



## MONMOUTH COUNTY

### Local Preliminary Engineering Phase for Monmouth County Bridge S-32 on Rumson Road (CR520) over the Shrewsbury River Borough of Rumson and Borough of Sea Bright

### COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS MEETING NO. 1 MEETING REPORT

DATE: Tuesday, January 13, 2015  
TIME: 10:00 a.m.  
LOCATION: Borough of Rumson Municipal Building  
80 E. River Road, Rumson, NJ

#### ATTENDEES:

First Name	Last Name	Representing
		<b>Attendees</b>
Betsy	Barrett	MC Transportation Council
Robert	Barrett	Seabright Lawn Tennis & C. Club
Daniel	Chernavsky	Patrolman/Deputy OEM Coord.
Dan	Crabbe	Friends of Oceanic Bridge Assoc
Betty	Croft	Resident
Lance	Cunningham	Owner Carriage House Marina
Stephen	Cutler	Chapel Beach Club
Tom	Dooley	St. George's-by-the-River-Church
Lisa	Feminello	Resident
Frank	Gripp, III	Rumson-Fair Haven High School
John	Grossarth	Resident
Kate	Grossarth	Resident
John	Healy	Resident
Joseph	Hemphill	Councilman Rumson
Harry	Kegelman	Property Owner
Nancy	Kegelman	Property Owner
John	Lamia	Councilman Seabright
Frank	Lanziano	Resident
John	Lewis	Friends of Oceanic Bridge Assoc.
Mary	Lindston	Resident
Kathleen	McBride	Resident
Dennis	McLynn	Resident
Arleen	Mulligan	Resident
James	O'Brien	CEFM Rumson School
Pat	Regan	Property Owner
David	Rivkin	Resident
P.J	Rotchford	Glonia Nilson Realtors
Thomas	Rogers	Borough of Rumson

Lynda	Rose	E. Monmouth Chamber of Commerce
Dan	Sandiford	NJ TRANSIT
Dominic	Sequeira	DDJ Management, Inc.
Chalmer	Taylor	Resident
Roger N.	Trendowski	Holy Cross Parish
Clay	Wilbanks	Sea Bright Beach Club
<b>Project Team</b>		
Martine	Culbertson	M. A. Culbertson, LLC
Inkyung	Englehart	Monmouth County Engineering
Pamela	Garrett	NJDOT, Environmental
Sarbjit	Kahlon	NJTPA
John	Kosciuch	NJDOT, Local Aid, District 3
Joseph	Powell	NJDOT, Bike Ped Program
Sean	Ream	NJDOT, Environmental
Bruce	Riegel	Hardesty & Hanover
William	Romaine	Amy S. Greene Environmental
Dan	Sandiford	Bus Service Planner NJ Transit
Glen	Schetelich	Project Director
Wendy S.	Smith	NJDOT, Local Aid, District 3
Joseph	Strafacci	Monmouth County Engineering

## **PURPOSE OF MEETING**

The purpose of this meeting is to introduce the project team, present the project status and schedule for the Preliminary Engineering Phase, and to obtain input on community interests or changes since the approval of the Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) and provide next steps.

## **MEETING SUMMARY**

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Martine Culbertson, Community Involvement Facilitator opened the meeting on behalf of Monmouth County, and the cooperating agencies of North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority and the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

- (a) The project is now in a new phase and the handouts are provided in a new Bridge S-32 Project Portfolio for the Local Preliminary Engineering Phase of the project (teal color).
- (b) Martine reviewed the Agenda and the Project Team List (ivory paper), where Inkyung Englehart is now the County Project Manager, replacing Jon Moren, the former County Project Manager from the prior phase. Joe Strafacci is new at Monmouth County as a Senior Engineer assisting in the coordination of this phase. Key contacts on the Project Team List are indicated with an asterick.

### 2. Project Overview & Background

After introductions by attendees and the Project Team members, Inkyung Englehart, Monmouth County Project Manager, provided an overview of the prior Local Concept Development (LCD) Phase and the start of the Local Preliminary Engineering (LPE) Phase.

- (a) Inkyung noted that the County cannot fund the bridge replacement without the assistance of Federal funding that requires compliance with the NEPA process. The County and NJTPA has approved moving the project forward with the PPA from Local Concept Development (LCD) to Local Preliminary Engineering (LPE) and selected the Hardesty & Hanover (H&H) team to continue the project.

