HUDSON COUNTY / ESSEX COUNTY
Clay Street Bridge Replacement over the Passaic River

Borough of East Newark and City of Newark, New Jersey
Local Preliminary Engineering Phase
Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 1 – July 23, 2025

Online Meeting Guidelines

- This meeting is being recorded for internal project team use only.
- Please keep all phones/mics on mute unless speaking.
- Cameras may be on during introductions and Q&A, but please turn them off during the presentation.
- Questions and comments may be typed into the Chat feature during the presentation.
- During Q&A after presentation, Chat questions and comments will be read aloud in order of receipt, and a Project Team member will respond.
- After Chat questions and comments are addressed, meeting participants can use the Raise Hand feature to ask questions or provide comments for the Project Team to address.

Meeting Agenda

- *Welcome and Introduction*
  - Project Overview & Update
  - Local Project Delivery Process - *Local Preliminary Engineering (LPE) Phase*
- *Clay Street Bridge Replacement over the Passaic River*
  - Project Status and Schedule
  - Preliminary Preferred Alternative – *Proposed Bridge Improvements*
  - LPE Work Effort – *Surveying, Preliminary Design Plans and Proposed Detour Route*
  - Environmental Process – *Categorical Exclusion (CE) Documentation*
  - Community Involvement – *Project Website and Public Outreach Meetings*
- *Discussion*
  - Q & A – Community Input – *Interests, Issues, Improvements*
- *Next Steps and Closing Remarks*
  - Public Outreach:
    - Local Officials Meeting No. 2 – Fall 2025/Winter 2026
    - Public Information Center (PIC) Online – Fall 2025/Winter 2026
  - Completion of LPE Phase Documents & Report
  - Feedback and Closing Remarks
    - Project Website: www.claystbridge.com
    - Project Email: claystbridge@gmail.com

Project Team

Hudson County Division of Engineering

Mark Kataryniak, P.E., County Engineer
Joseph Glembocki, P.E., Assistant County Engineer

Essex County Division of Engineering

Sanjeev Varghese, P.E., P.P., *Public Works Director / County Engineer*
Andres F. Gomez-Ortiz, P.E., *Essex County Supervising Engineer*

Hardesty & Hanover Team

Glen Schetelich, P.E., *Principal in Charge, Hardesty & Hanover*
Bruce Riegel, P.E., *Project Manager, Hardesty & Hanover **
Brian Medino, P.E., *Deputy Project Manager, Hardesty & Hanover **
*Brian Mileo, P.E., Bridge Engineering, Hardesty & Hanover **
Matt Witkowski, P.E., *Traffic Engineer, Hardesty & Hanover*
Sue Quackenbush, PWS, *Environmental Specialist, Davey Resource Group*
Chelsea Mansky, *Principal Senior Architectural Historian, Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc.*
Martine Culbertson, *Community Involvement Facilitator, M.A. Culbertson, LLC **

New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT)

Nabil Ayoub, *Supervising Engineer, Local Aid District 2*
Paul Miranda, *Project Manager, Local Aid District 2*
Sean Warren, *Section Chief, Bureau of Environmental Program Resources*
John Riggi, *Environmental Project Manager, Bureau of Environmental Program Resources*
Harrison MacDowall, *Environmental Specialist, Bureau of Environmental Program Resources*

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA)

Sarbjit Kahlon, *NJTPA Manager, Local Capital Project Delivery*
Rich Brundage, *NJTPA Project Manager*

Opening Remarks

Project Location

Borough of East Newark, Hudson County (*Right*)
City of Newark, Essex County (*Left*)

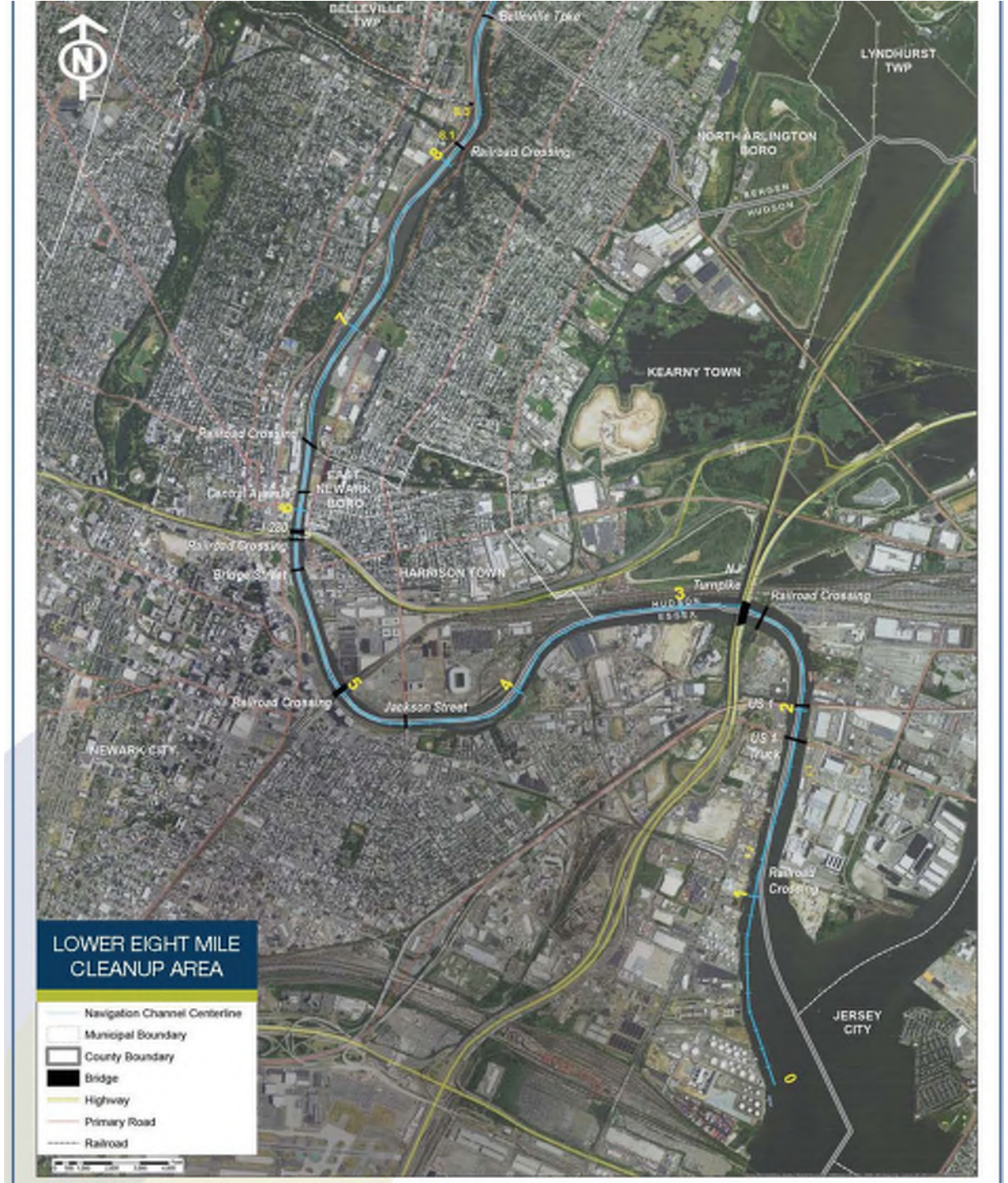
Project Overview and Background

- Built in 1908
- Numerous Rehabilitations since 1942
- Spans the Passaic River Connecting City of Newark & Borough of East Newark
- Co-owned and Maintained by Hudson & Essex County
- In Need of Replacement based on LCD Study
- NJTPA Local Concept Development (LCD) Study Completed in June 2020
- Federally Funded

