# FINAL ENVIRÖNMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT 

 Section 4(f) Evaluation
## I-695: BALTIMORE BELTWAY 1-70 to MD Route 170

## MD 295: BALTIMORE WASHINGTON EXPRESSWAY

 MD Rte. 46/l-195 to the Baltimore City Line

Prepared by
US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION REPORT NUMBER:
FHWA-MD-EIS-88-03-F
and
MD DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION CONTRACT NUMBER:
AW-758-151-072

REPORT NUMBER: FHWA-MD-EIS-88-03-F REGION III

I-695: BALTIMORE BELTWAY
from I-70 to Md. Route 170
MD ROUTE 295: BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON EXPRESSWAY from Md. Route 46/I-195 to the Baltimore City Line

## FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT SECTION $4(f)$ EVALUATION

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

AND
STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
COOPERATING AGENCY - USS. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
Submitted Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4332 (2) (C) 23 C.F.R. 771, and 49 U.S.C. 303

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Date

The purpose of this project is to accommodate increases in traffic volumes along both I-695 and Maryland Route 295 and to enhance traffic operations and safety. This purpose is to be achieved by adding a fourth lane to 9.0 miles of the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) and a third lane to 4.1 miles of the Baltimore-Washington Expressway (Maryland Route 295), and by modifying three existing interchanges. These improvements are designed to increase traffic capacity, improve safety conditions and enhance traffic operations.

A No-Build Alternate and Build Alternate, with Options, were considered and presented in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (May 1988) and were presented at the Combined Location/Design Public Hearing (June 22, 1988). The Selected Action proposes mainline widening, with minor interchange ramp adjustments necessary to accommodate the widened Beltway. Three Interchange Options will provide for revisions to existing ramps or additional lanes to improve the operation of the I-70, Hollins Ferry Road and Maryland Route 295 interchanges.
SUMMARY

## SUMMARY

## 1. Administrative Action

(Federal Highway Administration)
( ) Draft Environmental Impact Statement
(X) Final Environmental Impact Statement
(X) Section $4(f)$ Evaluation

## 2. Informational contacts

Additional information concerning this action may be obtained by contacting:

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## 3. Description of proposed Action

The purpose of this project is to accommodate projected increases in traffic volumes along both $I-695$ and Maryland Route 295 and to enhance traffic operations and safety. This purpose is to be achieved by widening 9.0 miles of the Baltimore Beltway (I695) and 4.1 miles of the Baltimore-Washington Expressway (Maryland Route 295), and modifying three existing interchanges. These improvements are designed to increase traffic capacity, improve safety conditions and enhance traffic operations (see Figure S-1).

The Selected Action involves adding one lane in each direction to I-695 and Maryland Route 295. Along I-695, this would generally involve adding a fourth lane to the outside of the existing three lanes except in two locations. Along $I-695$ between I-95 and U.S. Route 40 the existing northbound roadway is four lanes. Therefore the additional lane of the Selected Action would provide a fifth lane. In the section between $I-95$ and Wilkens Avenue, the Selected Action involves adding two lanes to the outside of the existing roadway in order to improve the $1-95$ interchange operation. Along Maryland Route 295 the additional lane would be a third lane, added in the median to the existing two lanes.

The Selected Action also involves the modification of ramps within the $I-695$ interchanges at $I-70$, Hollins Ferry Road and Maryland Route 295.

The northern limit of this study along I-695 was extended to include the $1-70$ interchange after the approval of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The additional impacts associated with the improvements proposed at this interchange are relatively minor and therefore a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Improvements to I-695 and Maryland Route 295 are consistent with goals of Baltimore County and Anne Arundel County. This project is listed in the "Development and Evaluation Program" of the 1990-1995 Consolidated Transportation Program of the Maryland State Highway Administration.

## 4. Alternates Considered

Alternates were presented to the public during the Alternates Public Meeting held November 26, 1985 and during the Combined Location/Design Public Hearing held June 22, 1988. The State Highway Administration's planning process, including coordination with the community and elected officials, has resulted in the selection of proposed improvements. The Selected Action is presented in detail in section II of this document.

## Alternate 1: No-Build

The No-Build Alternate would provide no major improvement or increases in capacity along the study segments of I-695 or Maryland Route 295. Improvements to I-695, Maryland Route 295 and their interchanges such as bridge deck replacement and resurfacing, would occur as part of normal highway maintenance and safety operations and would be provided where required within the existing highway right-of-way. Improvements currently programmed or under construction have been considered as part of the No-Build.

## Alternate 2: Mainline Widening

This Alternate proposes the addition of one travel lane and a shoulder in each direction to the outside of existing I-695 and in the median of Maryland Route 295. Bridge widening and/or reconstruction and the provision of retaining walls to minimize right-of-way acquisition would be required. This alternate would require ramp adjustments at each interchange along I-695 to tie into the additional mainline lane. Major reconfiguration of the existing interchanges was not proposed.

The proposed Interchange Options were developed in order to be combined with alternates on an interchange by interchange basis. Interchange Options 1,2 and 3 would provide interchange modifications based on examination of the safety and capacity constraints along I-695. Interchange options were proposed at the following I695 interchanges: U.S. Route 40, Edmondson Avenue (two options), Frederick Road, Wilkens Avenue, Hollins Ferry Road, and Nursery Road/Maryland Route 295 (three options).


Interchange Option 1 proposed a Collector-Distributor (C-D) road system at U.S. Route 40 and at Maryland Route 295, ramp relocations at Wilkens Avenue and Hollins Ferry Road, and mainline adjustments at Edmondson Avenue and Frederick Road. The improvements associated with these modifications required limited amounts of right-of-way.

Interchange Option 2 proposed a fly-over ramp from Maryland Route 295 to I-695, generally in a southern direction. This modified configuration would be compatible with the interchange movements providing direct access from northern Anne Arundel County to the City. At the Edmondson Avenue interchange, a second option proposed the relocation of Ramp $D$ on a separate structure parallel to the mainline facility.

Interchange option 3 utilized a portion of I-895 to allow City-bound traffic from northern Anne Arundel County to use I-895. Ramps were proposed at the I-895 'Y' split interchange and the I895/Maryland Route 295 interchange.

## 5. Selected Action

Following review of public and agency comments, the following Alternates/Options were selected: Alternate 2 - mainline widening on I-695 and Maryland Route 295; improvements at the I-70 interchange; Interchange Option B at the Hollins Ferry Road interchange; and Option 1 - reduced grading section on Maryland Route 295. The reasons for these selections are as follows (see section II for more details):

- The Build Alternate was chosen along I-695 because the No-Build Alternate would not alleviate chronic traffic congestion and safety problems. The Build Alternate increases the existing capacity by adding a fourth lane in each direction on the Beltway and a third lane in each direction on Maryland Route 295.
- The Build alternate would involve minor ramp adjustments at each of the interchanges, primarily in the ramp gore areas to accommodate the widening. At Frederick Road, Ramp $F$ would be realigned directly across from Ramp $E$ to allow for future signalization.
- The build alternate would involve adding a fifth lane along the southbound roadway between Hollins Ferry Road and Maryland Route 295. This will provide additional capacity for interchanging movements along the facility. This option was studied following the Combined Location/Design Public Hearing.
- Along Maryland Route 295, Option 1 was chosen because it retains the integrity of the parkway-type facility.
- Improvements at the I-70 interchange would consist of a ramp relocation combined with repaving and restriping in the southbound direction. Repaving and restriping in the northbound direction would also be done. These, improvements were studied following the Combined Location/Design Public Hearing.
- Option B was chosen at the Hollins Ferry Road interchange because it does not affect the railroad structure over the Beltway and allows continued operation of the on-ramp from I-895. This option was one of four studied following the Combined Location/Design Public Hearing.


## 6. Environmental Impacts

The major concern of the residents in the communities within the Study Area is the impact of highway noise. The SHA has several noise barrier projects (identified as Type II, Retrofit) completed or in the design phase. These projects address the noise generated by current traffic conditions. Noise levels as a result of the widening project have been predicted by evaluating the traffic conditions which would occur in the 2015 design year. The noise analysis indicates that there would be some areas for which noise abatement criteria would be exceeded under selected Action conditions. Based on the noise analysis study completed to date, SHA has determined that noise abatement measures in the form of barriers at NSAs $A, B, D, E, F, H, H H, I I, L, S, V, W$, and $Z$ are considered reasonable and feasible. A final decision on implementation of abatement measures will be made during the design phase of the project.

The Selected Action would not adversely affect the socioeconomic character of the Study Area. The established communities along the Beltway and Maryland Route 295 would not be divided, nor would their pedestrian or vehicular access be modified. There would be no violations of State or national ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide with the Selected Action.

The level of traffic service would be improved with the increase in capacity provided by the additional lanes constructed with the Selected Action. In addition, the accident rate and cost associated with accidents would decrease with the Selected Action.

The three historic sites, which are National Register Eligible (NRE), and two archaeological sites located in the Study Area would not be impacted by the selected Action.

## 7. Section 4(f) Impacts

The Selected Action for the widening of I-695 and Maryland Route 295 would affect one Section 4 (f) resource. Impacts to this resource consist of 0.13 acres, primarily used for parking for a school facility (Maiden Choice Center). The investigation of avoidance and mitigation has shown that there is acceptable replacement due to the loss of access and parking spaces directly on the school site. Through coordination with Baltimore County Public Schools this issue has been resolved.

## 8. Permits Required

Construction of this project would require review and approval for the following permits:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Maryland Department of the Environment
Water Quality Certificate
Maryland Department of Environment
Stormwater Management Plan and Sediment Control Plan
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Waterway Construction Permit
9. Summary of Impacts

Table $S-1$ compares impacts associated with the No-Build Alternate and the Selected Action.

I-695: From I-70 to Maryland Route 170 ( 9.0 miles)
MD 295: From Maryland Rte. 46/I-195 to the Baltimore City Line (4.1 miles)


TABLE S-1: COMPARISON OF ALTERNATES (2 OF 3)

| I-695: From I-70 to Maryland Route 170 ( 9.0 miles) <br> MD 295: From Maryland Route $46 / I-195$ to the Baltimore city Line <br>  (4.1 miles) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Comparison Factor <br> (and Section IV references) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Alt. } 1 \\ \text { No-Build } \end{gathered}$ | Selected Action |
| Traffic (Section IV-C) <br> a. I-695: South of U.S. Route 40 <br> AM Northbound <br> AM Southbound <br> PM Northbound <br> PM Southbound | 2015 <br> Peak Hour | 2015  <br> Peak Hour  |
| b. Maryland Route 295: South of I-695 <br> AM Northbound <br> AM Southbound <br> PM Northbound <br> PM Southbound | 3,200 E <br> 5,200 F <br>   <br> 5,200 F <br> 3,100 D | 3,200 B <br> 5,200 D <br> 5,200 D <br> 3,100 B |
| Safety operations (Section IV-C) <br> Anticipated degree of highway safety provided to the motorists | Less than desirable | Improved |
| Streams (Section IV-D.3) <br> 1. Linear Feet of Permanent Stream Relocation <br> 2. New Stream Crossings | $0$ |  |
| Wetlands (Section IV-D.5) <br> Acres of wetland taken (non-tidal) | 0 | 0.065 Ac. |
| Floodplains (Section IV-D.6) <br> Acres of encroachment onto 100-year floodplain | 0 | 0 |


| TABLE S-1: COMPARISON OF ALTERNATES (3 OF 3) <br> I-695: From I-70 to Maryland Route 170 ( 9.0 miles) <br> MD 295: From Maryland Route $46 / \mathrm{I}-195$ to Baltimore City Line (4.1 miles) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Comparison Factor <br> (and section IV references) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Alt. } 1 \\ \text { No-Build } \end{gathered}$ | Selected Action |
| Woodlands (Section IV-D.8) Acres of woodland required | 0 | 0 |
| Parklands/Recreation (Section IV-D.10) <br> Impacts to Maiden Choice Center <br> - School | 0 | 0.13 Ac. |
| Farmland (Section IV-D.2) <br> 1. Farms displaced <br> 2. Agricultural land required (acres) <br> 3. Prime farmland soils required (acres) | 0 | $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \end{aligned}$ |
| Impacts to Historical \& Archaeological sites (Section IV-G) <br> 1. Impacts to historic sites on or eligible for National Register <br> 2. Impacts to archaeological sites | None <br> 0 | None <br> 0 |
| Construction Costs (Millions 1991 S) <br> 1. Engineering <br> 2. Right-of-Way/Relocation <br> 3. Highways \& Structures <br> TOTAL . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 0 <br> 0 <br> 0 <br> None | $\begin{gathered} \$ 18.6 \mathrm{M} \\ 1.9 \\ \underline{235.7} \\ \$ 256.2 \mathrm{M} \end{gathered}$ |

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SECTION I
purpose and need

## I. PURPOSE AND NEED

## A. PROJECT LOCATION

This project encompasses the southwestern portion of the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) and portions of I-95, Maryland Route 295 and I-895 in the vicinity of the Beltway. The Baltimore Beltway carries high volumes of commuter traffic, as well as high truck volumes, and encircles Baltimore City. Mainline sections vary from two to four lanes per direction (see Figure I-1). The portion of I-695 in the Study Area is located in southwestern Baltimore and northern Anne Arundel Counties.

The portion of I-95 in the Study Area provides four lanes of traffic in each direction and a directional interchange with the Beltway. I-95 carries interstate traffic along the northeast corridor between Maine and Florida. The Ft. McHenry Tunnel provides a connection for I-95 through Baltimore City.

Maryland Route 295 provides a direct link between Baltimore and Washington, D.C., and also provides access to Maryland Route 46/I-195, the major connection between I-95 and the BaltimoreWashington International (BWI) Airport. Maryland Route 46/I-195 is used by Baltimore and Washington, D.C. area commuters to access employment facilities in the growing BWI business vicinity, as well as the airport. In the Maryland Route 295 Study Area, located in northern Anne Arundel County and southwestern Baltimore County, the existing facility consists of two travel lanes per direction. A third lane has been added between the Baltimore City Line and Hammonds Ferry Road in the southbound direction only. The existing Maryland Route 295 transitions in the northern portion of the project to a six-lane section and in the City to Russell Street, a major Baltimore City arterial. Trucks are prohibited on Maryland Route 295 south of Maryland Route 176, but are not restricted within the Study Area.

Discussion of this project within this document has oriented the Baltimore Beltway and Maryland Route 295 in a north/south direction. References to the inner and outer loops of the Beltway refer to the northbound and southbound roadways, respectively.

## B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This document evaluates improvement alternatives for I-695 and Maryland Route 295. As discussed in Section II-B, the existing highways have full control of access. Several of the interchange ramps and several mainline sections experience accident rates which exceed the statewide average rate, as designated by SHA Bureau of Accident Statistics. Future growth will increase traffic volumes, causing further increases in traffic congestion and deterioration and accident rates.

The Baltimore Beltway, crossing through Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties, is one of the most important highways in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area. In addition to regional transportation of goods and services, the circumferential highway is an important commuter route. The Study Area portion of I-695 provides connections between I-70 on the north and I-95, I-895 and Maryland Route 295, as well as I-97, Maryland Route 10 and the Francis Scott Key Bridge to the south and east.

The I-695 study limits (see Figure I-2) extend in a southeastern direction from the $I-70$ interchange to just west of Maryland Route 170. There are a total of twelve interchanges within the I-695 study limits. I-695 is currently three lanes in each direction, separated by a concrete median barrier, with a fourth climbing lane provided in the northbound direction between I-95 and U.S. Route 40. Trucks are restricted from the inner two lanes along the northbound roadway in this four-lane section. The fourth lane drops at the ramp to $I-70$.

Freeway-to-freeway interchange connections are located along I-695 at I-70, I-95, I-895 and Maryland Route 295. The land use adjacent to $I-695$ between I-70 and I-95 is residential, whereas the section between I-95 and Maryland Route 295 is industrial. This difference in land use is reflected in the percent of truck traffic during the design hour in the two segments:

## I-695 Seqment

\% Trucks
U.S. Route 40 to I-95 (design hour) I-95 to Maryland Route 170

Evaluation of improvements to the southwestern portion of the Beltway begin in the vicinity of the I-70 directional interchange. In this portion of the Study Area, I-695 passes through the residential communities of Westview Park, Edmondson Ridge, Dunmore Estates, Catonsville, Paradise and Arbutus. Access to the Beltway is provided at U.S. Route 40 by a full cloverleaf interchange; at Edmondson Avenue by a partial diamond interchange; at Frederick Road (Maryland Route 144) by a full diamond interchange; at Wilkens Avenue (Maryland Route 372) by a partial cloverleaf interchange; and at Leeds Avenue/Southwestern Boulevard (US Route 1) by a halfdiamond interchange.

The I-695/I-95 interchange is a fully directional interchange* except for one loop ramp (which provides for movement from northbound I-695 to southbound I-95). At three locations within the interchange, the merging of two ramps, prior to the merge with the mainline of I-695 or I-95, results in conflicts due to high traffic volumes.

* All movements are high speed and free flowing, with no weaving sections.



South of I-95, the Beltway crosses through a more industrialized area, beginning at Washington Boulevard (U.S. Route 1 Alternate), where the interchange provides six of the eight possible ramp movements. The Beltway is crossed by the mainline of the Baltimore and Ohio (CSX) Railroad ( 89 trains per day, both freight and commuter) ; Hollins Ferry Road (Maryland Route 891), with a partial-cloverleaf interchange; and the Harbor Tunnel Thruway (I-895), with a partial interchange. The Beltway crosses the Patapsco Valley State Park and the Patapsco River, which is also the boundary between Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties.

The Anne Arundel County portion of this study along I-695 includes two interchanges. The Nursery Road interchange is offset, and the four ramps access secondary roads prior to Nursery Road (Fairview Avenue to the east and Hammonds Ferry Road to the west). The Maryland Route 295 full cloverleaf interchange is adjacent to industrial development on the northern half of the interchange and residential development, close to the existing highway right-ofway, in the southern half of the interchange. Overlook Park is adjacent to the northbound Beltway roadway in North Linthicum. The southern boundary of this study joins I-97, which will provide five lanes in the northbound and southbound directions to the new I-695/I-97 interchange. The southern study limit of this project lies just north of the Maryland Route 170 interchange.

Maryland Route 295 - Baltimore-Washington Expressway
Maryland Route 295 is a four-lane expressway between Washington D.C. and Baltimore, with a transition to six lanes at the Baltimore City line, where Russell Street begins. A portion of the southbound roadway has also been widened between the City Line and just south of the bridge at Hammonds Ferry Road. Partially maintained by the National Park Service, the section of Maryland Route 295 in the Study Area is under the jurisdiction of the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA). A new full interchange at Maryland Route $46 / I-195$ has been completed since this study began. This is the southern limit of the Baltimore-Washington Expressway portion of the project. The divided highway is currently crossed by West Nursery Road, Hammonds Ferry Road, I-695, Nursery Road, the Patapsco River, the Harbor Tunnel Thruway (I-895) and the Baltimore Highlands pedestrian overpass (see Figure I-3). A full cloverleaf interchange is provided at I-695/Maryland Route 295; partial access is provided at the Maryland Route 295 crossing of the Harbor Tunnel Thruway and full access is provided at W. Nursery Road.

## I-95 - From South of I-695 to Baltimore City Line

I-95 is an interstate highway which extends along the east coast of the United States from Maine to Florida. In the Baltimore area, the eight-lane Ft. McHenry Tunnel (I-95), opened in November 1985, has provided relief to the previously over-utilized four-lane Harbor Tunnel Thruway (I-895). The new tunnel carries approximately 65,000 vehicles per day.

Within the Study Area, I-95 consists of an eight-lane facility, with a median that transitions from a wide grassed median at I-695 to a closed median prior to Caton Avenue. Interchanges are provided at I-695 and Caton Avenue.

## C. PURPOSE OF STUDY

The purpose of this project is to accommodate increases in traffic volumes along both I-695 and Maryland Route 295 and to enhance traffic operations and safety. This purpose is to be achieved by widening 9.0 miles of the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) and 4.1 miles of the Baltimore-Washington Expressway (Maryland Route 295), and adjusting interchanges in order to increase traffic capacity, improve safety conditions and enhance traffic operations.

The Selected Action provides mainline widening, with minor interchange ramp adjustments necessary to tie into the widened facility. The interchange improvements proposed at I-70 would relocate one ramp, and include repaving, restriping and minor widening in both the northbound and southbound directions of 1 - 695 , thus providing four mainline lanes through the interchange and continuous auxiliary lanes between $I-70$ and U.S. Route 40. Interchange option B at Hollins Ferry Road provides for reconfiguration of an existing ramp to improve the operations of the existing interchange configuration. A continuous auxiliary lane between Hollins Ferry Road and Maryland Route 295 will provide additional capacity for interchanging movements along the facility.

The Selected Action along Maryland Route 295 provides an additional mainline lane in each direction within the median to provide needed additional capacity. The reduced grading section will maintain the parkway characteristics of the facility. Outside lanes would provide auxiliary lanes between the two major interchanges: West Nursery Road and I-695.

## D. NEED FOR THE PROJECT

## 1. The Regional Transportation Problem

Transportation changes in the Baltimore metropolitan area are very similar to trends experienced around the country in the past 10 to 15 years. For example, trip origins and destinations are becoming more scattered, and increasingly the metropolitan area lacks a single, highly concentrated activity center. Suburb-tosuburb commuting patterns are overtaking once dominant radial commuting patterns (to urban cores). In fact, the U. S. Census Bureau estimated that in 1980, almost twice as many commuters travelled from point-to-point within suburbs as travelled from suburb to central city.


