US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

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| 7 | PROJECT XL MEETING |
| 8 | ON THE |
| 9 | ATLANTIC STEEL REDEVELOPMENT |
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| 15 | Held In |
| 16 | Atlanta, Georgia |
| 17 | Thursday, February 11, 1999 |
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- 1 MS. GLENN: As you all are aware, this is
- 2 a meeting getting ready to go to public notice on phase
- 3 one of the agreement, and you are going to hear a little
- 4 bit about what that agreement entails. We are going to
- 5 talk to you a little bit about what Project XL is and
- 6 how we are using it in this instance, and we are also
- 7 going to give you an overview of one of the more
- 8 complicated regulatory processes that will come down the
- 9 road. And that's just kind of a taste. It's going to
- 10 be an introduction so you have a better idea when other
- 11 opportunities will come up to comment on different
- 12 parts.
- We are also going to do a question and answer
- 14 session at the end. We are allowing about an hour for
- 15 that, but certainly what we want to do is address as
- 16 many questions as we can tonight. After starting late,
- 17 we are certainly not going to send anyone out the door
- 18 at nine. We will stay as long as we need to to make
- 19 sure that the questions get addressed.
- There are handouts in the back. One of the
- 21 key handouts is an acronym sheet that's going to help
- 22 you I think, because, as in a lot of regulatory
- 23 processes, we kind of have our own language. As much as
- 24 we can we are not going to use acronyms, but there is so
- 25 much information to cover that that little cheat sheet I

- 1 think will help a lot. It will help you understand what
- 2 it is we are talking about.
- 3 I'm going to ask that you do hold your
- 4 questions to the end of the presentations just because
- 5 some of the materials might answer your question. You
- 6 never know. If you have a question that comes up during
- 7 the process of when we are discussing, you can use the
- 8 comment sheets in the back and that way you won't forget
- 9 it and make sure we address it. I'm also going to ask,
- 10 and I'll try and do a reminder when we get to question
- 11 and answer session, that when you raise your hand and
- 12 ask a question, if you would identify yourself, just
- 13 give us your name, and maybe if you are affiliated with
- 14 someone you can say that, or resident or citizen or
- 15 interested public, but just so our court reporter has an
- 16 opportunity to include that and give us a complete
- 17 record. This is something we haven't done in the past,
- 18 and that is we've asked somebody to come and record the
- 19 meeting so we could give our full attention to you and
- 20 your questions and not have to worry about taking notes.
- 21 The record of the meeting will be available on EPA's web
- 22 site and on request if you call me.
- Before we start the question and answer
- 24 session, I am going to come through and give you a
- 25 little bit more information on how we'd like to handle

- 1 that. I want to make sure that I introduce some people
- 2 that are here tonight. Tim Torma is here from our
- 3 Office of Reinvention. He is with our headquarters
- 4 program, and the XL Project is kind of owned by them.
- 5 Tim is my cohort in Washington. Stan Meiburg is here,
- 6 our Deputy Regional Administrator. Brian Holtzclaw is
- 7 our Environmental Justice Coordinator. Carl Terry is
- 8 here. If you are with the press, I'd appreciate it if
- 9 you'd let Carl know just so he can make sure you get any
- 10 information you need, or any follow-up we need to
- 11 provide you, that we can do that through his office.
- 12 Jim Kutzman is here. He is Deputy Director of our Air
- 13 Division. Kelly Sheckler is our conformity expert in
- 14 the region. Rob Goodwin is working on the project from
- 15 our Air Division. He'll be talking to you later a
- 16 little bit about some of those processes. Brian Leary
- 17 and Charlie Brown are co-sponsoring our meeting. They
- 18 are actually the project sponsor and will be here as
- 19 well. They represent Jacoby Development.
- Is there anybody else? Raise your hand if you
- 21 want to be recognized as part of the government team.
- 22 I'm Michelle Glenn. I'm the Region Four XL Coordinator
- 23 and I'm also the project lead on this project.
- On that note, Charlie will give you kind of an
- 25 overview of what's planned at the Atlantic Steel site as

- 1 the redevelopment, and then after Charlie has done that,
- 2 Tim will be up.
- MR. BROWN: Good evening and thank you
- 4 for coming. We appreciate that. If you look up here
- 5 and you see one of my eyes closed, I'm not getting bored
- 6 at what I've got to say and going to sleep. I've just
- 7 got a little lazy eyelid here tonight. I do want to
- 8 take just a minute to give you status as to where we
- 9 are. Some of you have been involved in this for close
- 10 to two years like some of us have, and some of you this
- 11 may be the first time that you have been exposed to the
- 12 project.
- We are, to say in a word, in the process of
- 14 getting the permission to build and we are in the design
- 15 and development phase of a mix-used complex on the
- 16 Atlantic Steel property, which, as you know, is at the
- 17 intersection of 75 and 85 at 16th Street and Mecaslin,
- 18 running all the way through to Northside Drive. There
- 19 is some illustrations of possible projects just over on
- 20 the east wall of the building here; and if you have any
- 21 questions about those afterwards, maybe Brian and I can
- 22 discuss it with you.
- The status is that approximately a year ago
- 24 the property zoning was changed from industrial to mixed
- 25 use. What that really meant was that there would be a

- 1 residential addition to the property with a certain
- 2 level of quality required in the conditions, and it also
- 3 had to do with limiting the density which would be on
- 4 the property. We are presently involved in the planning
- 5 of the project and working with various users,
- 6 residential, retail, office, and high-tech occupants,
- 7 but the process has to be completed through the
- 8 regulatory agencies. And that means that the City of
- 9 Atlanta, the State of Georgia, the Atlanta Regional
- 10 Commission, the Federal Highway Administration, the
- 11 Environmental Protection Agency, and the Georgia EPD
- 12 have to look at the project to see that it meets the
- 13 requirements necessary for the development for the
- 14 zoning conditions, for the Clean Air Act, and just
- 15 general conditions relative to the environment.
- 16 At the present time the project is being
- 17 submitted to ARC, ARC being Atlanta Regional Commission,
- 18 as a possible TCM, Transportation Control Measure, which
- 19 says that the project, because of its land use, would
- 20 qualify as something that would be helpful in the
- 21 overall region from an air-quality standpoint. And, of
- 22 course, the brownfield development, the remediation of
- 23 the Atlantic Steel site is an important part of that.
- That's where we are. The schedule is that
- 25 regulatory process would continue through this year, and

- 1 hopefully all of those agencies would agree and we could
- 2 actually start the remediation of the project sometime
- 3 during 1999 and then put in the infrastructure during
- 4 the beginning of the year 2000, so that you could have
- 5 vertical development beginning sometime in the year
- 6 2000, hopefully with an opening of the initial phase of
- 7 the project in the year 2001.
- 8 At this point in time, there is significant
- 9 interest in doing all of the uses that I mentioned.
- 10 There would be residential, which would include rental
- 11 and ownership; there would be retail, which would
- 12 include entertainment and retail; there would be
- 13 offices, both in general office and high-tech; and there
- 14 is also interest from the hospitality industry for a
- 15 hotel.
- That is where we stand, and be happy to answer
- 17 any questions.
- MS. GLENN: Thanks, Charlie. Tim, you
- 19 want to go ahead and kind of give people some
- 20 background?
- MR. TORMA: My name again is Tim Torma.
- 22 I work at EPA's Office of Reinvention in Washington.
- 23 The Office of Reinvention is the home to this Project XL
- 24 that you've been hearing people mention. I want to talk
- 25 to you mostly about three things tonight. One is what

- 1 is Project XL, and the second is why does Project XL
- 2 need to be involved with this redevelopment, and the
- 3 third is to talk to you about the phase one project
- 4 agreement that Michelle mentioned and I believe there
- 5 are still copies available in the back.
- 6 Project XL is a Presidential initiative and
- 7 it's part of the EPA's effort to reevaluate the way its
- 8 regulations and policies work and to improve the way it
- 9 does business. The very short version of the way
- 10 Project XL works is that it poses a challenge to
- 11 companies like Jacoby, and the challenge is, if you have
- 12 a problem with an EPA rule or if you think you know a
- 13 way to do something that would be better for the
- 14 environment but EPA's rules or policies won't let you do
- 15 it, come to us with your idea and tell us why our rule
- 16 is in your way and why your way would be better than the
- 17 EPA would allow. And that's basically what the
- 18 developers of the Atlantic Steel site have done.
- 19 They've come to us with such a proposal, and I'll talk
- 20 to you a little bit more about it. If EPA is convinced
- 21 an idea like that will actually result in superior
- 22 environmental performance, then we are willing to give
- 23 flexibility from the rule or policy that is preventing
- 24 it from happening.
- That brings us to the question why does XL

- 1 need to be involved with this particular redevelopment.
- 2 There are two big picture reasons. The first is an
- 3 integral part of this redevelopment, a very key part of
- 4 it from everyone's standpoint, is a bridge across
- 5 Interstate 75-85 that would link the Atlantic Steel site
- 6 with the opposite side of the interstate, the transit,
- 7 and other parts of the community that exist on the other
- 8 side of the interstate. I'm going to tell you in a few
- 9 moments why they need flexibility or Project XL is
- 10 needed in order for that bridge to happen.
- The second big reason why XL is part of this
- 12 project is because EPA, along with Jacoby, believe that
- 13 the project, if it's implemented as will be described in
- 14 the project agreement available tonight and a subsequent
- 15 agreement, that it will be good for the environment,
- 16 that it will have a beneficial impact.
- Now, to explain why the bridge can't happen
- 18 without some sort of regulatory flexibility, this is a
- 19 really complex issue. I'm going to try to give the
- 20 simplest version I can, and I hope I can make it
- 21 understandable in a relatively short version. Atlanta
- 22 is out of compliance with federal Clean Air Act
- 23 standards. What being out of compliance or out of
- 24 conformity means is that the Atlanta region was unable
- 25 to come up with a transportation plan that would comply

