



QR CODE LINK TO PROJECT PAGE

## Thank You

Thank you for your interest and participation in the US 50 Crossing Study. Please direct your project-related questions or comments to the project team members listed below. For additional information about the project, including the published documents and renderings of the Selected Alternative, visit the project website at [www.roads.maryland.gov](http://www.roads.maryland.gov) and click on **Projects and Studies/Transportation Projects Page/Worcester/US 50, Ocean Gateway**.

MD Relay Service can assist teletype users at 7-1-1.

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## Project Background

The 71-year-old, 1.5-mile-long US 50 Crossing (Harry W. Kelley Memorial Bridge) includes a 140-foot-long draw span. To provide access to and from the commercial center of Ocean City, a safe and efficient crossing of US 50 is essential. The bridge, which is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, is in fair condition. SHA completed its most recent repairs in January 2013.

## Next Steps

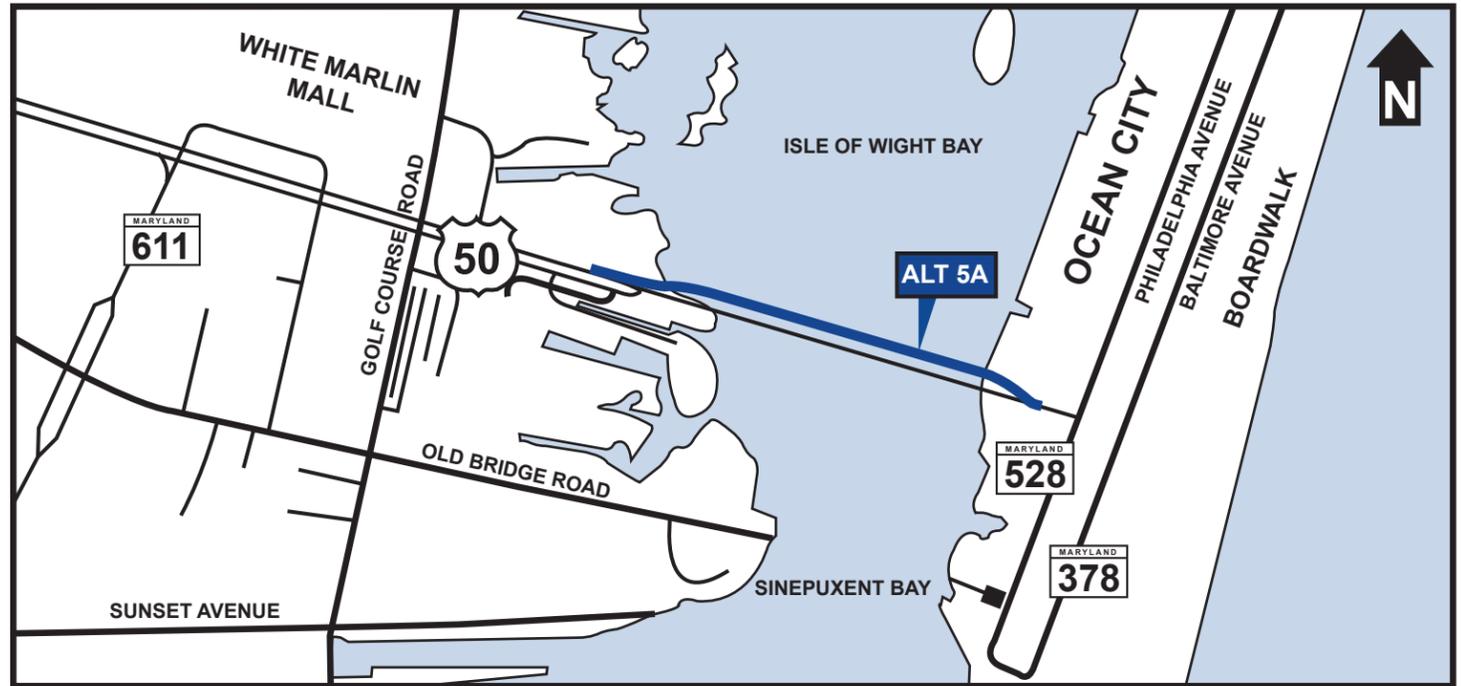
Although the Location and Design Approvals make this project an eligible candidate for future activities, funding is not currently available for the Design, Right-of-Way Acquisition, or Construction phases.



