PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER – Township of Middletown
MEETING NO. 2 - Conceptual Alternatives
SUMMARY REPORT

DATE: Tuesday, June 20, 2017
TIME: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Middletown Public Library, Community Room
55 New Monmouth Road, Middletown, NJ
ATTENDEES: Sign-In Sheets (available upon request)

PURPOSE OF MEETING
The purpose of the Public Information Center meeting was to inform the public of the Purpose and Need Statement and to solicit public input and comment on the proposed conceptual alternatives for bridge improvements to the Monmouth County Oceanic Bridge (S-31) over the Navesink River.

MEETING SUMMARY
1. A total of twenty-two (22) individuals signed-in at the Public Information Center (PIC) meeting in the Township of Middletown from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eighteen (18) project team members were in attendance.

2. The meeting was designed as an open house format with display boards to provide project information for viewing by the general public and to provide reference in addressing any questions from the 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 Monmouth County Project Manager, Inkyung Englehart. Both handouts were posted on the project website: www.monmouthcountyoceanicbridge.com (handouts attached).

4. Project Team members were present at each of the display board areas to share information and answer questions. The project display boards available at the meeting to share information during the open house included:
   • Purpose and Need Statement;
   • Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 2 photos and comments; with Draft Summary Reports of the Preference Survey and Questionnaire completed by stakeholders during the Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 2 were available for viewing at a display station table near the photos display;
   • Community Input and Maritime Navigation survey summary results;
5. A screen presentation area was available with seating for viewing the PowerPoint presentation, which was presented at 2:30 p.m. The slide images continued to be displayed during the remainder of the open house for viewing.

6. The brief presentation began by welcoming attendees on behalf of Monmouth County. After introductions from the Project Team members, Joseph Ettore, Monmouth County Engineer, provided an overview of the project and progress made to date as follows:
   
   (a) There is a need to make significant improvements to the Oceanic Bridge where routine maintenance and repairs are no longer sufficient and if determined to be a major rehabilitation or replacement of the bridge, the costs are too great for the County. This project is funded with Federal dollars and as such, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and cooperating agencies of the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) and the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) oversee this effort working with the County and local communities.

   (b) This is the same process that the Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge (S-32) over the Shrewsbury River is being advanced under and has completed the Local Concept Development Study and is now in the Preliminary Engineering phase. In this Study phase, at the first public meeting, we received input from the communities to develop the project Purpose and Need and today’s meeting is an opportunity for the attendees to view, ask questions and comment on the conceptual alternatives that address those needs. The goal of the LCD Study phase is to have a Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) with community support and municipal resolutions of support, which will be refined and advanced through subsequent design phases.

   (c) The Local Concept Development Study phase is anticipated to be completed in 24 months by spring of 2018. Subsequent Preliminary Engineering and Final Design phases are also anticipated to be approximately 24 months each with the construction phase an estimated 24-36 months. Now though, under this LCD Study phase is when the County, working with the Federal and State agencies, will make the determination of what improvements are to be advanced through subsequent phases. The Oceanic Bridge is an important connection and this is an important opportunity for the public to comment on the presented alternatives and improvements and any other suggestions within the project area for consideration.

7. Project Team members from Michael Baker International presented information using PowerPoint presentation slides to provide the project status, review the existing bridge condition, present Purpose and Need Statement, and share overview information on each of the conceptual alternatives (Public Meeting No. 2 PowerPoint presentation available on the project web site: www.monmouthcountyoceanicbridge.com, under Community Outreach).

8. In summary, Martine Culbertson, Community Involvement Facilitator, encouraged attendees to complete the PIC Comment Form to provide comments on any or all of the conceptual alternatives and bridge profile options. She noted the following:
• Anyone is welcome to submit comments at the meeting or during the public comment period either directly by mail, fax, or online via email or the project web site.