- 1 with federal air quality standards. What does that
- 2 mean? The consequence of being out of conformity for
- 3 the Atlanta region is that no new road projects that
- 4 need federal money or federal approval can occur while a
- 5 region is out of conformity. So that is the case in
- 6 Atlanta right now. That restriction on new road
- 7 projects would apply to the bridge that would cross
- 8 75-85 and link this side of the interstate with the
- 9 other side of the interstate. That's where the Atlantic
- 10 Steel project and Project XL meet. In order to do the
- 11 Atlantic Steel project, the bridge needs to be built,
- 12 and right now there is a restriction on building of road
- 13 projects.
- But there are some exceptions to conformity
- 15 lapse, the restriction on building during a conformity
- 16 lapse. One is what Mr. Brown mentioned earlier, and
- 17 that is called a Transportation Control Measure or a
- 18 TCM. A TCM is a measure which will reduce emissions
- 19 rather than increase them, a transportation measure that
- 20 will end up reducing air emissions. TCMs are allowed to
- 21 be constructed or to go forward even during a conformity
- 22 lapse like we have in Atlanta right now.
- 23 So Jacoby's proposal to EPA is essentially
- 24 that they believe and came to us with the prospect that
- 25 this development, including the bridge and the

- 1 redevelopment itself, should be considered as a TCM
- 2 because of numerous reasons which I'll touch on in a
- 3 moment. They believe and asked us to consider whether
- 4 or not it would actually reduce air emissions as opposed
- 5 to increasing them. EPA is intending to use flexibility
- 6 under Project XL to evaluate this project and find out
- 7 whether it in fact is a TCM or will qualify as a TCM.
- Now, that brings us to why do we think it
- 9 might be a TCM, why do we think it will be good for the
- 10 environment. There are a lot of details about precisely
- 11 why that are spelled out in the project agreement which
- 12 is available and we encourage you all to look at and
- 13 comment on. But generally the reasons include the fact
- 14 that the existing site is a contaminated urban
- 15 brownfield and it would be cleaned up on a faster pace,
- 16 if this project is able to go through, and put to good
- 17 use.
- We also believe that from the air quality
- 19 standpoint there would be benefits to putting the amount
- 20 of growth that this development involves in the location
- 21 of the Atlantic Steel site as opposed to where that
- 22 growth would likely occur elsewhere in the region. In
- 23 other words, the Atlantic Steel site is a regionally
- 24 central location. Growth I think, as you all know, and
- 25 you don't need somebody from Washington to come down and

- 1 tell you there are sprawl and transportation problems
- 2 and that growth has been occurring outwards as opposed

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- 3 to where infrastructure exists. We believe that, if the
- 4 development goes forward here, it will result in more
- 5 regionally central growth which will in turn reduce
- 6 future air emissions.
- 7 Some of the other aspects of the project that
- 8 we think will lead to superior environmental performance
- 9 include the linkage to mass transport that's being
- 10 committed to. There will be a linkage from the site to
- 11 the MARTA Arts Center Station, and we think that will
- 12 encourage people to use their vehicles less. There will
- 13 be a mix of uses, as Mr. Brown mentioned, on the site,
- 14 including retail, office, entertainment, so people might
- 15 be able to live and work at the same place, and that
- 16 would also encourage less auto use. The site design
- 17 incorporates a lot of other smart growth principles,
- 18 and, in addition, when it's built they will try and use
- 19 as many pollution prevention and water conservation and
- 20 energy conservation measures as possible. It's really a
- 21 big picture about a model type of development that could
- 22 occur, but the heart of the matter is the air emissions
- 23 and being able to compare this development to others or
- 24 to where the growth might occur and make the
- 25 determination finally that it may qualify as a TCM.

- 1 What the project agreement that's available
- 2 tonight really represents is this: It's the first phase
- 3 of a two-part agreement between EPA and Jacoby. Because
- 4 the project is so complex and there are so many
- 5 regulatory processes and analyses and other just very
- 6 long and complex things that have to happen for it to be
- 7 final, we've decided to take a two-phased approach. Our
- 8 thinking was essentially that we should get on paper as
- 9 much as we can at this early phase of the development so
- 10 that later we won't have to try and wrap our arms around
- 11 the entire thing. We would have ideally knocked out a
- 12 bunch of issues we are in agreement on so the final
- 13 agreement we'll have to address less of those.
- 14 The project agreement itself is not a legally
- 15 binding document. It really spells out the intentions
- 16 of EPA and Jacoby and explains what each party intends
- 17 to do. Part of the document includes EPA commitments to
- 18 help -- I've talked myself into a corner.
- MS. GLENN: Help with the TMA and
- 20 facilitate getting through these governmental processes
- 21 because there are so many of them.
- MR. TORMA: Right. And on the part of
- 23 Jacoby it includes some commitments that are
- 24 enforceable. Although the project agreement itself is
- 25 not a legally binding document, those would be contained

- 1 in some other legal implementing mechanisms such as the
- 2 state implementation plan or remediation plan.
- 3 That's really all I wanted to tell you in
- 4 general terms about the project agreement. I would
- 5 encourage everyone who has an interest in the project to
- 6 actually pick up a copy and read it. We are inviting
- 7 comment. We expect it to be published early next week
- 8 in the Federal Register and hope that anyone who is
- 9 interested will give comments on it.
- I guess I'll just leave you with the thought
- 11 that from the EPA perspective this project is really
- 12 about removing one big barrier to allowing smart growth
- 13 to occur, that barrier happening to be EPA's barrier
- 14 through the Clean Air Act, and we hope we are able to do
- 15 that.
- MS. GLENN: Thank you, Tim.
- 17 This is Rob Goodwin from our Air Division, and
- 18 he's going to talk to you a little bit about one of
- 19 those -- we are trying as best we can to try and lay out
- 20 a path here, and Rob is going to explain kind of the
- 21 next big regulatory process EPA will be involved in on
- 22 the project, and this is after we get through the
- 23 agreement.
- MR. GOODWIN: Once again, my name is Rob
- 25 Goodwin. I'm a staff scientist in the Air Division of

- 1 EPA Region Four here in Atlanta. My role in this
- 2 process is to help ensure that the enforceable
- 3 agreements in the final parts of the agreement that Tim
- 4 talked about go through the TCM SIP process, I'll
- 5 explain that, and become part or adopted into the state
- 6 SIP.
- 7 There is going to be a lot of acronyms flying
- 8 by here so I'll try and explain as I go along. I also
- 9 apologize. I had some visually stunning overheads for
- 10 you but we had some AV problems here so I'm not going to
- 11 be able to show those to you.
- 12 An overview of what I want to talk about is,
- 13 first of all, what is a SIP, S-I-P, what is a TCM, and
- 14 that was already mentioned by Mr. Brown and Tim, but
- 15 I'll explain that in a little more detail. I'll give
- 16 you some examples of TCMs. I'll talk a little bit as
- 17 Tim already did but I'll explain a little bit more about
- 18 how the Atlantic Steel Project may qualify as a TCM, and
- 19 then I'll give you an overview of the TCM SIP process
- 20 and also give you a time line that we are looking at for
- 21 the TCM SIP process for the Atlantic Steel Project.
- So what is a SIP? SIP stands for State
- 23 Implementation Plan, and the Clean Air Act requires that
- 24 states submit SIPS, which are plans to improve and/or
- 25 maintain the air quality in the state so that the air

- 1 quality meets the national ambient air quality
- 2 standards. They are health-based standards. Georgia's
- 3 SIP is developed by the Georgia Department of Natural
- 4 Resources Environmental Protection Division, and I'll
- 5 refer to that as the Georgia EPD from here on out. EPA
- 6 is responsible for reviewing and approving SIPS that are
- 7 submitted by the states, and as such they will be
- 8 federally enforceable when they are approved by EPA.
- 9 There are many different control measures that can be in
- 10 a SIP for controlling air pollution sources, stationary
- 11 sources like oil refineries, service stations, dry
- 12 cleaners, power plants, mobile sources like automobiles
- 13 and trucks, and one possible control measure you can put
- 14 in a SIP is a Transportation Control Measure, a TCM.
- So now I'll explain what a TCM is, reiterate
- 16 what a TCM is. It's a measure to reduce emissions of
- 17 air pollutants from transportation sources by either
- 18 reducing vehicle use or changing traffic flow or
- 19 congestion conditions. So examples of current TCMs in
- 20 Georgia would be HOV lanes, I-85 HOV lanes, surveillance
- 21 cameras on the interstates which you may see as you are
- 22 driving along perched here and there to help keep track
- 23 of what's going on on the interstate, to keep the
- 24 traffic moving smoothly and get the HERO vehicles out
- 25 there quickly when there is an incident; start-up funds

- 1 for traffic management associations; intersection
- 2 improvements like adding turn lanes to intersections,
- 3 nothing that's going to increase the capacity of the
- 4 intersection, just improve movement through the
- 5 intersection; traffic signal optimizations;
- 6 synchronizing lights to reduce queues and idling and
- 7 things like that to smooth the traffic flow; bicycling
- 8 improvements in road projects; sidewalks to serve bus
- 9 and activity centers; and another example would be
- 10 transit improvements.
- So how would this Atlantic Steel Project
- 12 potentially qualify as a TCM? EPA is in the midst of
- 13 performing computer modeling of the transportation
- 14 network in the Atlanta region and also a detailed site
- 15 analysis of the Atlantic Steel Project, proposed
- 16 project, with the idea of trying to compare the
- 17 predicted emissions that would be created,
- 18 transportation emissions created by the Atlantic Steel
- 19 Project, compared to development in other areas where it
- 20 may likely end up in the Atlanta area if it doesn't get
- 21 built here. And our preliminary results show that the
- 22 Atlantic Steel Project compares very well with other
- 23 possible areas in the region. The reason for this is
- 24 due in part to the high-density, mixed-use, transit-
- 25 oriented nature of the project, and also due to its

- 1 central location in the region. So the project may
- 2 qualify as a TCM.
- The next question is it's got to go through a
- 4 formal process for doing that, and I'll explain that.
- 5 There are other agencies involved in the process, not
- 6 just EPA. When the TCM goes through the transportation
- 7 planning process, the TCM would be approved by the
- 8 Atlanta Regional Commission into their Interim
- 9 Transportation Improvement Program or ITIP. After it's
- 10 approved, adopted into the ITIP, AIC would send it to
- 11 the Georgia EPD, and Georgia EPD would review it,
- 12 prepare a TCM SIP submittal, and would open a 30-day
- 13 comment period for the public to make comments on the
- 14 TCM, and also include a public hearing. After that
- 15 they'd address the comments, make sure all the ducks are
- 16 in a row, and then submit the TCM SIP package to EPA.
- 17 When we get the package, the TCM SIP package,
- 18 first of all, we'll determine if it's complete, just
- 19 basically going through making sure everything is in
- 20 there that needs to be in there. And once we determine
- 21 it's complete, we would determine if it's approvable as
- 22 a TCM. If EPA determines it's approvable, then EPA
- 23 would propose a direct final rule-making in the Federal
- 24 Register which would open a 30-day public comment period
- 25 on the TCM. If during those 30 days no adverse comments

