



DelDOT Public Relations

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Indian River Inlet Bridge Public Workshop Announced

*Public Requested to Attend for Project Update and
to Vote on Three Design Features of New Bridge*

Indian River – The Department of Transportation and Skanska USA Civil Southeast, Inc. (Skanska) invite the public to attend a public workshop on Monday, April 27, 2009 from 4 – 7 p.m. to learn about the latest developments and progress on the new Indian River Inlet Bridge. Additionally, the public will be requested to vote on three design features of the new Indian River Inlet Bridge.

The public workshop will be held at the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center located at 229 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. A PowerPoint presentation will be made at 4:15 p.m., and will be repeated at 5:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.

In addition to providing an update on the progress and schedule of the new bridge, the public will be determining the color of the covering for the cable stays, the design for the tops of the pylons and the lighting fixtures on the pedestrian walkways. The public's preference for the aesthetic look of these specific bridge features will be incorporated into the bridge design.

For example, the public will choose between a white, blue or gray covering for the cable stays. A cable stay is the long, circular cable composed of wires that support the bridge. The cable stays will be a signature element of the new bridge. The pylon tops are another signature element of a cable stay bridge. The pylons are tall, tower structures that will be situated on both sides of the inlet (two on each side) to which the cable stays will connect. In addition, the recessed lighting on the walkway will be framed by the pedestrian walkway lighting fixtures, which are the last aesthetic features that the public can vote on.

If unable to attend the workshop, there are two other ways to cast a vote. One can "vote" via DelDOT's Web site (www.deldot.gov), where information explaining the options will be located under the "Building The Bridge" tab, or one can visit the Ocean View Town Hall between the hours of 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. to learn more and cast a paper vote. The Ocean View Town Hall is located at 32 West Avenue in Ocean View. Online voting and voting at the Town Hall will be available April 28-May 11, 2009.

Update on Current Bridge Activities

Early stages of bridge construction are evident by the construction activity and equipment on-site. Initial concrete pilings are being driven into the ground. These "test pilings" will serve a dual purpose as they provide data that will be used to determine the length and driving requirements for the remainder of the 291 pilings, and they will ultimately become part of the permanent bridge structure. Roadway routes have been approved for delivery of the production pilings over the next few months to the north and south sides of the inlet. Care has been taken to limit any inconvenience to the driving public – safety is paramount. While the project is in its early stages, design and construction of the bridge are on schedule.

New Directory Maps/Signs

DelDOT is in the process of posting current directory maps around the site which will provide direction to anyone who visits the job site. The maps will be posted along Inlet Road, Turn Point Road and along the pedestrian detour in the area. The map accurately reflects areas under construction, restricted areas and areas that are open to the public. A copy of the directory map is also currently posted on DelDOT's Web site (www.deldot.gov).

In addition, new street blade signs identifying Inlet Road and Turn Point Road (the roads on both sides of the inlet to the west) are being fabricated and will be installed soon to provide further direction to visitors and motorists.

New Traffic Camera

DelDOT has recently installed a Live Traffic camera on the south side of the bridge. Now the public can view both the northside and southside of the bridge construction by logging onto www.deldot.gov, and clicking on Live Traffic Cameras.

Park Information

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) Parks Division is making preparations for early spring and summer visitors to Delaware Seashore State Park. Delaware Seashore State Park, which is operated and maintained by DNREC, encompasses both the north and south sides of the Indian River Inlet.

Around Memorial Day, DNREC will be opening its new Park and Marina Office located at 39415 Inlet Road. The office will house the park, marina and enforcement staff. The office will be the primary headquarters for the park's staff and the location for the administrative services of the Delaware Seashore State Park and the Indian River Marina.

Access for pedestrians to get to the beach will be maintained during this time. The new maps being posted will indicate accessible and restricted areas for the park users.

In addition, during construction, portions of the campground will remain closed as they have been in recent months. These closures will be in effect for the next several years. Please contact DNREC at (302) 227-2800 for further information.

General Information

DelDOT cautions motorists who travel in and around the existing Indian River Inlet Bridge to lower their speed to 35 mph. As activity around the bridge increases, motorists should stay focused on the road and not become distracted by the construction activity.

As always, stay informed about bridge construction activities by logging onto www.deldot.gov and clicking on the "Building The Bridge" tab. If you have further questions about the bridge, please contact DelDOT's Office of Public Relations at 1-800-652-5600.