

Monmouth County Three Bridges (W-7, W-8 and W-9)
Over The Glimmer Glass and Debbie's Creek
Brielle and Manasquan Boroughs
Monmouth County

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTION PLAN (PIAP)

Phase: Scoping **Last Update: Revised January 29, 2018**

PIAP Purpose:

The plan described below will serve as the PIAP for the project. The plan is based on the information known about the project at the time this document is drafted/updated. Its purpose is:

- To communicate project information to the community (local officials, stakeholders, and the public) and solicit project feedback.
- To facilitate advancement of project Purpose, Needs, Goals and Objectives developed by The Project Team in consultation with the community (local officials, stakeholders, and the public).
- To facilitate an efficient and effective public involvement process by advancing the project to conclusion.

The PIAP is a “work in progress” document that will be amended in consultation with the Project Team, as the project advances. Public involvement in the scoping process is intended to achieve:

- A partnership review of conceptual alternatives.
- Selection of the best alternative that meets the Purpose and Need as developed in project scoping for advancement to design.
- Municipal Resolutions of Support for the recommended Preferred Alternative.
- Federal Highway Administration approval of the NEPA document (Environmental Assessment (EA)).
- Comply with federal and state regulations regarding public outreach, including but not limited to (Section 106, Section 4(f), NJ Register Act and NEPA).

The plan includes a number of strategies intended to provide opportunities for the local officials, stakeholders and communities, particularly those to be impacted by the project, to maintain effective dialogue with the Project Team.

Project Team

The Project Team includes:

- North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA)
- New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT)
- Monmouth County
- Consultants - Scoping Phase
Mott MacDonald - Engineering
NV5 (Formerly The RBA Group) - Environmental and Public Involvement

Project Description:

Monmouth County is proposing to improve (rehabilitate/replace) three bridge structures located at the border between the Boroughs of Brielle and Manasquan. The project area has been collectively known as “**Three Bridges**” to the residents of Brielle and Manasquan Boroughs since the late 1800s and it encompasses the following three water crossings linking the two boroughs:

- Green Avenue over Debbie’s Creek (Bridge W-7)
- Fisk Avenue Culvert (Structure W-8)
- Brielle Road over The Glimmer Glass (Bridge W-9)

The three roadways form a “T” intersection, with Fisk Avenue and Brielle Road comprising the flange of the “T” (east/west direction) and Green Avenue being the stem (north/south direction).

All three structures require improvement. The bridge approaches and connecting roadways also need improvement as the three structures help link the Boroughs of Manasquan and Brielle and serve as a primary access for commercial, recreational, and emergency response vehicles, as well as bicycles and pedestrians.

Project Purpose:

The purpose of the project is to provide safe and efficient crossings for all modes of travel within the project limit by addressing the geometric, structural, and operations and maintenance deficiencies of Bridge W-7 (Green Avenue over Debbie’s Creek), Structure W-8 (Fisk Avenue Culvert) and Bridge W-9 (Brielle Road over The Glimmer Glass).

History of Public Involvement to Date:

Outreach Meetings 2016

04-04-2016: Manasquan Local Officials Meeting

04-04-2016: Brielle Local Officials Meeting

04-21-2016: Stakeholders Meeting @ Manasquan Borough Hall

05-24-2016: Public Information Center Meeting @ Brielle, Curtis House

05-24-2016: Public Information Center Meeting @ Manasquan Borough Hall

Project Shutdown - It is noted that the project was not advanced from June 30, 2016 to October 14, 2016 since this project was funded through the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) and was subject to a shutdown under Governor Christie’s Executive Order No. 210 and lifted under Executive Order No. 216.

11-10-2016: Manasquan Local Officials Meeting

11-10-2016: Brielle Local Officials Meeting

11-29-2016: Stakeholders Meeting @ Brielle, Curtis House

12-15-2016: Public Information Center Meeting @ Brielle, Curtis House

12-15-2016: Public Information Center Meeting @ Manasquan Borough Hall

Outreach Meetings 2002 - 2009:

08-19-2002: Manasquan Local Officials Meeting

08-19-2002: Brielle Local Officials Meeting

07-08-2003: Public Information Center @ Manasquan Borough Hall

08-20-2007: Project Update at the Manasquan Council Meeting

03-19-2008: Public Information Center Meeting @ Brielle, Curtis House

03-20-2008: Public Information Center Meeting @ Manasquan Borough Hall
04-14-2008: Project Update at the Manasquan Council Meeting
06-09-2008: Project Update at the Brielle Council Meeting
12-01-2008: Consulting & Interested Parties Meeting @ Manasquan Borough Hall
09-25-2009: Consulting & Interested Parties Meeting @ Manasquan Borough Hall

Resolutions of Support

Existing Resolutions

- The Boroughs of Manasquan and Brielle adopted resolutions which supported replacement of all three bridges, W-7, W-8 and W-9.
 - Borough of Manasquan - August 8, 2003
 - Borough of Brielle - September 8, 2003
- The Boroughs of Manasquan and Brielle adopted resolutions which supported replacement of the Glimmer Glass Bridge (W-9) with a 32' minimum width including a 4' wide bike/pedestrian lane.
 - Borough of Manasquan - September 15, 2014
 - Borough of Brielle - October 13, 2014

Future Resolutions

Monmouth County will take the lead in obtaining “Resolutions of Support” for the Preferred Alternative from the municipalities impacted by the proposed action.

