



MONMOUTH COUNTY
Final Design Phase for Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge S-32
on Rumson Road (CR520) over the Shrewsbury River
Borough of Rumson and Borough of Sea Bright, New Jersey

COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS MEETING NO. 2
MEETING REPORT

DATE: Tuesday, February 18, 2020
TIME: 6:00-8:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Forrestdale School Cafeteria
60 Forrest Avenue, Rumson, NJ

ATTENDEES:

First Name	Last Name	Representing
John	Anderson	John Regan, LLC
Susan	Binns	Rumson resident
Ruth	Blaser	Sea Bright resident
Robert	Boyer	Rumson Police Department
John T.	Bruns	Shrewsbury resident
Diane	Burke	Rumson Environmental Commission
Tom	Calvanico	Rumson resident
Catherine	Carton	Seabright Beach Club
Gary	Casazza	Rumson Council
Sam	Catalano	
Wendy	Cettina	Rumson resident
Allyn	Crawford	Nautilus condo owner
Laurie	Crawford	Nautilus condo owner
Mario	Criscione	Marina at Oceanport
Betty	Croft	Rumson resident
Abby	Daly	Seabright Beach Club
Lang	Daly	
Tom	Dooley	Holy Cross Parish
Jeff	Fernandez	Rumson resident
Allison	Gehlhaus	Rumson resident
Nancy	Haaren	Rumson resident
Erika	Hagberg	Rumson resident
Kristen	Hall	Rumson resident
Donald	Hearn	Rumson property owner
Joseph	Hemphill	Borough of Rumson
William J. (Jack)	Keeler	Borough of Sea Bright Council
Nancy	Kegelman	Rumson property owner
Harry	Kegelman	Rumson property owner
J. Clayton	Kingsbery	Rumson Borough Council
Brett	Lawrence	Seabright Beach Club
Marc A.	Leckstein	Borough of Sea Bright Council
John	Lewis	Friends of the Oceanic Bridge Association
Bob	Malone	Rumson property owner
Maria	Manley	Seabright Lawn Tennis & Cricket Club

Diane	Millhiser	Rumson resident
Ross	Millhiser	Rumson resident
Gregory	Milne	Regan LLC
Wayne	Morrison	Long Branch Ice Boat Ramp & Yacht Club
Nancy	Mulheren	Chapel Beach Club
Sandy	Mulheren	SBBP, LLC
Michael	Naughton	HDR, Inc.
Melisse	Nejame	Seabright Beach Club
Anthony	Okupski	Molly Pitcher Inn / Oyster Pint Hotel
Michael	Oppegaard	Monmouth County Emergency Management Coordinator
Jay	Price	Conti Enterprises
Pat	Regan	John Regan LLC / Sea Bright property owner
Judith	Rivkin	Rumson property owner
Thomas	Rogers, RMC	Borough of Rumson
Charlie	Rooney	Sea Bright Council
P.J.	Rotchford	Rumson / Real Estate
Dominic	Sequeira	DDJ Management, Inc.
Beth	Sherrard	Sea Bright resident
Ravi	Singh	Kiewit Infrastructure Co.
Paul	Sperber	Rumson resident
Megan	Tencza	Rumson resident
Wally	Tunison	Rumson resident
Joseph L. (Joe)	Verruni	Borough of Sea Bright
Clay	Wilbanks	Sea Bright Beach Club
Project Team		
Val	Aylesworth	M.A. Culbertson, LLC
Martine	Culbertson	M. A. Culbertson, LLC
Deval	Desai	NJDOT, Local Aid District 3
Josh	Davison	Stokes Creative Group, Inc.
Inkyung	Englehart	Monmouth County Engineering
Joseph	Ettore, PE	Monmouth County Engineering
Keith	Griesing, PE	Hardesty & Hanover, LLC
Jeffrey	Grob	Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.
Mike	Haverstick	Monmouth County Engineering
Daria	Jakimowska, PE	Monmouth County Engineering
Paul	McEachen	RGA, Inc.
Brian	Medino, PE	Hardesty & Hanover
Sean	Ream	NJDOT, BEPR
Bruce	Riegel, PE	Hardesty & Hanover
Andrés	Roda, PE	Monmouth County Engineering
William	Romaine	Amy S. Greene Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Glen	Schetelich, PE	Hardesty & Hanover, LLC
Daniel	Tarantino, PE, PTOE	Hardesty & Hanover, LLC

