SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO: DRPA-14-145  SUBJECT: 2015 Charity Event Bridge Closures at BFB, CBB & BRB

COMMITTEE: New Business

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: N/A

BOARD ACTION DATE: December 10, 2014

PROPOSAL: That the Board authorizes staff to provide overtime labor support for five (5) annual charity events during the period of January, 2015 through December, 2015 that involve bridge roadway or ramp closures at three of our four bridges; three (3) events at the Benjamin Franklin Bridge, one (1) event at the Commodore Barry Bridge and one (1) event at the Betsy Ross Bridge.

PURPOSE: To allow DRPA to provide Construction & Maintenance support for sign placement, lane closures, and traffic control; Public Safety support; and Information Services (IS) support, as needed, for the events.

BACKGROUND: Over the past several years, DRPA has permitted bridge roadway and/or ramp closures, generally during off-peak periods of lower traffic volume (such as early weekend or holiday mornings) for charity-related events. Coordination with local and state police and transportation agencies, as well as extensive public notice, helps ensure safe, efficient bridge closures that minimize the impact to the traveling public.

The Sunday bridge closure hours for the three (3) events that utilize the Ben Franklin Bridge range from approximately 5:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. These closures are well-publicized throughout the region on local media, media advisories, DRPA e-alerts, social media, website, and VMS displays. New Jersey and Pennsylvania Departments of Transportation also provide support by posting closure alerts on VMS boards on roads approaching the BFB for several days prior to the closures.

Due to this advanced notice, it is anticipated that drivers will either divert to another DRPA bridge during the closure hours, or advance or delay their departure times in consideration of these closures.

Below is a listing of dates, descriptions, approximate closure duration and approximate labor costs to DRPA for each of the five (5) charity event-related bridge or ramp closures during the period of January, 2015 through December, 2015.
Saturday, May 10, 2015 - Police Unity Tour at CBB. The primary purpose of the Police Unity Tour is to raise awareness of and to honor law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. An additional goal is to raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and Museum. For several years, the Commodore Barry Bridge has been closed for approximately 15-20 minutes to accommodate participating bicyclists. The group bikes from North Jersey to the National Law Enforcement Officers’ Memorial in Washington, DC.

2015 Estimated Costs

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<tr>
<td>Bridge Operations Support</td>
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<td>Public Safety Support</td>
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<td>Impact on DRPA toll revenue</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
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<td>Total Cost =</td>
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Monday, May 25, 2015 - United Veterans of Bridesburg Parade at BRB. This parade honors veterans and military personnel on Memorial Day. Since 1989, DRPA has accommodated the United Veterans of Bridesburg Parade by closing the Betsy Ross Bridge’s Richmond Street exit ramp during this event which takes place from approximately 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The bridge roadway remains open. Only the Richmond Street ramp is closed.

2015 Estimated Costs:

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<tr>
<td>Bridge Operations Support</td>
<td>$ 800</td>
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<td>Public Safety Support</td>
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<td>Impact on DRPA toll revenue</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$ 800</td>
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Sunday, June 14, 2015 - American Cancer Society Annual Bike-A-Thon at BFB. For more than 40 years, DRPA has allowed use of the Ben Franklin Bridge roadway to accommodate this bike ride from Philadelphia to Hammonton, New Jersey. The Bike-A-Thon attracts more than 4,000 riders and raises funds for cancer research, and provides special services to cancer patients. Bridge is closed from approximately 5:45 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

2015 Estimated Costs:
- Bridge Operations Support $3,200
- Public Safety Support $1,700
- IS Tech Support $500
- Impact on DRPA toll revenue $0
- Total Cost = $5,480

Sunday, July 19, 2015 - Irish Pub Foundation Tour De Shore. For over 20 years, the Tour de Shore has crossed the Ben Franklin Bridge for this charity event that begins in Philadelphia and ends in Atlantic City. For many years, the event took place on the BFB footwalk but because the number of participants has grown to approximately 2,000, the event has moved to the roadway. Proceeds benefit law enforcement charities and surviving family members of police and firefighters throughout the region. For the past several years, DRPA has allowed closure of the BFB roadway in both directions from approximately 6:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

2015 Estimated Costs:
- Bridge Operations Support $3,200
- Public Safety Support $1,300
- IS Tech Support $500
- Impact on DRPA toll revenue $0
- Total Cost = $5,080
Sunday, November 1, 2015 - Ben Franklin Bridge Run for Larc School
For more than 10 years, DRPA has hosted the Run the Bridge race on the Ben Franklin Bridge. This event which is a premier 10K run in the region, supports the Larc School in Bellmawr, New Jersey, which serves students with a wide range of moderate to severe disabilities. For this event, the BFB is closed from approximately 7:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

2015 Estimated Costs:
- Bridge Operations Support $3,400
- Public Safety Support $1,300
- IS Tech Support $500
- Impact on DRPA toll revenue $0
Total Cost = $5,120

SUMMARY: Amount: $16,480
Source of Funds: Operating Budget
Capital Project #: N/A
Operating Budget: $16,480
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 DRPA to provide overtime labor support for five (5) 2015 annual charity events during the period of January, 2015 through December, 2015 involving bridge roadway or ramp closures, three (3) at the Benjamin Franklin Bridge, one (1) at the Commodore Barry Bridge and one (1) on the Betsy Ross Bridge Richmond Street ramp.

SUMMARY:

- Amount: $16,480
- Source of Funds: Operating Budget
- Capital Project #: N/A
- Operating Budget: $16,480
- Master Plan Status: N/A
- Other Fund Sources: N/A
- Duration of Contract: N/A
- Other Parties Involved: N/A