

## **BELMONT BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT STATUS REPORT – DECEMBER 2020**

The Belmont Bridge project is in the final stages before advertising the project for construction. The project team has submitted all required construction documents and is awaiting authorization from the Virginia Department of Transportation to proceed with advertisement. The City is preparing for this milestone as well continuing on-going coordination efforts to begin construction in Spring 2021.

Coordination details and status:

- Board of Architectural Review (BAR) – An update on plan details was provided in August 2020 regarding lighting, landscaping, the “knuckle” and the retaining wall system. Additional responses, including design revisions, were provided in October 2020 to meet all conditions of the Certificate of Appropriateness.
- Railroad – A Construction Agreement has been executed granting an exception to remove the railroad protective/pedestrian fencing and outline conditions for construction. An offer has been presented for an adjusted, aerial easement and temporary construction easements with negotiations underway.
- Private Utility Companies – Dominion Energy (3 phases) plans and estimates have been finalized and a notice to proceed has been issued. The first utilities will be relocated after the contractor constructs a underground, concrete ductbank on Monticello Road between Levy Avenue and Old Avon Road. CenturyLink, who will also be relocating utility poles, has submitted a revised plan which is under review before it is accepted and notice to proceed issued. Segra, Ting and Comcast will finalize plans once all pole locations are determined.

### **Project Work Activities**

#### **Work in Process**

- Preparing for advertisement
- Final approval of sole source materials – which allows for signal equipment that integrates with the City’s signal network as well as site furnishings approved by the BAR (as examples)
- Review and submittal of the project’s Quality Assurance Plan for construction inspections and testing
- Review of the Stormwater Prevention Plan to ensure proper protection measures are in place, inspected and documented

## Upcoming Work (now – March 2021)

- After advertisement - answering prospective bidders' questions through addendums, holding a pre-bid meeting, bid opening and then evaluation of bids for award
- Executing agreements with remaining Private Utility Companies
- Finalizing right of way acquisition from the Railroad
- Finalizing scope for inspection services
- Preparing for a Citizen Information Meeting (virtual) after award – to review maintenance of traffic plans for both vehicles and pedestrians, contractor's schedule for major construction activities and communication plan.

## 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 approved 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/9<sup>th</sup> 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 “Old” 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](#).