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the Community Stakeholders Meeting is to present the project status and provide information on the final design plans for the bridge replacement and approach roadway intersection improvements at Ward Avenue in Rumson and Ocean Avenue in Sea Bright, including bridge aesthetics, streetscape elements and proposed construction staging and traffic mitigation in Rumson and Sea Bright. (See attached Agenda)

MEETING SUMMARY

Martine Culbertson, Meeting Facilitator, welcomed everyone and asked attendees to find seating on the tables that had tent signs indicating topic that most interested them for discussion: bridge aesthetics, Ocean Avenue intersection improvements, Ward Avenue intersection improvements, or traffic staging. Martine reviewed the handouts explaining the blank white index cards on the tables are an opportunity to provide any questions or comments that would be shared later in the meeting or may be handed in at the end of the meeting at the sign-in table to be included in the meeting summary report. The individual index cards handed in at the meeting are included in Report Attachment No. 1. After Project Team members introduced themselves, a PowerPoint presentation was provided followed by breakout sessions and brief reporting of breakout session discussions from each table.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Monmouth County Engineer, Joseph Ettore, opened the meeting on behalf of Monmouth County and thanked everyone for their attendance and support for this bridge improvement project that has successfully completed two phases and soon the Final Design Phase.

- (a) This is a 65-million-dollar bridge replacement project that is federally funded so is following the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Local Capital Project Delivery Process. The County appreciates the efforts of both communities working with the State and Federal agencies to advance the Rumson-Sea Bright bridge replacement project which is so important to the local and regional transportation network and economy.
- (b) Joe Ettore reviewed the Project Schedule as indicated in the power point presentation slide: Local Concept Development (LCD) Phase 2011-2013, Local Preliminary Engineering (LPE) Phase 2014-2017 and now in process of completing the Final Design (FD) Phase 2018-2020. The construction phase is anticipated to begin in 2021 and finish in 2024.

2. Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge Replacement – Final Design Phase

Bruce Riegel, Hardesty & Hanover Project Manager, reviewed the Local Capital Project Delivery process steps completed for the LCD & LPE Phases and presented information on the Final Design Phase steps via the power point presentation slides.

- (a) As indicated on the Project Information Sheet handout, the Final Design Phase began in Fall 2018 and is anticipated to be completed by Summer 2020.
- (b) The work effort includes: obtaining construction environmental permits, securing needed Right-of-Way (ROW), and completing the utility and engineering design plans for the bridge replacement and approach roadway intersection improvements. The project team is currently working on these various aspects in coordination with Federal and State regulatory agencies in addition to NJDOT Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and County Engineering staff. The ROW process is being implemented by Monmouth County with the assistance of the NJDOT ROW Subject Matter Experts (SMEs).
- (c) The new bridge will be constructed to the south of the existing bridge with adequate space to ensure that the existing bridge is not structurally compromised, and will remain in operation until traffic can be shifted to the new bridge. Bridge openings will continue to accommodate marine traffic during

the replacement of the bridge. The navigable channel of the Shrewsbury River is under the jurisdiction of the United States Coast Guard (USCG), with whom the Project Team coordinates.

3. Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge Replacement – Approach Roadway Intersection Improvements

Brian Medino, Hardesty& Hanover Project Engineer, presented the intersection improvements in association with the replacement of the bridge. The new alignment for the bridge will require improvements at both approach roadway intersections and at West Park. Since the bridge is moving to the south, the connection under the bridge is to allow continuity between both parts of the park. There is not ample clearance under the bridge on the Sea Bright side to provide connection from below but provide the connection with improvements consistent with the Sea Bright streetscape improvements project that was done along Ocean Avenue after Superstorm Sandy.

- (a) The PowerPoint presentation included slides showing the proposed design at Rumson Road & Ward Avenue intersection and at West Park. Since the bridge is moving to the south, the connection under the bridge is to allow continuity between both parts of the park.
- (b) A slide was also presented showing the proposed intersection design improvements for Rumson Road & Route 36/Ocean Avenue. There is not ample clearance under the bridge for a connection underneath on the Sea Bright side, however the intersection will be modified with a new signalized intersection that will include a connection to the Sea Bright Beach Club and will include safe pedestrian movements in all directions.
- (c) Brian explained the traffic turning motions in Sea Bright that will be a four-way intersection in the future condition with a dedicated left turn lane for vehicles turning west over the bridge on Rumson Road. The intersection will allow for stacking of vehicles in the dedicated left lane and to allow for safe access and turning movements better than today. As slide shows, some driveway access points will be modified to meet the NJDOT Access Code requirements as Ocean Avenue, as State Route 36, is under the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT).
- (d) An overview of the proposed Staging and Traffic Mitigation was presented. The bridge will remain open to traffic throughout construction with driveway access and pedestrian access maintained. There may be some temporary closures with short term detours as needed for safe construction of the bridge. The main navigational channel will remain open to boats under the U.S. Coast Guard jurisdiction and if there were any temporary closures, mariners would be notified.

4. Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge Replacement – Environmental Permits

Bill Romaine, Environmental Specialist Team Leader from Amy Greene Consultants (now part of Davey Resource Group), presented an overview of the permitting and mitigation requirement for the bridge replacement project. A presentation slide identified the permits required from the regulating State and Federal agencies for this project.

- (a) For the Rumson-Sea Bright bridge replacement project, permit applications have been submitted to the United States Coast Guard (USCG), the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and will be submitted to the Freehold Soil Conservation District.

5. Community Interests – Break-out Focus Group Discussions

During the Final Design Phase, there are elements for the final design that the County and Project Team would like input from local officials and community stakeholders. There were tables indicating the focus group discussions to share information and obtain input on the following four key areas:

- Construction Staging
- Ocean Avenue Intersections
- Ward Avenue Intersection and West Park

- Bridge Aesthetics (*lighting, railing, Operator's house & towers*)

Attendees gathered around the focus group discussion tables to review the final design plans in detail, ask questions and discuss the improvements providing input as appropriate for each topic. There was a presenter and recorder at each table discussion to share information and respond to questions. The notes taken at each table are provided below.

6. Community Input - Summary of Focus Group Discussions

After the group discussions, a presenter from each table provided a brief summary of the discussions from their table to share with all attendees. The notes taken during each table group discussion and the comments noted on newsprint are provided below.

Input / Comments from Table Group Discussion

Focus Group Table - Construction Staging

- Layout area – like to be informed when more information is available
- Vibration concerns – more information to provide at pre-construction PIC from Contractor
- Construction easement – where fence in area, water trestles, barges in water on both sides
- Work hours – weekday & weekends, comply with local noise ordinances
- Old Bridge demolition will be once new bridge is built