# US 50 Crossing Study



## PROJECT NEWSLETTER • FALL 2013



## US 50 Crossing Study Receives Final Approvals; Project Planning Study Complete

Federal and State approvals are now in place for a new bridge crossing along US 50 over the Sinepuxent Bay in Ocean City, Maryland. The Maryland State Highway Administration's (SHA) Project Planning Study for the US 50 Crossing considered ways to:

- Develop transportation solutions that improve the structural, operational, and safety deficiencies associated with the existing bridge;
- Address the bridge's narrow curb-to-curb roadway, which is substandard for its traffic volumes;
- Maintain a safe and efficient crossing to one of only three evacuation routes from the barrier peninsula; and
- Safely accommodate the navigational needs of boaters and the access needs of pedestrians, fishermen, and bicyclists who share the same five-foot-wide sidewalk along the bridge.

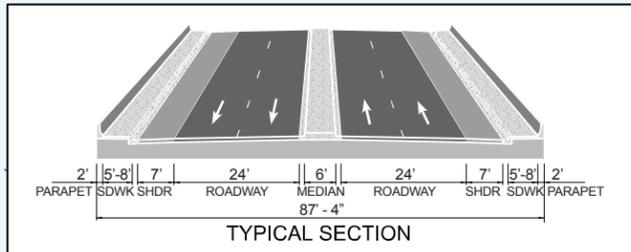
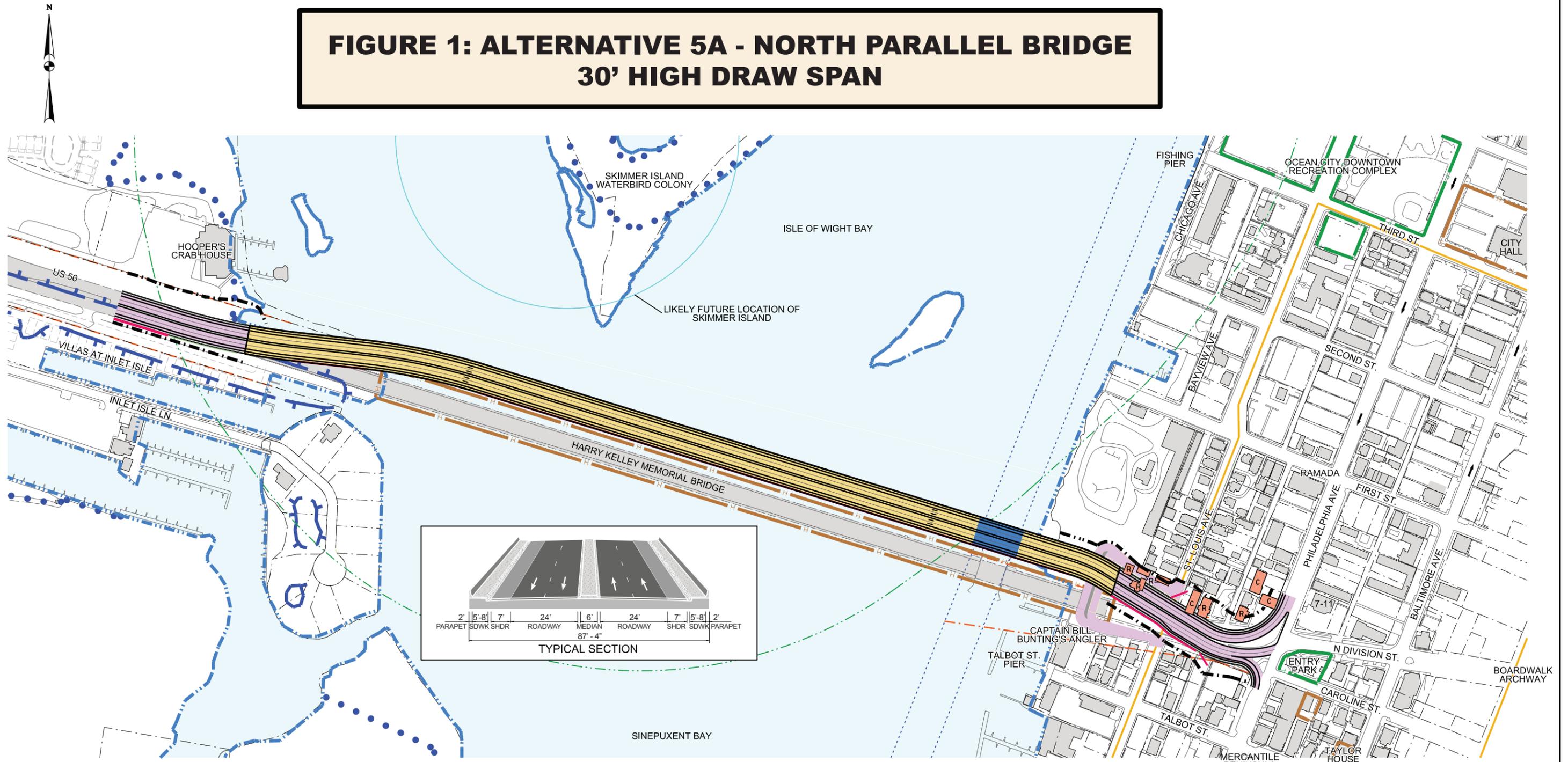
## Alternative Selected

