

were afforded the opportunity to review the Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation, but did not provide comments. Testimony in support of the project was given by representatives of both counties during the public hearings held in September 2009.

D. Other

1. US Navy/Naval Support Facility Dahlgren

NSF Dahlgren has been involved with the project through meetings and reviews of environmental documents. NSF Dahlgren reviewed the preliminary and final Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation and commented at the public hearings in 2009, noting their support for the retained alternates which do not affect NSF Dahlgren. NSF Dahlgren supports the proposed action, Modified Alternate 7.

2. Public Comments

The public had an opportunity to comment during the public comment period for the EA/Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation (August 14, 2009 – October 9, 2009). Seven of the 167 comments received noted concerns with the likely impacts to parks from the project. The following persons submitted these comments:

Lauren Wanzer, Bel Alton, MD
Tracy Travers, King George, VA
Betty Grigg, King George, VA
Janet Michael, Mystic, CT

Bill & Susan Willis, King George, VA
Jean Graham, King George, VA
Nancy Delaplane, La Plata, MD

This Section 4(f) Evaluation was prepared pursuant to 23 CFR 774 and demonstrates consideration of measures to avoid or minimize the impacts to parks. **Sections VI, VII, and VIII** of this evaluation provide a detailed analysis of measures to avoid and minimize park impacts.

One commenter, Carl Steinhauser of Newburg, Maryland, noted that existing bridge is historic and should therefore be retained. Consideration of retaining the bridge for historic preservation purposes was considered and evaluated in **Section VIII** of this Final Section 4(f) Evaluation.

X. CONCLUSION

Based on the above considerations, FHWA has determined that there are no feasible and prudent alternatives to the use of Section 4(f) land from Dahlgren Wayside Park, Potomac Gateway Welcome Center, and the NRHP eligible Nice Bridge historic site, and that Modified Alternate 7 includes all possible planning to minimize harm resulting from the use of these properties. Furthermore, FHWA has determined that Modified Alternate 7 would have a *de minimis* impact on Barnesfield Park.