Focus Group Table - Ocean Avenue Intersections

- Access through construction
- Future use through parking lot for Nautilus Condominiums – existing easement
- The proposed concrete mountable island was removed – there will be striped paint only
- Indicate on plan the access right in/right out – Ocean Avenue is State Route 36 under NJDOT
- Egress Chapel Beach - Do not block driveway, consider Do Not Block Box roadway paint & signage
- Parking lot gets blocked – will share information to NJDOT/Sea Bright as their jurisdiction, local enforcement
- Examine lane capacity and provide left turn arrow for left turn lane into club
- Timing concerns – look to tweak during summer season and in future during construction
- Revise signal timing – coordination with NJDOT
 - 8 pm to 10 pm
 - Sunday Labor Day to October 1
 - Extend green time from Sea Bright Beach Club
- Consider removal of No Turn on Red signs from northbound (NB) at intersection – discuss with NJDOT
- Consider signs to the Sea Bright Beach Club to prevent public entering the private club – discuss with NJDOT
- Consider wide painted stripes and other pedestrian crossing streetscape elements to create intersection walkway connection between north and south sides of bridge
- Would like fishing allowed from bridge however Fishing Not Allowed today, nor on new bridge
- Fishing is allowed and will be on the bulkhead & from Pocket Park fishing is allowed

- Provide an underpass of bridge on Sea Bright side – it is not possible due to the height limitation and walkway would need to be 150’ out on the river to achieve 8’ height clearance
- Provide more info at next PIC – update plans to show latest info

Focus Group Table - Ward Avenue Intersection and West Park

- Environmental commission for roadway remediation
- Consider bioswales & rain gardens in the park – use as part of stormwater remediation
- Consider living shoreline and native plants
- Replacement of shade tree – prefer larger, mature trees, not thin small ones
- Landscape trees and plantings to have 2+ year guarantee for replacement
- Northside recreation – please maintain tree line on northside - some may be transplanted
- Don’t just clear cut if some trees and plantings can be moved
- Why is the pathway in park so loopy – it is due to the slope and need to meet ADA grade requirement
- Consider designing a more direct path - consider retaining wall if possible
- Shoreline plantings - NJDEP where disturbance lies and where to mitigate
- Intersection concern look at right turn at South Ward - have to jump into intersection
- Bike and pedestrian compatibility - make sure shoulder bikeway compatible
- Concern for noise & debris during demolition of existing bridge
- Sound & noise during demo and construction - provide information at PIC

Focus Group Table - Bridge Aesthetics

- Municipal seals to be designed one on each side, and a County seal & bridge seal on other
- Pylons – can have seals and other decorative features – example is Neptune City East End Avenue Bridge – see aesthetic elements
- LED lights – too bright, different than existing, use warm white
- Steel railing - to see through, not solid parapet, use open parapet
- Multiple opinions of the two options from public officials for design of operator’s house on the coping (trim around windows) and the roof line (style: flat vs triangle)
- Option 1 Positive - like the coping symmetry/balance, roof line less visible, match lamp lighting
Negative - looks too much like airport terminal but glass helps operator see
- Option 2 Positive - larger window glass, less mullions and match lamp lighting
Negative - too much roof, color of roof, black beams more visible less streamline look of bridge with noticeable roofs on towers
- Lamp post is appropriate for Option 1 and Option 2
- If look at present bridge style, Option 1 more like existing than Option 2
- Question: Is there any cost difference? Response: Not much difference, but sloped roof may require more maintenance long term than flat roof
- From distant view of bridge, look at scale
- Sloped Roof is not there now

- Existing bridge doesn't have high elements – banding to provide visual relief
- Consider pitch of roof
- What was on the old bridge swing span – check records
- Lower slope of roof – balance & perspective
- Dome roof on control house after 25 years - need of maintenance
- Trust designers

10. Next Steps – Questions, Feedback & Closing Comments

In summary, Martine provided information on the future public information center that will present the final design plans. It is anticipated to be in the spring, around early April and have two sessions on the same day, with one in the afternoon in Sea Bright and other session in the evening in Rumson.