Strategies:

I. Scoping Phase

- **Identification of Stakeholders**

Stakeholders will be requested to provide input on existing conditions as well as the development of alternatives. Stakeholders may include local officials, regulatory agencies (i.e. NJDEP, U.S. Coast Guard), concerned and/or affected community organizations and residents, environmental and user groups and other agencies. A Stakeholder database list will be updated as needed with approval of the Project Team.

- **Meetings**

- A. Local Officials Briefings, total six (During Continued Scoping Phase)

First Set - Reintroduce Project (one with Brielle and one with Manasquan). Completed April 2016.

Second Set - to Present Conceptual Alternatives (one with Brielle and one with Manasquan). Completed November 2016.

Third Set - to Present recommended Preliminary Preferred Alternatives (one with Brielle and one with Manasquan). Completed January 2018.

- B. Stakeholder Meetings, total two (During Continued Scoping Phase)

First Set - Reintroduce Project. Completed April 21, 2016.

Second Set - Present Conceptual Project Alternatives. Completed November 29, 2016.

Presentation: A presentation will be made followed by an input / comment session. Meeting notes and the presentation slides will be posted on the Project Website.

C. Public Information Centers (PIC), total six (During Continued Scoping Phase)

First Set - Reintroduce Project (one in Brielle and one in Manasquan) to inform local residents, officials, and the business community about the project Purpose and Need, history, project status and to solicit comments. Completed May 24, 2016.

Second Set - Present Conceptual Alternatives (one in Brielle and one in Manasquan) to present alternatives and solicit comments. Completed December 15, 2016.

Third Set - Present Comparative Matrix and the recommended **Preliminary Preferred Alternative for each structure** (one in Brielle and one in Manasquan) and solicit comments. Scheduled for February 2018.

Meeting notifications will indicate that those unable to attend the meeting but are interested in learning more about the project, or if they are physically challenged and require additional assistance to participate in this meeting, to contact Consultant Project Facilitator (Denice daCunha, NV5 (formerly The RBA Group)) or Monmouth County (Inkyung Englehart) at respective address and telephone number listed. Property owners with rental units will be advised that tenants are invited and encouraged to participate in the process.

A presentation will be made followed by an open house format where attendees will have an opportunity to review project exhibits, ask questions, and discuss issues with Project Team members. They will be encouraged to actively participate by providing comments at the meeting, by mail, or by e-mail.

Mailing List: The mailing list will include local residents, technical and elected officials, public interest groups, etc. The Project Team provided guidance on the extent of the geographic range of property owners and other stakeholders included on the mailing list. The geographic range typically includes property owners 250 feet from the project limits; however, since this project involves access via three bridges, we have expanded the area beyond that area. The PIAP also includes notices of the public meetings on local government websites as well as newspaper notices and requests for permission for notices to be physically posted at various sites as discussed in the Media section below.

Date: The PIAP uses several strategies to reach stakeholders. The date of PICs will be selected in an effort to be convenient to stakeholders.

Time: It is anticipated the PICs (one at each municipality) will be scheduled the same day with (approximate times) an afternoon session from 2-4 PM and evening session from 6-8 PM on a weekday. The time of the PICs will be noted and attendees will be asked to come at a time and location convenient for them.

Locations: It is anticipated that the PICs will be held at the same two (2) locations as previous PICs held for this project:

- Borough of Brielle
Curtis House
644 Union Lane
Brielle, NJ 08730
- Borough of Manasquan
Municipal Building

Meeting Room
201 East Main Street
Manasquan, NJ 08736

If these locations are not available, alternate locations will be scheduled. The goal is to conduct the meetings at a location convenient to stakeholders.

An oral presentation will be conducted at the recommended Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) PIC.

Display Boards: The displays may include:

- Aerial of the study area
- Photos and Structure Information
- Project Alternatives (Second and Third Set of PICs)
- Comparative Matrix (Third Set PICs)
- Recommended PPA (Third Set PICs)
- Proposed Detour (Third Set PICs)
- Photo simulations (if appropriate, Third Set PICs)

Opportunities for Questions / Comments: Opportunities for questions and dialog with Project Team Members will be offered both at Public Information Centers and for a 30 day period following the meeting. Comments and questions will be documented and appropriately addressed.

