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Consultation & Coordination

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Overleaf:

The public was actively engaged in the development of this plan.

This Page:

The U.S. Congress has long been interested in Valley Forge. Congressional consultation dates back to 1778, when the first oversight committee visited General Washington.

Chapter 5: Consultation and Coordination

5.1 Introduction

There are many different public agencies; federal, state, and local governments; nonprofit organizations; institutions; and individual citizens who have an interest in the future management of Valley Forge NHP. Reaching out to these interested parties for their ideas and expertise and listening to their concerns is an important step in the development of a GMP/EIS. A combination of activities, including formal public workshops, stakeholder interviews, government briefings, and agency meetings, has helped the park and its planning team gain valuable insight in developing alternatives for the future of Valley Forge NHP.

This chapter describes the public involvement and agency coordination used during the preparation of this Draft GMP/EIS. It provides a detailed list of the various consultations held during the scoping and alternatives development phases of the project, and it also provides the list of recipients for this document.

5.2 Public Involvement

Since the beginning of the planning process for the Valley Forge NHP GMP/EIS, the park and its planning team reached out to stakeholders including the general public, interested individuals, local governments, organizations, and any agencies having jurisdiction by law or expertise for assistance in determining the scope of issues that should be addressed. As the development of alternatives progressed, the park provided information and updates via newsletters, news releases, public open houses, the park website, and briefings. Table 5-1 provides a running list of the consultations and public involvement activities. For a summary of the comments received during the scoping process, see Appendix C: Scoping Summary and Analysis. Also, Appendix B contains relevant correspondence with agencies and American Indian tribes.

Table 5-1 **Running List of Consultation and Public Involvement**

Date	Description
2002	
3/5	<i>Federal Register</i> published a Valley Forge NHP Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS.
6/25	GMP consultant conducted stakeholder scoping interview of Don Shanis, Deputy Director, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (MPO).
6/25	GMP consultant conducted stakeholder scoping interview of Robin Mann, Southeast Pennsylvania Director, Sierra Club.
6/26	GMP consultant conducted stakeholder scoping interviews of Leo Bagley (Transportation), and John Wood (Open Space and Trails), Montgomery County Planning Commission.
6/26	GMP consultant conducted stakeholder scoping interview of Dixie Swenson, Executive Director, Schuylkill Valley National Heritage Corridor.
6/27	GMP consultant conducted stakeholder scoping interview of Crystal Gilcrist, Planner, Lower Providence Township.

Table 5-1 Running List of Consultation and Public Involvement (Continued)

Date	Description
8/7	Valley Forge NHP requested consultation and information on endangered and threatened species from the USFWS.
8/7	Valley Forge NHP requested consultation and information on endangered and threatened species from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory.
8/8	Valley Forge NHP sent a letter to the Oneida Indian Nation (New York) requesting consultation.
8/12	GMP consultant conducted stakeholder scoping interview of Ron Wagenmann, Township Manager, Upper Merion Township.
9/11	Valley Forge NHP received a letter from the Pennsylvania SHPO acknowledging the request for consultation.
9/16	GMP consultant conducted stakeholder scoping interview of Joy Oakes, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director, NPCA.
9/26	Valley Forge NHP and the NPS-Northeast Regional Office met with FHWA to consult on integration of traffic and transportation planning in the GMP/EIS process.
10/4-7	Valley Forge NHP mailed 880 copies of planning newsletter #1 on scoping for the GMP/EIS.
10/9	Valley Forge NHP conducted briefing for Brent Glass, Jean Cutler (Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission) and Holly Thompson (Director of Economic Development, Senator Santorum's Office) on GMP/EIS scoping issues and the revised range of options for the transportation elements.
10/23	Valley Forge NHP held public open houses for GMP/EIS scoping issues. A total of 120 persons attended two open houses.
10/24	Valley Forge NHP conducted a park tour for Joy Oakes (NPCA) and Robin Mann (Sierra Club, Southeast Pennsylvania chapter) focusing on scoping issues, potential Betzwood Bridge impacts, potential P-option (transportation elements) impacts, and current conditions at asbestos AOC sites.
10/28	Valley Forge NHP fulfilled a request from park neighbor for 250 scoping newsletters to be hand-delivered.
2003	
3/7	Valley Forge NHP and NER briefed Deputy Director Randy Jones and Associate Director Sue Masica on GMP conceptual alternatives, traffic and transportation planning, and museum planning initiatives at the park.
3/7	Valley Forge NHP briefed Northeast Regional Director of NPCA on GMP conceptual alternatives for the park.
3/13	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to 45 members of Lower Merion Conservancy.
3/13	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to 40 members of Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Corporation.
3/14	Valley Forge NHP received a response from Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory regarding species of special concern listed for the park.
4/24	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of planning initiatives to senior staff of National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Table 5-1 Running List of Consultation and Public Involvement (Continued)

