



Comment Sheet

Brunswick-Topsham, Frank J. Wood Bridge, MaineDOT WIN 22603.00

Public Meeting  
Frank J. Wood Bridge  
Southern Maine Community College  
Midcoast Campus  
29 Sewall Street Brunswick, ME 04011

April 5, 2017  
6:00 pm

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) are accepting public comments and community input regarding all aspects of the project until April 19, 2017. This comment sheet can be submitted at the April 5, 2017 public meeting or mailed to the following address:

Joel Kittredge  
Maine Department of Transportation  
Bridge Program  
16 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Public comment can also be submitted via MaineDOT's web page at: <http://www.maine.gov/mdot/env/> under Environmental Process-Public Review and Comment or directly to Joel Kittredge at [Joel.Kittredge@maine.gov](mailto:Joel.Kittredge@maine.gov).

Comment:

My name is Alexis B. Sullivan and I purchased the house at 11 Perkins Street in May of 2015 from Deedee Furbish. I relocated from Brooklyn Heights, New York. I live right by the bridge in the historical district of Topsham and frequently walk over the bridge into town, not to mention drive over the bridge to take my son to school & pick him up & run multiple errands. Part of the appeal of our area is the historic nature of that section of town & the aesthetic of the bridge. There is absolutely NO reason to create an ugly bridge that will ruin the aesthetic of my neighborhood, especially one that will host trucks & encourage faster speeds & more traffic right in the middle of ~~of~~ a potentially crucial renaissance for town. Brunswick ~~has~~ & Topsham has the opportunity to become a hipper, cooler place to live drawing new businesses as well as home buyers exiting Portland in search of more square footage for less money. I have no intention of watching the value of my home decline as a result of a concrete highway running very close to my house & leaving just a cluster of houses surrounding mine as the remnants of Topsham's historical district. For gods sake if

Name (Please Print ) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Info (Email or Phone) \_\_\_\_\_

brooklyn heights can save their historical buildings and places from the NYC developers (sharks), & from the BQE (brooklyn Queens Expressway) we can surely do as much. I don't think Topsham really wants to stop the influx →

of people relocating and buying up the pricey & 200 year old homes of the historical district & fixing them up & sending their children to Williams-cone school. That's just good for everyone. And I certainly don't think they want to drive out existing owners to seek real estate elsewhere because they cannot tolerate such a horrible alternative to the existing bridge. It's an affront to the town & it's people. The waterfall is a beautiful feature of the town. Why on earth would we put a concrete monstrosity in front of it?

I am not going to sit idly by while this bridge goes up ~~as~~ with my tax money as if I've had a say or this is the ONLY alternative. Nope.

Alexis Sullivan

11 Perkins St.

Historic Bridge advocate / peaceful activist

~~REMOVED~~



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*4-5-17 at Brunswick Meeting*

Comment:

*This so-called public <sup>meeting</sup> ~~hearing~~ is a travesty!*  
*The "open house" format is a farce! There are*  
*150-200 people here. We need to know - all of*  
*us need to know - the meaning of the terminology,*  
*the reasoning behind the proposals, etc. One-on-one*  
*discussions between audience members and the people*  
*manning the "stations" is not acceptable. We need*  
 (Use additional sheets if necessary)

*more* →

Name (Please Print ) Hugh Maynard  
 Street Address 285 Ridge Road  
 City, State, Zip Bath, ME 04530  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) hughmaynard@gmail.com

our voices to be heard. This is a  
"divide-and-conquer" strategy. Our individual  
voices may or may not be heard, but our  
collective voices are <sup>certainly</sup> being stifled. It  
is an outrage! The Maine DOT staff  
are ~~are~~ arrogant and not truly interested  
in public comment. They do not want  
informed public comment. We are  
begging to be heard and we are not  
being heard.

There should be a fair opportunity  
for the public to be heard.

WE DESERVE A REAL PUBLIC  
MEETINGS!



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Comment:

As a business owner & employee at a business at Bowdoin Mill Island, we are totally & emphatically in favor of Alternative 2. With any other alternative the traffic problems & safety issues would be a nightmare! All other alternatives would adversely affect all businesses on both sides of the bridge & even downtown Brunswick. Alternative 2 would not affect any existing businesses, parks and would provide safe walking, biking & viewing of the river & wildlife. In addition, the construction costs & long term costs are definitely in favor of Alternative 2.

Please don't let the people who think there's historical  
(Use additional sheets if necessary)



Name (Please Print) Nancy & Dan Mancure  
Street Address 297 Oakledge Rd.  
City, State, Zip Harpersfield, ME 04079  
Contact Info (Email or Phone) 729-0856

value in the existing bridge, sway your judgment. Please, Please  
go with Alternative 2.

