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E-Newsletter

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Project Update

Environmental, traffic, and engineering studies have continued since the last Brent Spence Bridge Advisory Committee Meeting in July of 2006. At that time, the project team was just finishing up with Step 4 of the ODOT Project Development Process, which ends the planning process and initiates the environmental and preliminary engineering work.

At that time five preliminary alternatives were advanced for further study. These included a series of sub-alternatives relating to each alternative. In the past several months, the project team has performed a more detailed analysis of each alternative. A more detailed analysis of overall system performance has also been conducted.

The project has moved into Step 5 of the ODOT Project Development Process. This step involves more detailed environmental work and field studies. Preliminary engineering for each alternative is continuing. These efforts will be documented in a Conceptual Alternatives Study (CAS) that will be completed and presented to the public in the Fall.

Conceptual Alternatives Study

The next major deliverable from the project team will be the Conceptual Alternatives Study. The CAS will present specific evaluation criteria applied to the remaining alternatives and a comparative analysis of the alignments. This analysis will include advantages and disadvantages of each alignment and their associated environmental and community impacts. Some of the alignments may be eliminated during this phase if they do not conform to the Project's Purpose and Need or if greater potential for negative impacts is identified.

In addition to the environmental field work and reports that are to be included in the CAS, engineering/ design characteristics will be included for each alternative. The CAS will document legal and design speeds, functional classification, projected traffic volumes, number of lanes, lane widths, and curve data for each alternative. Contact with present utility providers for collection of utility information will also be documented.

The comparison matrix developed during Steps 1-4 will be updated for the alternatives, and will be included in the CAS report. The matrix will show the comparative cost, impacts, advantages and disadvantages for each of the alternatives, as well as some aesthetic evaluation.

Environmental Field Studies

Leading up to preparation of the CAS report, the project team has made a number of environmental report submissions. These include:

- **Phase I Historical/Archaeological Survey.** This report is complete and has been approved by both ODOT and KYTC. It is currently being reviewed by State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPO) in both states.
- **Phase I Ecological Report.** This report documents the evaluation of potential impact of the presented alternatives to water resources, plant and animal species, habitat and farmland. This report is complete and has been approved by both ODOT and KYTC.



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- **Environmental Site Assessment Screening.** This report documents the existence of hazardous waste sites and landfills within the alternative corridors. This report is being reviewed by both states.
- **Socio-Economic Report.** This report identified environmental justice and Civil rights Act issues in the current community. It has been completed and will be submitted to KYTC and ODOT as part of the Conceptual Alternatives Study.
- **Relocation Assistance Program Survey.** This survey identified residential and business relocations that have been associated with each of the alternatives. This report is complete and approved.

Schedule:

Task	2006					2007					2008														
	J	J	A	S	O	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
Step 5 - Develop Conceptual Alternative Alignments	[Task spans across 2006 and 2007]																								
Phase I Historical/Archaeological Survey (8/07)										X															
Phase I Ecological Studies (4/07)								X																	
Environmental Site Assessment Screening (8/07)									X																
Step 5 Design Activities (11/06 through 8/07)																									
Conceptual Alternatives Study Report (9/07)															X										
Concurrence Point/Agency and Public Input (7/07 thru 12/07)																									
Step 6 - Develop Feasible Alternative Alignments																									
Develop Alternative Design Elements																									
Phase II Historical/Archaeological Survey (5/08)																									X
Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (1/08)																									X
Step 6 Design Activities (1/08 thru 5/08)																									
Assessment of Feasible Alternatives Report (8/08)																									X
Concurrence Point/Agency and Public Input (6/08 thru 12/08)																									

Upcoming Meetings:

The current schedule calls for upcoming project meetings, based on the progress of conceptual engineering work. These meetings are anticipated as follows:

- An Aesthetics Committee meeting is proposed for late August, 2007.
- A Project Advisory Team meeting will be held in early September, 2007.
- Public meetings are tentatively scheduled for October 2007.

Future Communications:

The project team will communicate with the Advisory and Aesthetics Committees through the E-Newsletter on a regular basis for the remainder of the study. This newsletter is a supplement of the project newsletter that is widely distributed as part of the Public Involvement process.



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