

From: Janiczek, Jeanette
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Janiczek, Jeanette <JANICZEK@charlottesville.org>
Subject: RE: Belmont Bridge Replacement Project Status Report – June 2018

Website correction below – www.belmontbridge.org.



BELMONT BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT STATUS REPORT – JUNE 2018

The Design Public Hearing for Belmont Bridge was recently held on May 24, 2018 at CitySpace and was well attended by 61 members of the public. Participants had an opportunity to review posted project materials such as the environmental document, traffic reports/simulation, plans, aesthetic treatments, landscaping, et cetera while interacting with the project team. Comments were received during the formal hearing and through comment forms which the teams is busy compiling and responding to in anticipation of a Public Hearing before City Council (tentatively schedule for July 16th regular City Council meeting). City Council will be reviewing the public comments received at the Design Hearing as well as the Preferred Concept for final approval.

There is still time to participate! All meeting material is available online on the project website (www.belmontbridge.org) under the Design Public Hearing on the Resources tab. Please fill out a comment form or submit your written comments by **June 8, 2018** by emailing BelmontBridge@kimley-horn.com or mailing them to City of Charlottesville, City Hall, 610 E Market St, PO Box 911, Charlottesville, VA 22902 for inclusion in the public hearing transcript.

Project Work Activities

Work in Process

- Compiling and responding to public comments from the Design Public Hearing – court reporter transcript, comment forms, emails, letters – in an ADA accessible report to be posted online.
- Preparing for July 16th City Council meeting (tentatively scheduled – to be confirmed on City Council's posted agenda).
- Developing Packet for Submission to the Virginia Department of Transportation regarding Design Public Hearing.

Upcoming Work (now-July 2018)

- Performing Phase II Geotechnical Borings for bridge piers, walls and staircases in early June 2018.
- Preparing for August 2018 Board of Architectural Review meeting for a Certificate of Appropriateness.
- Developing task order and scheduling Value Engineering (VE) Study. VE Studies are required for all transportation projects with a construction value over \$15 million to ensure taxpayer dollars are invested responsibly and opportunities for cost savings are explored while still meeting the project's purpose and need. VE Studies strive to improve project quality while eliminating unnecessary costs and reducing overall life-cycle costs. The Qualitative measures of the Study include: (1) Minimize Environmental Impact; (2) Improve Constructability; and (3) Enhance Operational Performance.

Traffic Impacts

Schnabel Engineering will be performing geotechnical borings throughout June 2018 within the public right of way. Any borings requiring a lane or sidewalk closure will be coordinated with the City's Traffic Engineer to ensure access and safety are maintained.

Project Overview

The bridge replacement project is striving to address four specific needs:

- 1) to improve safety for the traveling public;
- 2) to provide pedestrian and bicyclist accommodations;

- 3) to maintain connectivity with the surrounding community, neighborhoods and business activity centers; and
- 4) to accommodate vehicular traffic volumes.

The preferred concept proposes to address these needs with the following major design features:

- A replacement bridge that is shortened to approximately 236 LF in length and maintains the existing 62' width
- Roadway Section on Avon/9th Street between Levy Avenue and East Market Street intersections will consist of one travel lane in each direction, a protected 7' wide bike lane in each direction and a 10' wide pedestrian sidewalk in each direction. Turning lanes will be added/lengthened at each intersection to maximize efficiency of each signal while maintaining traffic flow.
- "Old" Avon Street will be closed to vehicular traffic between Levy Avenue and East South Street to improve the function and safety of the Levy Avenue/9th Street intersection for all modes of travel while creating a pedestrian plaza within the former roadway.
- Enhanced pedestrian lighting and landscaping will be provided along 9th Street between Levy Avenue and East Market Street.
- New sidewalk will be constructed along neighboring streets to the project corridor and landscaping will be installed – on East South Street, Avon Street, Graves Street and Water Street.
- Additional new proposed pedestrian features include:
 - a pedestrian passageway under 9th Street south of the railroad,
 - a reconstructed staircase connecting Avon Street to 9th Street,
 - new staircases from 9th Street to Water Street on either side of the bridge north of the railroad and a mezzanine to cross 9th Street under the bridge

Website

For more information about the Belmont Bridge Replacement project, please visit the [project web site](#).