- 1 are received, then 60 days after the Federal Register
- 2 notice was published the SIP TCM would become effective,
- 3 if there are no adverse comments received.
- 4 Part of the reason for having these public
- 5 meetings is to address any issues that may be out there
- 6 now rather than waiting until the end here and get these
- 7 comments. So what we would encourage you to do, if
- 8 you've got comments on this TCM process now or whenever
- 9 you have them, feel free to mail them to Michelle Glenn
- 10 at EPA Region Four. You don't have to wait for the
- 11 formal public hearing time. I wanted to make sure you
- 12 know there are going to be some formal public comment
- 13 periods, and I'll point those out again, but feel free.
- 14 That's why we are doing this, to help address these
- 15 comments now rather than at the last minute.
- So now I briefly want to go over the time line
- 17 we anticipate for this and that will be it. In June we
- 18 anticipate the ARC board would approve the project into
- 19 the ITIP. In July and August Georgia EPD would prepare
- 20 the TCM SIP submittal and then open their 30-day public
- 21 comment period. That 30-day comment period would be in
- 22 July and August, and have their public hearing. After
- 23 that they will address the comments, and in early
- 24 September they'd submit that package to EPA. Middle of
- 25 September we would determine if it's complete and inform

- 1 EPD, and then in the middle of October EPA would publish
- 2 the direct final rule making, and then that second
- 3 30-day comment period would open starting in the middle
- 4 of October. And then in mid December, if no adverse
- 5 comments are received, the rule would become effective.
- 6 So that's what we are looking at. Basically
- 7 that's what I wanted to cover, and thank you for your
- 8 attention.
- 9 MS. GLENN: I want to thank everyone for
- 10 their patience. It's warm in here. Also I just
- 11 realized in kind of hearing our own presentation how
- 12 mired we are in our bureaucracy. I appreciate the fact
- 13 you are kind of putting up with our alphabet soup.
- 14 There are some main points that we were trying to make,
- 15 and I'd like to reiterate those and then we'll open it
- 16 up for questions and answers, which I know is probably
- 17 the real reason everyone is here anyway.
- We think the project is good because we think
- 19 we are going to get more superior environmental results
- 20 than we would get elsewhere. We think that a transit-
- 21 oriented, pedestrian-oriented, mixed-use
- 22 redevelopment of a brownfield is a good thing. That's
- 23 kind of the key behind the project agreement that we
- 24 have on the back table. We understand the process is
- 25 complicated. It's just really hard to talk about the

- 1 processes that we are having to go through without using
- 2 acronyms and a lot of regulatory alphabet soup that I
- 3 know is going to take a while to get used to.
- 4 Tonight was an introduction on kind of the
- 5 next step. The most important thing to remember from
- 6 what you heard both from Rob and from Tim are that there
- 7 will be other opportunities to comment. Tonight's
- 8 meeting is because we want to present to you the first
- 9 phase of the project agreement. We are getting ready to
- 10 have a formal public comment period. We wanted to have
- 11 your comments tonight and also to ask you to take a look
- 12 at those documents and give us some comments, so that,
- 13 if there are things that we are missing or improvements
- 14 we can make or concerns we should address, that we can
- 15 be sure to do that.
- Additionally, as Rob mentioned, there is a
- 17 whole other regulatory process that kind of gives you
- 18 another shot at all this. What we'd like to be able to
- 19 do and what we do at Project XL is do stakeholder
- 20 involvement early and we try and do it often. We really
- 21 kind of take our cues from you all as to when you want
- 22 more information. Certainly, when we are doing
- 23 something new or getting ready to sign something, or if
- 24 it's a major step, then we are definitely going to want
- 25 to have a meeting like this and invite you out and hear

- 1 about it and answer your questions.
- 2 That said, we are going to be taking your
- 3 comments tonight and certainly questions on everything
- 4 we've talked about, but specifically we are looking for
- 5 comments and questions on this phase one project
- 6 agreement. I'm going to remind you that we do have a
- 7 court reporter, so if you would give your name, that's
- 8 going to help us in the long run to kind of be able to
- 9 work through your comments. Stand up and identify
- 10 yourself and I think we said affiliation earlier. If
- 11 you just want to say you are a resident or an interested
- 12 citizen, that's fine as well. But if you have another
- 13 interest, it also helps to understand maybe the
- 14 underlying issues that you might be raising to us.
- 15 I'm going to ask that you only ask one
- 16 question at a time and that we try and allow, if you
- 17 have a lot of questions, to try and allow us to go
- 18 around and get as many different comments and questions
- 19 as we can. We will definitely come back to you or, if
- 20 you want to submit written comments, there are question
- 21 sheets in the back. It is important that everybody get
- 22 a chance to be heard.
- We will do a response to your comments, both
- 24 those received during the comment period and the
- 25 comments that we receive tonight. They will be included

- 1 in the agreement when it's signed. The ones that need
- 2 to be addressed, we will address those in the document.
- 3 We'll problem do kind of an errata sheet, if you are
- 4 interested, and that's kind of governmentese as well.
- 5 Any changes that we make we are going to try our best to
- 6 identify so you'll be able to look and see okay, I had
- 7 this comment, it was really important to me, was there a
- 8 change to the document based on that. If you don't see
- 9 a change, there should be a very good explanation as to
- 10 how we responded and why we responded the way we did.
- Based on that, I'm ready.
- MR. GRISSOM: Bill Grissom with the Home
- 13 Park Community Improvement Association. Is it correct
- 14 to assume most of the contaminates on the site are heavy
- 15 metals and slag, things that are insoluble and are going
- 16 to migrate in the ground water, and basically you cover
- 17 it over?
- MS. GLENN: Your question has to do with
- 19 kind of what is the contamination at the site and how
- 20 will it be addressed. Charlie, you want to answer that?
- MR. BROWN: First of all, I'm an
- 22 architect and not an environmental engineer, but I think
- 23 I can give you some sort of answer. If that's not
- 24 satisfactory, we will get you more detailed information.
- 25 The good news is it's a steel mill. The bad news is

- 1 it's a steel mill. Because there are very definable
- 2 products or by-products left on the site. But the
- 3 question you are asking mainly is about ground water.

24

- 4 The physical configuration of the site is more or less
- 5 like a bowl. The railroad tracks are higher and 16th
- 6 Street is higher, and so a lot of the shape of the
- 7 property really is like a bowl. And for many years the
- 8 flow of the water from the Atlanta Water Works has come
- 9 through the property and then it goes on to what's known
- 10 as the Orme Street Outfall.
- During the environmental testing of the
- 12 property, wells are installed to see what's happening
- 13 with the ground water, testing of the subsoils, the
- 14 structure, where the rock is. How that ground water
- 15 flows is looked into. It's my understanding that those
- 16 flows are, as you would expect, basically into the
- 17 center and along the side near the freeway. So the
- 18 testing situation has shown no problem with the ground
- 19 water; however, as part of the remediation plan that is
- 20 worked with the State Environmental Protection Agency,
- 21 EPD, there will be monitoring wells that are there and
- 22 the ability to capture that water, because it all does
- 23 come to basically one side of the property, does not
- 24 migrate off in other directions. So that in their
- 25 testing, the monitoring of the wells, if there comes to

- 1 be some problem, then the water can be captured.
- 2 Actually, there is not that much ground water flow in
- 3 the area. So it comes to the middle, to the edge next
- 4 to the freeway; it's monitored before it's released to
- 5 the property; if there is a problem, it's captured there
- 6 and treated.
- 7 MS. GLENN: Heavy metals are pretty much
- 8 the contaminates of concern. If you still have
- 9 questions afterward, I'll be glad to put you in touch
- 10 with somebody that could answer the questions. It's
- 11 being handled currently by the Georgia EPD.
- MR. HAWTHORNE: I'm Dennis Hawthorne with
- 13 the Atlanta Bicycle Campaign. I'm noticing there has
- 14 been a lot of thought gone into some good bicycle future
- 15 in the project already. What I'm thinking, it would be
- 16 really nice if this is going to be XL, going to get
- 17 awards for excellence and leadership, it should be like
- 18 a cutting edge really leading project for the country
- 19 and for the region to look at as far as how bicycle
- 20 accommodation is provided for. I was hoping you could
- 21 really give us a real model in that regard. I was
- 22 wondering if there has been any further looking at what
- 23 some other cities have done as far as bike stations,
- 24 bicycle parking incorporated into the design of the
- 25 streets in the area, as well as incentives to make it a

- 1 real bicycle-oriented community.
- 2 MS. GLENN: So your question is have we
- 3 looked elsewhere and are we going to be applying kind of
- 4 cutting edge things here?
- 5 MR. HAWTHORNE: Right.
- 6 MR. LEARY: We'd love to continue working
- 7 with you so make sure we get your name and number.
- 8 We've been working with the Bicycle Federation of
- 9 America kind of reviewing some plans, and right now we
- 10 have bike lanes on all the roadways and cross sections,
- 11 and I can get those to you as we kind of flush those
- 12 out. We completely agree with you. We have an
- 13 opportunity to do something exciting here and focus on
- 14 alternative transportation, pedestrian and bicycle
- 15 definitely being part of that. We appreciate the
- 16 comments and we are looking forward to working with you.
- MR. COHEN: There are going to be bicycle
- 18 lanes over the 17th Street bridge to the site and access
- 19 within the site as well. Whether or not there is going
- 20 to be placement of racks, that's still something that
- 21 will be decided at a later date.
- MR. LEARY: And the incentives in terms
- 23 of using pretax income for bicycle users, I know there
- 24 is a lot of them now in T-21 that we are just starting
- 25 to look at.