Increases in suburb-to-suburb travel are evident in the Baltimore metropolitan area, where traffic along the Beltway has become more congested. Current transportation and land use policies encourage development in what used to be remote areas of Baltimore and northern Anne Arundel Counties. As measured by its share of the region's total employment, the importance of the Baltimore Central Business District (CBD) has decreased. Suburban communities have experienced traffic congestion similar to the CBD as they become centers for industry, business and commerce.

As residential and business areas become more dispersed, it is difficult to maintain an efficient bus and rail system. The quality of street and highway service becomes even more essential in maintaining urban mobility, especially for home-to-work trips. Auto dependency is substantiated by the fact that between 1964 and 1984, motor vehicle registrations in Anne Arundel County increased 202 percent, Baltimore County registrations increased 114 percent, and Baltimore City registrations increased 6.3 percent. Baltimore County currently has more motor vehicles registered than any other Maryland political sub-division. This trend, together with regular annual increases in statewide gross vehicle miles travelled, is expected to continue. The results will be increased congestion on the existing highway system, increased travel times and increased accidents.

Costs associated with increased congestion include excessive vehicle operating costs, wasted commuter time, higher accident rates, reduced industrial productivity and lost business efficiency. In response, there is a conscious effort being made to improve the quality of travel in the region. The transportation projects in the vicinity of the Study Area currently under study, design or construction are presented in Section I-D.5.

Increased mobility demands have contributed to increased traffic volumes on the Baltimore Beltway. Current average daily traffic (ADT) volumes on the Beltway vary from 103,000 vehicles west of Maryland Route 295 to 156,000 vehicles east of U.S. Route 40. Between 1983 and 1989, traffic volumes on the Beltway between I-95 and U.S. Route 40 have increased approximately 30 percent, with an additional increase of approximately ten percent anticipated by the 2015 design year. These rapidly increasing volumes will result in congestion on the Beltway before the design year. The 17 percent increase on Maryland Route 295 between 1983 and 1989 further justifies the need for capacity improvements. Analysis of the 2015 design year No-Build Alternate indicates that daily peak period traffic is expected to be roughly equivalent to the typical friday evening rush hour as it exists today, which is characterized by recurrent stoppages.

Due to the non-continuity of $I-70$, the portion of the Beltway between $I-70$ and I-95 carries traffic destined for the Ft. McHenry Tunnel, downtown Baltimore City and I-95 southbound, as well as suburban trips to destinations along the Beltway.


With the completion of Maryland Route 100 from I-97 to I-95, Interstate 195 from BWI to I-95, and Maryland Route 32 west to I-95, traffic which currently uses the Beltway to travel between areas in northern Anne Arundel and Howard County will have three additional east/west routes by which to travel, thus avoiding the Beltway. These new facilities, which will decrease the number of vehicles making that movement on I-695, have been incorporated into the analysis of design year traffic on the Beltway.

The completion of the upgrading of Maryland Route 3 to I-97 will primarily affect traffic movements from northern Anne Arundel County destined to either Baltimore City or the Beltway.


TO WASHINGTON D.C.


TO WASHINGTON D.C.

Traffic projections which were developed for this project assumed completion of the following projects:

- Maryland Route 100: between I-97 and I-95 (and eventually to US Route 29)

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o I-195: from BWI to I-95
- I-97: from I-595 (U.S. Route 50) to I-695
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Traffic demand along Maryland Route 295 is largely commuter-related. A large increase in office construction growth in the BWI Airport vicinity is ongoing. The reconstruction of the Maryland Route 295/Maryland Route 46 interchange, the extension of Maryland Route 46/I-195, and the completion of the West Nursery Road diamond interchange have improved access to BWI Airport and the growing number of employment facilities located in the vicinity.

This project provides improvements to important regional links between the Baltimore and Washington D.C. areas, as well as other areas. I-695 is a circumferential highway connection around the outskirts of Baltimore City, and a vital link to and from suburban residential and employment centers.

This study has been listed in the Maryland Department of Transportation Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP FY 1990-FY 1995) for both the Anne Arundel County and Baltimore County portions.

## 2. Existing Traffic Problems

Traffic conditions on this section of the Baltimore Beltway also affect operating conditions on the surrounding local and arterial street systems. Backups and delays on I-695, I-95 and Maryland Route 295 are common during peak hours. It is difficult for traffic to avoid this congestion except by diverting to local radial streets, resulting in adverse traffic congestion, and air and noise impacts to adjacent communities.

The Baltimore Beltway, originally designed to provide a Baltimore bypass, presently handles substantial volumes of commuter and through traffic. In the Study Area, between 103,000 and 156,000 vehicles per day (pd) utilize the facility. Subsequent development in areas adjacent to the Beltway have also generated numerous local trips, which require frequent maneuvering at freeway interchanges. These include work trips from the City of Columbia, Howard, Prince George's and Montgomery Counties, and Washington, D.C., to and from employment centers north of the Beltway along I-95 and I-83. This combination of through and local trips, coupled with the high volume of truck traffic and less than desirable design features, have created intensely congested operating conditions during peak travel periods.

As growth in this region continues, the volume of traffic using area roadways will increase. Traffic conditions for this portion of the Baltimore Beltway, projected for the year 2015, are described in Section IV-C of this document. These projections emphasize the need to increase the capacity of this section of the Baltimore Beltway.

The 1989 ADT data for this portion of the Beltway indicates that the segments between $I-70$ and I-95 have increased approximately $34,000 \mathrm{vpd}$, an overall increase of 34 percent since 1983. Between Maryland Route 295 and I-95 the increase was approximately $10,000 \mathrm{vpd}$, an increase of approximately ten percent. With traffic volumes anticipated to increase over 40 percent by the year 2015, congestion on the section between $I-70$ and $I-95$ is anticipated to be a recurring situation.

Congestion is a daily occurrence on I-695 between I-70 and I-95 during the morning in the southbound direction and during the evening in the northbound direction. During the morning peak hour, a combination of insufficient roadway capacity, a large number of on-ramps, and geometric conflicts contribute to a very poor traffic level of service. This is evident in the stoppages between U.S. Route 40 and Wilkens Avenue, and again at the approach to I-95.

In the northbound direction congestion still occurs, although traffic entering from $I-95$ is constrained by the confluence of two lanes into one lane at the Beltway. The three percent grade between I-95 and U.S. Route 40 severely limits the roadway from being fully utilized. The high volume of truck traffic along this portion of the Beltway also contributes to the congestion.

Severe congestion is currently experienced in both the northbound and southbound directions in the vicinity of the $I-$ 695/I-95 interchange. Morning congestion at $I-95$ is evident along the southbound $I-695$ roadway, where heavy volumes of traffic exiting onto $I-95$ are constrained by the exit ramp. Evening congestion occurs on the southbound I-95 roadway where traffic queues along the ramp entering onto northbound $I-695$. Construction of an auxiliary lane between Cato Avenue and I-695 has recently been completed along southbound $I-95$ which has eased this congestion.

## 3. Design Deficiencies of the $1-695$ Existing Facility

A comparison of existing design features along the Beltway portion of the Study Area with current design policies indicates that there are several deficiencies in the original design. The Beltway was designed in the 1950's, when design standards did not have the complexity of current design standards.

In fact, since the Beltway was designed and constructed, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials has revised their standards four times: A Policy On Arterial Highways in Urban Areas - 1957; A Policy On Geometric Design of Rural Highways - 1965; A Policy On Design of Urban Highways and Arterial Streets - 1973; and A Policy On Geometric Design of Highways and Streets - 1984. As the evolution of design elements has become more precise, Beltway traffic volumes have steadily increased, thus compounding design deficiencies on I-695.

Major design deficiencies along I-695 are summarized below (specific locations are cited). Section II - Alternates, describes the proposed improvements which address many of these deficiencies. However, due to cost and right-of-way constraints, all of the deficiencies cannot be addressed.

- Interchange spacing on the Study Area portion of the Beltway is less than desirable. While interchange spacing in an urban area is one mile between interchanges, there are 12 interchanges in this 9.0 mile portion. Compounding the problem of the closely spaced interchanges is the type of traffic utilizing the different sections. The area between I-95 and Maryland Route 295 has much heavier truck usage due to the adjacent industrial development.
- Shoulders are provided on freeway facilities for many reasons, not the least of which is to provide refuge in case of emergency. A standard of 10 or 12 feet has been determined to be suitable for this type of high design roadway, particularly if large volumes of truck traffic are accommodated. One specific location in the Study Area does not have adequate left-hand shoulders - U.S. Route 40 to Frederick Road.
- While outer or right-hand shoulders are provided throughout most of the Study Area, at some interchange locations ramp tapers end at bridges, without outside shoulders. This causes a safety problem as far as driver expectancy is concerned. This situation occurs at three specific locations along the inner loop of I-695: the on-ramp from Nursery Road, which ends at the Patapsco River Bridge; the on-ramp from Hollins Ferry Road which ends at the B\&O (CSX) Railroad bridge; and, the onramp from Leeds Avenue, which ends at the Shelbourne pedestrian overpass.
- The geometry of the ramps adjacent to the Beltway, particularly the loop ramps, are a problem both on the ramps and on the deceleration or acceleration lanes adjacent to them. The loop radii, some of which are currently 85 -feet, 100-feet, and 150-feet, are below the minimum of 280-feet for a 30 mph ramp design. These ramp radii occur at U.S. Route 40, Edmondson Avenue, Wilkens Avenue, Washington Boulevard, Hollins Ferry Road, I-895, Nursery Road and Maryland Route 295.
- A deficiency at Edmondson Avenue and Frederick Road involves the sight distance of the horizontal mainline curve. Currently, the sight distance provided is less than desirable for 60 mph speeds. This lack of adequate sight distance creates a conflict, because the driver does not have adequate distance to stop in an emergency. This deficiency is compounded in these two areas by lack of full median shoulders.
- The existing Beltway facility provides insufficient traffic carrying capacity (number of lanes) for the continued growth in demand on the three- and four-lanes per direction portions of the Beltway.

When considered in combination with the type of traffic and high volumes which the Beltway must accommodate, the roadway design features outlined above summarize the general engineering concerns of choosing the No-Build Alternate for this project. The combination of these undesirable conditions on this major interstate facility produces a more adverse total effect than these same design deficiencies might produce in less critical locations. This lack of design consistency must be recognized as a major factor in the accident rates and poor operating conditions experienced on this section of the Baltimore Beltway.
4. Safety

A study of accidents occurring between 1987 and 1989 was conducted by the SHA Bureau of Accident Statistics for the I-695 and Maryland Route 295 portions of the project.

## I-695 - Baltimore Beltway

I-695, between I-70 and west of Maryland Route 170, experienced 1,201 accidents, a rate of 86 accidents $/ 100$ million vehicle miles (MVM), significantly higher than the $74 \mathrm{acc} / 100 \mathrm{mvm}$ statewide average for similar facilities. of the accidents occurring during this time period, one involved a fatality, 55 percent involved property damage only, and the remainder were personal injury accidents. Both the northbound (inner loop) and the southbound (outer loop) have experienced accident rates that significantly exceed the statewide average.

The Beltway portion of the Study Area had two high accident sections along the mainline for the study period of 1987 to 1989: the Frederick Road area and the Wilkins Avenue area. The U.S. Route 40 interchange had a significant accident experience with 48 accidents. Accidents are primarily congestion related, as indicated by sideswipe and rear-end accident statistics (see Section III.C. 3 for discussion). The I-695 Study Corridor experiences a greater than average portion of congestion related accidents, such as side-swipes, rear-ends, and pedestrian accidents. Nine of the twelve interchanges along I-695 had High Accident Interchange Ramps (see Figure III-10).

The Bureau of Accident Statistics has identified specific causes of accidents to be:

- Signing
- Weaving movements
- Short interchange spacing
- Roadway configuration
- Less than desirable acceleration/deceleration lanes


## Maryland Route 295 - Baltimore-Washington Expressway

The Maryland Route 295 portion experienced 366 accidents, a rate exceeding the statewide average for similar facilities. Of these accidents, six involved fatalities and 158 involved property damage. The one cause identified with accidents along the Maryland Route 295 portion is the weaving distance between the cloverleaf ramps at I-695.

I-95 - From South of I-695 to Baltimore City Line
The I-95 portion experiences an accident rate of 139 accidents $/ 100$ mum, significantly higher than the statewide average for similar facilities. Sixty-two percent of the 162 accidents were property damage only and none involved fatalities.

## 5. Relationship to Other OnGoing Projects

In addition to major highway construction/reconstruction, improvements such as bridge deck replacement and resurfacing would occur on Maryland State Highways, Maryland Toll Facilities, and County maintained roadways in the Study Area as part of other projects. Those projects which will have a major effect on the Study Area include:

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a. I-95:
City Line to I-395
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This project will provide reconstruction of the existing three-lane facility to a four-lane facility. The transition from three lanes to four lanes currently occurs north of Cato Avenue.

## Status:

This project is currently under construction and is expected to be completed by January 1992.
b. Maryland Route 3/I-97:

I-695 to U.S. Routes 50/301
This project will provide an improved connection between Baltimore and Annapolis. Existing Maryland Route 3 will be upgraded and widened to an eight-lane interstate highway from south
of I-695 to Maryland Route 174; a six-lane interstate highway between Maryland Route 174 and Maryland Route 178 at Dorrs Corner; and a four-lane freeway, on new location between Maryland Route 178 and U.S. Routes $50 / 301$ (I-68), to relieve existing Maryland Route 178 .

## status:

The section between U.S. Routes 50/301 and Maryland Route 178, and the I-695/I-97 interchange, have been completed and are open to traffic. The section between Maryland Route 178 and I695 are under construction, except for the Maryland Route 174, 100 and 176 interchanges. The Maryland Route 176 interchange and the seventh and eighth lanes to $I-695$ have not yet been programmed for construction.

## C. Maryland Route 46/I-195: <br> Baltimore-Washington International Airport to I-95

This four-lane freeway will provide the missing link between the BWI Airport and $I-95$, and will provide the capacity needed to relieve segments of $I-695$ and Maryland Route 295.

## status:

The portion between Maryland Route 295 and I-95 has been completed and is open to traffic. The portion from BWI to south of Maryland Route 295 is in final design.
d. Maryland Route 100: Maryland Route 3 to I-95

This project will provide a multi-lane highway from Maryland Route 3 (future $I-97$ ) to $I-95$. The portion of Maryland Route 100 between I-95 and U.S. Route 29 is being studied as part of a separate project.

## status:

The Maryland Route 295/Maryland Route 100 interchange is under construction. The section between Maryland Route 3 and I95 is currently in final design.

## e. Maryland Route 10: Arundel Expressway

This project would extend the Arundel Expressway, which is open to traffic between the Baltimore Beltway and Maryland Route 648, to Maryland Route 2 via a controlled access highway. A $2.65-\mathrm{mile}$ connection will complete the existing Arundel Expressway, and thus providing a complete eastern bypass of Glen Burnie.

## Status:

The construction of this facility was recently completed and is currently open to traffic.
f. I-695: Key Bridge Toll Plaza to Maryland Route 151

This study will investigate the need for highway improvements for approximately 3.6 miles of I-695 in Baltimore County, Maryland. A Feasibility Study will be followed by initial and final project planning studies, and preliminary engineering services, to document the need for improving I-695 in this area.

## Status:

Feasibility Study was begun in Summer 1990.
g. Other SHA Projects:

- Hammonds Ferry Road: North of Hollins Ferry to Poplar Avenue - Reconstruct to a four-lane dual highway.
- U.S. 1 Amtrak/Potomac Avenue over Md. 644: Bridge replacement currently in design.
- I-695/I-70: Bridge redecking project recently completed, included eight bridges in the interchange.
- I-95 from Cato Avenue to south of I-695: Bridge maintenance project along northbound and southbound I-95, recently completed. Shoulder reconstruction on southbound I-95, which was required for maintenance of traffic, was converted to an auxiliary lane to be consistent with the Selected Action shown in this FEIS.
- I-695 over Security Boulevard: Bridge rehabilitation in design.


## h. BWI Airport

The Maryland State Aviation Administration has recently expanded passenger Pier D. Projects which are currently underway include the extension of a runway to shift propeller aircraft from jet runways, construction of a parking structure, and construction of a 7,800-foot runway parallel to the current main instrument runway.

## i. Harbor Tunnel Thruway

Following the opening of the Ft. McHenry Tunnel (I95) in 1985, the Baltimore Harbor Tunnel underwent extensive rehabilitation. Between March 1987 and May 1989, improvements to the thruway that leads to the tunnel required closure of one tube at a time of the dual tube tunnel, and two-lane traffic along one side of the four-lane divided highway. This rehabilitation is now complete and the four lanes of the Baltimore Harbor Tunnel Thruway are open to traffic.

## j. Mass Transit - Rail

Rail studies by the Mass Transit Administration (MTA) included feasibility studies in the north, south, northeast and western corridors of Baltimore. The western corridor lends itself to the use of heavy rail, possibly in the Edmondson Avenue to U.S. Route 40 corridor, with a terminus at the Social Security Complex.

Design and construction efforts in the north-south corridor are currently underway for a 30 -mile light rail system. The completed system will serve northern Anne Arundel County, beginning at the Dorsey LRT stop below the intersection of Maryland Route 3 and Maryland Route 648 in Glen Burnie. Currently a total of eleven stations are proposed between Camden Yards and Dorsey. A spur to BWI, with at least one station, is under consideration.

Three LRT stops, located near the Study Area, have been adopted by MTA and are in final design. The light rail line will parallel Maryland Route 170 in the Linthicum vicinity. The three stops which are currently proposed are:

- Nursery Road LRT stop - platform located to the east of the intersection of Nursery Road and Maryland Route 170.
- North Linthicum LRT stop - station located to the east of the Maryland Route 170/Maryland Route 648 intersection. Access would be provided from Maryland Route 170 with platform to the east of the tracks.
- Linthicum LRT stop - Platform located to the west of Maryland Route 170 with the platform to the east of the tracks.


## k. Statewide Commuter Assistance Study

During 1988, the Maryland Department of Transportation initiated the Statewide Commuter Assistance Study to determine the feasibility of multi-modal transportation improvements, such as Light Rail Transit, Commuter Rail, express bus service, High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes and highway improvements. This study addressed future travel demands in 24 major corridors throughout the state. The goal of this study was to determine how best to move people along the most heavily travelled corridors in the state.

The Baltimore Beltway, designated as Corridor 1, was examined as part of this study. In the initial phase of the study each mode was examined to determine the appropriateness for the corridor. Light Rail Transit, other guideway transit and commuter Rail were determined to not be appropriate because they do not meet the needs of the type of traffic using the corridor. The report stated that "the many trips occurring within the Beltway Corridor are very dispersed as to origin and destination, and many involve only short segments with the circumferential corridor itself. Future travel projections indicate continuation of this pattern, a pattern extremely difficult to serve effectively with a fixed guideway system."1

The final phase of this study, completed in 1990, examined the addition of one HOV lane in each direction to the existing Beltway. The result of this analysis indicates that an HOV lane would not attract a large number of users and would, therefore, increase congestion on the remaining lanes. Therefore, HOV lanes were not recommended for further consideration.

[^0]$\xrightarrow[\text { SECTION II }]{\text { ALTERNATES }}$

## A. ALTERNATES PRESENTED AT THE ALTERNATES PUBLIC MEETING

Approximately 400 citizens attended an Alternates Public Meeting on November 26, 1985 at the Catonsville Senior High School. The findings of the conceptual engineering and environmental studies for the three alternates were presented on aerial photographic mapping and were described in a slide presentation. Following an overview presentation of the project, public comments were received. Written comments received subsequent to the meeting have been responded to, and are summarized in Appendix B, Table B1.

The following alternates were presented at this meeting:

## 1. Alternate 1 - No-Build

No significant improvements were proposed along the study segments of the I-695, Maryland Route 295 and I-895 roadways.

## 2. Alternate 2 - Lane Addition and Ramp Adjustments.

Generally, one travel lane and a shoulder were proposed to be added in each direction to the existing I-695 and the Maryland Route 295 roadways. Lane widening to the outside of I-695 would require ramp adjustments at all of the existing interchange ramps along this portion of I-695. Interchange ramp adjustments would not be necessary along Maryland Route 295 because the planned widening would be in the median. Additional ramps would be constructed on I-895 at the Y-split and at the Maryland Route 295/I-895 interchange.

## 3. Alternate 3 - Lane Addition and Interchange Modifications.

Similar to Alternate 2 , this alternate proposed adding one travel lane and a shoulder per direction to the existing I-695 roadway and providing additional improvements at interchanges. The additional improvements would include mainline and ramp adjustments and more extensive reconfiguration of some interchanges. For example, Collector-Distributer (C-D) roads were proposed at the U.S. Route 40 and Maryland Route 295 interchanges and an interchange ramp reconfiguration at the Wilkens Avenue interchange.

## B. ALTERNATES PRESENTED AT THE COMBINED LOCATION/DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

Following the Alternates Public Meeting, the State Highway Administration Planning Team met to review the results of the Stage I studies and assess the public comments received (both written and verbal). On the basis of this review, the following decisions were made concerning the Stage I Alternates:

- No Build Alternate - retain for further study in Stage II
- Alternate 2 - retain for further study in Stage II as the Build Alternate (also referred to as the "Widening Alternate")
- Alternate 3 - retain some of the interchange modifications for further study in Stage II as interchange options, which could be combined with the Build or Widening Alternate on an interchange by interchange basis

Subsequent to the Alternates Public Meeting, and in response to the need to fully address the I-695/I-95 interchange, a portion of I-95 from just south of I-695 to north of Caton Avenue was added to this project. Although adverse socio-economic impacts are not associated with this addition, traffic operations and other issues can be more fully addressed by its inclusion in this study.

