



TOPSAIL ISLAND BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT TEAM
 8008 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 410
 Charlotte, NC 28226

Citizens Informational Workshop #2

WHERE: Surf City Community Center
 201 Community Center Drive, Surf City, NC 28445

WHEN: Thursday October 21, 2010 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

The NCDOT Project Team members will be available to present large maps and renderings as well as impact comparisons and relative costs for the 14 study alternatives. Citizens may drop in anytime during the workshop hours.

All the information presented at the workshop will be posted on the project website immediately after the workshop. If you cannot attend the meeting in person, please check the project website to review the material and provide your feedback.



Contact Us

Toll-Free Project Hotline: 1-877-392-5996

Written comments and questions are welcomed any time and may be mailed or emailed to:

Topsail Island Bridge Replacement Project Team
 8008 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 410, Charlotte, NC 28226

email: topsailislandbridge@rsandh.com

website: <http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/TopsailIslandBridge>



We are Re-Visiting Your Community

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold the Citizens Informational Workshop #2 (CIW #2) on Thursday, October 21, 2010 to provide an update on the Topsail Island Bridge Replacement Project. The workshop will be informal, with NCDOT Project Team members available to discuss the project. Citizens may drop in at anytime during the workshop hours.

October 21, 2010

Citizens Informational Workshop #2

3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Surf City Community Center
 201 Community Center Drive
 Surf City, NC 28445**

Project Schedule

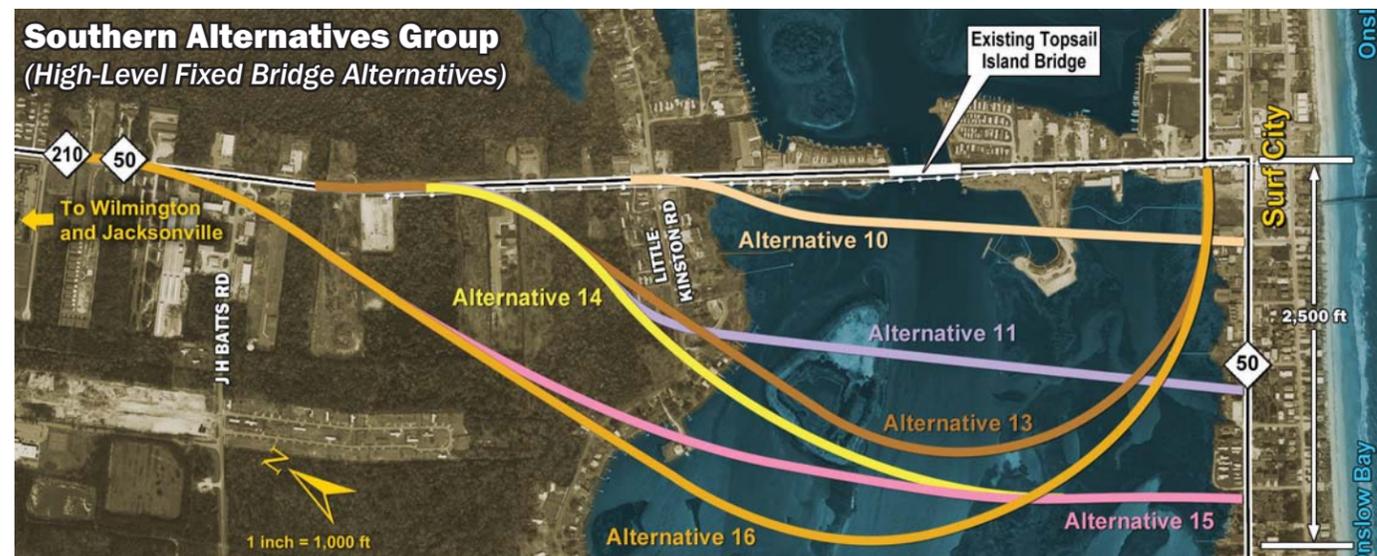
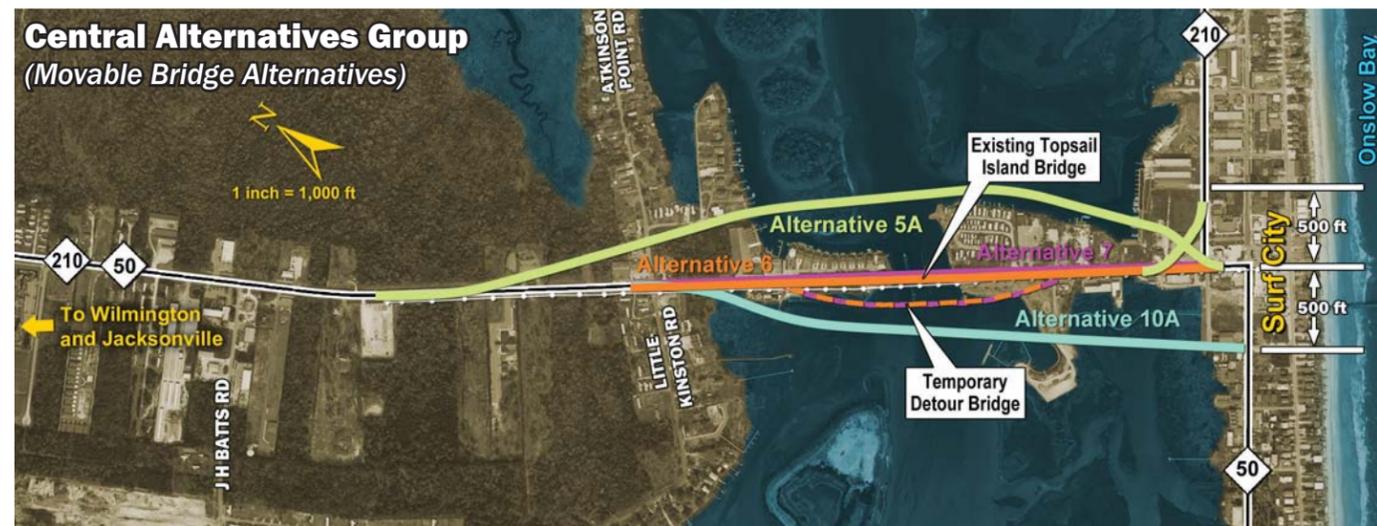
- June 25, 2009
CIW #1 – Project Information
- October 21, 2010
CIW #2 – Corridor Alternatives Evaluation
- Fall 2011
Environmental Assessment Document Complete
- Fall 2011
CIW #3 – Preliminary Design Alternatives Evaluation
- Spring 2012
Selection of Preferred Alternative
- Fall 2012
Anticipated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) Document Complete
- Fall 2012
Design Public Hearing
- 2014
Right-of-Way Acquisition Begins
- 2016
Construction Begins

