D'Abundo, PE	Atlantic County Engineering	609-645-5898
Joann DelVescio	Ocean City Chamber of Commerce	609-399-1412
Greg DiSabatino	Somers Point Historic Commission	609-335-6030
Todd Dwyer	Somers Point Economic Dev.	609-703-9426
Sowatta Seng Eap	NJDOT, Work Zone - South / Traffic Signal & Safety	856-486-6689
David Earl	NJDOT, Landscape & Urban Design	609-530-5547
Art Ford	Somers Point Economic Dev. Commission	609-398-8166
Dale Foster	Cape May County Engineering	609-465-1035
Dan Gallagher	NJ Turnpike Authority Parkway Division	732-442-8600
John Giemza	Circle Liquor Store	609-927-6422
Tony Guerrieri	NJDOT, Region South Construction	609-801-1280
Brenda Hammer	NJDOT, Landscape & Urban Design	609-530-5672
Judy Hanlin	City of Somers Point	609-926-3861
Steve Hardegen	NJDEP, State Historic Preservation	609-984-0141
Robert Himmelstein	Surfside Casual Furniture	609-677-9902
Brian Hopely	Ocean City	609-525-9100
Vincent Jones III	Atlantic County Emergency Management	609-407-6742
Debra Kingsland	NJDOT, Office of Bicycle & Pedestrian Programs	609-530-3525
Roderick Lewis	NJDOT, Bureau of Structural Engineering	609-530-2459
Robert McVeigh	City of Somers Point	609-926-3700
Alan Maiman	NJ TRANSIT	856-968-3826
Chester Malloy	Circle Liquor Store	609-927-6422
Nicholas Marotta	Mayor's Advisory Committee on RT52	609-398-5433
Richard Melini	NJ TRANSIT	856-614-7011
Jeff Normant	Nacote Creek Research Station	609-748-2040
Charles Phy	NJDOT, Work Zone - South / Traffic Signal & Safety	856-486-6791
John E. Peterson	Atlantic County Reg'l Planning & Economic Dev.	609-645-5898
Robert Raachini	NJDOT, Work Zone - South / Traffic Signal & Safety	856-486-6791

Dan Reilly	Somers Point City Hall	609-927-0224
John Reinoehl	Somers Point City Hall	609-927-9088
Charles Riebel, Jr.	KEI Associates, P.A.	856-767-6111
George Savastano	Ocean City Public Works	609-525-927
Brigitte Sherman	Cape May County	609-465-1081
Harvey Smith	Somers Point City Hall	609-927-8966
Michael Sullivan	NJ State Police Dept., Construction Supervisor	856-486-6613
Wes Swain	Somers Point City Hall,	609-927-4014
Kenneth Wallace	Save the City of Somers Point	609-927-7377
Beth Waltrip	NJTRANSIT	856-968-3828
Stan Worosz	NJDOT, Traffic Operations South	856-486-6697
Peggy Worthington	Bridgeport Plaza Condo Association, Ocean City	609-398-8585
Steering Committee		
Lourdes Castaneda	FHWA NJ Division Office	609-637-4237
Dave Lambert	NJDOT Div. of Project Management	609-530-4235
Nat B. Kasbekar	NJDOT Div. of Project Management	609-530-4231
Pankaj Shah	NJDOT Div. of Project Management	609-530-2470
Nick Caiazza	NJDOT, Div. Environmental Resources	609-530-2991
Tony Marsella	NJDOT, Community Relations	609-530-6116
Mike Sidani	Michael Baker Jr., Inc.	609-734-7964
Sylvester Fryc	Michael Baker Jr., Inc.	609-734-7971
Frederick Gottemoeller	Rosales Gottemoeller & Associates	301-490-6088
Carol Beske	ACT Engineers, Inc.	609-918-0200
Martine Culbertson	M. A. Culbertson, LLC	856-795-8485

PURPOSE OF MEETING

To present the final design and improvements; to discuss construction staging and traffic management, and to identify community issues and next steps including the upcoming Public Information Center meeting. (Agenda attached)

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Martine Culbertson opened the meeting on behalf of the New Jersey Department of Transportation. She acknowledged the active participation and support of the CPT to successfully complete the design and to continue to support the project through construction.
2. Packets were distributed to all CPT members containing updated lists and maps to be placed in the CPT Handbooks. The cover has also changed now that the project is transitioning to the construction phase. For new members, they received CPT Portfolios containing the same updated materials. All meeting reports are available on the project web site by accessing:
 - > www.njcommuter.com
 - > click "In the Works" (once the project is under construction: "Road Construction Updates")
 - > click Route 52 Causeway Replacement Project
 - > then click Community Outreach in the left hand margin
3. Sly Fryc, Deputy Project Manager from Michael Baker, Jr., presented information on the improvements in Somers Point with the elimination of the circle and enhancements to

MacArthur Boulevard. He encouraged people to view the models made of the entire project. The maps distributed indicate the improvements and they are on the project web site.