Approximately 500 citizens attended the combined Location/Design Public Hearing on June 22, 1988 at the Catonsville Senior High School. The findings of the preliminary engineering and environmental studies were presented in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Section 4(f) Evaluation report available in May, 1988. These findings were presented on aerial photogrammetric mapping depicting the proposed widening alternate and optional improvements. Additionally, representatives were available to discuss traffic, noise, right-of-way and other issues. A short slide presentation featuring an overview of the project was followed by receipt of public testimony. A court reporter was available during the entire meeting for private testimony, as well. Verbal comments received during the meeting and their responses are summarized in Section VIII. Written comments received subsequent to the meeting have been responded to, and are presented in Section VIII, also.

The following alternates were presented at the combined Location/Design Public Hearing:

The No-Build Alternate would utilize the existing I-695, Maryland Route 295, and I-95 roadways and interchanges with no major improvements. This would include normal roadway maintenance such as shoulder modification and pavement rehabilitation, rehabilitation of bridges and other structures, and roadway improvements such as signing, marking, lighting and other traffic control measures. These routine operations would not measurably increase the capacity of these roadways to accommodate the predicted increase in traffic volumes for the design year 2015.

Existing roadway geometric design deficiencies would remain, however, and under steadily increasing traffic demands, operating and safety conditions would be expected to further deteriorate. The No-Build Alternate would not be consistent with county or state plans for this area and would result in deteriorating safety conditions and transportation service along I695, Maryland Route 295 and I-95 as traffic volumes increase.

Transportation System Management or TSM projects and other special projects have been studied as part of Alternate 1. The examination of TSM projects was limited to the intersections adjacent to interchanges. Some locations are being studied by SHA District offices for consideration as Special Projects. For example, the signalization of the ramp intersections with Frederick Road is being considered as a special Project. The other improvements studied were deleted because they did not provide measurable improvements.

Expanding the mass transportation network through the use of buses (rail service would require extensive right-of-way and a major capital investment) would not serve the project's needs because it would not serve the types of trips currently being accommodated on the Beltway.

## 2. Alternate 2 - Mainline Widening

The Mainline Widening Alternate proposed adding a mainline travel lane along the Baltimore Beltway from U.S. Route 40 to Maryland Route 170. The additional lane and shoulder would be constructed adjacent to the existing outside lane (in the area now occupied by the existing shoulder). This additional lane would provide four continuous travel lanes in the southbound direction and four continuous travel lanes in the northbound direction, with five northbound lanes between I-95 and U.S. Route 40. The existing three lanes northbound and southbound on the Beltway through the I95 interchange would be maintained.

Each ramp which directly accesses the Beltway would require an adjustment in horizontal, and often, vertical geometry in order to continue to provide that connection. This would require the reconstruction of several hundred feet of the ramp proper. Acceleration or deceleration lane construction would also be required along the mainline.

Along I-695 between U.S. Route 40 and Frederick Road, the mainline widening of Alternate 2 would include widening to provide a full 10-foot median shoulder along both the northbound and southbound roadways. A transition within each of these two interchanges would meet the existing full width median condition. A reduction in the outside mainline shoulder width adjacent to the auxiliary lanes would be required.

Portions of the existing noise barrier along the Beltway, south of Frederick Road, would require relocation with Alternate 2.
3. Interchange options 1, 2, and 3

Optional improvements were proposed at several interchanges to fully address the ramp operations. Interchange improvements were proposed at locations where they could be accomplished within the limited SHA right-of-way or by acquiring small portions of right-of-way. These improvements could be constructed in addition to the Alternate 2 improvements at specific interchange locations.

Interchange option 1 proposed modifications to six interchanges along the Beltway:

- U.S. Route 40 - A one lane Collector-Distributor (C-D) road system would be constructed along both the northbound and southbound roadways to reduce the number of interchanging conflict points within the interchange.
- Edmondson Avenue - Shift the mainline of the southbound lanes of the Beltway to provide the minimum horizontal sight distance for the northbound roadway. Ramp D would be modified to tie into the new location on the Beltway.
- Frederick Road - Restripe the southbound median shoulder to provide the minimum horizontal sight distance for the southbound roadway.
- Wilkens Avenue - Replace existing Ramp B by a diamond type ramp on the north side of the interchange.
- Hollins Ferry Road - Relocate Ramp F beginning near Hollins Ferry Road, paralleling $I-695$, crossing beneath the CSX Railroad east of the existing bridge to eliminate the need for reconstruction of the bridge over the Beltway.
- Maryland Route 295 - A two-lane CollectorDistributor (C-D) road would be constructed along the northbound and southbound roadways, including the Nursery Road interchange, to reduce the number of interchanging conflict points.

Interchange option 2 proposed modifications to two interchanges along the Beltway:

- Edmondson Avenue - Relocation of Ramp $D$ on $a$ separate structure parallel to the Beltway to eliminate the need to depress Edmondson Avenue (required with Alternate 2 and Interchange Option 1).
- Maryland Route 295 - A four-lane fly-over ramp from Maryland Route 295 to I-695, generally in the southern direction, to address two major movements.

Interchange option 3 proposed an alternate route for City-bound traffic on the Baltimore Beltway from northern Anne Arundel County. This was an option to the proposed improvement at the I-695/Maryland Route 295 interchange. The Option proposed the interchange construction necessary to permit traffic headed for Baltimore City from northern Anne Arundel County to utilize the Harbor Tunnel Thruway ( $1-895$ ) as an alternate route instead of the more heavily traveled portion of the Baltimore Beltway between Maryland Route 3/I-97 and Maryland Route 295. The construction included with option 3 would not have any effect or interfere with the improvements proposed in the median of the Baltimore-Washington Expressway. The construction of four new ramps along I-895 were required with this interchange option.

## 4. Maryland Route 295 Alternate 2 - Mainline Widening

Along Maryland Route 295, Alternate 2 proposed the addition of a lane and shoulder to the existing mainline roadway in each direction from Winterson Road (north of Maryland Route 46) to the vicinity of the Baltimore City Line. This widening would be in the existing median and would provide three continuous lanes in both the northbound and southbound direction from the City Line to the Maryland Route $46 / \mathrm{I}-195$ interchange. The proposed widening would be compatible with the Maryland Route $46 /$ I-195 interchange at the south end of this project. At the north end of the project, the three lane section would join the existing three-lane per direction roadway just south of the Baltimore City Line. A portion of the widening in the southbound direction only, from the city line to Hammonds Ferry Road south of the Beltway, has been completed as an SHA District Special Project.

In the I-695/Maryland Route 295 interchange, two-lane Ramp D from southbound I-695 (with I-695 Alternate 2, Interchange Option 1 or 2) to southbound Maryland Route 295 would allow one lane to be continued southbound as an auxiliary lane to $W$. Nursery Road. No other modifications are proposed for the Maryland Route 295/W. Nursery Road interchange. This would allow a two-lane exit at $W$. Nursery Road and would require additional lanes at the ramp intersection with W. Nursery Road. An auxiliary lane would also be provided along the northbound Maryland Route 295 roadway between W. Nursery Road and I-695.

Two typical sections for the median grading along Maryland Route 295 were studied, except in the area of widening completed by the SHA District Special Project.
A. full safety graded median section would require elimination of a large portion of the existing vegetated median, which is the major element that provides the "parkway" characteristics along Maryland Route 295.

The reduced graded median section would maintain as much of the vegetation in the median as possible. A guardrail would be placed four feet from the edge of the roadway, with a 4-foot backing and adequate grading to meet existing median conditions.

## C. SELECTED ACTION

## 1. Introduction

The Selected Action was determined after careful evaluation of the engineering criteria, environmental consequences, the input of citizens, community associations, agency representatives and elected officials, as well as the preliminary estimate of the construction cost. The Build Alternate and three specific interchange modifications were selected over the No-Build Alternate for several reasons. One reason is that the traffic volumes along the Beltway have already exhibited tremendous growth between the years 1983 and 1989, resulting in extended periods of congestion, which justifies the need for additional capacity. The projected desi.gn year traffic volumes are based on a constrained traffic system which will control the flow. It is expected that the design year traffic conditions could be reached prior to the year 2015.

The traffic in the area uses the Beltway for local trips as a result of the lack of available, non-congested, parallel routes. Both Anne Arundel and Baltimore County Planning Departments have recognized this fact, which has, therefore, resulted in the maintenance of Beltway widening in their Master Plans.

The marked percentage increase in traffic volumes is a characteristic of the mainline and not ramp traffic. The interchange options which would improve ramp operations were not selected in many cases because the improvements would only provide marginal improvements. This is further justified by the traffic data provided for year 1989.

Additionally, expanding the mass transportation network through the use of buses (rail service would require extensive right-of-way and a major capital investment) would not serve the project's needs because it would not serve the types of trips currently being accommodated on the Beltway.

The discussion of this project within this Document has oriented I-695 and the Maryland Route 295 in a north/south direction. References to the inner loop of the Beltway refer to the northbound roadway and likewise, the outer loop of the Beltway is considered the southbound roadway.

Because the Build Alternate and Interchange Options consist of the reconstruction of existing major highways, several instances occur where reconstruction in full accordance with current design criteria may not be possible due to limited right-of-way or construction funds. In these cases, justifications are provided in Section II-D of this EIS for possible design exceptions that were identified during project planning. Approval for revised interchange access points to the existing Interstate system will be evaluated using Federal requirements current at the time of proposed construction.

The Figures in this EIS for the Selected Action are indexed on Figures II-1 and II-2. The improvements proposed at each segment of the Baltimore Beltway are shown on these figures and are described on the following pages. Typical Sections of the proposed improvements are illustrated on Figures II-3 through 7. All Figures for this Section can be found in Appendix A.

## 2. Selected Action I-695 Baltimore Beltway Figures II-8 to II-22 (See Appendix A)

The original study limits of this project ended just north of the U.S. Route 40 (West) Interchange. Following receipt of comments provided by Baltimore County Department of Public Works and others, the limits were extended to include the provision of four lanes through the I-70 interchange. The other Interstate interchanges with I-695, those at I-95 (South of Baltimore), and I795 (the Northwest Expressway), have a large amount of traffic exiting or entering on either side, such that the operations within the interchange do not require another mainline lane. For the major portion of the Beltway, however, four continuous lanes will be provided as a result of the widening proposed by this study and the northern Baltimore Beltway Study.

The Selected Action on I-695 will provide an additional mainline travel lane along the Baltimore Beltway from I-70 to Maryland Route 170. An overlay for the entire length will be provided. Restriping and/or additional construction will be required in the different portions of the project. Beneath the I-70 bridges, the existing roadway will be maintained and overlayed and restriped to reduce the shoulder and lane widths to provide four through lanes. The actual distribution of the 6-foot usable shoulder beneath I-70 will be determined during final design. The additional lane and shoulder from U.S. Route 40 to the south will be constructed adjacent to the existing outside lane (in the area now occupied by the existing shoulder). This additional lane will provide four continuous travel lanes in the southbound direction and four continuous travel lanes in the northbound direction, with five northbound lanes between I-95 and U.S. Route 40. The fifth northbound I-695 lane will drop at the I-70 interchange. Only three mainline lanes will be provided northbound and southbound on the Beltway through the I-95 interchange.

Each ramp which directly accesses the Beltway will require an adjustment in horizontal, and often, vertical geometry in order to continue to provide that connection. This will require the reconstruction of several hundred feet of the ramp proper. Acceleration or deceleration lane construction will also be required along the mainline.

Along I-695 between U.S. Route 40 and Frederick Road, the mainline widening of the Selected Action will include widening to provide a full 10-foot median shoulder along both the northbound and southbound roadways. A reduction in the outside mainline shoulder width adjacent to the auxiliary lane will be required.

Portions of the existing noise barrier along the Beltway, south of Frederick Road, will require relocation with the Selected Action (see Figure II-11, Appendix A).

At Wilkens Avenue, the revisions will include ramp adjustments near the Wilkens Avenue intersection west of the outerloop, to improve operations. Ramp B from southbound I-695 will be relocated and widened to accommodate a double left turn and Ramp $F$ will be adjusted for that realignment and widening.

Table II-1 indicates the Interchange Alternates/Options considered as part of the project. Those Alternates/Options which were selected are noted with an asterisk(*).

TABLE II-1 - SUMMARY OF I-695 ALTERNATES AND INTERCHANGE OPTIONS

| Interchange Location | $\begin{gathered} \text { Build } \\ \text { Alternate } 2 \end{gathered}$ | Option 1 | Option 2 | Other option |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I-70 |  |  |  | $\text { Sel }{ }^{\star} \text { ected }$ |
| U.S. Route 40 | X* | X |  |  |
| Edmondson Ave. | X* | X | X |  |
| Frederick Road Maryland Route 144 | X* | X |  |  |
| Wilkens Ave. <br> Maryland Route 372 | Xith modification | X |  |  |
| Leeds Avenue | X* |  |  |  |
| I-95 | X* |  |  |  |
| Washington Blvd. U.S. Route 1 Alt. | X* |  |  |  |
| Hollins Ferry Rd. Maryland Route 891 | X | X |  | Option B |
| I-895 | X* |  |  |  |
| Nursery Road | X* | X |  | Option 3 |
| Maryland Route 295 | $\begin{gathered} \text { X* } \\ \text { modith } \\ \text { mication } \end{gathered}$ | X | X | X |




The Selected Action will provide a major fork design in the southbound direction at the I-695/I-95 interchange approach from the west. These improvements will include dualizing two ramps and will require some revisions to $I-95$ between $I-695$ and Caton Avenue (see Figures II-14, II-15, Appendix A).

The improvements on the west side of the I-95 interchange propose a fork design in the southbound direction. A lane will be added from Ramp F at Wilkens Avenue and will continue to the I-95 interchange. This will provide five southbound travel lanes. The exit to Leeds Avenue will require a deceleration lane adjacent to the mainline. Beginning near Leeds Avenue, the five mainline Beltway lanes will begin to divide into a three-lane/three-lane split. The I-695 mainline will continue as three lanes and the traffic movements to northbound and southbound I-95 will be in the three right-hand lanes. The three-lane ramp section will divide into a two/two split with two lanes destined to I-95 northbound and two lanes tapering to one lane destined to I-95 southbound. On the east side of the I-695/I-95 interchange, one lane of the two-lane ramp from I-95 will be added to the three southbound Beltway lanes which continue through the $\mathrm{I}-95$ interchange to provide four southbound travel lanes on the Beltway.

The improvements along I-95 northbound are required due to the merging of a one lane outer ramp (Ramp F), the two-lane ramp from southbound I-695 (Ramp C), and the four-lane I-95 facility. The outer ramp lane will taper into the sixth lane. The sixth lane will be an exit-only lane to the collector-Distributor (C-D) road at Caton Avenue. The fifth lane will provide a choice between exiting onto the C-D road or continuing on I-95. Along I-95, this lane will taper into the fourth mainline lane ${ }^{1}$ south of the Caton Avenue crossing (see Figure II-15, Typical Section - Figure II-7, Appendix A).

On I-695 northbound, a major merge has been developed at the I-95 Interchange. The four lanes east of the interchange will become three lanes as one mainline lane would be dropped at Ramp A to southbound I-95. The continuing three mainline lanes will be joined by three lanes from I-95 just west of the interchange. Two lanes from I-95 southbound (Ramp I) and one lane from I-95 northbound (Ramp J) join I-695 northbound as "add" lanes. The outer lane (sixth lane) will be dropped at Wilkens Avenue (Ramp A), providing five continuous northbound travel lanes. Access from Leeds Avenue will be retained and a standard acceleration lane will be provided.

On southbound I-95 from the Caton Avenue interchange, a continuous auxiliary lane has been constructed between Ramp A from Caton Avenue and Ramp I to I-695 northbound. This will essentially operate as a fifth, exit only, lane. The fourth lane will be a choice lane which will provide a second ramp lane to northbound I695 or the fourth lane continuing on I-95 southbound.

1 The addition of a fourth travel lane is under construction by Baltimore City for I-95 between Caton Avenue and Washington Boulevard. See "Relationship to Other On-Going Projects" on page I-13.

Specific interchange options at the I-695/I-70 Interchange, I-695/Hollins Ferry Road Interchange and I695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange have been added or substituted for those presented at the Location/Design Public Hearing. The details of the specific interchange options are described following this introduction. Descriptions of interchange options not selected are retained in this FEIS for comparison. Figures showing improvements not selected have been deleted for clarity, but may be reviewed in the Draft EIS.

## 3. Selected Interchange Options

Optional improvements were considered at eight interchanges to fully address the ramp operations. Interchange improvements were proposed at locations where they could be accomplished within the limited SHA right-of-way or by acquiring small portions of right-of-way. Selected Action interchange improvements are described, followed by those considered but not selected.

Selected Action - I-70 Interchange Figure II-8 (see Appendix A)
The selected action at the I-70 interchange provides an additional lane in each direction from U.S. Route 40 to north of I70. Therefore, five lanes (four mainline and one auxiliary lane) will be provided in each direction between U.S. Route 40 and I-70.

The existing I-695 roadway will be repaved to provide two 12-foot wide and two 11-foot wide mainline lanes along southbound I-695 under the I-70 structure. The distribution of the available 6-foot shoulder beneath the $I-70$ bridge will be determined in final design. From the ramp to $I-70$ (Ramp E) to the U.S. Route 40 (West) interchange (Ramp $H$ ), four mainline lanes will be provided tapering to/from the constriction at I-70. This taper will begin approximately 700-feet north of the underpass and will then extend that same distance on the southside to meet the shoulder required to cross under the Crosby Road bridge. The two -lane ramp from I-70 (Ramp D) to southbound I-695 will require the inside ramp lane to be a continuous lane to Ramp $H$ at the U.S. Route 40 interchange. The outer ramp lane will merge prior to the overpass at Crosby Road. In order to provide this widening without reconstruction of the Crosby Road bridge, a reduction of the available 10-foot shoulder will be provided and distribution will be determined in final design. The inside shoulder will be increased to 10 feet from south of Crosby Road to U.S. Route 40 . Retaining walls will be constructed as needed to avoid impacting the drainage ditch which parallels the roadway. Four continuous mainline lanes and one continuous auxiliary lane will be provided to the U.S. Route 40 interchange. The continuous auxiliary lane that is provided from Ramp $D$ (north of the Crosby Road overpass) to U.S. Route 40 will be maintained by widening the roadway up to 14 -feet.

Ramp M from Security Boulevard to southbound I-695 will be relocated behind the piers which support the mainline and other ramps within the I-695/I-70 interchange. Ramp M will merge with I695 about 1,000 feet south of the $I-70$ structure, prior to the point where Ramp D enters I-695.

In the northbound direction, a similar improvement will be provided. The roadway between U.S. Route 40 and I-70 will be repaved and widened up to 14 feet to provide four mainline lanes and auxiliary lane. For the purpose of this document, a 4-foot outside shoulder has been provided. The inside shoulder will transition from 10-feet to 6-feet at the Crosby Road overpass to avoid reconstruction of that bridge. The auxiliary lane will drop as an "exit-only" lane at Ramp A. North of Ramp A, four mainline lanes will be provided by repaving and restriping the roadway. Reduced shoulders will be required to provide four lanes under the I-70 bridges and north through the Security Boulevard interchange. The distribution of shoulders will be determined in final design.

Selected Action - Hollins Ferry Road (Maryland Route 891) Figure II-16 (See Appendix A)

Existing Ramp F in the northeast quadrant provides direct access from Hollins Ferry Road to I-695 northbound, with its terminus near the CSX Railroad bridge. The Selected Action will relocate Ramp $F$ to the southeast quadrant of the interchange, requiring removal of the existing Ramp $F$ pavement. A new four-way intersection will be created by placing the relocated Ramp $F$ directly across from existing Ramp B. In order to provide access to the residential, commercial and industrial uses within the relocated loop ramp, an access road will be constructed tying into the ramp. Between Hollins Ferry Road and the access road, two-way operation will occur on the ramp. The unrestricted movement would be from Hollins Ferry Road to the ramp. The access road to ramp to Hollins Ferry Road movement will have a stop control. Relocated Ramp F will join Ramp A from I-895 southbound to northbound I-695 approximately 650 feet prior to the Beltway. An auxiliary lane between Relocated Ramp F/Ramp A and off-Ramp B from northbound I695 to Hollins Ferry Road will be approximately 900 feet long. Ramp $B$ will be adjusted to provide a maximum distance for that weave. This will require reconstruction of part of existing Ramp B.

Selected Action - Maryland Route 295 Interchange Figure II-17, 18 (See Appendix A)

An additional (fifth) lane will be provided along southbound I-695 between Hollins Ferry Road and Maryland Route 295. The lane will begin at Hollins Ferry Road Ramp $H$ and extend to Maryland Route 295 Ramp D, where it will drop. Deceleration lanes to I-895 Ramp B, Nursery Road Ramp H and Maryland Route 295 Ramp D will also be provided. An acceleration lane for Nursery Road Ramp D will be provided.

## 4. Grading Alternatives

One of the goals of this planning study was to minimize the amount of right-of-way required with the proposed improvements, particularly in residential areas. This was accomplished by using retaining walls placed 14 feet from the outside edge of the roadway, with a jersey barrier on top facing the roadway. The retaining walls vary in height and length. In areas where the distance between retaining wall/jersey barrier combinations was
less than 500 feet, a jersey barrier was used to provide visual consistency. The result of the use of retaining walls is that only one residence would be acquired and 9.6 acres of right-of-way required with the Selected Action.

During the final design phase of the project, alternative grading sections may be considered providing they do not result in significant increases in impacts. The design team will consider alternative grading sections in order to develop the most suitable design for the specific locations. Among the items to be considered will be compatibility with proposed impacts, the suitability with the community, and the cost. These alternatives are:

- Full safety grading section

This would provide a 10 -foot shoulder and 50 mph or 60 mph safety grading. A retaining wall could be used in order to contain this typical section within the proposed right-of-way.

