FALLS BRIDGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

04/11/18

**In Attendance:**

Bridge Advisory Committee (BAC) Members: Facilitator Jim Schatz,

Mike Astbury, Deborah Brewster, John Chapman, Lynne Clark, Bill Cousins, Vaughn Leach, Stephen Rappaport, Lori Sitzabee, Karen Wyatt

Department of Transportation (MDOT): Andy Lathe, Wayne Frankhauser,

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA): Cheryl Martin

HNTB: Kevin Brayley, Tim Cote

Press: Ann Berleant

 Public: Justin Bennett, Roxanne Jansen, Niki Lawton, Scott Miller, Thom McLaughlin, Anne Nevin, Butler Smythe, Dee Seymour, Madelyn Woods, Steve Wright

**Public Comments from Blue Hill Site Link & Email**

* 2 Public Comments Received (02/27-04/11/18)

**Alternate Route - Concept #1**

* 520’ Bridge (between Routes 172 and 175, abutting properties owned by Darlene Allen, Chris & Paula Niehoff, and Elsa Niehoff-Gerwin)
* Schedule: 12-18 months
* Different Design – Could Add Another Year or So
* Construction Estimated to begin in 2020
* Repurpose Falls Bridge
* Approximate Project Costs:

$9,000,000 New Bridge Construction

$3,000,000 One Mile of New Roadway

$1,200,000 Contingency

$ 80,000 Archeological Exploration

 TBD Existing Roadway Modifications at Falls Bridge

 TBD Falls Bridge Improvements

 TBD Right-of-Way Acquisition

 TBD Environmental

 TBD Temporary Bridge / Off-Site Detour Costs

 TBD Costs to Remove Bridge

* Town Takes Ownership of Bridge; maintains bridge and portions of Routes 172 & 175 Where Bridge Ties In

**Alternate Route - Concept #2**

(Converts Local Roads to Route 175)

* Town Road Converted to State Route

 High Street (1.2 miles)

 Hales Hill Road (1.3 miles)

 One Town Bridge (8 ft. span)

* State Route Converted to Local Road

 Portions of Route 175 (5.8 miles)

 Falls Bridge

 Causeway Bridge & Walls

* New State Roadway Will be Widened, with 59 Parcels of Land Impacted
* Motion Made and Accepted to Eliminate Alternate Route – Concept 2

**Bridge Rehabilitation Option**

* Schedule: 18-24 months, bridge closure of 18-24 months
* Add additional time for construction of a temporary bridge, archeological remediation, winter shut-downs.

**Intent of Bridge Advisory Committee**

* Briefly reviewed criteria from one year ago and the need to evaluate to complete the Project Alternatives Matrix.

**Design Matrix**

* Group discussed Pros and Cons of :

 Rehabilitation

 Replacement (Conventional Girder)

 Replacement (Arched Girder)

 Replacement (Tied Arch)

* DOT will summarize and provide at next meeting.
* BAC Members asked to review materials and provide recommendations

**Next Meeting:** 05/03/18 at 6pm

**Adjourned** at 8:03pm