### 3. Local Preliminary Engineering

Bruce Riegel, Hardesty& Hanover (H&H) Project Manager presented information on the project status:

- (a) The project work had begun this month. Referring to the Project Information Handout, Bruce explained the project schedule. Survey base mapping and environmental and cultural resources studies are key aspects of this phase.
- (b) Bruce also referred to the NJTPA Local Process Chart that showed the items to be completed during Local Preliminary Engineering.
- (c) The Purpose and Need Statement was approved and the alternatives developed during LCD Phase with the Preliminary Preferred Alternative recommended by the cooperating agencies and the communities. A rendering of the PPA is included in the Project Portfolio.
- (d) The engineering during this phase is limited to that which is needed to support the environmental documentation process. Survey work is currently underway. For the existing bridge to remain in service and building the replacement to the south, there is a certain distance for safety needed between the structures (estimated 10-15 feet).
- (e) There are pedestrian improvements to be implemented on both sides of the bridge along the park in Rumson and Ocean Avenue in Sea Bright.
- (f) Bruce reviewed the PPA as displayed on the conceptual plan and known as 3F One Stage Construction from the LCD Alternatives Analysis, noting that comments received at the public information meeting held on January 23, 2013 indicated a need to re-look at the cul-de-sac proposed for the Rumson Road and Ward Avenue intersection improvements to address any related concerns for traffic mobility and access in the surrounding neighborhood.
- (g) Environmental and cultural resources studies are important parts of this phase of work. The PPA involves encroachment on West Park and the Rumson-Sea Bright bridge is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) . Both these elements involve coordination with State and Federal regulatory agencies; including Green Acres and the NJDEP State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

### 4. Environmental Process

Bill Romaine, Environmental Project Manager from Amy Greene Environmental Consultants, provided information on the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) compliance and environmental processes which need to be completed in preparation for permits in later phases.

- (a) The NEPA Classification for the project is a Categorical Exclusion (CE) based upon the environmental screening conducted during the LCD phase; now more environmental studies will be conducted such as Section 4(f) to evaluate parkland and cultural resources studies to support “no significant impacts”.

- (b) The environmental screening display board was available for review. The board illustrates the environmental and cultural aspects such as archeology, wetlands, hazardous waste, parkland and green acres.
- (c) The work done to date in this phase identified additional archeology studies are required in West Park that will take place in the spring when weather permits.

#### 5. Community Involvement – Input and Meetings

Martine Culbertson presented the Community Involvement efforts anticipated for this phase of the project.

- (a) The Community and Agency Stakeholders List (blue paper) has been revised for this phase of the project; there are stakeholders from the LCD Phase and a few new residents and neighborhood organizations who would like to be added to the list. It is noted as a Draft, so anyone who wishes to be included, please inform the team and an updated version will be distributed.
- (b) Martine noted that on the Project Team List the NJDOT's email address has changed; the old and new appear to be working, but best to change to the new one (@dot.nj.gov).
- (c) Access Letters were mailed to property owners within the 200 foot set back of the project for the commencement of survey work. Any Project Team members conducting field work should have a print out of the access letter and addresses if they are questioned by residents.
- (d) Martine provided information on the meetings held and upcoming for this phase of the project. Local Officials Meetings were held with the Borough of Sea Bright and the Borough of Rumson to introduce this phase of the project.
- (e) Given the community issues expressed at the last Public Information Center (PIC) meeting on presenting the Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA), A Focus Group meeting is planned to address Ward Ave and Rumson Road traffic flow with the proposed cul-de-sac. The Project Team will look to schedule the meeting once engineering survey work is done and other design and environmental information is developed for a productive meeting.
- (f) There is a Monmouth County web site page for this project. It has the information from the LCD Phase for review and the LPE Handout will be added to the site. To access the site, go to: [www.visitmonmouth.com](http://www.visitmonmouth.com), under Departments, select Engineering, and click Bridge & Road Projects in the upper right box. Select the Rumson Sea Bright Bridge from the list of projects.

#### 6. Community Input – Q & A

The meeting was opened for any comments or questions. Martine asked attendees to share any interests or issues associated with the PPA. The following discussion items and comments were noted:

- 1) *Question:* Will the bridge be closed at anytime?  
*Response:* Temporary closures may occur for moving materials, but no permanent closure for construction. The new bridge structure will be built to the south of the existing one. There will be a period of detour for the tie-ins to the approaches which will be minimized as much as possible.