Clay Street Bridge | Facts and Figures

- Overall Length: 328 Feet
- 3 Spans, Riveted Warren Truss Rim-bearing Swing Center Span (236 Feet)
- Total Bridge Width: 59 ft,11 inch
  - Two 18 ft lanes & two 9 ft sidewalks
- No Shoulders on Bridge
- ADT = 12,747 (2014); Truck % = 4.1
- Bridge Navigational Clearances
  - Vertical (Closed): 8 feet, 2 inches (at MHW)
  - Horizontal: 75 feet

Substandard Angle Point and Lack of Shoulders



Lower Passaic River

Newark Bay to Belleville Turnpike


Clay Street Bridge
Bridge Street Bridge
Google Earth
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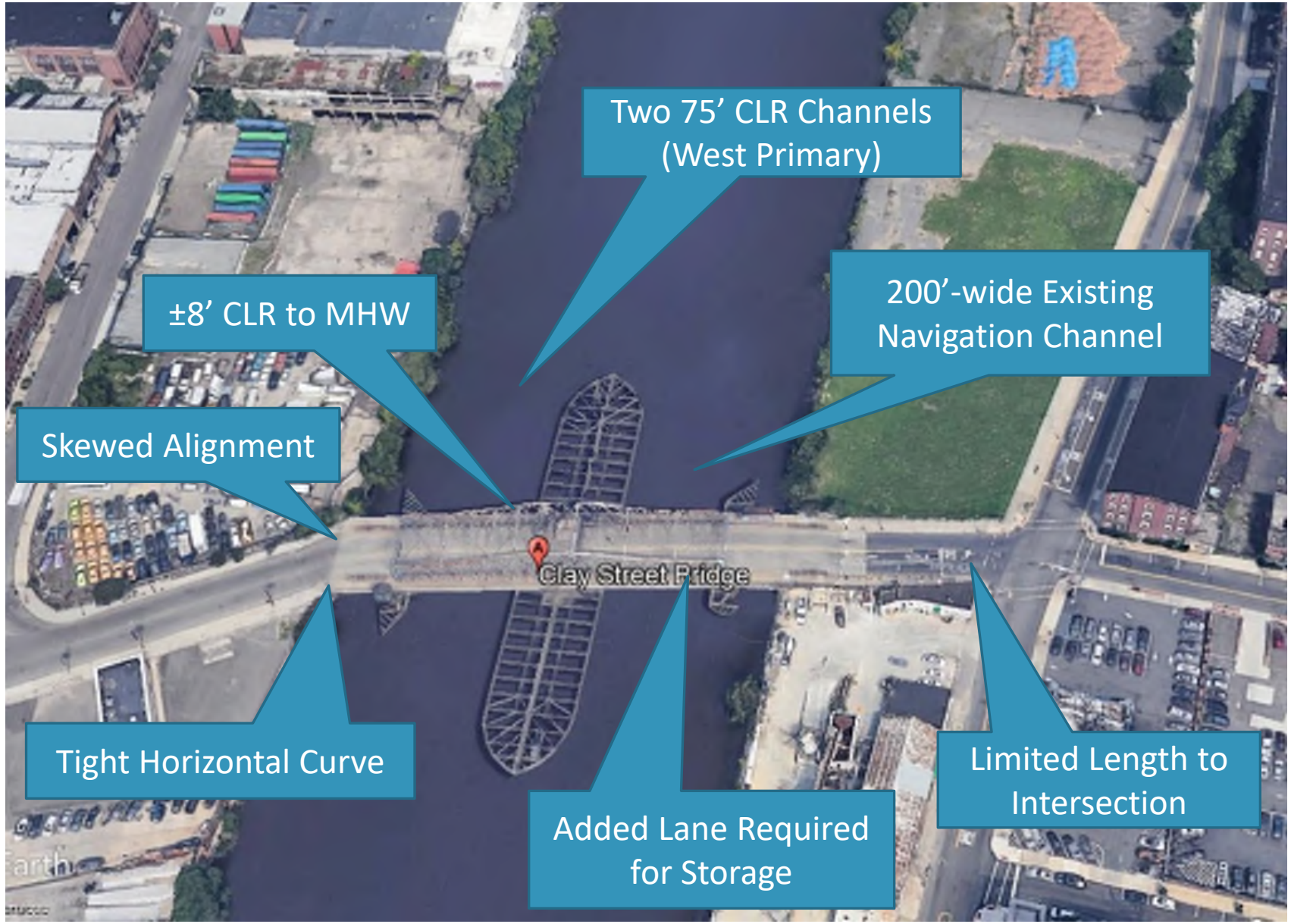


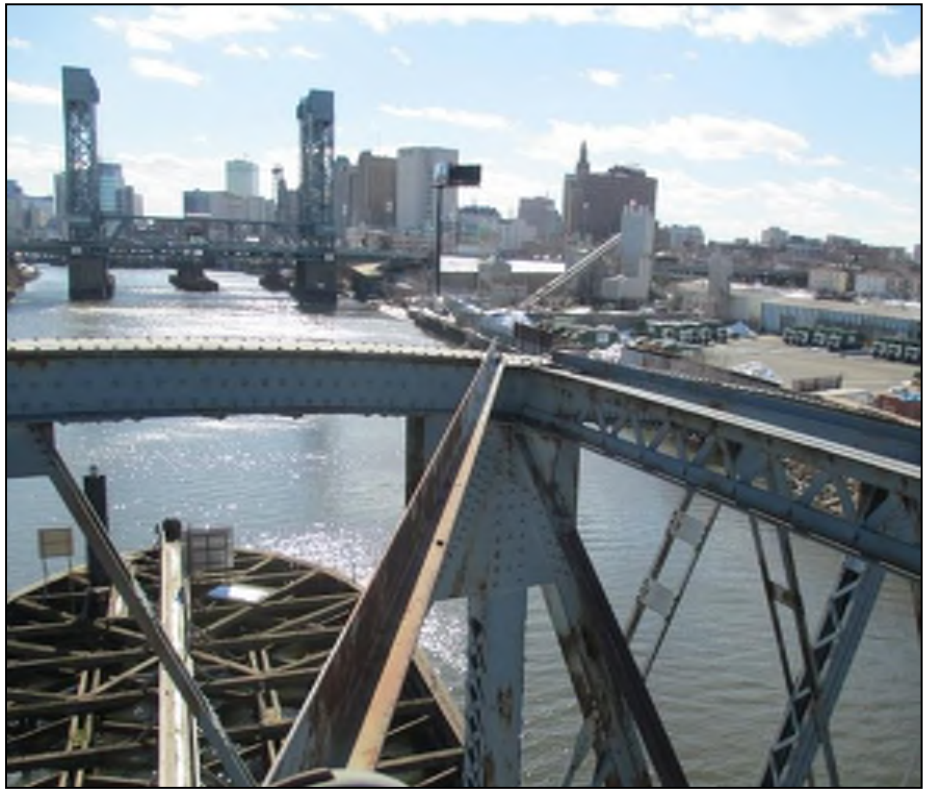
Challenges and Limitations

Navigation Channel

Navigation Channel Impact Report

- Channel Usage
  - Predominantly recreational (R.M. 2.2 – 13.2)
  - Commercial businesses along Newark Bay (R.M. 0.0 - 2.2)
- 18 Feet Minimum Vertical Clearance above MHW
  - Vicinity of Clay Street & Bridge Street Bridges
    - Newark City Fireboats & PVSC Skimmer vessel
  - USCG, July 10, 2019 letter
- Maintain One 75-Foot Channel for Future Navigation
  - USCG, October 3, 2019 e-mail
- 200 Feet Existing Federally Authorized Channel at Clay & Bridge Street Bridges