- 1 MR. COHEN: And there is also going to
- 2 be zoning conditions in the city of Atlanta, the
- 3 Transportation Management Association, designed to
- 4 remove single occupant cars. How that happens depends
- 5 on where people live who work in the project. I can't
- 6 really answer that question just yet.
- 7 MS. GLENN: T-21 is not on my list of
- 8 acronyms, and I was kind of trying to get Kelly to tell
- 9 me what it stands for. I'm not really sure, but it's a
- 10 big transportation bill that includes funding for these
- 11 kinds of initiatives.
- MS. SHECKLER: Transportation Equity Act
- 13 of the 21st Century.
- MS. GLENN: That's a pretty good name for
- 15 a government bill.
- MR. EVANS: I'm John Evans. I'm a
- 17 resident here. There were two things on my mind. I was
- 18 wondering what the plan was, transportation plan, and
- 19 also in a nutshell what the agreement so far involves or
- 20 incorporates.
- 21 MS. GLENN: Your questions are how far
- 22 does the agreement go? Is that kind of the question?
- MR. EVANS: What is in the agreement so
- 24 far and also what plan is being contemplated, what
- 25 transportation plan.

- 1 MS. GLENN: What transportation plan is
- 2 being contemplated?
- 3 MR. EVANS: Other than a bridge and
- 4 bicycle lanes.
- 5 MS. GLENN: You mean as far as what the
- 6 elements of the transportation plan for the whole
- 7 redevelopment, not just the bridge?
- 8 MR. EVANS: Right. The impact of the
- 9 development in terms of the vehicles that are
- 10 contemplated to be on site and some facts and figures on
- 11 the modeling that you-all mentioned.
- MS. GLENN: I think I want to hand these
- 13 off. Tim can tell you a little bit what's in the final
- 14 project agreement. Jeff Anderson handled all the
- 15 modeling. He's actually coming here tonight but I think
- 16 he's on a later flight. We can talk a little bit about
- 17 our modeling results so far, if that answers your
- 18 question.
- MR. EVANS: That's a start.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: He wants specificity as
- 21 opposed to so many cars will move across a bridge
- 22 between Midtown and Atlantic Steel, for instance, but
- 23 how you access, for instance, from Atlantic Steel into
- 24 North Home Park, if you would, and the accessibility
- 25 through Barnes and State and whatever, exactly what it's

- 1 going to look like as opposed to a nice general
- 2 statement. We want to get down to are you going to
- 3 cul-de-sac some of those streets, are you going to
- 4 one-way them, are you going to narrow them, what are you
- 5 going to do.
- 6 MR. BROWN: Dan, you may want to speak to
- 7 that. When we were talking about the final project
- 8 agreement or the project agreement that's entered into
- 9 between the developer, Jacoby, and EPA, part of that
- 10 agreement has within it, even though it's, quote, not
- 11 enforceable, it has segments in it that are enforceable
- 12 such as the zoning regulations from the City of Atlanta
- 13 or regulations by Georgia EPD or Federal Highway or EPA.
- So one of those which speaks directly to what
- 15 you are talking about, which Jim just asked about, and
- 16 that is the flow between Home Park and the development.
- 17 And that particular zoning requirement says that the
- 18 City and the Home Park Association will determine how
- 19 those streets interface with 16th Street and the
- 20 project. It has been suggested by an architect that was
- 21 employed to do some of the modeling or to look at some
- 22 plans from which they could do the modeling that that
- 23 grid flow all the way through into 17th Street and
- 24 through the project. Again, that is the responsibility
- 25 of the City and Home Park Association to determine which

- 1 of those streets are open, if they are closed, if there
- 2 is traffic calming devices or whatever. From the south
- 3 at Home Park then that's something that the City and
- 4 Home Park decide.
- 5 On an east-west situation, of course there is
- 6 North Avenue, 5th Street, 10th Street, 14th Street, and
- 7 you will add another corridor to that with the 17th
- 8 Street bridge which will have two bicycle lanes, will
- 9 have a pedestrian or linear park across the bridge, will
- 10 have four single-occupancy vehicle lanes, and it will
- 11 have two transit lanes. Those basically connect
- 12 Northside Drive to Midtown, Spring Street and West
- 13 Peachtree Street, with a proposed modification to the 75
- 14 and 85 ramps from the north and from the south with an
- 15 addition onto the 17th Street bridge.
- MR. LEARY: That's conceptual. We
- 17 haven't designed it. It's not in engineering drawings
- 18 as such yet. That's the components.
- MR. BROWN: That's part of the regulatory
- 20 process that you have now is that you have what's called
- 21 an IJR, Interchange Justification Report, and
- 22 Interchange Modification Report, and those are things
- 23 that go into the TCM and they go and are reviewed by the
- 24 Federal Highway Department, by Georgia DOT, and they
- 25 make recommendations on those as to whether they can go

- 1 forward. It's a little hard to answer specifically what
- 2 they will be until those conceptual situations are
- 3 approved and they turn into actual engineering drawings.
- 4 MS. GLENN: We expect to see a fairly
- 5 final site design for the final project agreement. At
- 6 this point we are still getting the results in from, as
- 7 Charlie mentioned, the Duany workshop, which the
- 8 workshop included some of you. That was done under a
- 9 contract with one of our offices in headquarters, and
- 10 they did try to include as many stakeholders as they
- 11 could.
- The second part of your question had to do
- 13 with what is in this first phase of the project
- 14 agreement as far as some of the specifics. Tim, as kind
- 15 of our principal author --
- MR. TORMA: I think if you happen to have
- 17 a copy in your hand, pages 17 and 18 are great. Let me
- 18 just hit a couple of high points for you. One of them
- 19 is the agreement guarantees some linkage from the site
- 20 to the transit station on the other side of the
- 21 interstate. There are plans that haven't been mentioned
- 22 yet. Coca-Cola, Turner, CNN have talked about doing a
- 23 western loop from the MARTA Arts Station across the
- 24 interstate and down to the Georgia World Congress
- 25 Center. And right now the outlook on that is very

- 1 positive, but in the interim until the appropriate sort
- 2 of transit is decided for that loop, the project
- 3 guarantees a shuttle service from the Atlantic Steel
- 4 site to the Arts Center Station. It also says that the
- 5 developer will give right of way for whatever the
- 6 transit upgrade will eventually be. The site will
- 7 participate in a Transportation Management Association
- 8 which would have a goal of keeping an eye on the traffic
- 9 patterns in the area and certain threshold levels of
- 10 single-occupancy vehicle trips or hits, and they would
- 11 take some measures to reduce the amount of automobile
- 12 traffic. I'm not sure what big picture specifics.
- 13 Is that the kind of stuff that you-all were
- 14 looking for in your questions?
- MR. GOOD: My name is Mark Good. I'm
- 16 curious, if this is all in the conception stage, so to
- 17 speak -- and Mr. Brown mentioned something about the
- 18 design of some of this is left up to the City. Is that
- 19 what I understood? I'm just curious then how you came
- 20 up with these real pretty pictures over here.
- MR. BROWN: There is a great deal of
- 22 specificity relative to the general nature but I can't
- 23 tell you exactly what the radius of a curve is. There
- 24 are not engineering drawings of these. Whether State
- 25 Street goes all the way through into this project and

- 1 over to the railroad track or whether it stops at 16th
- 2 Street, which it does now, or cul-de-sacs before it gets
- 3 to 16th Street, is something that the City and Home
- 4 Park, whatever the group is, would make those decisions.
- 5 MS. GLENN: And I should also point out
- 6 that EPA's I think kind of interest in this is really
- 7 that it contain the mixed-use properties, that the
- 8 density be such that it encourages people to not get in
- 9 their car, to use transit, to feel comfortable walking
- 10 around instead of using their car, and using a bicycle.
- 11 That's really the goal of EPA. As far as the individual
- 12 elements, I think we are talking about certain
- 13 parameters of this, what the mixed use should contain
- 14 and what might work, and trying to get input on that
- 15 from people with experience, professional experience,
- 16 putting together those kinds of designs. But ultimately
- 17 EPA is not in a position and not interested in saying it
- 18 has to be exactly this way. There are other people
- 19 whose expertise is in that area.
- MR. COHEN: I think what makes it hard is
- 21 the way zoning works in City of Atlanta. Any developer,
- 22 this project included, does not have to come before the
- 23 Zoning Review Board with a final set of drawings and
- 24 final set of plans before he gets approval. That's just
- 25 not how it works here. You don't have to do that until

- 1 you get building permits pulled. What you come with is
- 2 some concepts and some ideas.
- What the City did to try and deal with this
- 4 project it set certain caps for office space, housing
- 5 space, retail space, maximum number of trips, and I
- 6 think the zoning conditions are on the board there. We
- 7 capped out the number of trips so we can monitor. What
- 8 we are interested in at the moment is saying there is
- 9 going to be some performance standards. You cannot
- 10 produce X number of trips without a transportation
- 11 management plan. You have to reduce the number of
- 12 single-occupant cars coming to the site. Once I guess
- 13 the developer gets a better handle on who they are going
- 14 to market the project to, they will start submitting
- 15 that to the Building Department. And once that happens,
- 16 then you get some more specificity.
- 17 I'm not trying to be vague intentionally.
- 18 That's just how the process works.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: We don't have any input.
- 20 C4C does not allow any input on a particular footprint
- 21 of any particular building.
- 22 MR. COHEN: That's right. I'm saying
- 23 that it goes to the Building Department and that's where
- 24 it happens. Then you ask the Building Department for a
- 25 final set of plans. You just can't comment on those

- 1 plans. You can't have more than X number of trips.
- 2 What we are trying to do here is say however you wind up
- 3 configuring this, you can't have more than a certain
- 4 number of cars coming. You can't have beyond a certain
- 5 amount of office space development. Where you decide to
- 6 put it is what we are still grappling with at the
- 7 moment. That hasn't been decided yet. As soon as
- 8 they've decided, they'll be ready to start building.
- 9 MR. GOOD: I wasn't talking about lines
- 10 on paper. I was talking about numbers
- 11 MR. COHEN: So there is maximum
- 12 allowable. That's kind of how we deal with zoning in
- 13 this particular city.
- MS. GLENN: I want to make sure that we
- 15 don't -- I appreciate the concerns and I know that
- 16 people definitely are interested in this, but I want to
- 17 make sure that we are not kind of revisiting the zoning
- 18 process. We really are trying to focus on this XL
- 19 process and kind of the issues that are surrounding
- 20 that.
- MR. COHEN: One last thing. The
- 22 developer is committed to providing bike paths and
- 23 transit linkages to the site over the bridge, and they
- 24 cannot pull, they cannot get a final CFO for anything on
- 25 that site until there is a contract signed showing the