- Modified grading section

This would provide a 10-foot shoulder to a guardrail, offset 2 feet with 6-feet of outside grading. This section is similar to the existing condition. Retaining walls could also be used to contain this typical section within the proposed right-of-way.

- Jersey barrier section

This would provide a jersey barrier placed 14 feet from the outside edge of the roadway, with grading at 2:1 beyond the barrier. A retaining wall could also be used to contain the typical section within the proposed right-of-way.

Selected Action - Maryland Route 295
Figure II-19 to Figure II-22 (See Appendix A)
This Selected Action provides the addition of a lane and shoulder to the existing mainline roadway in each direction from Winterson Road (north of Maryland Route $46 / \mathrm{I}-195$ ) to the vicinity of the Baltimore City Line. This widening, primarily in the existing median, will provide three continuous lanes in both the northbound and southbound direction from the City line to the Maryland Route 46/I-195 interchange. The proposed widening will be compatible with the Maryland Route $46 /$ I-195 interchange at the south end of this project. At the north end of the project, the three-lane section will join the existing three-lane per direction roadway just north of Nursery Road. A transition within the West Nursery Road interchange will require some outside widening to avoid reconstruction of the bridge overpassing Maryland Route 295. A portion of the widening in the southbound direction only, from the City Line to Hammonds Ferry Road south of the Beltway, was completed as an SHA District Special Project. An overlay of the entire portion will be provided where new construction will add lanes.

In the I-695/Maryland Route 295 interchange, two-lane Ramp D from southbound I-695 to southbound Maryland Route 295 will allow one lane to continue southbound as an auxiliary lane to West Nursery Road. A two-lane exit at West Nursery Road and will require additional lanes at the ramp intersection with West Nursery Road. An auxiliary lane will also be provided along the northbound Maryland Route 295 roadway between West Nursery Road and I-695.

The existing partial interchange at the Harbor Tunnel Thruway ( $\mathrm{I}-895$ ) services traffic from northbound Maryland Route 295 to the Harbor Tunnel Thruway and from the Harbor Tunnel Thruway to southbound Maryland Route 295. There are no other revisions proposed for this interchange with the Selected Action.

Maryland Route 295 underpasses the following existing roadways; Winterson Road, West Nursery Road, Hammond Ferry Road, I-695, Nursery Road, and a pedestrian overpass at Baltimore Highlands. Reconstruction of the bridges at I-695, Hammond Ferry Road and Nursery Road will be required with the Selected Action.

The reduced grading section in the median will maintain as much of the vegetation in the median as possible. A guardrail is proposed to be placed 14 feet from the edge of the roadway, with a 5-foot backing and adequate grading to meet existing median conditions.

## 5. Auxiliary Lanes

Along I-695, the existing interchanges are closely spaced and therefore many have weaving lanes between them. These 12-foot wide weaving lanes will be maintained to facilitate vehicular entrance and exit maneuvering. An additional weaving lane will be provided in two locations. First, along southbound I-695 between Frederick Road and Wilkens Avenue. Second, along northbound and southbound Maryland Route 295 between Nursery Road and I-695.

Auxiliary lanes have also been added for sections of I695 where heavy traffic volumes require them. These sections include northbound and southbound traffic from I-95 to Wilkens Avenue, and southbound I-695 from Hollins Ferry Road to Maryland Route 295.

Table II-2 summarizes the proposed changes in the number of mainline and weaving lanes for the Selected Action.

This document addresses the construction of an additional lane in each direction on the beltway. These additional lanes, which were originally designed for general purpose use, could be converted to HoV as a transportation demand management measure. Further, the improved mainline cross-section and overpassing structures have been designed so as not to preclude the future restriping of this facility for further capacity expansion. Any additional capacity provided on this facility in the future would be subject to a future environmental evaluation to comply with applicable environmental requirements.
6. Bridges

Nineteen bridges along $\mathrm{I}-695$, and eight bridges along Maryland Route 295 are included within the limits of the proposed widening. These are listed in Tables II-3 and II-4.

TABLE II-2 - EXISTING AND PROPOSED LANES ON I-695


Abbreviations: ML - mainline travel lane

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { AUX - continuous auxiliary lane } \\
& \text { (i.e. weaving lane, not acceleration/ } \\
& \text { deceleration lane) }
\end{aligned}
$$

The majority of bridges where I-695 overpasses a crossstreet must be widened due to the addition of the mainline lane widening along the outside of the existing roadway. All of these $I$ 695 bridges have been examined to determine whether they can be structurally widened. A preliminary determination has been made regarding the proposed vertical clearance under these bridges once the widening is completed. If the widening of these existing bridges would result in less than minimum AASHTO recommended vertical clearance or county standards, a design exception may be required (see Section II-D).

Four bridges which pass over I-695 in the Study Area will be affected by the addition of the mainline lane widening. These bridges are located at Crosby Road, Frederick Road, Westland Boulevard and at the Shelbourne pedestrian overpass. The desirable outside shoulder will be provided along I-695. A minimum vertical clearance over I-695 will be maintained and an attempt will be made during final design to maintain existing clearance or provide the desirable clearance of 16 feet, 9 inches.

For those bridges that are not being reconstructed, design exceptions for shoulder width on $I-695$ and vertical clearance over I-695 may be required (see Section II-D).

Along Maryland Route 295, three bridges will require reconstruction in order to accommodate the proposed addition of one lane in each direction in the median.

The criteria used to determine whether a bridge would require reconstruction in order to accommodate the Selected Action includes the following:

```
- Bridge condition/expected life
- Accident experience
- Design consistency with mainline roadway
- Horizontal sight distances
- Vertical clearance
- Design consistency of interchanges
- Maintenance of traffic
- Environmental impacts
- Structure costs including redecking
- Roadway costs
- Right-of-way costs
```

Based on these analyses, bridge revision requirements are summarized on Tables II-3 and II-4.

1 A Policy On Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, Washington, D.C. 1984

TABLE II:-3 - I-695 SELECTED ACTION BRIDGE IMPACTS

|  | Widen |  | Reconstruct |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bridge Location | NBR | SBR |  |
| I-70 | - | - | - |
| Crosby Road | - | - | X |
| U.S. Route 40 |  | X | - |
| Ingleside Avenue | X | X | - |
| Edmondson Avenue |  | X | - |
| Frederick Road | - | - | X |
| Wilkens Avenue |  | X | - |
| Westland Boulevard | - | - | X |
| Shelbourne Pedestrian | - | - | X |
| Leeds Avenue/Southwestern Blvd. |  | - | $\mathrm{X}^{1}$ |
| Benson Avenue |  | x | - |
| Washington Boulevard | - | - | - |
| CSX Railroad | - | - | - |
| Hollins Ferry Road | - | - | - |
| I-895 | - | - | X |
| Patapsco River <br> (Hammonds Ferry Road) |  | - | $\mathrm{X}^{1}$ |
| Nursery Road |  | X | - |
| Maryland Route 295 |  | - | $\mathrm{x}^{2}$ |
| Maryland Route 170 | - | X | - |

1 Reconstruction may be required to retain structural integrity and has been assumed for planning purposes.

2 Reconstruction required due to widening along Maryland Route 295.

TABLE II-4 - MARYLAND ROUTE 295 SELECTED ACTION BRIDGE IMPACTS

|  | Widen | Reconstruct |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Bridge Location | NBR | SBR |
| Winterson Road | - | - |
| West Nursery Road | - | - |
| Hammonds Ferry Road | - | - |
| I-695 | - | - |
| Nursery Road | - | - |
| Patapsco River | - | - |
| I-895 | - | - |
| Baltimore Highlands | - | X |
| Pedestrian Overpass | - | - |

The criteria used to consider whether a structure needed to be reconstructed focused on the ability to provide the lane widening and a sufficient shoulder. The optimum would be a 10-foot outside shoulder on open-graded sections or 14 feet to a barrier or retaining wall with a ten-foot construction easement behind. A reduction to 7 feet on the outside and 3-1/2 feet on the inside for the mainline, or 6 feet outside an auxiliary lane, was considered the minimum acceptable before reconstruction needed to be considered.

## 7. Interchange Options Not selected

Figures showing options not selected have been deleted for clarity, but may be reviewed in the Draft EIS.

## U.S. Route 40 Interchange option 1 - Not selected

A one-lane Collector-Distributor (C-D) road would have been constructed along the northbound and southbound roadways of I695 throughout the interchange vicinity. In the northbound direction, the $C-D$ road would have begun north of Edmondson Avenue (Ramp E), proceed through the interchange and taper into the fifth mainline Beltway lane, which would be tapered into the lane to be dropped at the exit to $1-70$.

In the southbound direction, the ramp from $I-70$ would have been extended to provide a fourth southbound mainline Beltway lane. The C-D road would have begun north of U.S. Route 40, continue through the interchange, then would have become the auxiliary lane between the U.S. Route 40 interchange and Edmondson Avenue interchange.

The bridge over U.S. Route 40 would have been widened and a new bridge for each C-D Road would have been constructed.

Retaining walls would have been constructed along the northbound and southbound roadways.

This Option was not selected because it resulted in an undesirable weaving condition between Edmondson Avenue and the U.S. Route 40 C-D Road. Also, the weaving within the U.S. Route 40 interchange would not have been improved.

Edmondson Avenue Interchange Option 1 - Not Selected
This option proposed a shift of the southbound mainline lanes of the Beltway to provide the minimum horizontal sight distance for the northbound roadway. This would have been accomplished by relocating the median barrier, thereby requiring a southbound lane shift.

The bridge over Ingleside Avenue and the bridge over Edmondson Avenue would have been widened with this option. Additionally, the Edmondson Avenue roadway would have been depressed approximately 2 -feet and the intersection of Forest Avenue with Edmondson Avenue would have been relocated.

Retaining walls were proposed along the mainline and ramps.

Ramp $F$ in the southeast quadrant would have been relocated to terminate opposite Ramp $E$ in the northeast quadrant.

The intersection of Arbutus Avenue would have been relocated to a location across from Harlem Lane.

This option was not selected for a number of reasons.
o There was no direct correlation between accident occurrence and the lack of horizontal sight distance.

- An acceptable alternate was not available to replace the intersection of Edmondson Avenue and Forest Avenue.
- Retaining the existing intersection of Ramp $F$ and Arbutus Avenue is an acceptable alternative to avoidance of wetlands because the intersections are not contributing to existing congestion or accidents.


## Edmondson Avenue Interchange Option 2 - Not selected

A physically separated ramp and acceleration lane would have been provided for Ramp D. The separate roadway would have risen slightly above the existing Beltway grade, thereby not requiring adjustment to be made to Edmondson Avenue or to the intersection of Forest Avenue as required with Interchange option 1.

Widening of the bridge over Edmondson Avenue and a new bridge for Ramp $D$ would have been required. Retaining walls would have been required along Ramp $D$.

The relocation of Ramp $F$ and the intersection of Arbutus Avenue would have been constructed.

This option was not selected because of the cost and the lack of a definitive relationship between the Ramp $D$ proposed relocation and accident occurrence.

## Frederick Road (Maryland Route 144) Interchange Option 1 Not selected

A mainline shift, was proposed as Frederick Road Interchange Option 1. This shift would have been accomplished by adjusting the striping along the southbound median shoulder.

Retaining walls would have been required north and south of the interchange along both northbound and southbound roadways. Relocation of portions of the existing noise barrier would have been required.

Ramp $F$ in the southeast quadrant would have been removed and replaced with a diamond type ramp, which would intersect with Frederick Road directly across from Ramp $E$ in the northeast quadrant. The existing Ramp F pavement would have been removed.

This option was not selected because there was no direct correlation between accident occurrence resulting from lack of horizontal sight distance.

## Wilkens Avenue (Maryland Route 372) Interchange Option 1 Not Selected

The existing loop ramp along southbound I-695 (Ramp B) would have been replaced by a diamond type ramp with the proposed improvements with this interchange option. Retaining walls would have been required along relocated Ramp B (new Ramp C). New Ramp C would terminate at Wilkens Avenue directly across from Ramp F, at which the existing signal would have been maintained. A two-lane storage area would have been provided for left-turning vehicles on new Ramp C.

The existing intersection at Kenwood Road and Ramps D and $H$ would have been modified and the existing left turn from Ramp D to Kenwood Road would have been eliminated. The existing bridge along northbound I-695 would have required widening.

## This option was not selected for two reasons:

- The steep downgrade of the proposed Ramp B would have likely resulted in a high rate of rear-end accidents along the ramp.
- The existing intersection with Kenwood Avenue is not contributing to accidents and congestion within this interchange.

Hollins Ferry Road (Maryland Route 891) Interchange Option 1 Not Selected

Existing Ramp F in the northeast quadrant provides direct access from Hollins Ferry Road to I-695 northbound, with its terminus near the B\&O Railroad bridge. Interchange option 1 would have relocated Ramp $F$ beginning near Hollins Ferry Road, paralleling I-695 and crossing under the CSX Railroad east of the existing bridge crossing of I-695. The terminus of the ramp, therefore, would have been shifted further north along northbound I-695. The existing pavement of Ramp $F$ would have been removed. This interchange option would not require reconstruction of the bridge structure crossing over the Beltway, although it would have required construction of a separate $B \& O$ Railroad structure over relocated Ramp F.

This option was not selected due to cost and property impacts.

Maryland Route 295 Interchange Option 1 - Not Selected
A two-lane Collector-Distributor (C-D) road would have been constructed along the northbound and southbound roadways for Interchange Option 1. Both the Nursery Road and Maryland Route 295 interchanges would have been involved because of the proximity of the two interchanges. The option would have provided four mainline lanes on the Beltway and a two-lane $C-D$ road through the interchange. This would have then transitioned into the five-lane section to the south as provided for in the $I-97$ project. Additional lanes for weaving between ramps would have also been provided.

The bridge over Nursery Road would have required widening and both the Maryland Route 295 and Patapsco River bridges would have required widening and reconstruction.

Along the northbound roadway, retaining walls would have been required. An open-graded section along southbound I-695 would have limited the length of the retaining walls. These walls would have been between Nursery Road and partially around Ramp $D$ and partially along Ramp $C$ and southbound I-695 to the south at the Maryland Route 295 Interchange.

This option was not selected because it did not markedly improve the weaving and diverging conditions at the Maryland Route 295 interchange and it created an unacceptable diverging condition at the C-D Road exit.

## Maryland Route 295 Interchange Option 2 - Not Selected

A four-lane ramp, carrying two lanes in each direction, would have provided a direct connection from the median of Maryland Route 295 to the median of I-695. The southbound Maryland Route 295 to southbound I-695 connection would have begun near the Patapsco River bridge, with two lanes in the median adjacent to the three mainline lanes. Two of the four ramp lanes on the four-lane bridge would have curved to the south and would then have tied into the median of I-695. The two median lanes would have joined the four mainline lanes. The outer mainline lane would have been dropped at Maryland Route 648.

The northbound I-695 to northbound Maryland Route 295 connection would have begun in the median of $I-695$ just north of Maryland Route 170. Two of the four ramp lanes on the four-lane bridge would have curved to the north and tied into the median adjacent to the three mainline lanes. The two ramp lanes would have tapered into the mainline of Maryland Route 295.

While Ramp $B$ would have been replaced by the proposed fly-over ramp, Ramp $H$ would have continued to operate for traffic destined to Maryland Route 170.

A large number of retaining walls would have been required along the Beltway for this interchange option. In addition to the new four-lane bridge, with two lanes per direction separated by a median barrier, reconstruction of the bridges on I695 over Maryland Route 295 and the Nursery Road Bridge over Maryland Route 295 would have been required.

This option was not selected because of cost and the fact that it only addressed two major interchange movements.

I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange Option 3 - Not selected
A new direct ramp (Ramp Y-2) would have carried northbound traffic on I-895 westerly onto I-895 toward Maryland Route 295. A proposed diamond ramp in the northeast quadrant of the I-895/Maryland Route 295 interchange would have permitted traffic to turn north onto the Baltimore-Washington Expressway and proceed into Baltimore City.

A proposed loop ramp in the southwest quadrant would have permitted returning traffic southbound on the Baltimore-Washington Expressway to turn east onto $I-895$ and then, via a direct ramp in the $Y$-Split interchange (Ramp $Y-1$ ) and proceed south into Anne Arundel County on Maryland Route 2 or Maryland Route 3.

Widening of the following bridges would have been necessary with this interchange option:

- I-895 Spur over Belle Grove Road, southbound.
- I-895 over Patapsco River.
o Maryland Route 295 over I-895, southbound.
Additionally, new bridges would have been required for both Ramps $Y-1$ and $Y-2$ in the $Y$-split vicinity and for Ramp $Y-2$ over Belle Grove Road along northbound I-895 Spur.

This option was not selected for a number of reasons:

- Reasonable alternatives exist to avoid the parkland and wetland impacts incurred by this option.
- This option does not provide measurable relief of the traffic volumes at the Maryland Route 295 interchange.
- Nontoll-paying traffic would be introduced onto a toll facility.


## D. DESIGN EXCEPTIONS

In order to obtain final approvals of the proposed selected Action in the Study Area, design exceptions for current AASHTO standards will be required. This description does not constitute the request for the exceptions, it simply documents the types of exceptions required for the Selected Action. The design speed for I-695 is 60 mph while the design speed on Maryland Route 295 is 60 or 70 mph , depending on the location. The items which will require design exceptions include the following:

Mainline - The Beltway was designed for 60 mph in the 1950's. Since that time, the standards have been revised and current horizontal sight distance requirements are greater than what is provided on two segments of the Beltway in the Study Area: Edmondson Avenue and Frederick Road. A design exception will be required for horizontal sight distance at these two locations.

During this study, reconstruction of the mainline in the Edmondson Avenue vicinity was examined in order to revise the horizontal sight distance to current standards. It was determined that due to cost and impacts, this reconstruction is not cost effective. Likewise, that same determination was made regarding the revisions in the Frederick Road vicinity. However, during design the placement of the concrete median barrier will be evaluated to maximize the available sight distance.

Lane width reductions are required under the I-70 bridges in both the northbound and southbound directions in order to eliminate the need for reconstructing the triple decker structure.

All bridge shoulder widths will be consistent with the adjacent roadway sections.

Outside shoulders - Full outside shoulders of 10 feet could not be maintained throughout the Study Area due to the cost of the bridge reconstruction and right-of-way impacts. The provision of full shoulders, particularly at the Edmondson Avenue interchange, would require the taking of properties adjacent to the Beltway. In addition, many bridges which are in good structural condition would require reconstruction. As a result, portions of the Beltway will have shoulders which range from 4 feet to 10 feet. These reduced shoulders are primarily along those segments between U.S. Route 40 and Wilkens Avenue, and between I-95 and I-895.

Along I-95 northbound in the Caton Avenue vicinity, five lanes are proposed for the mainline. In order to utilize the existing and recently redecked bridge, the mainline would be shifted, resulting in a reduction of the outside shoulder.

Median Shoulders - A reduced median shoulder will be provided between the Washington Boulevard interchange and the I-895 interchange along I-695. This section of the Beltway is already constrained by some bridges, such as the CSX Railroad overpass. The Hollins Ferry Road bridge was reconstructed in 1988. It was not designed to accommodate the full shoulders required with the Beltway widening. When the Beltway is widened in this section, therefore, the existing bridges will be maintained, resulting in a reduced shoulder in the median, as well as to the outside. To provide consistent driver expectancy, the reduced shoulder will be maintained through the entire section. Reduced median shoulders will also be provided from north of U.S. Route 40 to retain existing bridges at Crosby Road and I-70.

Ramps - The existing interchange loop ramps radii range from a minimum of 105 feet to 180 feet. The proposed Selected Action of the interchange ramps will result in ramp radii ranging from a minimum of 85 feet to 250 feet. The reduced ramp radii will occur at the following interchanges: U.S. Route 40, Edmondson Avenue, Wilkens Avenue, Washington Boulevard, Hollins Ferry Road, and Maryland Route 295.

Ramp C from I-695 southbound to I-95 northbound will be dualized with the Selected Action. The required horizontal sight distance for that bridge would require additional widening by 10 feet. Due to cost, this bridge is not proposed for widening to provide the clearance.

Bridge Vertical clearance - A preliminary investigation of existing and proposed vertical clearances has been performed to determine where it may not be possible to achieve the desired clearance. The following conclusions have been reached (see Table II-6).
o All bridges which must be reconstructed to accommodate the widening will be designed to provide a 16-foot or more clearance.
o For bridges passing over I-695 which are not being reconstructed, the widening and overlay will be done to maintain the existing clearance.

- Of the I-695 bridges which cross over other roads, three may not meet vertical clearance criteria with the Beltway widening. These three bridges are Edmondson Avenue, Ingleside Avenue and Hammonds Ferry Road.

An attempt will be made during final design to maintain or improve vertical clearances. The following order of priority will be used to evaluate bridge clearance:

1. Provide desirable AAHTO clearance.
2. Provide minimum AASHTO clearance.
3. Maintain existing clearance.

However, due to impacts that would be incurred, roads with substandard vertical clearance are not proposed to be reconstructed to maintain clearance or increase clearance to standard requirements. Where an existing vertical clearance is less than or equal to current requirements, this clearance will be maintained by milling the pavement prior to placing the overlay. Where the existing vertical clearance is greater than the standard requirements, that clearance will not be reduced to substandard.

I-695 from I-95 west to the project limit is on the 26,000 Mile Priority Network (Network established by Department of Defense, State, and FHwA to meet the most urgent national defense needs). Proposed vertical clearance design exception (including exceptions which do not upgrade existing deficiencies) are to be sent to the FHWA Washington Office for coordination with the Military Traffic Management Command (in accordance with the FHwA May 11, 1990, Memorandum from the Associate Administrator for Engineering and Program Development).

The following four tables summarize design exceptions identified during project planning. Table II-5 provides a summary of the exceptions to the geometrics of the mainline and ramp alignments. Tables II-6, II-7 and II-8 provide a summary of the exceptions for shoulder widths (horizontal clearances) and vertical clearances on both the roadways and bridges.