- The Public Information Center will be advertised in local papers and posted on the Borough, County as well as the project web sites. Property owners within 250 feet of the bridge in both Boroughs will receive a Public Meeting Notice letter in the mail and so will any community stakeholders who provided a mailing address.
- Both PIC meeting sessions will be an open house format with display boards providing project information on the final design. There will be a brief presentation at each and comment forms available for the general public to provide input.
- Martine asked attendees for any questions and feedback. The following questions/comments were noted:

Q&A / COMMENTS

- Item #1 - Question: How long for temporary detours and for what?
Response: A temporary detour may exist for week or so needed for paving, which would be limited to an estimated 500 feet so to maintain driveway access along Rumson Road or along Ocean Avenue.
- Item #2 - Question/Comment: Why isn't there a traffic light at Ward & Rumson Road? People pull out and block intersection when bridge is up to hold up traffic.
Response: The intersection doesn't meet warrants on amount of traffic or crashes to install a traffic light, however a pedestrian flasher will be implemented, similar to what is in place at Riverview.
Additional Comment: They could enforce more (*not to block intersection*)

- Attendees were then asked for feedback and closing comments. The following comments were noted on newsprint:

FEEDBACK

- Good job
 - Intersection – still consider traffic light or more improvements
 - Good information
 - Thumbs up – swell
 - Possible PIC date: April 2nd
 - Replace bridge soon as possible – more maintenance needed on old bridge longer it takes
- Joe Ettore thanked attendees, both the local officials and community stakeholders from the Borough of Sea Bright and Borough of Rumson, for their continued participation and support for the project. The County appreciates the input and welcomes comments on the project. Community involvement

has been and will continue to be an important part of the process during this final design phase and throughout the bridge replacement construction.

- (f) A summary meeting report will be drafted and posted to the project web site. An email will be sent to local officials and community stakeholders once the meeting report is available online for viewing.
- (g) Please visit the project website to view more project information: www.rumsonseabrightbridge.com and the email address for submitting comments at any time: info@rumsonseabrightbridge.com
- (h) Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Additional Notes:

1. A total of eight (8) white index cards with comments were dropped off at the sign-in table. Please see Report Attachment No. 1.
2. The following items have occurred since the Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 2:
 - (a) In coordination with NJDOT Local Aid and the Bureau of Engineering, the mounted island at the Pocket Park at the terminus of Old Rumson Road in Sea Bright has been removed from the design and there will be painted roadway striping at that location.
 - (b) The Right-of-Way (ROW) process is underway and individual property owners with temporary or permanent easement or other acquisitions of property have received letters, and coordination is conducted with the Monmouth County Right of Way Section and the office of the Monmouth County Counsel.
 - (c) Based upon a continuing engineering analysis, it was determined that the existing bulkhead along the river on the Sea Bright side must be replaced adjacent to the abutment of the bridge for stabilization, and as such the property comprising the Dunkin Donuts and fitness Gym tenants will be acquired by the County using Federal funds, and the entire property will be acquired and the building will be demolished.
 - (d) Based upon a continuing review, it has been determined that the Borough of Sea Bright Planning Board record requires an access easement for the benefit of the Nautilus Condominium unit owners to permit a left turn access from Ocean Avenue/Route 36 into the new parking lot, traversing Old Rumson Road into the Nautilus property. Final details among the property owners is continuing.
 - (e) There is on-going coordination with the agencies (NJDEP Green Acres Program and the Borough of Rumson) regarding the use of West Park for construction staging based upon the County title rights set forth in the existing deeds when the existing bridge was first built replacing the prior one. There will be fencing to keep open for public use the playground and separate such activities from the rest of the park during construction. Access under the bridge in Rumson is to connect both parts of the park for access and safety to limit pedestrians crossing Rumson Road (CR520) mid-block rather than at Ward Avenue.
 - (f) There is on-going coordination with the agencies (NJDEP Green Acres Program and the Borough of Sea Bright) regarding the use of a portion of Sea Bright Public Park for construction staging and the construction of a new bulkhead on the property during construction of the new bridge and the demolition of the existing bridge. Fencing will be a consideration as needed to separate these activities from the rest of the park during construction. Geometric constraints of the bridge's clearance over the water on the Sea Bright side did not allow for a pedestrian connection under the bridge because of insufficient height clearance.

