

Next Steps

- Hold Informational Public Meeting - March 11, 2008
- Advertise Phase 1 for Construction Bids - Summer 2008
- Begin Construction - Fall 2008
- Anticipated Construction Complete - Fall/Winter 2011

Project Information

Project Information can be found at www.marylandroads.com

- Under [Keeping Current](#)
- Click [Current Construction Projects](#)
- Click [SHA Projects Web Page](#)
- Select [Baltimore County/City](#)
- Click on [Interchange at Charles Street \(MD 139\)](#)

Questions?

If you have questions or need additional information about this project, or if your community would like the project team to present information at local neighborhood meetings, please contact:

Mr. Jeffrey Folden
Project Manager
Direct 410-545-8814
Toll Free 1-888-228-5003
jfolden1@sha.state.md.us

Questions and/or comments may also be mailed to:
Maryland State Highway Administration
Office of Highway Development
707 N. Calvert Street
P.O. Box 717, Mail Stop C-102
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
ATTN: Jeffrey Folden

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



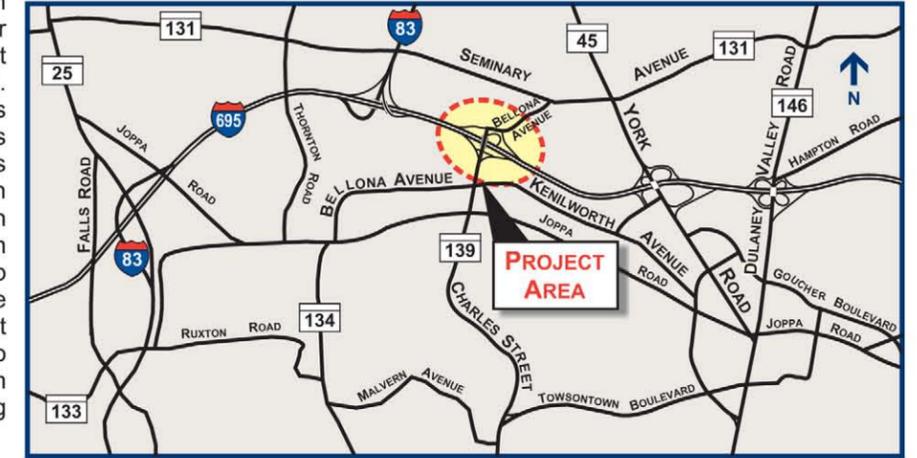
Charles Street Interchange



PROJECT NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2008

SHA To Construct Interchange Improvements, Schedules Public Meeting

On January 17, 2008, Governor Martin O'Malley announced funding for construction of the I-695 / Charles Street Interchange Phase 1 improvements. Engineering is underway and the project is scheduled to advertise for construction bids this summer with construction starting this fall. The State Highway Administration (SHA) will hold an informational meeting on March 11, 2008 to present the plans for the Charles Street interchange and to provide information on what to expect during construction.



Project Background

The I-695 / Charles Street project is the latest breakout project of the I-695: MD 702 to MD 140 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) planning study which resulted in Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approval of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on November 15, 1991. The State Highway Administration (SHA) is currently conducting a re-evaluation of this project to determine whether the environmental consequences of the current design are consistent with the original NEPA documents. Previous phases of the original NEPA planning study have been completed with construction of the Interchanges at York Road and Dulaney Valley Road; construction of Bridge replacements at Providence Road, Falls Road, MD 25A, Joppa Road, Thornton Road, Interstate 83, and MD 140; I-695 widening from MD 140 to I-83, I-695 Outer Loop widening from west of Harford Road (MD 147) to Putty Hill, and I-695 widening from MD 702 to I-95.

The I-695 / Charles Street project is separated into two phases. Phase 1 replaces the existing Charles Street bridge over I-695, constructs safety, capacity and aesthetic improvements along Charles Street and Bellona Avenue, and rehabilitates the I-695 bridge over Light Rail. Phase 2 completes operational improvements along the I-695 Outer Loop between Charles Street and I-83. Phase 1 is in final design and is funded for right of way acquisition and construction, while Phase 2 has been developed to a preliminary stage of design and is only funded for preliminary engineering at this time.

