



## APPENDIX H SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTAL DATA



### **Section 6(f) Supporting Documentation for Barnesfield Park**





# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Northeast Region  
United States Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

RECEIVED  
DEC 01 2008

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L32-4507

November 28, 2008

Re Land and Water Conservation Fund  
Project number 51-00299

THE WILSON T. BALLARD CO.  
BY pm

Jennifer Rohrer  
The Wilson T. Ballard Company  
17 Gwynns Mill Ct.  
Owings Mills, MD 21117

Dear Mr. Rohrer:

At the request of Lloyd Champan of this office, I am forwarding copies of documents identifying the area in Barnesfield Park which are subject to section 6(f) requirements of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. Note that only parcel "A" as outlined in yellow on the enclosed map is subject to 6(f). Thank you for interest and attention in this matter.

If you have any questions, please contact me by phone at (215) 597-5134 or e-mail at [roy\\_cortez@nps.gov](mailto:roy_cortez@nps.gov).

Sincerely,

Roy D. Cortez, Program Manager  
Recreation and Conservation Grants Assistance

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
 Land and Water Conservation Fund Project Agreement

State	Virginia	Project Number	51-00299
Project Title	Barnesfield Park		
Project Period	Date of Approval to April 30, 1987	Project Stage Covered by this Agreement	Entire

Project Scope (Description of Project)

Barnesfield Park

King George County

Park development includes: Ballfields, utilities, concession, restrooms, playground, parking, landscaping and support facilities.

Project Cost		The following are hereby incorporated into this agreement: 1. General Provisions (LWCF Manual) 2. Project Application and Attachments. 3. _____ 4. _____
Total Cost	\$ 480,000	
Fund Support not to exceed 50% Fund Amount	\$ 240,000	
Cost of this Stage Assistance this Stage	\$ 480,000	
	\$ 240,000	

POSTED

Date 5-30-87

By JAK

The United States of America, represented by the Director, National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, and the State named above (hereinafter referred to as the State), mutually agree to perform this agreement in accordance with the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 697 (1964), the provisions and conditions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants Manual, and with the terms, promises, conditions, plans, specifications, estimates, procedures, project proposals, maps, and assurances attached hereto or retained by the State and hereby made a part hereof.

The United States hereby promises, in consideration of the promises made by the State herein, to obligate to the State the amount of money referred to above, and to tender to the State that portion of the obligation which is required to pay the United States' share of the costs of the above project stage, based upon the above percentage of assistance. The State hereby promises, in consideration of the promises made by the United States herein, to execute the project described above in accordance with the terms of this agreement.

The following special project terms and conditions were added to this agreement before it was signed by the parties hereto:

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the date entered below.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
By [Signature]  
(Signature)

National Park Service  
United States Department  
of the Interior

Date 23 MAY 1985

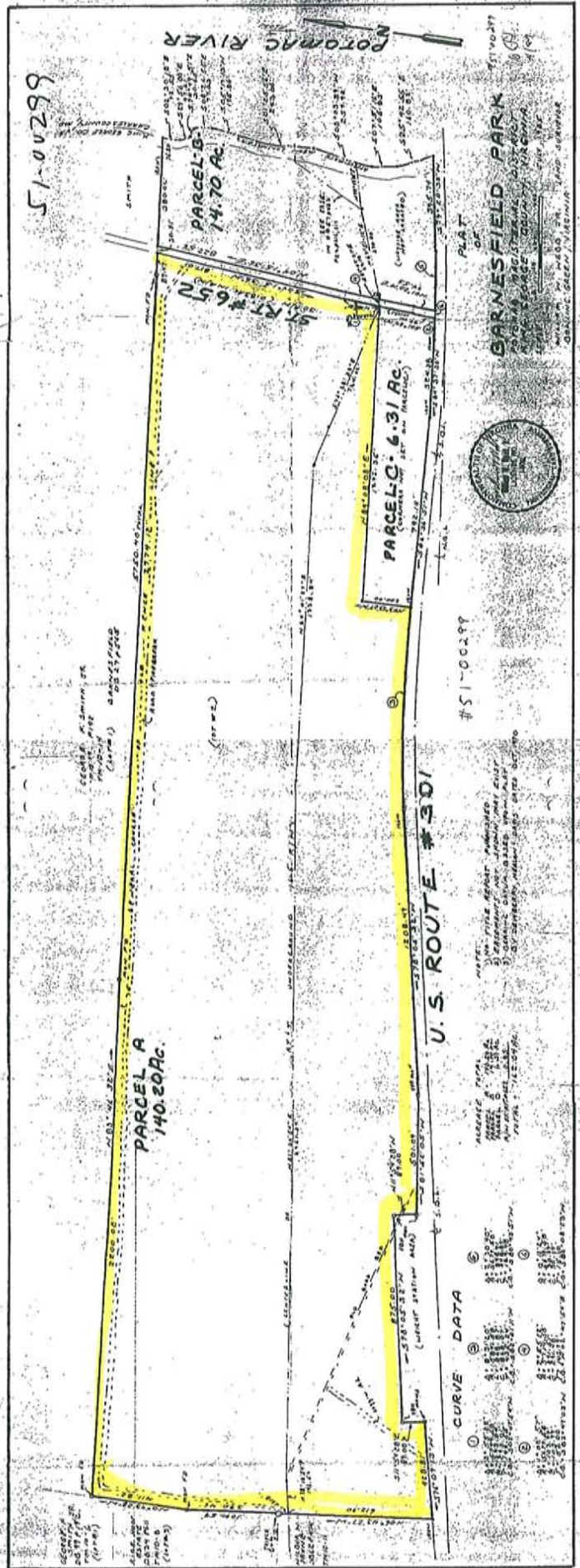
STATE  
Virginia  
By [Signature]  
(Signature)

Art Buehler, Director, Outdoor  
Recreation Services, Division

(Name)  
of Parks & Recreation and  
SLO to NPS  
(Title)

Robt. Cunningham  
Surveyor  
1957

51-00299



GEORGE A. SIMMONS, JR.  
MURPHY  
CIVIL ENGINEER  
NO. 1000

(107 W2)

U.S. ROUTE #301

#51-00299

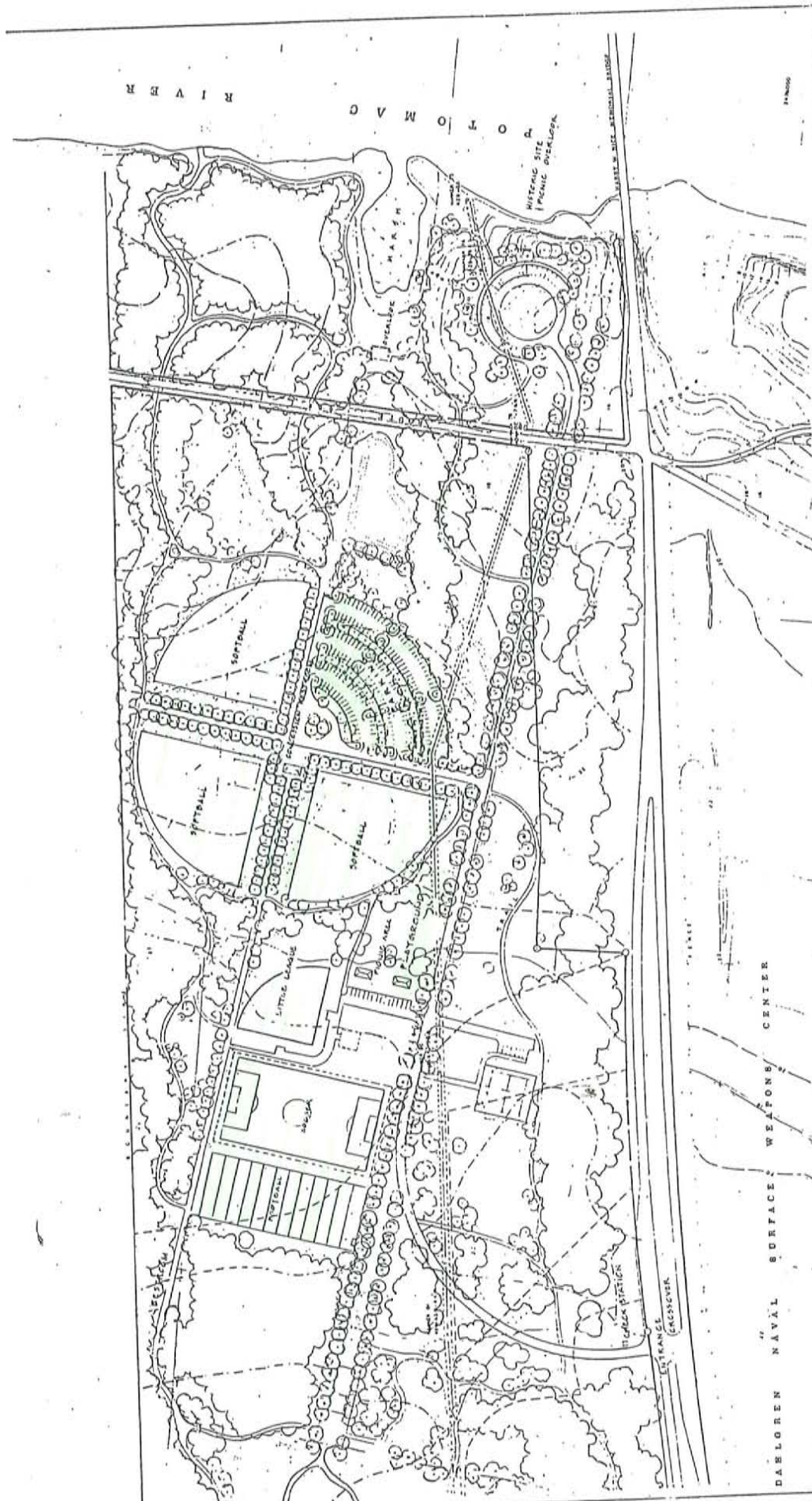
NOTES: TITLE REPORT FURNISHED  
 1) REVISIONS AND JOURNAL MAY BE  
 2) REVISIONS AND JOURNAL MAY BE  
 3) REVISIONS AND JOURNAL MAY BE