KEY ACTION ITEMS

1. Attendees to review Project Portfolio Handouts and to provide any changes to the Stakeholders List or suggestions for potential stakeholders to add.
2. Monmouth County will coordinate with NJDOT concerning comments on access along Route 36/Ocean Avenue under State jurisdiction.
3. Project Team will continue final design efforts in coordination with the County and cooperating regulatory agencies in preparation for presentation of final design plans at future PIC meeting.
4. M.A. Culbertson will provide: email notice when meeting summary report is posted on website, update of the Stakeholders List, and mailing of the PIC meeting notice followed with reminder PIC meeting notice email.

NEXT MEETING

- **Local Officials Meeting No. 3 Rumson & Sea Bright – Spring 2020**

- **Public Information Center (PIC) Meeting – Two Sessions**

- Date: Spring 2020 (*date to be determined*)

- Time: 2-4pm in Sea Bright and 6-8pm in Rumson (*to be confirmed*)

- Location: Sea Bright Beach Pavilion 3rd floor and Rumson High School cafeteria (*to be determined*)

Please Note:

Due to COVID-19 pandemic health safety guidance of Shelter-in-Place and Social Distancing, the Public Information Center (PIC) Meeting will be modified from a traditional in-person open house to an Online PIC Meeting via the project website. Public will be notified in future once the PIC is re-scheduled.

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.

Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge S-32 Project Team



MONMOUTH COUNTY
Final Design Phase for Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge S-32
on Rumson Road (CR520) over the Shrewsbury River
Borough of Rumson and Borough of Sea Bright, New Jersey

Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 2

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

Forrestdale School Cafeteria, 60 Forrest Avenue, Rumson, NJ, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

AGENDA

The purpose of the Community Stakeholders Meeting is to present the project status and provide information on the final design plans for the bridge replacement and approach roadway intersection improvements at Ward Avenue in Rumson and Ocean Avenue in Sea Bright, including bridge aesthetics, streetscape elements and traffic staging in Rumson and Sea Bright.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- Project Overview & Update
- Project Status and Schedule

II. RUMSON-SEA BRIGHT BRIDGE S-32 REPLACEMENT

- Final Design Plans – *Bridge & Approach Roadway Intersections*
- Staging & Traffic Mitigation
- Environmental Resources – *Permitting and Mitigation*

III. DISCUSSION & COMMUNITY INPUT

- Break-out Focus Group Discussions:
 - *Bridge Aesthetics - Operator's House, Railing and Lighting*
 - *Intersection & Streetscape Elements - Ocean Avenue, Sea Bright*
 - *Intersection & Streetscape Elements - Ward Avenue, Rumson*
 - *Construction Staging & Traffic Mitigation - Cars, Pedestrians, Bikes & Boats*
- Present Summary of each Focus Group – *Share Key Points*

IV. NEXT STEPS

- Public Information Center (PIC) Meeting – *Afternoon and Evening Sessions*
- Community Feedback, Action Items and Closing Comments



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February 18, 2020

Report Attachment No. 1

STAKEHOLDER INDEX CARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

- Save as many sycamores as possible – don't plant a lot of bushes

- How will this project be monitored by residents? How can we have a real-time cloud platform ingesting all data (24/7) so it's at everyone's disposal? Will we get instructions on picture taking? Can you address vibration monitors?

- Option 1
 - 1. No right on red off 36N into Seabright Beach.
 - 2. Special timing includes Sundays through 10/1 until 10 pm.
 - 3. Test period with DOT.

- Can we have project timelines for residents? Often the unknown is what makes everyone so anxious.

- St. George's church as 2 large events beginning of June & Labor Day weekend. As well as a lot of people at Easter & Christmas
Beth Sherrard 732-383-7465

- Plaque to Marc for Historical Society.
Kiosk on history of bridge location?
Option 2 with banding introduced.

- Control house option #1! Not #2!!!