Date	Description
5/1	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of planning initiatives to annual meeting of 50 members of PennDOT Advisory Commission.
5/8	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of planning initiatives to 100 members of Tri-County Chamber of Commerce.
5/14	Valley Forge NHP gave tour of park and made presentation of museum planning and GMP/EIS context to NPS Associate Director Sue Masica.
5/20	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of planning initiatives and interrelationship to regional traffic and transportation planning to regular Interagency Coordination Meeting, including Chester County Conservation District, FHWA, Montgomery County Conservation District, Pennsylvania DEP, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, PennDOT, Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission, Schuylkill River Greenways Association, U.S. Public Health Service, EPA, and USACE.
6/7	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to 60 members of Patriotic Order Sons of America annual meeting.
6/19	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of museum planning and GMP/EIS context to Montgomery County Commissioners.
7/10	Valley Forge NHP gave park tour and made presentation of GMP, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to Craig Crutchfield, Budget Examiner, U.S. Office of Management and Budget.
7/11	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to Tredyffrin Township Manager.
7/11	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors.
7/14	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to West Norriton Township Manager and Deputy Manager.
7/14	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to Lower Providence Township Manager, Deputy Manager, and Planner.
7/15	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to Upper Merion Township Manager.
7/23	Valley Forge NHP held two public workshops, each focusing on three issues: traffic congestion in and around the park; types and levels of active recreational use; and development of the park's north side. 160 members of the public attended.
9/10	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to Montgomery County Planning Commission.
10/3	Valley Forge NHP gave park tour and made presentation of GMP issues and elements of GMP conceptual alternatives, traffic, and museum planning initiatives to board members and senior staff of the NPCA.
10/7	Valley Forge NHP gave update on progress of GMP, traffic, and museum planning at a regularly scheduled meeting of all employees of Valley Forge NHP.
10/20	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of <i>Trails Assessment for Valley Forge NHP</i> (The Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation 2003) and discussion of trails issues and options at GMP/EIS public workshop, attended by 74 people.
10/21	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of Purpose and Need for GMP/EIS and for traffic planning within park to Interagency Coordination Meeting (see entry for 5/20 above for list of agencies).

Table 5-1 Running List of Consultation and Public Involvement (Continued)

Date	Description
12/12	Valley Forge NHP briefed committee of Signal Seekers organization on GMP/EIS process and its relationship to their special use-permit.
2004	
1/13	Valley Forge NHP presented GMP issues and elements of conceptual alternatives and answered questions at general meeting of Signal Seekers organization.
1/15	Valley Forge NHP gave park tour and made presentation of planning initiatives, GMP/EIS issues and concepts, and museum facility concepts to Dan Wenk, Manager of NPS-Denver Service Center.
1/27	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts, museum planning initiative, and salient park partnership projects to annual meeting, NPS Legislative Affairs Specialists.
2/20	Valley Forge NHP met with committee of Signal Seekers organization to follow-up on general meeting and ensure open communication.
3/12	NPS-Northeast Region and Valley Forge NHP made presentation of planning initiatives, GMP/EIS issues and concepts, and museum facility concepts to NPS-Washington Office (WASO) senior staff in Washington.
3/15	WASO, NPS-Northeast Region, and Valley Forge NHP made presentation of planning initiatives, GMP/EIS issues and concepts, and museum facility concepts to Chiefs of Staff, House and Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittees.
4/16	Valley Forge NHP met with committee of Signal Seekers organization on recreational and special-use issues.
4/27	Valley Forge NHP gave park tour and made presentation of GMP/EIS issues, concepts, and alternatives and museum facility concepts to Pennsylvania Deputy SHPO and staff at annual site review meeting.
5/7	Valley Forge NHP met with committee of Signal Seekers organization on recreational and special-use issues.
6/22	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts to informal meeting of regional philanthropic interests.
7/9	Valley Forge NHP met with committee of Signal Seekers organization regarding relationship of GMP alternatives to future special-use permits.
11/10	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts at meeting of Chester County Planning Commission.
12/17	Valley Forge NHP met with committee of Signal Seekers organization on recreational and special-use issues.
2005	
2/3	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts at Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors meeting.
2/14	Valley Forge NHP updated the NPCA on GMP/EIS issues and concepts.
3/1	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts at Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors meeting.
3/7	Valley Forge NHP updated Congressional delegation on GMP/EIS issues and concepts.

