

**Detroit River International Crossing Study
Local Advisory Council/Local Agency Group
Meeting Notes
June 30, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Southwestern High School**

Purpose: To review the progress of the Detroit River International Crossing Project.

Attendance: See attached

Discussion:

Introductions/Agenda

Mohammed Alghurabi asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

Meeting Conduct Procedures same.

Mohammed Alghurabi reviewed the agenda. He then introduced Terrance Hicks and noted Terrance would discuss the MDOT Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program and the prequalification process for firms wanting to work on DRIC project.

Mohammed noted that the real estate video was on the MDOT web site. It explains the acquisition and relocation process.

He mentioned the next two LAC/LAG meetings will be at the Doubletree Hotel at Ford Road and the Southfield Freeway. Transportation will be provided from Southwestern High School to the Doubletree for those who need it.

Public Comments

Richard Rosen: Asked the year the Mackinaw Straits Bridge opened. Hugh McNichol responded: November, 1957. Mr. Rosen then read from a June 12th letter to the editor of the *Detroit Free Press*. It indicated that the Commission was established in 1950. His point was that the P3 process was not faster than normal processes. He went on to read that some economist said that they believed that private interest (P3) in the infrastructure would cost more.

Richard Rosen: Asked when the formal DRIC study process began and when bridge construction is expected to be completed?

Mohammed Alghurabi responded that the study began in 2000 and it will take approximately 7 years from the date of the signing of the P3 legislation to complete the construction of the bridge.

Richard Rosen: Commented the cost of cement and steel would affect the aesthetics of the bridge.

Mohammed Alghurabi responded the aesthetics of the bridge do not depend on cost only. Performance specifications will be developed and context sensitive solutions will play a key role in the final design of the DRIC bridge.

Jesse Gonzales: Commented there are rumors about what people are going to get for their homes and it is troubling people in the community. Also, Detroit has been on CNN and the local news as having the worst air pollution and wondered if this bridge would add to the pollution.

Mohammed Alghurabi stated the acquisition and relocation process will be fair. He also noted that the non-profit organization known as “Bridging Communities” is working with MSHDA and the community to build new homes for residents to be relocated who do not want to leave Delray.

Mohammed Alghurabi indicated that DRIC studies suggest that the air pollution will not get worse with a new bridge.

Jesse Gonzales: Commented that the State of California instituted a truck idling law and is adding emission filters to trucks. He asked: “Can they be used here?”

Mohammed responded that strategies to mitigate air emissions will continue to evolve, including the EPA requirements for the introduction of new diesel engines.

Delores Leonard: Asked what are the Senate and House bill numbers for the P3 legislation.

Mohammed Alghurabi said they were HB 4961 for the P3 legislation and & HB 6128 for the community benefits bill.

Delores Leonard: Asked if HB 6128 has to go to the Senate?

Mohammed Alghurabi said it did.

John Bendzick: Noted that some legislators believe that there is too much authority given to MDOT in the P3 legislation. This is the position of Representative Opsommer.

Notes of LAC/LAG May 25th

Mohammed Alghurabi asked if there were any changes needed to the notes of the last LAC/LAG meeting. Frank Rodriguez noted that on Page 4 in the 5th paragraph that he asked the question on Welcome Center hours.

Deacon Norbert Motowski stated that he was listed as a “Father”. He’s not a priest but a Deacon.

SWCBC Update

Simone Sagovac provided the LAC with an update of Community Benefits Coalition issues. She noted that HB 6128 has been assigned to the Senate Government Operations committee where it is likely to die. In turn, Senator Buzz Thomas introduced SB 1395 on community Benefits. It has been assigned to the Transportation Committee where it has a better chance of being acted on.

Simone indicated members of the Coalition have testified to the legislature. Positive feedback has been received. She also noted that Senator Hansen Clarke is trying to ensure community investment process goes forward. Simone urged all in attendance to contact Senator Bishop to urge him advance the community benefits bill.

Meeting the DRIC Reporting Requirements

A question was asked how the June 1st legislative deadline for approving or disapproving the DRIC was missed? Mohammed Alghurabi responded the June 1st deadline was not binding. Currently, MDOT is working with the Senate to answer additional questions.

DBE Certification/Pre-Qualification

Terrance Hicks, MDOT's Director of Business Development, provided a detailed explanation of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise certification process noting MDOT examines such characteristics such as experience, financial condition and number of employees in the company. The DBE certification process is challenging.

MDOT also has the Road Construction Apprentice Readiness (RCAR) Program which involves 9 weeks of intensive training to prepare individuals for apprenticeships and jobs with construction contractors. Terrance Hicks advised that ACCESS is conducting the training for Detroit and will be held at places like ACCESS.* Additionally, there are workforce diversity forums to encourage businesses and individuals to be involved in government-sponsored construction projects. Some of these have been sponsored by Detroit Council member Spivey and State Representative Bert Johnson. Once the DRIC bridge is built, there will be long-term jobs that become available. Efforts will be made to help equip those interested in these jobs, with the required skills, as they become available.