As an owner in the Mill Complex I very much want  
to see Alternative 2 - for all the reasons articulated  
above (by my wife!)

JL



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2nd Comment:

I just spent the last 5 minutes listening to a seemingly nice young woman from "FHWA" explain why they + MDOT didn't want an actual public hearing, because apparently the people who live in the neighborhoods @ the bridge have very strong

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) Tom Feeley  
Street Address 11 Perkins Street  
City, State, Zip Topsham ME 04086  
Contact Info (Email or Phone) tomfeeley@hotmail.com



feelings. Yes, we do in fact have strong  
feelings. We live here, and I for one  
don't appreciate being railroaded by the  
M DOT and big corporations.





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**Comment:**

I Am ~~FOR~~ FOR ALT 2 However I wonder how both towns will handle the traffic which would seemingly flow faster. BRUNSWICK NEEDS TO ADDRESS LEFT TURNS FROM MAINE ST ONTO MILL, PERHAPS WITH A GREEN ARROW. TOPSHAM NEEDS TO ADDRESS TRAFFIC COMING OUT OF SEA DOG / RED MILL AND FROM NEXT TO BORDER TRUST. HOW WILL THE BRIDGE TRAFFIC FLOW BE HANDLED? IS THIS THE DOT OR THE TOWNS ISSUE?

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) PAULINE GALLAGHER  
 Street Address 59 WILLOW GROVE RD  
 City, State, Zip BRUNSWICK  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) beachguys@hotmail.com



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Comment:

I would like Alt #2 with the widebike lane and 2 sidewalks for safety and to keep us healthy. If we can bike and walk we will be a healthy community use less fuel and less medical cost! I am a nurse and see what poor shape people have let themselves get into and the cost of poor healthy is so much more than you can ever believe it is... Build Alt #2 so the community enjoy our beautiful River

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) Janet Moore
Street Address 631 Middlesex Rd
City, State, Zip Topsham, ME 04086
Contact Info (Email or Phone) 207-729-0993



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Comment:

*Choice # 2 Local Trucker since 1972*  
*Old Bridge unsafe Need new Bridge*  
*soon as possible + cheapest price*

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) Bruce Moore  
 Street Address 631 Middlesex Rd.  
 City, State, Zip Topsham  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) 729-0993



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Comment:

I am a new bridge advocate. ~~That~~  
 That said, this meeting of 5 April in  
 Brunswick was poorly handled and left  
 people on both side exasperated and upset  
 by the lack of basic response to a non-  
 threatening question about terminology.  
 This is a major P.R. black eye for MDT and  
 support for an open forum.

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) DANIEL McLAUGHLIN  
 Street Address 6 BUNGARNE Ldg Rd  
 City, State, Zip Brunswick ME 04011  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) dbmb777@AOL.COM



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Comment:

I have had a business within 600' of the Frank wood bridge for 17 years. I am in favor of rehabilitation of the current bridge. People come to our nonprofit arts gallery - Maine Fibers - from all over the country. We promote hundreds of small businesses + farms around the state. This is cultural tourism. Visitors come to us because of our location in the historic district + the beauty of Maine landscape. We do not want a concrete bunker. Got that in Richmond recently.

Name (Please Print ) CHRISTINE MARCETTI  
 Street Address 13 Main Street  
 City, State, Zip Topsham ME 04086  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) 207 449 8573



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Comment:

THIS SO-CALLED PUBLIC HEARING IS  
 A TRAVESTY!!!

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) Hugh Maynard  
 Street Address 285 Ridge Rd.  
 City, State, Zip Bath, ME 04530  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) hughmaynard@gmail.com



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Comment:

*That was a very badly done presentation. I thought the stations were nice for browsing before + after the meeting. But the meeting should have contained an open Q+A session. This way we would get to hear everyone's ideas. This made it look like DOT was hiding something.*

*I am in favor of Alternate 2.*

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) Mike Dumais  
 Street Address 11 Foreside Rd.  
 City, State, Zip Topsham ME 04086  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) \_\_\_\_\_



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Comment:

*This is rigged!*  
*MDOT and FHWA are*  
*not interested in what*  
*we have to say.*  
*MDOT got the opportunity*  
*to speak. Why can't I?*

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) J. Phinney Baxter White  
 Street Address Bridge St  
 City, State, Zip Topsham  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) phin@governorbaxter.com





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Comment:

This was a one sided meeting - very poorly run - with only MDOT speaking - they do not represent my voice  
 That Frank J Wood Bridge

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) Suzanne White  
 Street Address 67 Bridge St  
 City, State, Zip Topsham Me 04086  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) 207 ~~729~~ 725-2707

should be saved

It's a Landmark  
 Between Topsham + Brunswick



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Comment:

SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS SUCH AS THIS MUST ADHERE TO A FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY TO THE COMMUNITIES AND STATE TAXPAYERS. SADDLING THE CURRENT & FUTURE GENERATIONS WITH NEARLY DOUBLE THE COSTS OF A NEW BRIDGE TO PRESERVE AN OBSOLETE, FAILING BRIDGE IS UNCONSCIONABLE.

