



COUNTY OF HUDSON / COUNTY OF ESSEX
Local Concept Development Study for the Clay Street Bridge
over the Passaic River in the Borough of East Newark, Hudson County, NJ
and the City of Newark, Essex County, NJ

PROJECT INFORMATION UPDATE

Hudson County and Essex County are conducting a study for major rehabilitation or replacement of the existing Clay Street Bridge over the Passaic River to improve its structural deficiencies and maintain an important transportation connection for residents and commuters in Hudson County to and from Newark's downtown business district. The bridge has been closed several times in recent years for structural and mechanical repairs. Due to its age, the bridge has deteriorated over time and routine maintenance can no longer address the deficiencies.

The Project Background

The existing bridge is in serious overall condition. Several factors contribute to this assessment:

Condition: The bridge superstructure is in serious physical condition with localized advanced section losses to steel truss members above and below the deck level and localized section losses to girders and floor beams in the swing span. The substructure is in generally fair condition but has a high potentially vulnerability to scour. The bulkhead at the southwest channel embankment is severely deteriorated and failed. The bridge's electrical system is over 25 years old and consists of new and obsolete devices and sub-systems that are nearing the end of their serviceable life. The swing span has failed to open and has been stuck in the open position.

Highway Safety: The bridge railings do not meet current crash standards.

Public Safety: The bridge approach traffic control system does not operate in accordance with current acceptable standards and is not fully interlocked with the bridge control system.

Seismic: The bridge is susceptible to seismic forces and does not meet current seismic design standards.

The Proposed Study:

The current phase of this project is Local Concept Development (LCD). During this phase a well-defined and well-justified Purpose and Need Statement was developed focusing on the need to improve safety and maintain the current crossing over the Passaic River. The LCD Phase elements also included data collection; coordination with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, community stakeholders, and permitting agencies; the development of a reasonable number of sensible and practical conceptual alternatives; the determination of a Preliminary Preferred Alternative, and to investigate all aspects of the project. These aspects included environmental, right of way, access, utilities, design, community involvement, constructability, and cost (see NJTPA LCD flowcharts).



The primary tasks of stakeholders were to assist in the development of the Project Purpose and Need Statement, assist in the development of conceptual alternatives, identify possible fatal flaws, and now to assist in the recommendation of the Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) based on the Project Purpose and Need.

Local Concept Development Project Schedule (Major Milestones)

Develop Project Purpose and Need Statement	August 2014
Development of Conceptual Alternatives	November 2014
Selection of Preliminary Preferred Alternative	April 2015
Submission of Draft Concept Development Report	July 2015
Obtain Resolutions of Support for Preliminary Preferred Alternative	August 2015
Completion of Local Concept Development Phase	October 2015

Anticipated Community Involvement Schedule

Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 1 for Purpose & Need Statement Development	March 24, 2014
Public Information Center for Purpose and Need Statement Development	April 7, 2014 (2-4pm, <i>Borough of East Newark</i>) (6-8pm, <i>City of Newark</i>)
Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 2 - Input for Developed Alternatives	October 22, 2014 (<i>City of Newark</i>) November 7, 2014 (<i>Borough of East Newark</i>)
Public Officials Meeting No. 2 for Preliminary Preferred Alternative Selection	June 4, 2015 (<i>City of Newark</i>) June 4, 2015 (<i>Borough of East Newark</i>)
Public Information Center No. 2 for Preliminary Preferred Alternative Selection	June 24, 2015 (2-4pm, <i>Borough of East Newark</i>) (6-8pm, <i>City of Newark</i>)
Public Officials Meeting No. 3 for Obtaining Resolutions of Support	July 2015

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For Additional Project Information visit: www.claystbridge.com

