

Special Purpose Meeting

CAMDEN CENTRAL GATEWAY PROJECT

Special Purpose Meeting Report

Date: May 14, 2008
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Powell Elementary School
1000 Linden Street
Camden, NJ 08102

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Phone / E-mail</u>
Tracy Thompson	W.F. Powell School	
Janice L. Taylor	W.F. Powell School	jtaylor@camden.nj.us
Gloria Brownlee	W.F. Powell School	
Adelaide Rosado	W.F. Powell School	
Richard Ceccanecchio	W.F. Powell School	
Patricia Feliciano	NJDOT - OCR	609-530-2110 / Patricia.Feliciano@dot.state.nj.us
John Eric Henson, P.E.	McCormick Taylor, Inc.	856-793-0800 / jehenson@mtmail.biz
John Mullen	McCormick Taylor, Inc.	215-592-4200 / jfmullen@mtmail.biz

Purpose of Meeting

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) participated in a coordination meeting with the W.F. Powell Elementary School. The purpose of the meeting was to present an overview of the proposed Gateway Project and subsequent Linden Street detour.

Summary of Meeting

Patricia Feliciano opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. She asked everyone to introduce themselves. She then asked John Mullen to provide an overview of the project.

John Mullen reported that the meeting with Powell Elementary School is part of a series of local outreach meetings NJDOT is conducting for the Central Gateway Project. He stated that team members have been coordinating with local community leaders in Gateway as well as in the surrounding neighborhoods.

John stated that most recently, NJDOT held a Local Officials Briefing with Camden City Council. He added that the North Camden neighborhood where the Powell School is located will be affected by a detour along Linden Street while the Flanders Avenue bridge is removed. He then asked John Eric Henson to provide an overview of the design.

Eric provided an overview of the Gateway project, including the different elements of the design. He stated the project is intended to convert one-way streets to two-way streets, eliminate confusing loop ramps and install or upgrade traffic signals. In addition to improving vehicular circulation, the project is also designed to: provide enhanced access to and from major arterials

such as I-676 and Route 30; employ traffic calming measures to enhance safety; provide improvements to pedestrian safety and related facilities; and encourage local economic development and redevelopment.

Eric stated that as part of the construction effort, the Flanders Avenue bridge will be removed on the south side of US Route 30 (Admiral Wilson Boulevard) to connect directly with 11th Street. Traffic that currently uses this route will be detoured onto Linden Street where it will be able to access the Gateway neighborhood and businesses from 10th Street. Since the Powell School is on the corner of Linden Street and 10th Street, Eric stated teachers and students will need to be aware of this change in the flow of traffic.

School officials indicated a majority of students either take the bus or walk down State Street. Only a few live south of the school who would need to cross Linden Street. Eric stated it is important for students to cross in a safe manner, and suggested they cross Linden Street on the west side – away from the turning vehicles.

John stated that a Public Information Center would be held prior to construction to provide the community with the latest construction information on the project. This includes the Linden Street detour as well as the overall construction schedule and duration. He inquired if the school has a parent's committee that may also be able to help disseminate the information. The school officials indicated a parent's committee does exist that would help distribute the information.

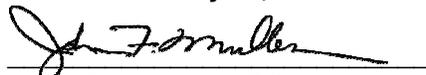
School officials also stated the committee holds monthly meetings, and suggested NJDOT present this same information during the June 2008 meeting. Pat Feliciano stated a presentation could be given at this meeting.

Action Items / Follow-Up

- Prepare project materials for school officials to distribute to students and parents (MT)
- Attend June 2008 parent's meeting (MT / NJDOT)
- Provide notice to school of PIC meeting (MT)

The meeting ended at 4:00 p.m.

Report prepared by:
McCormick Taylor, Inc.



John F. Mullen, AICP