4. Dave Lambert, is now the NJDOT Program Manager and the new Project Manager is Nat Kasbekar. Dave presented an overview of the project schedule with construction divided in to two contracts. Contract A will replace the center portion of the existing causeway, estimated construction duration is 42 months, and it is expected to be awarded in November 2005. Contract B consists of the two high level bridges beginning in 2008 and completion of construction including the improvements to Ocean City and Somers Point is estimated by 2011. Other than minor and very limited overnight closures, at no pint will the bridges be closed to traffic due to construction; however, there will be some restrictions to fishing where sites will need to be shifted for safety and access. In order to accommodate fisherman during the construction restrictions, NJDOT is proposing to construct an overflow parking at Malibu Beach site, adjacent to Long Port Fishing Pier.

5. Mike Sidani, Project Manager from Baker, presented information on the on-going community involvement and the environmental coordination. Many of the refinements in the final design were due to active involvement by the communities in task forces established to address the Visitors Center, MacArthur Boulevard, Traffic Management and Staging, and the Environmental Process. The project requires many permits and will continue its outreach efforts.

6. Sly Fryc continued to present the causeway improvements including the access areas to the islands, the Visitors Center and enhancements in Ocean City. The type of railing, pier shape and lighting have been determined based upon input at the previous public meetings and through internal review by NJDOT. The railing will be vertical at 54" height, the piers will be in columns not fan-shaped at the top, and the ornamental under bridge lighting will be only at the main channel and on the piers.

7. Mike Sidani, then presented the construction staging and traffic management information. There will be temporary construction signage located at key areas within the project, as well as permanent VMS signs located on the Parkway for use during emergency incidents. A comment was raised that any signage to detour traffic could harm the local businesses adjacent to Route 52. Mike noted that the project would strive for minimal interruptions; two lanes will be open in both directions during peak hours, Rt. 52 NB structure will be build offline, there are no detours planned. The above measures will help to maintain the economic development and commercial travel in the project area during construction. There may be limited times when one lane will remain open, however, these times will be limited in duration and will occur outside peak hours.

8. During Contract A the Visitors Center will remain open. During Contract B the Visitors Center will be closed due to the reconstruction of the facility.

9. Due to the installation of Jersey barrier across the entire length of the bridge, police, fire and EMS vehicles will be able to turn around at Rainbow Island parking lot. Closed Circuit CCTV cameras will be installed at Rainbow Island Parking lot and Visitors Center area. The signal from those CCTV cameras will be accessible by the police stations and NJDOT traffic

operations. Additionally, two CCTV cameras will be installed at the high points of the bridge to monitor traffic on Rt. 52.

10. The flow of traffic at Pleasure Avenue was reviewed with the community. Based on the City's recommendation, a "DO NOT ENTER" sign and a raised concrete island will be placed west of the intersection of Pleasure Avenue and the proposed Access Road to Palen Avenue. The new enhancements will discourage "cut-thru" traffic coming off the bridge. The remainder of Pleasure Avenue will remain a two way traffic movement. This was an Ocean City decision since it is not in the jurisdiction of NJDOT.

11. A comment was made to coordinate with other projects under construction during the time of this project. There will be some rubbernecking and slower traffic, which is common on most construction projects. NJDOT will continue to work with the communities during construction to maintain safe access for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists. Modifications to staging and traffic management may be considered based upon the contractor and NJDOT resident engineer and coordination with the communities and agencies involved.

12. Martine asked participants for other comments regarding the project or community concerns, which are noted below:

COMMENTS/RESPONSES:

- Restriction of wide loads during one lane each direction operations.
 - Wide load restriction will be added in Contract B for the construction stages where one lane each direction traffic pattern will be in effect.
- VMS for emergency / incident monitoring by police/EMS.
 - Permanent VMS signs located on GSP and temporary TMDA units located within project limits will be integrated into GSP and NJDOT Traffic Operations South and will provide opportunity to post emergency messages.
- CCTV access for viewing incident and monitoring by police/EMS.
 - Signal form CCTV cameras located on Rainbow Island parking lot and Visitors Center area will be monitored by City of Ocean City Police. The design of the CCTV cameras located on the high point of the bridge has not been finalized; NJDOT will coordinate with the City regarding the ability to view the signal from those cameras.
- No wake zones designated @ Rainbow Channel & Elbow Thorofare.
 - At this point there are no plans to post "No Wake Zone" restrictions along the Rainbow Channel and Elbow Thorofare. To minimize the erosion along those channels shoreline stabilization measures are being installed as part of this project.
- Construction operation hours.