CURVE DATA

Station	PC	PT	PI	Curve Data
1+00.00	1+00.00	1+00.00	1+00.00	100.00'
1+10.00	1+10.00	1+10.00	1+10.00	100.00'
1+20.00	1+20.00	1+20.00	1+20.00	100.00'
1+30.00	1+30.00	1+30.00	1+30.00	100.00'
1+40.00	1+40.00	1+40.00	1+40.00	100.00'
1+50.00	1+50.00	1+50.00	1+50.00	100.00'
1+60.00	1+60.00	1+60.00	1+60.00	100.00'
1+70.00	1+70.00	1+70.00	1+70.00	100.00'
1+80.00	1+80.00	1+80.00	1+80.00	100.00'
1+90.00	1+90.00	1+90.00	1+90.00	100.00'
2+00.00	2+00.00	2+00.00	2+00.00	100.00'

PLAT OF  
**GARNESFIELD PARK**  
 PARCELS B, C AND TRACTS  
 IN THE CITY OF  
 GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND  
 AS SHOWN ON THE  
 ORIGINAL SURVEY PLAT  
 OF 1957





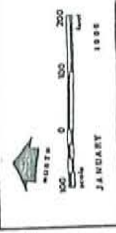
# BARNESFIELD PARK

KING GEORGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**SOFTBALL FIELDS**  
 A - Completed (With lights)  
 B - Completed (No lights)  
 C - Undeveloped (Graded only)

2 Soccer/Football Fields - Completed  
 Little League/Tee Ball Field - Undeveloped (Graded only)  
 Playground - Partially complete  
 Picnic Area - 1 Shelter completed

*This Project*  
*Recreational Access Road*



DARLOREN NAVAL SURFACE WEAPONS CENTER

RIVER

OTOMAGO

WATERING SITE (PICNIC AREA)

WATER & JAIL RECREATIONAL CENTER

ENTRANCE (CRENSHAW)

No. 844

Examined:  
Original seal  
By: *[Signature]*

Address *[Signature]*

QUITCLAIM DEED

The UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting by and through the Secretary of the Interior, acting by and through the Acting Southeast Regional Director, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, under and pursuant to the power and authority contained in the provisions of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 377), as amended, and particularly as amended by Public Law 484, 91st Congress, and regulations and orders promulgated thereunder (hereinafter designated "Grantor"), for and in consideration of the perpetual use of the hereinafter described premises as and for public park and public recreation area purposes, by the Board of Supervisors, King George County, Virginia (hereinafter designated "Grantee"), does hereby release and quitclaim to Grantee, and to its successors and assigns, subject to the reservations, exceptions, restrictions, conditions and covenants hereinafter expressed and set forth, all Grantor's right, title and interest in and to the property described in attached Exhibit A, consisting of approximately 160 acres, located in King George County, Virginia.

There are excepted from this conveyance and reserved to the Grantor, and its assigns, all oil, gas, and other minerals in, under and upon the lands herein conveyed, together with the rights to enter upon the land for the purpose of mining and removing the same.

This conveyance is made subject to any and all existing rights-of-way, easements and covenants and agreements affecting the above described premises, whether or not the same now appear of record.

To Have and to Hold the hereinbefore described property, subject to the reservations, exceptions, restrictions, conditions and covenants herein expressed and set forth unto the Grantee, its successors and assigns, forever.



Pursuant to authority contained in the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, and applicable rules, regulations and orders promulgated thereunder, the General Services Administration determined the property to be surplus to the needs of the United States of America and assigned the property to the Department of the Interior for further conveyance to the Board of Supervisors, King George County, Virginia.

It is Agreed and Understood by and between the Grantor and Grantee, and the Grantee by its acceptance of this deed, does acknowledge its understanding of the agreement, and does covenant and agree for itself, and its successors and assigns, forever, as follows:

1. This property shall be used and maintained for the public purposes for which it was conveyed in perpetuity as set forth in the program of utilization and plan contained in the application, submitted by the Grantee on July 29, 1972, which program and plan may be amended from time to time at the request of either the Grantor or Grantee, with the written concurrence of the other party, and such amendments shall be added to and become a part of the original application.

2. The Grantee shall, within 6 months of the date of the deed of conveyance, erect and maintain a permanent sign or marker near the point of principal access to the conveyed area indicating that the property is a park or recreation area and has been acquired from the Federal Government for use by the general public.

3. The property shall not be sold, leased, assigned, or otherwise disposed of except to another eligible governmental agency that the Secretary of the Interior agrees in writing can assure the continued use and maintenance of the property for public park or public

recreational purposes subject to the same terms and conditions in the original instrument of conveyance. However, nothing in this provision shall preclude the Grantee from providing related recreational facilities and services compatible with the approved application, through concession agreements entered into with third parties, provided prior concurrence to such agreements is obtained in writing from the Secretary of the Interior.

4. From the date of this conveyance, the Grantee, its successors and assigns, shall submit biennial reports to the Secretary of the Interior, setting forth the use made of the property during the preceding two-year period, and other pertinent data establishing its continuous use for the purposes set forth above, for ten consecutive reports and as further determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

5. If at any time the United States of America shall determine that the premises herein conveyed, or any part thereof, are needed for the national defense, all right, title and interest in and to said premises, or part thereof determined to be necessary to such national defense, shall revert to and become the property of the United States of America.

6. As part of the consideration for this Deed, the Grantee covenants and agrees for itself, its successors and assigns, that (1) the program for or in connection with which this Deed is made will be conducted in compliance with, and the Grantee, its successors and assigns, will comply with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the regulations of the Department of the Interior as in effect on the date of this Deed (43 C.F.R. Part 17) issued under the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; (2) this covenant shall be subject in all respects to the provisions of said regulations; (3) the Grantee, its successors and assigns, will promptly take and continue to take such action as may be necessary to effectuate this

covenant; (4) the United States shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this covenant, and (5) the Grantee, its successors and assigns, will (a) obtain from each other person (any legal entity) who, through contractual or other arrangements with the Grantee, its successors or assigns, is authorized to provide services or benefits under said program, a written agreement pursuant to which such other person shall, with respect to the services or benefits which he is authorized to provide, undertake for himself the same obligations as those imposed upon the Grantee, its successors and assigns, by this covenant, and (b) furnish a copy of such agreement to the Secretary of the Interior, or his successor; and that this covenant shall run with the land hereby conveyed, and shall in any event, without regard to technical classification or designation, legal or otherwise, be binding to the fullest extent permitted by law and equity for the benefit of, and in favor of the Grantor and enforceable by the Grantor against the Grantee, its successors and assigns.