ALTERNATIVE Z IS THE ONLY RESPONSIBLE OPTION.

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) CURTIS NEUFELD  
 Street Address 14 MERRYMEETING DR  
 City, State, Zip TOPSHAM ME 04086  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) cneufeld@sitelinespa.com



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Comment:

The replacement designs appear to be very rudimentary. I was told by an MDOT engineer that the steel girder design would be very much "like a bridge over the Interstate Highway," that would not be acceptable. The Frank J. Wood bridge is an iconic structure in a recognized historic district. A new bridge could be built and be iconic as well but definitely not for \$15-18 million. Attention to detail will be imperative; gray steel girders will not be suitable. Finding a crash resistant but attractive railing will be difficult. Unfortunately, from what I have seen MDOT does not have a good track record (Use additional sheets if necessary) in designing beautiful bridges. It can be done, but ~~not~~ at double the cost.

Name (Please Print) Kevin Twine

Street Address 21 Oak St.

City, State, Zip Brunswick, ME 04011

Contact Info (Email or Phone) kptwine@gmail.com



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Comment:

*It seems to me these mill towns on Maine's rivers were extremely important to Maine's history and the bridges between them, often of steel truss design, were life lines between them. Many or most have now been torn out - historic structures that are of up importance now. I think the state needs to slow down and take a second look before destroying yet another piece of rather vibrant history. Viva our Green Bridge, suspension footbridge, and railroad bridge!*

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) ELIZABETH P. EDGERTON  
Street Address 6 ~~ST~~ UNION ST.  
City, State, Zip TOPSHAM ME 04086  
Contact Info (Email or Phone) betsy.e@gwi.net



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Comment:

The meeting was not as advertised. There was no time for public comment or questions. When it became obvious after the MDOT presentation that there would be no public comment, the organizers did not listen and did not accommodate the public. It was a disgrace and a rebuff to all residents who came out. MDOT & FHWA should be ashamed of their handling of the meeting. I will be in touch with my U.S. Rep. Chollie Pingree.

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) CYNTHIA HOWLAND  
Street Address 26 Water St.  
City, State, Zip Brunswick, ME 04011  
Contact Info (Email or Phone) cbhowland@gmail.com



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Comment:

MEETING STRUCTURE WAS AWFUL, NO CHANCE FOR PUBLIC INPUT

ALSO, THE THIRD OPTION OF A NEW BRIDGE THAT IS NOT UGLY, FLAT UTILITARIAN WAS NOT MENTIONED.

WE NEED AN ~~ESTETICALLY~~ AESTHETICALLY APPEALING BRIDGE IN DOWNTOWN BRUNSWICK

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print) SEAN RUEL  
 Street Address 109 BETHEL POINT RD  
 City, State, Zip HARPSWELL MAINE 04079  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) THRIVEPRUNINGCO@GMAIL.COM



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Joel Kittredge  
 Maine Department of Transportation  
 Bridge Program  
 16 State House Station  
 Augusta, ME 04333

Public comment can also be submitted via MaineDOT's web page at: <http://www.maine.gov/mdot/env/> under Environmental Process-Public Review and Comment or directly to Joel Kittredge at [Joel.Kittredge@maine.gov](mailto:Joel.Kittredge@maine.gov).

Comment:

I live right near the bridge and I have a couple of young kids. I have various concerns about building a more "truck friendly" replacement bridge. Main Street Topsham should not be a thru-way. It is a residential neighborhood, and walkability is key.

REHAB, PLEASE.

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) Tom Feeley  
 Street Address 11 Perkins Street  
 City, State, Zip Topsham ME 04086  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) tomfeeley@hotmail.com



**Comment Sheet**  
**Brunswick-Topsham, Frank J. Wood Bridge, MaineDOT WIN 22603.00**

Public Meeting  
 Frank J. Wood Bridge  
 Southern Maine Community College  
 Midcoast Campus  
 29 Sewall Street Brunswick, ME 04011

April 5, 2017  
 6:00 pm

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**Comment:**

The missed opportunity tonight was as follows:  
 we did not see an option to replace the bridge  
 with a green truss bridge. Need a proposal drawing,  
 and cost estimate to build a new to resemble the old.  
 The meeting format was horrible. I plead with Cheryl  
 and others, to change the ~~me~~ the  
 format to a panel discussion and  
 she would not. This would have improved the  
 public mood greatly. It felt like a way to  
 silence the masses.

