



Brent Spence Bridge Replacement/Rehabilitation Project Public Involvement Meetings Summary

May 2, 2006
Cincinnati Museum Center
1301 Western Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio
3:00pm to 8:00pm

May 4, 2006
Gardens of Park Hills
1622 Dixie Highway
Park Hills, Kentucky
3:00pm to 8:00pm

Meeting Purpose and Displays

A series of public involvement meetings for the Brent Spence Bridge Replacement / Rehabilitation Project were held for Concurrence Point #1 to present work completed in Steps 1 through 4 of the ODOT Project Development Process. The purpose of the meetings was to inform the public about the project purpose and need, secondary source data collected, project goals and measures of success, and conceptual alternatives recommended for further development and study.

The meetings were held on May 2, 2006 at the Cincinnati Museum Center (Losantiville Café), 1301 Western Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio and on May 4, 2006 at the Gardens of Park Hills (Vista Room), 1622 Dixie Highway, Park Hills, Kentucky. Both meetings were held from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The meetings were in an open house format that allowed participants to review information at their own pace. No formal presentation was given. Project team representatives were available to answer questions and take comments. Approximately 100 people (excluding the project team) attended the first meeting held in Ohio. Approximately 220 people attended the second meeting held in Kentucky.

Exhibits displayed included project background; existing traffic data; environmental resources; the evaluation matrix for all alternatives considered; and conceptual alternative solutions considered and dismissed. Copies of technical studies completed to date were also available for review. Comment sheets, a project informational handout, and the current project newsletter were provided.

Summary of Formal (Written) Comments

Comment sheets and a tape recorder were available to provide comments to the project team. A two-week comment period followed the meetings. Comments were submitted either through the project website, electronic mail, in writing or on the project hotline. A total of 58 comments were received during the comment period. All comments received have been recorded and summarized.

Based on the public comments received, there was a general consensus that improvements were needed in the I-71/I-75 corridor. The following summarizes primary public comments from Concurrence Point #1:

- It was suggested that transit alternatives be considered instead of only roadway solutions.
- The potential for displacements and affects on property were expressed concerns.
- The potential of increased traffic noise resulting from the addition of lanes was expressed as a concern.
- All of the alternatives were desirable for various reasons, none were recommended for elimination.
- The project team was praised for the information presented.
- Several questions were raised about the schedule for right-of-way acquisitions and construction.
- It was noted that Alternatives 1 and 2 would disturb several properties due to the new bridge being separate from the existing bridge, which would require more right-of-way (along Western Ave in Covington and the Queensgate community in Cincinnati).
- Alternatives 1 and 2 were preferred by several citizens because they separate through traffic from local traffic and would help solve problems of congestion.
- It was recommended that the project team keep design features in mind as the bridge is an aesthetic feature that has the potential to add benefit to the cities.
- Concern was expressed about the affect of the project on existing exits (i.e. KY 5th Street and KY 12th Street) due to the changes in access associated with Alternatives 1 and 2.
- Quality of life and viewshed issues were raised as the new structure could impact existing neighborhoods in Covington and change the view across the Ohio River from Kentucky.
- Residential and commercial property owners would like to be kept informed of study progress; several people requested that they be added to the mailing list.