7. In the event there is a breach of any of the conditions and covenants herein contained by the Grantee, its successors and assigns, whether caused by the legal or other inability of the Grantee, its successors and assigns, to perform said conditions and covenants, or otherwise, all right, title and interest in and to the said premises shall revert to and become the property of the Grantor at its option, which in addition to all other remedies for such breach shall have the right of entry upon said premises, and the Grantee, its successors and assigns, shall forfeit all right, title and interest in said premises and in any and all of the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging; provided, however, that the failure of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior to require in any one or more instances complete performance of any of the conditions or covenants shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of such future performance, but the obligation of the Grantee, its successors and assigns, with respect to such future performance shall continue in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantor has caused these presents to be executed in its name and on its behalf this the 31st day of OCTOBER 1972.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Acting by and through the  
Secretary of the Interior

Through:

Forrest V. Durand  
Acting Southeast Regional Director  
Bureau of Outdoor Recreation

By

*[Handwritten Signature]*

WITNESSES:

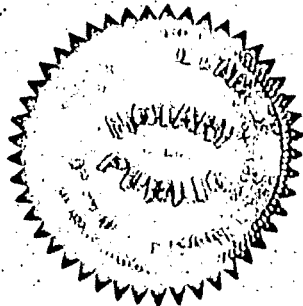
*[Handwritten Signature]*  
*[Handwritten Signature]*

GEORGIA }  
COUNTY OF FULTON } SS

On this 31st day of OCTOBER, 1972, before me, the subscriber, personally appeared FORREST V. DURAND, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, of the United States Department of the Interior, a governmental agency of the United States of America, and known to me to be the same person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument aforesaid, as the act and deed of the United States of America, for and on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, duly designated, empowered and authorized so to do by said Secretary, and he acknowledged that he executed the foregoing instrument for and on behalf of the United States of America, for the purposes and uses therein described.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission expires:  
Notary Public, Georgia, State at Large  
My Commission Expires Jan. 4, 1976



The foregoing conveyance is hereby accepted and the undersigned agrees, by this acceptance, to assume and be bound by all the obligations, conditions, covenants and agreements therein contained.

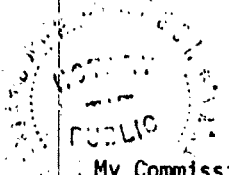


BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
KING GEORGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

By V. Elwood Mason  
V. Elwood Mason  
Clerk of the Board

COMMONWEALTH OF Virginia )  
COUNTY OF King George ) ss

On this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November 1972, before me, the undersigned Officer, personally appeared V. Elwood Mason, to me known and known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing acceptance, who being by me duly sworn, did depose and say that he is the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, King George County, that he is duly designated, empowered and authorized by a resolution adopted by the Board on July 20, 1972, to execute the foregoing acceptance and sign his name thereto; and that he signed his name thereto and acknowledges that he executed the foregoing instrument for and on behalf of the Board, for the purposes and uses therein described.



Jane N. Mason  
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission expires:  
January 22, 1976

EXHIBIT A

That property bounded on the west by private property, on the north by private property, on the east by Route 652 and on the south by Route 301, as more particularly described on the plat attached hereto and made a part hereof.

VIRGINIA, to-wit:

In the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of King George County, the 16th day of November, 1972, this deed was presented and, with the certificates annexed, and plat attached, admitted to record at 2:44 o'clock p.m., and is truly recorded and indexed.

Teste:

V. Edward Mason  
Clerk

SEE PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK NO. 6, at page 136.

V. Edward Mason  
Clerk



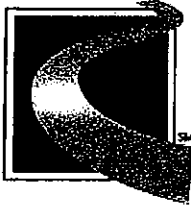
## APPENDIX H SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTAL DATA



# **Farmland Protection Policy Act Correspondence**







## Maryland Transportation Authority

Martin O'Malley  
Governor

Anthony Brown  
Lt. Governor

John D. Porcari  
Chairman

Peter J. Basso  
Rev. Dr. William C. Calhoun, Sr.  
Louise P. Hoblitzell  
Richard C. Mike Lewin  
Isaac H. Marks, Sr., Esq.  
Carolyn Y. Peoples  
Michael J. Whitson  
Walter E. Woodford, Jr., P.E.

Ronald L. Freeland  
Executive Secretary

2310 Broening Highway  
Suite 150  
Baltimore MD 21224  
410-537-1000  
410-537-1090 (fax)  
410-355-7024 (TTY)  
1-866-713-1596

e-mail: [mdta@mdtransportationauthority.com](mailto:mdta@mdtransportationauthority.com)

[www.mdtransportationauthority.com](http://www.mdtransportationauthority.com)

June 3, 2008

Mr. Ron Wisniewski  
United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resource  
Conservation Service  
4805 Carr Drive  
Fredericksburg, Virginia, VA 22408

RE: Nice Bridge Improvement Project

Dear Mr. Wisniewski,

The Maryland Transportation Authority (Authority) has initiated a project planning study to improve the Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge over the Potomac River in Charles County, Maryland and King George County, Virginia. The purpose of the Nice Bridge Improvement Project is to upgrade the bridge design to conform to existing roadway approaches on both the Maryland and Virginia sides; to improve traffic operations and safety across the bridge; and to reduce traffic impacts during bridge maintenance and rehabilitation. The study area extends approximately ten miles along US 301, from King George County, Virginia to just north of the US 301/MD 234 intersection in Charles County, Maryland (Attachment A). To address these needs, the Authority developed seven alternates (see Attachment B – Alternates mapping).

The purpose of this letter is to request your input, in accordance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act, regarding the potential impacts to farmland, specifically prime farmland soils or soils of statewide importance. Prime farmland or soils of statewide importance impacts are limited to Virginia and range from 1.6 to 2.9 acres. For your review, please also find attached to this letter the AD 1006 Farmland Conversion Impact Rating Form, the prime farmland and soils of statewide importance mapping (Attachment C), prime farmland and soils of statewide importance tables with soils types and acreage (Attachment D), and the farmland rationale (Attachment E).

In addition to the No-Build Alternate (Alternate 1), six preliminary build alternates are being considered. In general, the build alternates include rehabilitating the existing bridge and adding a parallel bridge, replacing the existing bridge and constructing a parallel bridge, or removing the existing bridge after constructing

new, two or four lane bridges north or south of the existing bridge. The following is a description of each alternate.

**Alternate 1 (No-Build)** – The No-Build Alternate serves as a baseline for comparison; it does not otherwise meet the project's purpose and need. This alternate includes major rehabilitation to the existing bridge in the 2015-2020 time frame. It would also require adequate vessel collision protection be provided for both directions of vessel travel at the existing bridge.

Build Alternates 2 through 7 provide reasonable tie-in points with the existing and planned highway network, capacity for 2030 demand, the ability to maintain two-way traffic flow, improved safety on approaches and bridge, and the ability to comply with navigational channel guidelines.

**Alternate 2 (New Two-Lane Bridge to South, Rehabilitate Existing Bridge)** – This alternate retains the existing bridge and proposes a new bridge be built to the south. Although widening the existing bridge would not be possible, the new two-lane bridge (to the south of the existing bridge) would provide for improved safety, with two 12-foot travel lanes, a 12-foot outside shoulder and a four-foot offset to the inside concrete barrier. This Alternate involves the removal of the existing helipad on Authority property south of the existing toll plaza.

**Alternate 3 (New Two-Lane Bridge to South, Replace Existing Bridge)** – This alternate is similar to Alternate 2 in that a new two-lane bridge would be built to the south of the existing bridge. The existing bridge would then be replaced by a new two-lane bridge with two 12-foot travel lanes, a 12-foot outside shoulder and a four-foot offset to the inside concrete barrier. Alternate 3 provides increased capacity and safety on both the north and southbound crossings of the Potomac River as opposed to only one.

**Alternate 4 (New Two-Lane Bridge to North, Rehabilitate Existing Bridge)** – This alternate is similar to Alternate 2 in that it retains the existing bridge but it a new bridge would be built north of the existing bridge. Although safety improvements via widening the existing bridge would not be possible, the new two-lane bridge (to the north of the existing bridge) would provide for improved safety, with two 12-foot travel lanes, a 12-foot outside shoulder and a four-foot offset to the inside concrete barrier.

