



# PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT MAJOR BRIDGE WORK



## US 40 (Baltimore National Pike) over Patapsco River at Baltimore / Howard County Line

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The State Highway Administration (SHA) will rehabilitate the bridge on US 40 over the Patapsco River on the border of Baltimore and Howard Counties. The main objective of this project is to replace the bridge riding surface and its supports. Approximately half of the columns will also be replaced, and remaining portions of the bridge will be rehabilitated.

You are invited to attend a public meeting scheduled for June 9, 2009. The Informational Meeting will acquaint the public with the project and provide citizens an opportunity to inform SHA of any special concerns.

Display areas will be set up depicting the anticipated project work, and SHA representatives will be available to discuss project issues and answer questions concerning the proposed construction. No formal presentation will be given. Feel free to arrive at any time and walk through at your own pace.

### US 40 over Patapsco River Project Informational Meeting

<b>WHEN:</b> <b>Tuesday, June 9, 2009</b>  5:30 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.  Arrive at any time. There is no formal presentation.	<b>WHERE:</b> <b>Catonsville Middle School Cafeteria</b>  3201 Edmondson Ave. Catonsville, MD 21228
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### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

#### Why is the work necessary?

The Patapsco River Bridge, originally constructed in 1936, is structurally safe but showing signs of deterioration. The work will extend the service life of this historic bridge an additional 30 to 50 years, and is part of SHA's bridge preservation and replacement program aimed at providing reliable facilities in a timely manner.

#### How will traffic be impacted by construction activities?

The existing bridge carries four lanes of traffic and has a total clear roadway of 48 feet. The recommended alternative of maintaining traffic is to build two 2-lane temporary bridges, one on each side of the existing bridge. This minimizes Patapsco State Park impacts and disruptions to traffic. There will be a period of six months at the beginning and another six months at the end of the project where one lane of westbound traffic will be closed in order to build, and later remove, the temporary retaining walls.

#### Were any other alternatives considered?

Several alternates to maintain traffic during construction were considered. A detour was rejected because of significant traffic delays and impacts to business. Also considered was an option to construct a 4-lane temporary bridge either upstream or downstream of the existing bridge, but this was dismissed due to design constraints when building on steep slopes, and increased impacts to Patapsco State Park. Maintaining two lanes of traffic on half of the existing bridge while the other half was being rehabilitated was also considered, but an analysis of the bridge showed that this would be unsafe due to the unusual design of the bridge.

#### What is the project schedule?

The project will be advertised for construction in Fall 2009 and construction will start in Fall 2010. It is estimated that construction will take 2 ½ years. SHA will make every effort to complete this project as quickly as possible while minimizing impacts to local residents and motorists.

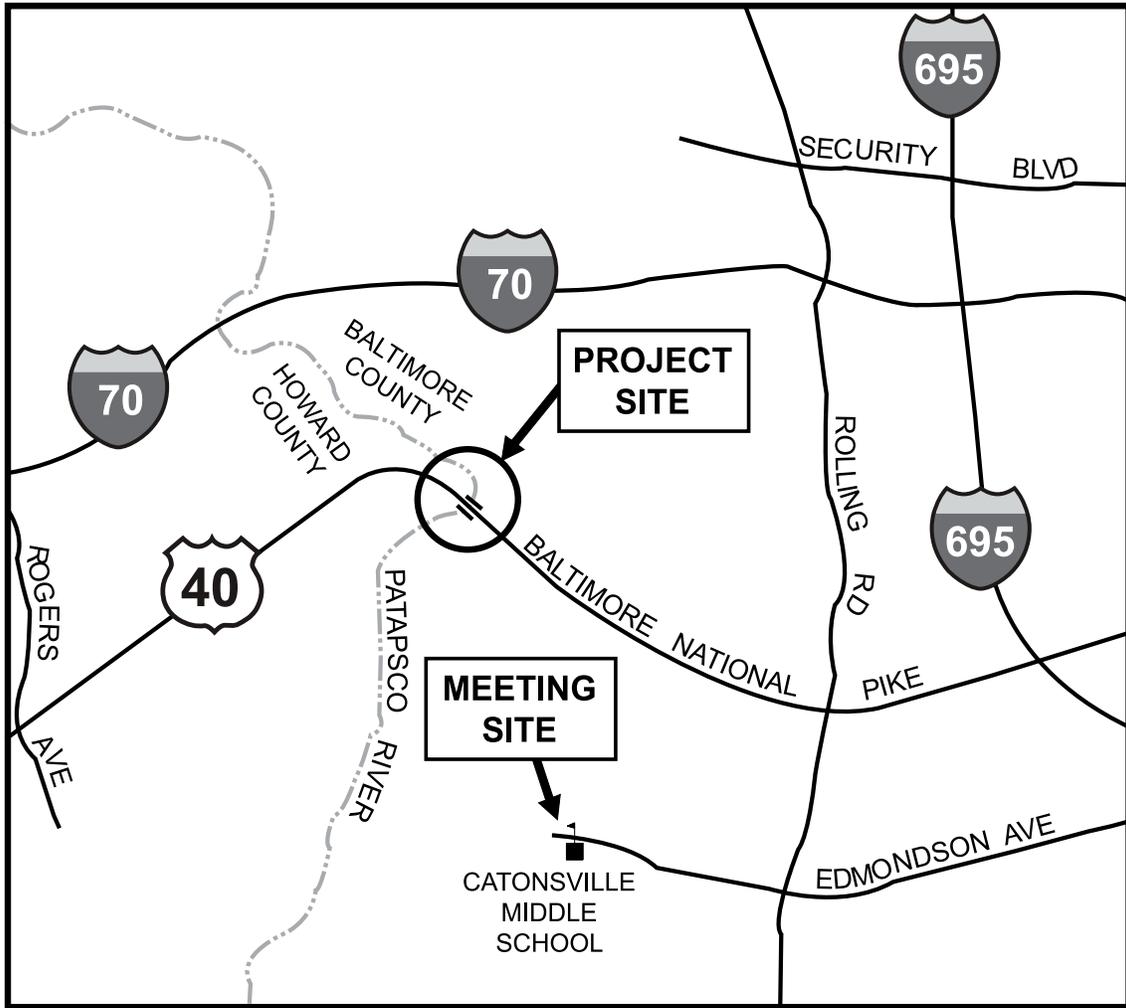
### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Ms. Danelle M. Bernard  
Bridge Project Manager  
Toll Free: 1-888-375-1084

Mr. David J. Malkowski  
District Engineer, Baltimore & Harford Counties  
Toll Free: 1-800-962-3077 Email: SHADISTRICT4@sha.state.md.us

*See map on reverse side.*

**SHA appreciates the patience and cooperation of the community and apologizes for any inconvenience. SHA reminds motorists to "think orange" when driving through work zones, by staying alert and slowing down. Always buckle up, and please drive safely.**



**Martin O'Malley**, Governor  
**Anthony G. Brown**, Lieutenant Governor  
**John D. Porcari**, Secretary  
**Neil J. Pedersen**, Administrator

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