Table 5-1 Running List of Consultation and Public Involvement (Continued)

Date	Description
3/10	Valley Forge NHP updated Pennsylvania State Senator Connie Williams on GMP/EIS issues and concepts.
3/30	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts to staff of U.S. Senator Arlen Specter on a visit to the park.
3/31	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts to U.S. Congressman Curt Weldon's staff.
4/15	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts to the King of Prussia Chamber of Commerce.
4/22	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts at a land use seminar sponsored by the Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association.
5/2	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts at a meeting of senior staff of Tredyffrin Township.
5/4	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts for the Phoenixville public access cable station.
5/5	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts at a meeting of the Paoli Presbyterian Men's Association.
5/11	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts at a meeting of the Berwyn-Devon Business Association.
5/11	Valley Forge NHP gave park tour and gave update on GMP/EIS alternatives and museum facility concepts to Pennsylvania Deputy SHPO and staff at annual site review meeting.
5/25	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts at a meeting of the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce.
6/9	Valley Forge NHP made presentation of GMP/EIS issues and concepts at a meeting of the Paoli-Malvern Rotary Club.
2006	
3/23	Valley Forge NHP sent a letter to the Oneida Indian Nation (New York) requesting further consultation.
3/23	Valley Forge NHP sent a letter to the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin requesting consultation.
3/23	Valley Forge NHP sent a letter to the Stockbridge-Munsee Community requesting consultation.
3/23	Valley Forge NHP sent a letter to the Delaware Nation requesting consultation.
4/17	Valley Forge NHP received a letter from the Oneida Indian Nation (New York) acknowledging that the proposed GMP alternatives do not threaten any emotional bonds nor is there anything sacred to the Oneidas at the locations of potential impact.

5.3 Tribal Coordination

At the onset of the GMP/EIS process and prior to public review of the Draft GMP/EIS, the Oneida Indian Nation (New York) was contacted via letter to request formal consultation (August 8, 2002 and March 23, 2006). The Oneida were present during the 1777-78 encampment and maintain an oral tradition of their experiences with the soldiers. Twice a year, the Oneida visit Valley Forge NHP to present interpretive programs focused on their experiences during the encampment. The Oneida also meet with park staff at this time to review upcoming proposals and interpretive programs that may concern them. The park enjoys a long-standing, interpretive relationship with the Oneida Indian Nation (New York), which will continue as the new GMP is implemented.

Additional American Indian tribes were contacted via letter to initiate consultation, including the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, the Stockbridge-Munsee Community, and the Delaware Nation. Consultation and coordination with these tribes will continue through implementation of the new GMP, as needed. This effort will also be continued through the Section 106 compliance process.

5.4 Section 106 Consultation

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended requires that federal agencies consider the effect of undertakings on properties listed on the National Register and allow the SHPO and ACHP the opportunity to comment. On August 1, 2002, Valley Forge NHP sent letters to both the Pennsylvania SHPO and the ACHP to initiate consultation for the GMP/EIS. The SHPO acknowledged the request for consultation with a letter dated September 11, 2002. Informal meetings with the SHPO and staff have occurred throughout the planning process, with official updates being provided at the annual site review meetings on April 27, 2004 and May 11, 2005.

To further compliance with Section 106, the park has prepared a draft Programmatic Agreement. The Programmatic Agreement lists the potential actions that may require further compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and identifies the necessary steps the NPS will take prior to implementation. The draft Programmatic Agreement is located in Appendix G and Table F-1 also identifies those proposed actions that will require additional compliance with Section 106.

5.5 Section 7 Consultation

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 USC 1531 et seq.) requires all federal agencies to consult with the USFWS to ensure that any action authorized, funded, or carried out by the agency does not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or critical habitat. NPS management policies also require cooperation with appropriate state conservation agencies to protect state-listed and candidate species of special concern within park boundaries.

