SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO.: DRPA-11-072
SUBJECT: Girl Scouts of New Jersey 100th Year Anniversary Bridging Ceremony Support Services and Restricted Public Access to Ben Franklin Bridge Walkway

COMMITTEE: New Business

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: N/A

BOARD ACTION DATE: September 21, 2011

PROPOSAL: That the Board authorizes staff to provide support services and temporarily restrict public access to the Ben Franklin Bridge walkway during the Girl Scouts of New Jersey 100th Year Anniversary Bridging Ceremony to be held on Sunday, November 13, 2011 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Amount: $540 (estimated)

PURPOSE: To temporarily restrict access to the Ben Franklin Bridge walkway from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to the general public during this scheduled organized community crossing event with operational services consisting of signage fabrication and placement by Bridge Operations and Public Safety presence on the day of the event.

BACKGROUND: The Ben Franklin Bridge walkway is open to the public daily from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. weather permitting. The walkway closure time is extended to 9 p.m. annually from May 1 to September 30.

The Girl Scouts of New Jersey will hold its annual event on Sunday, November 13, 2011 from approximately 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The event is part of a national “bridging ceremony” celebration and consists of a one-way walk from Camden to Philadelphia. Approximately 5,000 participants including Girl Scouts ranging in ages from 5 to 18 years of age, parents, troop leaders, Girl Scout staff and volunteers are expected to attend. The event is in commemoration of Girl Scouts’ 100th Year Anniversary.

DRPA received a written request for walkway access to the Ben Franklin Bridge in a timely fashion prior to the requested access date. DRPA staff circulated this request among the following DRPA management staff for review and approval: CEO, COO, Bridge
Director, Police Chief, Chief Engineer, Director of Risk Management/Safety, General Counsel, Director of Homeland Security and other designated Operations staff. DRPA Operations and Public Safety Departments have reviewed the request and recommends restricted walkway access to the general public for this event based on the estimated number of participants. The temporary closure time is expected to be from 10:00 a.m. to approximately 3:00 p.m. DRPA will provide appropriate notice of restricted public access via onsite signage, press advisories, email broadcasting and website notification. The requesting organization is willing to comply with all requisite walkway rules and insurance/indemnification requirements.

SUMMARY: It is recommended that the Board authorize DRPA to provide restricted public access to the Ben Franklin Bridge walkway for the Girl Scouts of New Jersey 100th Year Anniversary Bridging Ceremony event scheduled on Sunday, November 13, 2011, along with support services by DRPA Bridge Operations for signage fabrication and placement ($220) and Public Safety presence ($320) not to exceed a total of $540.

Source of Funds:  
Amount: $540  
Source of Funds: Operating Budget (if necessary)  
Capital Project #: N/A.  
Operating Budget: $540  
Master Plan Status: N/A  
Other Fund Sources: N/A  
Duration of Contract: N/A  
Other Parties Involved: N/A
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes staff to temporarily restrict public access to the Ben Franklin Bridge walkway from 10:00 a.m. to approximately 3:00 p.m. during the proposed Girl Scouts of New Jersey 100th Year Anniversary Bridging Ceremony event on Sunday, November 13, 2011 which will be held on the walkway from approximately 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. as part of a national “bridging ceremony” celebration and to provide Bridge Operations and Public Safety support services at a cost not anticipated to exceed $540.

SUMMARY:

Amount: $540
Source of Funds: Operating Budget
Capital Project #: N/A
Operating Budget: $540
Master Plan Status: N/A
Other Fund Sources: N/A
Duration of Contract: N/A
Other Parties Involved: N/A