

**THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY**

**COMMITTEE ON OPERATIONS  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING  
Thursday, November 15, 2012**

George Washington Bridge – Intelligent Transportation System Replacement  
Program – Planning Authorization and Authorization of Early-action Variable  
Message Sign Replacement

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**COMMITTEE ON OPERATIONS  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING**

**225 Park Avenue South**

**New York, NY**

**Thursday, November 15, 2012**

**PRESENT:**

Hon. David Samson, Chair  
Hon. Scott H. Rechler, Vice-Chair  
Hon. Anthony J. Sartor  
Hon. David S. Steiner  
Hon. James P. Rubin  
Committee Members

Hon. Richard H. Bagger  
Hon. Jeffrey H. Lynford  
Hon. Jeffrey A. Moerdler  
Hon. Raymond M. Pocino  
Hon. Rossana Rosado  
Hon. William P. Schuber  
Commissioners

Patrick J. Foye, Executive Director  
William Baroni, Jr., Deputy Executive Director  
Darrell B. Buchbinder, General Counsel  
Karen E. Eastman, Secretary

Susan M. Baer, Director, Aviation  
Roy A. Biederman, Police Officer  
Rosemary Chiricolo, Deputy Director, Management and Budget  
Steven J. Coleman, Deputy Director, Media Relations  
Stephanie E. Dawson, Acting Chief Operating Officer  
Gerard A. Del Tufo, Assistant Director of Development and Operations, Real Estate and Development  
John C. Denise, Audio Visual Supervisor, Marketing  
Daniel J. Dias, Police Sergeant  
Claudia Dickey, Assistant Director, Public Safety  
Gretchen P. DiMarco, Special Assistant to the Deputy Executive Director  
John J. Drobny, Director, Security Projects, Office of the Chief Operating Officer/Co-Director, Security Transition Office/Acting Director, Security, World Trade Center  
Joseph P. Dunne, Chief Security Officer  
Michael G. Fabiano, Chief Financial Officer  
Michael A. Fedorko, Director, Public Safety/Superintendent of Police  
Michael B. Francois, Chief, Real Estate and Development  
Cedrick T. Fulton, Director, Tunnels, Bridges and Terminals  
Glenn P. Guzi, Senior External Affairs Representative, Government and Community Affairs

Linda C. Handel, Deputy Secretary  
Mary Lee Hannell, Director, Human Resources  
Andrew T. Hawthorne, Director, Marketing  
Anthony Hayes, Manager, Media Planning, Media Relations  
Howard G. Kadin, Esq., Law  
Kirby King, Director, Technology Services  
Rudolph L. King, Assistant Information Officer, Media Relations  
Stephen Kingsberry, Acting Director, Rail Transit  
Cristina M. Lado, Director, Government & Community Affairs, New Jersey  
Richard M. Larrabee, Director, Port Commerce  
John H. Ma, Chief of Staff to the Executive Director  
Lisa MacSpadden, Director, Media Relations  
Stephen Marinko, Esq., Law  
Ron Marsico, Assistant Director, Media Relations, Public Affairs  
Daniel G. McCarron, Comptroller  
John H. McColgan, Tunnel and Bridge Agent, Tunnels, Bridges and Terminals  
James E. McCoy, Manager, Board Management Support, Office of the Secretary  
Anne Marie C. Mulligan, Treasurer  
Richard M. Munnely, Police Lieutenant  
Patrick B. O'Reilly, Senior Advisor to the Chairman  
Glen T. Page, Police Officer  
Antonio M. Perzichilli, Police Sergeant  
Jared Pilosio, Staff External Relations Representative, Government and Community Affairs  
Steven P. Plate, Deputy Chief, Capital Planning/Director, World Trade Center Construction  
Monika A. Radkowska, Principal Board Management and Support Specialist, Office of the Secretary  
Richard J. Rebisz, Senior External Relations Representative, Government and Community Affairs  
Shane Robinson, Staff External Affairs Representative, Government and Community Affairs  
John Ryan, Acting Chief, Public Safety  
Brian W. Simon, Director, Government and Community Affairs, New York  
Timothy G. Stickelman, Assistant General Counsel  
Gerald B. Stoughton, Director, Financial Analysis  
Edward H. Strauss, Toll Collector, Tunnels, Bridges and Terminals  
Robert A. Sudman, Director, Audit  
Robert N. Swaney, General Patron Services Supervisor, Tunnels, Bridges and Terminals  
Ralph Tragale, Assistant Director, Public Affairs, Aviation  
David B. Tweedy, Chief, Capital Programs  
I. Midori Valdivia, Principal Financial Analyst, Executive Director's Office  
Lillian D. Valenti, Director, Procurement  
Sheree Van Duynes, Manager, Policies and Protocol, Office of the Secretary  
David M. Wildstein, Director, Interagency Capital Projects, Office of the Deputy Executive Director  
Peter J. Zipf, Chief Engineer

Guests:

Nicole Crifo, Senior Counsel, Authorities Unit, Office of the Governor of New Jersey  
Regina Egea, Director, Authorities Unit, Office of the Governor of New Jersey  
Jeanine M. Thompson, Assistant Secretary for Transportation, State of New York

Speakers:

Murray Bodin, Member of the Public  
Phil Derner, President/Founder, NYC Aviation LLC  
Margaret Donovan, Twin Towers Alliance  
Richard Hughes, Twin Towers Alliance  
Kalev Savi, Member of the Public

In view of the fact that as a result of prospective recusals there would not be a sufficient number of Commissioners present to consider an item on the agenda at today's Board meeting, the Secretary reported that, pursuant to the By-Laws, a special meeting of the Committee on Operations was called to permit the Committee to act on the item for and on behalf of the Board.

