SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO. | SUBJECT: Walt Whitman Bridge Preferred Alternative for Replacement Deck Type

COMMITTEE: Operations and Maintenance

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: July 16, 2008

BOARD ACTION DATE: August 20, 2008

PROPOSAL: That the Board authorize staff to proceed with the design of the Walt Whitman Bridge replacement deck using the lightweight concrete-filled steel grid deck alternative.

Amount: N/A

Consultant: DMJM+Harris

PURPOSE: To obtain the Board’s concurrence that a steel grid deck, filled with lightweight concrete, is the preferred alternative for use on the upcoming Walt Whitman Bridge deck replacement project.

BACKGROUND: The existing deck on the Walt Whitman Bridge consists of a concrete-filled steel grid which has been in service for the past 51 years. The deck is nearing the end of its useful life and replacement is warranted in the near future. In June 2007 the Board authorized staff to negotiate an agreement with DMJM + Harris to provide design and construction consultation services for the Walt Whitman Bridge Suspension Span Deck Replacement. The design of the Walt Whitman Bridge deck replacement has progressed to the point where a policy decision is required in order to proceed and advance this project to construction.

Two different deck types (orthotropic steel and concrete filled steel grid) were determined to be the most feasible candidates for the replacement. Each alternative requires the development of design details which are unique to that specific deck type. Each alternative was evaluated in sufficient detail to determine the advantages/disadvantages and to identify any “fatal flaws” which would preclude their use. From a technical perspective, both deck types are feasible and can be designed to provide the necessary functionality and load carrying capacity.

The professional engineering design consultant has recommended the use of a steel grid deck filled with lightweight concrete as the preferred...
alternative. Engineering staff have reviewed the consultant’s recommendation, the conceptual designs for each alternative and the advantages and disadvantages of each, and advocates the use of a steel grid deck filled with lightweight concrete.

It is recommended that the design for the Walt Whitman Bridge deck replacement project proceed using a steel grid deck filled with lightweight concrete in accordance with the consultant’s recommendation.

SUMMARY:

| Amount:       | N/A          |
| Source of Funding: | 1999 Revenue Bonds, General Fund |
| Operating Budget: | N/A          |
| Capital Project #: | WB0702       |
| Master Plan Status: | Pending      |
| Other Fund Sources: | N/A          |
| Duration of Contract: | 15 Months   |
| Other Parties Involved: | N/A          |
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board of Commissioners of the Delaware River Port Authority accepts the recommendation to proceed with the design of the replacement deck for the Walt Whitman Bridge using the lightweight concrete-filled steel grid alternative, as per the attached Summary Statement; and be it further

RESOLVED: The Chair, Vice Chair and the Chief Executive Officer must approve and are hereby authorized to approve and execute all necessary agreements, contracts, or other documents on behalf of the DRPA. If such agreements, contracts, or other documents have been approved by the Chair, Vice Chair and Chief Executive Officer, and if thereafter, either the Chair or Vice Chair is absent or unavailable, the remaining Officer may execute the said document(s) on behalf of DRPA, along with the Chief Executive Officer. If both the Chair and Vice Chair are absent or unavailable, and if it is necessary to execute the said document(s), while they are absent or unavailable, then the Chief Executive Officer shall execute such document(s) on behalf of DRPA.

SUMMARY:
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