



December 1, 2011

Date: November 17, 2011
Time: 10:00 PM
Location: DelDOT Conference Room
RE: Construction Advisory Group
Meeting #31 Minutes

ATTENDEES:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FIRST</u>	<u>LAST</u>	<u>ASSOCIATION</u>
Mr.	Frank	Barnes	Grand Rental Station
Ms.	Nancy	Fanning	Homeowner
Mr.	Lawrence	Folly	Homeowner
Ms.	Jennifer	Jones	Town of Bethany Beach
Ms.	Karen	McGrath	Senator Carper's Office
Mr.	George	Mood	Homeowner
Mr.	Tony	Pezone	Sussex Cyclists
Mr.	Scott	Thomas	Southern Delaware Tourism
Mr.	Bud	Wiltbank	Homeowner

PROJECT TEAM:

TITLE	FIRST	LAST	ASSOCIATION
Mr.	Andrew	Bing	Kramer & Associates
Mr.	Patrick	Cooper	DNREC
Mr.	Jay	Erwin	Skanska
Mr.	Ken	Farrall	DNREC
Mr.	David	Geiszler	DelDOT
Mr.	Jason	Lang	DelDOT
Mr.	Britt	Murray	DNREC
Mr.	Doug	Robb	DelDOT Project Manager
Mr.	Tina	Shockley	DelDOT
Mr.	Craig	Stevens	DelDOT

WELCOME: Andrew Bing started the 31st meeting of the Construction Advisory Group (CAG) at 10:00 AM by welcoming the attendees.

Andrew reminded all attendees to sign in and stated that there were copies of the minutes from the October CAG meeting at the front of the room. Andrew informed the attendees that the minutes from the October CAG meeting were also on the IRIB website.

Roadway Approach and Demolition Project Update

Doug Robb, DelDOT Project Manager, stated that there have been complaints about speeding and failing to obey posted detour signs within the construction area. The State Police have been asked to increase patrols in the area to assist in controlling traffic.

Doug stated that over the last several weeks there have been significant traffic impacts and he wanted to explain why certain steps were necessary. Doug stated that over the last one to two years there have been several severe storms that have caused higher tides and substantial water on the roads. These storms have had a tremendous impact on the dunes that are adjacent to SR-1 approaching the Indian River Inlet Bridge. DelDOT has been working with DNREC to monitor the condition and protect the roads. However, both DelDOT and DNREC are at the mercy of the severe storms. The goal is to get the new bridge open which will shift SR-1 away from the water. In the meantime, DelDOT must still maintain traffic on existing SR-1. The erosion was so severe and was getting very close to SR-1 on the north side of the existing bridge. After the nor'easter in October, the erosion got worse causing a sign to be washed away and causing approximately 10-12 feet of erosion. This resulted in the closing of the roadway for safety reasons because the roadway could not be monitored safely. Therefore, a short term fix was put into place in order to get traffic moving and DelDOT began working on a long term plan.

Doug further stated that although DelDOT is concerned about the roadway, the existing bridge remains safe. Furthermore, the new bridge has been designed to account for the dune erosion so that this will not be a problem moving forward.

Doug stated that the new roadway work continues to make progress. The roadway barrier has been installed. The contractors are using very dry concrete to prevent the "slumping" of the concrete. Doug stated that a lot of progress has been made on both the roadway and the bridge and that the southbound lanes should be finished by the end of November.

Question – Will there be bike lanes on the new bridge when it opens with only two lanes?

Response – Yes, when the bridge opens to two lanes of traffic using the southbound lanes, there will be bike lanes consisting of ten feet on the southbound lane and four feet on the northbound lane.

DelDOT is evaluating whether pedestrian traffic can be accommodated on the new bridge through the winter before all four lanes are open to traffic.

Doug stated that the schedule for opening the new bridge is still January, with local road improvements and the demolition of the existing bridge taking place in early 2012, and park improvements beginning in 2013.

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Park Improvements Project Update

Craig Stevens, DelDOT, discussed the Park Improvements contract. Craig stated that a public workshop was recently held which used display boards to detail the work and timing of the park improvements. Park improvement construction will begin in spring, 2013 and be completed in late 2014. Craig stated that the park improvement display boards will be posted on the IRIB website.

Question – If you are on a bike heading north will you be able to go under the bridge to head south?

Response – Yes.

Bridge Update

Jay Erwin, Skanska Project Manager, stated that the entire team is very excited by the progress that has been made as we near the conclusion of the bridge process. The closure process is complete and went as planned. The remaining form traveler was lowered and removed without any problems. Both form travelers have been barged to Chesapeake, Virginia where they have been cut up and recycled. As mentioned previously, the new bridge is unique so the form travelers were not able to be used for any other bridge. The team is doing a lot of the bridge finishing work.

Jay stated that once the closure took place, all of the equipment was removed from the bridge in order to identify the profile of the bridge. All of this information was sent to the erection engineer to determine the final “stressing” of the bridge that was needed. This process will allow final adjustments to be made to meet the final design profile.

Jay stated that the barriers were being completed. Open barriers were being installed on the ocean side of the bridge. An overlay will be placed on the structure to protect the concrete. This overlay will be put down after Thanksgiving and take two weeks to apply. Bridge deck grooving will be done on the bridge to provide more traction and allow for water to drain.

Question – Will the lighting be in place when the bridge opens?

Response – No, the lighting will be in place in late January – early February.

Jay stated that the top of the pylon towers have been completed and that in early to mid-December the tower cranes will be taken down.

Doug Robb stated that when the bridge opens to traffic in January, there is still other work that will need to be completed. The painting of the bridge will take place in the spring. There will also be some aesthetics that will be completed after the opening of the bridge.

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Tina Shockley, DelDOT Public Relations, stated that there will be a ribbon cutting event in January and then in the spring, prior to the four lanes opening to traffic there will be a walk/bike ride event and a dedication ceremony.

MEETING SCHEDULING/WRAP UP: Andrew stated that the CAG process will continue into 2012 but that the December CAG meeting will be the final CAG meeting for the bridge construction project. CAG meetings will continue in 2012 with the focus being on the roadway and demolition project.

The next Construction Advisory Group meeting will take place on Thursday, December 15 at the Skanska conference room at 10:00 AM. To celebrate the end of the Bridge CAG process and the upcoming opening of the new bridge, light refreshments and cookies will be provided.