

PUBLIC NOTICE



Historic Preservation Act, public comments are requested regarding effects on historic properties. For additional information on SHA's impact determination, contact the Project Manager.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

WILL CONDUCT LOCATION/DESIGN PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR THE MD 4 Thomas Johnson Bridge Project Planning Study

FROM PATUXENT POINT PARKWAY IN CALVERT
COUNTY TO MD 235 IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY

CALVERT COUNTY
Tuesday, September 28, 2010
5:00 PM - Maps/Displays Available
6:30 PM - Presentation/Testimony
Patuxent High School
12485 Rousby Hall Road
Lusby, Maryland 20657

ST. MARY'S COUNTY
Wednesday, September 29, 2010
5:00 PM - Maps/Displays Available
6:30 PM - Presentation/Testimony
Esperanza Middle School
22790 Maple Road
Lexington Park, Maryland 20653

The purpose of the project is to improve existing capacity, traffic operations, and vehicular and pedestrian/bicycle safety along MD 4, and support existing and planned development in Calvert and St. Mary's counties. The project is divided into four sections: MD 4 Mainline in Calvert County, the Thomas Johnson Bridge, MD 4 Mainline in St. Mary's County, and the MD 4/MD 235 Intersection. Options on MD 4 Mainline in Calvert County include several ramp modifications, access control, or median widening. Alternatives for the Thomas Johnson Bridge include a two-lane parallel bridge and a four-lane parallel bridge replacement. MD 4 Mainline in St. Mary's County includes an optional 10-foot-wide bicycle/pedestrian trail. The MD 4/MD 235 Intersection has three options: Option A: Continuous Flow Intersection, Option B: At-Grade Intersection with One-Directional Flyover, and Option D: Single Point Urban Interchange.

The purpose of these hearings is to provide all interested persons the opportunity to comment on the proposed location, general design, and associated social, economic, cultural and natural environmental impacts of the project alternatives.

Beginning at 5:00 pm, the project alternatives and other information will be on display. Public hearing displays will also be available on the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) website (referenced below). Representatives from SHA will be available to discuss the project and record your comments.

A formal presentation beginning at 6:30 pm and lasting approximately 30 minutes will include a description of the project alternatives, a summary of environmental impacts, information on right-of-way acquisition and relocation-assistance procedures, and an explanation of Title VI of the Equal Opportunity Program. The presentation will be followed by the receipt of public testimony.

SHA, in consultation with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and other consulting parties, has identified seven historic structures in the area of potential effects that are listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). These resources and impact determinations for each resource are identified in the Environmental Assessment that was prepared for this project. SHA finds that the alternatives associated with improving MD 4 from Patuxent Point Parkway to MD 235 would not adversely impact historic standing structures within the area of potential effects. Additionally, archeological surveys throughout the project corridor have identified five sites which would require Phase II evaluation to determine their eligibility for the NRHP if they are impacted by the build alternatives. A Programmatic Agreement is being developed to structure future Section 106 coordination with MHT and other parties as the project progresses, and to fully assess the project's effects on historic properties. Consistent with the Section 106 procedures of the National

Individuals and representatives of organizations who wish to testify may submit a request to Mr. Jeremy Beck, Project Manager, Project Management Division, Maryland State Highway Administration, 707 N. Calvert Street, MS C-301, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 or may call 410 545-8518 or toll-free 1-800-548-5026, or email jbeck@sha.state.md.us, on or before September 22, 2010. You may also sign the Speakers List at the registration desk on the dates of the hearings. To include written statements and other exhibits in the public hearing transcript submit them to the Project Manager at the above address until November 1, 2010. The public hearing transcript will be available for review approximately eight weeks after the public hearing at the locations listed below and on SHA's website. Please contact the Project Manager to confirm the transcript's availability.

Elected officials will be given the opportunity to speak first. Persons on the Speakers List will then be called to testify in the order in which their requests were received. Those who did not pre-register will be invited to speak before oral testimony concludes. SHA may set a time limit of three minutes for each speaker if a large number register to testify. Private and written testimony will also be accepted.

Persons on the project mailing list will receive information about project developments and opportunities for public involvement as the study progresses. Persons not on the mailing list may add their contact information by phoning, writing, or emailing the Project Manager. Brochures and comment forms will be available at the hearings and will be mailed to persons on the mailing list.

Beginning on August 27, 2010, the Environmental Assessment describing the project will be available for inspection and copying during normal business hours at the following locations:

Calvert County Library
Southern Branch
20 Appeal Lane
Lusby, MD 20657
410-326-5289

St. Mary's County Library
Lexington Park Branch
21677 FDR Boulevard
Lexington Park, MD 20653
301-863-8188

Local Government Offices:
Calvert County Department of
Planning and Zoning
150 Main Street, 3rd Floor
Prince Frederick, MD 20678
410-535-2348

St. Mary's County Department of
Public Works and Transportation
44825 St. Andrew's Church Road
California, MD 20619
301-863-8400

Maryland State Highway Administration:
District 5 Office
138 Defense Highway
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-1000
Toll-free 800-331-5603

Project Management Division
707 N. Calvert Street, 3rd Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202
410-545-8501
Toll-free 800-548-5026

Leonardtwn Shop
26720 Point Lookout Road
Leonardtwn, MD 20650
301-475-8035

Prince Frederick Shop
100 Hallowing Point Road
Prince Frederick, MD 20678
410-535-1748

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE:

The Maryland Relay Service can assist teletype users at 711. SHA will provide an interpreter for persons with hearing/speech disabilities or those who need assistance with the English language. To request assistance, please contact the Project Manager no later than September 22, 2010. For more information on this SHA project, visit www.roads.maryland.gov and click on Projects and Studies/Public Meetings.

A-0583
August 30, 2010

Neil J. Pedersen
State Highway Administrator