



COUNTY OF ESSEX / COUNTY OF HUDSON
Local Concept Development Study for Bridge Street Bridge
over the Passaic River
City of Newark and Town of Harrison, NJ



PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER SUMMARY - CITY OF NEWARK
MEETING REPORT

DATE: Tuesday, October 18, 2016
TIME: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Leroy Smith Public Safety Building, 14th Floor, Conference Room
Essex Government Complex, 60 Nelson Place, Newark, NJ
ATTENDEES: Sign-In Sheets (*available upon request*)

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of this public meeting is to introduce the project team, present the project status and schedule, and to obtain input from the general public on the community interests associated with the Bridge Street Bridge in developing the project purpose and need. (*PIC Project Information Handout attached*).

MEETING SUMMARY

1. A total of one (1) individual and twelve (12) project team members attended the Public Information Center (PIC) meeting in the City of Newark from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Leroy Smith Public Safety Building 14th Floor Conference Room in the City of Newark.
2. The meeting was designed as an open house format with display boards providing project information for viewing by the general public and to provide reference in addressing any questions from the public. Project Team members were in attendance to present information and assist with questions from the community stakeholders and general public.
3. Two handouts were available at the sign-in table: (1) PIC Project Information Handout and (2) blank PIC Comment Form distributed to the general public upon sign-in to the meeting. The Comment Form could be completed to hand in at the meeting or could be faxed, emailed or mailed to either Hudson County Project Manager, Joseph Glembocki, P.E. or to Essex County Project Manager, Luis Rodriguez (Handouts attached). Both of the Handouts were posted on the project web site. (www.bridgestreetbridge.com, under Community Outreach).
4. Additional blank Community Input Survey forms were available for those interested, who had not already completed a survey. The Community Input Survey is also available on the project website to enter online or to print out.





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5. The project display boards used to share information during the open house included: (1) aerial map of project study area indicating the deficiencies (2) environmental screening map indicating constraints (3) cultural resources map showing historic properties in the area (4) Local Project Delivery Program Process and (5) Local Concept Development Phase – Process Flowchart.
6. A screen presentation area was available with seating for viewing the PowerPoint presentation. Given the one individual in attendance was from the City of Newark and had seen the presentation, no presentation was conducted.
7. No PIC Comment Forms were received at the evening session in the City of Newark (7-9pm) however a total of four (4) completed PIC Comment Forms were received at the afternoon meeting session in the Town of Harrison and two additional PIC Comments were submitted via email to the Hudson County Project Manager, Joseph Glembocki within the 30-day comment period for the project purpose and need.

The PIC Comments received are attached to the Public Meeting Summary Report - Town of Harrison with personal contact information marked out (*posted on the project website*). Any responses to PIC comments are reflected in the Frequently Asked Questions on the project website. The input from the PIC comments received provided information for the development of the goals and objectives of the project Purpose and Need Statement.

8. The PIC meeting open house adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

We believe the foregoing to be an accurate summary of discussions and related decisions. We would appreciate notification of exceptions or corrections to the minutes within three (3) working days of receipt. Without notification, these minutes will be considered to be record of fact.
NJTPA Essex County/ Hudson County Bridge Street Bridge Study Project Team





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PROJECT INFORMATION

Essex County and Hudson County are conducting a study for bridge improvements such as a major rehabilitation or replacement of the existing Bridge Street Bridge over the Passaic River to address its structural deficiencies and maintain an important transportation connection to the City of Newark's Downtown Business District for local residents and regional commuters in Essex County and Hudson County. The bridge has been closed several times in recent years for structural and mechanical repairs. Due to its age, the bridge has deteriorated over time and routine maintenance can no longer address the deficiencies.

The Project Background

The existing bridge is in poor overall condition. Several factors contribute to this assessment:

Condition: The bridge is structurally deficient with its superstructure in poor physical condition with localized advanced section losses to most steel truss members, localized advanced section losses to floor beams and girders in the approach spans, and holed through truss gusset plates in the swing span. The substructure is in satisfactory condition. The bridge's mechanical machinery and electrical system are in fair to poor condition and consist of new and obsolete devices and sub-systems that are nearing the end of their serviceable life.

Highway Safety: The bridge railings do not meet current crash and safety standards.

Public Safety: The bridge interlocking system is not in accordance with current acceptable standards.

Seismic: The bridge is susceptible to seismic forces and does not meet current seismic design standards.

The Proposed Study:

The current phase of this project is Local Concept Development (LCD). During this phase a well-defined and well-justified Purpose and Need Statement will be developed focusing on the need to improve safety and maintain the current crossing over the Passaic River. The LCD Phase elements also include data collection; coordination with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Coast Guard, local officials, community stakeholders, and permitting agencies; the development of a reasonable number of sensible and practical conceptual alternatives; the development of a Preliminary Preferred Alternative, and to investigate all aspects of the project. These aspects will include environmental, right of way, access, utilities, design, community involvement, constructability, and cost (see NJTPA LCD flowchart).

The primary tasks of stakeholders are to provide community input to assist in the development of the Project Purpose and Need Statement, assist in the development of conceptual alternatives, identify possible fatal flaws, and to assist in the recommendation of the Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) based on the Project Purpose and Need.



Local Concept Development Project Schedule (Major Milestones)

Develop Project Purpose and Need Statement	Fall 2016
Development of Conceptual Alternatives	Winter 2017
Selection of Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Fall 2017
Submission of Draft Concept Development Report	Fall 2017
Obtain Resolutions of Support for Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Fall 2017
Completion of Local Concept Development Phase	Winter 2018

Anticipated Community Involvement Schedule

Community Stakeholders Meeting for Purpose & Need Statement Development	Summer/Fall 2016
Public Information Center for Purpose and Need Statement Development	Fall 2016
Obtain Community Stakeholders Input for Developed Alternatives	Winter/Spring 2017
Local Officials Meeting No. 2 for Preliminary Preferred Alternative Recommendation	Spring 2017
Public Information Center No. 2 for Preliminary Preferred Alternative Recommendation	Spring/Summer 2017
Local Officials Meeting No. 3 for Obtaining Resolutions of Support	Summer 2017

Contact Information

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For Additional Project Information, visit the Project Website

www.bridgestreetbridge.com