Project Update

NCDOT proposes to replace the existing swing bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway on NC 50/210 in Surf City, as this bridge has been determined to be structurally deficient, and functionally obsolete. A bridge is structurally deficient when it has elements that need to be monitored and/or repaired to maintain its structural integrity. It does not mean that the bridge is unsafe. A bridge is functionally obsolete when its layout no longer meets current design standards for width of shoulders and rails.

Based on citizens' feedback at the previous workshop, held on June 25, 2009, eighteen alternatives were developed to replace the existing bridge and to potentially realign the approaching NC 50/210 roadway.

Preliminary screening for environmental impacts was prepared for all the alternatives. The Project Team eliminated four alternatives from further study based on unacceptable environmental impacts. Alternatives eliminated include Alternatives 1, 8, 9, and 12. The remaining fourteen alternatives are shown on Page 2 of this newsletter. It should be noted that some of these fourteen study alternatives follow the same alignment, however they differ in elevation and type of replacement structure. For example, Alternative 5 is a high-level fixed bridge, where as Alternative 5A is a mid-level movable bridge.



Study Alternatives

Based on similarity and proximity, the Project Team has divided the fourteen study alternatives into three groups as follows: Northern Alternatives Group, Central Alternatives Group, and Southern Alternatives Group.

- The Northern Alternatives Group includes four alternatives, located between 500 feet and 2,000 feet north of the existing bridge. Under each northern alternative, the existing bridge would be replaced with a high-level fixed bridge; having waterway clearance of 65 feet.
- The Central Alternatives Group includes four alternatives, located within 500 feet north or south of the existing bridge. Under each central alternative, the existing bridge would be replaced with a movable bridge. Alternatives 5A, 7, and 10A are mid-level movable bridges with a waterway clearance of 30 feet. Alternative 6 is a low-level movable bridge with a waterway clearance of 15 feet, which is the same as the existing bridge.
- The Southern Alternatives Group includes six alternatives, located between 500 feet and 2,500 feet south of the existing bridge. Under each southern alternative, the existing bridge would be replaced with a high-level fixed bridge; having waterway clearance of 65 feet.

Questions for the Community

Now that alternatives have been developed, we need your continued input on narrowing the number of alternatives for further study. Following are a few sample questions we would like you to think about prior to arriving at the workshop on October 21st:

- Do you have property that will be directly impacted by one of the alternatives? If so, which alternative? What is the address of this property and how are you currently using the property (residential, business, vacation)?
- Do you prefer the bridge to be replaced to the north, south, or near the existing location?
- What is your preferred alternative in **EACH** of the three groups (Northern, Central, and Southern Group)?
- What are the reasons for choosing your preferred alternatives?
- Are there any other bridge alternatives that are not shown on the maps that you feel should be considered?
- Do you have other issues or ideas that you would like to share concerning the replacement of the bridge?
- What makes this community important to you?

What's Next?

Your input (along with potential environmental impacts and costs) associated with each alternative will be used by the Project Team as they continue narrowing the number of alternatives. Results of the detailed study of the remaining alternatives will be presented at the next Citizens Informational Workshop #3 tentatively scheduled for the Fall of 2011.