** Correction to training location. The training will be held at Detroit One Stop Service Center at 455 W. Fort Street.*

Commissioner Ilona Varga: Asked if the state would recognize Wayne County's DBE's Terrance Hicks indicated those that have met requirements that MDOT applies will be recognized.

Commissioner Ilona Varga: Commented that job training should be held locally and that Tom Cervenak has offered the Delray Neighborhood House for this purpose.

Harold Day: Asked if MDOT is working with skilled trade unions like Locals 394 and 1197. Mohammed Alghurabi said yes.

Real Estate Video Presentation – “Public Roads & Private Property”

Audio equipment was not arranged by The Corradino Group so the video was not shown.

Other LAC/LAG Business

Mohammed Alghurabi reading from an update on the Gateway Project provided by Victor Judnic noted: 1) new ramps to SB I-75 are open; 2) the carpool lot is almost finished; 3) the Michigan Supreme Court refused to hear the DIBC lawsuit appeal and, subsequently, DIBC filed a motion in Federal District Court; and, another federal court has ruled DIBC is not an instrumentality of federal government.

*M-85 documents can be found on MDOT website http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,1607,7-151-9621_11058_53088_53094---,00.html. Anyone interested in hard copies let Juanita Tucker with the Corradino Group know.

Additional Public Comments

Harold Day: Asked if reconstruction of Fort Street and affected bridges has been coordinated with the Detroit Police, Fire and EMS departments.

Mohammed Alghurabi responded that he believes such coordination is underway.

Jesse Gonzales: Asked for more information on the housing acquisition process.

Susan Fredericks responded that once MDOT is given the go ahead on a project, the first task is to order the title work on individual properties which can take several months to complete. MDOT arranges for appropriate appraisal work. Making an offer to purchase can be a lengthy process.

Jesse Gonzales: Asked what standards will be used for the appraisal?

Gerry Lacey said the property is appraised at fair value. To that amount 25% is added per state law. The final amount of compensation MDOT offers must replace allow the owner to move into a “Decent, Safe and Sanitary” replacement house which, in some cases can be more than the fair value of the existing house plus 25%.

Ilona Varga: Suggested a one-page document explaining the acquisition process would be very helpful.

Richard Rosen: Asked if a person lives in a home located in an industrial area, will MDOT relocate that person to another area like that where the pollution is bad and the environment is awful? Mohammed Alghurabi said no.

Mohammed Alghurabi stated that MDOT is not pursuing any acquisitions at this time. When MDOT personnel begin the process they will have proper identification. If anyone has any concerns they can call people from the community such as John Nagy, Debra Williams, and him for more information.

Next LAC/LAG Meeting

Mohammed Alghurabi asked that persons requiring transportation to the Doubletree Hotel for the LAC/LAG meeting on July 28th, to please submit their names so arrangements can be made.

With that, the meeting ended at about 8:30 p.m.

**Detroit River International Crossing Study
Local Advisory Council/Local Agency Group
Meeting Notes
May 26, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Southwestern High School**

Attendance

Name	Organization	Address	City	St	Zip
LAC MEMBERS					
John Baran	City of Detroit Planning & Development Dept.	65 Cadillac Sq.,	Detroit	MI	48226
John Bendzick	Dewitt Products Co./ City of Dearborn	2211 Academy	Dearborn	MI	48124
Corki Benson	City of Wyandotte	404 Vinewood	Wyandotte	MI	48192
Tom Cervenak	Delray Community House	412 W. Grand Blvd	Detroit	MI	48216
Robert Hohlfelder	City of Riverview Z.B.A	13333 Pennsylvania Rd., Apt. 1004	Riverview	MI	48193
Delores Leonard	Sierra Club	2192 Bassett	Detroit	MI	48217
Jane Mackey	Cong. John Conyers Jr.	2615 W. Jefferson	Trenton	MI	48183
Edward Moore	Detroit City Council - Kwame Kenyetta	2 Woodward Ave, Ste 1300	Detroit	MI	48226
John Nagy	Delray Community Council	7859 Bacon (and 1833 Meadow Dr., Monroe, MI 48162)	Detroit	MI	48209
Simone Sagovac	SDEV	1506 Hubbard	Detroit	MI	48209
Ilona Varga	Wayne County Commissioner	575 S. Green	Detroit	MI	48209
OBSERVERS					
Robert J. Benson	CCG	404 Vinewood	Wyandotte	MI	48192
Cheryl Anderson		6339 South St.	Detroit	MI	48209
Gregory D. Babcock	National Guard	Martin Luther King	Lansing	MI	
Jeff Bernstin		P.O. Box 806291	Saint Clair Shores	MI	48280
Darrell Blair		6339 South Street	Detroit	MI	48209
Clyde Bostick	Shoe Fair Stores	5872 W. Fort Street	Detroit	MI	48209
Johnnie Mae Boston		596 S. Rademacher	Detroit	MI	48209
Alex Bourgeau	SEMCOG	535 Griswold	Detroit	MI	48226
Michael Chaelogh			Detroit	MI	48209
Charles Cini	Bagley Housing	1454 Ferdinand Street	Detroit	MI	48209
Grace Mary Cini	Bagley Housing	1454 Ferdinand Street	Detroit	MI	48209
Donna Cloff		334 W. Cavalry	Detroit	MI	48209
Lou Crocker		9119 Avis St.	Detroit	MI	48209
Robert Cross		209 S. Military	Detroit	MI	48209
Mary Ann Cuderman	West Windsor Truck Watch	3118 Sandwich St. St.	Windsor	ON	N9C1A6
Anne M. Cusmano	Red Cap Distribution Center	8585 Dearborn	Detroit	MI	48209
Harold Davies	SWDIA	2591 Springwells	Detroit	MI	48209
Arthur Divers	State Rep. George Cushingberry	18501 Marlowe Ave.	Detroit	MI	48235
Hubert Faitel	Fairlane Drilling Inc.	7884 Medina	Detroit	MI	48209