At the onset of the GMP/EIS, the park contacted the USFWS and the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of

Conservation and Natural Resources) via letter to initiate consultation and request information about special status species within Valley Forge NHP (August 7, 2002). The USFWS noted that habitat for the federally threatened bog turtle (*Clemmys muhlenbergii*) exists within the park. In a letter dated October 29, 2002, the agency requested a habitat suitability survey if wetlands occur within or near areas of proposed impact. Actions proposed by the Valley Forge NHP GMP have been designed to avoid and/or minimize adverse impacts to wetlands. However, as individual actions are implemented, the park will survey the area for suitable habitat and coordinate with the USFWS, as needed.

The review by the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (letter dated March 14, 2003) indicated several occurrences of state species of special concern within Valley Forge NHP (see Table 3-2 for a list of species and correspondence in Appendix B). As with the bog turtle, actions proposed by the GMP have been designed to avoid and/or minimize adverse impacts to these species and their habitats. As individual actions are implemented, the park will survey the specific area of potential impact and coordinate with the appropriate state agency (Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission and/or the Pennsylvania Game Commission), if species are encountered.

5.6 Transportation Planning Process

The NPS has worked for many years with federal and state transportation agencies to protect the resources within Valley Forge NHP. In order to work together more effectively, a Memorandum of Understanding among the NPS, FHWA, PennDOT, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, and the DVRPC was signed in March 2002 “to promote the long-term protection of the resources and values of Valley Forge National Historical Park and to achieve regional transportation goals.” Since then, over 200 meetings have been held with officials and the public to identify transportation related issues, develop proposed solutions, program funds, and plan for implementation of the identified transportation projects. (Please see Appendix A for a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding.)

Through this cooperative effort, these agencies worked with the townships, counties, and elected officials to complete the VFATPS. This study provided recommendations for further action in September 2002 and was the basis for a Programmatic Agreement between the NPS and FHWA in December 2002. This agreement outlined a plan for implementation for the VFATPS recommendations. The study was coordinated closely with the *Phoenixville Area Intermodal Transportation Study* that was completed by DVRPC in January 2003. (Please see Appendix A for a copy of the transportation Programmatic Agreement.)

During the study process, a steering committee was formed among the project sponsors including the NPS, FHWA, PennDOT, and DVRPC. A larger advisory committee was formed to include project stakeholders such as West Norriton, Upper Merion, Lower Providence, Tredyffrin, and Schuylkill Townships, Chester and Montgomery Counties, SEPTA, the Greater Valley Forge TMA, and the Chester County TMA. Between March and September 2002, three meetings were held to solicit input from the advisory committee.

A public open house was held June 25, 2002 to present the range of options being considered in the VFATPS. A second public meeting was held July 23, 2003 as part

of the GMP/EIS scoping process, at which transportation and site access issues were identified by the public as one of the key issues to be addressed by the GMP/EIS.

The steering committee met 14 times between February 2002 and July 2003. Over 30 smaller meetings were held with various members of the steering committee during the planning study phase. During this phase of the VFATPS, several specialized groups were formed to focus on key issues that were critical to the advancement of the initiatives recommended for further study. These work groups included

- NEPA process work group
- funding and implementation work group
- Betzwood Bridge replacement project work group
- GMP/EIS IACM group
- Section 106 coordination work group
- traffic and transportation development committee

More than 50 meetings were held to focus on these key issues through June 2005. Steering committee representatives also held over 50 meetings with project stakeholders to provide updates on the status of these projects and solicit input on transportation improvement initiatives. These efforts resulted in the completion of two early action items based on cooperative effort of the project sponsors. These included a minor widening of North Gulph Road just south of PA Route 23 and improved way-finding signage for Valley Forge NHP along westbound I-76.

The NEPA process work group was charged with identifying the regulatory requirements for implementation of transportation projects by the NPS and FHWA and to develop methods for minimizing duplication of effort. The funding and implementation work group focused on the funding needs for various planning phases and was responsible for coordinating the procurement procedures. The Betzwood Bridge replacement project work group was responsible for identifying and resolving outstanding issues regarding the final design for the Betzwood Bridge replacement.

An IACM group was formed to assess the transportation elements for the GMP/EIS to be consistent with PennDOT's Transportation Project Development Process. The IACM met four times between January 2003 and February 2005 to develop transportation-related purpose and need statements and a preliminary range of transportation elements to be included in the Draft GMP/EIS.

The Section 106 coordination work group consulted with the NPS and the Pennsylvania SHPO to comply with Section 106 of the NHPA. Four Section 106 coordination meetings were held to plan the key tasks for determining the impacts to the cultural resources in the project study area.

The DVRPC worked with PennDOT, FHWA, and the NPS to provide the traffic forecasting for the VFATPS implementation phase. The DVRPC report (March 2005) provided AADT volumes for the current conditions, Design Year 2030 no build, and seven Design Year 2030 build scenarios that were identified by the traffic and transportation development committee.

Once the study was complete, the steering committee began the VFATPS programmatic agreement implementation phase in early 2004. The work included all actions to be carried out as specified in the agreement, including advancement of the RCC projects and the development of the transportation elements that would be considered during the GMP/EIS process.

Steering committee meetings have continued to be held during the implementation phase. After the first advisory committee meeting on September 22, 2004, all parties agreed to merge the steering committee and the advisory committee because several representatives of the advisory committee requested to be more involved in the daily project development activities.

During the implementation phase, public meetings were held on September 30, 2004 and June 28, 2005 to present the progress on the RCC projects and provide general information regarding the GMP/EIS.

In April 2005, the project sponsors and affected municipalities coordinated a group trip to Washington, D.C. to present the projects to the elected officials and gain support for the projects outlined in the VFATPS programmatic agreement.

Coordination for the transportation-related activities as outlined in the VFATPS programmatic agreement is expected to continue through mid-2006.

Table 5-2 lists each of the meetings described above.

Table 5-2 Running List of Meetings and Consultations Related to the Transportation Planning Process

Date	Description
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Coordination	
2/12/02	MOU meeting
3/14/02	MOU conference call
7/29/02	Brief MOU parties on recommendations
VFATPS and Implementation Phase Steering Committee Coordination	
Planning Study	
2/21/02	Steering Committee meeting #1
2/21/02	DVRPC coordination meeting
3/13/02	Park informational meeting (GMP EIS)
3/19/02	Park informational meeting (Archeologist)
3/19/02	Park informational meeting (Chief Ranger)
3/28/02	Steering Committee meeting #2

Table 5-2 Running List of Meetings and Consultations Related to the Transportation Planning Process (Continued)

Date	Description
4/24/02	Meeting with PennDOT Traffic Unit
4/29/02	Steering Committee meeting #3
5/6/02	Steering Committee field view
5/23/02	Meeting with PennDOT District Bridge Engineer
5/31/02	Park trails and parking meeting (Chief Ranger)
6/10/02	Steering Committee meeting #4
7/3/02	Meeting with District Traffic Unit and Bridge Engineer
7/11/02	Steering Committee meeting #5
7/25/02	Briefing on recommendations for district officials
7/25/02	Briefing on recommendations for park officials
8/12/02	Steering Committee meeting #6
9/17/02	Steering Committee meeting #7
10/3/02	Coordination meeting with Valley Forge NHP (Chief Ranger)
10/10/02	Traffic forecasting status meeting
10/15/02	Steering Committee meeting #8
10/23/02	Park GMP/EIS public scoping meeting
11/1/02	Meeting with Valley Forge NHP Chief Archeologist
11/5/02	VFATPS scoping meeting
11/6/02	Park GMP/EIS coordination meeting
11/7/02	Park GMP/EIS coordination meeting
11/19/02	Steering Committee meeting #9
12/3/02	GMP/EIS work section
12/3/02	Traffic forecasting coordination session
12/4/02	GMP/EIS work section
12/18/02	Steering Committee meeting #10
1/14/03	GMP meeting
2/12/03	Steering Committee meeting #11
2/13/03	NPS, FHWA, and PennDOT right-of-way meeting
3/27/03	DVRPC Board meeting (project presentation)
4/10/03	Steering Committee meeting #12
6/5/03	Steering Committee meeting #13
6/24/03	Coordination meeting with Valley Forge NHP for open house
7/10/03	Meeting with Valley Forge NHP Chief Ranger
7/15/03	FHWA-Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division meeting
7/16/03	Meeting with Volpe on park transportation
7/17/03	Steering Committee meeting #14
8/4/03	Coordination meeting with FHWA - Philadelphia
8/5/03	Design team coordination meeting

Table 5-2 Running List of Meetings and Consultations Related to the Transportation Planning Process (Continued)

Date	Description
8/5/03	Valley Forge NHP coordination meeting
8/20/03	VFATPS traffic coordination meeting with DVRPC
Implementation Phase	
9/9/03	Presentation to DVRPC Regional Traffic Commission
10/22/03	VFATPS traffic meeting with DVRPC
10/23/03	Meeting with District 6-0 on North Gulph "squeeze" HOP
11/5/03	Meeting with PennDOT Dist. 6-0 Bridge Engineer
11/7/03	VFATPS Steering Committee meeting #2
11/14/03	North Gulph "squeeze" HOP meeting
11/17/03	North Gulph "squeeze" HOP field meeting with Valley Forge NHP Chief Ranger
11/25/03	North Gulph "squeeze" meeting with PennDOT District Maintenance Engineer
11/25/03	Coordination meeting with Valley Forge NHP Chief Ranger
12/3/03	Field meeting on North Gulph "squeeze" with contractor
1/9/04	Steering Committee meeting #3
1/13/04	Coordination meeting with team structural engineer
1/13/04	Design and traffic review with District 6-0 Traffic Engineer
1/16/04	Coordination meeting with ARC landscape architect.
1/30/04	Design team coordination meeting
2/2/04	Meeting with Valley Forge NHP Planner
2/24/04	Unveiling of model for ARC at Valley Forge
3/3/04	Field reconnaissance with Valley Forge NHP officials
3/5/04	Steering Committee meeting #4
3/10/04	Traffic operations meeting with District 6-0 Traffic Engineer
3/10/04	Trails meeting related to Valley Forge NHP
3/20/04	Trails and parking use reconnaissance
3/25/04	Traffic operations meeting with District 6-0 Traffic Engineer
4/6/04	Review design and traffic operations with FHWA
4/16/04	Steering Committee meeting #5
4/19/04	Access and parking planning meeting for ARC at Valley Forge
6/3/04	Meeting with ARC landscape architect
6/4/04	Steering Committee meeting #6
6/4/04	Valley Forge NHP trails reconnaissance
6/7/04	Valley Forge NHP park gateway meeting
6/29/04	Coordination meeting on GMP EIS
7/8/04	Meeting with team structural engineer
7/9/04	Steering Committee meeting #7
7/12/04	Coordination meeting with Executive Director, Upper Merion Transit Authority

Table 5-2 Running List of Meetings and Consultations Related to the Transportation Planning Process (Continued)

Date	Description
7/20/04	Valley Forge NHP trails planning field meeting
7/23/04	Composite traffic plan meeting with DVRPC
8/3/04	Coordination meeting with District 6-0 Traffic Engineer
8/17/04	Steering Committee meeting #8
8/24/04	Coordination meeting with FHWA on Avoidance Design
9/10/04	Design review meeting with PennDOT and FHWA officials
9/17/04	Steering Committee meeting #9
10/29/04	Steering Committee meeting #10
11/2/04	Presented updated PA Route 363/US 422 design to Project Manager
11/2/04	Presented PA Route 363/US 422 updated Synchro to Traffic Engineer
11/4/04	Presented PA Route 363/US 422 updated design and Synchro to FHWA
11/10/04	Presented project overview to GVFTMA Board
11/11/04	PA Route 23/US 422 design meeting with team structural engineer
11/24/04	Meeting with Bob Thomas of CT&C on trail crossing US 422 at PA Turnpike
12/3/04	Steering Committee meeting #11
12/14/04	Noise meeting with team specialist
2/4/05	Steering Committee meeting #12
3/18/05	Steering Committee meeting #13
4/21/05	Steering Committee meeting #14
5/25/05	Steering Committee meeting #15
VFATPS Advisory Committee/Public Coordination	
3/26/02	Advisory Committee meeting #1
5/21/02	Advisory Committee meeting #2
6/25/02	Public open house
9/24/02	Advisory Committee meeting #3
2/26/03	GMP/EIS public open house meeting
7/23/03	GMP/EIS public open house meeting
9/22/04	Advisory Committee meeting
9/30/04	Categorical Exclusion public open house
6/28/05	Categorical Exclusion public open house
VFATPS Miscellaneous Meetings with Stakeholders	
2/22/02	Montgomery County informational meeting
2/22/02	Township informational meeting #1
2/25/02	Township informational meeting #1
2/25/02	Township informational meeting #1
2/26/02	Township informational meeting #1

Table 5-2 Running List of Meetings and Consultations Related to the Transportation Planning Process (Continued)

Date	Description
2/27/02	Township informational meeting #1
2/27/02	Chester County informational meeting
5/7/02	Township informational meeting #2
5/8/02	Meeting with Upper Merion Transportation Authority
5/13/02	Township informational meeting #2
5/14/02	Township informational meeting #2
5/15/02	Township informational meeting #2
5/29/02	Meeting with SEPTA
6/4/02	Valley Forge Memorial Chapel meeting
6/20/02	Briefing for Lower Providence Supervisors
9/3/02	Briefing for West Norriton Supervisors #3
9/18/02	Briefing for Tredyffrin Township #3
9/19/02	Briefing for Lower Providence Township #3
9/19/02	Briefing for Upper Merion Township #3
9/19/02	Briefing for Schuylkill Township #3
10/1/02	Meeting at Montgomery County Planning Commission on future scope
10/9/02	Briefing for Montgomery County Planning Commission
11/6/02	HOP meeting for Riverview at Valley Forge
11/13/02	Meeting with property owner, Harley Davidson
12/16/02	HOP meeting with District 6-0 Traffic Engineer for Riverview at Valley Forge development
12/16/02	HOP meeting for Riverview at Valley Forge
7/11/03	Valley Forge NHP GMP/EIS briefing of Manager, Tredyffrin Township
7/11/03	Valley Forge NHP GMP/EIS briefing of Supervisor, Schuylkill Township
7/14/03	Valley Forge NHP GMP/EIS briefing of Manager, West Norriton Township
7/14/03	Valley Forge NHP GMP/EIS briefing of Manager, Lower Providence Township
7/15/03	Valley Forge NHP GMP/EIS briefing of Manager, Upper Merion Township
7/25/03	Coordination meeting with MCPC Transportation Planner
3/24/04	Coordination meeting with Manager, West Norriton Township
3/24/04	Coordination meeting with Manager, Upper Merion Township
3/24/04	Coordination meeting with Acting Manager, Lower Providence Township
4/29/04	Access meeting with Riverview at Valley Forge planner
5/10/04	Meeting with MCPC staff related to Pawlings Road
6/1/04	Meeting with major landowner's planner
8/3/04	Update briefing with Manager, Tredyffrin Township
8/5/04	Update briefing with Manager, Upper Merion Township
8/5/04	Update briefing with Secretary, Schuylkill Township

Table 5-2 Running List of Meetings and Consultations Related to the Transportation Planning Process (Continued)

Date	Description
8/5/04	Update briefing with Transportation Planner, Chester County
8/5/04	Update briefing with Transportation Planner, Montgomery County
8/19/04	Update briefing with Lower Providence Township Manager and staff
9/8/04	RCC presentation to MCPC
9/13/04	Presentation to Lower Providence Township business leaders and Supervisors
10/25/04	Presentation to Greater Valley Forge TMA US 422 Coalition
NEPA Process Work Group	
8/20/02	Update and process meeting with park officials
9/26/02	NPS/FHWA coordination meeting
10/11/02	NEPA Process Work Group meeting
11/20/02	Scoping meeting for RCC
1/16/03	GMP/EIS meeting
2/5/03	GMP/EIS meeting
3/19/03	NEPA Process Work Group meeting
4/25/03	NEPA Process Work Group meeting
5/20/03	GMP/EIS presentation to IACM
7/25/03	Field meeting with noise consultant
8/27/03	Meeting with noise consultant
9/9/03	Initial Programmatic Agreement meeting #1
9/10/03	Planning strategy meeting
9/17/03	Valley Forge NHP needs meeting
10/1/03	Asbestos meeting with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
10/10/03	GMP/EIS meeting
10/21/03	Special IACM on GMP/EIS
11/10/03	Field meeting with team hazardous waste consultant
12/9/03	GMP/EIS agency field review
12/29/03	Asbestos/stream field review with team environmental consultant
VFATPS Betzwood Bridge Work Group (Only Planning Study Bridge Coordination - not including URS Project Coordination)	
8/13/02	Betzwood Bridge replacement Work Group meeting
9/10/02	Betzwood Bridge replacement Work Group meeting
1/29/03	Betzwood Bridge Replacement Work Group meeting
4/25/03	Betzwood Bridge Replacement Work Group meeting
6/20/03	Betzwood Bridge Replacement Work Group meeting

Table 5-2 Running List of Meetings and Consultations Related to the Transportation Planning Process (Continued)

Date	Description
9/9/03	Betzwood Bridge Replacement Work Group meeting
1/20/05	Betzwood Bridge Replacement Work Group meeting
Funding and Implementation Work Group	
9/11/02	Funding and Implementation Work Group meeting
10/11/02	Funding and Implementation Work Group meeting
11/18/02	Earmark funding coordination meeting
11/25/02	Earmark funding meeting with Senator Santorum's staff
11/26/02	Section 106 coordination team meeting
1/9/03	Funding and Implementation Work Group meeting on implementation scope of services
1/13/03	Follow-up meeting on project scope with PennDOT
2/21/03	Funding meeting with Curt Weldon's Assistant
Section 106 Coordination	
10/10/02	Briefing with Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission regarding Section 106 coordination
12/10/02	Area of Potential Effect meeting on RCC projects
3/19/04	RCC Section 106 coordination meeting
9/14/04	RCC Section 106 coordination meeting with SHPO, FHWA, NPS

5.7 Document Review and List of Recipients

5.7.1 Review Process for Draft GMP/EIS

This Draft GMP/EIS for Valley Forge NHP will be on public and agency review for 60 days. During the review period, the team will solicit public and agency comment and will hold public meetings that will be advertised in local media outlets. Once comments are received and analyzed, a Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (or Abbreviated Final Environmental Impact Statement if comments are not substantive) will be prepared that will respond to and incorporate the public comments on the draft document. After a 30-day no-action period, a Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared to document the selected alternative and set forth any stipulations for implementation of the General Management Plan, thus completing the NEPA compliance requirements.

As noted previously in the document, this Draft GMP/EIS presents an overview of potential actions and impacts related to the management objectives. More detailed plans may be developed for individual actions outlined under each objective, and these plans may require and would be subject to additional environmental compliance reviews, such as NEPA and Section 106 of the NHPA, as amended.

Appendix F provides a list of potential actions associated with the NPS Preferred Alternative and whether or not they may require additional compliance.

5.7.2 List of Recipients

Copies of the Draft GMP/EIS were distributed to the following government officials and agencies, non-governmental organizations, and consultants and businesses. Copies were also provided to select individuals on the park mailing list. These names are not included below.

Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation

Senator Arlen Specter
Senator Rick Santorum
Representative Jim Gerlach
Representative Curt Weldon

Federal Agencies

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Federal Highway Administration, Philadelphia Metropolitan Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Programs, Region III
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Geological Survey, Malvern Office
U.S. Public Health Service, Federal Occupational Health

Tribal Nations

Delaware Nation
Oneida Indian Nation (New York)
Oneida Nation of Wisconsin
Stockbridge Munsee Community

Commonwealth Legislative Delegation

Senator John C. Rafferty
Senator Robert J. Thompson
Senator Constance Williams
Representative Jacqueline Crahalla
Representative Daylin Leach
Representative Carole Rubley

Commonwealth Agencies

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Farmland Protection
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Hazardous Sites Cleanup Section
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Soils and Waterways Program
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 6-0
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Bureau of Design
Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, Division of Fisheries Management
Pennsylvania Game Commission, Bureau of Land Management
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Local Governments

Chester County Commissioners
Chester County Conservation District
Chester County Planning Commission
Chester County Water Resources Authority
Montgomery County Commissioners
Montgomery County Conservation District
Montgomery County Planning Commission
Lower Providence Township
Schuylkill Township
Tredyffrin Township
Upper Merion Township
West Norriton Township

Organizations and Agencies

Chester Springs Library
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association
Mill Grove Audubon Center
National Parks Conservation Association
Norristown Public Library
Open Land Conservancy
Phoenixville Public Library
Schuylkill River National and State Heritage Area
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority
The Signal Seekers
The Friends of Valley Forge NHP
Tredyffrin Public Library
Upper Merion Township Library
Valley Forge Historical Society
Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Valley Forge Convention and Visitors Bureau

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