# **Special Purpose Meeting**

### CAMDEN CENTRAL GATEWAY PROJECT

### **Special Purpose Meeting Report**

**Date:** June 17, 2008

**Time:** 11:00 a.m.

**Location:** Powell Elementary School

1000 Linden Street Camden, NJ 08102

Name Organization Phone / E-mail

Tracy Thompson W.F. Powell School

Janice L. Taylor W.F. Powell School <a href="mailto:itaylor@camden.nj.us">itaylor@camden.nj.us</a>

See page 3 for a list of parents who attended.

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
Ken Deats McCormick Taylor, Inc. 215-592-4200 / kdeats@mtmail.biz

### **Purpose of Meeting**

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) participated in a coordination meeting with a parents group from 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 to the parents.

#### **Summary of Meeting**

Patricia Feliciano opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. She introduced herself and John Eric Henson and Ken Deats from McCormick Taylor to the group.

Eric 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.

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 the first stage 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 11<sup>th</sup> Street. Traffic that currently uses this route will be detoured onto Linden Street where it will

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be able to access the Gateway neighborhood and businesses from 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Since the Powell School is on the corner of Linden Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Eric stated that teachers and students will need to be aware of this change in the flow of traffic.

Traffic is expected to increase on Linden St. once the detour takes effect. As part of the detour, Linden St. will be narrowed from four lanes to two, which, Eric explained, will slow traffic near the school. Eric also stated that there will be a pedestrian barrier at the intersection in front of the school and the 10<sup>th</sup> St. drop-off in front of the school will be maintained throughout the detour. Finally, Eric said the construction is expected to start in August 2008 and the detour should be in effect for five to six months.

- Q: Will there be police present or some traffic control at the intersection during the detour?
- A: There will be the regular crossing guard presence but police will be there only when necessary, for instance, when traffic patterns must change due to changes in the road configuration. In addition, the project team has been coordinating with the police, fire department and Cooper Hospital to make sure each entity is aware of the detour.

**Action Item/Follow-Up** – NJDOT/MT will provide the school with a project description page translated to Spanish for distribution.

The meeting ended at 11:45 a.m.

Report prepared by:

McCormick Taylor, Inc.

Kun Head

Ken Deats

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> William F. Powell Elementary School Tenth & Linden Streets Camden, New Jersey 08102 856 966-8982 Fax 856 342-7940

Janice L. Taylor, Principal

## PARENT MEETING (with Department of Transportation) <u>TUESDAY</u>, <u>JUNE 17</u>, <u>2008</u>

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S NAME
MARIA J. Reyes
flood Con
Berry Hory
Janie Rivera
Sina Gilliam
nelity Sanch
Bert , Susan Colon,
Beatne Gonzale
Louidesterrera
hourdes Colon
Ray Rosado
PAUL SANGODU; ZA