

# PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

## 301 US 301 Project Development

### Purpose and Need

**Three Key Components:**

- Reduce roadway congestion
- Improve safety
- Manage truck traffic



1 Westbound Boys Corner Road at US 301



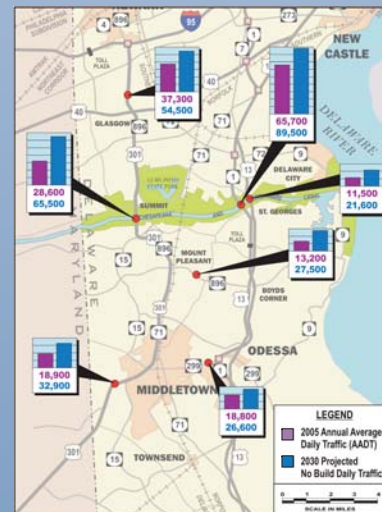
2 US 301 Northbound at SR 299



3 South of Summit Bridge Curve

### Reduce Roadway Congestion

- Separate local traffic from US 301 through traffic, especially trucks.
- Multi-modal related recommendations from the US 301 Major Investment Study have been, or are being, implemented.
- Despite these non-capacity improvements, traffic growth during the last 5 to 10 years in the Project Area has exceeded projections and is expected to continue into the future.
- Need to develop roadway capacity improvements



### Improve Safety

- From October 1999 to September 2004 - 1200+ reported accidents in project area (US 301, SR 896, SR 299, and SR 15)
  - ▶ 415 (34%) resulted in injury or death
  - ▶ 20 fatalities
    - Half (10) on US 301 south of the C&D Canal
- High Accident Locations
  - ▶ Several roadway segments of US 301 / SR 896 are on DelDOT's Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) list
  - ▶ Need to address sharp curve at south end of Summit Bridge



### Manage Truck Traffic

- US 301 is used as Mid-Atlantic truck route, bypassing I-95 corridor congestion and tolls.
- High percentage of truck traffic on US 301
  - ▶ 27% Trucks at DE/MD State Line
  - ▶ 25% Trucks on Boys Corner Road
- Mixing a high percentage of truck traffic with local traffic affects roadway operations and safety.
- 95% of interstate truck traffic on Northbound US 301 is heading Northeast.

Note: Truck weigh station at DE/MD State Line to be implemented per MIS recommendation

