



May 30, 2012

Date: May 24, 2012
Time: 11:00 AM
Location: DelDOT Conference Room
RE: Construction Advisory Group - Meeting #5 Minutes

ATTENDEES:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FIRST</u>	<u>LAST</u>	<u>ASSOCIATION</u>
Mr.	Larry	Agsten	Homeowner
Ms.	Nancy	Fanning	Homeowner
Mr.	Mel	Fortney	Homeowner
Mr.	Bob	Payne	Homeowner
Ms.	Gail	Payne	Homeowner
Mr.	Steve	Plotkin	Homeowner
Ms.	Carrie	Subity	Bethany-Fenwick Chamber of Commerce

PROJECT TEAM:

TITLE	FIRST	LAST	ASSOCIATION
Mr.	Chris	Baker	George & Lynch
Mr.	Mike	Delp	George & Lynch
Mr.	David	Geiszler	DelDOT
Mr.	Bruce	Kenney	George & Lynch
Mr.	Britt	Murray	DNREC
Mr.	Gerald	Nagyiski	DelDOT
Mr.	Marx	Possible	DelDOT
Mrs.	Tina	Shockley	DelDOT
Mr.	Craig	Stevens	DelDOT

WELCOME: Craig Stevens started the meeting of the Construction Advisory Group (CAG) at 11:00 AM by welcoming the attendees.

Craig reminded all attendees to sign in and stated that there were copies of the minutes from the April CAG meeting available.

Indian River Inlet Bridge Contract

Craig indicated that all four lanes of the bridge have been opened up. He recognized and thanked George and Lynch for accelerating the contract in order to allow this to occur prior to the Memorial Day weekend.

The group discussed that there were traffic backups in Dewey Beach during the weekend of May 19-20. Gerald Nagyiski noted that there was an issue with the signals, and that it is being addressed. He assured them this had nothing to do with any lane closures at the bridge.

Craig noted that there were several new items around the jobsite, and he challenged the group to identify them. He noted that there were newly installed speed limit signs (Now posted speed limit is 55 mph, up from the 35 mph signs that were posted during construction) now that construction has ended, there was a new campground sign, and that signage was posted for the closure of Access Road A.

Craig further noted that we had a successful Bridge Walk Event, with approximately 2000 people in attendance.

Craig provided a status report that Skanska is currently finishing up some work on the sand bypass system. There was some leaking of some of the seals, but Skanska is addressing. They are also working on completing punch list items. They currently have four people still working on site. He indicated that DelDOT is working with Skanska to obtain as-built drawings of the bridge.

Someone questioned the quality of DelDOT's and Skanska's working relationship. Craig indicated that it had gone well, and that with any contract there are going to be issues. Overall the project came in under budget due to value engineering and the many cost saving initiatives that Skanska was able to utilize.

Another question was asked about the quality of the concrete. Craig indicated that the supplier, Thorogood's Concrete did an outstanding job. That was followed up with a question as to why DelDOT does not publicize that. Tina Shockley noted that we would but that news outlets typically wouldn't find that a news-worthy story.

Mr. Agsten indicated that he had been contacted by the Delaware Wave newspaper and asked his opinion of the Construction Advisory Group. He declined to answer and instead asked the reporter how she obtained his name. She noted from the telephone book.

Roadway Approach and Demolition Contract

Craig reiterated that Access Road A has been closed (as noted in a press release last Friday May 18) as George and Lynch is beginning initial work on the removal of the existing approaches to and on the old bridge. They will soon begin deck and barrier removal.