The Federal Highway Administration has approved SHA's Preferred Alternative: **Alternative 5A – North Parallel Bridge**. The selection of Alternative 5A is based on information developed for the study, analysis of the environmental impacts, and recommendations from regulatory agencies and the public. Alternative 5A includes a new parallel bridge just north of US 50 and ties back into Division Street (See Figure 1). The new bridge, which has a 30-foot-high draw span that reduces the number of bridge openings, carries inbound and outbound traffic on four divided lanes. To improve the safety of all bridge users, the new bridge also includes a 7-foot-wide shoulder with a 6-foot-wide median, 12-foot-wide lanes, and a 5-foot 8-inch-wide sidewalk along both sides of the roadway.

Under this alternative, Saint Louis Avenue will be relocated beneath US 50 to continue the north/south connection, and the draw span of the existing bridge will be removed. Future studies are required to determine whether any remaining portions of the existing bridge will be retained or removed after the new bridge is constructed.

Alternative 5A is fully endorsed by the Worcester County Commissioners and the Ocean City Mayor and City Council. At the May 29, 2008 Location/Design Public Hearing, members of the public expressed support for Alternative 5A and for the retention of the west side of the bridge for recreational use.

**FIGURE 1: ALTERNATIVE 5A - NORTH PARALLEL BRIDGE  
30' HIGH DRAW SPAN**



LEGEND			
	Proposed Roadway		Potential Residential Displacement
	Proposed Bridge		Potential Commercial Displacement
	Proposed Drawbridge		Property Line
	Proposed Right of Way		FEMA 100 Year Floodplain
	Existing Right of Way		Wetland
	Retaining Wall		Waters of the U.S.
			Park Boundary
			National Register Eligible
			Waterbird Colony Protection Zone
			Navigational Channel
			Ocean City Survey District

**US 50 CROSSING STUDY  
ALTERNATIVE 5A**

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
PROJECT MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
SCALE: 1" = 150'

BACKGROUND MAPPING SOURCE  
MD SHA  
DECEMBER 2005

DECEMBER 2013