**Alternate 5 (New Two-Lane Bridge to the North, Replace Existing Bridge)** – Similar to Alternate 3 (which replaces the existing bridge), this alternate provides increased safety on both north and southbound crossings of the Potomac River since two new bridges would be built. The new bridge to the north would have two 12-foot travel lanes, a 12-foot outside shoulder and a four-foot offset to the inside concrete barrier, as would the bridge that replaces the existing bridge.

**Alternate 6 (New Four-Lane Bridge to the South, Take Existing Bridge Out of Service)** – Alternate 6 consists of constructing a new four-lane parallel structure to the

south of the existing bridge. This new bridge would consist of an 83-foot travel width (four 12-foot travel lanes (two in each direction), a 12-foot outside shoulder in both directions, a four-foot offset to the inside concrete barrier in both directions, and a three-foot median barrier).

The existing two-lane bridge would be taken out of service. Whether the existing bridge will be removed or remain for recreational use will be determined through on-going coordination with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), US Army Corps of Engineers (COE) and the US Coast Guard (USCG).

**Alternate 7 (New Four-Lane Bridge to the North, Take Existing Bridge Out of Service) –**

Similar to Alternate 6, Alternate 7 consists of constructing a new four-lane parallel structure to the north of the existing bridge. This new bridge would consist of an 83-foot travel width (four 12-foot travel lanes (two in each direction), a 12-foot outside shoulder in both directions, a four-foot offset to the inside concrete barrier in both directions, and a three-foot median barrier).

The existing two-lane bridge would be taken out of service. Whether the existing bridge will be removed or remain for recreational use will be determined through on-going coordination with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), US Army Corps of Engineers (COE) and the US Coast Guard (USCG).

A response from you, including completion of the Farmland Conversion Impact Rating Form, is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 410-537-1060 (toll-free at 866-713-1596) or [mblum1@mdta.state.md.us](mailto:mblum1@mdta.state.md.us), or Mr. Glen Smith, Project Manager, at 410-537-5665 (toll-free at 866-713-1596) or [gsmith2@mdta.state.md.us](mailto:gsmith2@mdta.state.md.us).

Sincerely,



Megan Blum  
Environmental Manager  
Division of Capital Planning  
Maryland Transportation Authority

cc: Nick Nies, Location Studies Project Manager, Environmental Division, VDOT  
Glen Smith, Project Manager, Division of Capital Planning, MdTA

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING  
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		3. Date of Land Evaluation Request: 6/02/08	4. Sheet 1 of 1
1. Name of Project: Nice Bridge Improvement Project		5. Federal Agency Involved: Federal Highway Administration	
2. Type of Project: Proposed Bridge Replacement/Rehab		6. County and State: King George County, Virginia	
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		1. Date Request Received by NRCS	2. Person Completing Form
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form). YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		4. Acres Irrigated   Average Farm Size	
5. Major Crop(s)	6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction Acres: %	7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: %	
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	9. Name of Local Site Assessment System	10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS	

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Alternative Corridor For Segment			
	Alts 2 & 3	Alts 4 & 5	Alternate 6	Alternate 7
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	5.0/5.4	7.7/7.4	6.2	9.4
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services				
C. Total Acres In Corridor	5.0/5.4	7.7/7.4	6.2	9.4

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland				
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland				
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted				
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value				

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)

PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))	Maximum Points	Alts 2 & 3	Alts 4 & 5	Alternate 6	Alternate 7
1. Area in Nonurban Use	15	3	3	3	3
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use	10	3	3	3	3
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed	20	0	0	0	0
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20	20	20	20	20
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10	0	0	0	0
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	25	0	0	0	0
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services	5	0	0	0	0
8. On-Farm Investments	20	0	0	0	0
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	25	0	0	0	0
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>

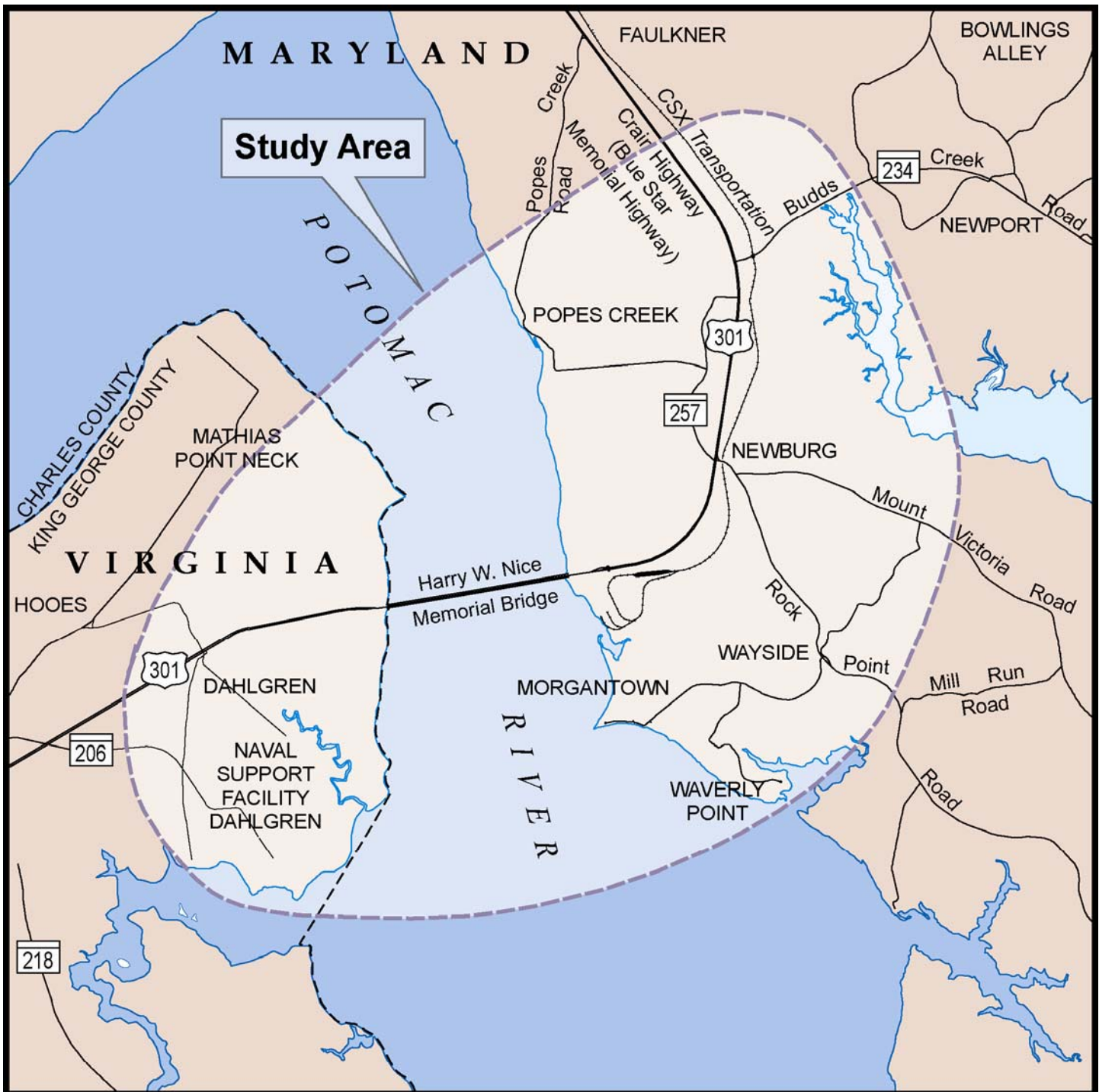
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)					
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)		100			
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)		160			
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)</b>		<b>260</b>			

1. Corridor Selected:	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project:	3. Date Of Selection:	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

