

1.20

4.7

Flood Recovery Task Force, Inc. Subcommittee on
Transportation, 1973 January: North Street Bridge

N.S. Bridge

1/3/73

Franconi AAA.
Schooley.

1. Introduction - E. Schechter
2. Telegram from Rosenn - E. Schechter
Wideman
3. Tom Harrington
th
4. Costantino
5. Kassab
6. Shapp

GOVERNOR'S TABLE

KILEY, MURRAY, WOOD, COSTANTINO, WIDEMAN, KASSAB, SCHECHTER, SHAPP

3 January 1973

TELEGRAM TO: MR. EDWARD SCHECHTER, CHAIRMAN
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.
HOTEL STERLING
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18701

I REGRET MY INABILITY TO BE PRESENT ON THIS HISTORIC OCCASION IN THE FLOOD RECOVERY EFFORT IN THE WYOMING VALLEY. ON BEHALF OF THE TASK FORCE AND FOR MYSELF, PERSONALLY, PLEASE CONVEY TO GOVERNOR SHAPP, SECRETARY KASSAB, DR. COSTANTINO, AND THE OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF THE *STATE and* FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OUR APPRECIATION FOR THE SPECIAL EFFORT MADE IN EXPEDITING THE REOPENING OF THE NORTH STREET BRIDGE. THE SPEED WITH WHICH THIS WORK WAS ACCOMPLISHED NOT ONLY DEMONSTRATES THEIR CONCERN BUT ALSO ILLUSTRATES HOW MUCH CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WHEN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS JOIN HANDS TO BUILD BRIDGES TO THE PEOPLE.

MAX ROSENN, CHAIRMAN
FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

hundred.

BRIDGE CEREMONY GUEST LIST

1. Councilman Andrew Marco
✓ 2. Councilman Robert Slaff
✓ 3. Councilman Edwin Jones
✓ 4. Councilman Spurgeon Handley
✓ 5. Councilman Henry Avery
✓ 6. Councilman Henry T. Billman
✓ 7. Mr. Paul Pichler
✓ 8. Mr. Richard Wagman
✓ 9. Mr. Francis Wagman
✓ 10. Mr. Andrew Shaw, Jr.
✓ 11. Mrs. Edward Schechter
will reply 12. Representative Frank J. O'Connell, Jr.
13. Representative Bernard F. O'Brien
14. Representative Fred J. Shupnik 287-0812
WILL REPLY 2 → 15. Representative George Hasay 542-4153, 864-3378
16. Representative Raphael Musto
WILL REPLY → 17. Representative James J. Ustynoski 454-8754, 455-0100
18. Mr. Bernard Gallagher
WILL REPLY 19. Mayor Con Salwoski 823-5119 after 1
✓ 20. Councilman Robert Brader
ANDY WILL ASK 21. Councilman Joseph Burns
ANDY WILL ASK 22. Councilman Frank Trinisewski
✓ 23. Rev. William Reid
WILL ASK 24. Councilman Joseph Williams
✓ 25. Dr. Walter Newman
WILL ASK 26. Commissioner Edmund C. Wideman, Jr.
27. Commissioner Ethel Price 822-2855, 823-6161
WILL COME 28. Commissioner Frank P. Crossin
✓ 29. Mr. John Hourigan
✓ 30. Atty. John L. McDonald
✓ 31. Mr. Edward Heiselberg
✓ 32. Mr. Edgar Lashford
✓ 33. Mr. Richard Cronin
✓ 34. Mr. Roy E. Morgan
NO 35. Mr. Sanford Weiss
WILL COME 36. Mr. David Schooley
✓ 37. General Frank Townend
✓ 38. Mr. Edward J. Boltz
NO 39. Mr. Russell Lackie
NO 40. Mr. Roman Rubinstein
✓ 41. Mr. Frank Burnside rep. - Jim Revie
no 42. Mr. Harrison Smith
will reply 43. Mr. Thomas Heffernan
N 44. Mr. David Baltimore
✓ 45. Mr. Thomas Shelburne HOPES 50
✓ 46. Mayor Charles A. Bankes - Knigston
✓ 47. Mr. Raymond Lowery - Knigston
NO 48. Mr. Joseph R. Conniff
✓ 49. Mayor Edward F. Burns phy month + 2.
✓ 50. Mr. Joseph B. Piazza Sundersville
✓ 51. Mayor Henry C. Novroski
52. Mr. Peter Stusnick - Edwardsville

