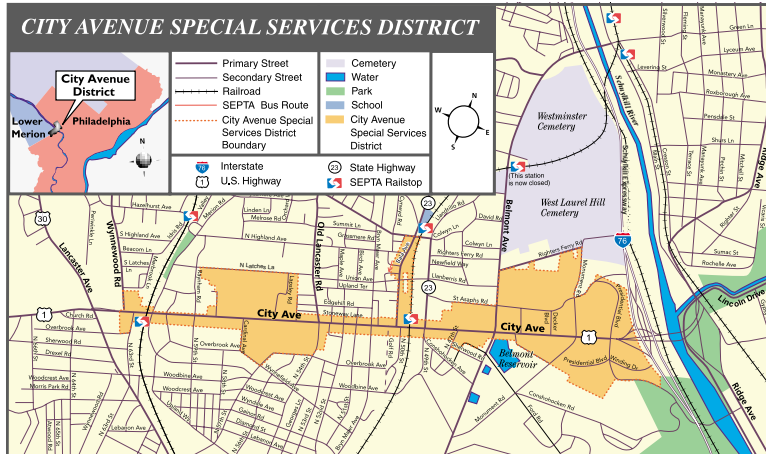


Inside:

Information on the new
City Avenue Shuttle

Inside:
The New
City Avenue
Shuttle

PennDOT Construction of City Avenue Bridges



Phase I: May 17, 2000

- Southbound Ridge Avenue motorists will have to use the northbound Ridge Avenue ramp to reach southbound City Avenue.
- The southbound City Avenue left lane closed on May 17, 2000 for seven months.
- The southbound City Avenue ramp to I-76 East will close on May 17, 2000 to trucks.
- Trucks wanting to access I-76 East will follow southbound City Avenue to Belmont Avenue to the I-76 interchange.

Phase II: January 2001 to May 2001

- Southbound Ridge Avenue motorists will have to use the northbound Ridge Avenue ramp to reach southbound City Avenue.
- Crews will restrict the southbound City Avenue center lane from January 2001 through May 2001.

Phase III: May 2001 to May 2002

- Southbound Ridge Avenue motorists will have to use the northbound Ridge Avenue ramp to reach southbound City Avenue.
- Construction will occur on the southbound City Avenue right lane from May 2001 through May 2002.
- The southbound City Avenue ramp to I-76 West will close to trucks.
- Trucks wanting to access I-76 West will follow southbound City Avenue to Belmont Avenue to the I-76 interchange.

Construction started on May 15, 2000 on a two-year, \$8.7 million project to repair and replace two bridges on southbound City Avenue, near the Interstate 76 (Schuylkill Expressway) interchange in Philadelphia.

Over the next two years, motorists will face lane closures while southbound City Avenue is reduced from three lanes to two on the seven-span steel I-beam bridge over the Schuylkill River. Lane closures will also occur on southbound City Avenue's three-span structure over ramps to Lincoln Drive and Kelly Drive. In addition, PennDOT will close the Ridge Avenue ramp to southbound City Avenue for the duration of the project and implement temporary closures of the southbound City Avenue ramps to I-76.

"This is a major transportation improvement project that will be done in stages to keep sufficient traffic moving

while we rebuild the bridges," PennDOT District Administrator Andrew L. Warren said. "The operation is complicated because the bridges sit within a confluence of ramps leading to multiple roadways."

As described above, PennDOT crews will rebuild the two southbound City Avenue bridges in three phases.

PennDOT is rebuilding the southbound City Avenue bridge over the northbound City Avenue ramp to Lincoln Drive and Kelly Drive. The bridge was built in 1964. It is a three-span pre-stressed concrete beam structure that carries 6,923 vehicles a day. Construction is scheduled to finish in November 2002.

For more information, visit the PennDOT web site at www.dot.state.pa.us.



John J. Falkenstein joined the City Avenue Special Services District as one of our original CSRs on August 2, 1999. John, who is twenty-two years old, was born and raised in Delaware County. He attended Widener University as an English Major, where he played varsity lacrosse as well. John likes working with the public and assisting people. He presently lives in Drexel Hill. When you see John riding his bicycle in the District, stop him and say hello.

City Avenue Special Services District Board of Directors

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Developments in the District

On Monday, July 31st, the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) and PECO Energy Company will sponsor the "Philadelphia Area National Night Out Kickoff Festival" in the parking lot of the GSB Building located at City Avenue and Belmont Avenue in Bala Cynwyd.

The event, which will be hosted by the Lower Merion Community Watch, will run from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Admission is free. The cost of a food ticket is \$3.00 per person. This year's festival will feature a spectacular laser light show finale at 8:45 p.m.

