



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



Corridor Public Hearing

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

WHEN: Thursday, December 8, 2011

TIME: Pre-Hearing Open House: 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM
 Formal Public Hearing: 7:00 PM

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



Contact Us

Those wishing to speak at the Formal Public Hearing can register during the Pre-Hearing Open House; by calling the Project's Toll-Free Hotline (**1-877-392-5996**); or by calling Mr. Ed Lewis at: (**919**) **707-6078**.

Written comments and questions are welcomed and may be mailed or e-mailed to:

Ed Lewis
NCDOT - Human Environment Unit
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1598
 e-mail: elewis@ncdot.gov



Website:
<http://www.ncdot.org/projects/TopsailIslandBridge>

Topsail Island Bridge Replacement Project

Issue 5 / November 2011

TIP No. B-4929

We are Revisiting Your Community

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a Corridor Public Hearing on Thursday, December 8, 2011 to present the seven remaining alternatives for the Topsail Island Bridge Replacement Project. The Corridor Public Hearing will be divided into two sessions; an informal Pre-Hearing Open House where citizens can drop-in anytime, between 3:30 - 6:30 p.m., review the corridor map alternatives and their possible impacts and a Formal Public Hearing will begin at 7:00 p.m., where NCDOT representatives will present each corridor, along with a summary of findings from the Environmental Assessment (EA). After the NCDOT presentation, citizens are encouraged to voice their project opinions as part of the formal public hearing record.

December 8, 2011

Pre-Hearing Open House
 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Formal Public Hearing
 7:00 PM

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

Project Schedule

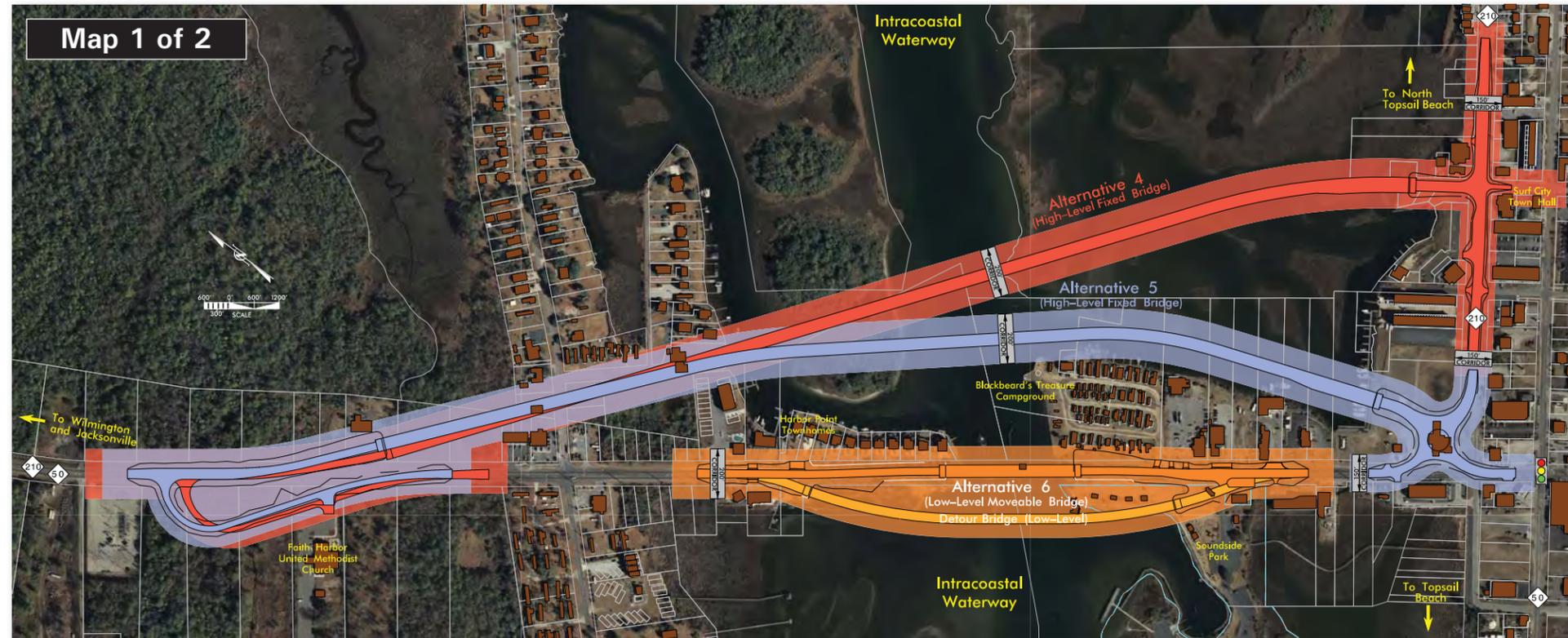
- **June 25, 2009**
CIW #1 - Project Information
- **October 21, 2010**
CIW #2 - Corridor Alternatives Evaluation
- **October 2011**
Environmental Assessment Document Complete
- **December 2011** *We Are Here*
Corridor Public Hearing Meeting - Preliminary Design Alternatives Evaluation
- **Spring 2012**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

Project Update - Environmental Assessment Complete

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.

The bridge replacement's project development, environmental studies, and engineering have been conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA is a federal law enacted in 1970 that requires the Federal Government to consider the environmental impacts of, and alternatives to, major proposed actions in its decision-making processes. The act is the basic national charter for the protection of the environment. Under NEPA, an environmental document is required for any projects that receive federal funds.