} Knigston

} Contractors J. Rutter

} WB.-

John McDonald

BRIDGE CEREMONY GUEST LIST (continued)

53. Mayor Michael Capp ^{Edwardsville 288-0692}
 ✓ 54. Mr. Ralph Brown - ^{Pied. - Kingston}
 55. Mr. Robert L. Taylor ^{FF}
 ✓ 56. Mayor Ernest R. Balcomb - F.F.
 157. Mr. Edward Schechter
 158. Mr. Thomas Kiley 1.
 59. Mr. John Conyngham 2.
 ✓ 60. Mr. Thomas Bigler 3.
 ✓ 61. Mr. Jack Schmitt
 ✓ 62. Mr. James Adonizio
 PROBABLY NOT 63. Mr. Leo Corbett
 64. The Honorable Max Rosen ^{NO}
 NO 65. Mr. Harold Rose
 ✓ 66. Mr. Charles Hardwick
 ✓ 67. Mr. James Kenny
 NO 68. Mr. A. J. Sordani, III
 ✓ 69. Mr. Clifford Bigelow
 ✓ 70. Mrs. George W. Bierly
 ✓ 71. Mr. William Conner
 72. Mr. Frank Carlucci ^{NO}
 ✓ 73. Ms. Gabrielle Ramsauer
 174. Mr. Howard Grossman
 ✓ 75. Mr. John Hibbard
 WITH REPLY 76. Mr. Robert Scalia - HUD
 77. Mr. John Churnetski
 ✓ 78. MR. THOMAS MORAN
 ✓ 79. HELEN O'CONNOR

Those Secretary Kassab will invite:

- NO 1. Representative Daniel Flood
 YES 2. Senator T. Newell Wood
 YES 3. Senator Martin L. Murray
 YES 4. 5 ~~10~~ representatives from PennDOT
 TENTATIVE → 5. 6 ~~10~~ representatives from Fed DOT

Bigelow will invite a maximum of 15 from AAA

Gordon McFee - HUD.
 Keith Caudle - SBA.

15 from AAA - Aldo Francani.

- ✓ SECRETARY JACOB KASSAB
 ✓ 4 ~~3~~ people from Kassab staff
 GOVERNOR SHAPP
 ✓ 2 people from Shapp staff

Harold Poulson ?
 B. Kotarick

Penn DOT Dist. 4
 Tom Harrington
 F. Seunk
 F. mi
 Ray Redanski
 T. De Angelo.
 V. Leonczyk.
 D. Rusnak

FHWA
 DOT - Harrisburg
 George Hannon
 Jack Justice
 Ralph Romberger
 Bill Viperman
 Karl Snyder
 DOT - Washington
~~Kart~~
 Dr. Costantino.
 Federal Highway Commission
 William Comella.

84 YES
 22 DONT KNOW

HONORABLE JACOB KASSAB
THE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

ONLY SO IMPORTANT AN OCCASION AS MY TAKING THE OTH OF OFFICE
FOR MY 13TH TERM IN THE U S CONGRESS PREVENTS MY BEING ON HAND
FOR CEREMONIES TO OPEN THE TEMPORARY NORTH STREET BRIDGE. *Dr. Ayers*

THE INAUGURATION OF THIS VITAL SPAN IS IN A LARGE SENSE
OUR FIRST REAL VICTORY OVER AGNES. ASIDE FROM THE MISERY AND LOSS
OF PROPERTY WHICH WE SUSTAINED, THERE WAS NO KEENER REMINDER OF
OUR LOSS THAT THE UNBEARABLE TRAFFIC STRANGULAION WHICH RESULTED
WITH THE WASHOUT OF THE OLD NORTH STREET BRIDGE.

THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER CONQUORED US FOR SIX MONTHS, BUT
TODAY WE OBSERVE OUR VICOTRY AS THIS VITAL TRANSPORTATION AND
COMMUNICTATION LINK IS OPENED FOR ALL.

~~SEVERAL WEEKS PRIOR TO THE JUNE DISASTER, IT WAS MY GREAT
PRIVILIGE TO ANNOUNCE THAT THEFEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION WOULD
PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE LONG PLANNED PERMANENT NORTH STREET SPAN.
THAT COMITMENT STILL STANDS. SHORTLY AFTER AGNES LEFT US, I
AGAIN WAS SUCCESSFUL IN ACQUIRING THE MONIES NECESSARY TO BUILD
THIS TEMPORARY BRIDGE.~~

~~I ASSURE YOU THAT I STAND READY AT ALL TIMES TO MAKE EVERY
EFFORT TO HAVE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TAKE PART IN THE AMBITIOUSOUS
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS FOR A GREATER COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.~~

I COMMEND YOU FOR YOU LEADERSHIP IN DIRECTING COMMONWEALTH
POLICY IN THE REBUILIDING OF THIS SPAN, AND I CONGRATULATE YOU
FOR YOU CO-OPERATION WITH ALL CONCERNED.

SINCERELY YOURS,

DANIEL J. FLOOD.
MEMBER OF THE US CONGRSSS.

1803 EST

WBRE TV WKBR

Dr. Ayers

Introduce

Dave Sims - Deputy Sec.
Harold Poulson - Dep. Chief
Eng. for
Eastern Pa.

Phil Amos - asst to Dep.
Chief Eng.

Advocate

George Haemon

Deputy Chief
F.H.W.A.

Wm

Cannella

Regional
Field Off. Admin

Gen. Frank Townsend

FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

HOTEL STERLING

WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18701

717 - 829-1981

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Hon. Max Rosenn
Chairman
Thomas H. Kiley
1st Vice Chairman
A. J. Sordoni, III
2nd Vice Chairman
Harold Rose
Treasurer
Charles Hardwick
Secretary
James Kenny
Assistant Treasurer
Mrs. George W. Bierly
Assistant Secretary
Mrs. Frank W. Anderson
Edward J. Boltz
David DeCosmo
Andrew Hourigan, Jr., Esq.
Rev. Lane D. Kilburn
Dr. Francis Michellini
Roy E. Morgan
Joseph A. Quinn, Jr., Esq.
Edward Schechter

21 December 1972

Andrew Shaw, Jr.
Executive Director

We are delighted to advise you that on January 3rd, at 11 a.m., Jacob Kassab, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, will officially open the reconstructed North Street bridge connecting Wilkes-Barre and Kingston. Immediately after the opening ceremonies on the bridge, there will be a press conference at the Hotel Sterling, followed by a luncheon in the hotel's Blue Room starting at 12 noon.

This luncheon, to which you are cordially invited, will be sponsored by the Flood Recovery Task Force and hosted by the Wyoming Valley Motor Club, David N. Schooley, member of the State Transportation Commission, and several members of the Wilkes-Barre business community. It represents an opportunity to express our appreciation to the State and Federal Departments of Transportation who have cooperated in so quickly restoring to this community this vital North Street bridge link, destroyed by Hurricane Agnes.

Secretary Kassab will invite Governor Milton Shapp to Wilkes-Barre for this occasion, and we hope to have him join us in spite of his heavy commitment to the legislature in the first week of the New Year. The Secretary has also indicated that there will be high level representation from the Federal Department of Transportation.

We hope you will be able to make this meeting as our guest. We look forward to seeing you on January 3rd. Please let Mrs. Alice Ellman at Flood Recovery Task Force headquarters know by December 29th if you will be able to join us.

Very truly yours,

Max Rosenn
are

Max Rosenn
Chairman

Edward Schechter

Edward Schechter
Chairman, Transportation Committee

DRAFT

We are delighted to advise you that 2/20/72

On January 3rd at 11:00 A. M., Jacob Kassab, Secretary of the

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, will officially open

the reconstructed North Street bridge *connecting N & WB* across the Susquehanna River.