As to the status of the bridge's removal, at this time the contractor has stated their goal to not use a crane to remove the old bridge. The official means of demolition and a specific date has not been selected yet. George & Lynch noted it will be an interesting removal, as they will likely be pulling off the girders, using rollers and cantilever technique. Ultimately it will be done with worker and public safety as the primary concern. As for the timing of the bridge's removal, DelDOT and George & Lynch are meeting with the Coast Guard and Division of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) so they can better understand their needs prior to removal. They anticipate that it will be sometime between mid July and September 2012. This was later clarified to be end of July/August. Some in the group asked DelDOT to put out more information on this as it was not clear in the original press release (Tina Shockley is working on this). They indicated they can't wait to remove the old bridge until after summer because of the sand bypass operation. The sand bypass pumping season is generally between. George & Lynch further noted that the removal won't impact boaters significantly, as there will only be restrictions, not a complete inlet closure during removal.

Someone asked if there are any publicity-worthy souvenirs that could be obtained from the old bridge. Craig indicated that the removal will be slow, and there is no real souvenir-worthy thing on the bridge, nor is it worthy of an event.

There was a question about how much the new Indian River inlet bridge moves. Craig indicated it can move expand and contract as much as 18 inches on each end and is constantly moving to some degree.

Craig advised the group that pedestrians can walk across the bridge as of Friday, May 25, and that after that date there would be no pedestrian access on the old bridge. The pedestrian detour will be removed.

Discussion then turned to the closure of Access Road A, which is currently closed to allow for construction. George and Lynch stated that it was their intent to have the new Access Road A entrance and roadway completed by July 4, 2012, but that this date is subject to change due to weather. The actual closure was discussed, and duly noted that traffic going northbound from the bridge would need to enter the day use parking area and make a u-turn at Savages Ditch Road (Access Road B). It was noted that the lines on the road make this confusing. DelDOT staff will investigate means to make this area less confusing to motorists.

IRIB ROADWAY APPROACH CONSTRUCTION ADVISORY GROUP Meeting #5 Minutes

Concerns were also noted with the Turnpoint Road “closed” signs. Staff was to check these signs prior to the holiday weekend. The group also indicated that Savages Ditch Road was poorly signed. Traffic staff noted that overall DelDOT is redesigning detour signage for the speed/type of road. DelDOT staff further noted that they will add more signage prior to u-turn points in case motorists want to turn around prior to any backups. Craig noted that DNREC and Delaware State Police (DSP) would also be working this holiday weekend.

Comments were well received on Access Road B/Turnpoint Road. Message boards did seem to control traffic at this location.

DelDOT also advised the group that it would discuss plans for the weekend, should the day use lot get full. Options for calling the Transportation Management Center and opening a gravel road nearby were available to DNREC and DSP. DelDOT and others will continue to monitor this through the summer weekends.

Someone asked if the area under the new bridge is finished. Craig indicated that it is an open accessible area and will serve as a walkway for now until the park contract comes in and beautifies the area.

Craig ended on a high noted talking about the much anticipated lighting of the bridge. Craig indicated that later that night (May 24) the lights would be turned on. He indicated they come on 5 minutes after sunset and stay on until 11 p.m. He noted that are actually LED lights built into boxes that project upward from the base of the bridge. They are more like a glow than a light, and he indicated they were blue.

Another question was raised about white/black striping on the bridge. Craig advised that this is a new contrast striping they are doing that allows motorists to see better during foggy conditions. It is particularly useful on concrete roadways such as the bridge. Craig also indicated that new paving on the outside edge of the roadway will be done in the fall. Ms. Payne asked if there were plans to pave the turn onto Road 50A/50B. She noted it had been patched several times and that it needs to be repaved. Craig indicated it would be repaved this fall. In addition, a sweeper truck will be used on Access Road B to remove sand and debris.

A question was asked about how far down they are going to remove the bridge. Craig indicated that they will remove the piers down to the inlet bottom at the pier locations. He indicated they will put netting down and then pulverize them and remove them from the water.

Park Contract Update

Craig indicated that the park contract is still in design.

IRIB ROADWAY APPROACH CONSTRUCTION ADVISORY GROUP
Meeting #5 Minutes

MEETING SCHEDULING/WRAP UP:

The next Construction Advisory Group meeting will take place on Thursday, June 28, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the DelDOT Conference Room.