The results of each Public Information Center will be documented by identifying the comments, addressing them and providing responses/solutions (if applicable) for them as coordinated with the Project Team.

- **Media**

Newspapers will be used to publicize meetings. Local papers will be considered in press release announcements, made by Monmouth County. NV5 - will also coordinate legal notices in the following:

- Star News Group: The Coast Star
- Asbury Park Press

- **Social Media: The Internet / Project Website**

The Internet

The Internet will be used as part of this PIAP plan to share project information with stakeholders and the community. Comments may be emailed to the Project Facilitator or Team.

Project website

A project website has been developed.

monmouthcountythreebridges.com

It may include items such as:

- Project Information / Summaries
- Contact Information
- Graphics / Visualization
- Relevant Data (such as structure condition, Resolutions, etc.) that the Project Team feels would be helpful / appropriate.
- Schedule of Meetings
- Meeting Notes
- Frequently asked Questions

At the end of the scoping phase, NV5 will hand over to Monmouth County all website account materials and any information needed to enable the County to take control of the URL/accounts for the next phase of the project.

Other Websites:

1. Project information, such as a link to the Project Website, may also be posted on the websites of the following agencies:
 - NJTPA
 - NJDOT
 - Monmouth County
2. Project information, such as a link to the Project Website, may be requested to be posted on other websites such as:
 - News Websites
 - Manasquan-Belmar Patch
<http://patch.com/new-jersey/manasquan>
 - Manasquan Municipal website
 - www.manasquan-nj.com
 - Request to have municipal e-bulletins notices
 - Brielle Municipal website
 - www.briellenj.com/
 - Community Websites, such as,
 - Brick ShoreBeat
 - brick.shorebeat.com
 - Other websites that the Project Team learns about during process may be added to the PIAP.
 - Community Organizations (without websites, see Section 5)

Outreach to other parties / Local Associations (through notices to organization presidents, chairpersons):

- Manasquan Beach Improvement Association
- Save the Glimmer Glass Bridge Committee
- Residents for a SAFE WIDER Bridge
- Historic Societies/Foundations

• **Outreach to Community without Internet:**

- A. Mailings: Public Information Center invitations will be mailed to stakeholder list
- B. Notices to Community Centers or gathering areas such as municipal building, libraries, schools, marinas, etc. The notice will be mailed (or hand delivered) and requested to be posted for public viewing. Locations may include:

- Manasquan Town Hall
201 East Main Street
Manasquan, NJ
- US Post Office, Manasquan, NJ
43 Abe Voorhees Dr.
Manasquan, NJ 08736
- Manasquan Public Library
55 Broad Street
Manasquan, NJ 08736

- Brielle Borough Hall
601 Union Lane
Brielle, NJ 08730
- US Post Office, Brielle NJ
412 Higgins Ave.
Brielle, NJ 08730 99
- Brielle Public Library
610 South St.
Brielle, NJ 08730

- Manasquan High School
167 Broad St.
Manasquan, NJ 08736
- Deep Creek Cove Marina
381 Brielle Rd.
Manasquan, NJ 08736
- Hoffman's Marina
602 Green Ave.
Brielle, NJ 08730

- Shop Rite
2433 New Jersey 34
Manasquan, NJ 0
- ACME Market
71 Taylor Ave.
Manasquan, NJ 08736

**Additional locations may be added as suggested by Municipal representatives, stakeholders, or the public.*

• **Title VI - Environmental Justice (EJ)**

Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs and activities supported by Federal funding. It specifically states: “no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any programs or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

Executive Order 12898 extends the protection of Title VI to low-income populations. With respect to the PIAP, the intent is to not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin or low income and assess if any special accommodations should be taken.

Community Profile (U.S. Census Data)

1) The project study area includes the following U.S. Census block groups:

- Tract 8094, Block Group 2 in Brielle Borough, Monmouth County, NJ
- Tract 8093.1, Block Groups 1& 3 in Manasquan Borough, Monmouth County, NJ
- Tract 8093.2, Block Groups 1, 2, & 3 in Manasquan Borough, Monmouth County, NJ

2) Recent data on median household income (2012) shows the following:

	New Jersey	Census Tract 8094 Brielle	Census Tract 8093.1 Manasquan	Census Tract 8093.2 Manasquan
Median household income in the past 12 months ¹	71,637	104,659	70,714	105,052

¹Data source: US Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey, 2012 estimates

This data shows that income in the area is comparable or above that of New Jersey residents in general. **The project area does not appear to have a large population of low-income households.**