Deauthorized October 23, 2018



Local Capital Project Delivery Process

Local Concept Development *Completed* *June 2020*	**Local Preliminary Engineering** *Anticipated Completion* *Fall 2025 – Winter 2026*	**Final Design / Right of Way Acquisition** *Anticipated* *Spring 2026 – Spring 2028*	**Construction** *Anticipated* *Fall 2028 – TBD (Bridge Type)*
Purpose and Need Statement	Determine Access & Right of Way Impacts	Construction Contract Documents and PS&E package	Implement Construction
Data Collection and Environmental Screening Report	Cost Estimates (Final Design, ROW & Construction)	Environmental Reevaluations	Create As-Builts
Selection of Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Complete Environmental Documentation	Secure Environmental Permits	Update and Finalize Design Communications Report
NEPA Classification	Establish Project Footprint and Complete Preliminary Design	Acquisition of ROW	Close-out Documentation
Concept Development Report	Preliminary Engineering Plans & Report	Final Utility Relocation Schemes	Continue Public Outreach & Involvement
Initiate Public Outreach & Involvement	Continue Public Outreach & Involvement	Continue Public Outreach & Involvement	

Obtain Permits & ROW
Summer 2026 – Spring 2028

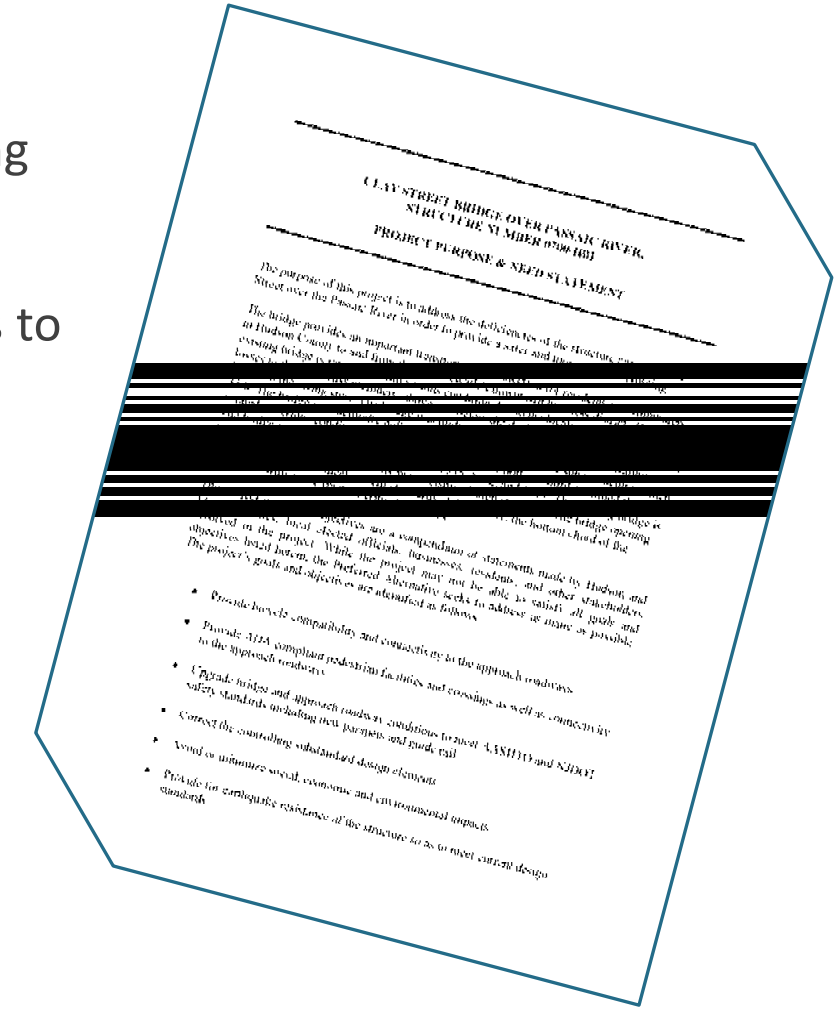
Local Preliminary Engineering Phase – Work Effort

- Development of design level base plans
- Geotechnical studies for foundation and pavement design
- Structural studies to document process and recommend the structure and aesthetic treatments
- Utility discovery and verification
- Environmental studies (Including Section 106 and Section 4(f) evaluation)
- NEPA document (Categorical Exclusion)
- Preliminary drainage design
- Access and right of way impact evaluation
- Development of project cost estimates

Purpose & Need

Purpose & Need Statement

- Purpose
  - Address deficiencies to provide safer and more efficient crossing
- Need
  - Critical transportation connection for residents and commuters to Newark's Downtown Business District
  - Bridge Condition
    - Overall serious condition
    - Sufficiency rating of 33.0
    - Structurally deficient (superstructure – serious condition)
    - Scour critical
    - Seismic design below standards
    - Bottom chords of steel truss are fracture critical members


CLAY STREET BRIDGE OVER PASSAIC RIVER,
STRUCTURE NUMBER 0706 [illegible]
PROJECT PURPOSE & NEED STATEMENT

Goals & Objectives

- Provide Bicycle Compatibility & Connectivity to Approach Roadways
- Provide ADA-compliant Pedestrian Facilities, Crossings & Connectivity to Approach Roadways
- Upgrade Bridge and Approach Roadway Conditions to Meet AASHTO & NJDOT Safety Standards including New Parapets & Guide Rail
- Correct Controlling Substandard Design Elements (CSDE)
- Avoid or Minimize Social, Economic, & Environmental Impacts
- Provide for Earthquake Resistance of Structure to Meet Current Design Standards

Goals & Objectives (cont'd)

- Modernize Mechanical & Electrical Components to Meet Current Standards
- Maintain Traffic Operations and Volume with Minimal Disruption & Delay during Construction
- Maintain Pedestrian and Vehicular Access to Properties during Construction & Minimize Detours
- Address the high rate of vehicular and pedestrian crashes occurring at the Clay Street & Passaic Avenue intersection
- Provide accommodations for current and future users of the Passaic River

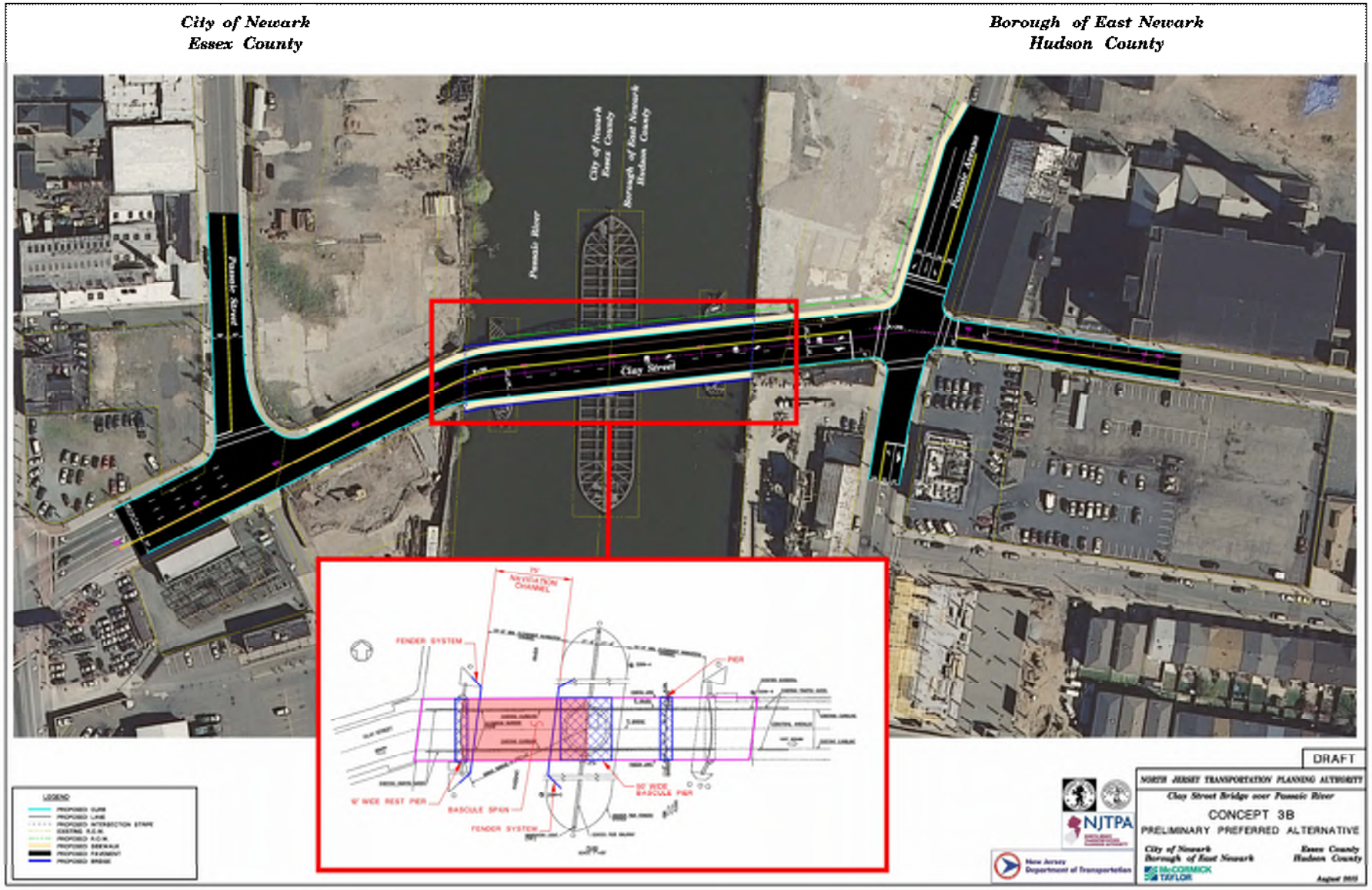
Preferred Preliminary Alternative (Concept 3B) Bridge Replacement

Bridge Replacement & Intersection Improvements (PPA)

- New Bridge
  - Width = 68 feet
  - Two 12-foot eastbound lanes; one 12-foot westbound lane
  - 8-foot sidewalks on both sides
  - 6-foot outside shoulder in each direction
- Passaic Avenue Southbound Approach to Clay Street
  - Addition of an exclusive right turn lane to address high rate of vehicular crashes
  - Construction completed by Hudson County in 2025
- Passaic Avenue & Clay Street Intersection Improvements
  - ADA-compatible curb ramps
  - Pedestrian countdown heads and pushbuttons, crosswalks, etc. to address high rate of pedestrian crashes

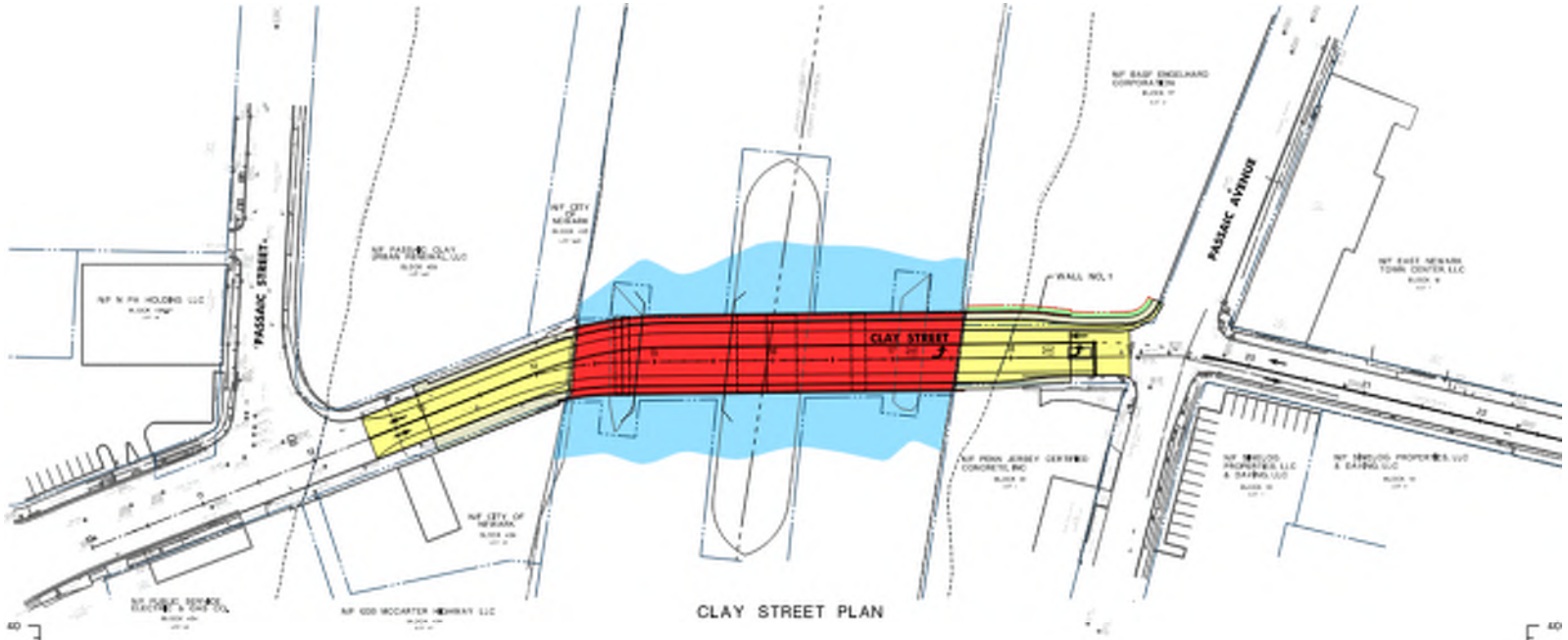
Bridge Replacement & Intersection Improvements (PPA)

- Meets Project Purpose & Need and All Goals and Objectives
- Meets Recommendations from US Coast Guard for Current & Future Users of Passaic River
  - 18-foot clearance over MHW and one 75-foot navigation channel
- Minimal ROW and Environmental Impacts Compared to All Feasible Fixed Bridge Alternatives
- Eliminates Horizontal Curve Radius CSDE
- Supported by Community Stakeholders & General Public
- Resolutions of Support Obtained from City of Newark & Borough of East Newark, Town of Kearny & Town of Harrison, and Essex & Hudson Counties

