Mid-Currituck Bridge Draft Environmental Impact Statement Released

April 2010

The Mid-Currituck Bridge Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been published by the North Carolina Turnpike Authority in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The Draft EIS and associated technical reports, as well as preliminary designs of the project alternatives, are available for review on the project web site at https://www.ncdot.gov/projects/mid-currituck-bridge/. Copies of all the documents are available for review at the following locations:

- Currituck County Courthouse, Currituck
- Currituck County Public Library, Barco
- Corolla Public Library, Corolla
- Dare County Public Library, Kill Devil Hills
- Town of Duck Administrative Building, Duck
- Kitty Hawk Town Hall, Kitty Hawk
- NCDOT Maintenance Yard Office, Maple
- Southern Shores Town Hall, Southern Shores

Open Houses and Public Hearings Scheduled

The Turnpike Authority will hold pre-public hearing open houses and combined corridor/design public hearings to accept public comments on this project. The open houses provide an informal opportunity to ask questions and discuss issues with project representatives, while the formal hearings allow individuals to make oral comments regarding the project. Comments at the hearings and all written comments will be recorded and considered. **The open houses will be held from 3:30-6:30 PM and the hearings will start at 7:00 PM for the following dates and locations:**

**Dare County Outer Banks - May 18, 2010**
Ramada Plaza Nags Head Beach
1701 South Virginia Dare Trail
Kill Devil Hills, NC

**Currituck County Outer Banks - May 19, 2010**
Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education
Currituck Heritage Park on NC 12
Corolla, NC

**Currituck County Mainland - May 20, 2010**
Currituck County Center
120 Community Way
Barco, NC
Draft EIS Study Alternatives

The Draft EIS study alternatives are illustrated on the figure below. Following public review of the Draft EIS, as well as a review by environmental resource and regulatory agencies, the Turnpike Authority and FHWA will select a Preferred Alternative, deciding:

- Whether or not to build the Mid-Currituck Bridge and/or widen existing roads, choosing among the No-Build Alternative, and alternatives identified as ER2, MCB2, and MCB4.
- Whether to build a third outbound hurricane evacuation lane on US 158 or to use the center turn lane on US 158 as a third outbound lane as needed during evacuations.
- Where to end a Mid-Currituck Bridge on the Outer Banks, if MCB2 or MCB4 is selected for construction, choosing between two bridge corridors identified as C1 and C2.
- Whether to cross Maple Swamp on the mainland on a bridge (Option A) or a road on fill dirt (Option B), if MCB2 or MCB4 is selected for construction. These options also differ in terms of the location of the toll plaza and Aydlett access.

The Draft EIS identifies MCB4 as the Recommended Alternative, which includes construction of a Mid-Currituck Bridge across Currituck Sound. The Recommended Alternative is not a final decision. The Draft EIS makes no recommendation related to the hurricane emergency lane improvements decision, the C1/C2 corridor decision, or the Option A/Option B Maple Swamp crossing decision.

Public Comments

Public comments on the Draft EIS and its findings will be accepted at the public hearings and in writing. The public comment period will remain open until Monday, June 7, 2010. Written comments should be postmarked by June 7, 2010 and mailed to:

Jennifer Harris, P.E.
North Carolina Turnpike Authority
1578 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1578

or emailed by June 7, 2010 to: midcurrituck@ncturnpike.org.

The Turnpike Authority will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in the meetings. Anyone requiring special services should contact the Turnpike Authority at 919-571-3000 as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.