Following the ceremonies

There will ~~follow~~ a press conference at the Hotel Sterling and then

a luncheon in the Blue Room starting at 12:00 noon.

Wilkes-Barre Motor Club,

*David N. Schooley, member,
State Transportation
Commission, Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania*

This luncheon, to which you are cordially invited, *will be* sponsored by

the Flood Recovery Task Force, Inc. *and hosted by* AAA, and ~~other~~ members of

the Wilkes-Barre community. It represents an opportunity to express

the community's thanks *to* for the State and Federal Departments of

Transportation who have cooperated in so quickly restoring to this

community this vital North Street *bridge* link, destroyed by Hurricane

Agnes.

will invite

Secretary Kassab ~~hopes to persuade~~ Governor Milton Shapp ~~to come~~

to Wilkes-Barre for this bridge opening, *and we hope to have him join us* in spite of the Governor's

heavy commitment to the legislature *we* in the first week of the *New Year*.

The Secretary has also indicated that there will be high level representation from the Federal Department of Transportation.

We hope you will be able to make this meeting as our guest. We

look forward to seeing you on January 3rd. Will you please let us

know if you can come by _____.

phone? or return post card?

FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

HOTEL STERLING

WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18701

717 - 829-1981

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Andrew Hourigan, Jr., Esq.

Rev. Lane D. Kilburn

Dr. Francis Michelini

Roy E. Morgan

Joseph A. Quinn, Jr., Esq.

Edward Schechter

December 20, 1972

Andrew Shaw, Jr.
Executive Director

To: Andy Shaw or Betty Schechter

Enclosed is a draft of my proposed letter. I think it should go out under my name as Chairman, Transportation Committee, Flood Recovery Task Force, Inc. I would suggest that before it goes out, you check the letter with the following:

1. Max Rosenn, if you think it necessary.
2. David Schooley - ask him if he would like to have his name, or the Boston Store's name, included among the sponsors. He has said he wants to pay for the bar check, and if he wants to be named, then his name should be inserted in the 2nd paragraph, after AAA.
3. Cliff Bigelow, AAA.

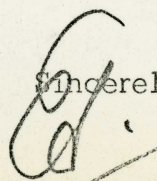
I am getting this letter to you this afternoon so you can be sure to get it in the mail by tomorrow. I think it urgent we get these letters out promptly.

I am also attaching a preliminary list of people to be invited. Please note that Secretary Kassab has assured me he will take care of the invitations to Federal and State DOT.

Also, Cliff Bigelow said he will invite the people from the AAA. In each instance I suggest that a copy of the general invitation letter be sent on to both Kassab and Bigelow, just stating that we expect them to take care of their portion of the invitations but we are sending this letter on to advise them of the notification being issued from your office.

Because the bridge links Wilkes-Barre city and Kingston, we are suggesting inviting the full city councils and both mayors from those communities. However, I believe we should also invite the mayors and/or other principal officials of the West Side communities. Andy Shaw, please use your judgment here. Also, please fill in the additional members of the Task Force than those which I have listed.

Sincerely,



E. Schechter

ES/k

Sens Scott & Schweiken

A. S. to name

Fed Not - Costan tuis
Fentan
+4
+2 -

FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

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Edward Schechter

December 7, 1972

Andrew Shaw, Jr.
Executive Director

E. C. Wideman, Jr., Chairman
Luzerne County Commissioners
Luzerne County Courthouse
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Dear Bud:

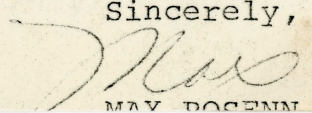
In behalf of the Flood Recovery Task Force, I want to extend our appreciation to you for your participation in the ceremonies last Saturday involving the delegation from Mississippi. I think both of us agree that this was a great experience for the community.

The proffer of help and the concern of the communities on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi is unique in the annals of this country. I think this was best expressed by the telegram of President Nixon. I recently ran into Harrison Smith and he made a very fine suggestion that we recognize this concern and friendship in a lasting manner. He specifically referred to the problems we have with respect to the identification of the Pierce Street Bridge. Sometimes it is referred to as the North Street Bridge and at other times the Pierce Street Bridge. Both of us were of the opinion that since the bridge is about to be renewed that this would be the occasion to perhaps rename the bridge.