• Comments will be reviewed in addition to the engineering and environmental data and analyses which are summarized in the Comparison of Alternatives Matrix to help identify which alternative meets the Purpose and Need and best meets the goals and objectives of the project while minimizing environmental and ROW impacts. For input on alternatives and options for bridge or roadway improvements, it is helpful to provide comments on what improvements and also why you support or not support the improvements.

• The community outreach meeting summaries and the written public comments will be included in project documentation for the Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) recommendation. The Federal and State agencies will be able to review the community input documentation during their deliberation of the Project Team's recommended PPA. Resolutions of support for a recommended PPA will be asked of both municipalities of Middletown and Rumson in addition to the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

• There will be another public meeting to present the completed Comparison of Alternatives Matrix and the recommended Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA). Meeting notice will be announced a minimum of two weeks in advance once a date has been determined.

• Project Team members will be at the display area stations and are available to ask questions and for discussions.

9. At close of the presentation, Joseph Ettore thanked the Mayor of Middletown for hosting the public meeting and attendees for their time and input. He noted that the information presented at the meeting would be posted to the project web site.

10. Attendees were encouraged to take copies of the handouts to share information with others. The 30-day comment period for this public meeting ends as of Friday, July 21, 2017. Comments will be accepted at any time during this LCD Study phase; however this standard time frame is utilized to allow the Project Team to reasonable advance the project. (Please see Additional Notes Item 13).

11. Attendees extended appreciation for the opportunity to see and discuss proposed options as they were leaving the public meeting. The PIC open house adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

12. A total of one (1) completed PIC Comment Form was received at the afternoon meeting session in the Township of Middletown (2-4pm).

Additional Notes:

13. A written request was made to the County to extend the public comment period. The County extended the public comment period from 30 days to 45 days due to the 4th of July holiday within the comment period. Legal postings and revised PIC Comment Form was distributed to notify the public of the extended public comment period to Friday, August 4, 2017 (comments collected up to August 14, 2017, to allow for any inadvertent comments/forms delivery delays).

14. During the public meeting comment period through August 14, 2017, a total of two hundred thirty-six (236) PIC Comments were received from two hundred twenty-six (226) individuals, representing residents, families, businesses and organizations. The PIC Comments are posted on the project web site in a separate file with personal contact information marked out (redacted) under Community Involvement, Activities to Date in the list of documents for Public Meeting No. 2, titled: PIC No. 2 Comments.
We believe the foregoing to be an accurate summary of discussions and related decisions. We would appreciate notification of exceptions or corrections to the meeting summary within three (3) working days of receipt. Without notification, this meeting summary will be considered to be record of fact.
Oceanic Bridge (S-31) LCD Study Project Team
Local Concept Development Study for Monmouth County Oceanic Bridge (S-31)
On Bingham Avenue - Locust Point Road (CR8A) over the Navesink River
Borough of Rumson and Township of Middletown

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

The North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) and Monmouth County are conducting a study for major rehabilitation or replacement of the existing Monmouth County Oceanic Bridge (S-31) on Bingham Avenue – Locust Point Road (CR8A) over the Navesink River to address its structural deficiencies and to maintain an important transportation connection between the Borough of Rumson, Township of Middletown, and the surrounding communities. Due to its age, the bridge has deteriorated over time and routine maintenance is no longer sufficient.

Constructed in 1939, repaired and rehabilitated at various times, the bridge is in need of a major rehabilitation or replacement. The most recent Bridge Re-Evaluation and Structural Inventory and Appraisal (SI&A) (2015) concluded that the overall condition of the bridge is critical due to the condition of the superstructure and substructure.

The condition of the superstructure is “serious” due to heavy rust throughout steel members with small corrosion holes in girder webs, section loss to floor beam bottom flanges, and areas of severe section loss to rivet heads at connections and bottom flanges. There are several concrete approach spans that exhibit large spalls with exposed rebar and cracking in T-Beams. The counterweights in flanking spans exhibit up to 60% section loss to rivet heads and knife edge web plates. The steel approach spans feature main girders, floor beams, stringers, and cantilever brackets which exhibit heavy paint peeling, severe rusting with section loss and steel delamination. Girders show through-hole rust in the web and in the bottom lateral bracing, and heavy rust with up to 80% section loss to rivet heads at the girder to floor beam connection at the piers. Floor beams, shear keys, and suspended span rocker bearings exhibit heavy rust as well.