For this project, an EA has been prepared and was approved by NCDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in October, 2011. The EA includes identification of the project's purpose and need, documentation of the potential bridge replacement alternatives, comparison of each alternative, human, natural, and physical environmental impacts, and coordination with the public and regulatory agencies. Copies of the EA and corresponding Corridor Hearing Maps are available for public review at: the local NCDOT Division Office; the local municipal offices of Topsail Beach, Surf City, and North Topsail Beach; and the project's website - www.ncdot.org/projects/TopsailIslandBridge.



Detailed Study Alternatives

The EA process, including the input of public comment and review by regulatory agencies, has led to seven selected alternatives for detailed study. During the Corridor Public Hearing on December 8, 2011, these alternatives will be presented on two maps as outlined below:

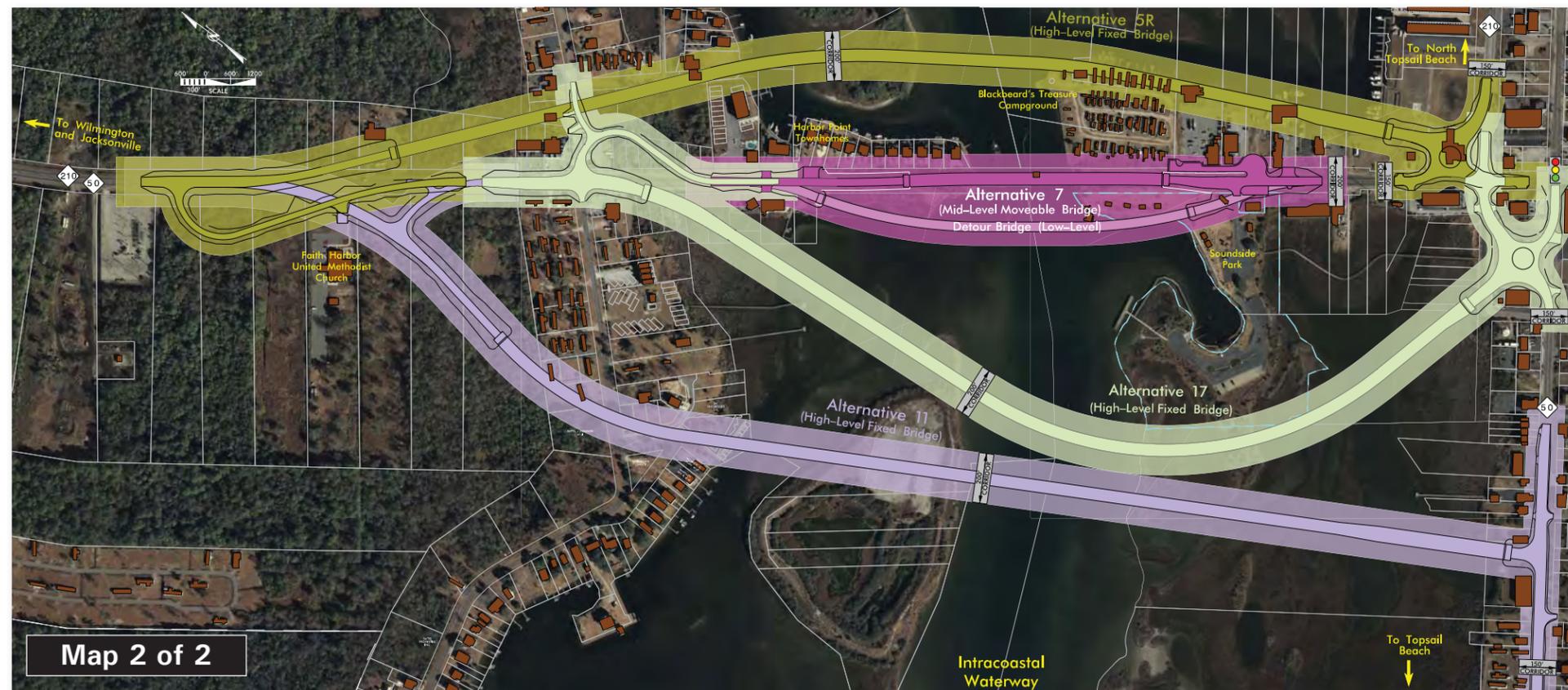
Map 1 of 2

Three of the seven alternatives will be shown on Map 1 as follows:

Alternative 4 - A new high-level fixed bridge with 65-foot Vertical Navigational Clearance (VNC), located approximately 800 feet north of the existing bridge.

Alternative 5 - A new high-level fixed bridge with 65-foot VNC, located approximately 500 feet north of the existing bridge.

Alternative 6 - a new low-level moveable bridge with 15-foot VNC, located in the same location as the existing bridge. This alternative requires an adjacent temporary detour bridge during construction, which will also have 15-foot VNC.



Map 2 of 2

The remaining four alternatives will be shown on Map 2 as follows:

Alternative 5R - A new high-level fixed bridge with 65-foot VNC, located approximately 400 feet north of the existing bridge.

Alternative 7 - a new mid-level moveable bridge with 30-foot VNC, located in the same location as the existing bridge. This alternative requires an adjacent temporary detour bridge during construction, which will have 15-foot VNC.

Alternative 11 - A new high-level fixed bridge with 65-foot VNC, located approximately 1,200 feet south of the existing bridge.

Alternative 17 - A new high-level fixed bridge with 65-foot VNC, located approximately 1,100 feet south of the existing bridge.

What's Next?

All comments received at the hearing and subsequent comment period ending January 18, 2012 will be recorded as part of the public record for the project. After review of the input provided by the public, local governments, and regulatory agencies, NCDOT intends to select a Preferred Alternative (in Spring 2012) and prepare a second environmental document (likely a FONSI) in Fall 2012.