- 1 bridge construction is possible, and that's what we are
- 2 working towards. It's not like you are going to wake up
- 3 one morning and see something there. It's not going to
- 4 be like that. This is a project that's going to take
- 5 10, 12 years to build out.
- 6 MS. GLENN: There will also be ongoing
- 7 stakeholder involvement through our role in the process
- 8 in XL.
- 9 MR. DEDEMATIS: Bill Dedematis. This
- 10 project is very good project. Everybody for
- 11 transportation improvement. I think, Charlie, to
- 12 resolve this transportation, how many lanes has got the
- 13 bridge? Two lanes in and two out.
- MR. BROWN: That's correct, plus
- 15 transportation and pedestrian.
- MR. DEDEMATIS: I think this mall here,
- 17 in order to build around here crowd, if this mall is
- 18 moved this section close to Georgia Tech University and
- 19 this building stay there, I think you resolve all the
- 20 problems you talking right now, because the mall, how
- 21 many thousand people is go every day? Plus this office
- 22 building, I understand somebody work in this office or
- 23 this office is go for lunch, to shopping, more easy.
- 24 But all the crowd is coming to this area and this area
- 25 is free. I think if this mall is moved close here to

- 1 Georgia Tech University has got exit Northside Drive and
- 2 Bishop, you got 16th plus the exit in the Georgia Tech
- 3 University. I think my opinion I think resolve all the
- 4 problems.
- 5 MR. BROWN: We will give that comment and
- 6 that information to Mr. Duany who was working with EPA
- 7 and also Thompson Ventulett who was the master planner
- 8 and also the users of that. Again, we are talking about
- 9 the zoning process which indicated that that area was
- 10 probably better used from the zoning standpoint as a
- 11 high-tech area mixed with residential and that the mall,
- 12 while it might serve the university better in that
- 13 southern or western location, might be better over close
- 14 to the expressway and that area. We'll be happy to take
- 15 that in and I've got that comment down.
- MS. GLENN: We've got it as well. I
- 17 appreciate your suggestion. The court reporter has
- 18 recorded that.
- MR. BRANDON: Michael Brandon with the
- 20 Home Park Community Improvement Association and resident
- 21 of Home Park. You mentioned the Duany workshop, and I
- 22 was wondering if the results of that workshop are going
- 23 to be folded into this agreement.
- MS. GLENN: We will be considering those
- 25 when we work kind of on the final agreement. We are

- 1 still in the process of reviewing those internally so we
- 2 don't have them available tonight, but they will be
- 3 public when we get finished reviewing them and finalize
- 4 that report.
- 5 MR. TURK: I'm Gregory Turk, Public Park
- 6 Coordinator for Fulton County and also a Midtown
- 7 resident. I'm concerned about the amount of parks, not
- 8 just the linear parks, but how many acres of the 138
- 9 acres will actually be park space. I have one minor
- 10 question too. The shuttle, is that a glorified word for
- 11 a bus or is it actually a rail shuttle?
- MS. GLENN: So you have two questions.
- 13 One is how much space is set aside for green space
- 14 parks?
- MR. TURK: Nonlinear parks.
- MR. LEARY: First of all, stay after and
- 17 I'll show you the site plan. There is a site plan in
- 18 the middle there is a park and we are revising through
- 19 input from Home Park Community. One thing they wanted
- 20 was a green park connection from Home Park into the core
- 21 of the development. The way the site plan initially was
- 22 is we had a central park in the heart of the development
- 23 which a lot of the residents felt was kind of reserved
- 24 and away from where the core of the neighborhood was.
- 25 So we are exploring connecting a park which would be an

- 1 activated park where you could play ball, have a soccer
- 2 game or baseball game, so it would be more than just a
- 3 glorified sidewalk and street scaping. So we are
- 4 working on that trying to figure out how that would best
- 5 work through the different uses, number one.
- 6 Two, the transit connection, a transit
- 7 connection is guaranteed. I think we are looking at
- 8 ten-minute headways. So the technology is not defined.
- 9 Tomorrow we could run a bus. Tomorrow if we needed to
- 10 have a rail down and run a train, probably not. But as
- 11 the future kind of goes forward and we can see either
- 12 demand along that route or a proposed west side
- 13 connection down through Turner, Georgia Tech, Coca-Cola,
- 14 Centennial Olympic Park, and the arena, if there is
- 15 demand for a joint transit connection, that's something
- 16 going on right now, and what technology is most
- 17 appropriate for that will come out of a feasibility
- 18 study that will take place.
- MS. GLENN: My understanding is that the
- 20 feasibility study is being conducted kind of by these
- 21 other partners that have been interested in pursuing
- 22 some kind of connection for their people along that
- 23 route west of the freeway. What we are trying to do is
- 24 not preclude whatever happens there from being able to
- 25 work from Atlantic Steel to the Arts Center. At this

- 1 point, you are right. It is somewhat undefined. I
- 2 don't know absolutely what the answer to that question
- 3 is. We are anticipating that we'll be able to piggyback
- 4 on studies that are underway, and, with the right-of-way
- 5 set-aside and the bridge not yet designed, that there
- 6 will be the opportunity to design in whatever transit
- 7 connection works best for that whole area.
- 8 MR. LEARY: Most likely on day one it
- 9 would be a rubber-tired vehicle connection. We would
- 10 try to do it the best way that people would ride it.
- 11 MR. TURK: I'm looking for a numeric
- 12 value as far as acres.
- MR. TORMA: Seven acres committed to
- 14 minimum.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Jim Schneider, Midtown.
- 16 I don't understand this linkage. You start talking
- 17 about their design. Their design is not designed yet.
- 18 I don't understand the linkage between the EPA EPD
- 19 and -- you know, we've asked for specific plans. We
- 20 know they are not going to be there at this point. And
- 21 I keep hearing rumors that the EPA is going to maybe
- 22 require or try to have some kind of, not a footprint of
- 23 a building, but some change in the sense of maybe mixed
- 24 use -- I keep saying the baker over the bakery kind of
- 25 thing -- but something that, not forces them to design a

- 1 footprint of a building but something that changes the
- 2 massing in the concept of it. Nothing is going to get
- 3 built that's going to look like that. Those are just
- 4 nice drawings, and I hope people don't rely on those for
- 5 much of anything because I'm sure whoever builds them
- 6 they are going to be different.
- 7 I don't understand what you can do to make a
- 8 change. I don't know how to describe it, because the
- 9 original plans struck me as Midtown pushed over here,
- 10 and I think what we are thinking, I think what we hear
- 11 from Mr. Brown and other folks is that even their own
- 12 plan is evolving to be more of a community. I look back
- 13 at what Randy Roarke did on his three studies where they
- 14 overlaid other neighborhoods on that. It's not going to
- 15 look like those either. The overall height came down.
- 16 And how you can make that happen without necessarily
- 17 having a zoning that shows a footprint of a building, we
- 18 haven't had that kind of linkage yet.
- MS. GLENN: Your question then is what
- 20 impact is EPA ultimately going to have on this design.
- 21 MR. MEIBURG: This is an interesting
- 22 project for us because it's an extension and something
- 23 outside of what we normally do. As a regulatory agency,
- 24 there is normally a very specific set of requirements
- 25 that we apply to sources of pollution and go through a

- 1 set of standards and apply them. The reason why we are
- 2 invested in this project, and it's basically what the
- 3 other folks said, is an offshoot of the general
- 4 situation with respect to transportation and air quality
- 5 here in the Atlanta area. Because the area's
- 6 transportation plan has lapsed, any kind of project like
- 7 the bridge across the expressway there ordinarily would
- 8 not be able to go forward as a new project. In order
- 9 for the project to go forward, it would have to be
- 10 classified as a TCM. What
- we have entered into with Project XL is
- 12 basically a negotiation between ourselves and the
- 13 project development to try to demonstrate that, in
- 14 addition to qualifying as a TCM, it would have quality
- 15 benefits and to qualify as XL that it in fact would
- 16 exhibit superior environmental performance in a broader
- 17 sense as well. So what basically our leverage will be
- 18 depends in large measure on the good-faith efforts of us
- 19 trying to identify all sorts of things we can about the
- 20 developer to contribute to making it environmentally
- 21 friendly to work with the developer to try to get those
- 22 incorporated as the design process of the project moves
- 23 forward.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Those are words you are
- 25 now giving us. For instance, if you pass this thing by

- 1 the end of the year, does federal money come down to
- 2 build bridges, things that we all can see and see
- 3 designs of? And obviously, if you do a bridge, there's
- 4 got to be an environmental hearing, there has got to be
- 5 location hearing, and we know we are going to be seeing
- 6 those.
- 7 MR. MEIBURG: Right. Basically the thing
- 8 for the project to move forward, it has to be approved
- 9 as a Transportation Control Measure so the project could
- 10 proceed through all the other steps you just described
- 11 as part of the Transportation Improvement Program. I
- 12 don't know if that answers the question or not.
- MS. GLENN: We do expect to see a design
- 14 different than the one you've seen in the past.
- MR. EVANS: What are the issues that make
- 16 the TCM work? What is it going to talk about?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: And what can we say that
- 18 makes it plus or minus?
- MR. MEIBURG: The reason again the TCM is
- 20 so important is because the bridge itself cannot be
- 21 constructed without qualifying as a TCM during the
- 22 conformity lapse. What makes it work in that sense is
- 23 the ability to proceed even while the conformity lapse
- 24 is in place. The thing that is very helpful is all of
- 25 the input you can get on the kind of things that will

- 1 make it indeed a transit-oriented, pedestrian-friendly
- 2 project and neighborhood community friendly project.
- 3 MS. GLENN: We are approaching a degree
- 4 of specificity in the Transportation Control Measure
- 5 that we didn't have when we first talked about the
- 6 project. Tim or Dan or Kelly or Rob, who wants to take
- 7 that?
- 8 MR. TORMA: You are asking what would be
- 9 in the TCM. This is in the agreement too. I hate to do
- 10 it but I'll read to you from it.
- EPA expects to approve the SIP if the TCM
- 12 includes at a minimum the following obligations. Jacoby
- 13 will provide right of way in the development to MARTA or
- 14 another acceptable entity for the construction of an
- 15 appropriate transit linkage including a station if
- 16 necessary connecting the Atlantic Steel site to the Arts
- 17 Center MARTA Station. Number two, Jacoby will provide
- 18 an interim shuttle service to the MARTA Arts Station
- 19 after construction of the 17 Street bridge, da, da, da,
- 20 da.
- 21 It's that kind of stuff. We expect to see
- 22 those things in the TCM before EPA would expect to
- 23 approve the TCM.
- MS. GLENN: There is a lot of people
- 25 here. The room is very warm and the hour is moving on.

