

DRAFT

**I-295/I-76/Rt 42 Direct Connection Project
New Jersey Department of Transportation
Fifth Public Information Center Open House
Bellmawr, NJ
Monday June 13, 2005
3:00 PM–8:30 PM**

SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

INTRODUCTION:

Approximately 130 members of the general public, a representative from Senator Corzine's office, local elected officials and/or their representatives, Federal Highway (FHWA), state and county agencies such as NJ Transit Authority, NJDEP, Camden County DPW, PATCO/DRPA, South Jersey Transit Authority, utilities representatives and board members of Bellmawr Park Mutual Housing Corporation attended the fifth Public Information Center Open House conducted for the New Jersey Department of Transportation's I-295/I-76/Rt 42 Direct Connection Project on Monday, June 13, 2005 at the Bellmawr Ballroom in Bellmawr, NJ. The PIC Open House commenced at 3 PM and concluded at approximately 8:30 PM.

Upon arrival, the attendees were asked to register at the Sign-in Sheets which most of them did. Attendees proceeded directly to view the Power Point or presentation boards and a member of the project team assisted with questions. All attendees were informed of the general layout of the presentation and given the "Questions/Comments" sheets to complete. They were told that if they did not wish to fill them out at the PIC, they could mail, fax or email them back to the consultant, Dewberry.

The Open House Forum afforded the public the opportunity to view the Technical Environment Studies (TES) progress for each of the five alternatives. A project team member was stationed at each area to explain the information depicted on the boards and answer questions from the public.

First were the presentation boards describing the five short listed alternatives – D, D1, G2, H1 and K (200 Scale Plan, 3 – 50 Scale Plans and Profile)

The second area identified the wetland impacts of the various alternatives. Plans showing wetlands impacts highlighted the various, existing conditions

Thirdly, staging impacts depicted the temporary bridge on Browning Road which will be built alongside the existing bridge during staging operations. Additional areas to be impacted during staging operations on Creek Road and Bell Road were also depicted.

The fourth station identified ROW impacts for each alternative and identified potential replacement housing locations within Bellmawr Park.

The fifth area explaining visual impacts was slide presentation of photo simulations depicting existing conditions vs. proposed construction in the areas impacted by the five alternatives. This station was very popular and most of the attendees viewed the presentation.

The sixth area was cultural resources with Scott Emory, a representative from A.D. Marble, one of the project's environmental sub consultants, hosting a display of historic and pre-historic artifacts discovered during the Archaeological process within the project boundaries.

The seventh station exhibited boards delineating noise impacts; i.e., where noise walls currently existed and impacts by each of the five short listed alternatives. Sharon Paul Carpenter of Paul Carpenter Associates also a project sub consultant, explained the nuances to residents of both Bellmawr and the surrounding communities of Mt. Ephraim and Gloucester City.

The public seemed to have great interest in all stations and seemed satisfied with the answers to their questions.

We believe the foregoing record to be an accurate summary of the discussion and the progress of the meeting. We would appreciate notification of exceptions or corrections to the Minutes within five (5) working days of receipt. Without notification, we will consider these Minutes to be a record of fact.

**Sincerely,
Dewberry**

**Patricia Saulino
Project Team**