Entertainment will include the Phillie Phanatic, live music by Johnnie's Dance Band, carnival games, clowns, a puppeteer, face painters, a stilt walker, and police and fire equipment.

The City Avenue Special Services District is a supporter of the festival and will have our Community Service Representatives (CSRs) in attendance. National Night Out is designed to heighten crime/drug prevention awareness, generate support for local anticrime efforts, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

For further information contact Matt Peskin, Executive Director, National Association of Town Watch at (610) 649-7055.

The Adam's Mark Hotel, Philadelphia will be unveiling the newly renovated Quincey's Ballroom during the first week of August 2000. This Ballroom will include 4,700 square feet of space with the capacity to accommodate 300 - 400 people. Special features include self-contained private bathrooms within the facility, as well as two foyers and two entrances. For more information call the Adam's Mark Hotel, Philadelphia at (215) 581-5000.

Herbert Yentis & Company Realtors has leased 2,000 square feet of office space to VistaCare, Inc. at 200 Monument Road in Bala Cynwyd. VistaCare is a major national provider of hospice care. Herbert Yentis & Company is the exclusive leasing and managing agent for 200 Monument Road.

Tower Realty Management Corp. has made the following leases: Synerfac, Inc. at One Bala Plaza; Toby Frank Zachian, MD at Two Bala Plaza; and Intercall, Inc., The Prudential Insurance Co. of America, and Harry M. Byrne, Esquire at Three Bala Plaza.

With the Mass of the Holy Spirit on September 14, 2000, Saint Joseph's University kicks off a year-long celebration of its sesqui-centennial, marking the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1851.

The placement of a new A-frame roof on John R. Post Hall caps the building's transformation into a high-tech home for several key departments in Saint Joseph's College of Arts and Sciences.

the Director's



David L. Cohen, AICP
Executive Director

The City Avenue Special Services District is making great strides on the development of a streetscape improvement plan and the creation of a shuttle bus for the City Avenue area. These projects will improve the appearance of the City Avenue area and access within the area.

Streetscape Plan

The City Avenue Special Services District recently retained Cape Linder Architects as the lead consultant for a Mapping, Streetscape Design and Code Review Project for the City Avenue area. The Project will be a key step in planning for the future look of City Avenue and other streets in the District. The main goal of the project is to develop a plan that will lead to the implementation of visual and design improvements to the streets and public areas within the District.

Elements of the Mapping, Streetscape Design and Code Review Project include:

- Establishing detailed base maps of the District to include parking lots, traffic signals, buildings, trees, fences and other objects;
- Reviewing existing ordinances, plans and reports, including transportation studies and sign ordinances;
- Developing a design for the gateways to City Avenue, focusing on the intersection of City Avenue and Presidential Boulevard, and the area near City Avenue and Wynnewood Road;
- Developing a landscaping and sign improvement plan for the area along City Avenue between Bala Avenue and 54th Street;
- Development of a plan for improved landscaping and lighting in other areas within the District; and
- Identifying funding opportunities

including governmental and private funding for implementing the proposed improvements.

The consulting team was selected through a competitive bid process and they bring extensive experience to the Project. Joining Cape Linder Architects on the consulting team are Gannet-Fleming, Inc., Grenalad-Waldron Associates, and Joel Katz design associates.

Cape Linder Architects will lead the consulting team and focus on urban design, planning, landscape architecture and ordinance review. Their experience includes leading the design work for the \$26 million streetscape improvement project in Center City Philadelphia.

Gannet-Fleming, Inc. will do mapping, ordinance evaluation and conduct funding research. They are presently working on a computerized mapping system for the Philadelphia Department of Streets.

Grenalad-Waldron Associates will focus on lighting design.

They have previously worked on the University of Pennsylvania Campus Lighting Master Plan, and the Schuylkill River Bridge lighting project.

Joel Katz design associates will review existing signs and establish guidelines for new signs. Joel Katz design associates developed the Walk/Philadelphia mapping and sign system and have done campus maps for the University of Pennsylvania and Temple University.

Shuttle Bus

The City Avenue Special Services District was recently awarded a one-year, \$431,000 grant for the operation of a shuttle bus, which will operate in the District. The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) awarded the grant, under their Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program. The bus will be a smaller vehicle than existing SEPTA buses and will seat approximately 20 people. The shuttle bus route, schedule, fee structure and operations plan are being developed, with a start date tentatively scheduled for later this year.

Grant Awarded

The City Ave Special Services District is pleased to announce the receipt of a \$200,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. PA Representative Lita Indzel Cohen, who is also a District Board member, played a key role in securing the grant for the District, which will be used to help support its programming and operations.

contactcityave

Please send comments, suggestions or submissions to:

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