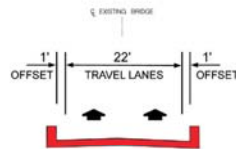
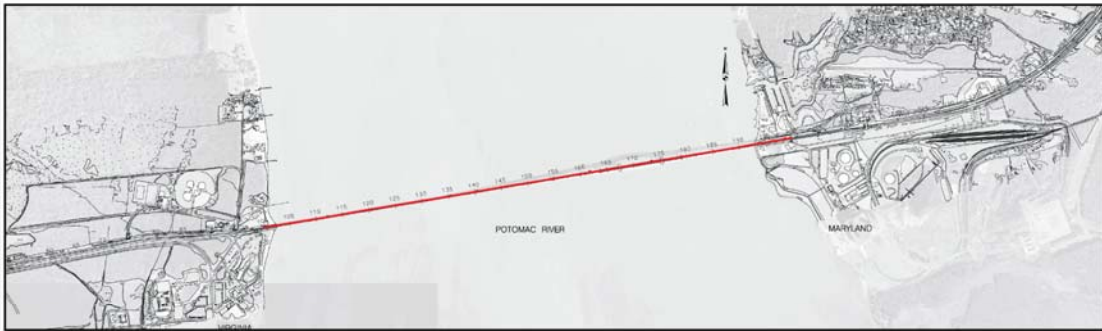
NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor



**Attachment A: Project Study Area**

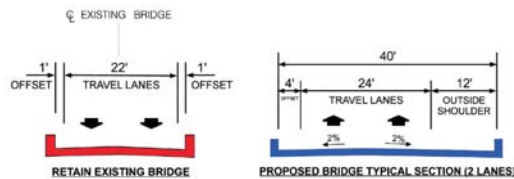


# ALTERNATE 1



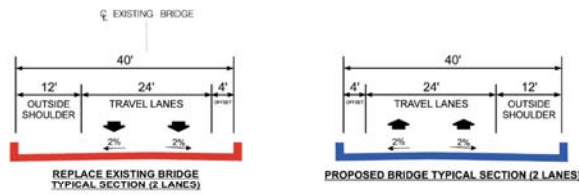
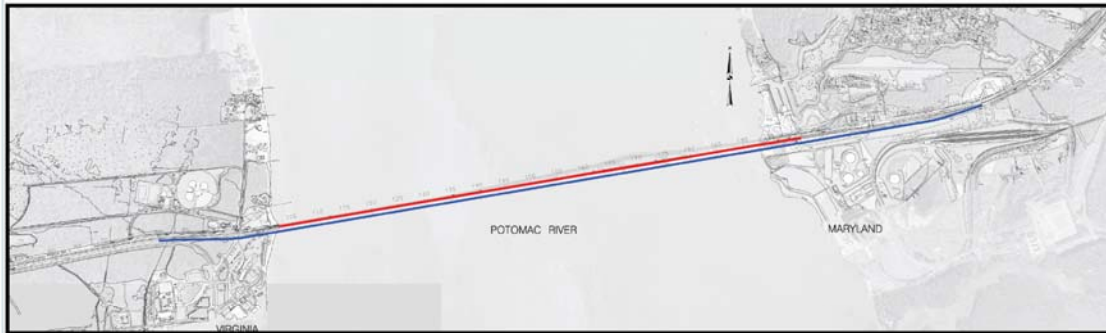
Attachment B - Alternate 1

# ALTERNATE 2



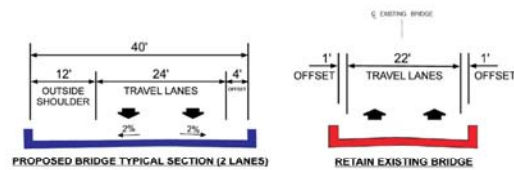
Attachment B - Alternate 2

# ALTERNATE 3



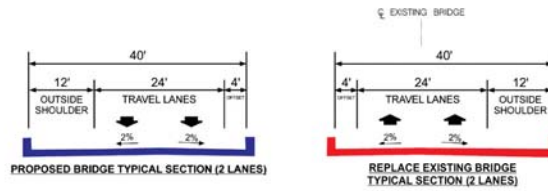
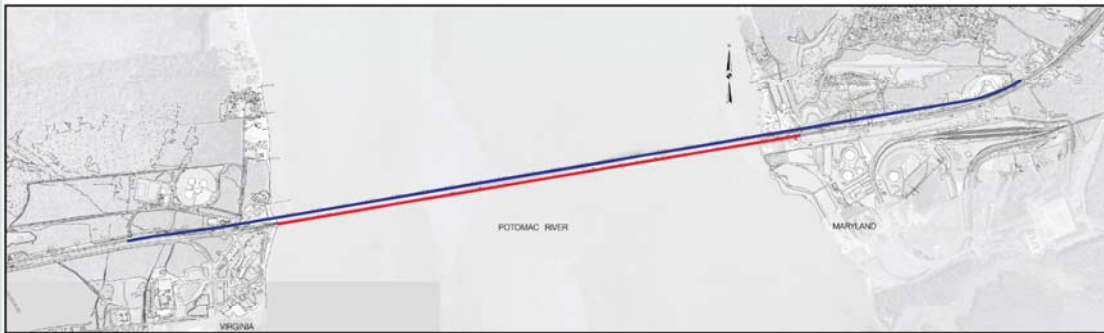
Attachment B - Alternate 3

# ALTERNATE 4



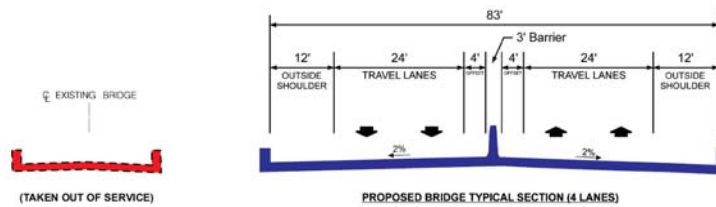
Attachment B - Alternate 4

# ALTERNATE 5



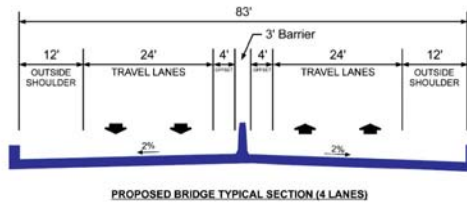
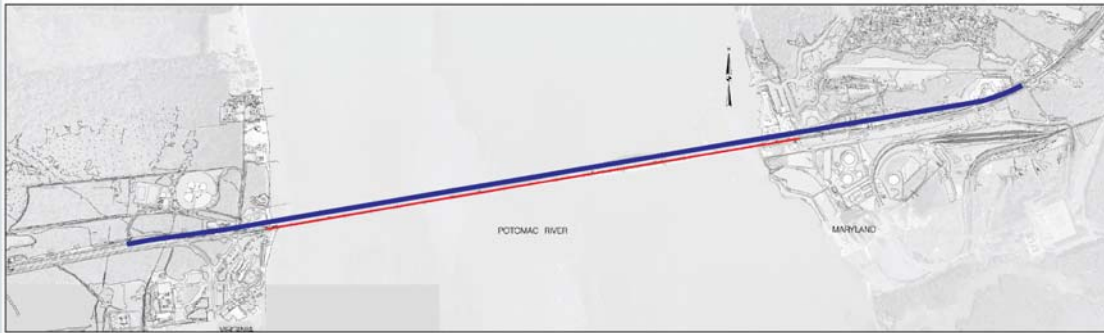
Attachment B - Alternate 5