- Noise / vibration: Pile driving and other construction operations resulting in noise and/or vibration will be governed by local ordinance as well as the NJDOT Standard Specifications Subsection: “Control of Noise and Air Pollution”. Contractor will be required to coordinate any deviation from allowable construction operation hours with local and state governing agencies.
- Pre-construction monitoring of existing condition.
 - Existing structures located in close proximity to the proposed Rt. 52 Bridge will be inspected in order to establish its existing conditions. Additionally, during construction activities vibrations will be closely monitored. In the event of excessive vibration readings, construction operations will be stopped and the contractor will be required to use alternate construction methods.
 - As a result of the distance separating construction activities from nearest residential dwelling, only existing bridge will be monitored for vibrations during Contract A construction activities.
- Construction equipment locations.
 - There are construction access and staging areas shown on the plans. The staging areas, located at Elbow Island and Garrets Island, may be used for storage of construction equipment and/or material. The Gulf station, located at Somers Point, may also be used as a staging area.
 - Field Office location: There is no preset location for the field office.
- Maintenance of existing structure: to be performed by the contractor.
 - Routine maintenance of the project site, including the existing structures, is required by the Contractor as per the Standard NJDOT Specifications. However, due to the condition of the existing bridges, an Emergency-Call-Out Pay Item has been created to account for unexpected repairs required to be performed to the bridge elements.
- Bus stop at Braddock during re-construction
 - Temporary and permanent location of the bus stop at Braddock will be coordinated with NJTRANSIT and determined during Contract B Phase.
- Impact of construction activities on Key Events held.
 - City coordinator will provide information on Key Events scheduled during construction to the Project Manager.
- Incident Management Coordination
 - Pre-construction meeting with NJDOT, Contractor, Somers Point and Ocean City Officials and Police, will be held to discuss Incident Management Coordination.
 - NJDOT will request to enter into an Agreement with Somers Point and Ocean City to provide Police assistance as required.
- Incident prevention.
 - Numerous Incident prevention methods will be incorporated into the project, some of them are as follows;

- Increasing public awareness of the project by providing proper signage ahead and within construction zones.
- Providing links to the project web site. Web site will be updated on the progress of the project on regular basis.
- Providing accurate and up to date information through Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) within 5-7 mile radius.

13. In closing, Mike Sidani suggested the Public Meeting to be held closer to the summer season rather than May so seasonal residents would have the opportunity to attend. The models are to be on display at the Ocean City Visitors Center and at each of the municipal offices. Tony Marsala, NJDOT Community Relations Coordinator will work with both Somers Point and Ocean City to determine the appropriate time to schedule the public information center meetings perhaps at the same time as other events being held on the boardwalk to maximize public awareness and support.

14. In closing, Dave Lambert thanked everyone for their continual support and participation. Notification of the public meeting will be sent to CPT members and advertised to the public. The CPT meeting minutes will be put on the project web site and distributed in hard copy to those without web access. Meeting adjourned at noon.

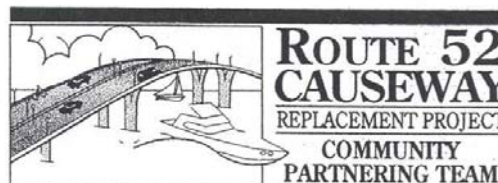
NEXT STEP

Public Information Center Meeting(s)

DATE	summer
TIME	to be determined
LOCATION	Ocean City and Somers Point (<i>to be determined</i>)

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



CPT MEETING No. 3

AGENDA

April 14, 2005

Stumpo's Restaurant, Somers Point, NJ
10:00am – Noon (Refreshments 9:30am)

Objective: To present the final design and improvements; to discuss construction staging and traffic management, and to identify community issues and next steps including the upcoming Public Information Center meeting.

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Agenda and Goals
- Project Progress
- CPT Update

II. Route 52 Causeway Replacement

- Project Update and Schedule
- Route 52 Causeway Final Design
- Ocean City and Somers Point Design Improvements
- Construction Staging and Traffic Management
- Environmental Process Coordination
- Outstanding Interests or Issues

III. Summary and Close

- Public Information Center Meeting
- Action Items / Next Steps
- Feedback and Closing Comments