



**Lafayette Street
Transportation Improvements Project
Public Meeting**

Date: December 10, 2003
Time: 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Location: Montgomery County Health & Human Services Building

Attendees (Project Staff)

Leo Bagley
Walt Green
Bob Keller
Elaine Elbich
Tim Gunner
Mike Noonan
Chad Dixon
Bert Cossaboon
Chris Howsare
Marty Coan
Rob Kolmansberger
Marty Sowers
Liz Harvey
Lara Otis
Ken Deats
Andrea Soltysik

Representing

Montgomery County Planning Commission
Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
PENNDOT, District 6, Environmental Manager
PENNDOT, District 6, Project Manager
DMJM & Harris
DMJM & Harris
Traffic Planning & Design
McCormick, Taylor & Associates (MTA)
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Purpose of Meeting

The purpose of this meeting was to update the residents of the project area on the preliminary project design and potential impacts. This was accomplished by means of an open house forum in which attendees could view plans and renderings and discuss the project with members of the project team.

Mailing lists

The project mailing list was derived by compiling the addresses of owners of property within the project study area. The Montgomery County tax database was used as the source for this data. This list was augmented by adding "current resident" records for tenants in the project area, as well as churches and community organizations.



Notification

Almost 800 postcards were mailed to those on the mailing list. Advertisements announcing the meeting were placed in several local newspapers to augment the postcard mailing. Three-column by 5-inch display ads appeared in *The Times Herald* and in the *Philadelphia Inquirer Montgomery County Neighbors* edition on December 1, 2003.

Public Officials Meeting

Elected officials from Plymouth Township and Norristown Borough, along with Montgomery County Commissioners, state representatives and senators, U.S. representatives and senators, and selected economic redevelopment officials were invited to attend a special session from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., before the meeting was opened to the public. Eleven officials or their aides attended, representing Norristown Borough Council, state representatives Kate Harper, John Fichter, and Jacqueline Crahalla, state senator Connie Williams, the Montgomery County Commissioner's Office, and DVRPC.

Sign-ins

The doors to the public meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. There was a sign-in location in the building lobby. Each attendee supplied their name and mailing address and was given a project summary handout that featured a description of the project, anticipated milestones and a map of the study area. A total of 48 signed in.

Display Stations

Each attendee was given a Guide to Information Stations when they signed in. Each display station included a graphic and textual information about a specific project topic. Each station was manned by a member of the project team. Those stations included:

- Project Introduction,
- Preliminary Engineering (multiple stations locations),
- Traffic Studies,
- Noise Studies,
- Cultural Resources,
- Anticipated Project Schedule, and
- Contact Information.

Survey/Comments

Most comments forms returned to date are from Ross and Chestnut Street residents in Mogeetown. Their general concerns are increased noise and vibrations from Lafayette Street traffic. The homeowner at the end of Ross St.



wrote that she did not like the cul-de-sac because it will limit parking and turn arounds, but then told a project team member that the cul-de-sac should be bigger to accommodate parking and easier turn arounds. One Chestnut Street resident was concerned about additional run-off from Danella's property.

Comments Received

Mary Mack, 46 Ross St.

Cul-de-sac at end of Ross St. is not acceptable because it will limit parking and everyone would be turning there and interfering with parking.

Betty Bell, 33 ½ Ross St.

I live on Ross St. and I am worried about vibrations when all the work starts. The houses are over 100 years old. Are they going to be able to stand? If things start crumbling who will be responsible? Will we be responsible or will someone take care of it?

Sonja Goldman, 567 E. Lafayette St.

Very much concerned about noise increase.

Mary Petrucelli, 43 Ross St.

My concern is in regards to noise control! Also about notification on meetings. I did not get a notice about this meeting. Being a homeowner I would like to know and be informed about future meetings. Thank you.

Joanne & Tom Bennich, 2 Chestnut St.

Would like to know who is going to cover foundation problems from heavy traffic running on both sides of Chestnut. Run off from area where Danella's is, and would like to know more about noise.

Helen Hack, 19 Richardson St.

Our homes are very old. How much vibration do you think these homes can take? There are many children here. Would you want to raise your children in this mess. I just wish you would stop playing around with our feelings.

Comments taken by project team members

M. Coan – residents on Chestnut St. concerned about the noise and vibration of trucks on their houses. Also issue of being situated between two major highways – suggest we take – buy their houses.

C. Dixon – Is a closed loop system planned for Main St.? Currently on the TIP as a separate project?

Check existing volumes on Lafayette



C. Howsare – house at the end of Ross – bigger cul-de-sac or other turnaround – will lose parking, cars turning in front of house.
Cianciulli – concern re: long term leases.

Meeting Report Prepared By:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Deats". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Ken Deats
Communications Specialist