SUMMARY STATEMENT


COMMITTEE: Operations & Maintenance

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: October 6, 2015

BOARD ACTION DATE: October 21, 2015

PROPOSAL: That the Board authorizes staff to provide labor support for five (5) annual charity events during the period of January, 2016 through December, 2016 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 on the traveling public.

There are three (3) Sunday events that close the Ben Franklin Bridge for periods of up to two (2) hours on designated Sundays between 5:30 a.m. and 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, 2016 through December, 2016.

**Tuesday, May 10, 2016 – 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 20 minutes in the westbound direction to accommodate the arrival of participating bicyclists. The group bikes from North Jersey to the National Law Enforcement Officer’s Memorial in Washington, DC.

**2016 Estimated Costs:**
- Bridge Operations Support: $0
- Public Safety Support: $0
- Impact on DRPA toll revenue: $0

**Total Cost:** $0

**Monday, May 30, 2016 – United Veterans of Bridesburg Parade at BRB.** This parade honors veterans and military personnel on Memorial Day. Since 1989, the 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 am to 12:30 pm. The bridge roadway remains open. Only the Richmond Street ramp is closed.

**2016 Estimated Costs:**
- Bridge Operations Support: $800
- Public Safety Support: $0
- Impact on DRPA toll revenue: $0

**Total Cost:** $800

**Sunday, June 12, 2016 – American Cancer Society Annual Bike-A-Thon at the BFB.** For more than 40 years, the 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 raises funds for cancer research, and provides special services to cancer patients. For this event, the DRPA has allowed closure of the roadway in both directions for approximately two (2) hours.
2016 Estimated Costs:
- Bridge Operations Support: $3200
- Public Safety Support: $1700
- IS Tech Support: $500
- Impact on DRPA toll revenue: $0

Total Cost: $5400

Sunday, July 17, 2016 – 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. Proceeds benefit law enforcement charities and surviving family of police and firefighters throughout the region. For this event, the DRPA has allowed closure of the roadway in both directions for approximately two (20) hours.

2016 Estimated Costs:
- Bridge Operations Support: $3200
- Public Safety Support: $1700
- IT Tech Support: $500
- Impact on DRPA toll revenue: $0

Total Cost: $5400

Sunday, November 6, 2016 – Ben Franklin Bridge Run for LARC School. For more than ten (10) years, the 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, DRPA has allowed closure of the roadway in both directions for approximately two (2) hours.

2016 Estimated Costs:
- Bridge Operations Support: $3400
- Public Safety Support: $1700
- IS Tech Support: $500
- Impact on DRPA toll revenue: $0

Total Cost: $5600
SUMMARY:  
Amount: $17,200  
Source of Funds: Operating Budget  
Capital Project #: N/A  
Operating Budget: $17,200  
Master Plan Status: N/A  
Other Funds Source: N/A  
Duration of Contract: N/A  
Other Parties Involved: N/A
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board hereby authorizes DRPA to provide labor support for five (5) 2016 annual charity events during the period of January, 2016 through December, 2016 involving bridge roadway or ramp closures, three (3) at the Benjamin Franklin Bridge, one (1) at the Commodore Barry Bridge and one (1) at the Betsy Ross Bridge, Richmond Street ramp.

SUMMARY:

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