



Information Presentation

Commission Meeting: November 1, 2018

PROJECT
Long Bridge Project

NCPC FILE NUMBER
7819

SUBMITTED BY
District of Columbia Department of
Transportation

NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER
1.52(00.00)44418

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The District Department of Transportation (DDOT), in conjunction with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), is undertaking an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to study how to increase railway capacity across the Potomac River. An earlier Alternatives Analysis selected two potential bridge crossing alternatives from an initial set of eight concept alternatives. In addition to a “No Action” alternative, one alternative would retain the existing Long Bridge span and construct a new bridge to the north (upstream), and a second alternative would replace the Long Bridge span and construct a second new bridge to the north (upstream). Both alternatives have two, 2-track bridges (compared to one now) across the Potomac River. The Long Bridge Study and EIS also consider a conceptual new pedestrian/bicycle bridge to improve connectivity across the Potomac River, between the Mount Vernon Trail and East Potomac Park. While the pedestrian/bicycle bridge is not a specific component of the project, it is been included in the analysis as potential mitigation.

The current EIS schedule includes the following remaining notable milestones:

- November/December 2018 – Preferred Alternative Identified
- Summer 2019 – Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Comment Period
- Summer 2020 – Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) / Record of Decision (ROD)

This presentation will provide a broad overview of the EIS purpose and need, alternatives, process, timeline, visual analysis, and description of the potential new bicycle/pedestrian bridge crossing. NCPC is participating in the study as a cooperating agency, with our approval authority over future required federal property transfers to accommodate new bridge infrastructure (i.e. new bridge piers, widened railroad right-of-way).