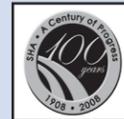


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# MD 589 Corridor Feasibility Study

MARYLAND  
**589**

PROJECT NEWSLETTER • SUMMER 2008

## MD 589 Study Underway

The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) has initiated a Corridor Feasibility Study to investigate potential transportation-related improvements along the MD 589 corridor in Worcester County between US 113 to the north and US 50 to the south.

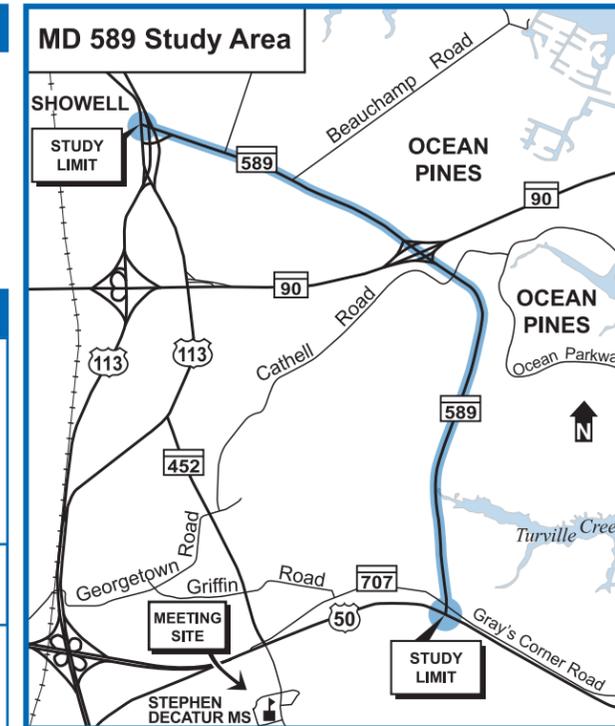
The study will focus on how best to ease growing congestion on the roadway network, while considering the needs of local communities and minimizing the project's impacts to environmental and community resources.

## Public Open House in September

**WHAT:** Learn first-hand about the study at an Informational Open House. The Open House will not only outline key issues, but solicit your ideas and feedback regarding the study. There will be no formal presentation, but study team members will be available to receive comments and provide information. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this event!

**WHEN:** Thursday, September 18, 2008  
 4:00 PM to 7:30 PM

**WHERE:** Stephen Decatur Middle School – Cafeteria  
 9815 Seahawk Road  
 Berlin, MD 21811



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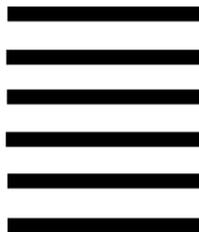
ATTN: Tessa Young  
 SHA Assistant Project Manager

BALTIMORE, MD 21203-0717  
 BOX 717  
 MS C-301

**SHA**  
 STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICE OF PLANNING AND  
 PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING  
 Maryland Department of Transportation

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## Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to explore ways to relieve projected summer traffic congestion and improve traffic safety along MD 589 and at the MD 589/US 50 intersection. This feasibility study will establish a common vision for MD 589 that will guide state, local, and private decisions and investments in the corridor.

The Corridor Feasibility Study will investigate a broad range of issues, including land use, zoning, development, local access and circulation, access management, bicycle and pedestrian facilities and emergency evacuation, along with highway safety and capacity improvements. The vision established for the MD 589 corridor will provide Worcester County with a blueprint to guide future land use/development decisions in the corridor.

The feasibility study will also examine the potential issues that could occur if slots are approved for Ocean Downs. These include an assessment of the effects on traffic, land use and development in the surrounding area.

## Existing Conditions

Improving the MD 589 corridor is one of the top priorities of Worcester County. MD 589 (Racetrack Road) is a two-lane undivided roadway that serves as a local road and connector between US 113 and US 50. It provides primary access to the large Ocean Pines community, as well as to a growing number of stores and other commercial properties. As such, MD 589 carries a mix of local and seasonal traffic that is expected to increase in future years.

## Current Activities

SHA is currently working with elected officials, government agencies, and the public to define the goals and direction of the study. This will be detailed in a Guiding Principles Document, which is expected this fall. Upcoming activities also include engineering studies, an evaluation of environmental impacts, costs, and public-agency coordination associated with the alternatives (visions) that will be studied.

## Schedule

- Develop Guiding Principles Document - *Fall 2008*
- Develop Corridor Alternatives (Visions) - *Spring 2009*
- Alternates Public Workshop - *Summer/ Fall 2009*
- Corridor Vision Document - *Winter 2009*

## Public Input is Important

We want to hear from you! Here's how you can get involved in the study and stay updated as we move forward:

- Fill out and mail the attached postage-paid survey.
- Get on the project mailing list. Add your name and address to the bottom of the attached survey to receive future project updates and announcements.
- Come to our public meetings. We will send you announcements and advertise in newspapers. Refer to the project schedule in this newsletter for general timeframes for upcoming meetings.
- The project team is available to meet with community associations, business groups, etc., when requested.
- Log on to our Project Web Page at: [www.marylandroads.com](http://www.marylandroads.com) and click on [Projects/Worcester County](#).
- Submit written comments/requests to: Ms. Tessa Young, Assistant Project Manager  
Project Planning Division  
Maryland State Highway Administration  
P.O. Box 717, Mail Stop C-301  
Baltimore, Maryland 21203-0717

To speak with members of the Project Team, please call toll-free **1-800-548-5026** or email [tyoung@sha.state.md.us](mailto:tyoung@sha.state.md.us)



# MD 589 Corridor Feasibility Study



Please assist the Project Team by answering the following questions and by adding your name to the Project Mailing List. To return the survey, simply detach and fold before dropping it in the mail. All postage will be paid by the State Highway Administration.

1. **What are the biggest transportation problems you encounter when traveling the MD 589 corridor?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. **What should be the Study Team's top priorities as it tries to improve travel along MD 589?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. **Which locations in the study area are of special concern and why?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. **When is the most difficult time to travel in the project area? (Circle one)**  
A. Morning rush hour  
B. Evening rush hour  
C. Weekends  
D. All of the above
5. **What improvements do you think would help most? (Circle one)**  
A. Intersection/traffic signal improvements  
B. Widening of MD 589  
C. Improved bicycle and pedestrian access  
D. Reconstruction of certain segments of MD 589  
E. New Interchange/Intersection Improvement at US 50  
F. Do nothing  
G. Other: \_\_\_\_\_
6. **Are there any sensitive community or environmental features in the MD 589 corridor that the Study Team should be aware of?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. **Describe your main activities in the corridor:**  
\_\_\_\_\_ Live  
\_\_\_\_\_ Work  
\_\_\_\_\_ Shop  
\_\_\_\_\_ Leisure Time/ Recreation  
\_\_\_\_\_ Own a Business
8. **What else should the Project Team know about the study area? (attach additional sheet(s) if needed)** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Project Mailing List** – Please provide your name and address if you would like to be placed on the Project Mailing List for future updates and announcements. *If you would prefer to receive these items by email, please provide your email address.*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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