The substructure was found to be in “poor” condition due to wide cracking and deep spalls with exposed and severely rusted reinforcing steel (100% section loss to many bars) in the concrete columns, towers, and pier caps; severe spalling, missing or severely deteriorated steel pile jackets; heavy spalling of concrete encasements exposing steel H-piles; severe decay in timber piles in tidal zone with 75% section loss; deteriorated fender systems at the bascule piers and; missing fenders in bascule and flanking spans. Steel jackets have been installed around numerous piles to repair severe section loss in the tidal zone. This section loss is due to constant wetting and drying from tide cycles.

**The Proposed Study**

The current phase of this project is Local Concept Development (LCD). During this phase a Purpose and Need Statement will be developed focusing on the need to address structural and operational deficiencies of the Oceanic Bridge (S-31) over the Navesink River. The LCD Phase also includes data collection; coordination with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, local stakeholders, and permitting agencies; the development of a reasonable number of sensible and practical conceptual alternatives; and the selection of a Preliminary Preferred Alternative. Other considerations during this phase include; environmental screening, right of way, access, utilities, community involvement, constructability review, and cost estimates.

Community outreach is an essential component of the LCD Phase. To best gather and incorporate input, community outreach will take place on three levels:
Outreach with Local Officials, Outreach with Community Stakeholders, and Public Information Center Meetings for members of the general public. The community outreach efforts will provide an open forum to discuss topics, provide comments, collaborate on ideas, ask questions, and stay informed. The project team will provide opportunities for the community to provide feedback and participate in the LCD Phase.

**Concept Development Project Schedule (Major Milestones)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop Project Purpose and Need Statement</td>
<td>Fall 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development of Conceptual Alternatives</td>
<td>Winter 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selection of Preliminary Preferred Alternative</td>
<td>Fall 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submission of Draft Concept Development Report</td>
<td>Winter 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completion of Concept Development Phase</td>
<td>Spring 2018</td>
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**Anticipated Community Involvement Schedule**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Project Initiation</td>
<td>Community Stakeholder Survey</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Existing Conditions and Project Purpose and Need</td>
<td>Spring &amp; Fall 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Local Officials Meetings</td>
<td>Spring &amp; Fall 2016</td>
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<td>Community Stakeholders Meeting</td>
<td>Fall 2016</td>
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<td>Public Information Center</td>
<td>Fall 2016</td>
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<td>Input for Conceptual Alternatives</td>
<td>Spring 2017</td>
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<td>Public Information Center</td>
<td>Spring 2017</td>
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<td>Alternatives Analysis and Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA)</td>
<td>Fall 2017</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Local Officials Meetings</td>
<td>Fall 2017</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Public Information Center</td>
<td>Winter 2018</td>
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Resolutions of Support for the Preliminary Preferred Alternative will be requested from the Borough of Rumson, Township of Middletown, and the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders prior to the completion of the Concept Development Report.

For additional Information visit the project website: [www.MonmouthCountyOceanicBridge.com](http://www.MonmouthCountyOceanicBridge.com)

**Contact Information**

Inkyung Englehart, P.E., *County Project Manager*
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MONMOUTH COUNTY
Local Concept Development Study for Monmouth County Oceanic Bridge (S-31)
On Bingham Avenue - Locust Point Road (CR8A) over the Navesink River
Borough of Rumson and Township of Middletown, NJ

Conceptual Alternatives: Public Comments & Suggestions

Please use the space below to provide comments or suggestions (Please print legibly):

Name: ___________________________________________________________________

Mailing Address: ___________________________________________________________________

Email: ___________________________________________________________________

Comments/Suggestions:

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Kindly submit the comments by Friday, July 21, 2017 August 4, 2017 to:

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