

MEETING NOTES

Project: I-95/Cottman Avenue Interchange (I-95/CPR)

Venue: Our Lady of Consolation Church Hall, Tulip Street

Date/Time: Nov. 30, 2009 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Attending Agencies/Parties

- General Public
- PennDOT District 6
- PennDOT Consulting Engineers/Contractors
- Office of Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz (Representative)
- Office of State Senator Mike Stack (Representative)
- Office of State Representative Mike McGeehan (Representative)
- Office of Phila. Councilwoman Joan Krajewski (Representative)

Discussion Items/Questions

TOPIC: Current construction activities Phase 1 (SR95, Section CP1)

- **At what hour are the construction crews supposed to stop?**
 - *Normal work hours for construction are during the daytime. However, some work needs to be completed at night, though PennDOT tries to limit this nighttime work.*
- **Are the State Road utility pole relocations ADA compliant?** A comment was made about the utility poles on State Road being relocated close to buildings, including at a specific address on State Road. The concern is that the utility relocations would not allow residents to pass with a wheel chair. There was also concern on where handicapped residents park.
 - *PennDOT has reviewed the specific sidewalk width location in question and determined that current ADA standards have been satisfied. Also, PennDOT does not issue handicap parking spaces. This must be done by the City.*
- **Can temporary modifications be made to improve the northbound off-ramp merge condition during construction?**
 - *PennDOT will consider additional signing to alert drivers to the merge condition. City police also may be contacted to address any instances of aggressive driving.*

TOPIC: Current construction activities Phase 1: I-95/CP1 contd...

- **Can temporary modifications be made to reduce the congestion at the intersection of Cottman Avenue/ State Road?** There also was concern about vehicles blocking the intersection and about the temporary pavement plates and bumps in the street.
 - *Signal timing at this intersection already has been adjusted and will continue to be monitored. City Police should be contacted about traffic issues. Plates and bumps will be cleared up as construction progresses.*

- **Is Section CP1 construction on schedule?**
 - *The contractor has maintained his schedule and the project completion is scheduled for late spring 2011. (The current project schedule was displayed at the meeting.)*

- **Concern was expressed that the merge length provided at SB on-ramp is insufficient.**
 - *This is a temporary condition and the merge length is as long as possible.*

- **Comment: Sidewalk Bump-outs on Princeton Avenue adversely impact curbside parking.**
 - *The pedestrian enhancements and traffic calming measures implemented on Princeton Avenue, by design, eliminate the area immediately adjacent to the intersection for parking.*

- **Will driveways on Princeton Avenue be blocked by parking or construction?**
 - *The contractor is required to maintain access to all properties at all times.*

TOPIC: Proposed construction activities Phase 2: I-95/CP2

- **What are the plans for Keystone Street?** Will traffic patterns change?
 - *The Philadelphia Streets Department will evaluate the need to change directions on local streets after construction is completed. A Representative from the Office of City Councilwoman Joan Krajewski indicated that the Councilwoman intends to hold a separate meeting with residents to discuss this matter.*
- **Is the design for Phase 2 completed?**
 - *Design activities for this phase will continue through the end of 2010. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2011.*
- **Will the Bleigh Avenue SB Off-ramp remain and will it be upgraded?**
 - *The ramp will remain and access to Cottman Avenue from this ramp will continue.*

TOPIC: Traffic and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

- **Will CCTV cameras be installed on Princeton to control speeding near the school?**
 - *The ITS cameras are in place to monitoring traffic flow traffic incidents, not to control speeders. However, the City Streets Department has the ability to adjust signal timing.*
- **Will any new traffic signals be installed?**
 - *Several existing traffic signals will be upgraded as part of the Section CP1 and CP2 projects, and new signals will be installed at Longshore Avenue and New State Road.*
- **When will the existing Princeton Avenue southbound On-ramp be removed?**
 - *This ramp will be removed by spring 2011 as part of the current project (I-95/CP1).*

TOPIC: Right-of-Way (Property) Acquisition

- **Is the Fair Market Value that is established for property purchases based on current property data and does PennDOT provide any additional assistance for businesses that must relocate as a result of the project?**
 - *Fair Market Value is based on existing property data. PennDOT also provides additional monetary assistance on a case-by-case basis for any business that is required to relocate to make way for improvements.*
- **What businesses/buildings will be removed for construction at the corner of Cottman Avenue and State Road (Ramp F area)?**
 - *Cottman Plaza and the homes to the immediate east of the plaza will be removed for construction of the new southbound on-ramp.*
- **Will the billboard on Wissinoming Street be impacted by construction?**
 - *This billboard will be removed or relocated.*
- **Where is the firehouse being relocated to?**
 - *All questions about the firehouse should be directed to the Philadelphia Fire Department.*
- **What will happen with any excess property that is left after the existing Princeton Avenue southbound on-ramp is removed?**
 - *If it is determined that any portion of the purchased right-of-way is not needed, PennDOT follows an established procedure for disposing excess right-of-way.*

TOPIC: Vehicular Access and Turning Movements

- **What new ramps are to be built under this project?**
 - *New southbound on-ramps will be built at Longshore Street and State Road (Ramp E) and at Cottman Avenue and State Road (Ramp F). A new slip ramp (Ramp C) from Milnor Street to the existing northbound on-ramp from Princeton Avenue also will be added.*

- **Will turns be able to be made from Cottman Avenue to Hegerman Street?**
 - *At the completion of the project, motorists will be able to turn from Cottman Avenue onto Hegerman Street.*

- **Will turns be able to be made from the Cottman Avenue northbound off-ramp to Wissinoming Street?**
 - *This turn movement will not be available under the new configuration.*

- **Will turns be able to be made from the new Cottman Avenue southbound on-ramp to Wissinoming Street?**
 - *This turn movement will not be available under the new configuration.*

- **Which streets would allow access to the river side of I-95 from the State Road?**
 - *In addition to all existing connections, the new Princeton Avenue extension will provide access to the east side of I-95.*

- **Will a permanent barrier be constructed down the center of Cottman Avenue?**
 - *Improvements to Cottman Avenue do not include a median barrier.*

Miscellaneous

- **What is the proposed utility construction on Wissinoming Street between Princeton and Cottman Avenues?**
 - *The existing Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) sewer and water lines will be shifted west to avoid conflicts with the proposed I-95/CPR improvements. Wissinoming Street will then be relocated and reconstructed above the new PWD lines.*
- **What improvements are proposed for Milnor Street?**
 - *Milnor Street is owned by the City of Philadelphia. The only proposed work on Milnor Street under this project is the connection with the new slip ramp to I-95 north.*
- **Will information presented at the meeting be available on the website?**
 - *PennDOT will make a reasonable effort to provide as much project information as possible on www.95revive.com.*
- **Does this project include any work at the Torresdale Avenue intersections with either Disston Street or Longshore Avenue?**
 - *These intersections are not part of this project.*
- **Were noise impacts addressed in project's environmental study?**
 - *A Noise Impact Study was conducted during the preliminary engineering phase of the project. Results of the study were discussed at a Public Meeting that was held in December 2007.*