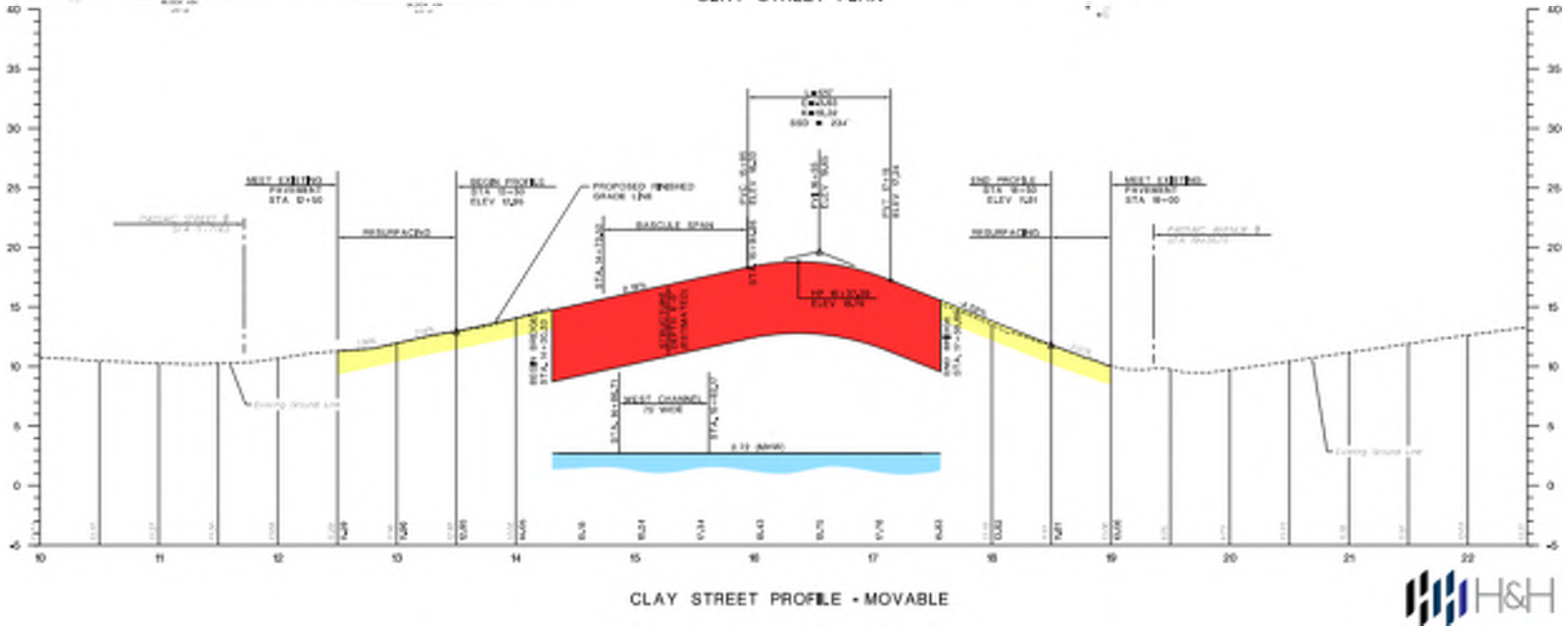


Clay Street Bridge PPA

Clay Street Bridge PE Plan



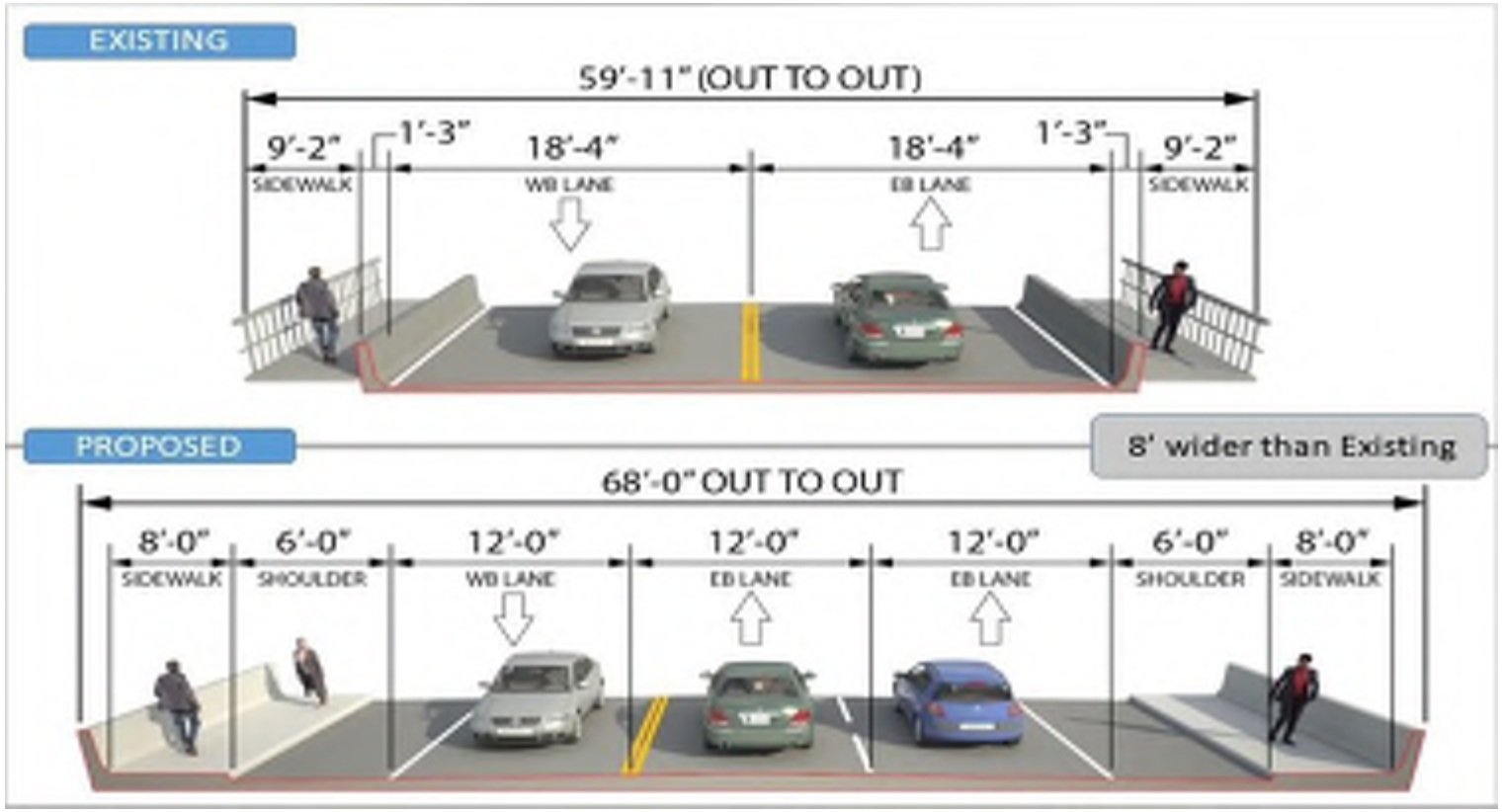
CLAY STREET PLAN



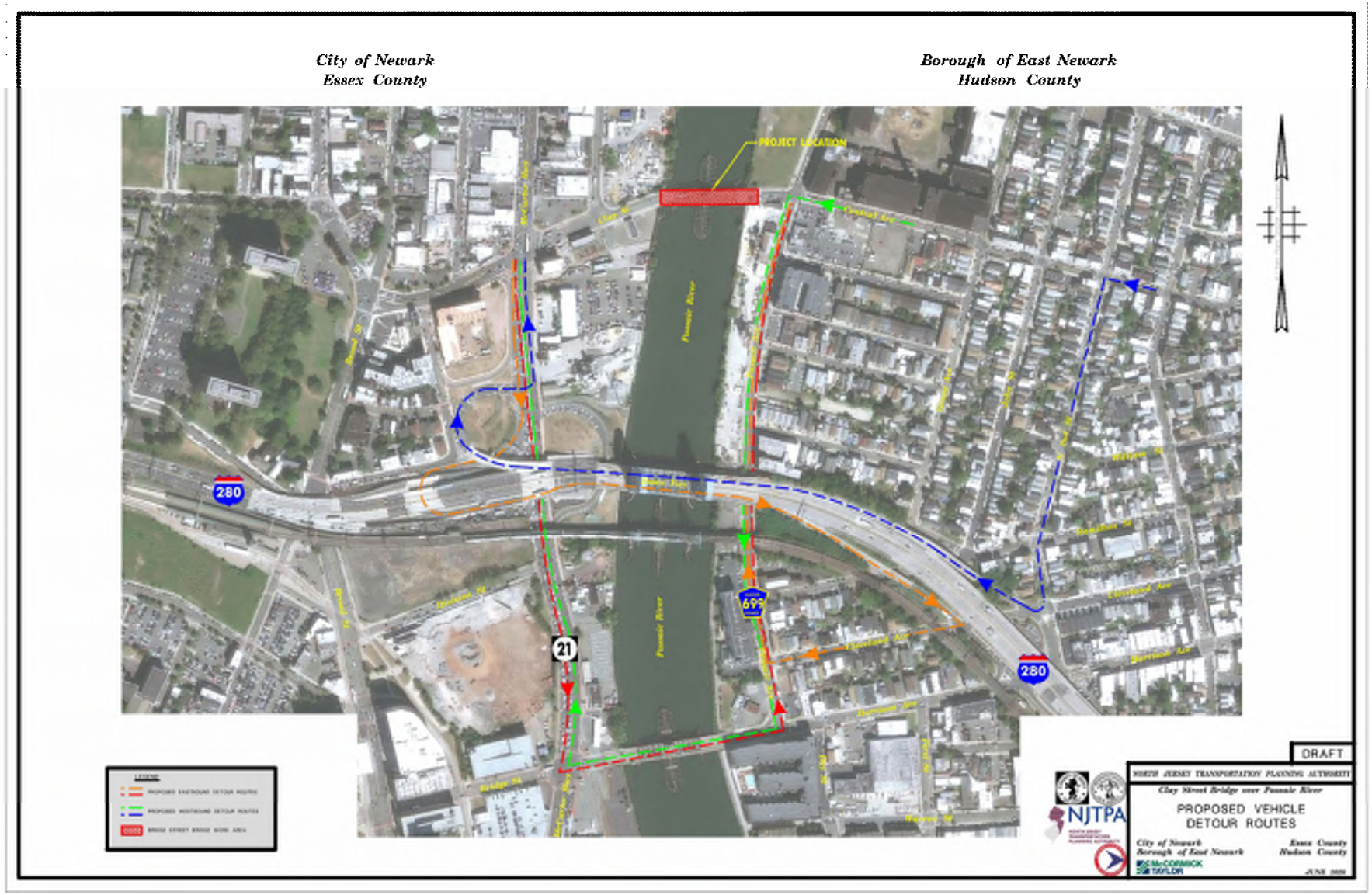
CLAY STREET PROFILE - MOVABLE

LEGEND

BRIDGE	WATER
ROADWAY	GRASS
DRIVEWAY	SIDEWALK
PROPOSED ROW	EXISTING ROW



