

NEW

THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS MEMORIAL BRIDGE



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2018

OVERVIEW OF THE NEW FREDERICK DOUGLASS MEMORIAL BRIDGE PROJECT

The Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge carries South Capitol Street across the Anacostia River and is a main artery for many residents and commuters. Over the years, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has extended its useful life through various maintenance projects. However, more recently, inspectors determined the current bridge is past its useful life and needs to be replaced. The District of Columbia, in collaboration with Federal agencies, have pooled resources to fund what is being called the largest infrastructure project in D.C. history. The new bridge will not only increase capacity but also stimulate local economic development and create a new and exciting experience for residents and commuters. In addition to completely replacing the 68-year-old bridge, the project will also enhance a number of interchanges to further improve traffic flow.

At the same time, the project is designed to usher in a host of other benefits to the surrounding community including strong Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) contracting goals along with a variety of new job and training opportunities. The bulk of the work will take place between the Summer 2018 and Summer 2021. DDOT is committed to minimizing construction-related inconveniences and as a result, the new bridge will be built using a "side-by-side" construction approach. This means the old bridge will remain open and intact throughout the construction period.



PROJECT ELEMENTS

- Attractive design consisting of a 1,600-foot suspension bridge with three sets of parallel white arches
- One additional traffic lane increasing the capacity of the current bridge
- Eighteen-foot wide shared bicycle-pedestrian path on both sides of the bridge with four pedestrian overlooks
- Plaza under the new bridge along the Anacostia River
- New traffic ovals on both sides of the bridge creating greenspace and making access points more attractive and efficient
- New bike lanes and pedestrian walk-ways will bring multimodal transportation options that are also environmentally supportive
- Strong Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) contracting goals and new job and training opportunities
- Improved drainage and stormwater management to improve water quality in the Anacostia River watershed

DDOT HOSTS TWO PUBLIC KICK-OFF MEETINGS IN WARD 6 AND WARD 8

DDOT kicked-off the preconstruction phase by hosting two public meetings aimed at informing community members and local businesses about the scope of the project, commitments, environmental considerations and various economic opportunities associated with the project. The meetings were held in Wards 6 and 8 in November 2017 and were well attended. The meetings followed an open house format that began with a presentation, followed by Q&A and break-out sessions where attendees engaged directly with members of the project team including the General Contractor, South Capitol Bridgebuilders (SCB), the Design Team, AECOM and Community Hub for Opportunities in Construction Employment (C.H.O.I.C.E.), one of the project's hiring partners. Topics included project design considerations, construction timelines, bike and pedestrian facilities, waterway impacts, as well as job and contracting opportunities. Attendees at the meetings included area residents, job seekers, ANC representatives, small business owners, union officials, and construction company leadership, among others. During the Q&A portion of the meeting, DDOT representatives answered a variety of questions. Jobs, noise, traffic congestion and recreational usage were among the most frequently asked.



NEW BRIDGE PROJECT SETS FORTH AGGRESSIVE LOCAL HIRING AND CONTRACTING GOALS

District of Columbia residents have much to cheer about with the New Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge Project. DDOT's goal is to obtain a majority of the project's workforce from local District residents. Not only will local residents and businesses have access to extensive employment and DBE contracting opportunities, but on-the-job training (OJT) is offered to teach 21st century construction trade skills to prospective project employees. In coordination with DDOT and C.H.O.I.C.E., the project is governed by a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) and strong terms for OJT, employment and DBE contracting opportunities. Job applicants for either OJT or employment opportunities who have more than two years of experience

will be hired through C.H.O.I.C.E. Less experienced applicants with under two years experience will work with one of three workforce development partners. South Capitol Bridgebuilders will coordinate the hiring of design, trades and contractor staff positions.

Opportunities available for OJT and employment include:

Trades: Bridge Constructor or Carpenter • Equipment Operator • Foreman Trainee • Traffic Control • Truck Driver • Welder

Design: Computer Aided Drafting Technicians • Environmental, Geotechnical, Structural Design, Traffic, and Utility Engineers • Video Security System Designer

Contractor Staff: Concrete, Electrical, and Quality Control Technicians
 • Drainage/Utility and Materials Inspectors • Safety Specialists • Project Engineer Estimators

To learn more about specific positions, scopes of work, and apply for jobs, visit www.SouthCapBridgeProject.com.
 Subcontractors and DBE firms wishing to be considered for contracting opportunities should submit their credentials directly to crcm@walshgroup.com.

Side-by-Side Construction Lowers Traffic Impact



DDOT COMMITS TO REDUCING COMMUNITY IMPACT DURING CONSTRUCTION PHASE

According to various project feasibility studies and assessments, the benefits of constructing the new Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge far outweigh potential costs. DDOT has been working with a vast coalition of community, government, union and private sector stakeholders to minimize the project's impact on traffic, noise and air pollution.

DDOT has made the following commitments:

- Side-by-side construction ensures that the old bridge remains intact until the new bridge opens.
- To minimize noise, there will be no construction work performed before 7:00 am without prior approval.
- All traffic lanes will remain open during rush hour to reduce congestion.
- Traffic due to heavy machinery to and from the site will be coordinated with other DDOT-related projects to prevent excess wear and tear on local roads.
- DDOT intends to retain existing green space and minimize any environmental impact on the Anacostia River.
- The majority of jobs created by the project are set aside for District of Columbia residents. On-the-job training programs are also available to grow the skill sets of prospective project employees.
- The navigational channels of the Anacostia River will remain open throughout the length of the project for recreational and commercial use.

THE LEGACY OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS CONTINUES

The existing Frederick Douglass Bridge was originally dedicated and named in honor of Frederick Douglass in 1950. Douglass, a famed abolitionist, writer, orator and statesman, lived on the East side of the Anacostia River for many years. Born into slavery in Maryland, Douglass escaped and spent his life advocating for human rights. His final years were spent in Washington, D.C. where he served as a counselor to

Presidents including Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant. Douglass was the first African American to receive a vote for President at a National Convention. Although the existing Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge is now being replaced, the new bridge will continue as a memorial to Douglass's enduring legacy by continuing to bear the Frederick Douglass name.





HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE BUILDS NEW KIND OF BRIDGE

In early December 2017, community members joined Police Service Area (PSA) 702 police officers, nonprofits and neighborhood business representatives to deliver over 100 toys to children in Maplewood Courts as part of a broader strategy to build closer relationships between residents and local police. Chairwoman of the PSA 702 Outreach Committee, Brenda Richardson, noted, "This is a great way to bring joy to children while encouraging a positive image of police officers in our community."

DDOT, HNTB, South Capitol Bridgebuilders, Capitol City Associates and TB&A wrapped and donated over 50 toys that will inspire young children to have fun with Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) related concepts. Kimberly Manning of TB&A explained, "We wanted to give back in a way that also inspires children to have fun with science and engineering – so that perhaps one day they will design and build the next bridge."

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