- 1 Maybe I should point out we haven't even started the
- 2 official comment period. These are advanced copies and
- 3 it is to give you the opportunity to review it. You are
- 4 welcome to call any of us with your questions.
- 5 MR. BRANDON: We are dancing around this
- 6 big vat and not really getting into it and swimming.
- 7 MR. TORMA: I don't want to dodge your
- 8 question. I think the answer is you are right. We
- 9 don't have some of the levels of detail of exactly what
- 10 it's going to look like. We know a bridge is going to
- 11 go across the interstate. We know that the bridge will
- 12 have two lanes in each direction, will have pedestrians,
- 13 will have bicycles, and those are the macro type of
- 14 things this agreement talks about.
- MR. GRIMLAND: My name is Joe Grimland.
- 16 I'm a resident of Home Park and I've sort of watched
- 17 Charlie try to develop this idea and I've gone to the
- 18 meetings where the zoning review board has talked about
- 19 it, City of Atlanta, where the City of Atlanta actually
- 20 approved the zoning that was there. I've looked at the
- 21 issues that Home Park had as far as this was concerned.
- 22 And the major issue as far as the community was
- 23 concerned, after we sort of lost our little battle in
- 24 City Hall about zoning, was that the traffic not jam up
- 25 in the community. And that's also important to Mr.

- 1 Brown because he doesn't want the traffic to jam up so
- 2 no one can get in and out of the development.
- 3 My major concern is are we going to have a
- 4 bridge, whether it's environmentally helpful to the city
- 5 or not -- of course, we'd all like for it to be -- are
- 6 we going to have a bridge, which we all hope we will
- 7 have, and that's what we support, we support your
- 8 efforts from a community standpoint, and will that
- 9 bridge be sufficient to alleviate the traffic that's
- 10 going to be caused by the development. Now, whatever
- 11 else you may say, that to me is the bottom line.
- 12 As far as the environment is concerned, I
- 13 would like to think that whatever rain falls on that
- 14 property right now and washes and mixes with whatever
- 15 chemicals are there, which then go essentially into a
- 16 sewer system which goes into a creek and goes through a
- 17 park and neighborhood, that there not be any more
- 18 pollutants after the development occurs than there are
- 19 now. It's a one-for-one swap. If there are no more,
- 20 I'm happy.
- 21 The other and the third thing which is
- 22 important to me is, and this is what everybody is kind
- 23 of dancing around but nobody actually has said this
- 24 today, will this development cause a decrease in the
- 25 total pollution of traffic in the City of Atlanta, and

- 1 how will that occur. And my personal feeling is no.
- 2 And the reason why I say no is because the type of
- 3 development that's approved that maximizes developers
- 4 bang for the buck is not conducive -- may not be -- I
- 5 don't want to say absolutely no, Charlie, because that's
- 6 not fair in my mind. It may not be conducive to the
- 7 people who work downtown. They may not want to live in
- 8 high rises in 500-square-foot apartments, which is one
- 9 of the ideas being bandied about for the 2.4 million
- 10 square feet of residential space. If there is 12
- 11 million square feet of office space there, which to me
- 12 means like -- or 10 million square feet of office space
- 13 -- it's 10, isn't it?
- MR. BROWN: I think the max is about six
- 15 but from a practical standpoint probably about four.
- 16 The zoning is six.
- 17 MR. GRIMLAND: So for the six million
- 18 square feet of office space, we have a simple example of
- 19 that inside the city that you can go look at. It's
- 20 called the IBM Tower. It's at the corner of 14th Street
- 21 and West Peachtree Street. It's got a million square
- 22 feet of space in it and I think it's mostly rented. I
- 23 think mostly occupied. So if you look at the
- 24 composition of people who work there and where they live
- 25 and what they require for their housing and what they

- 1 require for their transportation, you could easily get a
- 2 model, assuming that, I'm not just making rash
- 3 assumptions that we'll build buildings comparable to
- 4 that on that site, which would probably have the most
- 5 economic benefit to the City of Atlanta as far as taxes
- 6 are concerned, which I'd like that because I just want
- 7 the tax rates to go down.
- 8 But you understand what I'm saying. That's
- 9 what we are looking at from what is right here right
- 10 now, and that's the sort of hard things I think some of
- 11 us would like to know something about.
- MS. GLENN: Well, some of your questions
- 13 seemed somewhat rhetorical to me, the question of will
- 14 there or will there not be a bridge. What we are
- 15 pursuing under the XL Project is that we think there
- 16 would be a bridge. You asked a question, I think your
- 17 second question had to do with how is this going to
- 18 provide an air quality benefit. Is that right?
- 19 MR. GRIMLAND: Right.
- MS. GLENN: Rob or Kelly, that's a
- 21 conformity issue and kind of goes to some of the basics
- 22 of how we are actually approaching this in an innovative
- 23 way.
- MS. SHECKLER: It actually isn't one
- 25 question. It's two questions. I'm Kelly Sheckler with

- 1 EPA. The bridge design, I think you wanted to know
- 2 about the bridge design. We don't know what that is
- 3 going to look like. When the developer finishes its
- 4 concept report and submits it to GDOT, and GDOT is here
- 5 today, by the way, GDOT will be analyzing that concept
- 6 to see what impact it does have on the roads, including
- 7 the connector. At that time they'll make a
- 8 recommendation to Federal Highway and Federal Highway
- 9 will analyze and make a determination if in fact or what
- 10 that impact is from the design that was submitted, what
- 11 impact it would have on the infrastructure in downtown
- 12 Atlanta. As far as air quality benefit, that will feed
- 13 into EPA's SIP process along with the analysis that we
- 14 are currently doing, and it's based upon those three
- 15 things we'll be able to answer the question does or does
- 16 not the project have emission benefit and how does it.
- MR. TORMA: One of the key points about
- 18 this whole project that I don't think we've emphasized
- 19 tonight is there is a key assumption underlying the
- 20 whole project, and that is growth is coming to Atlanta.
- 21 If it doesn't go at this Atlantic Steel site, it's going
- 22 to go somewhere else. If past trends are any
- 23 indication, it's going to go around the suburban fringe.
- 24 This is part of the flexibility that XL is offering. We
- 25 are not making the claim that emissions will be less if

- 1 Atlantic Steel goes in than if nothing happened. We are
- 2 saying it will be less if the Atlantic Steel goes
- 3 forward than growth elsewhere in the region. Does that
- 4 answer your question about will emissions actually go
- 5 down? They are not going to be less than if nothing
- 6 happened, if nobody came to Atlanta. They won't be less
- 7 than that. They will be less, we believe, than if that
- 8 growth occurred at other likely locations within the
- 9 region.
- MS. SHECKLER: And how that happens we
- 11 don't know yet. That's what we are going through this
- 12 process to figure out, how to go about determining how
- 13 to get the emissions down.
- MR. ROSS: David Ross. I'm a resident on
- 15 the other side of the 17th Street bridge. Does EPA have
- 16 a role in looking at the impact of the traffic on the
- 17 other side from the bridge, from the proposed bridge?
- 18 Is that outside you-all's jurisdictions. In other
- 19 words, what's the impact over around the IBM Tower and
- 20 what is now a very congested area and the residential
- 21 areas on the other side of that? Is that in your
- 22 bailiwick or is it someone else's at the City or what?
- MR. COHEN: The City is responsible for
- 24 taking a look at all the traffic studies and all the
- 25 circulation plans. What we are most concerned with is

- 1 the number of trips that are going to be generated by
- 2 the site and how those trips will be managed. But until
- 3 we get a set configuration of the bridge -- and we are
- 4 still working on whether or not, for instance, the
- 5 transit and the automobile component are even going to
- 6 be parallel all the way through from one side to the
- 7 other, because it may have to happen on separate decks.
- 8 And there is issues of private property rights on that
- 9 side of the bridge as to where the bridge ends up
- 10 landing that haven't been worked out yet. When they get
- 11 worked out, you'll have more answers. That's part of
- 12 the role, by the way, that's part of what DOT is helping
- 13 us figure out right now in this Interchange
- 14 Justification Modification Report. As that moves
- 15 forward, we'll be able to answer those questions.
- MR. GRIMLAND: And there will be public
- 17 input to that?
- MR. COHEN: Well, the public input is
- 19 through the NEPA process, which is the environmental
- 20 process that this whole project has to go through as
- 21 well.
- MS. DUNAGAN: We were beginning to wonder
- 23 if NEPA was going to be mentioned.
- MS. GLENN: I don't have any problem
- 25 mentioning it. It will be necessary to assess what

- 1 impact this will have on the environment and National
- 2 Environmental Policy Act as well, because this is a
- 3 major -- I think it's required because the bridge is
- 4 going over the interstate.
- 5 MS. DUNAGAN: It's a major federal
- 6 undertaking.
- 7 MR. COHEN: It has to be at least three
- 8 options in there. Why this particular option, the final
- 9 selection, ends up happening has to be justified.
- MS. GLENN: That is a whole other
- 11 governmental process. There will be public input into
- 12 that process, and one of the reasons that we haven't
- 13 focused -- there is many, as we mentioned, and we are
- 14 trying to kind of take this in manageable chunks because
- 15 there are so many different government processes that
- 16 are affected by a redevelopment of this size. We can
- 17 certainly, especially with the interest that's been
- 18 relayed to us, in the future look at that as a main
- 19 topic for a meeting like this one.
- MS. BRITT: I'm Jane Perry Britt with the
- 21 State Health Department, and I was just wondering, since
- 22 there has been contaminated soil on the site, has there
- 23 been any past sampling of off-site soil or are there any
- 24 plans to be; and during the remediation process, who
- 25 will be in charge of protecting public health from