The meeting was called to order in public session by Chairman Samson at 1:09 p.m. and ended at 2:13 p.m.

## **GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE – INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROGRAM – PLANNING AUTHORIZATION AND AUTHORIZATION OF EARLY-ACTION VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGN REPLACEMENT**

It was recommended that the Board authorize: (1) planning and preliminary design work for the replacement/upgrade of the existing Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) at the George Washington Bridge (GWB), at an estimated cost of \$3 million; and (2) the Executive Director to: (a) award early-action contracts to replace eight existing Variable Message Signs (VMS) on the New York and New Jersey approaches to the GWB, at an estimated construction cost of \$4 million; and (b) enter into an agreement to reimburse the New Jersey Turnpike Authority (NJTA) for costs associated with the replacement of six Port Authority VMS and supporting structures located on the New Jersey Turnpike eastbound approach roadways to the GWB, in an estimated amount of \$6.3 million.

The existing ITS at the GWB was installed in 1997, and at that time was a pioneering effort in the region. The ITS consists of VMS, microwave vehicle detectors, traffic cameras, travel time readers, lane-use signals, and a weather information station. Although the ITS has served the Port Authority well over the past 15 years, it has exceeded its design life and requires replacement.

The proposed program would encompass planning and preliminary design work associated with the future replacement of the ITS and two early actions in order to replace 14 of the VMS, as outlined further, below.

### **Planning for the Future Replacement/Upgrade of the ITS**

The proposed planning and preliminary design work would provide for the assessment of the existing ITS and development of various alternatives to replace the system with an upgraded ITS. Specifically, the proposed authorization would include documenting facility operational needs and customer information goals, determining existing conditions through field surveys and inspections, evaluating technology alternatives to meet facility operational needs, determining appropriate ITS subsystems and replacement devices, evaluating construction methods/staging and required lane closures, preparing preliminary design and construction cost estimates, and product evaluation and selection for the procurement of an agency-wide enterprise transportation management center software.

### **Early-action Priority Replacement of Existing VMS**

The entire ITS is expected to be replaced within the next few years. In order to address immediate needs and provide the region's motorists with the necessary real-time traffic information to make their trips as efficient as possible, an early-action plan has been developed. This early-action plan includes the replacement of 14 signs on a priority basis. Of these signs, six are on NJTA roadways, north of Exit 17; these signs lead to the GWB and provide information to New York-bound motorists. The additional eight Port Authority signs that need to be replaced provide access to the GWB and are located on roadways of the Port Authority, the New Jersey Department of Transportation and the New York Department of Transportation, in New York and New Jersey.

In order to expedite the replacement of the 14 signs, the NJTA has offered to perform the design, procurement, and installation of the six signs on its property, and to provide for the replacement of the existing structures that support the signs, in order to meet the NJTA's latest design standards. Concurrently, the Port Authority would undertake the design, procurement and replacement of the other eight non-functional priority signs on the approach roadways to the GWB.

When completed, the ITS replacement project would disseminate timely travel information, improve traffic flow, reduce traffic congestion, and enhance traffic safety on the GWB and its approaches. In addition, the priority sign replacements would provide facility condition and roadway/lane closure information to help mitigate impacts in the short term during the major regional construction projects that are currently underway or planned and the expected increased traffic as a result of the 2014 Super Bowl, which will be held at the Meadowlands Sports Complex in New Jersey.

Pursuant to the foregoing report, the Committee on Operations, acting for and on behalf of the Board pursuant to the By-Laws, adopted the following resolution, with Commissioners Rechler, Rubin and Steiner voting in favor; Commissioners Samson and Sartor recused and did not participate in the consideration of, or vote on, this item. General Counsel confirmed that sufficient affirmative votes were cast for the action to be taken, a quorum of the Committee being present.

**RESOLVED**, that planning and preliminary design work for the replacement/upgrade of the existing Intelligent Transportation System at the George Washington Bridge (GWB), at an estimated cost of \$3 million, be and it hereby is authorized; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the Executive Director be and he hereby is authorized, for and on behalf of the Port Authority, to award early-action contracts to replace eight existing Variable Message Signs (VMS) on the New York and New Jersey approaches to the GWB, at an estimated construction cost of \$4 million; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the Executive Director be and he hereby is authorized, for and on behalf of the Port Authority, to enter into an early-action agreement with the New Jersey Turnpike Authority (NJTA) to reimburse the NJTA for costs associated with its replacement of six Port Authority VMS and supporting structures located on the New Jersey Turnpike eastbound approach roadways to the GWB, in an estimated amount of \$6.3 million; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the Executive Director be and he hereby is authorized, for and on behalf of the Port Authority, to take action with respect to contracts for professional and advisory services and such other contracts and agreements as may be necessary to effectuate the foregoing planning work, pursuant to authority granted in the By-Laws or other resolution adopted by the Board; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the form of all contracts and agreements in connection with the foregoing shall be subject to the approval of General Counsel or his authorized representative.

Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary