

**I-295/I-76/Route 42 Direct Connection Project  
New Jersey Department of Transportation  
Public Information Center (Noise Walls) & Green Acres Scoping Hearing Meeting  
Bellmawr Ballroom - Bellmawr, NJ  
Tuesday, October 26, 2010  
3:00 PM–8:00 PM**

**SUMMARY**

Approximately 120 participants representing the general public in the project area and surrounding communities, local businesses and libraries; local, elected borough and county officials and/or their representatives, state and county agencies such as, DVRPC, DRPA, PATCO, NJ Transit, Camden County DPW and the Gloucester County Planning Division attended the Public Hearing conducted for the New Jersey Department of Transportation's I-295/I-76/Route 42 Direct Connection Project on Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at the Bellmawr Ballroom in Bellmawr, NJ. The Public Information Center and the Green Acres Scoping Hearing commenced at 3 PM and concluded at approximately 8 PM.

The following stations (Tables and Boards) were included in the Public Information Center for Noise Walls and Green Acres Scoping Hearing:

Attendees sign-in table; Registration for Oral Testimony table; Project Schedule; Project Milestones (Flow Chart); 50' Scale plans of the Project Area; Boards depicting the ROW parcels and the Green Acres Disposal/Diversion; Noise Wall boards depicting the areas where noise walls will be constructed or reconstructed along the I-295/I-76/Route 42 Direct Connection project in order to determine whether or not people were in favor of or opposed to the planned noise walls; as well as a screen displaying the areas of the noise wall photo syms which ran from 3 to 6 PM.

The formal Green Acres oral presentation commenced at 6 PM with Bruce Riegel, Project Manager of the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) introducing Charles Sauter, Bellmawr Borough Clerk who provided his full support of the 295 DC Project. Jim Heeren of Dewberry (NJDOT's consultant) then explained the Green Acres Disposal/Diversion process to the attendees.

Attendees were provided with instructions for Oral Testimony as well as submission of written comments. Only one attendee testified.

**Members of the project team were available at each of the stations to assist visitors and provide answers/explanations.**

**A summary of comments/discussions follows:**

- **Continued coordination with DRPA will be required regarding the redecking of the Walt Whitman Bridge**
- **Residents were concerned with access to driveways during construction, especially at the temporary traffic signal on Creek Road**
- **Residents were concerned that additional flow might be introduced into the tributary to Big Timber Creek in BPMHC that could cause flooding**
- **BPMHC residents were concerned about the new access/parking layout within BPMHC with respect to fire/EMS services**
- **Proximity of Ramp E to houses along the ROW “overlap” area. One owner in particular (Lot 7 off Colonial Rd) was clearly concerned as her fence will likely be encroached upon**
- **NJ Transit representative was pleased to hear that a 12 foot outer lane is being provided along I-76 for buses. Noted it was being provided as per prior discussion with them**
- **One Bellmawr resident felt that the project and noise walls could cause his town’s property values to rise and he would no longer afford to live in it. He said he would vote against the noise walls because of that reason. Team members explained that the project and noise walls would not increase local taxes**
- **Generally, attendees were satisfied with the Green Acres disposal/diversion plan, especially with the replacement area being adjacent to the fields. The current President of Bellmawr Baseball was satisfied and will be meeting with Jay Kruse to further develop the concept plan. He should be added to the notification list for the Final Green Acres application**
- **One written Green Acres comment was received. The one oral testimony received did not pertain to Green Acres**

- **One gentleman from Browning Road across from the cemetery was very concerned about landscaping being provided in front of noise walls (especially by the ball fields and cemetery). Team members advised him that the landscape design has not yet been completed**

**We believe the foregoing record to be an accurate summary of the discussion and the progress of the meeting. We would appreciate notification of exceptions or corrections to the Minutes within five (5) working days of receipt. Without notification, we will consider these Minutes to be a record of fact.**

**Sincerely,  
Dewberry**

**Patricia Saulino  
Project Team**