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Philadelphia City Planning Commission

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PLANNING COMMISSION COMPLETES EVALUATION OF STADIUM ACCESS ISSUES

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PLANNING COMMISSION COMPLETES EVALUATION OF STADIUM ACCESS ISSUES

Study examined ways to improve transit services and optimize delivery and circulation of fans attending events at the newly expanded Sports Complex

PHILADELPHIA, PA - The Philadelphia City Planning Commission (PCPC) has recently accepted a consultant study of how the experience of attending events at Philadelphia's Sports Complex can be improved through better transit access and pedestrian circulation.

The study's main goal is to reconnect the Sports Complex to the rest of the City. Key recommendations include:

- Restoration and extension of SEPTA's Route 23 trolley to provide service between the Sports Complex and the Pennsylvania Convention Center.
- Enhancement of pedestrian paths and walkways with signs and fences to guide pedestrians to the stadiums safely.

The study was completed in June by a consultant team led by Kise Straw Kolodner, Inc. (KSK). The consultant team reviewed transit industry trends for connecting new sports venues to transit infrastructure; conducted on-site inspections of Pattison Station, the new ballparks, the Spectrum, Wachovia Center, and all adjoining parking lots; and interviewed key officials including representatives of the sports teams. PCPC also distributed thousands of questionnaires over a period of five months to understand exactly where people patronizing events at the Sports Complex come from and how they get there.

"The Stadium Area Transit Study will aid in sustaining the Sports Complex area as a prime venue not only for national sports, but also for events of all kinds," said Secretary of Strategic Planning & PCPC Executive Director Maxine Griffith. She also stressed that potential development along the South Delaware Riverfront may be facilitated

by the recommended improvements since current traffic capacity constraints will not be solved by building more and more parking lots. "We believe that transit plays a critical role in the ability of the venues to host sizable events while not holding visitors hostage to a slow and often unpleasant arrival and departure experience".

The KSK consultant team performed its work under the guidance of an Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from City agencies, the **Sports Complex Special Services District**, SEPTA, and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC).

The City administration, in conjunction with SEPTA and the sports teams, will next prepare an implementation plan and process for the study's recommendations.

A grant award from DVRPC's Transit Support Program provided federal funding for the study.

The Philadelphia City Planning Commission and its professional staff guide the orderly growth and development of Philadelphia to benefit the wide range of people who live in, work in, and visit our great city.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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