- 2) *Question:* How far will bridge move over?  
*Response:* A distance is needed to maintain safety of the existing bridge while building the new beside it. The footprint of the new structure is estimated to be 85' from the existing bridge in the river .
- 3) *Question:* What type of screening to mitigate noise? Visual? How effective is it?  
*Response:* Noise from the bridge is expected to be less since the new bridge will not contain an open grating steel deck for the bascule span. If needed, mitigation for any visual impacts will be developed during the final design phase; however community coordination will be on-going.
- 4) *Question:* Who do we influence to remove cul-de-sac?  
*Response:* There will be a focus group/community stakeholder meeting for further discussion regarding the cul-de-sac. The final determination would be between County and Borough of Rumson as the roadways involved at that location are under their jurisdiction. Federal and State are cooperating agencies that will require safety be addressed.
- 5) Screening in West Park
  - noise mitigation (not in favor of walls)
  - landscaping
  - Rumson Borough, Green Acres, DEP coordination
  - work with community
- 6) Proposed Cul-de-Sac
  - multi intersections with accidents;
  - substandard, unsafe; dangerous intersection;
  - focus group to be scheduled;
  - Lincoln & Ward have problems with traffic.
- 7) 5 blocks - Ward Avenue
- 8) *Question:* Why isn't the bridge to the north if Sea Bright owns property?  
*Response:* The PPA has the least amount of residential right-of-way acquisition impacts. The north alignment was examined and the impact of residential property was greater. After Superstorm Sandy, the Anchorage Apartments were privately owned and were intended be to re-build, as per discussions with the owner. The Borough of Sea Bright does not own the former Anchorage Apartment property. It was purchased by NJDEP Green Acres. after the completion of the LCD Phase. The right-of-way impacts are still greater with the northern alignment alternative than the PPA, as residential property would be impacted as well as the newly acquired Green Acres property. In addition, the PPA allows the right turning lane from Route 36 Southbound to Rumson Road be extended to mitigate traffic congestion at the intersection.
- 9) Traffic at the bridge  
Rumson going south
- 10) Biking with sidewalk is in the design - cyclists can use the roadway shoulder or sidewalk
  - there is a new bike lane under development in Sea Bright
- 11) *Question:* Is the Dunkin Donuts a take?  
*Response:* Parking and access to the building will be impacted, so acquisition of the property is

- 12) Planning Board meeting in Borough of Sea Bright is scheduled to review an additional business application in the half of the building where the former gas service station resided next to Dunkin Donuts.
- 13) *Question:* How long before right-of-way (ROW) application?  
*Response:* The ROW process occurs in the final design design phase, which is expected to commence in early 2017
- 14) Swing Bridge Park - Sea Bright ownership  
- funding from Green Acres?;  
- look at footprint options if possible to add parking or access from that side of property
- 15) *Question:* Where will construction staging be?  
*Response:* The project team will examine options and potentially utilizing portion of West Park, but there would be mitigation to restore park as part of the design and construction of the project.
- 16) *Question:* What is the project schedule for construction?  
*Response:* Construction, is anticipated to commence in 2019 with completion in 2021/2022.
- 17) *Question:* Do we have final say?  
*Response:* There will be a Public Information Center (PIC) meeting as part of the Local Preliminary Engineering Phase and additional public meeting(s) held during the final design phase. As design elements are developed, the County will coordinate with the cooperating agencies of FHWA, NJTPA and NJDOT for reviews & concurrences. There will also be Local Officials briefings prior to all PIC meetings.
- 18) *Question/Comment:* Is there a Noise study? Humming from bridge.  
*Response:* The new bridge will is anticipated to create less noise as the new bascule span deck will not consist of open grating steel. The bascule span will contain a concrete riding surface.
- 19) *Question:* Can you reduce bridge openings?  
*Response:* Bridge opening frequencies are determined by the U.S. Coast Guard and are based on the vertical clearance for marine traffic passing under the bridge. To increase the height of the bridge; which would result in less frequent openings would require raising the bridge profile which the PPA calls for maintaining the same profile as the existing bridge. A steeper or higher bridge means the intersections on each end would need to be raised resulting in more right-of-way and environmental impacts.
- 20) *Question:* Length of time to demolish old bridge?  
*Response:* The timing and duration for demolition work would be determined by the County and Contractor, once the project is in the construction phase.

- 21) *Question/comments:* Why propose three crosswalks and not four at the Ward and Rumson intersection? Longer distance to cross, kids on bikes won't use 3 crossings, more park area, they will cross anywhere.  
*Response:* The sight distance and geometry of the intersection determine crosswalk layout design for where vehicles can stop and safely see pedestrians and cyclists. The Project Team will re-evaluate upon the conclusions from the Focus Group meeting will regards to the proposed cul-de-sac.
- 22) *Question:* What's the cost of the project?  
*Response:* A rough cost estimate is:  
- 500,000 for LCD Study  
- 800,000 for LPE Phase  
- 5 million for Final Design Phase;  
- 5 million for Right of Way Phase  
- 60 million for Construction Phase
- 23) *Question:* What's the Oceanic Bridge status?  
*Response:* Monmouth County Freeholders passed a resolution for the LCD Phase with NJTPA funding to follow similar process as the RumsonSea Bright Bridge.

