Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) design public hearing on the proposed project to replace the Route 250 (Ivy Road) bridge over Little Ivy Creek in Albemarle County.

This public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for any person, acting or his/her own behalf or representing a group or governing agency, to give the department 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 can 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 January 20, 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.

More information on this project can be found at http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/culpeper/route250littleivy.asp.

Public Meeting

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation’s (VDOT) design public hearing on the proposed project to replace the Route 250 (Ivy Road) bridge over Little Ivy Creek in Albemarle County.

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

Anticipated Cost – $3 million
Purpose – Replace the existing substandard bridge
Location – 0.25 mile west of Route 637 (Dick Woods Road)
Improvements – Remove structurally deficient bridge and replace with a four-cell box culvert

Existing condition of the Little Ivy Creek bridge.
VDOT proposes to replace the existing substandard Route 250 (Ivy Road) bridge over Little Ivy Creek in Albemarle County. The bridge, which was built in 1936 and carries approximately 11,500 vehicles daily, will be replaced with a four-cell box culvert. The box culvert will be installed in four sections. This proposed culvert design will allow for a much shorter construction period than replacing the aged bridge in kind.

VDOT is presenting two construction alternatives with respective schedules and traffic impacts for public input:

**Alternative A:** The first alternative proposes to expedite construction by closing Route 250 at Little Ivy Creek in both directions for two weeks with a detour in place. Eastbound motorists would be directed to Interstate 64 and use exit 118 to Route 29 (Monacan Trail) north, which carries traffic back to Route 250. Westbound motorists would reverse the detour and use exit 107 to Route 250 to navigate around the closure. The detour from one end of the bridge to the other is about 24 miles. Local traffic may use alternative secondary routes to navigate around the closure.

**Alternative B:** The second alternative involves a phased approach to construction. The bridge would be reduced to one lane and two-way traffic would be controlled by temporary traffic signals for at least three months. A significant disruption to traffic flow, especially during rush hour, is expected with this alternative.

Construction is scheduled to begin in summer 2018. The public will be notified about traffic impacts and changes through media reports, social media posts and 511, as well as coordination with Albemarle County and other stakeholder groups.

The design of this project is in compliance with the Stormwater Management Act, stormwater regulations and the annual runoff/water 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.

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**Estimated Project Cost**

**Total Cost:**

$3 million

**Engineering of Roadway Plans:**

$600,000

**Right of Way Acquisition, Relocation Assistance and Utility Relocation:**

$200,000

**Construction:**

$2,118,303

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.

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**Anticipated Schedule**

The following schedule has been proposed:

- **Public hearing:** January 10, 2017
- **Public comment period ends:** January 20, 2017
- **Right of way acquisition and utility relocation:** April 2017
- **Construction advertisement:** Late 2017
- **Construction completion (depending on chosen construction alternative):** Summer 2018

Project schedule is subject to change.

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**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**

Replacement of the Route 250 (Ivy Road) bridge over Little Ivy Creek 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.

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