Maine-NH Connections Study
Final Steering and Stakeholder Committee Meeting
November 16, 2010
Agenda

• Welcome
• Recent Events
• Draft Study Report Overview
• Next Steps
  – Memorial Bridge
  – Sarah Mildred Long Bridge
Recent Events

• Governor’s Announcement on October 5
  – Task force formed to identify funding for three bridges
  – 3 members from each State

• Connections Study winding down:
  – Draft Final Report distributed November 9th
  – Final Report due December 2010
  – Recommend three alternatives to move forward
  – Public Meeting tonight – November 16th

• TIGER II Grant awarded - $20 Million
Draft Study Report Overview

• Today - we will provide a brief overview of each chapter of the Report

• Will review remaining alternatives recommended to move forward

• Report is available online at:

www.mainenhconnections.org
Draft Study Report Overview

• Executive Summary
  – Overview of entire Report

• Study Background
  – History and problems indicating need for study

• Public Outreach Process
  – Committees, Meetings, Agendas, Minutes, Summary

• Purpose and Need Statement
  – Final Purpose and Need Statement for Study as approved by agencies and public
Draft Study Report Overview

• Fatal Flaw Analysis:
  – Did they meet Purpose and Need?
  – Did they have significant environmental impacts?
  – Were they permittable?
  – Were they financially feasible?
  – Were they physically feasible?
  – Were they clearly inferior to other alternatives?

• 63 Alternatives Identified
  – Rehab and replacement for both bridges, new alternatives on new alignments
Draft Study Report Overview

- Fatal Flaw Analysis Results:
  - Three Memorial Bridge options remained
  - Three Sarah Long Bridge options remained

- Post Fatal Flaw, three new options identified
  - Memorial Closed, Transit system
  - Sarah Mildred Long hybrid (mid level) bridge (5% and 6% grade options)

- 11 Total Alternatives remained, including No-Build Alternative
**Alternatives remained from Fatal Flaw Analysis:**

**NOT FINAL ALTERNATIVES!!!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No Build Alternative:</th>
<th>Memorial Bridge Closed, Sarah Long Bridge maintained</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge replaced, Sarah Long Bridge rehabilitated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5a.</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge replaced, Sarah Long Bridge replaced on alignment (2-lane)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5b.</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge replaced, Sarah Long Bridge replaced on alignment (4-lane)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6a.</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge replaced, Sarah Long Bridge replaced upstream (2-lane)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6b.</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge replaced, Sarah Long Bridge replaced upstream (4-lane)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge replaced (bicycle/pedestrian only), Sarah Long Bridge replaced on alignment (4-lane)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge replaced (bicycle/pedestrian only), Sarah Long Bridge replaced upstream (4-lane)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge replaced, Sarah Long Bridge replaced upstream with Hybrid</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge replaced (bicycle/pedestrian only), Sarah Long Bridge replaced upstream with Hybrid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge closed, Transit system implemented, Sarah Long Bridge replaced upstream with Hybrid</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Draft Study Report Overview

• Inspection Reports:
  – Detailed look at both Memorial Bridge and Sarah Mildred Long Bridge
  – Resulted in removing all five Memorial Bridge Rehabilitation alternatives from further consideration
  – Basis for Sarah Mildred Long Rehabilitation option that includes replacement of approach spans
Draft Study Report Overview

• Evaluation Criteria and Measures of Effectiveness (MOEs)
  – Major Categories:
    • Structural Improvement
    • Mobility
    • Accessibility
    • Planning Level Costs
    • Historic
    • Natural Environment
    • Physical Environment
    • Environmental Clearances (permitting)
Draft Study Report Overview

• Based on Study data, Study Team dismissed:
  • **No Build Alternative:** Did not meet Purpose and Need
  • **Alternative 5b (MB replace, SL replace (4-lane)**
  • **Alternative 6b (MB replace, SL replace (4-lane upstream)**
    – The two alternatives that combined would have added six total lanes at SL and MB – 6 lanes not needed
  • **Alternative 5a (MB replace, SL replace (2-lane)**
  • **Alternative 7 (MB replace bike/ped, SL replace (4-lane)**
    – The two SL alternatives that were on-alignment
  • **Alternative 8 (MB replace bike/ped, SL replace (4-lane)
    – The SL four-lane alternative in favor of the Hybrid alternative
Draft Study Report Overview

• **Alternatives 10 and 11 dismissed as they:**
  – would not maintain or improve access to downtowns and PNSY
  – would not improve bicycle access across Piscataqua River
  – would not maintain or improve emergency evacuation access across Piscataqua River
  – would preclude future transportation alternatives
  – NH DOT had no funding sources for bicycle/ pedestrian bridges or transit services
  – There was virtually no support for any alternative that did not contain a Memorial Bridge replacement
Draft Study Report Overview

• Three Alternatives Recommended to be Carried Forward
  – Alternative 4: Memorial Bridge Replacement with Sarah Long Rehabilitation
  – Alternative 6a: Memorial Bridge Replacement with Sarah Mildred Long Replacement Upstream
  – Alternative 9: Memorial Bridge Replacement with Sarah Mildred Long 6% Hybrid Replacement Upstream
Alternative 9

DRAFT

SARAH MILDRED LONG BRIDGE
SL2B: HYBRID REPLACEMENT UPSTREAM - 2 TRAVEL LANES

MEMORIAL BRIDGE
MB2: REPLACEMENT - 2 TRAVEL LANES

SARAH MILDRED LONG BRIDGE
REPLACEMENT - 2 TRAVEL LANES WITH RAIL IN RAISED MEDIAN

MEMORIAL BRIDGE
REPLACEMENT - 2 TRAVEL LANES
BRIDGE TYPICAL SECTIONS

FIGURE 35
ALTERNATIVE 9

ME - NH CONNECTIONS STUDY
NOVEMBER 2010

Legend

- Approximate Property Line
- Approaches Out/In Limits
- Existing Improvements
- Traffic Flow Arrows

Scale of Feet

500  0  350  700

HNTB

DOT

MaineDOT
Governors’ Task Force on Funding

• Bi-state task force to identify, evaluate and recommend funding mechanisms for all three bridges (I-95, Sarah, Memorial)

• 3 Members from each State
  – Maine (David Cole, Gerald Conley, Dana Connors)
  – New Hampshire (George Campbell, Beverly Hollingworth, Henry Stebbins)

• Report/recommendations by December 15th

• Update on Task Force Progress
Next Steps

• Remaining alternatives recommended to be separated for independent Section 4(f), Section 106, and NEPA analyses
• NHDOT will take lead on Memorial Bridge
• MaineDOT will take lead on Sarah Long Bridge
• Public process included in both
Next Steps

• Memorial Bridge Replacement
  – Memorial Bridge Replacement only option remaining
  – New Hampshire DOT is responsible for environmental documentation & implementing
  – Design-Build process to construct planned
  – Public Meeting November 23rd in Portsmouth
  – Overview of Schedule and process
  – Question to Robert Landry, NHDOT
Next Steps

• Sarah Mildred Long Process
  – Three options still under consideration
  – MaineDOT responsible for evaluation, environmental documentation & implementation
  – FHWA to determine what level of NEPA documentation required (CE, EA)
  – Overview of Schedule and process
  – Questions to Gerry Audibert, MaineDOT
Next Steps

• Draft Report released – 30 day comment period
• Comments due in writing by December 9th
• Comments to:
  – pgodfrey@hntb.com, or
  Paul Godfrey, HNTB Corporation
  340 County Road, Suite 6-C
  Westbrook, Maine  04092
Questions/Comments
Thank you!!