

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The primary purpose of this project is to replace the existing structurally deficient and functionally obsolete bridge with minimal approach work. In addition, right and left turn lanes will be included at the new T-intersection of Route 501 and Route 130.

Route 501 is a primary route and the functional classification is Rural Minor Arterial.

The proposed bridge will be replaced approximately 0.7 miles downstream from the existing structure.

Traffic will be maintained by utilizing the existing roadway and bridge crossing; however, lane closures are expected.

The 2008 average daily traffic volume of this portion of Route 501 was 1,884 vehicles per day with 14% trucks. The existing structure is in poor condition with

a sufficiency rating of 32.2; it has been identified as a priority for replacement.

The design of this project is in compliance with the Stormwater Management Act, stormwater management standards and specifications approved by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. The construction of this project will conform to the nationwide best management practices, VDOT specifications and special provisions, and Virginia Department of Soil and Water Conservation regulations. During construction every reasonable effort will be made to protect the environment with respect to dust and erosion control.

Project Graphic



Estimated Project Cost

Total Cost (approximate):

\$ 20.7 million

Engineering of Roadway Plans:

\$3.4 million

Right of Way:

\$150,000

Construction:

\$17.28 million

This cost is subject to change because development of the project is in early design stages. The project will be financed using dedicated bridge funds.

Environmental Review

VDOT's Central Office Environmental Location Study Section has performed environmental reviews and coordination to obtain information about environmental resources in the project vicinity; to provide natural and historic resource agencies an opportunity to review and comment on the project during its development; and to identify opportunities for avoidance, minimization and mitigation of potential environmental impacts.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is applicable to this project and a NEPA Environmental Assessment (EA) has been developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and in accordance with federal guidelines. The NEPA document includes information from various technical reviews including those related to natural resources, water quality, threatened and endangered species, air quality, noise, etc. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is also provided in the Environmental Assessment.

The project will continue to be coordinated with the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies as part of environmental review and approval processes required throughout project development and construction. All required environmental clearances and permits will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. VDOT will adhere to strict compliance with all environmental conditions and commitments resulting from regulatory approvals, and implementation of VDOT's specifications and standard best management practices will protect the environment during construction.

The Environmental Assessment and associated environmental studies are available at today's meeting. Representatives from VDOT's Environmental Section are available to discuss this information and to answer questions.

Anticipated Schedule

The following schedule has been proposed:

End hearing comment period – November 2, 2012

Authorize Right of Way – May 2013

Advertise for construction – June 2014

Construction complete – December 2016

Civil Rights

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information in regards to your civil rights on this project or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the project manager listed in this brochure.

Right of Way

The construction of the Route 501 improvement project will require the displacement of no families, businesses or non-profit organizations.

As we further develop the design of this project, additional easements for utility relocation may be required beyond the proposed right of way shown on the public hearing plans. The property owners will be informed of the exact location of the easements during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

Information about right of way purchase is discussed in VDOT's brochure, "Right of Way and Utilities: a Guide for Property Owners and Tenants." Copies of this brochure are available here from a VDOT right of way agent.

After this meeting, information regarding right of way may be obtained from the right of way contact listed on the back of this brochure.

Get Involved

Ten days after the public hearing (November 2, 2012), the public comment period will close. VDOT will review and evaluate any information received as a result of this location and design hearing. This information, including the hearing summary, will be available for review at the VDOT office address listed below.

After all comments have been addressed, the major design features will then be presented to VDOT's Chief Engineer or designee for approval.

Project information shared here is available for review after the design public hearing at VDOT's Lynchburg District Office located at 4219 Campbell Ave., Lynchburg, VA 24501.

Comments can also be submitted in writing to lynchburginfo@vdot.virginia.gov. Please include "Route 501 Design Public Hearing Comment" in the subject line. Information must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT within 10 calendar days of today's meeting (November 2, 2012) in order to be included in the design public hearing record.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Brian J. Casto, P.E.	Project Manager	4219 Campbell Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24501	434-856-8276 1-800-367-7623
Lori Snider	Regional Right of Way Manager	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	540-387-5366 1-800-367-7623
Phyllis Brice	Lynchburg District Office of Civil Rights	4219 Campbell Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24501	434-856-8169 1-800-367-7623
Paula K. Jones	Lynchburg District Office of Public Affairs	4219 Campbell Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24501	434-856-8176 1-800-367-7623



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Design Public Hearing Route 501 Bridge over James River and CSX Railroad Amherst and Bedford Counties

Tuesday, October 23, 2012, 4-6 p.m.
Big Island Elementary School
1114 School Days Road
Big Island, VA 24526

Public Meeting

Project number: 0501-005-640, P101, R201, C501, B648;
Federal number: BR-005-3(112), BR-005-3(113), BR-005-3(114); UPC 97136

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) design public hearing on proposed improvements to the Route 501 Bridge over the James River and CSX Railroad near the Amherst and Bedford County lines.

This design public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for any person, acting on his/her own behalf or representing a group or governing agency, to give the department comments and/or suggestions on the proposed project.

VDOT strives to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation projects and programs affecting them.

VDOT representatives are present to discuss the project and answer your questions.

A comment sheet is included in the handouts for this meeting, and your input is encouraged. All oral and written comments received on this project will be included in a transcript for review by VDOT personnel, citizens and other interested parties.

Project Overview



Anticipated Cost – Approximately \$19 million
Purpose – To replace a structurally deficient bridge and approaches
From – 0.19 miles southwest of Bedford/Amherst County line
To – 0.09 miles northeast of Bedford/Amherst County line
Total length – 0.287 mile