The public comment period will close twelve (12) days after this public hearing, on January 30, 2017. VDOT will review and evaluate any information and comments received as a result of this hearing. Comments can also be submitted in writing to Wali.Zaman@VDOT.Virginia.gov or mailed to the address provided on the comment form. Information must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT within 12 calendar days of today's hearing (January 18, 2017) in order to be included in the public hearing meeting record.

All project information presented at today's hearing, including the meeting summary, will be available for review at the VDOT Hampton Roads District Office located at 1700 North Main Street, Suffolk, VA 23434 and at the VDOT Franklin Residency located at 23116 Meherrin Road, Courtland, VA 23837. Please call the District Office at (757) 925-1605 or the Residency Office at (757) 346-3073 prior to visiting to ensure the availability of staff to assist you.

Questions concerning the right-of-way relocation or acquisition process should be directed to Mr. Randy Friedland, Regional Right-of-Way Manager, at the contact information given in the table below. All other questions or comments should be directed to Mr. Wali Zaman, at the contact information given below.

Please visit the VDOT website for additional project information: http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/hamptonroads/south_quay_bridge.asp

The purpose of this project is to replace the existing structurally-deficient movable swing span bridge over the Blackwater River with a fixed span structure. The project construction limits will extend from 0.153 mile south of Blackwater River to 0.189 mile north of Blackwater River.

This design public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for citizens or organizations 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.

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation’s (VDOT) design public hearing on the proposed project plans for the replacement of the South Quay Bridge over the Blackwater River in Southampton County and the City of Suffolk. This project will be implemented in the form of a bridge with two lanes, wider shoulders. The total length of the bridge is 0.34 mile.

At this public hearing you will have the opportunity to review the project exhibits on display and to ask questions of the project team. VDOT representatives are present to discuss the project and answer your questions. A court reporter is available to record your verbal comments.

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.

Written questions or comments should be placed in the comment form or mailed to the address provided on the comment form.

**Contact Information**

**Primary Contact:** Wali Zaman

Project Manager

1700 N. Main St.
Suffolk, VA 23434

757-925-1605

Wali.Zaman@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Randy Friedland

Southeast Regional Right-of-Way Manager

1750 N. Main St.
Suffolk, VA 23434

757-925-2527

Randy.Friedland@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Queen Crittenden

Hampton Roads District Civil Rights Manager

1700 N. Main St.
Suffolk, VA 23434

757-925-2519 (TTY/TDD users dial 711)

Queen.Crittenden@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Tiffany Whitfield

Hampton Roads District Office of Public Affairs

1700 N. Main St.
Suffolk, VA 23434

757-925-1516

Tiffany.Whitfield@VDOT.Virginia.gov

**Project Overview**

*Estimated Cost: $18.6 million*

**Purpose:** To replace the existing structurally-deficient movable swing span bridge over the Blackwater River with a fixed span structure.

**From:** 0.153 mile south of Blackwater River

**To:** 0.189 mile north of Blackwater River

**Total Length:** 0.34 mile

**Improvements:** Construction of a new higher fixed-span bridge with two lanes, and wider shoulders. Other improvements include new roadway approaches and new storm water management facilities.
Representatives from VDOT are present to discuss the project and answer your questions. It is the responsibility of VDOT to ensure that all members of the community are afforded the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation systems and projects affecting them.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination 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 in regards to your civil rights on this project or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the District Civil Rights Office listed on the back of the brochure.

**Right of Way**

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy (NEPA), a Categorical Exclusion (CE) has been prepared for this project. This document is available for public review here tonight. Through on-site investigations, and coordination with federal, state and local agencies, VDOT (with concurrence from the Federal Highway Administration) has determined that the proposed work will not have any significant environmental impacts.

All applicable permits required for impacts to existing wetlands will be acquired prior to project construction. All impacts will be mitigated as required by the permitting.

During construction, all reasonable efforts will be made to protect the environment with respect to dust, silt and erosion. Construction of this project will conform to nationwide best management practices, VDOT’s Road and Bridge Specification and the guidelines of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), as well as regulations set forth by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation regarding erosion and sedimentation and storm water management.

On behalf of the Federal Highway Administration and in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has taken into account the effects of this undertaking on historic properties and has consulted with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer (VA SHPO), the director of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. In order to identify historic properties that are within the project's area of potential effect, VDOT conducted architectural and archaeological surveys of the project area. Information regarding historic properties within the project area is available at this public hearing.

**Estimated Project Cost**

- **Total Cost:** $18.6 million (approximate)
  
  - Preliminary Engineering of Roadway: $2.1 million
  - Right of Way Acquisition, Relocation Assistance and Utility Relocation: $1.1 million
  - Construction: $15.4 million

  **This project is in the early design stages, cost and duration are subject to change. The project will be financed using federal funds.**

**Environmental Review**

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**Anticipated Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Hearing</td>
<td>January 11, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Begin Right-of-Way Activities</td>
<td>Summer 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award Contract &amp; Start Construction</td>
<td>Summer 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Civil Rights**

Representatives from VDOT are present to discuss the project and answer your questions. It is the responsibility of VDOT to ensure that all members of the community are afforded the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation systems and projects affecting them.

If you need more information in regards to your civil rights on this project or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the District Civil Rights Office listed on the back of the brochure.

**Right of Way**

The construction of this project will not require the displacement of any families, businesses or nonprofit organizations.

As we further develop and finalize the development of this project, additional temporary construction easements and/or 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 acquisition is discussed in VDOT’s brochure entitled “Right of Way and Utilities: A Guide for Property Owners and Tenants.” Copies of this booklet are available from a VDOT Right-of-Way agent. After this meeting, information regarding right-of-way may be obtained from the contact listed on this brochure.