

## MEETING ON THE CENTRAL ARTERY/THIRD HARBOR TUNNEL

January 7, 1987 - 5:30 p.m.

In attendance: Fred Salvucci, Mike Shea, Councilor Kelly; representatives from Rep. Flaherty's office, Massport, DPW, Mayor Flynn's office, and from local South Boston residents' groups. There were also members of the consulting/engineering firm working on the project in attendance.

After I gave a brief update on the current legislative activity as regards the Transportation Bill, Fred Salvucci detailed the state's activities on the project to date. Authorization from the Federal Highway Administration has allowed the state to begin the engineering work for the project. Fred further provided the latest completion schedule for the tunnel/artery project:

- 1994: Opening of the Third Harbor Tunnel
- 1995: Opening of the Northbound Lane of the artery.
- 1996: Opening of the Southbound Lane of the artery.
- 1998: Completion of the project - including landscaping and removal of the current artery structure.

### Issues brought up by the South Boston Groups:

1. Where will the debris from the tunnel digging be stored and or disposed of?
2. What will the traffic disruption due to the project be in South Boston?
3. Can anything be done to immediately alleviate the traffic congestion in South Boston (ex. closing off L Street to commuter traffic at the Bathhouse end of L.; closing the two off-ramps on the express-way leading into South Boston from 7 a.m. - 9 a.m.)
4. What will be the significance of the Fan Pier and other S. Boston projects in conjunction with the Third Harbor Tunnel /artery project?
5. Where will the financing for the South Boston Access Road renovation (truck route) come from? (The state would prefer the use of federal funds for the project.)

### Issues involving JIM directly:

1. Salvucci has asked the Post Office (GMF) to allow Dorchester Avenue next to the Post Office facility to be opened to one lane of traffic. The road traffic would flow one way in the morning and the opposite way in the afternoon. Since the state has no eminent domain power over the Post Office, all the state can do is humbly ask the Post Office for its cooperation. It was suggested by residents that JIM assist Salvucci in this endeavor.
2. Finally, as regards the Northern Avenue bridge construction project, Salvucci said that JIM has "been on his back" to begin construction on the project. In response, Salvucci recently sent a letter to JIM containing the construction time frame. That time frame has again recently changed, however. The new time table is that the engineering work will be completed in March and construction will begin early this summer. The overall delay was caused by a present lack of Federal Highway Administration funds. The new schedule is apparently ahead of the schedule given to JIM two months ago.