Roadway Cross Section on Bridge



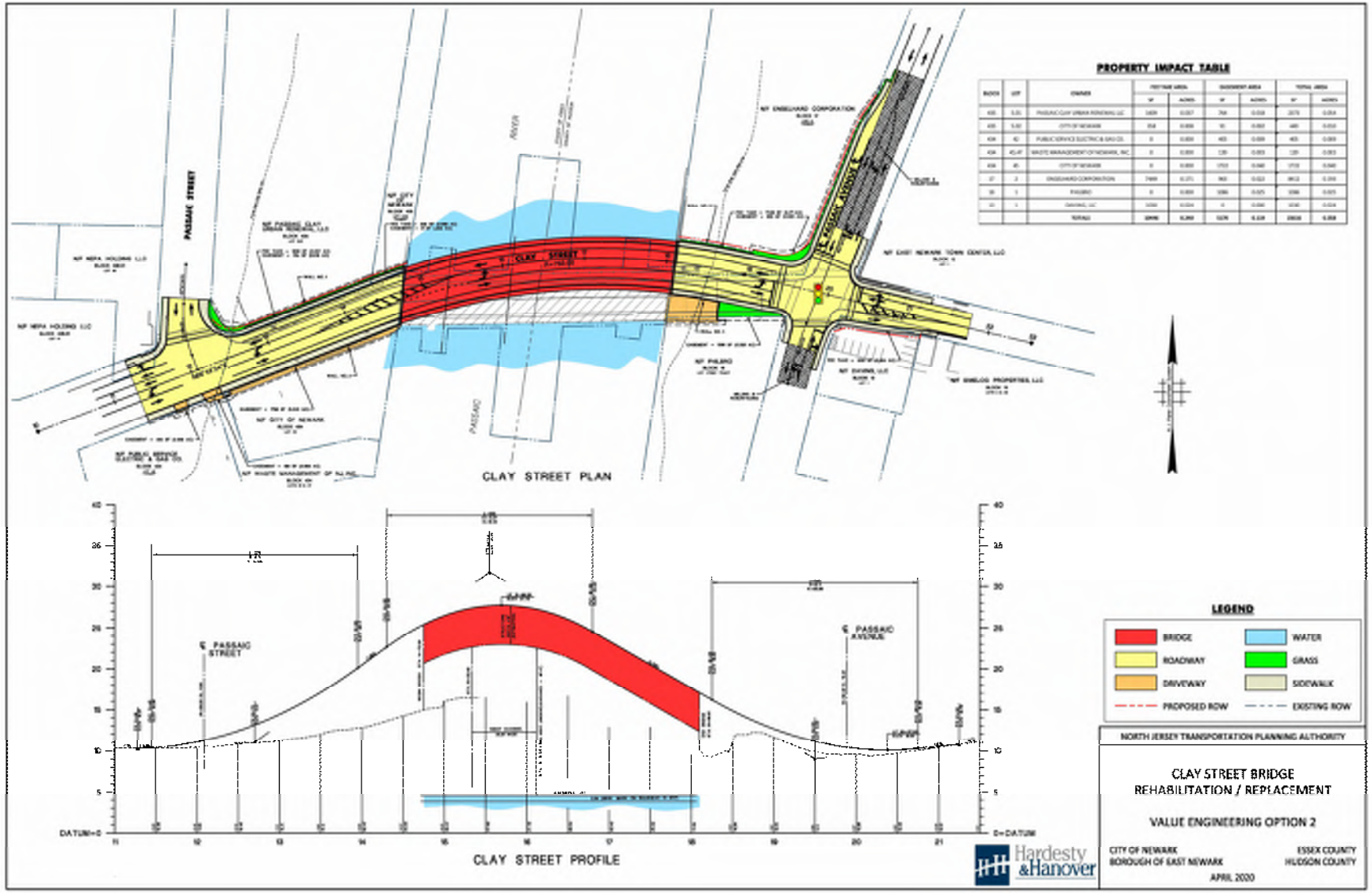
Proposed Detour Route

Estimated PPA Project Cost

Work Activity	Anticipated Cost (M)
Roadway	$ 9.8
Bridge	$81.5
Utilities	$ 0.4
CE/CI	$11.0
Right of Way	$0.05
Escalation & Contingency	$16.3
Total	**$119.1**