- 1 possible exposure to that? Would that be EPA or EPD?
- 2 MS. GLENN: I see our EPD person has
- 3 managed to get by very quietly, but this one seems like
- 4 a ripe question for you, Renee.
- 5 MS. FOSTER: My name is Renee Foster with
- 6 Georgia EPD. If I understand your question, you wanted
- 7 to know as far as has there been any sampling done off
- 8 site. They have not in our site, Atlantic Steel, they
- 9 have not done any. I know they were looking into doing
- 10 some in the smoking plant that was right next to the
- 11 Atlantic Steel plant. At one point that was a major
- 12 clean-up, and at the time they weren't looking at
- 13 Atlantic Steel as a place of residence. Now they are
- 14 taking a look at smoking to see if they have done enough
- 15 clean-up to have a residential area right next to it. I
- 16 don't believe Atlantic Steel and Jacoby have done any
- 17 off site. Most of the testing has been in the 38 acres.
- MS. GLENN: I think if people have
- 19 further questions, the document, the remediation plan,
- 20 and the results of the sampling will all be public
- 21 documents when they have been submitted and finalized
- 22 under the State's RCRA Program, Resource Conservation
- 23 and Recovery Act. That is the program at the State that
- 24 is overseeing that clean-up and they'll be glad to share
- 25 that information with you as soon as it's final. Parts

- 1 of it are final, but if you want to check in with Renee
- 2 or call me and I will get you to the right person at the
- 3 Georgia Environmental Protection Division to get you the
- 4 detailed information about what's going on on assessing
- 5 the site and looking at remediation.
- 6 FROM THE FLOOR: There was another part
- 7 to that question.
- 8 MS. GLENN: I'm sorry. What was the
- 9 second part?
- 10 FROM THE FLOOR: (Unintelligible)
- MS. GLENN: During the actual clean-up?
- 12 It would fall under their (unintelligible) OSHA
- 13 requirements. There are state-of-the-art technologies
- 14 that they can use to go in and make sure dust
- 15 suppression occurs and protect people during the actual
- 16 remediation at the site.
- MS. FOSTER: During clean-up and
- 18 remediation Georgia EPD is going to be the one that are
- 19 going to be enforcing the stats also in their
- 20 remediation plans. They are going to spell out how they
- 21 plan to protect the environment.
- MS. DUNAGAN: Toni Dunagan, Georgia DOT.
- 23 This seems to be such a question of interest. Will
- 24 there be a separate public hearing or public meeting to
- 25 really go into depth on the remediation plan and what's

- 1 been found and all of that? Seems to be a major concern
- 2 for people in the neighborhood. Would that be
- 3 appropriate?
- 4 MS. GLENN: Would it be appropriate? It
- 5 certainly seems like something that's being asked for
- 6 here. I think what we would do is kind of consult with
- 7 our state counterparts at EPD, and I think we've talked
- 8 a little bit about doing that in the past. It's just a
- 9 matter of having something final to present, because
- 10 people would be frustrated if we couldn't give them the
- 11 documents they wanted to see anyway. I do think that
- 12 that's something that we'll work together on and try and
- 13 present to people.
- MS. DUNAGAN: If there was such a
- 15 meeting, the people in this room would be invited
- 16 because they are on the mailing list now; is that
- 17 correct?
- FROM THE FLOOR: Yes.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: You know, you are dealing
- 20 with -- we are talking about a bridge across whatever,
- 21 and that gets to the issue that there is a wood
- 22 preserving plant immediately to the north on the Loring
- 23 Heights side of it. We've got the battery plant. And
- 24 it seems to me we need to worry about what's happening.
- 25 We know the Atlantic Steel site has had different

- 1 processes on it as well. If you are involved in looking
- 2 at -- you are primarily here tonight air quality, but it
- 3 seems to me, if you are here for that, we need that
- 4 protection for the whole thing. I'm not saying you go
- 5 to North Fulton, that far, but you ought to go a
- 6 reasonable distance around it to look at it to make
- 7 certain we don't have a problem.
- 8 MS. GLENN: Thank you for your comment.
- 9 We can talk about this some more after everyone has kind
- 10 of had a chance to speak. I understand the concern, and
- 11 certainly we'll be glad to answer further questions even
- 12 on a one-on-one, but I want to give other people a
- 13 chance to speak.
- MS. SMITH: Bernadette Smith. I'm a Home
- 15 Park resident. My biggest concern is more than knowing
- 16 the footprint of the building is knowing where the roads
- 17 are going to be and how many roads there are going to
- 18 be. As a logical person, I'm wondering how you can be
- 19 doing traffic assessment in terms of if there is one
- 20 road across the whole development, that would seem to me
- 21 a lot of cars would be sitting and idling, whereas if
- 22 you had like three roads going east and west and ten
- 23 roads going north and south or something, that would be
- 24 a different traffic model. So my biggest concern is can
- 25 we at least from the EPA get specificity on the streets.

- 1 MR. LEARY: Bernadette, you were at the
- 2 Duany workshop, and, Jim, this might go back to what you
- 3 were saying before, how does this affect the design.
- 4 Through EPA's modeling they will identify I think
- 5 through running the models what things in site designing
- 6 are better for air quality or better for smart growth,
- 7 block size, street widths. And, Bernadette, I think
- 8 that goes along with block size, smaller block size.
- 9 They have connectivity factors which means distance
- 10 between intersections or what have you. That is
- 11 obviously directly related to the number of options as
- 12 opposed to like a grid which is plenty of them versus a
- 13 cul-de-sac where you don't have many options until you
- 14 get out of the network. When we get the results from
- 15 the modeling study that EPA is doing, we'll be able to
- 16 take those and see how we can affect those on our plan
- 17 to be better in that sense. I don't know if that helps
- 18 at all.
- MS. SMITH: It's kind of a horse and cart
- 20 thing. It seems to me that you have to know where some
- 21 of the streets are if you are going to model something.
- MR. LEARY: Right. Initial site plan
- 23 that you've seen all along since day one is what they
- 24 modeled with us. Duany did a site plan and they
- 25 modeled that. Supposedly Duany, who is a new urbanist

- 1 planner -- new urbanism is focused on pedestrian
- 2 linkages and what have you the model should pick up
- 3 through some way I don't know, but the model does it,
- 4 that different aspects in design serve as a positive or
- 5 negative effect as you increase or decrease those
- 6 parameters in terms of air quality. So they model what
- 7 we initially had and they model Duany's and they see how
- 8 we can make it better.
- 9 MS. GLENN: Some of the specificity I
- 10 think you are asking for Bernadette has to be in the
- 11 Transportation Control Measure package.
- MR. COHEN: As part of the submittal,
- 13 this initial submittal, I did not have to give that
- 14 level of specificity just yet. The project is the
- 15 interchanges and the bridge in terms of funding. In
- 16 terms of a TCM, the whole project is being looked at,
- 17 and that's what between now and April I'm going to have
- 18 to have that answer.
- MS. GLENN: You are right that we can't
- 20 answer the question with the specificity you are asking
- 21 for now but we will have to have it by April.
- MR. COHEN: I have to have that by April
- 23 in order to further the TCM process through the regional
- 24 commission as it goes forward.
- DR. STEADMAN: I'm Vivian Steadman. I

- 1 have been serving on the EPA Environmental Justice Focus
- 2 Group on this project, and I have a question about -- it
- 3 says that the project is supposed to achieve
- 4 environmental performance that is superior, but under
- 5 your erosion and storm water control, instead of going
- 6 forward with sewer separation which has been talked
- 7 about and sounded like EPA was moving forward with that
- 8 because there is a very small area that needs to be
- 9 separated here, you are saying you are going to let the
- 10 storm water flow to the local CSO control facility.
- 11 Basically the way that's treated is you add sewage to
- 12 the storm water. That's obviously not a superior
- 13 environmental result. I think this portion of this
- 14 agreement needs to be struck.
- FROM THE FLOOR: It would be superior
- 16 compared to what has been coming out of there, very much
- 17 so.
- MS. GLENN: Dr. Steadman, there was
- 19 conversation early on that we had suggested that it
- 20 would be attractive if the sewer line, sanitary sewer
- 21 line, and the storm water discharge discharged into
- 22 separate systems. What we encountered when we actually
- 23 tried to start pinning down exactly what that meant is
- 24 there is no other system right now. There is no place
- 25 else to discharge water.

- 1 There are things in the agreement that do
- 2 address water conservation. We are looking at some of
- 3 EPA's voluntary programs for reducing water use. We are
- 4 looking at storm water best management practices which
- 5 should actually achieve the water quality necessary
- 6 before there is a discharge to the combined sewer
- 7 overflow. Those are in the agreement, and we'd
- 8 certainly take recommendations on things that could go
- 9 further. There is not another system to discharge the
- 10 storm water or sanitary sewage other than the combined
- 11 sewer overflow at this point. So there is no way
- 12 without creating an entirely new system all the way to
- 13 R.M. Clayton, I guess, that there is any way to achieve
- 14 that.
- DR. STEADMAN: Obviously somehow you've
- 16 gotten your messages mixed up, because this site is very
- 17 close to the Tanyard Creek CSO treatment facility and
- 18 there is a very short segment in there that needs to be
- 19 separated. To say this has to be piped all the way to
- 20 the R.M. Clayton plant is just nonsense.
- MS. GLENN: If you have a suggestion like
- 22 that, perhaps we can either talk further or, if you want
- 23 to give us written comments to give us some more
- 24 specificity, we'd be willing to look into that. We are
- 25 absolutely trying to do the best we can. We would be