## 7. Next Steps - Closing Comments

In summary, Martine passed a sign up sheet for those interested in attending a community stakeholders focus group meeting regarding the cul-de-sac. Meeting minutes will be provided and distributed to attendees and an email will be sent once information is updated on the Monmouth County web site.

### (a) Action items noted on newsprint:

- Community Stakeholder focus group meeting on the cul-de-sac - February / March
- Handouts and meeting minutes to be posted on Monmouth County website once updated (www.visitmonmouth.com, select Depts. Engineering, select Bridge & Road Projects)
- Email update regarding mark out of the proposed bridge approach alignment's approximate location in West Park

### (b) In closing, Martine asked attendees to share their thoughts about the meeting, feedback, or closing comments. The following input was noted on newsprint:

#### Feedback

- OK with plan;
  - support plan;
  - cross walk for kids;
- (continued next page)*

#### Feedback (continued)

- great plan;
- listening;

- looks fair;
- hope goes better than 2002;
- opportunity next to get more input;
- swing bridge park beautification of flag pole;
- cul-de-sac further discussions;
- traffic issues Ward / Lincoln;
- no further south;
- work in progress informative;
- bike ped children walkways to / from;
- location of final bridge;
- skeptical where bridge;
- resurfacing SB;
- SB Beach Club; great job with Q&A;
- access to club;
- propose more info, informative + thanks;
- stay in SB;
- disappointed of outcome;
- remain optimistic for better outcome;
- less northern - throw out / kill cul de sac;
- not happy closer to us;
- be at all meetings, be informative;
- very disappointed with alignment;
- Anchorage to become Green Acres;
- Green Acres - attend meetings;
- disappointing - prefer option north;
- noise bridge, cul de sac, safety riding bikes; focus group;
- great job communication;
- 2 year period during building / staging area;
- hours of operation: guidelines sensitivity to homeowners;
- tree ordinance; buffer areas around to protect trees;
- Sea Bright area;
- operational needs, NJ Transit schedule;
- safety for students, parishioners;
- ensure bridge always open;
- corner + cul de sac;
- bike ped Rumson to river; improve communications;
- good information flowing again.

(c) Inkyung Englehart thanked Rumson Borough for hosting the meeting and the attendees for their input. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

## **KEY ACTION ITEMS**



1. County to update the Bridge S-32 web site information at [www.visitmonmouth.com](http://www.visitmonmouth.com); handouts from this meeting will be posted to the web site and the meeting minutes once reviewed and approved.
2. H&H to conduct preliminary engineering work effort and coordinate with the on-going environmental studies required for this phase; determine alignment of new bridge.
3. Attendees to review Project Information and Draft Stakeholders List. Please provide any suggestions and contact information.
4. Martine Culbertson will send out an email survey for scheduling the cul-de-sac meeting and once a date is determined, an email meeting notice will be sent; also will provide via email: updated Community Stakeholders List, notice when web site has been update; and cul-de-sac meeting notice.

### **NEXT MEETING - Stakeholders Focus Group Meeting regarding Cul-de-Sac**

Date: Spring 2015

Time: morning or afternoon or evening - *To Be Determined*

Location: *To Be Determined*

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.

Bruce Riegel, P.E., H&H Project Manager

Martine Culbertson, Bridge S32 Community Involvement Facilitator



## **MONMOUTH COUNTY**

### **Local Preliminary Engineering Phase for Monmouth County Bridge S-32 on Rumson Road (CR520) over the Shrewsbury River Borough of Rumson and Borough of Sea Bright, Monmouth County, NJ**

## **Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 1 Tuesday, January 13, 2015**

***Borough of Rumson Municipal Bldg., 80 E. River Road, Rumson, NJ, 10:00 a.m.***

### **AGENDA**

The purpose of this meeting is to introduce the project team, present the project status and schedule for the Preliminary Engineering Phase, and to obtain input on community interests or changes since the approval of the Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) and provide next steps.

#### **I. *WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION***

- Project Overview & Update
- Local Preliminary Engineering Phase

#### **II. *MONMOUTH COUNTY BRIDGE S-32 ON RUMSON ROAD OVER SHREWSBURY RIVER***

- Project Status and Schedule
- PE Work Effort - *Surveying and Bridge Structure*
- Environmental Process - *CED, Cultural Resources Study, Green Acres Program*
- Community Involvement - *Stakeholders Meeting / Public Meeting*

#### **III. *DISCUSSION AND NEXT STEPS***

- Input - Community Interests/Changes (*since PPA approval*)
- Action Items – Q&A
- Closing Comments