



# US 51 PROJECT TEAM UPDATE

April 2020 – US 51 PROJECT TEAM UPDATE

## Here's an update on the US 51 Bridge Project

We hope this finds you well and safe as our Nation works through the COVID-19 outbreak. During this pandemic, everyone's health and safety are of paramount importance to all of us.

### April Meeting is Postponed

Considering the COVID-19 outbreak along with the emergency mandates of each of the state's governors, we are choosing to delay our scheduled April US 51 Bridge Replacement Citizens' Advisory and Environmental Justice Group (CAG/EJ) update meeting.

Additionally, the collaboration with the Seamen's Church Institute for navigation simulations to determine acceptable span arrangements and pier locations for the US 51 Bridge was scheduled originally in March; it is now tentatively rescheduled for the first week of June.

We want to include all this information in the next CAG/EJ Group update, so we are looking to meet with the group later this summer, perhaps in late June or the July period.

We apologize for the postponement; however, we are sure that you understand the situation dictates such measures. Please realize that the ultimate resolution of the pandemic determines when we will be able to meet as a group later this year. Thank you for your understanding.

We look forward to meeting with you as soon as we can safely.



### Currently, the project team is:

- Proceeding with the environmental baseline studies previously outlined;
- Investigating and analyzing flooding conditions and impacts on the bridge;
- Completing the required existing bridge analysis;
- Determining appropriate seismic design criteria for the US 51 bridge;
- Refining alternatives for the Illinois approach;
- Refining location of the US 51 bridge alignments.

## Accomplishments in January through March 2020

- Funding for the US 51 Bridge Project remains in the highway plan budgets for both Kentucky and Illinois;
- Environmental baseline site work is ongoing; several baseline studies are scheduled contingent on spring flooding conditions;
- The conceptual bridge layouts are completed and will be refined using the navigation simulations;
- The noise environmental baseline study is completed. The socioeconomic, archaeology, cultural and historic, air quality, Phase I UST/Hazmat, and aquatic/terrestrial issues' studies are ongoing;
- River flow data and the hydraulic analysis reports were provided to the Seamen's Church Institute for simulation purposes;
- We are completing the existing structure analysis as required by the ongoing environmental process. The process updates the current condition of the bridge; it documents the decision on whether to replace or rehabilitate the structure.

These studies assess the potential impacts of the proposed alternatives within Combined Alternate Corridor 2 on the human and natural environment.

All this information is essential, and we will share it at the CAG/EJ meeting later this year. We must present this entire portfolio of information to the group so we can hear and understand your different perspectives on the impacts of the project alternatives.

## Tentative Schedule for the remainder of 2020

### Summer, 2020

- Section 106 Meeting #1
- CAG/EJ Meeting #2
- Resource Agency #2

### Fall, 2020

- Identify Environmentally Preferred Alternative
- Section 106 Meeting #2
- CAG/EJ Meeting #3
- Local Officials Meeting
- Public Meetings
- Preliminary Line & Grade
- Draft Environmental Document CE3

*We sincerely appreciate your interest and your commitment to assisting us in keeping everyone informed about the US 51 Bridge Replacement over the Ohio River.*

Please help us by sharing this information and update with your family, friends, and interested members of the public.

Also, we are sharing this update via our social media outreach:



<https://us51bridge.com>



<https://www.facebook.com/KYTCDistrict1>



<https://twitter.com/kytcdistrict1>

If you are interested in learning more about the US 51 Bridge Replacement project or would like to comment on the project, please contact us.

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