Name	Organization	Address	City	St	Zip
William Ferguson Jr.		1336 Beatrice	Detroit	MI	48217
Richard Foote		111 S. Military	Detroit	MI	48209
Patricia Ford	Councilman Andre Spivey				
Danny Franklin		170 S. Campbell	Detroit	MI	48209
Harriet Freeman		1292 N. Rademacher	Detroit	MI	48209
Tony G					
Maria Garcia		5656 W. Fisher Fwy	Detroit	MI	48209
Jesse Gonzales	SWPIA	7752 Cahalan	Detroit	MI	48209
Hugh Graham	Graham Funeral home	1005 Junction	Detroit	MI	48209
Joe Griffith		6665 South Street	Detroit	MI	48209
Donald Hamel	Detroit Health & Wellness Promotion	1151 Taylor Bldg 4	Detroit	MI	
Ray Harris		3511 Liddesdale	Detroit	MI	48209
Peggy Heilman		5879 Reeder	Detroit	MI	48209
Charles Hixson		5838 Anthon	Detroit	MI	48209
Sunny Jacobs	City of Detroit, DPW Traffic Engineering	2633 Michigan Ave.	Detroit	MI	48216
Elizabeth Johnson	Detroit City Council - Joann Watson	9000 East Jefferson, #10-15	Detroit	MI	48214
Caroline Jones		593/558 Harrington	Detroit	MI	48209
Rebel Justice		6665 South Street	Detroit	MI	48209
Terry Kennedy	CCG – W. Windsor Truck Watch	3248 Baby Street	Windsor	ON	N9C-1K5
Cleophus Love		15345 Hubbell	Detroit	MI	48209
Norbert Motowski		108 Pine	River Rouge	MI	48218
John Niwh		3733 Martin	Detroit	MI	48210
George Osborn		741 Campbell	Detroit	MI	48209
Mary Perkins		18479 Burt Rd.		MI	
Elaine Piotrowski		7960 W. Fort	Detroit	MI	48209
Joe Polak			Plymouth	MI	48170
Humberto Reyna		731 Military	Detroit	MI	48209
Frank Rodriguez	Century 21	25636 Ford Road	Dearborn	MI	48127
Richard Rosen		32073 Concord, Apt 4 B	Madison Heights	MI	48071
Esther Rost	Shoe Fair Stores	5872 W. Fort	Detroit	MI	48209
Gay Salsberry	Bridging Communities	1255 Rademacher	Detroit	MI	48209
Beverly Shilts		172 Woodmere	Detroit	MI	48209
Bill Teasley		608 S. Harrington St.	Detroit	MI	48209
Bill Tury		650 S. Waterman	Detroit	MI	48209
Leslie Walden	Detroit Friends Meeting	6227 W. Fort	Detroit	MI	48209
Margaret Walden	Detroit Friends Meeting	4011 Norfolk	Detroit	MI	48221
Steve Walker	Southwest Detroit Improvement Association	5622 Springwells	Detroit	MI	48210
Kathy Wendler	SDBA	7752 W. Vernor Hwy.	Detroit	MI	48209
MDOT					
Mohammed Alghurabi	MDOT	425 W. Ottawa	Lansing	MI	48933
Gerri Ayers	MDOT	425 W. Ottawa	Lansing	MI	48933
Terrance Hicks	MDOT		Oak Park	MI	

Name	Organization	Address	City	St	Zip
Gerry Lacey	MDOT	18101 W. 9 Mile	Southfield	MI	48075
Hugh McNichol	MDOT	425 W. Ottawa	Lansing	MI	48933
Susan Fredericks	MDOT	18101 W. 9 Mile	Southfield	MI	48075

Consultant					
Jim Hartman	The Corradino Group	20300 Civic Center Dr.	Southfield	MI	48076
Harvey Santana	The Corradino Group	20300 Civic Center Dr.	Southfield	MI	48076
Juanita Tucker	The Corradino Group	20300 Civic Center Dr.	Southfield	MI	48076