



US 51 PROJECT TEAM UPDATE

Happy New Year!



Here's an update on the US 51 Bridge Project

We hope your New Year is going well. We appreciate your interest in the US 51 Bridge project and your assistance in helping us keep our community informed about the project's status. It has been a while since our most recent meetings, so we thought we would take this opportunity to update you on our progress and accomplishments in 2019.

As you can see from some of the accomplishments listed below, we have been busy coordinating with the public and many agencies on this project. Despite this momentum, we are pushing back some of the meetings planned in this spring in order to complete some of the necessary activities. Support for the project remains very strong, and Governor Beshear's recently announced Recommended Highway Plan includes additional funding and demonstrates Kentucky's commitment to the project.

Why the meeting delay?

The field work for the environmental baseline studies was delayed due to the late start of our work season resulting from the extensive flooding on the Ohio River, and other serious weather-related issues. The field work for the environmental baseline studies and additional site work is now set to be conducted in the early Spring of 2020.

These studies determine the existing conditions and assess the potential impacts of the proposed alternatives within the corridor on the human and natural environment. This information is important and will be shared so we can hear your different perspectives on the impacts of the project alternatives.

Accomplishments in 2019

- Signed an Illinois-Kentucky Bi-State agreement, which is an agreement defining the roles and responsibilities of both states
- Held Public Open Houses
- Completed Field Surveys
- Developed and Refined Alignments
- Held our first Resource Agency Meeting
- Held meetings and received input on navigation and fleeting needs



Currently, the project team is:

- Developing the conceptual bridge layouts;
- Collaborating with the Seamen's Church Institute for navigation simulations to determine acceptable pier arrangements and locations;
- Further advancing the environmental baseline studies in the areas of related to socioeconomic, archaeology, cultural and historic, air quality and noise, Phase I UST/Hazmat, and aquatic/terrestrial issues, including the research and field investigations;
- Conducting and completing the hydraulic analysis reports;
- Completing the existing structure analysis as required by the ongoing environmental process. The environmental process updates the existing condition of the bridge and documents the decision on whether to replace or rehabilitate the bridge.
- All documentation and consultation must meet the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act.

Tentative Schedule for 2020

March

- Navigation Simulation
- Draft Baseline Reports

April

- Second CAG/EJ Meeting

May

- First Section 106 Meeting

June

- Identify Environmentally Preferred Alternative
- Second Section 106 Meeting
- Second Resource Agency Meeting

July

- Third CAG/EJ Meeting

August

- Local Officials Meeting
- Public Meetings
- Preliminary Line & Grade

September

- 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.

In addition, 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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