



**Brent Spence Bridge Replacement/Rehabilitation Project  
May 2009 Public Meetings Summary  
Concurrence Point #2**

May 6, 2009  
The Gardens of Park Hills  
1622 Dixie Highway  
Park Hills, KY 41011

May 7, 2009  
(CRC) Lincoln Recreation Center  
1027 Linn Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45203

**Purpose of the meetings and displays**

A series of public involvement meetings for the Brent Spence Bridge Replacement/Rehabilitation Project were held for Concurrence Point #2 to present work completed in Step 5 and portions of Step 6 of the Ohio Department of Transportation Project Development Process.

The purpose of the meetings was to present the conceptual alternatives that were considered for the Brent Spence Bridge Replacement/Rehabilitation Project, along with the recommendations of feasible alternatives for further study. At these meetings, exhibits showed information on environmental impacts, traffic, costs, engineering design, potential right of way, and the project's purpose and need. Details of the information shown during the meeting are presented in the Conceptual Alternatives Study report. Copies of technical studies completed to date were also available for review. Comment sheets and a project informational handout were provided.

**Total attendees**

The meetings were 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 250 people (excluding the project team) attended the first meeting held in Kentucky. Approximately 65 people attended the second meeting held in Ohio. Both meetings were held from 4 pm to 8 pm.

**Summary of Formal (Written) Comments**

Comment sheets were available to the public at the meetings. A 30-day 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 89 comments were received during the comment period.

The following summarizes primary public comments from Concurrence Point #2:

- The majority of comments from property owners in Kentucky noted concern with noise issues and the need for noise abatement measures. Also, the improvements on I-75 would bring traffic closer to homes resulting in lowered property values and increased vibration due to truck traffic.

- Residents and business owners want the least impact to their property impacts. Loss of property could also lead to a loss in the tax base.
- Kentucky residents requested that the Prince of Peace School and St. John's church not be impacted by the project.
- Ohio residents in the neighborhood of the West McMicken area voiced concerns of impacts that would result from improvements to the Western Hills Viaduct. Impacts of concern include:
  - Loss of historic homes that are part of the community
  - Impact to the Community Gardens
  - Hillside, steep slopes, vegetation, and property issues during construction that could impact homes structurally
  - Noted increase in traffic at the entrance point from Western Hills Viaduct is not desired
  - Improved pedestrian and bicycle traffic options
- Alternatives E, C, and G were each preferred among presented alternatives. Some comments also favored the two bridges side-by-side. Many comments agreed with the recommendation to eliminate the Queensgate alternative.
- Changes in or maintenance of access was noted as a concern. The Cincinnati Museum Center identified a need for direct access to their facility, to other resources, and to the West End neighborhood. Questions were asked to clarify how local and through traffic will be separated. Access to/from Clay Wade Bailey Bridge and I-75/I-71 was noted. Suggestions were made for appropriate signage for access to Covington and Cincinnati and at exit ramps to specific destinations.
- Impacts to historic resources, including Longworth Hall and the Lewisburg Historic District, were noted.
- Concerns about the safety of the existing bridge were expressed.
- Short-term construction impacts to property owners and traffic were noted.
- Property owners would like to retain current views from areas in Kentucky toward the Ohio River and Cincinnati skyline.
- The aesthetic aspects of the project were noted. Comments referred to the bridge becoming a landmark for the region. Context sensitive solutions should be utilized along project corridor. The design of the roadway should also be taken into consideration. The "spaghetti" roadway system in downtown Cincinnati should be a more elegant configuration using collector-distributor system similar to Fort Washington Way.
- The scale of the project should be clearly stated to the public. The number of lanes recommended and the footprint of a new bridge could be better illustrated.
- Comments also noted the need for mass transit options.
- 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.