

FALLS BRIDGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
04/11/18

In Attendance:

Bridge Advisory Committee (BAC) Members: Facilitator Jim Schatz,
Mike Astbury, Deborah Brewster, John Chapman, Lynne Clark, Bill Cousins,
Vaughn Leach, Stephen Rappaport, Lori Sitzabee, Karen Wyatt

Department of Transportation (MDOT): Andy Lathe, Wayne Frankhauser,

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA): Cheryl Martin

HNTB: Kevin Brayley, Tim Cote

Press: Ann Berleant

Public: Justin Bennett, Roxanne Jansen, Niki Lawton, Scott Miller, Thom McLaughlin,
Anne Nevin, Butler Smythe, Dee Seymour, Madelyn Woods, Steve Wright

Public Comments from Blue Hill Site Link & Email

- 2 Public Comments Received (02/27-04/11/18)

Alternate Route - Concept #1

- 520' Bridge (between Routes 172 and 175, abutting properties owned by Darlene Allen, Chris & Paula Niehoff, and Elsa Niehoff-Gerwin)
- Schedule: 12-18 months
- Different Design – Could Add Another Year or So
- Construction Estimated to begin in 2020
- Repurpose Falls Bridge
- Approximate Project Costs:

\$9,000,000 New Bridge Construction

\$3,000,000 One Mile of New Roadway

\$1,200,000 Contingency

\$ 80,000 Archeological Exploration

TBD Existing Roadway Modifications at Falls Bridge

TBD Falls Bridge Improvements

TBD Right-of-Way Acquisition

TBD Environmental

TBD Temporary Bridge / Off-Site Detour Costs

TBD Costs to Remove Bridge

- Town Takes Ownership of Bridge; maintains bridge and portions of Routes 172 & 175 Where Bridge Ties In

Alternate Route - Concept #2

(Converts Local Roads to Route 175)

- Town Road Converted to State Route

High Street (1.2 miles)
Hales Hill Road (1.3 miles)
One Town Bridge (8 ft. span)

- State Route Converted to Local Road

Portions of Route 175 (5.8 miles)
Falls Bridge
Causeway Bridge & Walls

- New State Roadway Will be Widened, with 59 Parcels of Land Impacted
- Motion Made and Accepted to Eliminate Alternate Route – Concept 2

Bridge Rehabilitation Option

- Schedule: 18-24 months, bridge closure of 18-24 months
- Add additional time for construction of a temporary bridge, archeological remediation, winter shut-downs.

Intent of Bridge Advisory Committee

- Briefly reviewed criteria from one year ago and the need to evaluate to complete the Project Alternatives Matrix.

Design Matrix

- Group discussed Pros and Cons of :

Rehabilitation
Replacement (Conventional Girder)
Replacement (Arched Girder)
Replacement (Tied Arch)

- DOT will summarize and provide at next meeting.
- BAC Members asked to review materials and provide recommendations

Next Meeting: 05/03/18 at 6pm

Adjourned at 8:03pm