I-695 / Charles Street Average Daily Traffic

| | Current | 2030 |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| I-695 | 165,400 | 208,000 |
| Charles Street | 54,800 | 69,500 |

Attend the Informational Public Meeting

WHAT: SHA invites you to attend an Informational Public Meeting at which improvement plans and construction impacts for the Charles Street Interchange Project will be presented. The information presented will focus on the Phase 1 improvements but concept plans for the Phase 2 improvements will be available for review. This open house forum will allow attendees to conduct a self-paced review of important project information and meet with SHA representatives who will be available to receive comments and answer questions. There will be no formal presentation.

WHEN:

Tuesday, March 11, 2008
6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

* Snow Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2008, 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

WHERE:

MG Harry C. Ruhl Armory - Main Drill Hall
1035 York Road
Towson, Maryland 21204

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STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF HIGHWAY DESIGN DEVELOPMENT
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Proposed Phase 1 Interchange Improvements



The New Charles Street Bridge



Similar to recent projects along I-695 such as Reisterstown Road, York Road and Dulaney Valley Road, the new Charles Street Bridge will have an architectural finish, ornamental fencing and decorative lighting that enhance the “Gateway” effect to the Lutherville community and the Charles Street corridor. The new bridge will be 2 lanes wider than the existing bridge, accommodating new turn lanes at the Charles Street and Bellona Avenue intersection, and will include 5 foot sidewalks along northbound and southbound Charles Street. The new bridge will also be long enough to accommodate the future Phase 2 interchange improvements and the future widening of the Baltimore Beltway.

Traffic Flow, Safety, and Streetscape Improvements

In addition to replacing the Charles Street bridge, this project will improve traffic flow and safety through the interchange and will add pedestrian and aesthetic amenities along the Charles Street and Bellona Avenue Corridor. The proposed improvements include:

- Removal of the roundabout at Charles Street and Bellona Avenue and the construction of a new traffic signal;
- A new traffic signal at the intersection of the I-695 outer loop off-ramp and Bellona Avenue;
- A new auxiliary lane along the I-695 outer loop between the York Road on-ramp and the Charles Street off-ramp;
- Reconfiguration of the Bellona Avenue ramp to the I-695 outer loop, separating local business traffic from ramp traffic;
- A new auxiliary lane along northbound Charles Street between Kenilworth Drive and the I-695 inner loop on-ramp, providing a free-right turn from Kenilworth Drive and deceleration area prior to the on-ramp;
- New bicycle lanes along Charles Street between Bellona Avenue and Kenilworth Drive;
- New sidewalks, pedestrian ramps and audible pedestrian signals along Charles Street and Bellona Avenue;
- Replacement of the existing interchange and I-695 lighting between I-83 and the York Road interchange;
- Architectural finishes on retaining walls along Charles Street and Bellona Avenue;
- Landscaped medians and roadside areas along Charles Street and Bellona Avenue;
- Reforestation along I-695 and areas disturbed by construction along Charles Street

Existing Conditions and Proposed Phase 1 Improvements



Existing Charles Street Looking Toward Kenilworth Drive



Proposed Charles Street Looking Toward Kenilworth Drive



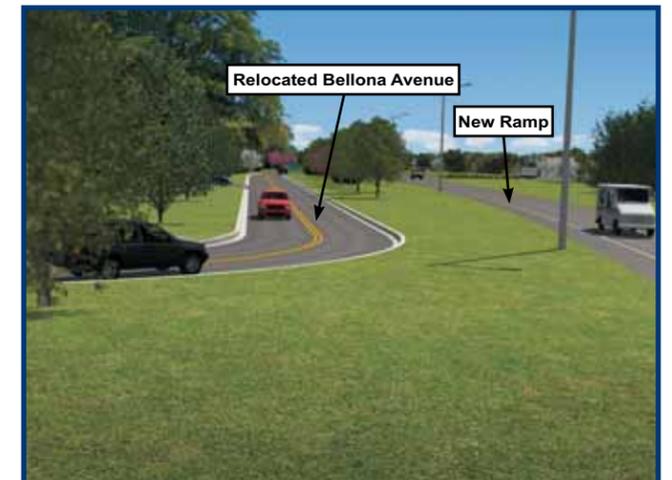
Bellona Avenue Looking Toward the Existing Roundabout



Bellona Avenue Looking Toward the Proposed Traffic Signal



Existing 2-Way Bellona Avenue and Charles Street Ramp to the Outer Loop



Proposed Separation of Bellona Avenue and the Charles Street Ramp to the Outer Loop