Value Engineering Analysis

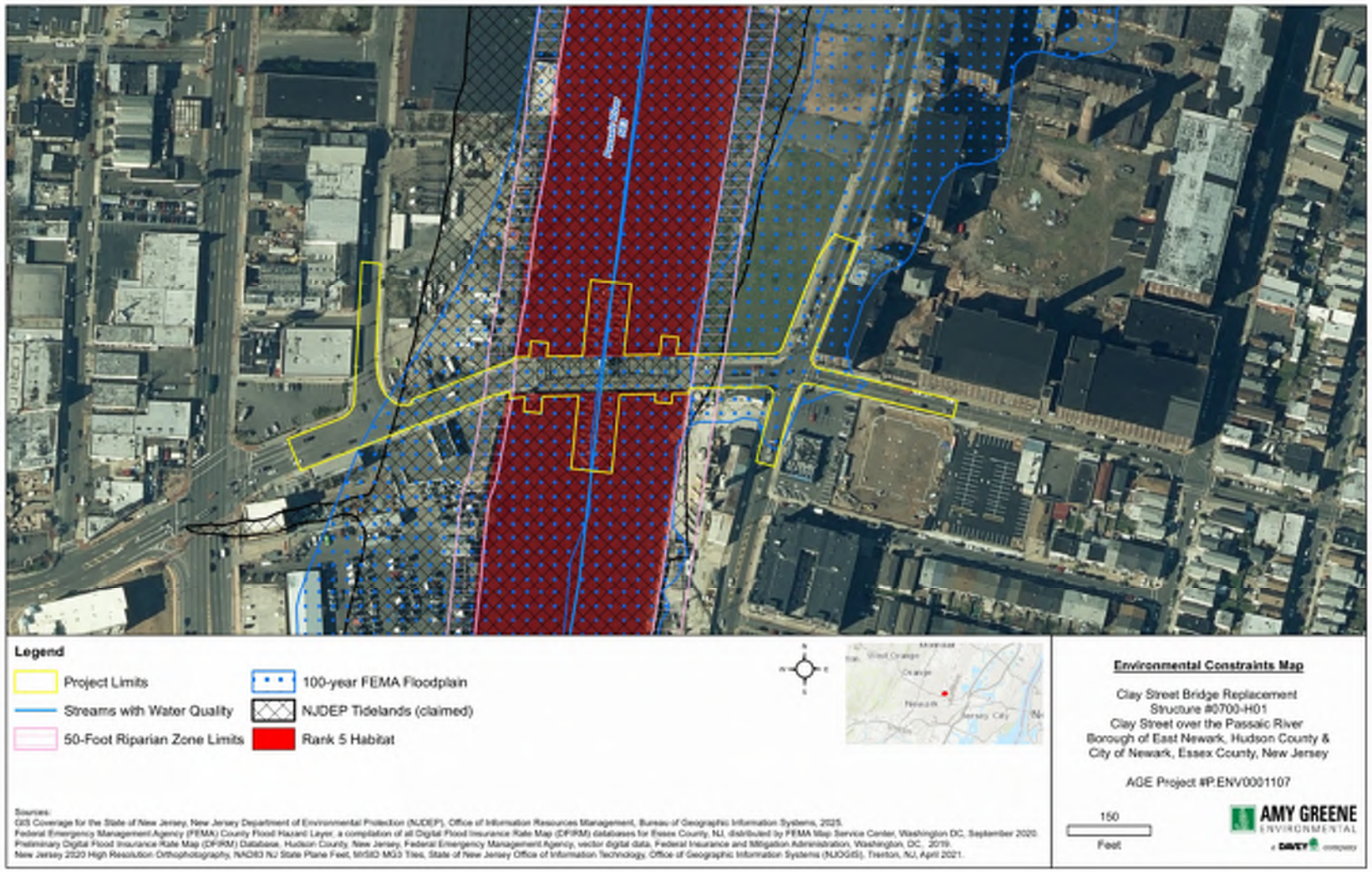
- VE Analysis Completed by NJDOT, December 2019
- Follow-up VE Analysis & Cost Benefit Analysis completed in 2024
  - Upon completion of PE-level survey & subsequent geometric layout
- Evaluate if more prudent for replacement with a fixed span bridge vs. movable bridge on nearly same existing alignment
- Current PPA confirmed for advancement to design and construction



Value Engineering Analysis

Environmental

Environmental Constraints Map



Cultural Resources

- Ongoing coordination with NJHPO for Cultural Resources
- Clay Street Bridge is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as an increasingly rare bridge type (swing span).
- Replacement will have adverse effects on the NRHP-eligible bridge
- Recommended mitigation measures include interpretative signage, HAER documentation of the structure, and archaeological monitoring during construction.

PPA – Environmental Considerations

- Community Support for PPA
- Categorical Exclusions Document (CED) being prepared in the LPE Phase
- Section 106 (Cultural Resources) & Memorandum of Agreement
- Programmatic Section 4 (f)

Community Involvement & Public Outreach

Community Outreach Meetings

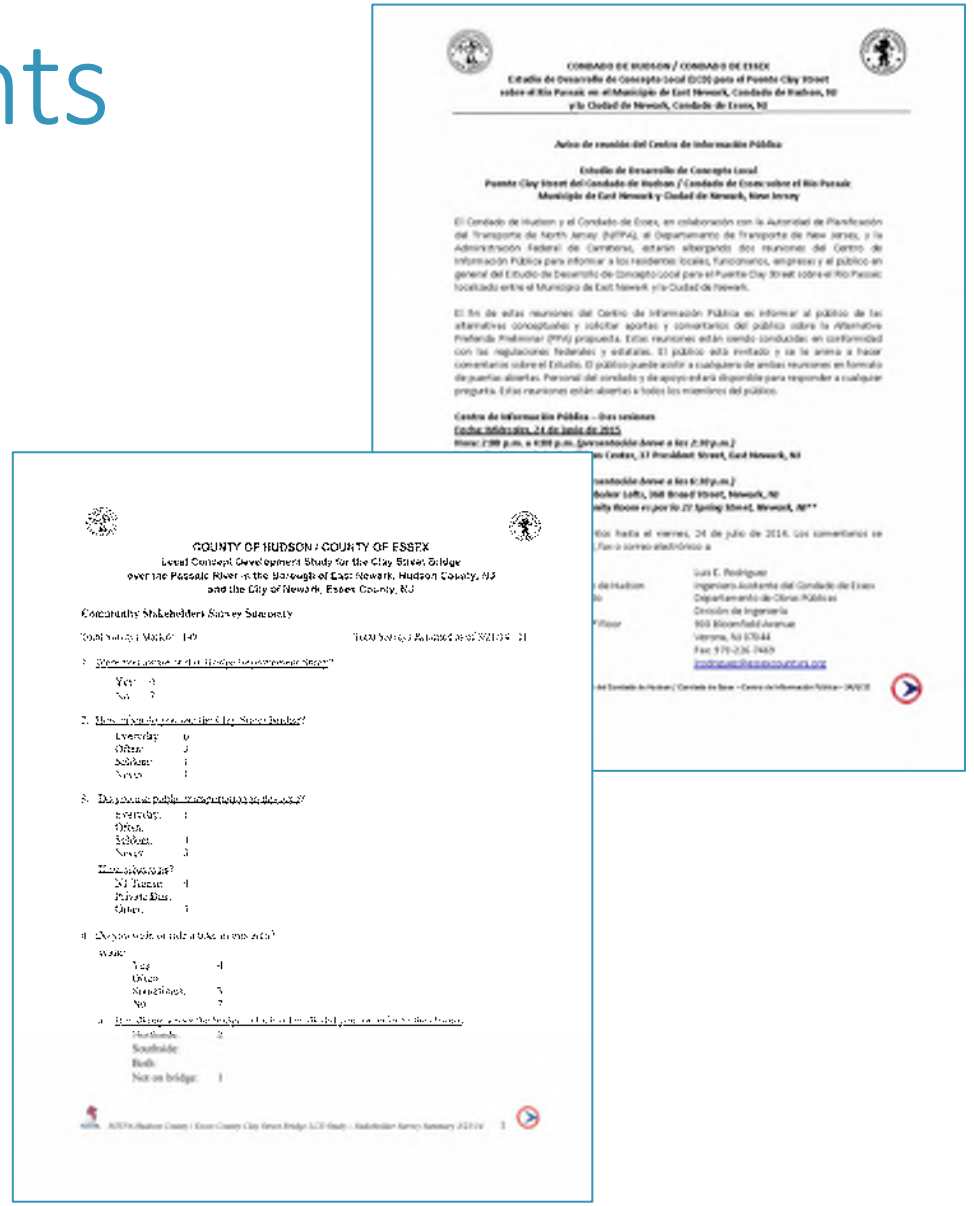
LCD Study Phase

- Local Officials Meeting No. 1
  - Borough of East Newark – January 29, 2014
  - City of Newark – February 26, 2016
- Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 1
  - March 24, 2014
- Public Information Center Meeting No. 1
  - April 7, 2014
- Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 2
  - City of Newark – October 22, 2014
  - Borough of East Newark – November 7, 2014

