Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation’s design public hearing on the proposed project to replace the Route 629 (Deep Creek Road) bridge over Middle Fork Kent Branch in Fluvanna County.

This public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for any person, acting on his/her own behalf or representing a group or governing agency, to give VDOT comments and/or suggestions on the proposed project.

VDOT strives to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation projects and programs affecting them.

VDOT representatives are present to discuss the project and answer your questions.

A comment sheet is included in the handouts for this meeting, and your input is encouraged. All oral and written comments received on this project will be included in a transcript for review by VDOT personnel, citizens and other interested parties.

Comments may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing; by mail to Howard Tomlinson, Project Manager, 1601 Orange Road, Culpeper, VA 22701; or by email to Howard.Tomlinson@VDOT.Virginia.gov.

Comments must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT by December 23, 2017 in order to be included in the public hearing record.

After the public comment period closes, VDOT will review and evaluate any information received as a result of this hearing. This information, including the hearing summary, will be available for review at the VDOT Culpeper District office. After all comments have been addressed, the information received as a result of the hearing will be presented to VDOT’s Chief Engineer or designee for consideration. If approval of the major design features is received for this project, it will move forward to the final design phase.

More information on this project can be found at www.virginiadot.org/projects/culpeper/629bridge.asp.

Get Involved

Contact Information

Primary Contact:
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Public Meeting

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Project Overview

Anticipated Cost – $2.46 million

Purpose – To replace the 48-year-old bridge over Middle Fork Kent Branch

Location – 0.2 mile east of Route 631 (Dogwood Drive)

Improvements – Replace the bridge superstructure, abutments and piers.
This project will replace the existing 48-year-old Route 629 (Deep Creek Road) bridge over Middle Fork Kent Branch. The existing timber deck, steel girder bridge, which was built in 1969 and is considered structurally deficient, has a posted 3-ton weight restriction.

VDOT proposes replacing the superstructure and riding surface of the bridge as well as the abutments and piers underneath the bridge. During the 12-month construction period, VDOT will close Route 629 to through traffic at the bridge site and post a detour. The Middle Fork Kent Branch bridge carries approximately 137 vehicles per day. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2019. Once construction is complete in spring 2020, the bridge will be open to all legal-weight vehicles.

The design of this project is in compliance with the Stormwater Management Act, stormwater regulations and the annual stormwater management standards and specifications approved by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. The construction of this project will conform to the nationwide best management practices, VDOT specifications and special provisions, and the Virginia Department of Soil and Water conservation regulations. Also, during construction, every reasonable effort will be made to protect the environment with respect to dust and erosion control. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction.

Potential impacts to the flood plains will be evaluated and addressed on this project. Estimated Project Cost:

- **Total Cost:** $2,457,000
- **Engineering of Roadway Plans:** $700,000
- **Right of Way Acquisition, Relocation Assistance and Utility Relocation:** $200,000
- **Construction:** $1,557,000

Cost is subject to change as the design is developed.

Environmental Review

VDOT’s Culpeper District Environmental office has performed environmental reviews and coordination to obtain information about environmental resources in the project vicinity; to provide natural and historic resource agencies an opportunity to review and comment on the project during its development; and to identify opportunities for avoidance, minimization and mitigation of potential environmental impacts.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is applicable to this project and a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (PCE) has been developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and in accordance with federal guidelines. The PCE documents environmental resource impacts related to natural resources, water quality, threatened and endangered species, air quality, noise, etc. In addition and in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is also provided in the NEPA document.

The project will continue to be coordinated with the appropriate federal, state and local agencies as part of environmental review and approval processes required throughout project development and construction. All required environmental clearances and permits will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. Strict compliance with all environmental conditions and commitments resulting from regulatory approvals and implementation of VDOT’s specifications and standard best management practices will protect the environment during construction.

The NEPA document and the results of other environmental studies are available at the public hearing. Representatives are available to discuss this information and to answer questions.

### Anticipated Schedule

- **Public hearing:** December 13, 2017
- **Right of way acquisition and utility relocation:** Spring 2018
- **Construction advertisement:** Fall 2018
- **Construction completion:** Spring 2020

Project schedule is subject to change.

### Civil Rights

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information with regard to your civil rights on this project or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the project manager listed on the back of this brochure.

### Right of Way

The replacement of the Route 629 bridge over Middle Fork Kent Branch will not require the displacement of any families, businesses or non-profit organizations.

As the project is developed further, additional right of way for utility relocation or construction may be required beyond the proposed limits shown on the public hearing plans. The property owners will be informed of the exact location of the easements during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

Information about right of way purchase is discussed in VDOT’s Right of Way and Utilities brochure, “A Guide for Property Owners and Tenants.” Copies of this brochure are available on the VDOT website and from any VDOT Right of Way agent.

After the public hearing, information regarding right of way may be obtained from the Right of Way contact listed on the back of this brochure.

## Estimated Project Cost

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