Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation’s design public hearing on the proposed project to rehabilitate the Route 17 southbound bridge and paint the northbound bridge over Norfolk Southern Railway and Route 805 (Bealeton Road) in Fauquier County.

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

Estimated Project Costs – Total: $3.8 million; engineering of roadway plans: $750,000; right of way acquisition and utility relocation: $200,000; construction: $2,898,386

Purpose – To perform maintenance work to the Route 17 bridges

Lengths and Limits – 0.5 mile; from 0.11 mile south of Route 805 to 0.13 mile north of Route 805

Improvements – Rehabilitate the existing southbound bridge’s superstructure and piers and widen the existing abutments, as well as improve the roadway approaches; paint the northbound bridge

Anticipated Schedule – Public comment ends Dec. 14; right of way acquisition and utility relocation, April 2016; construction advertisement, August 2017; construction start, fall 2017

Project cost and schedule are subject to change.
The primary purpose of this project is to rehabilitate the superstructure of the Route 17 southbound bridge that spans the Norfolk Southern Railway and Route 805, located south of Bealeton in Fauquier County.

The existing concrete bridge was built in 1948 and has a sufficiency rating of 63.5 on a scale of 0 (poor) to 100 (very good).

VDOT proposes to replace the bridge’s superstructure, including the deck and railings. The work also involves widening the existing abutments and piers as well as rebuilding the roadway approaches. The rehabilitated bridge will maintain two 12-foot travel lanes and feature improved shoulders for a total deck width of 40 feet. With this project, the Route 17 northbound bridge will be painted to extend its service life.

During the 18-month construction period, VDOT will work in phases to maintain a single travel lane over the southbound bridge. Work is anticipated to begin in fall 2017. Only minor traffic impacts are expected on Route 17 northbound.

According to a 2014 traffic count, approximately 22,000 vehicles traverse this segment of Route 17 daily.

Environmental Review
VDOT's Culpeper District Environmental office has performed environmental reviews and coordination to obtain information about the environmental resources in the project vicinity. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is applicable to this project and a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion was completed in accordance with federal guidelines.

In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, 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 environmental documentation.

Right of Way
The bridge rehabilitation on Route 17 southbound over Norfolk Southern Railway and Route 805 in Fauquier County will not require the displacement of any families, businesses or non-profit organizations.

As we further develop and finalize this project, additional easements for utility relocation may be required beyond the proposed right of way 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 at the public hearing and from any VDOT right of way agent.

Get Involved
Comments can be submitted in writing to Howard Tomlinson, Project Manager, at Howard.Tomlinson@vdot.virginia.gov. Information must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT within 12 calendar days of today's meeting (Monday, Dec. 14, 2015) in order to be included in the design public hearing record.

Contact Information
Primary Contact: Howard Tomlinson
Project Manager, Location & Design
1601 Orange Road
Culpeper, VA 22701
540-829-7436

© 2015 Commonwealth of Virginia