- 1 glad to take any other information that you have.
- 2 DR. STEADMAN: We have provided that to
- 3 you. I guess we just need to reiterate it.
- 4 MS. GLENN: Maybe we will have a
- 5 follow-up meeting to kind of take care of -- you have
- 6 brought a lot of issues to our attention and we are
- 7 working as hard as we can. We will be able to follow up
- 8 on that, and also that will be on our record on the web
- 9 site as to how we have resolved some environment issues
- 10 and questions raised by different people.
- MR. SUTHERLAND: David Sutherland. I'm a
- 12 resident of Home Park. I'm also the President of
- 13 Atlanta Bicycle Campaign. I hope my question is simple.
- 14 When I first heard about this project a year and half,
- 15 two years ago, it mentioned a certain amount of money
- 16 had been set aside for the clean-up of the site, but
- 17 they made the editorial comment that that amount was
- 18 woefully low for what they thought was wrong over there.
- 19 I'm wondering, if that amount has been changed or if the
- 20 clean-up costs vastly exceed what's been set aside in
- 21 the budget, what's going to happen to the project? Who
- 22 is going to assume the cost? Will Jacoby pull out?
- MR. LEARY: I can try to answer that.
- 24 Atlantic Steel is the PRP, Potentially Responsible
- 25 Party, for the clean-up, and the agreement that Jacoby

- 1 has with Atlantic Steel is that we will receive a
- 2 remediated site. We have a lawyer, and Gerald will tell
- 3 you there is many different flavors of what remediated
- 4 is. That's what the work plan identifies and how they
- 5 are going to go about doing that. That's more of
- 6 Atlantic Steel than within the agreement a pot of money
- 7 set aside. There wasn't like a safe that says
- 8 remediation money and that's where it happens. It's
- 9 more of an Atlantic Steel thing. If they can't do it to
- 10 make the deal work, which doesn't seem to be the case --
- 11 every inclination is we are moving ahead. They started
- 12 phase two testing earlier based on the progress we've
- 13 made, and Jacoby went in with that as a partner
- 14 fifty-fifty where that commitment will be discounted
- 15 from a closing price. Charlie can maybe answer that
- 16 better than I can.
- MR. BROWN: I'm not sure about the
- 18 editorial comment about the reserve or the estimate
- 19 being low because I've never heard anybody say that, but
- 20 it is at this point in time Atlantic Steel and the EPD
- 21 and Jacoby are very close to a final remediation plan,
- 22 and it's my understanding, but I'm not Atlantic Steel so
- 23 I can't tell you for sure, but it's my understanding
- 24 that that is within the budgets that they had set aside
- 25 for that. So I think that the ability to remediate the

- 1 site to the use that we are talking about there is
- 2 economically feasible.
- 3 MR. BRANDON: Mike Brandon again with
- 4 Home Park Community. I was wondering, hearing the
- 5 process, at what point in time does the federal funding
- 6 become available for bridge construction, assuming that
- 7 everything progresses as you expect it would?
- 8 MS. SHECKLER: Funding cannot be released
- 9 until the project is approved in the SIP TCM. Right now
- 10 we are trying to get it put into the Interim
- 11 Transportation Plan as a place holder. That will be put
- 12 in that plan contingent upon EPA's approval in the SIP.
- 13 But the next step is GDOT has to give the Interchange
- 14 Justification Report. They have to approve that, and
- 15 then NEPA has to be approved. So monies will not be
- 16 available until you have gone through all of those
- 17 processes and the final design of the bridge is
- 18 determined.
- 19 MS. DUNAGAN: Toni Dunagan, Georgia DOT.
- 20 My understanding or the sense I'm getting of this is the
- 21 SIP TCM, really there is no point going forward with
- 22 NEPA until the SIP is approved, until the TCM is
- 23 approved in the State Implementation Plan. Is that not
- 24 right? Is that the sequencing that you-all are
- 25 anticipating, or while the SIP is under consideration

- 1 and being approved is NEPA going to go on a parallel?
- 2 MS. SHECKLER: Before we approve it to
- 3 the SIP, it would be nice to know what the final design
- 4 is. If NEPA is not final at the time we decide to move
- 5 forward with approving it to the SIP, it will be
- 6 contingent upon the design that comes out of NEPA. NEPA
- 7 is going to look at various alternatives and it will be
- 8 the final say.
- 9 MS. DUNAGAN: It's a real chicken and egg
- 10 kind of thing. I'm confused. It's a very confusing
- 11 process we are talking about, because you are saying
- 12 NEPA will be concurrent with the SIP TCM submittal. I
- 13 saw in your schedule here I think it said --
- MR. MEIBURG: We are talking about doing
- 15 some advanced work on a NEPA type process in
- 16 anticipation of the SIP TCM moving forward, so you don't
- 17 have to do things sequentially and help save some time
- 18 in the schedule that way.
- MS. DUNAGAN: Who will be responsible for
- 20 doing the NEPA document?
- 21 MR. MEIBURG: We are talking about that
- 22 with federal right now.
- MS. SMITH: That doesn't answer the
- 24 question. When will funding be available?
- MS. SHECKLER: When the NEPA project is

- 1 done, and we don't know how long that will take. It
- 2 involves the public. It involves looking at different
- 3 alternatives.
- 4 MS. SMITH: A year, two years, five
- 5 years?
- 6 MS. DUNAGAN: Two years minimum.
- 7 MS. SHECKLER: The typical NEPA review is
- 8 taking two years.
- 9 MS. BRITT: Jane Perry Britt. I'm
- 10 wearing two hats. I'm also a Home Park resident. I'm
- 11 wondering about during the construction of the
- 12 development -- and this may be a DOT question even.
- 13 It's mentioned in the proposal about removal of
- 14 contaminated surface soil. Along with removal of
- 15 surface soil and the construction, I'm concerned about
- 16 all the increased truck traffic of removing contaminated
- 17 soil, truck routes, about noise, and all this increased
- 18 construction materials coming through our neighborhood.
- 19 Will the residents have any input in the routes that
- 20 they will take coming off interstates, things like that?
- 21 I'm also concerned about public safety with all of the
- 22 trucks and during the rush hour, things like that.
- 23 MS. GLENN: If I understand your
- 24 question, it's kind of beyond where we are tonight.
- MR. COHEN: There is going to have to be

- 1 an approved truck route plan before the project is
- 2 approved, and it will be done by the Bureau of
- 3 Buildings. There will be a set way for trucks to
- 4 ingress and egress in the site.
- 5 MS. BRITT: Do residents have any input?
- 6 MR. COHEN: No. Because it's usually the
- 7 quickest way on and off the interstate using major
- 8 routes, if you want a clue.
- 9 MR. BROWN: Very similar to what they do
- 10 now.
- MS. GLENN: Other questions?
- MS. DUNAGAN: I'd like to address that
- 13 just for a minute, or ask a question I guess. Will
- 14 there be like an environmental compliance officer for
- 15 the site when this is happening so that fugitive dust
- 16 problems and things like that will be addressed
- 17 immediately instead of residents having to complain
- 18 about it? That a lot of times helps solve the problem
- 19 if there is a one-point contact for environmental
- 20 concerns.
- 21 MS. GLENN: I appreciate the suggestion.
- MR. LEARY: I think Renee would
- 23 definitely answer that question.
- MS. FOSTER: For the most part, yes,
- 25 there will. I know they will probably be looking into

- 1 doing air monitoring as far as you've got a dust
- 2 problem, if there is a dust problem, how you are going
- 3 to control it. But our office being right there closest
- 4 to the site, we will be making periodic visits out
- 5 there. I can't say there is going to be one out there
- 6 24 hours a day or eight-, ten-hour days, but we will
- 7 make periodic checks on that and we will have an air
- 8 monitoring system.
- 9 MR. BRANDON: Is there anything that the
- 10 EPA can do in working with the developer to provide
- 11 incentives or something to promote people that work in
- 12 the development to actually live in the development?
- MR. LEARY: There is a thing called
- 14 location efficient mortgages where you get a greater
- 15 percentage. If you lived in town and you have access to
- 16 transit and smart growth type areas, you use transit,
- 17 and you walk, what have you, you spend less of your
- 18 money on your car and gas and insurance, and et cetera,
- 19 and so what that does is that gives you more money to
- 20 spend on your home and so you can then qualify for a
- 21 greater mortgage. That program is not in Atlanta. It's
- 22 in pilot cities across the U.S., and hopefully Atlanta
- 23 will come into that as that proves successful. I don't
- 24 know about any EPA ones.
- MR. TORMA: The project agreement doesn't

- 1 address how to get people to both live and work there.
- 2 The zoning requirements include conditions that any
- 3 employer on the site that has more than 50 employees has
- 4 to create a transportation management plan with a goal
- 5 of reducing the amount of people who drive to work and
- 6 increasing the amount who use alternative forms to get
- 7 there, reducing by 25 percent. So your specific
- 8 question, no, that is not addressed by EPA.
- 9 MR. TURK: Gregory Turk. Atlanta is a
- 10 city notorious for destroying its historical elements.
- 11 I'm saying that for the benefit of those from
- 12 Washington. Has Duany or any other groups involved in
- 13 the development decided or thought about including any
- 14 of the elements of the steel mill in it? And also,
- 15 regarding EPA, can that even happen? Can certain
- 16 structures remain?
- MR. LEARY: Legally, Atlantic Steel, they
- 18 own the property. If they wanted to right now, they
- 19 could do anything they want. You can do anything you
- 20 want with your own property unless you have historic
- 21 status. So their plan is to recycle all the steel
- 22 that's in the buildings and put it on the train and take
- 23 it to Birmingham so they can sell it for scrap. And
- 24 we'd like to hopefully maybe reuse some of the steel on
- 25 new construction. They are trying, using best use

| 1 | practices, to recycle as much as they can and liquidate |
|----|---|
| 2 | the rest. That's an Atlantic Steel thing, and you can |
| 3 | I'm sure call them and contact them. |
| 4 | FROM THE FLOOR: Does that include the |
| 5 | buildings themselves or what's inside them? |
| 6 | MR. LEARY: The buildings themselves. |
| 7 | The steel, even the brick in some of them I think they |
| 8 | are talking to people about that, since antique brick, |
| 9 | old brick, now costs twice as much as new brick. |
| 10 | MR. TURK: Would the EPA restrict any o |
| 11 | those elements remaining? |
| 12 | MR. TORMA: I'd say no. That's not |
| 13 | something this agreement addresses. Historic |
| 14 | preservation requiring someone to do an aesthetic, |
| 15 | that's kind of not our bailiwick. |
| 16 | MS. DUNAGAN: That would have to be a |
| 17 | part of the NEPA process. |
| 18 | MS. GLENN: Other questions? |
| 19 | Thank you all for coming. |
| 20 | |
| 21 | (MEETING ADJOURNED) |
| 22 | |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |