

FOI# 14539



Friday, January 10, 2014

Attention: FOI Administrator  
The Secretary -The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey  
225 Park Avenue South, 17th Floor  
New York, NY 10003  
Fax: (212) 435-7555

To Whom It May Concern,

The following request is being made in accordance with the Port Authority's Freedom of Information Policy. I am requesting copies of the following records:

- **Traffic County Data Video:** I am requesting audio-visual copies of all video traffic-counting data collected by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey that were given to the Fort Lee Police Department. Please note that the records responsive to this request are the same Port Authority records that were requested by the Fort Lee Police Department on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. These records should include traffic data for the traffic from September 9<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 (though, not exclusively). I have attached a copy of email correspondence between of Port Authority officials from September 4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013, to serve as point of reference for my request. Please also note that the correspondence in these reference documents indicate that the records I am requesting are available for reproduction under FOI policy.

I realize that certain costs may be applicable to this request. Please contact me when you can provide a payment amount for my requests. In the meantime, I authorize an initial expense cap of \$500 to be accrued. To help assess my status for copying and mailing fees, please note that I am gathering information for research purposes and not for commercial activities.

I also request that you state the specific legal and factual grounds for withholding any documents or portions of documents, should you withhold any. Please identify each document that falls within the scope of this request but is withheld from release.

If requested documents are located in, or originated in, another installation or bureau, I would request that you please refer this request, or any relevant portion of this request, to the appropriated installation or bureau.

To the extent that the information is available in electronic format, I would prefer to receive that information via email or CD, particularly if providing the information reduces the time or expense involved. Otherwise, I request to receive the information in paper form.

You may fax your response to 202-315-0384 or email it to [Abraham@AmericanBridge.org](mailto:Abraham@AmericanBridge.org). If you wish to call, please do so between 9AM and 6PM (EST).

455 Massachusetts Ave NW, Sixth Floor | Washington, DC 20001 | 202-747-2060 | [www.americanbridgepac.org](http://www.americanbridgepac.org)

Paid for by American Bridge 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee



Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Abraham Payton".

Abraham Payton  
American Bridge 21st Century  
455 Massachusetts Avenue  
Suite 280  
Washington, DC 20001  
Phone: 202-266-3339  
Fax: 202-315-0384  
Email: [Abraham@AmericanBridge.org](mailto:Abraham@AmericanBridge.org)

# Exhibit/Attachment To Record Request

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**From:** Durando, Robert  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 7:03 AM  
**To:** Crist, Paul; Antes, Vincent  
**Cc:** Rivera, Jose; Mehta, Dipak; Carleton, Robert; Fulton, Cedrick; Ehler, Diannae  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

I don't know why Ft Lee wants the video. I'd be interested to know who contacted Tom Harriot with the request. Thankfully, this request came to us before out "TL 24 Test".

---

**From:** Crist, Paul  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 10, 2013 6:35 PM  
**To:** Antes, Vincent  
**Cc:** Rivera, Jose; Mehta, Dipak; Carleton, Robert; Durando, Robert; Fulton, Cedrick; Ehler, Diannae  
**Subject:** Re: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

Vinny

Why are we taking the traffic counts?

Bob - why does Ft Lee want them?

Paul

Paul V. Crist  
Port Authority of NY and NJ -----  
Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

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Traffic counting data will be collected in the form of video, which Ft Lee Police have asked for a copy. Jose will obtain the traffic video data but it will not leave the PA until clearance is received from the department as well as the media types.

You may want to advise Cedrick the Ft Lee police had made a inquiry for the collect traffic count data. Concerned about invasion of privacy and potentially using traffic data for other purposes, I have already been assured that the video camera placement precludes reading license plate numbers.

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**From:** Rivera, Jose  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 10, 2013 12:44 PM  
**To:** Harriott, Thomas  
**Cc:** Carleton, Robert; Mehta, Dipak; Durando, Robert; Antes, Vincent; Buchsbaum, Jack; Baig, Rizwan (Mirza); Lepore, Armando; Fraser, Craig  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

Tom,

The consult must NOT release videos from the traffic study directly to the Fort Lee Police Department. Any video from the data collection will be sent to TB&T when they are available. HOWEVER, before any videos are sent to Fort Lee Police I strongly suggest that TB&T advise Cedrick and also get clearance from GOCOR, Media Relations, PA Police, and possibly Law.

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Jose -

In your discussions within Engineering, has there been a decision to share these traffic videos? Please let me know. Thank you.

Tom Harriott

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**To:** Harriott, Thomas  
**Cc:** Baig, Rizwan (Mirza); Lepore, Armando; Fraser, Craig; Caruth, David; Durando, Robert; Buchsbaum, Jack  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to FortLee police

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**To:** Rivera, Jose; Baig, Rizwan (Mirza)  
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Jose and Rizwan -

Would it be acceptable to you to share the traffic videos from the Center and Lemoine traffic counting program with the Fort Lee police department? Please see below emails. Bob Durando is ok with sharing. Please let me know. Thank you.

Tom Harriott

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**From:** Jen, Ching  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 04, 2013 4:10 PM

**To:** Harriott, Thomas  
**Cc:** Sloan, Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to FortLee police

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 in order to release video files to Fort Lee Police?  
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**From:** beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com [mailto:beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 04, 2013 9:07 AM  
**To:** Jen, Ching  
**Cc:** mmohrmann@hardesty-hanover.com; Sloan, Stewart; Job\_2781%Hardesty\_\_Hanover@hardesty-hanover.com; Harriott, Thomas; charlie@hardesty-hanover.com  
**Subject:** Fw: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data

Ching - please see below regarding the start of the traffic counts with cameras on September 9. The Fort Lee Police Department has requested copies of the traffic video files after the counts are complete and we would like to get formal approval from PA before we release these files.

Thanks,  
 Bob

Robert F. Eslinger, Jr, PE, Principal Associate

---

email: [beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com](mailto:beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com)  
 address: 1501 Broadway, Suite 310, New York, NY 10036  
 office: 212.944.1150  
 direct: 646.428.8471  
 cell: 917.860.4047  
 fax: 212.391.0297




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[www.hardesty-hanover.com](http://www.hardesty-hanover.com)

----- Forwarded by Bob Eslinger/Hardesty\_Hanover on 09/04/2013 09:01 AM -----

**From:** "Westrick, Lisa" <LWestrick@chacompanies.com>  
**To:** "mmohrmann@hardesty-hanover.com" <mmohrmann@hardesty-hanover.com>,  
**Cc:** "beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com" <beslinge@hardesty-hanover.com>, "Kahlbaugh, Dave" <DKahlbaugh@chacompanies.com>  
**Date:** 09/04/2013 08:48 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data

Hi Mark,

We are all set and have been cleared by the Fort Lee Police to install the cameras on September 9<sup>th</sup>.  
 However, the police department has requested copies of the video files after the counts are completed. Can you discuss with the PA to get their authorization to release the video files to the Fort Lee Police?  
 Thanks, Lisa

Lisa M. Westrick, P.E., Associate  
 CHA - design/construction solutions

**From:** Westrick, Lisa  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2013 9:20 AM  
**To:** 'mmohrmann@hardesty-hanover.com'  
**Cc:** beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com; Rashford, Jim  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data

Hi Mark,

We have discussed the schedule for data collection with Craig Fraser of the Port Authority. Because of the upcoming Labor Day holiday and consideration of back-to-school conditions, we have agreed to schedule the counts to begin during the week of September 9<sup>th</sup>. Below is our updated schedule for the follow-up work products for the traffic analysis.

- Traffic Data Collection - 09/09/13 to 09/16/13
- Data Processing and develop base Synchro network - complete by 09/27/13
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- Submit Draft Tech Memo - 11/01/13

This schedule supposes that we will progress our work without PA review of interim submissions. If the PA would prefer to review interim stages (such as to review the volumes before we do the analysis, or to review the model of existing before we proceed with the detour analysis), then the schedule will be drawn out by the number of review milestones and the PA's turnaround time for review. However, unless I hear from you otherwise, I will assume that interim submissions/reviews will not be necessary.

Thank you, Lisa

Lisa M. Westrick, P.E., Associate  
CHA - design/construction solutions

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**From:** Durando, Robert  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 8:03 AM  
**To:** Antes, Vincent; Crist, Paul  
**Cc:** Rivera, Jose; Mehta, Dipak; Carleton, Robert; Fulton, Cedrick; Ehler, Diannae; Ramirez, Enrique; Sagrestano, Kenneth  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

We should also find out if said video would be discoverable via an FOI request.

---

**From:** Antes, Vincent  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 7:59 AM  
**To:** Crist, Paul  
**Cc:** Rivera, Jose; Mehta, Dipak; Carleton, Robert; Durando, Robert; Fulton, Cedrick; Ehler, Diannae  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

Traffic counts are required for the project to rehab the Lemoine and Center Avenue deck.

Still trying to find out why Ft Lee police asked for copies of the video.

Vinny

---

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**Sent:** Tuesday, September 10, 2013 6:35 PM  
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**Cc:** Rivera, Jose; Mehta, Dipak; Carleton, Robert; Durando, Robert; Fulton, Cedrick; Ehler, Diannae  
**Subject:** Re: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

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Tom,

The consult must NOT release videos from the traffic study directly to the Fort Lee Police Department. Any video from the data collection will be sent to TB&T when they are available. HOWEVER, before any videos are sent to Fort Lee Police I strongly suggest that TB&T advise Cedrick and also get clearance from GOCOR, Media Relations, PA Police, and possibly Law.

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Would we need clearance from, or at a minimum advise, PA Police, GOCOR, Media Relations, etc.?

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Tom Harriott

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**Sent:** Wednesday, September 04, 2013 4:10 PM  
**To:** Harriott, Thomas  
**Cc:** Sloan, Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to FortLee police

Tom:  
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Ching - please see below regarding the start of the traffic counts with cameras on September 9. The Fort Lee Police Department has requested copies of the traffic video files after the counts are complete and we would like to get formal approval from PA before we release these files.

Thanks,  
 Bob  
 Robert F. Eslinger, Jr, PE, Principal Associate

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email: [beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com](mailto:beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com)  
 address: 1501 Broadway, Suite 310, New York, NY 10036  
 office: 212.944.1150  
 direct: 646.428.8471  
 cell: 917.860.4047  
 fax: 212.391.0287




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**Cc:** "beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com" <beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com>, "Kahlbaugh, Dave" <DKahlbaugh@chacompanies.com>  
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Hi Mark,

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Thanks, Lisa

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CHA - design/construction solutions

From: Westrick, Lisa  
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2013 9:20 AM  
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Cc: beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com; Rashford, Jim  
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Hi Mark,

We have discussed the schedule for data collection with Craig Fraser of the Port Authority. Because of the upcoming Labor Day holiday and consideration of back-to-school conditions, we have agreed to schedule the counts to begin during the week of September 9<sup>th</sup>. Below is our updated schedule for the follow-up work products for the traffic analysis.

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CHA - design/construction solutions

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**From:** Durando, Robert  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 12, 2013 8:28 AM  
**To:** Crist, Paul; Fulton, Cedrick  
**Cc:** Ehler, Diannae  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

I hope

---

**From:** Crist, Paul  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 12, 2013 8:22 AM  
**To:** Fulton, Cedrick; Durando, Robert  
**Cc:** Ehler, Diannae  
**Subject:** FW: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

Sounds like we could stretch a decision on this out until well into November, after we get a final product.

Paul

---

**From:** Harriott, Thomas  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 4:09 PM  
**To:** Crist, Paul; Antes, Vincent; Mehta, Dipak  
**Cc:** Carleton, Robert  
**Subject:** FW: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

Paul, Vinnie and Dipak –

Rob and I spoke to Jose about his responses. The reason the data collection will need to be retaken after the "TL24 Test" is complete is that after the test, the toll lanes will be reopened and normal traffic patterns will return to Center and Lemoine Avenues. Now, with the test in progress, traffic is queuing at the toll plaza and onto Center and Lemoine Avenues, which is not representative of regular operations, and we are getting skewed traffic data in this area. We need the traffic data to be collected under regular toll plaza operations to develop construction staging plans and maintenance of traffic plans during the Center and Lemoine Avenue Bridge Deck Replacement project. We could instruct the consultant to pick up the cameras now, but with the end of the counting program in a few days, it may be safer to just let the counting program continue.

The consultant has two activities to complete after 9/27/13, namely to develop detour volumes and conduct capacity analysis (by 10/25/13) and to submit the Draft Tech Memo (by 11/01/13). These dates will be pushed out, pending the completion of "TL24 Test."

Tom Harriott

---

**From:** Rivera, Jose  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 3:23 PM  
**To:** Crist, Paul; Antes, Vincent  
**Cc:** Mehta, Dipak; Carleton, Robert; Durando, Robert; Fulton, Cedrick; Ehler, Diannae; Stickelman, Timothy; Harriott, Thomas; Muriello, Mark; Balg, Rizwan (Mirza); Lepore, Armando  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

All,

- anything been said to Ft Lee police yet? - No.
- when did Ft lee make the request? - Fort Lee Police made the request for the video on September 3rd
- are the cameras operating yet? If yes, when did they start and when do they finish? If no, when do we plan on starting and finishing? - Yes; data collection is ongoing - 09/09/13 to 09/16/13. HOWEVER, due to the "TL24 Test", all data collection will have to be retaken when the "test" is complete.
- once they complete the video, how long will it take before they send us an analysis? - Data processing and develop base Synchro network - complete by 09/27/13; however will be delayed to ongoing "TL24 Test".

Jose

---

**From:** Crist, Paul  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 1:53 PM  
**To:** Antes, Vincent  
**Cc:** Rivera, Jose; Mehta, Dipak; Carleton, Robert; Durando, Robert; Fulton, Cedrick; Ehler, Diannae; Stickelman, Timothy; Harriott, Thomas; Muriello, Mark  
**Subject:** Re: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

Thanks, a few questions:

- anything been said to Ft Lee police yet?
- when did Ft lee make the request?
- are the cameras operating yet? If yes, when did they start and when do they finish? If no, when do we plan on starting and finishing?
- once they complete the video, how long will it take before they send us an analysis?

Thanks

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**From:** Antes, Vincent  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 01:46 PM  
**To:** Crist, Paul  
**Cc:** Rivera, Jose; Mehta, Dipak; Carleton, Robert; Durando, Robert; Fulton, Cedrick; Ehler, Diannae; Stickelman, Timothy; Harriott, Thomas  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data- request to release traffic video files to Fort Lee police

The request for copies of the video traffic count info was made by Ft Lee police to the consultant installing the video equipment. The consultant passed off the request to us.

The reason video traffic counts are being made is a result of repeated vandalism to the traffic count tubes first employed. The tubes were being cut by someone on the street.

Bob D also asked a question regarding traffic videos being discoverable as a result of FOI's. After discussing with Tim Stickelman, the answer is yes. The PA may deem such requested information of a sensitive nature and elect to not send.

/linny

---

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**Cc:** Rivera, Jose; Mehta, Dipak; Carleton, Robert; Durando, Robert; Fulton, Cedrick; Ehler, Diannae

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email: [beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com](mailto:beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com)  
 address: 1501 Broadway, Suite 310, New York, NY 10036  
 office: 212.944.1150  
 direct: 646.428.8471  
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— Forwarded by Bob Eslinger/Hardesty\_Hanover on 09/04/2013 09:01 AM —

**From:** "Westrick, Lisa" <LWestrick@chacompanies.com>  
**To:** "mmohrmann@hardesty-hanover.com" <mmohrmann@hardesty-hanover.com>,  
**Cc:** "beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com" <beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com>, "Kahlbaugh, Dave" <DKahlbaugh@chacompanies.com>  
**Date:** 09/04/2013 08:48 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data

Hi Mark,

We are all set and have been cleared by the Fort Lee Police to install the cameras on September 9<sup>th</sup>. However, the police department has requested copies of the video files after the counts are completed. Can you discuss with the PA to get their authorization to release the video files to the Fort Lee Police?  
 Thanks, Lisa

Lisa M. Westrick, P.E., Associate  
 CHA - design/construction solutions

**From:** Westrick, Lisa  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2013 9:20 AM  
**To:** 'mmohrmann@hardesty-hanover.com'  
**Cc:** beslinger@hardesty-hanover.com; Rashford, Jim  
**Subject:** RE: Center & Lemoine Traffic Data

Hi Mark,

We have discussed the schedule for data collection with Craig Fraser of the Port Authority. Because of the upcoming Labor Day holiday and consideration of back-to-school conditions, we have agreed to schedule the counts to begin during the week of September 9<sup>th</sup>. Below is our updated schedule for the follow-up work products for the traffic analysis.

- Traffic Data Collection - 09/09/13 to 09/16/13
- Data Processing and develop base Synchro network - complete by 09/27/13
- Develop detour volumes and conduct capacity analysis - complete by 10/25/13

- Submit Draft Tech Memo - 11/01/13

This schedule supposes that we will progress our work without PA review of interim submissions. If the PA would prefer to review interim stages (such as to review the volumes before we do the analysis, or to review the model of existing before we proceed with the detour analysis), then the schedule will be drawn out by the number of review milestones and the PA's turnaround time for review. However, unless I hear from you otherwise, I will assume that interim submissions/reviews will not be necessary.

Thank you, Lisa

Lisa M. Westrick, P.E., Associate  
CHA - *design/construction solutions*

FOI Administrator

January 24, 2014

Mr. Abraham Payton  
American Bridge 21st Century  
455 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Sixth Floor  
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Freedom of Information Reference No. 14539

Dear Mr. Payton:

This is a response to your January 10, 2014 request, which has been processed under the Port Authority's Freedom of Information Code, copy enclosed, for copies of all video traffic-counting data collected by the Port Authority that was given to the Fort Lee Police Department in response to their September 3rd request.

Please be advised that we have searched our files and found no documents responsive to the request.

Please refer to the above FOI reference number in any future correspondence relating to your request.

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Duffy  
FOI Administrator

Enclosure