Harrison and I were in agreement that it would be a very appropriate gesture on our part to rename this bridge the "Gulf Coast" bridge in honor of the people from Mississippi. We both think this is a great idea and we welcome the support of the County Commissioners for this purpose and suggest that when the bridge is re-opened it be renamed.

I would appreciate the reaction of the County Commissioners.

Sincerely,


MAX ROSENN

FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

HOTEL STERLING

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717 - 829-1981

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Dr. Francis Michelini

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Joseph A. Quinn, Jr., Esq.

Edward Schechter

December 7, 1972

RECEIVED

DEC 11 1972

Andrew Shaw, Jr.
Executive Director

Mayor Con Salwoski
City Hall
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

STRESSTEE

Dear Mayor Salwoski:

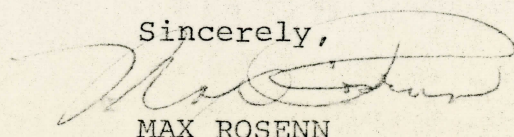
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Harrison and I were in agreement that it would be a very appropriate gesture on our part to rename this bridge the "Gulf Coast" bridge in honor of the people from Mississippi. We both think this is a great idea and we welcome the support of the City of Wilkes-Barre for this purpose and suggest that when the bridge is reopened it be renamed.

I would appreciate the reaction of the City of Wilkes-Barre.

Sincerely,


MAX ROSENN
Chairman

MR:cjc

NORTH STREET

River Street to Pennsylvania Avenue

1	Begin Negative Declaration	12-1-72
2	Initiate Agreement with Redevelopment Authority	12-15-72
3	Negative Declaration to Central Office	12-20-72
4	Negative Declaration Sign Off	3-1-73
5	Execute Agreement with Redevelopment Authority	4-15-73
6	Public Hearing	5-1-73
7	Request Design Approval	6-1-73
8	Design Approval	8-1-73
9	Step No. 9 Field View	10-1-73
10	* Begin Right-of-Way Acquisition <i>by WBRA</i>	10-15-73
11	Step No. 9 Approval	12-1-73
12	Preliminary Field Inspection	3-1-74
13	Final Design Review Conference	5-15-74
14	Preliminary Plan Review	6-1-74
15	Construction Plan to District Office	7-1-74
16	Final Plan Review	8-1-74
17	Construction Plan to Harrisburg	9-1-74
18	Complete Right-of-Way Acquisition	9-15-74
19	Advertise and Let	12-1-74

* This entire profile assumes that WBRA will deliver r-o-w to PennDOT and will start acquisitions by Oct. 73. -

NORTH STREET

Third Avenue to River Street

(Include Stanton)

1	Negative Declaration to Harrisburg	<i>new setting only.</i>	11-1-72
2	Negative Declaration Submitted	<i>form.</i>	11-8-72 ✓
3	Negative Declaration to F.H.W.A.		11-15-72
4	Negative Declaration to Regional Office	<i>(usually Fontan signs off, but because this is ER, may be in Requirement office)</i>	11-22-72
5	Negative Declaration Sign Off		12-29-72
6	Typical Section Approval	<i>- submitted 9/3/72</i>	1-8-73
7	Pre-Public Hearing Field View		2-15-73
8	Advertise for Public Hearing		2-26-73
9	Conduct Public Hearing	<i>(may not be required)</i>	3-19-73
10	Request Design Approval		4-20-73
11	Design Approval		6-4-73
12	Submit T. S. and L.	<i>type in Stanton</i>	7-9-73
13	T. S. and L. Approval		9-10-73
14	Foundation Approval		12-10-73
15	Construction Plan to District		1-15-74
16	Final Plan Review	<i>Buckham & Home may keep up w/ schedule</i>	2-15-74
17	Construction Plan to Harrisburg		3-15-74
18	Advertise and Let		6-15-74

4
Hope to accelerate by 4 months so that contractor can take full advantage of 74 season

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