Reconstruction of the Pell Bridge Approaches

Public Workshop #2

July 16, 2018
Agenda

- Project Purpose and Need
- Environmental Assessment (EA) Process
- Public Meeting #1 Survey – Input Summary
- Project Components
- Overview of Alternatives
- Public Input
- Project Website
- Next Steps
- Open House
Project Purpose and Need

• Project Purpose
  • Improve safety and connectivity for all road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles
  • Create parcels for development

• Project Need
  • Reduce vehicular congestion and queuing on Pell Bridge
  • Improve connectivity between Newport’s North End and Downtown areas for all road users
  • Spur economic development
Environmental Assessment (EA) Process and Schedule

1. **Public Workshop #1**
   - Offers an opportunity for the public to discuss and provide input on the Proposed Action early in the EA process.

2. **Purpose and Need / Alternatives Development**
   - Defines why the Proposed Action is needed and what it is expected to accomplish, as well as a reasonable range of conceivable alternatives.

3. **Public Workshop #2**
   - Offers an opportunity for the public to discuss and provide input on the Proposed Action midway through the EA process.

4. **EA Preparation**
   - The Proposed Action’s potential environmental impacts are identified and evaluated.

5. **EA Circulation and Public Review**
   - The EA is made available for public review and comment.

6. **FONSI Issued**
   - If the EA determines the Proposed Action will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is issued and the EA process concludes.

7. **Construction Begins**
   - The Proposed Action enters the construction period.

8. **Project Completion**
   - The Proposed Action is operational/put into service.
• Over 70 comments received. Majority of topics focused on:
  • Bike Facilities
  • Pedestrian Connectivity (Especially to North End)
  • Third Street Used as a Cut-Thru
  • Local Business Impact
  • Traffic Congestion/Ramps Queuing onto Bridge
  • Drainage/Flooding
  • Developable Land
• Consolidate and remove existing highway infrastructure
• Reconnect JT Connell Highway
• Provide connectivity between JT Connell Highway and Third Street
• Provide multi-modal connectivity between North End and and Gateway Center
• Provide park & ride and transit opportunity between Pell Bridge Interchange and Gateway Center
• JT Connell Highway Resurfacing
• Pedestrian/Bicycle Connectivity
• Future Shuttle Service along Newport Secondary
• Admiral Kalbfus Road Safety Improvements
• Interchange Area Realignment
  • Alternative 1: Maintain Freeway/Interchange
  • Alternative 2: Partial Interchange/Local Street Network
  • Alternatives 3A-B-C: Local Street Network
  • Alternatives 4A-B: Local Street Network
JT Connell Highway Resurfacing

Resurface JT Connell/ Coddington Highway
Pedestrian/Bicycle Connectivity

- Provide Shared Use Path along Newport Secondary to Admiral Kalbfus Road
- Provide Sidewalks /Shared Use Path along JT Connell
- Connectivity to Gateway Center
Provide Platform for Future Shuttle Service

Provide Park and Ride
Admiral Kalbfus Road Safety Improvements

- Upgrade 3rd Street Signal
- Install Signal at Malbone Road/Girard Ave
- Convert Rotary to Modern Roundabout
Interchange Area – Alternative 1

- Replace Downtown Ramp with Flyover Ramp
- Maintain Freeway
- Reconnect JT Connell Highway

RI DOT
Driven to get you there
Interchange Area – Alternative 2

- Replace Downtown Ramp with Flyover Ramp
- Reconnect JT Connell Highway
- Provide Additional Local Street Connections
- Remove Freeway
Interchange Area – Alternative 3

- Provide Connection to Park & Ride
- Provide Connection to 3rd Street
- Remove Freeway
- Provide Additional Local Street Connections

3 Options for Downtown Ramp
Interchange Area – Alternative 3A

Provide Ramp to Downtown via Newport Secondary

Convert Farewell Street to One-Way Northbound
Interchange Area – Alternative 3B

Maintain Ramp

Restrict Access from Van Zandt Ave Westbound

Eliminate Access from Van Zandt Ave Eastbound
Interchange Area – Alternative 3C

Remove Ramp
Interchange Area – Alternative 4A

- Provide Connection to Park & Ride
- Remove Ramp
- Provide Additional Local Street Connections
- Remove Freeway
Interchange Area – Alternative 4B

- Provide Connection to Park & Ride
- Provide Additional Local Street Connections
- Remove Ramp
- Remove Freeway
Alternatives Analysis for Discussion

• Station 1 – Alternative 1
• Station 2 – Alternative 2
• Station 3 – Alternatives 3A, 3B, and 3C
• Station 4 – Alternatives 4A and 4B

• Each station has:
  • Graphic of Alternative
  • Project Constraints and Benefits
Public Input

- Public input is critical at this stage of the project
  - Concerns/comments on alternatives for consideration
- Input may be submitted:
  - In person tonight – see comment box
  - By mail – address provided on the comment form
  - Using the online portal – web link provided on the comment form

Thank you for participating!

Provide your comments about the topics discussed at the Workshop by August 20, 2018.

Mail comments here:
RIDOT, c/o VHB
1 Cedar Street, Suite 400
Providence, RI 02903

Submit comments online here:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PellBridgeApproachesAlternatives
RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PELL BRIDGE APPROCHES
Environmental Assessment (EA)

Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) is reconfiguring the Pell Bridge Interchange. The following pages give a brief history along with pertinent information about the environmental assessment (EA), Project timeline, and public outreach.

Project Status
- Finalized the first steps of the process including scoping, purpose and need development, and existing conditions
- Determining alternatives to include within the EA

Upcoming Events
- July 16, 2018 - Public Workshop at Newport City Hall
- July 17, 2018 - Public Workshop at Florence Gray Center

Please consider completing the survey below with your questions, concerns and comments about the

• Project Updates
• Meeting Materials/ Graphics/Reports
• Link to Survey
• www.pellbridge-ea.com
Next Steps

• Fall 2018/Early 2019
  • Submit Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) & 30% Design Plans for FHWA Review & Public Comment

• Late Winter/Early Spring 2019
  • Submit Final Environmental Assessment

• Summer 2019
  • FHWA issues determination

• Winter 2019 thru 2023
  • Advertise Project/Construction