- Local Officials Meeting No. 2
  - Borough of East Newark & City of Newark – June 4, 2015
- Public Information Center Meeting No. 2
  - June 24, 2015

LCD Phase Public Comments

- Vital Link Between Communities on Both Sides of River
- Clay Street & Bridge Street Bridges Cannot be Closed at the Same Time
- Maintain & Improve Pedestrian & Bicycle Access and Connectivity
- Widen Bridge for Addition of Outside Shoulders & Left Turn Lane
- Expand Riverfront Access
- Improve Access to Clay Street for Redevelopment Opportunities



COUNTY OF HUDSON / COUNTY OF ESSEX

Local Concept Development Study for the Clay Street Bridge
over the Passaic River in the Borough of East Newark, Hudson County, NJ
and the City of Newark, Essex County, NJ

Community Stakeholders Survey Summary

Community Outreach for LPE Phase

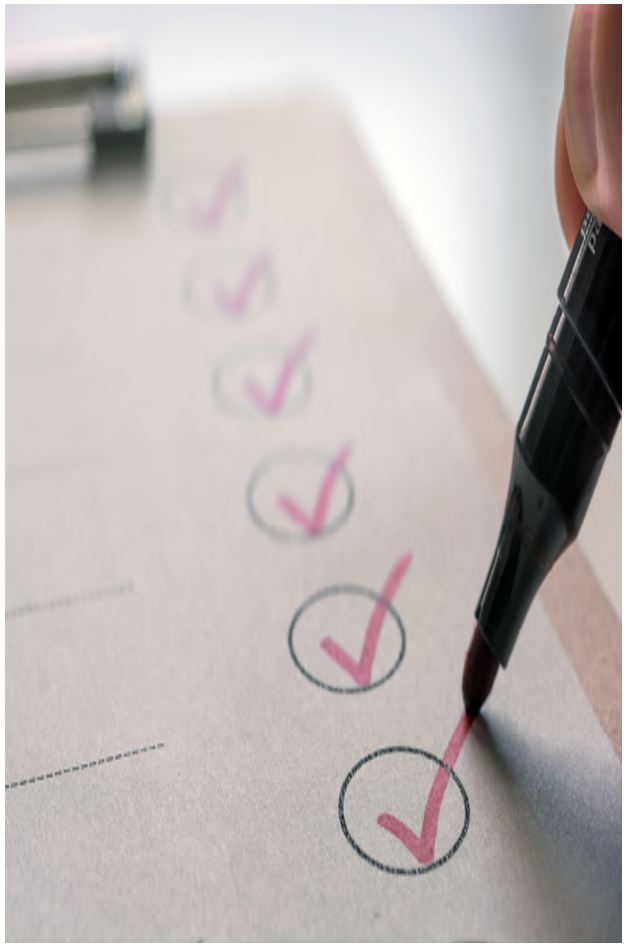
- Access Notification/LPE Introduction Letter Mailing – January 12, 2024
- Local Officials Meeting No. 1 – January 17, 2024, *Online*
- Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 1 – July 23, 2025, *Online*
- Public Information Center Meeting – TBD Fall 2025/Winter 2026, *Online*
- Project Website: www.claystbridge.com
- Project Email Address: claystbridge@gmail.com

Community Input – Discussion

- Q&A
- Comments
- Feedback

Next Steps

- Local Officials Meeting No. 2 – Fall 2025/Winter 2026
- Public Information Center (PIC) Meeting – Fall 2025/Winter 2026
- Completion of Environmental Documentation – Categorical Exclusion Document (CED)
- Preparation of Local Preliminary Engineering (LPE) Report
- Intra-agency Review Committee (IRC) meeting to concur on project advancement to Final Design Phase



Closing Remarks

- For information: www.claystbridge.com
- Submit questions or comments: claystbridge@gmail.com

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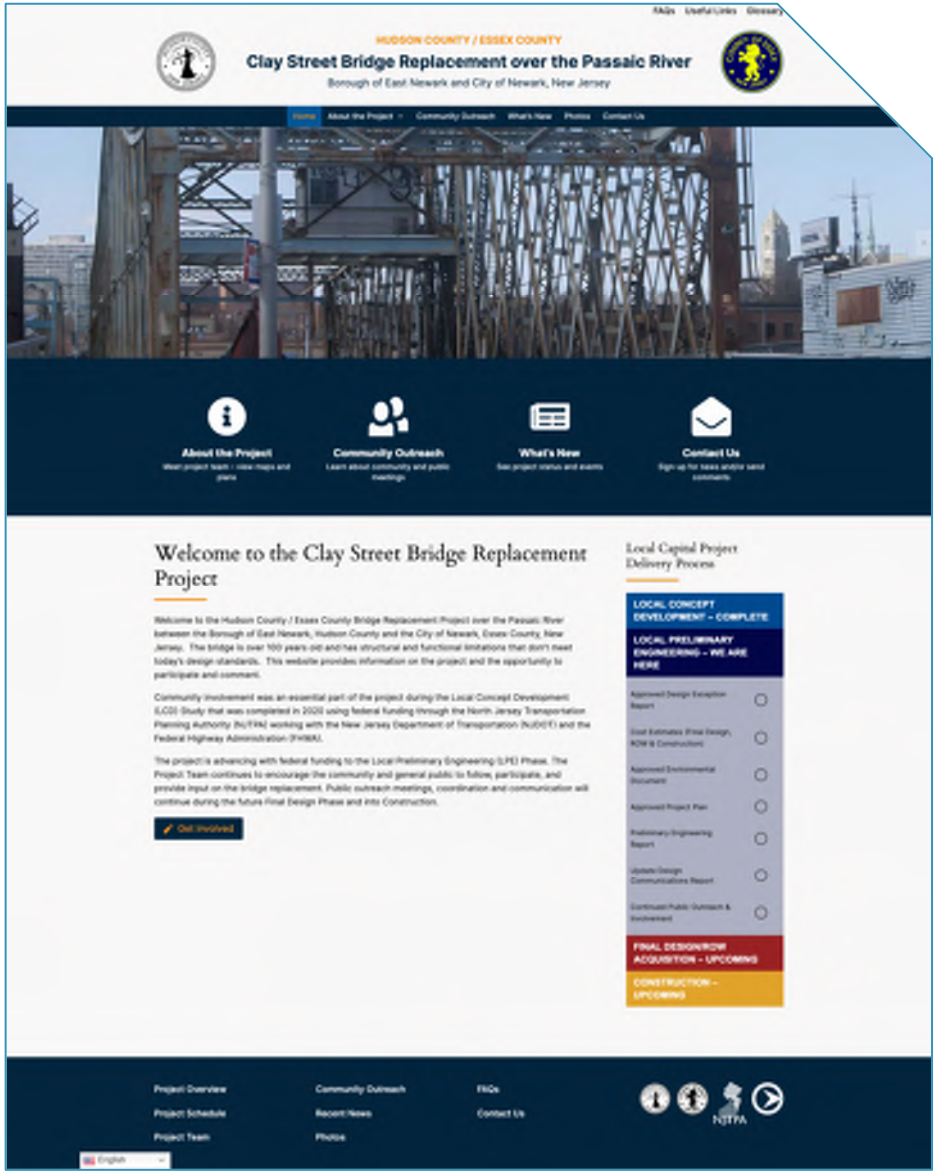

Thank You!