

Joint Kent-Queen Anne's Task Force

May 20, 2016

Members Present: Margo Bailey, Foster Beach, Bernadette Bowman, Jack Brosius, Wayne Darrell, Paul Hanley, Shelley Herman, Greg Holsey, Greg Roby, Commissioner William A. Short, Greg Todd, and Commissioner Jack Wilson

Member Absent: Commissioner Ronald H. Fithian, Mayor Chris Cerino, Ken Fry, Mark Glass, Joe Holt, and Lainey Solomon

Also in attendance: Michael Boldosser, Emergency Preparedness Planner, University of Maryland Shore Regional Health; Bob Rager, Community Liaison, State Highway Administration; and Jamie Williams, Coordinator, Economic Development

At 9:00 a.m. the meeting convened. Commissioner Short gave opening remarks.

On motion by Ms. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Beach, the minutes from the April 15, 2016, meeting were approved.

Mr. Holsey provided an update on behalf of the State Highway Administration (SHA). SHA is scheduled to meet with Covington Machine and Welding in June to discuss financial impacts to the painting project as a result of the delay in the project. Mr. Roby reported that steel work is currently being performed to the bridge. Five stringer beams are being replaced and steel is being installed in certain areas under the bridge. The bridge is structurally sound and most of the mechanical pieces of the bridge are also in good shape. Mr. Roby reported that there are no structural concerns with the bridge. Mr. Beach questioned whether or not the work that is being performed now would shorten the time that the bridge will be closed for sandblasting and painting. Mr. Roby explained that the work that is being performed now is less than ten percent of the bridge maintenance and repair project and will not impact the projected timeframe.

Mr. Brosius presented a memorandum of questions for SHA but was not considered, as the minutes provided a chronological record of the activities of the Task Force.

Mr. Beach presented a memo mapping out which direction the Task Force should move in with regards to the future of the bridge. Mr. Beach stated that although the Bypass Project is out of the scope of the Task Force, the Task Force should attempt to get the project back on the capital project list. Commissioner Short suggested that Kent and Queen Anne's Counties should begin discussions with Governor Hogan's office immediately. On motion by Mr. Beach, seconded by Ms. Bailey, the Task Force unanimously agreed to further explore and consider a bypass.

The Task Force agreed to continue to meet monthly on the third Friday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Holsey will reach out to the appropriate person who could review the last study completed by SHA to the Task Force. Mr. Beach stated that it would be beneficial to understand the findings, alternatives, and how the cost estimates were developed.

The Task Force discussed potential closure dates in 2017. Mr. Holsey will discuss potential dates and options with the Contractor in June. In order to paint the structure, the temperature has to be above forty degrees. Mr. Beach suggested talking with Northern states to see how they maintain and paint bridges during colder temperatures. Mr. Holsey agreed and stated that the movable span makes the painting even more complicated.

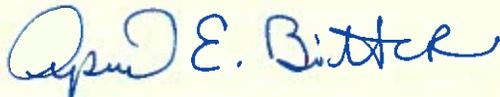
Mr. Beach reviewed the Contract with Covington Machine and Welding and noted that there is no area designated or an easement provided by the State for mobilizing, waterfront access, or employee parking. Mr. Beach also urged SHA to review the boilerplate text in the Contract. Some of the language being used would not apply to this project.

In follow up to the April 15, 2016 meeting, Mr. Roby stated that SHA is considering installing a railing along the sidewalk. The railing would have to be ADA compliant. Mr. Roby invited suggestions from the Task Force. Mr. Beach suggested a thin cable. Mr. Roby will present options at a meeting in the future.

On motion by Ms. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Beach, the Task Force agreed to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m. The Joint Kent-Queen Anne's Task Force agreed to meet again on June 17, 2016, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

Respectfully submitted,



April E. Bitter, Deputy Clerk

Approved:



William A. Short, Member
The County Commissioners
Of Kent County, Maryland