

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAIN STREET MULTI-MODAL AND REVITALIZATION PROJECT**  
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 2**

**DATE:** November 15, 2005

**TIME:** NOON

**LOCATION:** Buffalo Place Conference Room

**ATTENDEES:** See attached sign-in sheet

**ATTACHMENTS:** Meeting Sign In Sheet

An agenda was distributed to the Advisory Committee. The following is a brief summary of key issues discussed:

Peter Ringo provided a project status update on the following items:

- Base Mapping – field survey is generally completed on the mapping is being finalized and should be complete by the end of the week.
- Survey Questionnaire – was distributed and approximately 20-25 responses have been received to date. A reminder notice is being sent out highlighting the deadline of December 2<sup>nd</sup> for receiving responses. Additional follow up will be performed as required.
- Design team members are currently evaluating various scope issues. A draft Scope Summary was prepared and distributed to design team members as well as the advisory committee for review and comment. Comments should be sent to Peter Ringo within two weeks. The Scope Summary will be updated along with adding a summary paragraph for each of the major scope items and will be distributed prior to the next meeting. This document will also be forwarded to NYSDOT for approval.

The list of Advisory Committee Design Issues was distributed and discussed. Each of the issues will be considered as goals for the project and be evaluated within the overall scope and constraints for the project. Any items that should be eliminated from consideration will be brought to the attention of the Advisory Committee. Specific items discussed include:

**Stations/Trains**

- Jeff Albert distributed photos of existing stations and discussed some of the concerns related to their function and condition.
- Steve Fitzmaurice questioned whether the Events and Auditorium stations could be combined. Walt Zmuda expressed concern over spacing between stations if any are

eliminated. Keith Belanger mentioned that there is an updated downtown parking study available that may provide useful information on demand to aid in the evaluation process. Harold Matuszak stated that the current project limits addressed by the EA begin at Scott Street and do not include the Events Station. Changing the limits could further impact finalizing the EA. Bass Pro will have an impact on the Auditorium Station location. Dan Kreuz stated that once the Development Agreement is signed, there will be a clearer understanding of Bass Pro's plans.

- Station ramp configurations are currently being looked at along with lift options. There are concerns over operational and maintenance requirements for the lift option. Walt Zmuda conveyed that there may be options that could be incorporated into the trains such as a flip-out type ramp similar to the what's been used for buses. URS should provide examples of what's been done in other cities.
- The train steps have previously been modified but modifying to extend them is limited by the underground station platforms as well as train car compartment constraints.
- Kim Mathews discussed the concept of incorporating the train loadings zones into the streetscape.
- Harold Matuszak discussed the need to relocate catenary poles at the stations to provide adequate room for vehicles and to direct them away from the platforms.

### **Control Boxes**

- Harold Matuszak conveyed that consideration should be given to moving the control panels inside of buildings or under the high level platforms.
- Steve Carmina questioned whether the panel sizes could be reduced. Bill Jones mentioned that some lighting has been removed which would reduce the amount of controls required.

### **Street Circulation**

- One project goal is to maximize circulation.
- John Bidell stated that connecting Mohawk Street to Main Street is not currently in the project scope but it will be modeled as part of the traffic study.
- Two-way traffic on Pearl Street is not in the project scope. Dan Kreuz stated that it is a city project that is in the preliminary design phase from Tupper Street to the Auditorium. Keith Belanger stated that all but one of the Buffalo Place board members is for the implementation of two-way traffic on Pearl Street. Dan Kreuz said that Seneca Street between Pearl Street and Washington Street could be considered for two-way traffic as well.

### **HSBC Center**

- A separate meeting will be held with HSBC and design team representatives to discuss security issues.
- Keith Belanger conveyed that Main Street access must be addressed. Steve Carmina suggested that alternatives could be explored related to the signals near HSBC Center to prevent cars from stopping under the building. Harold Matuszak pointed out that there will be security cameras installed as part of the project for monitoring traffic throughout the corridor that would provide opportunities for manipulating signal timings to keep traffic flowing.

### Prioritization of Issues

- Setting the geometry and the traffic modeling are the key issues being developed that numerous other design issues are dependent upon.
- Harold Matuszak stated that traffic flows, volumes and station locations are key issues.
- Mary Martino stated that traffic patterns will change as businesses develop and vacant spaces are filled and that this should be evaluated under the traffic analysis. Also, rules need to be established for using the shared lanes.
- Harold Matuszak raised the concern over cars following the trains into the portal.

### Public Meeting

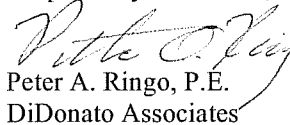
- The public information meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 18, 2006 between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the Market Arcade Film and Arts Center. The format of the meeting will be "Open Forum" with a video presentation providing an introduction at specified intervals. The content for the meeting will be discussed at the next Advisory Committee meeting.
- NFTA and the City of Buffalo will be meeting with the FTA on the first Friday in December to give a status report on the project.

The next Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at Buffalo Place.

These Meeting Minutes represent our understanding of the items discussed and/or agreed upon during this meeting. Any additions, corrections, or revisions by those present shall be directed (in writing) to the undersigned within (5) days of receipt of these Minutes or they will be considered accurate and complete.

cc: Attendees  
committee members not present

Respectfully Submitted,



Peter A. Ringo, P.E.  
DiDonato Associates