# ALTERNATE 6



Attachment B - Alternate 6





## Attachment B - Alternate 7

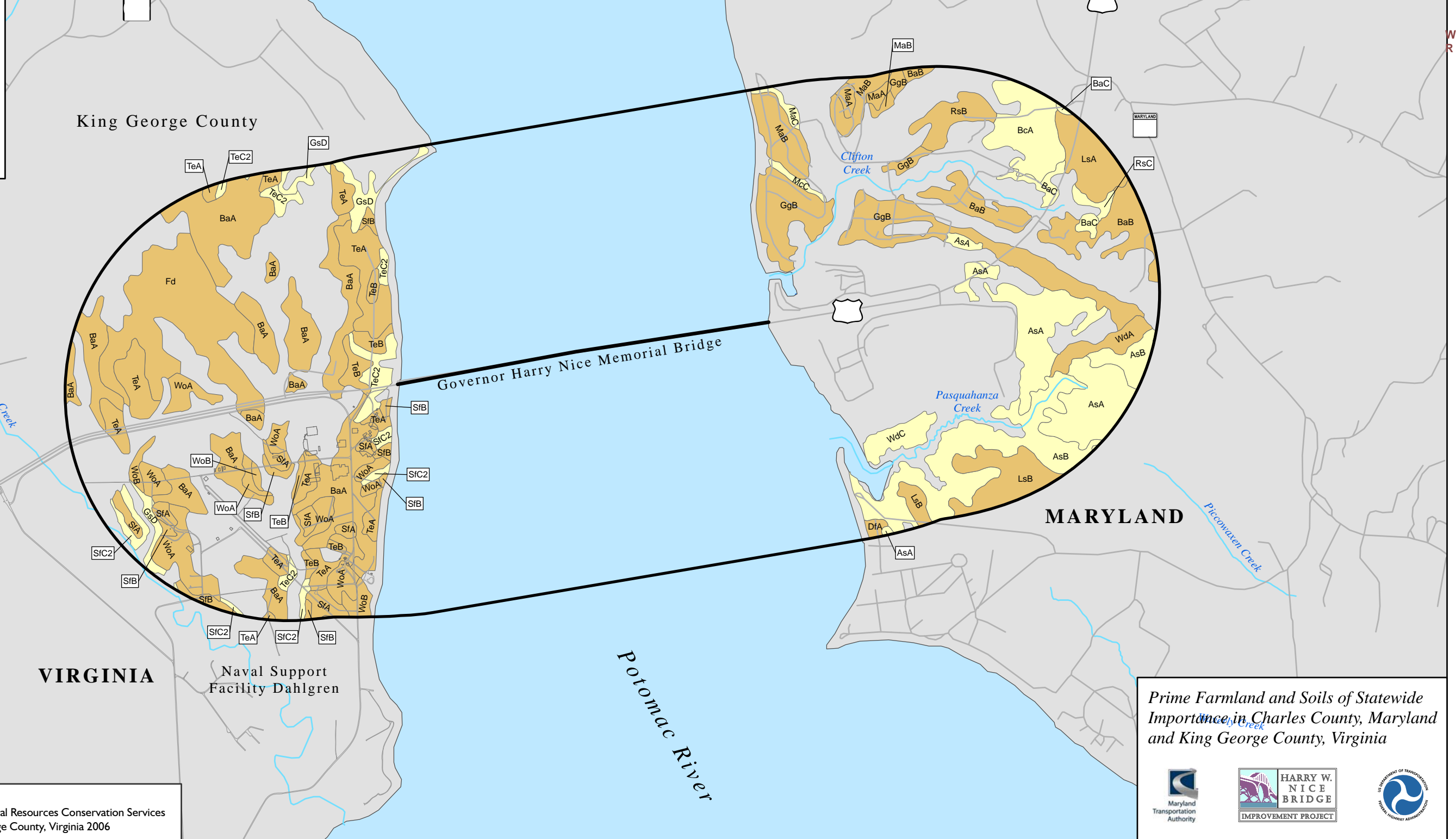
**Legend**

- Prime Farmland
- Soils of Statewide Importance
- 1 Mile Project Area Buffer
- Water
- County Boundaries
- Existing Bridge

0 2,500 Feet  
1 inch equals 2,500 feet

Prime Farmland (Virginia)		Soils of Statewide Importance (Virginia)	
BaA	Bertie very fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	GsD	Galestown-Sassafras complex, 10 to 15 percent slopes
Fd	Fallsington very fine sandy loam	SfC2	Sassafras fine sandy loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, eroded
SfA	Sassafras fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	TeC2	Tetotum fine sandy loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, eroded
SfB	Sassafras fine sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	LsA	Liverpool silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes
TeA	Tetotum fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	LsB	Liverpool silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes
TeB	Tetotum fine sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	MaA	Magnolia silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes
WoA	Woodstown fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	MaB	Magnolia silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes
WoB	Woodstown fine sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	RsB	Reybold silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes
		WdA	Woodstown sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes
		WdB	Woodstown sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes

Prime Farmland (Maryland)		Soils of Statewide Importance (Maryland)	
BaB	Beltsville silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	AsA	Annesessex silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes
DfA	Dodon fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	AsB	Annesessex silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes
GgB	Grosstown gravelly silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	BaC	Beltsville silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes
		BcA	Beltsville-Aquasco complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes
		MaC	Magnolia silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes
		McC	Magnolia-Grosstown complex, 5 to 10 percent slopes
		RsC	Reybold silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes
		WdC	Woodstown sandy loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes



**Data Sources:**  
Soils: US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Services  
Charles County, Maryland 2008; King George County, Virginia 2006

*Prime Farmland and Soils of Statewide Importance in Charles County, Maryland and King George County, Virginia*



**Attachment C: Prime Farmland and Soils of Statewide Importance in Charles County, Maryland and King George County, Virginia**

**Attachment D**  
**Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge Improvement Project**  
**Prime Farmland Soils and Soils of Statewide Importance**

**Soil Totals**

Soil Type	Acreage
All Soils in Maryland and Virginia	6040.67
Water	2592.55
Prime Farmland	1334.1
Statewide Important Farmland	532.01

**Prime Farmland Soils (Virginia)**

Soil Type	Acreage
Bertie very fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes (BaA)	333.91
Fallsington very fine sandy loam (Fd)	174.93
Sassafras fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (SfA)	39.22
Sassafras fine sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes (SfB)	22.32
Tetotum fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (TeA)	139.66
Tetotum fine sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes (TeB)	31.37
Woodstown fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (WoA)	98.30
Woodstown fine sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes (WoB)	18.01

**Soils of Statewide Importance (Virginia)**

Soil Type	Acreage
Galestown-Sassafras complex, 10 to 15 percent slopes (GsD)	32.94
Sassafras fine sandy loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, eroded (SfC2)	21.71
Tetotum fine sandy loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, eroded (TeC2)	39.46

**Prime Farmland Soils (Maryland)**

Soil Type	Acreage
Beltsville silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (BaB)	85.69
Dodon fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (DfA)	4.08
Grosstown gravelly silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (GgB)	156.02
Liverpool silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (LsA)	45.95
Liverpool silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (LsB)	62.55
Magnolia silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (MaA)	10.23
Magnolia silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (MaB)	59.38
Reybold silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (RsB)	29.53
Woodstown sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (WdA)	22.85
Woodstown sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (WdB)	0.06

**Soils of Statewide Importance (Maryland)**

Soil Type	Acreage
Annemessex silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (AsA)	152.84
Annemessex silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (AsB)	161.77
Beltsville silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes (BaC)	16.68
Beltsville-Aquasco complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes (BcA)	64.66
Magnolia silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes (MaC)	6.32
Magnolia-Grosstown complex, 5 to 10 percent slopes (McC)	5.44
Reybold silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes (RsC)	6.85
Woodstown sandy loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes (WdC)	23.33

**ATTACHMENT E**  
**FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING FORM AD-1006**  
**RATIONALE FOR EVALUATION OF SITE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**  
**7CFR 658.5(b)**  
**Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge Improvement Project**  
**KING GEORGE COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
**JUNE 2008**

**1. *How much land is in non-urban use within a radius of 1 mile from where the project is intended?***

***More than 90 percent – 15 points***  
***90 to 20 percent – 14 to 1 point(s)***  
***Less than 20 percent – 0 points***

Aerial photography and land use maps were reviewed and a field review of the site was conducted to determine non-urban use within a one-mile radius of the project area. Non-urban lands were defined based on the guidance offered in the *Instructions for Completing the Farmland Conversion Impacting Rating Form* provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for use with Form AD-1006. Though this guidance includes many types of land uses that should be considered non-urban lands, non-urban lands on the site primarily include parkland, forest, farmland, and campground. Non-urban use on the Virginia side of the project is limited to parkland and forest. Within Maryland, non-urban use consists of campground, forest and farmland. The farmland is found slightly more than one mile from the site. It is estimated that approximately 40 percent of the land area within a one-mile radius of the project limits in non-urban use.

Rating: 3 points

**2. *How much of the perimeter of the site borders on land in non-urban use?***

***More than 90 percent – 10 points***  
***90 to 20 percent – 9 to 1 point (s)***  
***Less than 20 percent – 0 points***

Aerial photography and land use maps were reviewed and a field review of the site was conducted to determine the amount of non-urban land use bordering the project area. Non-urban land use bordering the site in Virginia and Maryland is parkland and campground, respectively. The majority of land in Virginia bordering the site is parkland to the north and the Naval Support facility Dahlgren to the south. In Maryland, Aqua-Land Marina and Campground and Morgantown Power Generating Station

border the site to the north and south, respectively. It is estimated that approximately 25-30 percent of this land area is in non-urban use.