3) Poverty level data for 2012 is presented below:

	New Jersey	Monmouth County	Census Tract 8094 Brielle	Census Tracts 8093.1 & 8093.2 Manasquan
Total Population ¹	8,619,763	622,672	4,787	5,904
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level ¹	850,559 (9.9%)	41,398 (6.6%)	207 (4.3%)	150 (2.5%)

¹Data source: US Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey, 2012 estimates

The percentage of individuals in the project area with incomes below poverty level is lower than that of greater Monmouth County and of the entire State of New Jersey. **This indicates that impoverished individuals will not be disproportionately affected by the proposed project.**

- 4) In general, the portion of the **population within the study area that identifies as a minority race or ethnic group is far less than in Monmouth County as a whole**, as shown in the following table:

	Monmouth County	Census Tract 8093.01 Manasquan	Census Tract 8093.02 Manasquan	Census Tract 8094 Brielle
Total population ²	630,380	3,226	2,671	4,774
Population identifying as white	520,716 (82.6%)	3,053 (94.6%)	2,612 (97.8%)	4,518 (94.6%)
Hispanic or Latino	60,939 (9.7%)	333 (10.3%)	81 (3.0%)	152 (3.2%)
Population identifying as minority, not Hispanic or Latino (for a list of specific identifiers see Census data)	110,875 (17.6%)	174 (5.4%)	59 (2.2%)	261 (5.5%)

²Data source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census

- 5) Limited English Proficiency (LEP) was identified using US Census Bureau data concerning languages spoken at home. LEP was assumed for individuals reporting the ability to speak English “less than ‘very well’.” The most current data available (2012 estimates) was used for the following table:

	Census Tract 8093.01 Manasquan	Census Tract 8093.02 Manasquan	Census Tract 8094 Brielle
Total population ³	2,990	2,640	4,616
Speak English less than “very well” total	24 (0.8%)	50 (1.8%)	107 (2.3%)
Spanish	23	14	86
French	0	36	21
Tagalog	1	0	0

³Data source: US Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

The above data generally shows that the project is not likely to disproportionately impact low-income, minority, or LEP populations.

As a result, it seems no special services, such as bilingual interpreter at meetings, meeting information published in another language will be needed for the PIAP. Furthermore, Monmouth County, Borough of Brielle nor Borough of Manasquan provide interpreters at other public meetings, thus will not be provided at these meetings, unless deemed necessary in the future should circumstances change.

- **Section 106 Process / NJ Register Act**

The PIAP will address provisions of the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the N.J. Register of Historic Places Act and other environmental review processes. They are not separate public processes, but are integrated into the overall public involvement process for this project.

- **Section 4(f)**

The PIAP will address provisions of Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act of 1966 which established the requirement for consideration of park and recreational lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites in transportation project development. The law, now codified in 49 U.S.C. §303 and 23 U.S.C. §138, is implemented by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through the regulation 23 CFR 774.

- **Public Outreach Summary**

NV5 will document outreach efforts including preparing meeting minutes and compiling presentation materials, comments, resolutions and correspondence. Information from Social Media sites as discussed above may also be included such as:

- Number of comments received
- Number of Website hits
- Size of e-mail list (if email blast is incorporated)
- Number of people signing up for email

The summary will also include recommendations for developing the PIAP for the next project phases and address the following:

- Has the Team been effective in helping the public understand the scoping process?
- What more can/should the Project Team do to further involve the public in the next phase of design?

II. FINAL DESIGN

1. Local Officials Meetings (total, two). Project updates will be provided.

Borough of Brielle

Borough of Manasquan

2. Stakeholder Meetings (as needed)
3. Public Information Centers (two)
4. The Internet – Project Website and maybe Twitter

A project Twitter account may be considered for reaching out to the public about the project as well as inform them about the public information sessions that will be held for the project. All posts to this account will also be approved by the Project Team.

III. CONSTRUCTION

Monmouth County will work closely with local officials, the business community, and residents to minimize impacts on traffic and businesses caused by construction. Prior to the start of Construction and after the Contractor has been selected and a Resident Engineer (RE) assigned, it is anticipated that 2 PIC's will take place to introduce the Contractor and RE to the community and discuss any traffic restrictions, detours, etc. The goal is to obtain support for the construction schedule with minimal disruption to the community.

1. Local Officials Meetings (two or more). Project updates will be provided.

Borough of Brielle

Borough of Manasquan

2. Stakeholder Meetings (as needed)
3. Public Information Centers (two or more as needed)
4. The Internet – Project Website

The project website will be maintained with periodic updates.

CONCURRENCE / APPROVAL

The above PIAP, updated during the Scoping Phase, has the concurrence/approval of the Project Team, January 29, 2018.