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) Nianne Hoffman  
 Street Address 13 Ivanhoe Dr.  
 City, State, Zip Topsham 04086  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) \_\_\_\_\_





**Comment Sheet**  
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Comment:

BUILDING A NEW BRIDGE IN PLACE OF THE  
EXISTING "FRANK J WOOD" BRIDGE DESTROYS THE LANDSCAPE  
OF DOWNTOWN BRUNSWICK AND NEIGHBORING TOPSHAM. THE FRANK  
J WOOD BRIDGE IS QUINTESSENTIAL MAINE. TO BUILD A NEW  
BRIDGE IN PLACE OF THIS FOR FINANCIAL SAVINGS IS SELLING THE  
ASTHETICS OF HISTORIC MAINE, AND WHAT MAINE IS LOVED FOR.  
NO ONE WOULD DESTROY MAINE'S ROCKY COAST TO SAVE A FEW MILLION  
DOLLARS!! PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF THESE TOWNS!! THE SUGGESTED  
ALTERNATIVES DESTROY OUR HISTORY AND RUN OUR CURRENT PICTURESQUE  
DOWNTOWN.  
THE WAY THIS "MEETING" WAS ORCHESTRATED IS SHAMEFUL. THE PEOPLE  
OF THESE COMMUNITIES DESERVE TO HEAR ONE ANOTHERS COMMENTS!  
WE DEMAND ANOTHER MEETING / PUBLIC HEARING WHERE MDOT CAN ANSWER  
 (Use additional sheets if necessary) QUESTIONS IN A PUBLIC AND SHARED DISCUSSION!!

Name (Please Print) EVAN DUDIA  
 Street Address 420 PLEASANT HILL RD.  
 City, State, Zip BRUNSWICK ME 04011  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) esd1287@gmail.com



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Comment:

We demand a  
 real public meeting with  
 input from the public, not  
 the farce this was!

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) Hugh Maynard  
 Street Address 205 Ridge Rd.  
 City, State, Zip Bath, ME 04530  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) hughmaynard@gmail.com.



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Comment:

PLEASE REHABILITATE THE FRANK J. WOOD BRIDGE!  
THE BRIDGE IS AN ICONIC PART OF OUR COMMUNITY  
THAT WOULD ABSOLUTELY BE SORELY MISSED IF  
ALTERNATIVES ARE PURSUED. A BYPASS BRIDGE  
ALREADY EXISTS FOR COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC, THE  
BRIDGE POSTING DOES NOT DISRUPT OUR COMMUNITY,  
THE PROPOSED NEW BRIDGES WOULD DISRUPT OUR  
TRIVING WALKABLE DOWNTOWN.

REGARDING ALT. #4, THE DOWNSTREAM SIDEWALK  
SHOULD BE A DESIGNATED BICYCLE PATH, ELIMINATING  
PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST SAFETY CONCERNS!

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) GRAVIN ENGLER

Street Address 420 PLEASANT HILL ROAD

City, State, Zip BRUNSWICK, ME 04011

Contact Info (Email or Phone) GRAVIN.ENGLER@GMAIL.COM



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Comment:

*If one of the replacement alternatives is selected, a full visual impact assessment should be prepared including detailed assessment of structural elements, materials, and architectural composition. This should be presented to the public and used fully before the start of construction.*

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) Kevin Twine  
 Street Address 21 Oak St.  
 City, State, Zip Brunswick, ME 04011  
 Contact Info (Email or Phone) kptwine@gmail.com



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Comment:

Why would anyone want to keep an old out dated bridge that requires so much work and maintenance when you can have a new morden bridge for same or some what near the same price.

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print ) George Brawn + Janet Brawn  
Street Address 11 Nugget Lane  
City, State, Zip Brunswick, Me. 04011  
Contact Info (Email or Phone) g.brawns@comcast.net



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Comment:

Cost wise I think its time for  
The new bridge. You have done a very good  
job looking at the damage to the bridge and the cost  
to repair. Lets save money and go with the  
ALTERNATE 2.

I lived in Topsham all my life, I was working  
at the Brunswick mill when they painted the Frank  
Wood Bridge in the 80's. It was a long process  
then.

Good Luck I hope you get to build  
us a new bridge.

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name (Please Print) THOMAS E MICHAUD

Street Address 20 Tedford Rd.

City, State, Zip TOPSHAM, MAINE 04086

Contact Info (Email or Phone) 207-729-9380 Cell 207-564-3454

EMAIL Tom and Judy@comcast.net