Rating: 3 points

**3. How much of the site has been farmed (managed for a scheduled harvest or timber activity) more than five of the last 10 years?**

**More than 90 percent - 20 points**

**90 to 20 percent – 19 to 1 point(s)**

**Less than 20 percent – 0 points**

There are no active farms within the project limits nor have there been in the last five to ten years.

Rating: 0 points

**4. Is the site subject to state or unit of local government policies or programs to protect farmland or covered by private programs to protect farmland?**

**Site is protected – 20 points**

**Site is not protected – 0 points**

There are several Federal and state farm preservation and conservation programs in place for farmland within King George County, Virginia.

These include:

- Conservation Reserve Program
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- Environmental Quality Incentive Program
- Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program
- Virginia Best Management Practices Cost Share Program

Rating: 20 points

**5. Is the farm unit(s) containing the site (before the project) as large as the average size farming unit in the county. (Average farm sizes in each county are available from the NRCS field offices in each state. Data are from the latest available Census of Agriculture, Acreage or Farm Units in Operation with \$1,000 or more in sales.**

**As larger or larger – 10 points**

**Below average – deduct 1 point for each 5 percent below the average, down to 0 points if 50 percent or more**

**Below average – 9 to 0 points**

There are no farmlands within the project limits.

Rating: 0 points

- 6. If this site is chosen for the project, how much of the remaining land on the farm will become non-farmable because of the interference with land patterns?**

***Acres equal to more than 25 percent of acres directly converted by the project – 25 points***

***Acres equal to between 25 and 5 percent of the acres directly converted by the project – 24 to 1 point(s)***

***Acres equal to less than 5 percent of the acres directly converted by the project – 0 points.***

There are no farmlands within the project limits.

Rating: 0 points

- 7. Does the site have available adequate supply of farm support services and markets, i.e. farm suppliers, equipment dealers, processing and storage facilities and farmers markets?**

***All required services are available – 5 points***

***Some required services are available – 4 to 1 point(s)***

***No required services are available – 0 points***

There are no farmlands within the project limits. Active farming within the County is evident north of and east of the project limits.

Rating: 0 points

- 8. Does the site have substantial and well maintained on-farm investments such as barns, other storage buildings, farm trees and vines, field terraces, drainage, irrigation waterways or other soil and water conservation measures?**

***High amount of on-farm investments – 20 points***

***Moderate amount of on-farm investments – 10 to 1 point(s)***

***No on-farm investment – 0 points***

There are no on-farm investments within the project limits.

Rating: 0 points

9. ***Would the project at this site, by converting farmland to non-agricultural use, reduce the demand for farm support services so as to jeopardize the continued existence of these support services and thus, the viability of the farms remaining in the area?***

***Substantial reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted – 25 points***

***Some reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted – 24 to 1 point(s)***

***No significant reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted – 0 points***

The project would not have any impact on farm support services by either reducing farmland or affecting opportunities for farm support services to access farms throughout King George County. There are no farms or farmland support services within the project limits.

Rating: 0 points

10. ***Is the kind and intensity of the proposed use of the site sufficiently incompatible with agriculture that it is likely to contribute to the eventual conversion of surrounding farmland to non-agricultural use?***

***Proposed project is incompatible with existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland – 10 points***

***Proposed project is tolerable to existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland – 9 to 1 point(s)***

***Propose project is fully compatible with existing agricultural use of surround farmland – 0 points.***

The proposed project is fully compatible with existing agricultural use of farmland on either side of the Nice Bridge. There are no existing farmlands or support services within the project limits. The proposed use of the site (corridor) would be to improve an existing transportation facility.

Rating: 0 points

*Questions 1 -10: Total Rating:*

26 points







## APPENDIX H SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTAL DATA



# Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)



**Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge  
Improvement Project**

**Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
<b>A. Land Use Considerations</b>			
1. Will the action be within the 100 year floodplain?	<u>X</u>		<u>See Section III.C.5</u>
2. Will the action require a permit for construction or alteration within the 50 year floodplain?	<u>X</u>		<u>See Section III.C.5</u>
3. Will the action require a permit for dredging, filling, draining or alteration of a wetland?	<u>X</u>		<u>See Section III.C.6</u>
4. Will the action require a permit for the construction or operation of facilities for solid waste disposal including dredge and excavation spoil?		<u>X</u>	
5. Will the action occur on slopes exceeding 15%?		<u>X</u>	
6. Will the action require a grading plan or sediment control permit?	<u>X</u>		<u>See Section III.C.2</u>
7. Will the action require a mining permit for deep or surface mining?		<u>X</u>	
8. Will the action require a permit for drilling a gas or oil well?		<u>X</u>	

**Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge  
Improvement Project**

**Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
9. Will the action require a permit for airport construction?	<u>          </u>	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>
10. Will the action require a permit for the crossing of the Potomac River by conduits, cables or other like devices?	<u>          </u>	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>
11. Will the action affect the use of a public recreation area, park, forest, wildlife management area, scenic river or wildland?	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>  See Chapter V  </u>
12. Will the action affect the use of any natural or manmade features that are unique to the county, state, or nation?	<u>          </u>	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>
13. Will the action affect the use of an archeological or historical site or structure?	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>  See Section III.B  </u>

**B. Water Use Considerations**

14. Will the action require a permit for the change of the course, current, or cross-section of a stream or other body of water?	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>  See Section III.C.6  </u>
15. Will the action require the construction, alteration, or removal of a dam, reservoir, or waterway obstruction?	<u>          </u>	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>

**Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge  
Improvement Project**

**Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
16. Will the action change the overland flow of the stormwater or reduce the absorption capacity of the ground?	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>See Section III.C.3</u>
17. Will the action require a permit for the drilling of a water well?	<u>          </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>
18. Will the action require a permit for water appropriation?	<u>          </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>
19. Will the action require a permit for the construction and operation of facilities for treatment or distribution of water?	<u>          </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>
20. Will the project require a permit for the construction and operation of facilities for sewage treatment and/or land disposal of liquid waste derivatives?	<u>          </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>
21. Will the action result in any discharge into surface or sub-surface water?	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>See Section III.C.3</u>
22. If so, will the discharge affect ambient water quality parameters and/or require a discharge permit?	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>See Section III.C.3</u>

**Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge  
Improvement Project**

**Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
<b>C. Air Use Considerations</b>			
23. Will the action result in any discharge into the air?	<u>          </u>	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>
24. If so, will the discharge affect ambient air quality parameters or produce a disagreeable odor?	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>  N/A  </u>
25. Will the action generate additional noise which differs in character or level from present conditions?	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>  See Section III.D  </u>
26. Will the action preclude future use of related air space?	<u>          </u>	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>
27. Will the action generate any radiological, electrical, magnetic, or light influences?	<u>          </u>	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>D. Plants and Animals</b>			
28. Will the action cause the disturbance, reduction or loss of any rare, unique or valuable plant or animal?	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>  See Section III.7  </u>
29. Will the action result in the significant reduction or loss of any fish or wildlife habitats?	<u>          </u>	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u>	<u>  See Section III.7  </u>

**Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge  
Improvement Project**

**Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
30. Will the action require a permit for the use of pesticides, herbicides or other biological, chemical or radiological control agents?	_____	<b>X</b>	_____
<b>E. Socio-Economic</b>			
31. Will the action result in a pre-emption or division of properties or impair their economic use?	_____	<b>X</b>	<u>See Section III.2</u>
32. Will the action cause relocation of activities, structures, or result in a change in the population density or distribution?	_____	<b>X</b>	_____
33. Will the action alter land values?	_____	<b>X</b>	_____
34. Will the action affect traffic flow and volume?	<b>X</b>	_____	<u>See Chapter II</u>
35. Will the action affect the production, extraction, harvest or potential use of a scarce or economically important resource?	_____	<b>X</b>	_____
36. Will the action require a license to construct a sawmill or other plant for the manufacture of forest products?	_____	<b>X</b>	_____

**Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge  
Improvement Project**

**Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
37. Is the action in accord with federal, state, regional and local comprehensive or functional plans - including zoning?	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>See Section III.A.</u>
38. Will the action affect the employment opportunities for persons in the area?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>
39. Will the action affect the ability of the area to attract new sources of tax revenue?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>
40. Will the action discourage present sources of tax revenue from remaining in the area, or affirmatively encourage them to relocate elsewhere?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>
41. Will the action affect the ability of the area to attract tourism?	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>See Section III.A.</u>
<b>F. Other Considerations</b>			
42. Could the action endanger the public health, safety or welfare?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>
43. Could the action be eliminated without deleterious affects to the public health, safety, welfare or the natural environment?	<u>                    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>
44. Will the action be of statewide significance?	<u>X</u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>See Chapter I</u>



**Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge  
Improvement Project**

**Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
45. Are there any other plans or actions (federal, state, county or private) that, in conjunction with the subject action could result in a cumulative or synergistic impact on the public health, safety, welfare, or environment?	_____	<b>X</b>	_____
46. Will the action require additional power generation or transmission capacity?	_____	<b>X</b>	_____
47. This agency will develop a complete environmental effects report on the proposed action.	_____	<b>X</b>	N/A

# **Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge Improvement Project**

## **Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

### **COMMENTS**

**1. Will the action be within the 100 year floodplain?**

The project will impact FEMA-designated 100-year floodplains within the vicinity of the Nice Bridge. The project would result in perpendicular disturbances to the Potomac River.

**2. Will the action require a permit for construction or alteration within the 50 year floodplain?**

The project will impact 50-year floodplains within the vicinity of the Nice Bridge. The project would result in perpendicular disturbances to the Potomac River.

**3. Will the action require a permit for dredging, filling, draining or alteration of a wetland?**

Several wetland systems are located within the immediate vicinity of US 301 in both Maryland and Virginia. Alternate 1 (No-Build) would not impact any wetlands within the study area. All other project alternates have the potential to impact wetlands. Other project-related facilities, including stormwater management, may directly impact wetlands. Direct impacts could also occur from temporary construction-related activities.

**6. Will the action require a grading plan or sediment control permit?**

All alternates would affect soils, especially by erosion and subsequent sedimentation during the building phase.

A grading plan and sediment and erosion control plan will be prepared and implemented in accordance with Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) regulations. The grading and sediment control plans will minimize the potential for impacts to water quality from erosion and sedimentation. Measures to prevent erosion in highly susceptible areas (i.e., steep slopes) will be included in the plans when necessary. In Virginia, the ESCP will be prepared in accordance with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (VA DCR) Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) Handbook which outlines basic ESC concepts, ESC measure design, installation and maintenance, plan review procedures and administrative guidelines to support compliance with the appropriate ESC laws and regulations. The plan will also be developed to comply with King George County ESC requirements.

**11. Will the action affect the use of a public recreation area, park, forest, wildlife management area, scenic river or wildland?**

The project is likely to include one or more alternatives that would affect the use of Wayside and Barnesfield Parks in King George's County, Virginia. Use of Wayside Park could be substantially affected because the anticipated alignment of an alternative that would impact this park would place a four-lane roadway and bridge abutments through the portions of the park maintained as recreational open space. The primary recreational activities at this park occur several hundred feet away from existing US 301. The anticipated alignment of any alternative that would affect this park would be close to US 301 and, at the location of the park, would most likely be gradually tying into the existing alignment of US 301.

# **Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge Improvement Project**

## **Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

**13. Will the action affect the use of an archeological or historical site or structure?**

The Authority, in consultation with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VA DHR) and other interested parties determined that there are six historic resources within the study area. The existing Nice Bridge, a historic resource, will be impacted regardless of which build alternate is selected. In addition, impacts are anticipated to the Nice Bridge Administration Building (CH-376) a contributing element to the Nice Bridge. The Dahlgren Naval Support Facility historic district may be impacted depending on build alternate. Coordination with MHT and VA DHR will continue throughout the study in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to determine the effect of the various alternates on historic standing structures and archeological resources.

**14. Will the action require a permit for the change of the course, current, or cross-section of a stream or other body of water?**

A Section 404 permit will be required for impacts relating to the discharge of dredged, excavated, or fill material in wetlands, streams, rivers, and other U.S. waters. Stream and floodplain impact minimization efforts will be investigated, and a more detailed calculation of impacts will be performed in the upcoming planning stages. However, it is anticipated that most impacts would occur within the immediate vicinity of the existing structure (Potomac River open water) and not have a significant affect on other water resources located within the study area.

**16. Will the action change the overland flow of the stormwater or reduce the absorption capacity of the ground?**

Several alternates will require the construction of new bridge approaches along US 301, and therefore have the potential to create additional non-pervious surface. Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated wherever possible to remove pollutants from runoff, improve water quality, and control quantity before stormwater reaches other waterbodies.

**21. Will the action result in any discharge into surface or sub-surface water?**

See Response #14.

**22. If so, will the discharge affect ambient water quality parameters and/or require a discharge permit?**

See Response #14.

**25. Will the action generate additional noise which differs in character or level from present conditions?**

Additional noise is likely to be generated during construction of this project.

# **Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge Improvement Project**

## **Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

**28. Will the action cause the disturbance, reduction or loss of any rare, unique or valuable plant or animal?**

Coordination with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and other interested parties indicated the presence of federal and state listed animal and plant species within the study area. Bald eagle nests and a concentration zone (Virginia only) have been identified in the study area. State law requires that appropriate protection measures be incorporated into actions taken by state agencies. Specific protection measures depend on site conditions, planned activities, nest history and other factors. Further coordination will be necessary to determine the projects impacts on the bald eagle populations in the area. In addition, a waterbird colony has been documented under the existing Nice Bridge structure during breeding season. Waterbird colonies are generally protected during the breeding season within a ¼ mile radius of their colony location. The open waters to the north and south of the existing structure on the Potomac River are known historic waterfowl concentration areas. Additional steps will be taken with the appropriate officials to further identify and minimize impacts (including work prohibitions during critical times such as breeding seasons) to all threatened, endangered and sensitive species located within the study area.

**31. Will the action result in a pre-emption or division of properties or impair their economic use?**

Minor right-of-way may be required from property within the immediate vicinity of the Nice Bridge, depending on build alternate. Impacts are anticipated at the Aqualand Marina and Campground and Potomac Gateway Welcome Center. However, these impacts are not anticipated to result in the pre-emption, division, or impairment of these properties (with the exception of the Potomac Gateway Welcome Center).

**34. Will the action affect traffic flow and volume?**

The purpose of the Nice Bridge Improvement Project is to upgrade the bridge design to conform with existing roadway approaches on both the Maryland and Virginia sides; to improve traffic operations and safety across the bridge; and to reduce traffic impacts during anticipated significant bridge maintenance and rehabilitation. Therefore, it is anticipated that any of the build alternates would improve traffic flow and decrease traffic volume.

**37. Is the action in accord with federal, state, regional and local comprehensive or functional plans - including zoning?**

The Maryland Economic Growth, Resource Protection and Planning Act of 1992 (the Planning Act) and the subsequent Smart Growth Priority Funding Areas Act of 1997 direct State and local governments to target their infrastructure investments to designated priority funding areas (PFAs). Within Charles County, communities near the Nice Bridge such as Newburg and Morgantown are targeted for new growth and economic development. These areas were proposed by the County and have been certified by the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) as PFAs.

# **Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge Improvement Project**

## **Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)**

**41. Will the action affect the ability of the area to attract tourism?**

Increasing traffic flow, the potential of incorporating a bicycle lane with the build alternates, and the ability in which tourists may enter/exit King George County and Charles County will encourage tourism in the local area.

**44. Will the action be of statewide significance?**

The Nice Bridge, constructed in 1940, is a link on the US 301 corridor, which is part of the National Highway System (NHS) and Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET), providing a direct connection between the northeastern region of Virginia and southern Maryland and is the southernmost roadway crossing of the Potomac River. Therefore, improvements to this facility would be of significance to both Maryland and Virginia.

**47. This agency will develop a complete environmental effects report on the proposed action.**

Given the scope and range of potential environmental impacts, it is anticipated that the Nice Bridge Improvement Project will be classified as a NEPA-documented Environmental Assessment/Section 4(f) Evaluation. However, state environmental mandates (i.e., MEPA) will also be consulted to ensure full compliance on the local level.