TABLE II-5
AABHTO DESIGN EXCEPTIONB REQUIRED WITH SELECTED ACTION
I-695 MAINLINE AND RAMP GEOMETRIC8

| I-695 MAINLINE LOCATION (STA.) | DESIGN EXCEPTION REQUIRED | REQUIRED TO MEET AASHTO CRITERIA | PROVIDED WITH <br> SELECTED ACTION | JUSTIFICATION FOR DESIGN EXCEPTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. I-70 | Mainline Lane Width | four 12 foot lanes | two 12 foot lanes two 11 foot lanes | Reduction required to allow clearance under three level bridges at this interchange. |
| 2. U.S. Route 40 | Ramp Radii transition | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Ramp } R^{*}= \\ & 280 \text { feet } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{rl} \text { Ramp } A & R=100^{\prime} \\ B & R=100^{\prime} \\ C & R=150^{\prime} \\ D & R=140^{\prime} \end{array}$ | Revision to design would require large right-of-way acquisition to provide additional length for weaving and to increase the ramp radii. |
| 3. Edmondson Avenue (Sta. $325 \pm$ to $305 \pm$ ) | NB median shoulder Horizontal Sight Distance | 15 feet to meet criteria for $3^{\circ} 30^{\prime}$ curve | 10 feet | Meets minimum Design Speed Standard (Lower Values) for sight distance. Required Value could not be achieved due to cost and impacts of widening of structure and roadway. Also, would reduce radii of already substandard Ramp D. See p. II-19 for further discussion. |
| 4. Edmondson Ave. | Ramp Radii | Ramp $\mathrm{R}=$ 280 feet | Ramp D $\mathrm{R}=85^{\prime}$ | Redesign of this ramp would require relocation of Ramp $H$ and would require residential right-of-way acquisition. |
| 5. Frederick Road <br> (Sta. $300 \pm$ to $280 \pm$ ) | SB median shoulder Horizontal Sight Distance | 12 feet to meet criteria for $3^{\circ}$ curve | 10 feet | Same as Edmondson Ave., although ramps are not affected. See page II-19 for further discussion. |

* Ramp $R=$ Required ramp radius to meet AASHTO criteria.

TABLE II-5 (continued)
AASHTO DEBIGN EXCEPTIONS REOUIRED HITH BELECTED ACTION
I-695 MAINLINE AND RAMP GEOMETRICS

| I-695 MAINLINE LOCATION (STA.) | DESIGN EXCEPTION REQUIRED | REQUIRED TO MEET AASHTO CRITERIA | PROVIDED WITH SELECTED ACTION | JUSTIFICATION FOR DESIGN EXCEPTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6. Wilkens Ave. | Ramp Radii | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Ramp } R= \\ & 280 \text { feet } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Ramp } B \quad R=140^{\prime} \\ & \operatorname{Ramp} \\ & \operatorname{Ra} \\ & R=150^{\prime} \end{aligned}$ | Redesign of this ramp would require relocation of with Ramp F or replacen Ramp C (Option 1). Implementation of either of these improvements would result in marginal operational ramp improvements. |
| 7. Washington Blva. | Ramp Radii | Ramp $\mathrm{R}=$ <br> 280 feet | Ramp C R $=200{ }^{\circ}$ | Redesign to accommodate required radius would encroach on Ramp $G$ and require right-of-way acquisition outside that ramp. |
| 8. Maryland Route 295 | Ramp Radii | Ramp $\mathbf{R}=$ 280 feet | Ramps E,F,G,H $\mathrm{R}=135$ feet | Redesign to accommodate required radius would require tremendous right-of-way acquisition. |

TABLE II-6: AASHTO DESIGN EXCEPTIONS REQUIRED WITH SELECTED ACTION

## I-695 HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL CLEARANCE



TABLE II-6: AASHTO DESIGN EXCEPTIONS REQUIRED WITH SELECTED ACTION
I-695 HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL CLEARANCE


Note: Existing vertical clearance information is not currently available for the Wilkeas Avenue, Md. Route 170 and Joh Avenue Bridges.

TABLE II-7: AASHTO DESIGN EXCEPTIONS REQUIRED WITH SELECTED ACTION
I-95 HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL CLEARANCE

| HORIZONTAL CLEARANCE | Desirable Per AASHTO | Minimum <br> Per AASHTO | Proposed | Reason for Exceptions <br> That May Be Required |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mainline <br> Roadway <br> Inside <br> Shoulder | $10^{\circ}$ | 10' | Joh Avenue to Caton Avenue - 12' to 8' taper | FHwA and SHA conceptually agreed that reconstruction of the bridges with a remaining useful life was not prudent if the widening and minimal shoulder of $3-1 / 2^{\prime}$ in constrained areas could be maintained. This is documented in the minutes of a meeting held on $12 / 16 / 83$. |
| VERTICAL CLEARANCE |  |  |  |  |
| Clearance over Interstate | $16^{\prime} 9^{\prime \prime}$ | 16' | Caton Avenue Bridge maintain existing clearance (approximately $15^{\prime}-11^{\prime \prime}$ ) | FHwA policy, as documented in 3/31/88 memo, requires a minimum vertical clearance of 16 ' over Interstate Routes. |

TABLE II-8: AASHTO DESIGN EXCEPTIONS REQUIRED WITH SELECTED ACTION
MARYLAND ROUTE 295 HORIZONTAL CLEARANCE

| HORIZONTAL CLEARANCE | Desirable <br> Per AASHTO | Minimum <br> Per AASHTO | Proposed | Reason for Exceptions That May Be Required |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mainline <br> Roadway <br> Inside <br> Shoulder | $10^{\prime}$ | $10^{\prime}$ | 4’ beneath bridges available <br> Winterson Road <br> West Nursery Road <br> Patapsco River Bridge I-895 <br> Baltimore Highlands <br> Pedestrian Overpass <br> No reconstruction required | FHwA and SHA conceptually agreed that reconstruction of the bridges with a remaining useful life was not prudent if the widening and minimal shoulder of 3-1/2' in constrained areas could be maintained. This is documented in the minutes of a meeting held on $12 / 16 / 83$. |
| Mainline <br> Roadway <br> Outside <br> Shoulder | 10' | $10^{\prime}$ | Winterson Road - 7' | FHwA and SHA conceptually agreed that reconstruction of the bridges with a remaining useful life was not prudent if the widening and minimal shoulder of 7 ' in constrained areas could be maintained. This is documented in the minutes of a meeting held on $12 / 16 / 83$. |
| Mainline Bridge Shoulders | $10^{\prime}$ inside and consistent with adjacent roadway | $10^{\prime}$ inside and consistent with adjacent roadway | Patapsco River - 4' inside | Maintain existing shoulder not affected by widening. Bridge shoulder widths will be consistent with adjacent roadway sections. |

SHA will review adding $10^{\prime}$ inside shoulders at all bridges where cross over bridges are to be reconstructed.

While roadway widening, interchange modifications, and ramp improvements are all proposed as a part of the Build Alternate, the realities of available funding and the greater need for improvements in certain portions of the Study Area are anticipated to result in the staged construction of improvements over a ten to fifteen year time frame. Consequently, with the Selected Action, major improvements would be programmed to address the greatest project needs (i.e., areas with severe levels of congestion and/or high accident rates).

- Staging -

Following the Combined Location/Design Public Hearing, an analysis was made to segment the project into reasonable construction limits. Maintenance of Traffic (MOT), ease of construction and the overall size and cost of the construction contract were considered in making this determination.

The approach was focused on grouping the projects from minor to major using the following guidelines.


Major - primarily mainline widening with bridge construction required

Within each grouping, priorities were established based on the overall traffic capacity or safety improvement that could be achieved for the cost of the project. Some of the projects were sequenced for logical constructability.

For the southwest Beltway study, it was agreed that the area which had the highest priority was that between $I-95$ and Wilkens Avenue. A general consideration for all projects will be that an interim solution should not be incorporated if a return to a location in the future for further improvements would cause serious safety problems. Design of each segment would include the interchanges as well as the mainline. The design would be developed so that portions could be separated to allow for alternative funding sources or breakdown.

Review meetings to discuss changes in progress will be held on a semi-annual basis. The meetings, conducted in-house with SHA personnel, including the Administrator, would serve as updates for progress on design and construction.

Due to the high traffic volumes which use these sections of I695, Maryland Route 295, and I-95, sequencing of construction to maintain safe and efficient traffic service is critical. Construction sequences would be developed for the Selected Action, which would reduce construction-zone accidents, driver confusion, and delays.

Initial stages of construction in the "major" category, primarily on I-695 within the study limits, would occur to the outside of each roadway. Work to be done during the construction phases would include, but not necessarily be limited to:
: Outside bridge widenings.
: Retaining walls and associated drainage structures.
: Mainline paving and shoulder construction.
: Safety grading as necessary.
Staged construction, primarily on Maryland Route 295, would generally consist of improvements in the median; i.e., construction of two additional traffic lanes, inside shoulders, median barrier or guardrail and associated drainage structures.

## - Maintenance of Traffic -

In order to provide the highest degree of safety during these staged construction periods, the following measures would be utilized:
: A 10 foot temporary shoulder will be provided adjacent to the temporary traffic lane for most of the project's length.
: Temporary slope-faced concrete barriers will be provided throughout the construction area.
: Through superelevated sections, the temporary traffic lanes will be superelevated and transitioned in conformance with AASHTO.
: Slope-faced traffic barriers will be constructed on several bridge parapets.
: Temporary acceleration/deceleration lanes will provide a high degree of safety in merging areas.
: All signing, marking, barrier placement and channelization will be in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (1988), including the latest revisions.

The affect of the construction on traffic service and adjacent communities has been considered. In order to minimize disturbance to traffic flow, construction will be limited to off-peak hours of the day and the existing number of lanes on $1-695$ will be maintained. In order to limit the disruption to adjacent residences, the State Highway Administration will work with Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties and local residents. An attempt will be made to control noise in accordance with local noise ordinances.

SECTION III AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

## A. INTRODUCTION

The I-695/Maryland Route $295 /$ I-895 Study Area presents a diverse social, economic and natural environment. Residential development is located adjacent to most portions of the roadways, particularly between I-70 and I-95, and east of Maryland Route 295. Established industrial development is evident and the addition of more industrial developments is expected, especially between I-95 and Maryland Route 295 and along Maryland Route 295 south of the Beltway. The Patapsco Valley State Park crosses under each of the three roadways. While a Study Area has been delineated, it must be recognized that the existing roadway facilities under study for reconstruction are of regional significance.

## B. SOCIO-ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

## 1. Social Environment

The Study Area is located within the Baltimore Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA), comprised of the City of Baltimore and the five surrounding counties: Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard. The Baltimore SMSA experienced a 20.6 percent growth in population from 1960 to $1980^{1}$. Anne Arundel County's population increased 79.4 percent from 206,634 in 1960 to 370,777 in 1980. During this twenty-year period, Baltimore County increased less than half as much (33.1 percent), with the period between 1970 and 1980 experiencing a population growth of only six percent.

The growth rates between 1980 and 1985 increased at a slightly slower rate, with Anne Arundel County experiencing a 7.1 percent increase and Baltimore County 1.5 percent. The entire State increased in population by 3.2 percent.

Table III-1 summarizes past and projected population growth data in Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, the Baltimore SMSA and the State of Maryland.
a. Population

Examination of the 1980 Census of Population and Housing ${ }^{2}$ indicated that 19 Baltimore County census tracts and 5 Anne Arundel County census tracts are located in the Study Area (see Figures III-1 and III-2). Growth in employment and number of employees is relevant because a high proportion of travel associated with work trips takes place in the morning and evening peak travel hours. These peak travel hour trips typically place the most stress on highway capacity.
$1 \quad 1990$ Census data not available during preparation of this document.
21980 Census of Population and Housing

TABLE III-1
Regional population Data

| Year | Baltimore County | A. A. County | Balto. SMSA | Maryland |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1960 | 492,428 | 206,634 | $1,803,374$ | $3,100,689$ |
| 1970 | 620,409 | 298,042 | $2,069,841$ | $3,923,897$ |
| 1980 | 655,615 | 370,777 | $2,174,023$ | $4,216,446$ |
| 1985 | 665,200 | 397,277 | $2,227,500$ | $4,350,000$ |
| 1990 | 669,100 | 420,708 | $2,287,800$ | $4,535,000$ |
| 1995 | 677,700 | 441,673 | $2,341,300$ | na. |
| 2000 | 689,900 | 457,669 | $2,397,800$ | $4,862,900$ |
| 2005 | 697,200 | 469,523 | $2,440,300$ | na. |
| 2010 | 702,800 | 477,988 | $2,474,700$ | n.a. |

Sources: Bureau of the Census 1980: Baltimore County and Anne Arundel County Planning and Zoning (n.a., not available)

The location of this project in the Baltimore Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) emphasizes the important relationship between commuting and growth of the region. The 1960-1980 Census information, analyzed by the Regional Planning Council ${ }^{2}$, identifies the following regional relationships:

- In the Baltimore SMSA, Baltimore County has experienced the greatest absolute increase in resident labor force over the 20 -year period. In that period, the labor force grew by nearly 140,000 workers.
- Non-City workers have increased by 50 percent.
- Baltimore County has experienced the greatest absolute increase in the number of jobs over the period: 170,500 jobs.
- Non-City employment has increased its share of regional jobs by one-third over the period (from 38 percent to 53 percent).
$1 \quad 1990$ Census data not available during preparation of this document.
2 "Commuting In the Baltimore Region: Historical Perspectives and Current Trends" by Charles R. Goodman and John M. Bailey, June 1985, p. 7.



In 1985, 81,500 persons, or 3.7 percent of the Baltimore SMSA population, resided in the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Study Area's population. (See Appendix B, Table B-3). Between 1980 and 1985, the population of the Baltimore SMSA increased by 2.5 percent, yet the Study Area increased by only 2 percent, with the majority of that growth in Anne Arundel County.

By the year 2010, the population of Baltimore county is projected to increase from a 1985 total of 665,200 to 702,800 , an increase of 5.7 percent. Anne Arundel County's population is anticipated to increase from 397,300 to 478,000 , an increase of 20.3 percent. The Study Area is anticipated to experience an overall decrease in population of 0.6 percent between the years of 1985 and 2005.

Between 1970 and 1980, the Catonsville-Arbutus area experienced an overall decrease in population, but a decided increase in housing development. In 1980, the population for the area was approximately 57,400 people. This represents a 9.2 percent decline from the 1970 approximation of 62,700 people. The decline in population has been attributed to the general decrease in family size. In 1970, the estimated household size was 3.1 persons per household, while in 1980, the estimated figure had decreased to 2.4 persons per household. (Appendix B, Table B-4).

The Security and Catonsville areas have seen marked increases in housing development between 1970 and 1980. Security had an increase of about 700 housing units; catonsville had an increase of more than 2,650 units. During this same time period, Arbutus experienced a decrease in available housing of slightly more than 1,900 units.

Employment, however, is experiencing rapid growth. For example, in the greater Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Airport vicinity between 1980 and 1985, employment was estimated to have grown by 44,000 employees or 48 percent. In the five years between 1985 and 1990, employment is estimated to have grown another 45,600 , or 98 percent over 1980, with growth slowing beyond 1990. According to the Greater BWI Commuter Transportation Center, in 1990 retail and non-retail employment in the greater BWI area totaled 105,390. The greater BWI area is defined as the 10 square mile area surrounding the airport, bounded by I-695 on the north, Maryland Route 32 on the south, Maryland Route 3 on the east, and the Anne Arundel County/Howard County Line on the west (including a small portion of Annapolis Junction). As stated, the rate of growth is expected to slow beyond 1990, with total employment in 1995 estimated at 110,317 and in year 2000 at 112,996.

The region-wide impact of employment growth is substantially greater than population growth; population growing by 23 percent and employment growing by 124 percent between the years 1985 and 2005. These data are for the greater BWI area which includes the airport, Ft. George G. Meade and a portion of Howard County, but does not reflect growth in the entire Study Area. ${ }^{1}$

The tremendous employment growth that is taking place to the north and west of BWI Airport is clearly evident. From an employment total of 20,200 in 1980, the immediate airport area has grown to 34,700 in 1985, an increase of 72 percent overall or 11 percent per annum. This is 15 times the annual rate of growth of population for the region for this time period. Moreover, this rate of growth is expected to continue from 1985 to 1990. An example of the growth in the vicinity is the Airport Square Technology Park with 18 buildings and over 1 million square feet of office space.

Other areas in the BWI study area will reflect an increase in employment, but not as great as that in the immediate airport area. While this area will experience a 262 percent employment increase between 1980 and 2005, the Ft. Meade area will have a 136 percent increase. Employment in the total Study Area is projected to increase by 127 percent.

Recent unemployment rates for the Baltimore Metropolitan Area, Anne Arundel County and Baltimore County are listed below:

| Unemployment Rate November | $1990^{2}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |
| Maryland | 5.3 |
| Baltimore Metro. Area | 5.6 |
| Anne Arundel County | 4.0 |
| Baltimore County | 4.9 |

Table III-2 indicates the employment by classification for the Study Area.

[^1]TABLE III-2: STUDY AREA EMPLOYMENT BY CLASSIFICATION'

| Baltimore County <br> Census Tract Number | Total Employed Over <br> Age 16 | ```Managers and Professional``` | Technical Sales and Support | Service occupations | Farming, Forestry, \& Fishing | Precision Production | Operators, Fabricators, \& Laborers |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4015.05 | 1,501 | $33.0 \%$ | $44.6 \%$ | 6.1\% | 1.2\% | $7.0 \%$ | 8.1\% |
| 4011.01 | 2,450 | 24.6 | 38.0 | 12.4 | 0.6 | 10.8 | 13.6 |
| 4001 | 381 | 27.3 | 33.6 | 10.0 | - | 20.5 | 8.6 |
| 4002 | 1,533 | 28.2 | 36.5 | 12.1 | 0.4 | 14.5 | 8.3 |
| 4003 | 528 | 27.1 | 29.7 | 16.9 | 0.9 | 13.3 | 12.1 |
| 4006 | 1,482 | 29.2 | 42.0 | 8.0 | - | 11.0 | 9.8 |
| 4007.01 | 1,202 | 28.2 | 44.1 | 9.5 | - | 10.6 | 7.6 |
| 4008 | 1,480 | 22.4 | 35.1 | 17.3 | - | 11.8 | 13.4 |
| 4016.01 | 50 | 40.0 | 14.0 | 30.0 | - | 16.0 | - |
| 4016.02 | 454 | 20.9 | 41.9 | 13.0 | - | 4.6 | 19.6 |
| 4301.01 | 1,192 | 7.9 | 36.0 | 10.0 | 0.6 | 15.0 | 30.0 |
| 4301.02 | 1,289 | 10.2 | 34.6 | 13.3 | 0.4 | 19.9 | 21.6 |
| 4302 | 1,285 | 14.5 | 34.4 | 13.4 | - | 13.3 | 24.4 |
| 4303 | 2,881 | 10.0 | 32.7 | 11.5 | 0.4 | 18.6 | 26.8 |
| 4304 | 1,561 | 18.0 | 35.7 | 12.7 | 1.1 | 10.3 | 22.2 |
| 4305 | 470 | 3.4 | 39.6 | 10.8 | - | 19.8 | 26.4 |
| 4307 | 2,320 | 19.0 | 40.3 | 12.8 | 0.5 | 16.0 | 11.4 |
| 4308 | 1,826 | 24.9 | 40.9 | 9.1 | - | 10.7 | 14.4 |
| 4309 | 2,545 | 13.8 | 40.3 | 13.4 | 0.6 | 11.7 | 20.2 |
| Anne Arundel County Census Tract Number |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7503 | 1,602 | 19.9 | 35.1 | 13.7 | - | 14.3 | 17.0 |
| 7505 | 2,135 | 20.7 | 38.8 | 9.0 | 0.5 | 16.6 | 14.4 |
| 7502.01 | 1,165 | 7.6 | 32.3 | 16.8 | - | 12.6 | 30.7 |
| 7502.02 | 1,538 | 14.4 | 34.3 | 12.9 | 0.6 | 17.5 | 20.3 |
| 7508.02 | 4,420 | 15.2 | 37.7 | 13.3 | 0.6 | 13.7 | 19.5 |

1 See Appendix B for Table B-4 Classification of Employment
Sources: Bureau of Census 1980: Baltimore Metropolitan Area
b. Population Characteristics

Table III -3 indicates the portion of the Study Area that is composed of minorities, persons aged 65 and older and those under 18 years.

## c. Neighborhoods

The I-695 roadway, constructed in the early 1960's, physically separated many of the communities in the Study Area. The residential communities between $I-70$ and $I-95$ remain very strong as evidenced by the extent and support of the community facilities and organizations. These established communities along the Beltway are particularly sensitive to the traffic and noise issues related to highway projects.

Residential communities in the area include Catonsville Heights, Edmondson Ridge, Dunmore Estates, Catonsville, Paradise, Arbutus, Halethorpe, Lansdowne, Baltimore Highlands, North Linthicum Crestwood, Raynor Heights, Linthicum, Rosemont, Baltimore Highlands and Ridgeway Manor. These residential areas are concentrated between $I-70$ and $I-95$ along the Beltway and between the Beltway and the Baltimore City Line along Maryland Route 295.

Recommended goals for the existing urbanized communities of Baltimore County, and for similar areas in Anne Arundel County, address pace of development, community services facilities, character, provision of infrastructure to satisfy the needs of residents in pursuit of work and leisure activities, and identity of community with regard to new development. ${ }^{1}$

## d. Community Facilities and services

The I-695/Maryland Route 295 Study Area contains a wide variety of community facilities, including 18 schools, nine parks and recreation areas, and six medical facilities. The names and locations of these facilities are shown on Figures III-3 and III-4. The legend on Figure III-3 should be consulted for an explanation of the symbols used.
i. Churches

Many churches of different denominations are located in the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Study Area. Several of these churches operate schools or provide day care services. Two churches adjacent to the Beltway are located between Wilkins Avenue and Leeds Avenue. Westland Baptist Church is located along the northbound roadway and Holy Apostles Episcopal Church along the southbound roadway.

[^2]TABLE III-3: STUDY AREA POPULATION CHARACTERIBTICS
Page 1 of 2

| Baltimore County Census Tract No. | TOTAL POPULATION | $\begin{aligned} & \text { PERCENT } \\ & \text { BLACK } \\ & \text { POPULATION } \end{aligned}$ | PERCENT <br> SPANISH/ASIAN <br> POPULATION | $\begin{gathered} \text { PERCENT } \\ \text { PERSONS } \\ \text { UNDER } 18 \text { YEARS } \end{gathered}$ | PERCENT PERSONS 65 AND OVER | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MEDIAN } \\ & \text { AGE } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4015.05 | 3026 | 12.6 | 3.2 | 24.1 | 12.8 | 38.7 |
| 4011.01 | 4858 | 11.0 | 2.1 | 24.5 | 12.2 | 34.9 |
| 4001 | 1159 | 0.4 | 1.8 | 15.0 | 34.3 | 50.7 |
| 4002 | 2806 | 0.4 | 1.4 | 18.9 | 17.0 | 33.1 |
| 4003 | 1036 | 3.6 | 1.1 | 23.3 | 15.3 | 36.2 |
| 4006 | 3070 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 18.5 | 22.6 | 37.5 |
| 4007.01 | 2262 | 2.5 | 0.4 | 13.2 | 24.0 | 43.0 |
| 4008 | 2891 | 32.6 | 0.8 | 21.7 | 15.0 | 36.3 |
| 4016.01 | 1096 | 23.1 | 1.6 | 2.8 | 25.6 | 52.7 |
| 4016.02 | 1139 | 23.9 | 6.5 | 1.2 | 0.3 | 19.8 |
| 4301.01 | 4659 | 2.0 | 2.6 | 30.8 | 4.0 | 24.3 |
| 4301.02 | 2646 | 0 | 0.9 | 23.0 | 12.3 | 38.7 |
| 4302 | 2839 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 24.6 | 12.3 | 33.3 |
| 4303 | 6615 | 6.1 | 4.0 | 35.8 | 4.5 | 25.0 |
| 4304 | 2992 | 10.4 | 2.4 | 23.1 | 13.3 | 34.0 |
| 4305 | 1079 | 0 | 1.3 | 24.3 | 16.2 | 36.3 |
| 4307 | 4520 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 25.7 | 11.5 | 33.7 |
| 4308 | 4035 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 21.0 | 17.5 | 40.7 |
| 4309 county | 5166 | 3.5 | 6.6 | 20.2 | 18.2 | 34.3 |
| Baltimore County Total | 57894 | 6.3 | 2.5 | 23.3 | 13.6 | 36.0 |

Sources: Bureau of Census 1980: Baltimore and Anne Arundel County Planning and Zoning, pp. 21-24, 31-32, 65-68, 75-76

TABLE III-3: GTUDY AREA POPOLATION CHARACTERIBTICB
Page 2 of 2

| Anne Arundel County Census Tract No. | $\begin{gathered} \text { PERCENT } \\ \text { TOTAL } \\ \text { POPULATION } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { PERCENT } \\ \text { BLACK } \\ \text { POPULATION } \end{gathered}$ | PERCENT SPANISH/ASIAN POPULATION | $\begin{gathered} \text { PERCENT } \\ \text { PERSONS } \\ \text { UNDER } 18 \text { YEARS } \end{gathered}$ | PERSONS <br> 65 AND OVER | $\begin{gathered} \text { MEDIAN } \\ \text { AGE } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & 7503 \\ & 7505 \\ & 7502.01 \\ & 7502.02 \\ & 7508.02 \\ & \text { Anne Arundel County Total } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3092 \\ 4016 \\ 2574 \\ 3176 \\ 9151 \\ \hline 22009 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.2 \\ 1.9 \\ 35.9 \\ 0 \\ 5.5 \\ \hline 7.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.6 \\ & 0.8 \\ & 0.8 \\ & 0.8 \\ & 3.8 \\ & \hline 2.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 25.2 \\ & 22.4 \\ & 23.8 \\ & 23.3 \\ & 27.7 \\ & \hline 25.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6.5 \\ 10.5 \\ 14.6 \\ 12.6 \\ 6.9 \\ \hline 9.2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 31.7 \\ 37.7 \\ 37.9 \\ 38.4 \\ 29.3 \\ \hline 35.0 \end{array}$ |
| Study Area Total | 79903 | 6.5 | 2.4 | 23.9 | 12.4 | 35.7 |

[^3]


## ii. Schools

Several public and private schools accommodate children in grades Kindergarten through 12. The local public and private schools in the Study Area include the following:

| 1. | Woodbridge Elementary School |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2. Johnnycake Middle School |  |
| 3. | Johnnycake Elementary School |
| 4. | Westowne School |
| 5. | Western Vo-tech Center |
| 6. | United Cerebral Palsy of Central Maryland Inc. |
| 7. | Catonsville Elementary School |
| 8. | Catonsville Middle School |
| 9. | Maiden Choice Center |
| 10. | Lansdowne Middle School |
| 11. | St. Clement School |
| 12. Lansdowne Middle School |  |
| 13. | Lansdowne Sr. High School |
| 14. Riverview Elementary School |  |
| 15. Baltimore Highland Elementary School |  |
| 16. Belle Grove Elementary School |  |
| 17. Overlook Elementary School |  |
| 18. Halethorpe Elementary School |  |

The locations of these schools are noted on Figures III-3 and 4. The University of Maryland Baltimore County Campus and Catonsville Community College are also in the Study Area.

The Maiden Choice Center, between Leeds Avenue and the Shelbourne pedestrian overpass, is a special education facility for retarded, autistic and handicapped students between ages 6 and 21. The 1990-91 enrollment is 150 students with a staff of about 43 persons. This facility is an annex to the Rolling Road School which cares for 120 students ranging from infants to children aged 6 years.

Western Vocational Technical School, a portion of which is located along northbound I-695, has a total enrollment of 1,000 students, with 500 in each of two sessions, morning and afternoon.

The University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) campus is bounded by Wilkens Avenue, Shelbourne Road and Rolling Road and two residential communities. This branch of the University of Maryland provides programs in 11 Technical Major/Business Certificate Programs, 27 Undergraduate majors and 26 Graduate majors.

The Maritime Institute of Technology, located adjacent to northbound Maryland Route 295 near the W. Nursery Road interchange (see Figure III-4), provides training for Masters, Mates and Pilots. Programs available on the 50-acre campus vary, with eight-weeks being the longest program session. Approximately 70-75 students live in the facility at any one time.

## iii. Parks and Recreation Areas

Twelve parks and recreation areas are located in the Study Area. They include community parks such as Maiden Choice Park, and county facilities such as Banneker Community Center, Westland Garden Community Park, Halethorpe Community Center, Hillcrest Park, Willow Grove Park, Overlook Park and Southwest Area Park. The Patapsco Valley State Park is a state owned and maintained park. Facilities provided range from tennis, basketball and picnicking facilities to fishing, jogging, biking, hiking, nature trails and camping. The focal point of the Patapsco Valley State Park is the Patapsco River. The parks and their locations are shown on Figures III-3 and 4. The table below indicates the recreation facilities available at parks in the Study Area:

TABLE III-4 - STUDY AREA PARK FACILITIES

W. 4 acres ie maintained by the Baltimore county Department of Parks. The Department of public works maintains
the rest of the open lot.
iv. Law Enforcement and Fire Protection Services

Police protection for the Baltimore County portions of the Study Area is provided by Baltimore County Police, Precinct 1 Office, located at Wilkens and Walker Avenues. The Northern Anne Arundel County Police station, serving the Anne Arundel County portions of the project, is located in the Maryland Route $648 / H a m m o n d s$ Lane vicinity north of the Beltway. Maryland State Police provide protection along Maryland Route 295 and Toll Facilities Police provide protection along I-895. Their stations are located outside of the Study Area.

Fire protection is provided in the Study Area by the following Baltimore County engine companies:

- Station \#13

Woodlawn Drive, Westview

- Station \#4

Frederick Road, Catonsville

- Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department \#350

Southwestern Boulevard, Arbutus

- Station \#340

Benson Avenue, Violetville

- Station \#5

Washington Boulevard, Halethorpe

- Station \#360

Hazel Avenue, Lansdowne

- Station \#370

Michigan Avenue, English Consul

The Anne Arundel County engine companies serving the Study Area are:

- Station \#32

Camp Meade Road, Linthicum

- Station \#31

Ritchie Highway, Brooklyn

The Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department is one of only six stations in Baltimore County having Emergency Rescue Equipment. Their responsibility ranges from the Patapsco River (County Line) to I-70. Their call statistics for 1985 to 1986 indicate that 30 percent of their responses are to the north of their location, requiring use of Ramp F from Leeds Avenue. Similar ambulance statistics are as follows:

TABLE III-5 - Station \#350 Ambulance Response Data
Calls to North of station
Year
Requiring Use of I-695

1983
1984
1985
1986 (4 months)

20 percent
19 percent
20 percent
17.7 percent
v. Medical Facilities

There are several acute care clinics and professional medical centers in the Study Area. The Maryland Medical Laboratory (labelled as Medical 4 on Figure III-3) is located near I-695 and U.S. Route 1 Alternate, Washington Boulevard. Patients visit the facility - there is no emergency or ambulance service.

Spring Grove State Hospital Center is a psychiatric hospital and nursing home located on 200 acres adjacent to the Beltway between Frederick Road and Wilkens Avenue (labelled as Medical 2 on Figure III-3). The facility provides care for 900 to 1,000 clients with a 1,500 member staff composed of Hospital and other organization personnel. Adjacent to the Beltway are two cottages, one of which is no longer used and another for employees. One of the patient buildings, housing 160 clients and staff, is located near the Beltway at the north end of the property. The facility's staff maintains the 70 buildings and five miles of roadway on the property.

The other medical facilities shown on Figure III-3 are Meridian Nursing Center (Medical 1), Charleston Retirement Center (Medical 3), and Lansdowne Medical Center and Pharmacy (Medical 5).

The German Orphan Home is a care facility for normal children aged 8 to 18 that have been neglected or abused. It is not a medical facility and the children attend schools in the community. Currently, approximately 50 children are in residence at this non-profit facility.

## 2. Economic Setting

The Baltimore-Washington region has enjoyed a long period of relative prosperity that strongly affects the Study Area. The current recession which is being experienced throughout the country, however, is also being felt in the region. Generally, the region is recognized as prosperous. Many commuters live in the Study Area and travel to the Washington, D.C. area, a trip of approximately 25 miles to the Capital Beltway. The growth that the BWI vicinity has experienced is a function of the increased flights and passenger capabilities as well as the large amount of office construction in that general vicinity. Expansion of the airport facility will result in an increase in the 600 daily flights on 29 air carriers.

Growth in Baltimore County includes the Town Centers of Owings Mills and White Marsh. Growth in Anne Arundel County between Baltimore and Annapolis is continuing and will contribute to the infilling of the Baltimore-Washington-Annapolis development triangle.

Growth in Howard, Harford and Carroll Counties is a result of excellent highway connections and desirable development densities. Employment centers, such as Columbia, are contributing to the increasing growth and stability of these outer-counties.

Additionally, the revitalization in Baltimore City will have an increasingly important influence on the economic conditions of the region. Firms locating and relocating in the city will provide a stable base for the growth in the Baltimore metropolitan region.
3. Land Use
a. Existing Land Use

The I-695/Maryland Route 295 Study Area is composed of two different types of land uses in Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties. The land uses, as outlined below (see Figures III-5 and $6)$, are identical for existing and proposed conditions.
i. Baltimore County

Existing communities are defined on the basis of existing land use, with specific boundaries delineated using major natural or man-made barriers, such as rivers or limited access highways or boundaries of existing zoning districts that correspond to the edges of existing developed areas.

The Study Area from I-70 to I-95 contains residential development, with commercial development in the vicinity of the $I-70$ and U.S. Route 40 interchanges. Commuter oriented traffic often uses the Beltway due to the lack of alternate routes or to avoid the congestion of parallel arterial routes. Almost all of the residential development in the study Area pre-dates construction of the Beltway and is closely adjacent to the existing highway right-of-way.

The portion of I-695 between I-95 and Maryland Route 170, has developed into a light industrial and commercial corridor. Development planned for existing open areas provides for a tightly woven commercial/industrial area. The Baltimore County 1989 to 2000 Land Use Plan ${ }^{1}$ and the 1980 Anne Arundel County Transportation Plan indicate that the widening proposed in this Study of I-695/Maryland Route 295 is consistent with proposed development in the area.

Along Maryland Route 295, dense residential development is predominant in the Baltimore County portion north of the Patapsco River. The Baltimore Highlands pedestrian overpass allows for travel between the communities on either side of Maryland Route 295.

1 Master Plan Baltimore County 1989-2000, Adopted February 5, 1990 .
ii. Anne Arundel County

Between the Patapsco River and Maryland Route 170 along I-695, land use has developed into a light industrial and commercial corridor. Development for existing open areas provides a tightly woven commercial/industrial area. South of the I-695/Maryland Route 295 interchange, residential development predominates along the Beltway.

Along the Maryland Route 295 portion of this project, the area just north of the Maryland Route 46/I-195 interchange has developed into an office/industrial corridor with access to the secondary street system. The Maryland Route 295/I695 interchange quadrants are entirely developed, with improvements near the existing Maryland Route 295 right-of-way. The eastern side of the interchange is residential, while the western side is commercial/industrial.

The roadway study area along Maryland Route 295 from I-695 to the Baltimore City Line includes the Patapsco River crossing, which is primarily wetland or marshland open space.

## b. Future Land Use/Planning

The proposed land use is consistent with the type of development which has taken place along the Beltway and Maryland Route 295 (see Figures III-5 and 6).

The proposed land uses, reflected in the maps in the Baltimore County Master Plan document, are provided as a guide to zoning to ensure that there is an adequate and properly distributed supply of the various land uses to meet the county's projected residential, commercial, industrial and office needs. One of the goals within the Transportation Element of the Plan recognizes that adequate transportation infrastructure is needed to satisfy requirements for work and leisure travel, as well as to foster responsible land use decisions, provide for the economic growth strategies of the County, and fulfill Baltimore County's commitment to the regional planning process. A revised "Land Use Policy Statement" will be prepared for approval by the Planning Board and Council prior to the Comprehensive Zoning Cycle in 1992.

Along the Study Area of Maryland Route 295, Anne Arundel County anticipates industrial park development, as well as the continuation of office development. The improvements proposed by this project, the improved link from I-95 to BWI (I-195) and the Maryland Route 295/W. Nursery Road interchange, will encourage this commercial industrial development. Anne Arundel County favors the encouragement of growth in the western part of the county.

Master Plan Baltimore County 1989-2000, Adopted February 5, 1990. pp. 19-23



Development will take advantage of the good transportation access, encourage the revitalization and support of existing communities, and reduce the potential for negative environmental impact to the Chesapeake Bay. Population forecasts indicate a 20.3 percent overall growth rate in Anne Arundel County between 1985 and 2005:
$11.5 \%$ in North (I-695/Maryland Route 295 Study Area)
14.0\% in East
12.9\% in South
47.4\% in West

In addition to residential growth, substantial office and industrial growth is anticipated around the airport. ${ }^{1}$

Anne Arundel County land use development in the BWI vicinity is located along Nursery Road, Elkridge Landing Road, Andover Road and Maryland Route 295. The Airport Technology Park will ultimately consist of 40 buildings. A hotel/office complex on the southbound side of Maryland Route 295 near Winterson Lane is an example of the type of development anticipated.

## C. TRAFFIC AND SAFETY

## 1. Transportation Facilities

The Baltimore Metropolitan Area is similar to other metropolitan areas in that trip origins and destinations are becoming more dispersed throughout the area. Emphasis on downtownoriented travel has declined and regional shopping, office and industrial development has increased. As the suburban areas outside the Beltway have developed, so too have the suburb-tosuburb commuting patterns of the regional population for work, shopping and recreation trips.

The Study Area is served by a network of interstate highways and a system of principal and minor arterial, which carry traffic oriented towards the Central Business District (CBD) in Baltimore City as well as circumferential movements. The Baltimore Beltway provides access to Towson, the Baltimore County seat, and other destinations in the region. I-695 also interchanges with I70 to western destinations, and with I-95, to northern and southern destination points beyond the Study Area (see Figure I-1).

[^4]Principal arterials include U.S. Route 40 (West), Rolling Road (Maryland Route 166), Metropolitan Boulevard, Frederick Road (Maryland Route 144), Wilkens Avenue (Maryland Route 372), Southwestern Boulevard (Alt. U.S. Route 1), Washington Boulevard (U.S. Route 1), and Caton Avenue (see Figure III-7). Minor arterials are Nursery and W. Nursery Roads, Sulphur Spring Road, Selford Road, Joh Avenue, Maiden Choice Lane, Bloomsbury Avenue, Ingleside Avenue, Edmondson Avenue, Edmondson Ridge, Prospect Avenue, Crosby Road, and Woodlawn Drive.

Two of the most important regional highway links are the Harbor Tunnel and the Ft. McHenry Tunnel, which cross beneath the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River and provide for northbound and southbound trips through the city. These tunnels are particularly beneficial for inter-regional trips. The Francis Scott Key Memorial Bridge provides continuity for the Beltway over the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River.

The emphasis and use of the Beltway has been changing with the growth of the region. While the initial emphasis was on regional travel, the Beltway is now used for shorter local trips when other arterials are either not available, or are too heavily utilized. Figure III-8 indicates the historical annual daily traffic (ADT) on the Beltway just south of U.S. Route 40 at SHA's Permanent Traffic Counter No. 32. The trends indicated by these annual volumes show that during the eleven-year period between 1979 and 1989 this portion of the Beltway experienced a 40 percent increase in traffic, with a 10.8 percent increase between 1985 and 1986.

Figure III-9 indicates the annual daily traffic on Maryland Route 295 just north of Maryland Route 176 at SHA's Permanent Traffic Counter No. 25. While this station is outside of the Study Area, the trends along Maryland Route 295 are similar to those on I-695, with an increase in the eleven-year period between 1979 and 1989 of 64 percent and a 6.5 percent increase between 1985 and 1986.

Rail
The Mass Transit Administration's (MTA) rail transit line currently consists of one line from Charles Center in Baltimore City to Owings Mills in Baltimore County. An extension to Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore City is now under construction.

MTA completed a feasibility study for light rail transit (LRT) in the Baltimore Region, which included two corridors (north and south). The southern corridor runs to Glen Burnie, BWI and Annapolis. The entire 30 mile LRT line is now either in the final engineering phase or under construction.



PERMANENT COUNTER STATION \#25 LOCATED ALONG MD. 295 JUST
NORTH OF MD. 176

I-695: From I-70 to West of MD. 170
MD. 295 : From North of MD. 46 to the Boltimore City Line
MD. 295 ADT at STATION \#25

Maryland State Highway Administration
SCALE: NONE APRIL, 1991 NO. III-9

The I-695 Study Area is crossed by two heavy rail lines:

- The B\&O Railroad-Chessie System (CSX) serves industrial and commercial uses in the region. The system consists of 4 tracks on which 37 trains per day cross over the Beltway between the Washington Boulevard (US 1 Alt.) and the Hollins Ferry Road interchanges.
- The AMTRAK line is a 2-track high speed rail line which carries commuter and passenger trains along the Northeast Corridor. For instance, the Washington, D.C. to New York schedule crosses the Study Area every hour on the half hour. This crossing is adjacent to Southwestern Boulevard near the Leeds Avenue interchange.

MARC commuter rail service is provided by the Maryland Department of Transportation along both the B\&O and AMTRAK lines. Within the Study Area, three stops are provided by MARC between Baltimore City and BWI along the Amtrak line. Five trains operate in the morning and evening, Monday through Friday.

Bus
Bus transit service is provided by MTA throughout Baltimore City and neighboring Baltimore County and Anne Arundel County.

The Study Area is currently served by MTA bus routes 2, $3,11,13,15,20,22,23,31,77$, and $150 / 160$. These bus routes provide internal access to many residential neighborhoods, UMBC, Catonsville Community College, and the Westview Shopping Center. External destination points include the Baltimore City CBD, the Old Court Road and Rogers Avenue Metro stations and Pikesville. The MTA 230 Flyer provides weekday service between downtown Baltimore and the Parkway Center Industrial Park. Specially designated service to the Social Security Administration than is provided via MTA lines 13, 15, 20, 23, 28, 44, 77, 86 and 87 .

Other Transit
MTA provides a demand-responsive service for the transportation disadvantaged. Baltimore County sponsors County Ride, a paratransit service, which provided transportation to over 110,000 riders during 1989. Other private, sector firms also provide paratransit services in Baltimore County ${ }^{1}$.

[^5]The Commuter Assistance Center, a transportation information service for commuters who work in the BWI Airport area, was established in 1983 to develop and promote a broad-based program of transportation services to improve commuter access to the BWI Airport employment area. The Center acts as a liaison between employers and transportation providers such as the Mass Transit Administration, State Railroad Administration (SRA), and private bus and vanpool operators, and also serves as a central information clearinghouse for employees.

Four carpool/park-and-ride lots are available, three in the Baltimore County portion of the Study Area and one in the Anne Arundel County portion.

- A carpool lot in Baltimore County, located at the I-70 terminus near Cooks Lane, is maintained by SHA. Capacity is 263 vehicles. Daily usage in 1990 was approximately 15 percent.
- A park-and-ride lot in Baltimore County, at the Westview Cinema on U.S. Route 40 west of the Beltway, is maintained and served by MTA and holds more than 250 vehicles. Daily usage in 1990 was approximately 30 percent.
- A park-and-ride lot in Baltimore County, at the end of Maryland 166 near UMBC, is maintained and served by MTA and has a capacity of 450 vehicles. This lot has been opened since Spring 1990. The usage rate for the first six months was 17 percent.
- A carpool lot in Anne Arundel County, located along Hammonds Ferry Road, is maintained by SHA. This lot has a capacity of approximately 200 vehicles. Daily usage in 1990 was approximately 53 percent.


## Airport

The BWI Airport has experienced increased passenger loads due to the recent introduction of the Piedmont Airlines "hub". The increase in passenger load is expected to continue. Cargo loads at BWI have also increased, and this trend is expected to continue. To accommodate this expected growth, the General Aviation runway was lengthened in 1990. Pier $D$ was also lengthened and new gates have been added. A combination of passenger and cargo loads maximizes the use of the runways in their present configurations. The gates handled an average of 27,700 passengers per day in 1990 for a total passenger load of 10.1 million. Shipping by air continues to be attractive to research labs, warehousing firms and high-technology manufacturing located in the BWI area since it saves delivery time and provides for safe transport of fragile cargo. In 1990 BWI handled 261 million pounds of inbound and outbound freight and 70 million pounds of mail.

1 Office of Planning and Engineering, Maryland Aviation Administration, 1991.

Port
The Port of Baltimore is a major east coast port, handling approximately 29 million tons of cargo per year, of which 4.3 million tons are container cargo. Through the first half of 1990, 2.47 million tons of cargo entered the Port. Approximately 450,000 containers are transported on an annual basis in and around Baltimore for storage and miscellaneous staging on an annual basis. Although facilities are located primarily in the City of Baltimore, County facilities are also used for transporting, distributing and warehousing.

## 2. Traffic Operations

a. Volumes

Existing traffic volumes for 1989, as well as projected volumes for 2015 No-Build and Build conditions are summarized on Table III-6 (Average Daily Traffic (ADT) volumes). Projected volumes reflect traffic demand associated with planned developments within and adjacent to the Study Area.

The predominant traffic flow during the morning peak period is easterly along the principal arterial leading into Baltimore City. Traffic flow along I-695 is heavy in both directions, but heaviest in the southbound direction. The evening peak period reverses the flow from the City to and through the Study Area. Along U.S. Route 40 (West) the evening peak period experiences greater volumes of traffic than the morning peak period due to strip development patronized by residents from the study Area.

Specific traffic trends are identifiable for two distinct portions of the I-695 Study Area: between Maryland Route 295 and I-95 and from I-95 to I-70. Trends for the more southerly portion reflect an almost even split on the northbound and southbound roadways during both the morning and evening peaks. Overall traffic volumes on this portion in 1989 were between 4,000 and 5,000 vehicles per hour (kph) during the morning peak and between 5,000 and 6,000 ph during the evening peak.

In 1989, the portion of I-695 between I-95 and I-70 had a larger volume in the southbound direction in the morning peak and much greater northbound volumes in the evening. The morning peak for both northbound and southbound directions ranges from 5,100 to $6,300 \mathrm{vph}$, while the evening peak ranges from 4,900 to 8,100 kph. The northbound evening peak ranges between 7,700 and $8,100 \mathrm{vph}$.

Several areas along the I-695 mainline in the Study Area carry traffic volumes which meet or exceed the projected year 2015 traffic volumes. Ramp volumes do not reflect these same trends; these volumes are considerably less than the design year volumes.

TABLE III-6

| I-695/MD $295 / \mathrm{I}-895$ MAINLINE AVERAGE DAILY TRAFPIC (ADT) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| LOCATION | 1989 | $\begin{gathered} 2015 \\ \text { NO-BUILD } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2015 \\ \text { BUILD* } \end{gathered}$ |
| I-695 U.S. 40 to N. of Edmondson Ave. | 156,000 | 165,000 | 171,000 |
| I-695 N. of Edmondson Ave. to Edmondson Ave. | 156,000 | 165,000 | 171,000 |
| I-695: Edmondson Ave. to Frederick Road | 154,000 | 164,000 | 170,000 |
| I-695: Frederick Road to Wilkens Ave. | 151,000 | 161,000 | 167,000 |
| I-695: Wilkens Ave. to Leeds Ave. | 150,000 | 157,000 | 162,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { I-695: Leeds Ave. to } \\ & \text { I-95 } \end{aligned}$ | 138,000 | 155,000 | 160,000 |
| I-695: US 1 Alt. to Hollins Ferry Road | 119,000 | 148,000 | 153,000 |
| I-695: Hollins Ferry Road to Nursery Road | 109,000 | 142,000 | 147,000 |
| I-695: Nursery Road to Maryland Route 170 | 103,000 | 135,000 | 140,000 |
| Maryland Route 295: <br> Maryland Route 46 to I-695 | 66,000 | 89,000 | 89,000 |
| Maryland Route 295: I-695 to Balto. City Line | 60,000 | 91,000 | 91,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { I-895: } \\ & \text { Maryland Route } 295 \text { to Y-SPLIT } \end{aligned}$ | 43,100 | 47,500 | 47,500 |

* Alternate 2 - Mainline Widening

Truck volumes on this portion of the Beltway, particularly between I-95 and Maryland Route 295, are high. The long grade along the northbound roadway between I-95 and U.S. Route 40 requires an additional lane to facilitate truck movement through this segment. Trucks are restricted from the two left lanes on northbound I-695 between I-95 and U.S. Route 40.

## b. Level of Service

A traffic analysis was performed for both mainline and intersection traffic conditions. The results of the mainline analyses are summarized in Table III-7.

Levels of Service (LOS) were calculated using the 1985 Highway Capacity Manual for the mainline and the SHA "Critical Lane Method" for the intersections. Level of Service 'A' is considered to represent the best possible traffic conditions and Level of Service ' $F$ ' breakdown or "traffic jam" conditions (see the Glossary for a complete description).

A review of the traffic analysis along the mainline portions of $\mathrm{I}-695$ indicates the following:

- I-695 northbound currently experiences a general deterioration of Level of Service on all segments during the evening peak, with many segments experiencing LOS ' $E$ ' or ' $F$ ' and worse, indicating severe congestion and delay.
- I-695 southbound segments currently operate at the levels of service during the morning peak period similar to those experienced during the northbound evening peak.
- From U.S. 40 to U.S. 1, many segments operate at LOS 'E' or ' $\mathrm{F}^{\prime}$.
- From U.S. 1 to Maryland Route 295, most segments operate at LOS 'D'.
- Most of the ramps along I-695 northbound have operational deficiencies, although the only deficient ramp in the southbound direction is the ramp from I-695 to I-95.
- Traffic weaving areas within all of the interchanges experience LOS 'E' and 'F' along both northbound and southbound I-695.

[^6]TABLE III-7

| I-695/MARYIAND ROUTE 295 MAINLINE LEVEL OP BERVICE ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| LOCATION | 1989 Existing |  | ALT. 1 NO-BUILD 2015 |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { ALT. } c^{2} \\ \text { BUILD } 2015 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Inte | hange |
|  | $\begin{gathered} A M \\ \mathrm{NB} / \mathrm{SB} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { PM } \\ \text { NB/SB } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & A M \\ & S B \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { PM } \\ & \mathrm{NB} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & A M \\ & S B \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{PM} \\ & \mathrm{NB} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} A M \\ N B / S B \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{PM} \\ \mathrm{NB} / \mathrm{SB} \end{gathered}$ |
| I-695: US 40 to N. of Edmondson Ave. | $C / D$ | D/D | F | E | D | D | C/D | $C / C$ |
| I-695: N. of Edmondson Ave. to Edmondson Ave. | C/F | F/F | D | D | D | c | C/D | D/D |
| I-695: Edmondson Ave. to Frederick Road | C/D | F/D | D | E | D | D | C/D | E/C |
| I-695: Frederick Road to Wilkens Ave. | $C / F$ | F/F | F | F | E | F | C/D | E/C |
| I-695: Wilkens Ave. to Leeds Ave. | $C / F$ | F/F | F | $\boldsymbol{F}$ | E | $E$ | C/D | F/C |
| I-695: Leeds Ave, to U.S. 1 Alt./I-95 | $c / C$ | $F / C$ | B | D | B | C | $B / C$ | D/B |
| I-695: U.S. 1 Alt. to Hollins Ferry Road | D/C | F/C | D | F | D | D | C/D | D/D |
| I-695: Hollins Ferry Road to Nursery Road | D/D | F/F | E | E | C | D | B/B | $B / C$ |
| I-695: Nursery Road to Maryland Route 170 | C/B | E/D | D | D | E | c | B/B | $B / C$ |
| Maryland Route 295: <br> Maryland Route 46 to I-695 | $C / F$ | F/C | E | E | D | D | - | - |
| Maryland Route 295: <br> I-695 to Balto. City Line | D/C | C/C | D | D | D | D | - | - |

The quality of traffic flow along a roadway segment or through an intersection is measured in terms of level of service (LOS), ranging from 'A' best to 'F' worst.

The traffic analysis along the mainline of Maryland Route 295 indicates the following:

- Maryland Route 295 northbound operates at LOS 'F' between the Study Limit (just north of Maryland Route 46/I-195) and the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange during the evening peak period.
- Maryland Route 295 southbound operates at LOS ' $F$ ' between the Study Limit (just north of Maryland Route 46/I-195) and the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange in the morning peak period.
o Four of the eight ramps at the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange operate at LOS 'F' during peak time periods. Weaving areas at the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange operate at LOS 'E' and 'F'.


## 3. Accidents and safety

An analysis of traffic accidents occurring along the study portions of I-695, I-95 and Maryland Route 295 was conducted. Accident information incorporated in the analysis was prepared by the Maryland State Highway Administration, Accident Studies Division. This accident data is for the three-year period beginning January 1, 1987 through December 1, 1989.

I-695 from Maryland Route 170 to I-70 experienced a total of 1,201 accidents during the period. The accidents resulted in a three year average accident rate of 86 accidents per hundred million vehicle miles of travel ( $86 \mathrm{acc} / 100 \mathrm{MVM}$ ). This rate is significantly higher than the statewide average accident rate of $74 \mathrm{acc} / 100 \mathrm{MVM}$ of travel for all similar class highways under state maintenance.

In addition to the accident data presented for the interchanges, the $\mathrm{I}-695 / \mathrm{U} . \mathrm{S}$. Route 40 interchange is the only interchange in the Study Area which has a high accident experience. Two locations also met the criteria for High Accident Sections (HAS). They are listed below:

> I-695: Wilkens Avenue Area 1987 - 51 Accidents
> I-695: Frederick Road Area $1987-42$ Accidents

A composite of this accident information and that of the high accident interchange ramps (or HAIRS), is shown on Figure III10. The HAIRS are so designated if they experience three or more accidents in a one-year period, or five or more accidents in a three-year period.

Table III-8 presents accident data for the I-695 interchanges within the Study Area. Interchanges which have three-year totals exceeding the 1989 statewide average rate of 74.9 accidents/100 million vehicle miles (MVM) are denoted by asterisks (*).

TABLE III-8 I-695 INTERCHANGE ACCIDENT DATA* January 1, 1986 to December 31, 1989

*
This data is presented by interchange and does not include portions of I-695 between the interchanges. Most accidents, however, are a function of the interchange and vehicle operations within the interchange limits.

Accident rates for rear-end collision, sideswipe and other collision accidents for these interchanges, with the exception of the Hammonds Ferry/Nursery Road, I-70 and Security Boulevard interchanges, are significantly higher than the statewide average rate. These high rates are generally associated with the congestion and weaving conditions presently experienced on these sections of I-695, I-95 and Maryland Route 295.

Along I-695, 20.1 percent of the total accidents involved trucks. Since trucks comprised only approximately four to eight percent of the vehicular traffic volumes, this rate is higher than the expected range of values. Along both the northbound and southbound lanes of I-695, accidents are clustered at the interchanges and are indicative of traffic merging and weaving. These are characteristically rear end, fixed object and sideswipe collisions where 22.2 percent involved trucks during the study period. Trucks were involved in 22.3 percent of the property damage only accidents and 19.3 percent of the injury accidents on I-695.

Trucks were involved in 17.9 percent of the total accidents along the I-95 portion, although they comprise only 11.6 percent of the total vehicular traffic volume. In terms of severity, trucks were involved in 21.9 percent of the property damage only accidents and 12.9 percent of the injury accidents along I-95. Of the congestion-related accidents, trucks were involved in 34.1 percent of the sideswipe collisions. The I-95 portion of the study Area experiences sideswipe and rear-end collisions at a higher rate than the statewide average rate. This may be attributed to the left-hand interchange exits.

Approximately eight percent of the 366 accidents on the Maryland Route 295 portion involved trucks. Only eight percent of the rear-end, fixed object and sideswipe accidents along Maryland Route 295 involved trucks.

Accident rates for the Study Area roadways analyzed are as follows:

Study Period Accident Rate Statewide Average
I-695
86/100 MVM
74/100 MVM
74/100 MVM
I-95
$71 / 100$ MVM
Maryland
Route 295
81/100 MVM
71/100 MVM

## D. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

## 1. Climate

The I-695/Maryland Route 295 Study Area experiences a relatively humid, temperate climate, moderated by the influence of nearby Chesapeake Bay. Weather patterns move primarily from west to east, producing a continental type climate with well defined seasons. Average monthly high and low temperatures and precipitation for the Baltimore Metropolitan Area, provided by the U.S. Weather Service, are as follows:

TABLE III-9 - BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA
MONTHLY AVERAGE TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL DATA ${ }^{1}$

| Month | High ( ${ }^{\text {F }}$ ) | Low ( ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ ) | Precipitation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January | 41 | 24 | 3.00" |
| February | 44 | 26 | 2.98 |
| March | 53 | 33 | 3.72 |
| April | 65 | 43 | 3.35 |
| May | 74 | 53 | 3.44 |
| June | 83 | 62 | 3.76 |
| July | 87 | 67 | 3.89 |
| August | 86 | 66 | 4.62 |
| September | 79 | 59 | 3.46 |
| October | 68 | 46 | 3.11 |
| November | 56 | 37 | 3.11 |
| December | 45 | 28 | 3.40 |
| Annual Average | $65^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $45^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | 3.49" |

Minimum temperatures occur in late January or early February, with maximum temperatures occurring from mid-July to late August. The growing season, the number of days from the last spring frost to the first fall frost, averages approximately 200 days.

## 2. Geological

a. Topography and Geology

The Study Area is situated in two of Maryland's physiographic provinces: the Piedmont Plateau and the Atlantic Coastal Plain. Elevations range from approximately 100 feet to 200 feet above sea level. The Piedmont Plateau is characterized by a rolling to hilly upland topography, underlain in the Study Area by Cambrian period bedrock of amphibolite, gneiss and schist. Underlying rocks in the coastal Plain are obscured by a thick, unconsolidated marine sediment. This has been eroded in places, exposing a thin sedimentary layer. Bedrock is generally covered by less than 40 feet of residual soil overburden, except where capped by remnants of the Cretaceous period Patuxent Formation.

1 U.S. Weather Service, Baltimore-Washington International Airport, 1990 data.

North of Wilkens Avenue, I-695 lies within the Piedmont plateau, with ground surface elevations ranging from approximately 220 to 500 feet. In the vicinity of U.S. Route 40 and Frederick Road, I-695 crosses remnants of the Coastal Plain's Patuxent Formation deposits consisting of interbedded unconsolidated sediments. These thin deposits, separated from the continuous Coastal Plain deposits by erosion, are distinct from the surrounding residual soils which are derived from the underlying bedrock.

South of Wilkens Avenue, I-695, as well as Maryland Route 295 and I-895, cross into the Coastal Plain, with ground surface elevations gradually dropping to nearly sea level. The Coastal Plain's characteristic deposits of unconsolidated sediments increase in thickness to the southeast, overlaying the crystalline bedrock. The terrain is gently rolling on the upper elevations to nearly level in the lowlands. Cretaceous period sands and clays of the Patapsco, Arundel, and Patuxent Formations underlie most of I695 between Wilkens Avenue and the Patapsco River and Maryland Route 295 north of the Patapsco River. South of the Patapsco River, Pleistocene Terrace deposits of sand and gravel overlay the Cretaceous period sediments along the remaining I-695 portion of the Study Area and much of the Maryland Route 295 and I-895 study alignments. The remainder of Maryland Route 295 and I-895 in the Study Area is underlain by Cretaceous period sediments of the Potomac Group, consisting primarily of sands and gravels along Maryland Route 295 and clays and silts along I-895.

Recent alluvial deposits cover the bottoms of stream and river valleys. These include very soft tidal marsh deposits in areas along the Patapsco River, with depths up to 40 feet. I695, I-895 and Maryland Route 295 also cross alluvial deposits in several small stream valleys and additional extensive marsh deposits along the Patapsco River.

Some low lying areas, predominantly valley bottoms and tidal marshes, have large deposits of fill materials.
b. Soils

Soils underlaying the study alignments of I-695, I895 and Maryland Route 295 have been differentiated into four major groups. The Beltsville-Chillum-Sassafras association underlies I695 in the vicinity of U.S. Route 40 and also near Frederick Road. This association, consisting of deep, well-drained soils with silty to clayey loam subsoils, generally occurs on gentle slopes and is derived from the interbedded sands, gravels, clays and silts of the Patuxent Formation. These soils are generally well suited to road building activities, although soils of the Beltsville Series occasionally have a shallow, perched water table which causes problems with soil stability, grading and frost resistance.

Most of the I-695 alignment north of Wilkens Avenue is constructed on soils of the Legore-Aldino-Neshaminy Association, formed on upland areas underlain by residual soils and their parent amphibolite bedrock. These soils are characteristically deep and well-drained with silty clay loam subsoils and occur on level to steeply sloping ground. The soils of this association are moderately well suited to road building, although there are limitations due to frost action in all the soils and shallow bedrock (less than 10 feet deep) underlying the Neshaminy series.

East of Wilkens Avenue and north of the Patapsco River, soils are classified as the loamy and clayey land-LenoirBeltsville association. These soils form on gentle to steep slopes underlain by upland deposits of Coastal Plain sediments. They are typically poorly to moderately well drained, consisting of sandy to clayey loam over clayey to silty loam subsoil. These soils present many difficulties for road construction due to poor stability of the plastic soils, poor drainage, frost action and seasonal high ground water.

Soils in the I-95 portion of the Study Area belong to the loamy and clayey land-Lenoir-Beltsville association, Sassafras association, Lenoir loam soils, with some Mattapex-Urban, Joppa Urban, and Fort Mott soils. The dominant soils are loamy and clayey land with 5 to 15 percent slopes. These soils have a mantle of various kinds of material underlain by clay deposits, are generally highly erodible, and have poor stability, especially where they have been previously graded or disturbed. Banks and fills of this material have been known to collapse, causing severe damage to property and people. The soils are moderately welldrained and have slow permeability. Soils of this type on steeper slopes have severe limitations for highway and street construction due to subsoil shrinkage, instability and slope.

The Anne Arundel County portion of the Study Area is composed of soils of the Sassafras-Croom-Chillum association, consisting of deep, well drained soils on gentle to steep slopes underlain by upland Coastal plain deposits. These soils are generally well suited to road construction with minor limitations due to frost action.

## C. Mineral Resources

The mineral resource of primary importance in the Study Area is sand and gravel. Several sand and gravel pits are still operating in the general vicinity of the proposed improvements and there are many abandoned and reclaimed sites in the Study Area. Sand and gravel is removed from the Pleistocene Terrace deposits south of the Patapsco River and from the Cretaceous period deposits of the Potomac Group. Deposits of iron ore and brick clay near the Study Area were of importance in the past but are no longer being mined.

## a. Surface Water and Groundwater

The alignments of I-695, I-895 and Maryland Route 295 in the Study Area cross several streams and estuaries, the largest of which is the Patapsco River. The alignments do not cross any of the watersheds for the Baltimore area water supply. The proposed improvements to I-895 and Maryland Route 295 will cross considerable areas of tidal marsh along the Patapsco River, which are important as wildlife habitats.

## Surface Water

The major waterbody in the Study Area is the Patapsco River and its tributaries. The Patapsco River flows easterly from Carroll County to the Baltimore Harbor. The Patapsco River watershed area is approximately 376 square miles, encompassing all of Baltimore City and portions of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, and Howard Counties.

The Study Area is situated in the lower section of the main stem of the Patapsco River, above the Baltimore harbor area. The project crosses the Patapsco River and its tributaries (all Class I waters) at the following locations:

- Patapsco River - north of Hammonds Ferry Road
- East Branch of Herbert Run - at Leeds Avenue
- West Branch of Herbert Run - at Wilkens Avenue, Shady Nook Court, Ingleside Avenue and west of Kenwood Avenue
- Unnamed tributary - north of Evelyn Avenue
- Unnamed tributary - east of Cheddington Road


## Surface Water Quality

The Study Area lies within the Patapsco River SubBasin. Specifically, the East Branch of Herbert Run, a very small urbanized stream, drains the Study Area directly to the patapsco River. This segment of the Patapsco River, in the vicinity of the project, is classified as a Class 1 water body for water contact recreation and aquatic life. ${ }^{1}$ Water quality standards for these streams include limitations on the fecal coliform densities, dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH and turbidity.

[^7]A surface water quality station, located on the East Branch of Herbert Run in Arbutus, indicates that for the 2.47 sq . mi. drainage area, the average discharge at 3.31 cu . ft. per second is 18.20 in./year. ${ }^{1}$ The nearest surface water quality station is located on Sawmill Creek in Glen Burnie. For the drainage area of $4.97 \mathrm{sq} . \mathrm{mi}$. of the Patapsco River Basin, the average discharge at 7.04 cu . ft. per second is 19.24 in //year. A September 18, 1985 pH measurement of 6.6 was recorded at this station; data regarding coliform density, turbidity and dissolved oxygen was not collected.

Urban development, industrialization and agriculture are the three major land uses affecting water quality in the Patapsco River Basin. There are five CORE (Basic water quality monitoring program) sampling stations located in the Patapsco River Basin. Existing water quality in the river is reported to range from good in the upper tributaries to poor in the Baltimore Harbor segment. ${ }^{2}$ High levels of nonpoint pollutants have been reported during storm events. Runoff during these periods carries such pollutants as sediments, nutrients from domestic wastes, fecal matter, fertilizers, detergents, toxic road salts, gasoline, oils and heavy metals.

The Coastal Plain portion of the project is located within the Patapsco and Patuxent Formations aquifer recharge area. The Patuxent aquifer, one of the most productive formations in Maryland, is important for industry in the Baltimore area, with yields up to 1,200 gallons per minute. Approximately 85 square miles of recharge area for the Patapsco Formation and 10 square miles of recharge area for the Patuxent Formation are located in the northern part of Anne Arundel County. ${ }^{3}$ The Patapsco Formation is the prime source of water supply to the Severn Park and Glen Burnie areas of Anne Arundel County. In the vicinity of the project, potable water is supplied by Baltimore City for Baltimore County and by Anne Arundel County for northern Anne Arundel County.

[^8]The major source of ground water in southern Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties is precipitation. Shallow aquifers are recharged by direct percolation of precipitation. Deep artesian aquifers are recharged by the downward flow of water through permeables and/or gravel from upland water bearing outcrops within Anne Arundel County.

Groundwater quality within southern Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties is generally good. Water from the Patuxent and Patapsco Formations have a moderately high iron content and low pH values, in some wells. Well depths range from 100 feet to over 600 feet. ${ }^{1}$

Within the Study Area, very little of the potable water is provided by pumping from wells. The greatest proportion of water is provided by public water systems which supply water from surface or ground sources located outside of the Study Area by means of the water main network.

A total of 40 water wells were located within the Study Area at the time the water supply reports were prepared (Water Resources Basic Data Reports No. 1, 1966 and No. 8, 1976). Thirty wells were located within the Baltimore County portion of the Study Area and the remaining 10 wells were in Anne Arundel County. The Baltimore County Public Works Department confirmed that some privately owned wells are still in use in the southern part of the county from Catonsville to Lansdowne. It is also probable that some or all of the wells in the Anne Arundel County segment of the Study Area are still in use.

Of the 40 wells within the Study Area, only one was intended for public use and it is located on the UMBC Campus, approximately 2,500 feet southwest of I-695. The remaining wells are privately owned and are used for domestic or commercial water supplies.

Well depths range from 13 to 273 feet. Two very shallow wells in Anne Arundel County obtain water from Pleistocene sand and gravel deposits at depths of less than 15 feet. Four of the wells, also located in Anne Arundel County, pump water from the Cretaceous period Patapsco Formation. The Patapsco Formation, where it outcrops and recharges, provides an unconfined to semi-confined aquifer within the Study Area. Well depths in the Patapsco Formation range from 70 to 230 feet. Several of the deeper wells may obtain water with considerable artesian head.

Twenty-seven of the wells draw water from the Cretaceous period Patuxent Formation, separated from the Patapsco Formation by the Arundel clay. These wells range in depth from 44 to 273 feet. The Patapsco formation is typically a confined aquifer except in the outcrop area, where some wells may not penetrate below any confining clay layers.

1 "Ground Water Supplies in Anne Arundel County", Bulletin 26, Department of Geology, Mines, and Water Resources, State of Maryland, 1962.

Seven of the wells were drilled into the Cambrian period crystalline bedrock which underlies the Cretaceous and younger periods sedimentary formations. These wells in bedrock varied in depth from 53 to 250 feet. The bedrock from which these wells obtain water is not considered a confined aquifer because the quality of water flow into the well is controlled by the number and size of water bearing fractures which are intercepted by the well.
b. 100-Year Floodplain

Flooding occurs along most of the Patapsco River and its larger tributaries during the 100 -year storm event, as indicated on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the Patapsco River Basin. The estimated 100-year flood-levels where the project crosses the Patapsco River are:

- I-695 at Hammond Ferry Road; elevation 23 feet
- Maryland Route 295; elevation 20 feet
- I-895 at the Y-split; elevation 13 to 15 feet

According to FEMA, there is a 100-year floodplain at the northwestern end of the I-695/I-95 interchange, east of the Benson Avenue overpass. Flood elevations and flood hazard factors for this area have not been determined by FEMA. This floodplain is associated with a small stream which is a tributary to the East Branch of Herbert Run, in the Patapsco River watershed. It is outside the I-695/I-95 Study Area.

## 4. Upland and Wetland Vegetation Systems

Wetlands have been identified using National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps and field delineation. A wetland field review was held on February 18, 1988 (see meeting memorandum on pages VIII-D22 through VIII-D24) and was attended by representatives of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and SHA. The wetland delineation for this project was completed using the Army Corps Wetland Delineation Manual prior to the adoption of the new revised Federal Manual.

I-695
From the overpass of $I-70 N$ and proceeding along southbound I-695 toward the entrance ramp, the dominant vegetation is mowed grass with scattered wildflowers, including milkweed, Queen Anne's lace and rose pink. There are a few small oak and elm trees. A l-foot wide ditch with less than an inch of water parallels the shoulder. The soils are disturbed. Since this is not a naturally occurring situation it would not be considered a wetland or Waters of the United States.

South of the entrance ramp from I-70, a concrete lined channel is adjacent to the roadway. Steep slopes, 8-10 feet high, begin approximately 6-8 feet from the edge of the shoulder and drop to the stream. The stream is about 15-20 feet wide. The heavily vegetated banks are dominated by multi-flora rose, with a mixture of grasses and wildflowers, including milkweed, common evening primrose, dogbane, knapweed, ragweed, thoroughwort, foxtail and Queen Anne's lace. Trees include young silver maples, catalpa and elms, and on the upper stream bank, close to the houses, locust, weeping willow and rose of Sharon. This channel is not considered either a wetland or Waters of the United States.

Approximately 500 feet north of the Crosby Road Bridge the concrete lined channel ends and the stream becomes a riverine system, contained at the bottom of the steep slopes. Vegetation on the banks is the same as in the previous section. This stream has no wetland, but would be regulated as Waters of the United States.

After the stream crosses under Crosby Road, there is a small forested wetland next to the stream. This wetland occurs where a stormwater channel, running parallel to Crosby Road, joins the stream. The stormwater channel would not be considered either a wetland or Waters of the United States, since it is caused by stormwater runoff, is not natural, does not have hydric soils, does not appear to be wet for seven consecutive days during the growing season, and has only scattered wetland vegetation along its length. Where the stream meets the stormwater channel, there is a narrow forested non-tidal wetland edge, Wetland 1 (W1 on Figure III-3).

South of the Crosby Road Bridge, the stream veers away from I-695. The stream is 5-20 feet wide with water 1-2 feet deep. Mowed grass covers the stream banks. Once again the stream becomes a riverine system, with sparse wetland vegetation along its length, and would be considered Waters of the United States. Although there are occasional black willows the vegetation is primarily upland, such as pokeweed, rose of Sharon, common evening primrose, smartweed, nightshade, ragweed and Joe Pye weed. Soils have been mapped as Watchung silt loam.

Between U.S. Route 40 and I-95 along I-695, a narrow band of tree vegetation separates the residential area from the I-695 roadway. In the segment of I-695 between I-95 and west of Maryland Route 170, where the adjacent land use is more industrial and commercial oriented, the vegetative band separating the roadway is negligible. (See Table III-10 for Wetland descriptions.)

Between Crosby Road and U.S. Route 40 along I-695, the residential areas are bordered by pines, spruces, black willows, poplars, cherries and black locusts. Occasional mimosas and red maples are also found in this area, as well as young black oaks.

TABLE III-10 - STUDY AREA WETLANDS


TABLE III-10 - GTUDY AREA NETLANDS (continued)

| WETLAND NUMBER | LOCATION <br> Interchange/Specific Location | CLASSIFICATION' | DOMINANT VEGETATION | HYPRIC SOILS ${ }^{2}$ | WIDTH6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Maryland Route 295 |  |  |  |  |  |
| W11 | Maryland Route 295/north of Nursery Road along SBR | $\begin{gathered} \text { PF01A } \\ \text { SS } \end{gathered}$ | red maple, elderberry, tearthumb, smartweed | Beltsville - <br> low value | 10' |
| W12 | Maryland Route 295/Median and West South of Hammond Ferry Rd. | PF01A | green ash, silver map, box elder | Croom - <br> high value | 20'-35' |
| W13 | Maryland Route 295/east and west South of Hammonds Ferry Rd. | PF01C | green ash, spicebush, red maple, arrowwood | Croom high value | $25^{\prime}$ |
| W14 | I-895/Southwest | PFO1C | butternut, catalpa, sycamore, black locust, black cherry, box elder, red maple, arrowwood | Codorus low value | greater than $50^{\prime}$ |
| I-895 |  |  |  |  |  |
| W15 | I-895/Y-Split | E1UB4L6 <br> E2EM1PG <br> E1OWLG <br> EOWLG | water hemlock, black willow, boxelder, sycamore, phragmites reed | Tidal Marsh | greater than $50^{\prime}$ |
| W16 . | I-895/Southwest Area Park | E2EM1PG <br> EIUB4IG | sycamore, black willow, phragmites reed | Tidal Marsh | $\begin{gathered} \text { greater than } \\ 501 \end{gathered}$ |

1 See Appendix B Table B-6 for Wetland Classifications in Study Area.
2 Soil data based on Soil Conservation Service data obtained from Anne Arundel County and Baltimore County Soil Surveys.
3 Not available from Baltimore County Soil Survey because it lies in Baltimore city.
4 Width determined from limited $1^{\prime \prime}=100^{\prime}$ scale project mapping.

The inner loop ramps of the U.S. Route 40 interchange contain a variety of vegetation, including cattails, black locusts, sumacs, mimosas, maples, locusts, willow oaks and pines. Ornamental shrubs, with inclusions of poison ivy and wild grape, are found in the shrub layer along the road edge. Wetland 2 (W2 on Figure III-3) is a non-tidal wetland located in the northwest quadrant of the loop ramp. Along the outer loop, the shrub layer consists of blackberries, raspberries, and poison ivy, with scattered viburnum, dogwood and black cherry. A vine layer of wild grape, honeysuckle, trumpet vine, and Virginia creeper and a shrub layer of wild roses surround large spruce trees.

South of U.S. Route 40 the understory consists of a number of young hickory trees and various types of oaks, primarily black oaks, as well as boxelder, American elm, black locust, and red maple. Scattered large tulip poplars and willow oaks are also found in this area. Just north of the Edmondson Avenue exit the road bank along the outer loop is steep and single family housing is situated adjacent to the fence. There are a number of winged sumac, pine and spruce in this area. The ditch area along the inner loop contains scattered cattails and black willows, with some red maples, catalpas and white oaks. A stream crosses this vicinity in a culvert.

Near the Edmondson Avenue interchange, the vegetation consists of black walnut and various oaks in the canopy layer, with box elders, black locusts and willow oaks in the understory. Some young hickory trees, as well as other vegetation common to this area, are found scattered among grasses and wild flowers along the road edges. Wetland 3 (W3 on Figure III-3), a non-tidal wetland, is located between the 7-Up Plant and Arbutus Avenue along Edmondson Avenue. Just south of the interchange, within the right-of-way, are a number of larger white oaks, southern red oaks and spur cherries; young cherries, American elms, mulberries, and pines border the highway.

Near the Frederick Road crossing are a number of larger oak trees and butternuts, as well as the more common black locusts, and boxelders and an occasional mulberry. The shrub layer consists primarily of blackberries and raspberries, with a few young pines which have been planted along the roadside. The herbaceous layer includes poke weed, Canada thistle, and various grasses and wild flowers. Near the interchange structure, locusts, young American elms, mulberries and scarlet oaks are evident. South of the Frederick Road interchange there are numerous boxelders and American elms of understory size, with some red maples, black locusts and tulip poplars. The stream in this area is an open channel and appears which seems to be somewhat eroded, with some rocks in the bottom and some flowing water. White mulberries and black locusts, with a number of grape vines, are present. The stream parallels the roadway, lined with butternut trees, boxelders, catalpas and various oaks, as well as black locusts. The bank is not as high in this area and the houses are situated close to the roadway. This stream, along southbound I-695, has nontidal wetland characteristics and is identified as w4 on Figure III-3.

Just north of the wilkens Avenue interchange, the trees are set further back from the road, and the bank drops below the road rather steeply. There are a number of princess trees, mulberries, small American elms, and black locusts in this area. Where the bank slopes up it is primarily open grass with wildflowers, scattered sumacs and black locusts. Wild flowers in the area include milkweed, yellow loosestrife, Queen Anne's lace, goldenrod, mullein, Canada thistle, dock, crown vetch and wild garlic.

Along the inner loop, near Wilkens Avenue, the under-story-sized trees close to the road include mulberry, young American elm, boxelder, long leaf pine, and willow oak. There are a number of wild grapes and other vines growing on the trees in this area. Drainage from the road is carried in a ditch to the low point between Wilkens Avenue and Frederick Road where it crosses under the Beltway to the south. Larger trees in this area are American elm, boxelder and black locust. There are also some large black oaks, tulip poplars, butternuts and catalpas, as well as an occasional black locust. Willow oaks, pines and scattered sumacs are also evident.

Within the interchange loop ramps, there are a number of pines, oaks, black locusts, and maples, as well as some ornamental shrubs. The stream at Wilkens Avenue crosses under I-695 through a small ditch, under a large culvert, and continues to the southeast. Vegetation along the stream bed, which appears to have been adversely impacted by runoff at this location, includes black willows and scattered sycamores.

The Leeds Avenue exit is bordered by silver maples and boxelders. The stream that borders Leeds Avenue is silted, with little significant vegetation along its banks. This stream is channelized under the Beltway and it is considered a non-tidal wetland (W5 on Figure No. III-3). A number of large mulberry trees border the inner loop near the exit to I-95 North, and there are scattered oaks, including black oaks and white oaks, along the roadway. Just to the north are many dogwoods, spruces, Russian olives, forsythias, black cherries, mulberries, viburnums and willow oaks. A stream crossing in this vicinity is well below the highway in a box culvert.

To the north of the I-695/I-95 interchange a number of trees grow close to the road beside a drainage ditch. Coralberry bushes are evident in the shrub layer, with honey locusts and black oaks in the understory. The drainage ditch is bordered by milkweed and cattails, with short leaf pines, tulip poplars, red maples, young white oaks and southern red oaks at the higher elevations. Also found in the understory and shrub layers are sassafras, American elms, black cherries, catalpas, and poison ivy. A number of wild grapes, along with honeysuckle and Virginia creeper, can also be found in this area. Numerous black willows are present at the stream crossing.

Most of the I-95 portion of the Study Area has been landscaped, although there is some scattered remnant native vegetation. There are few mature trees along the highway corridor, with small black locusts, red maples, black oaks, pin oaks, willow oaks, white and Virginia pines, black cherries, mulberries and trees of heaven being the predominant trees. Multiflora rose, sumac and ornamental plantings such as forsythia, along with some honeysuckle, are found in the scattered shrub layer. The herbaceous layer is largely absent or difficult to identify at this time of year. However, remains of bush clover, goldenrod, Canada thistle, blackeyed susans, Queen Anne's lace, broomsedge and crown vetch were found, along with the grasses bordering the highway.

Three small non-tidal wetland areas are located in the I-95 interchange area. The first wetland is a roadside ditch in the southwest quadrant of the I-95/Caton Avenue interchange, on the inside of the ramp from southbound I-95 to eastbound Caton Avenue (W6 on Figure III-3). This is a small palustrine wetland with emergent and deciduous shrub vegetation, dominated by phragmites reed and black willow. The soil is sandy alluvium. This wetland has few environmental functions, since it has failed to control erosion and provides only temporary nutrient retention.

The second wetland, Wetland 7, is located on the outside of the ramp from eastbound Caton Avenue to southbound I-95, in the southwest quadrant of the interchange. This wetland includes a seep area on the hillside, and a small area adjacent to a partially concrete-lined stream bed at the base of the slope. The dominant vegetation is phragmites reed, cattails and black willow. This wetland, although small, has a medium value, since it provides for short- term sediment and nutrient retention, and dissipation of some erosive forces of highway stormwater runoff.

The third wetland, Wetland 8, is located on the inside of the ramp from I-95 north to Caton Avenue east. This wetland is dominated by grasses and sedges, with mottled soils. Values are similar to Wetland 7.

Along the inner loop of $\mathrm{I}-695$, south of Washington Boulevard, scattered vegetation along the sloping road banks consists of sumac and black locust, with some young oaks and pines. There are a few cattails and willow oaks in the roadside ditch. In and around the inner loop ramp of the I-695/Washington Boulevard interchange plantings consist of a number of short and long leaf pines, young American elms, black locusts, various grasses and wild flowers, and smaller trees such as mulberry and black cherry. The shrub layer has a number of winged sumac. A stream crosses a low area in the center of the loop ramp in the southeast quadrant. This stream shows some evidence of siltation, although there is flowing water that appears to be of fairly good quality.

Along the outer loop, a non-tidal wetland (W9 on Figure III-3) parallels the roadway from approximately the confluence of the on-ramps with I-695 to the structure crossing the Beltway. Between this interchange and the exit to $1-95$ North is a rather broad area, set back from the road some distance, with grasses and wildflowers. Trees bordering this area are similar to those found in other areas, with honey and black locusts dominating. Boxelders and black willows are found in a few lower areas. In some locations, yellow poplars and spruces have been planted. In the shrub and understory layer are a few mulberry trees and maples. This area is bordered by a chain link fence. A stream, primarily channelized in a culvert and a ditch, flows under I-695 in this area.

The inner loop of the interchange contains young sweet gums and sumacs, with some scattered black locusts and a few small black willows. Along the inner loop of the Washington Boulevard interchange, cattails and willows are found in the ditch.

Along the roadway between Washington Boulevard and the B\&O/CSX Railroad crossing are black cherries, pines, sumacs and American elms, with cattails scattered in an area of black willows in the lower elevations. Along the inner loop near the B\&O/CSX Railroad crossing are some oaks, as well as black locusts. All of these trees are relatively young.

North of the Hollins Ferry Road interchange, the area of the loop ramp from I-695 to Hollins Ferry Road contains a number of black willows, as well as a variety of the other trees. At the location of the stream crossing there are some cattails. West of this area, near the railroad crossing, vegetation includes short leaf pine, black locust, black cherry and mulberry, along with vines such as Virginia creeper, honeysuckle, crown vetch and poison ivy.

Near the Hollins Ferry interchange the trees are primarily white mulberry, black cherry and maple, with an understory and shrub layer of dogwoods, roses, and various vines.

The Patapsco River crossing of I-695 has been cleared of trees and shrubs within approximately 30 feet of the structure and roadway. The herbaceous layer consists of common hop, grasses and assorted wild flowers, with scattered white mulberry in the shrub layer. The forested area adjacent to the river crossing is typical of riverine floodplains. This area is a palustrine forested, seasonally flooded non-tidal wetland (W10 on Figure III-3) with broad leaved deciduous vegetation, dominated by ashleaf maple (boxelder). Black willows and silver maples are found in the understory. On the southwest side of the crossing are similar wetlands. Another small non-tidal wetland (W10), with emergent nonpersistent vegetation, was found in the area just northwest of Hammond Ferry Road, approximately 35 feet west of I-695. Although rather small, it has a considerable diversity of species. Plants in the shrub layer include silky dogwood and elderberry. Numerous sumacs, sycamores, boxelders and silver maples in the Patapsco River crossing area are mature trees. Vegetation near the Maryland Route 295 interchange is mostly of understory size, with black willows and black locusts dominating and some scattered red maples.

The I-695/Maryland Route 295 cloverleaf interchange has mown grasses, with no other vegetation in the four inner loop areas. Vegetation consists primarily of mulberry and boxelder along the outer ramps. Roadside edges are dominated by grasses and wildflowers. Approximately ten feet from the road edge are young honey locusts, boxelders and catalpas. Sumac and poison ivy are found in the shrub layer.

## Maryland Route 295

Along Maryland Route 295, north of Winterson Road, scattered black cherries and maples are evident in the median, grading into a fully forested area. Occasional black cherries, black locusts, and sumacs are seen in the disturbed areas, as well as a heavy shrub layer with roses and blackberries.

To the south of the Hammonds Ferry crossing are two stream valley crossings, larger than those previously mentioned, with a canopy of tall mature oaks, primarily black oaks and white oaks. Sassafras, mulberry, and boxelder are found in the understory. The stream valley floor is a typical non-tidal wetland (W12 on Figures III-3 and III-4), with vegetation, such as jewelweed, in the herb layer. Large sycamore trees are present in the floodplain, with some large hickory trees and tulip poplars along the banks. This stream crosses beneath the highway, and although there appears to have been some impact from runoff and sedimentation as a result of highway usage, it still has a fairly natural and broad floodplain. This stream is probably the most important in the Study Area, other than the Patapsco River crossing, in terms of its value and natural habitat. Wetland 12, a non-tidal wetland along the southbound roadway, may have been impacted by the recent construction. Another non-tidal wetland is along the northbound roadway (W13 on Figures III-3 and III-4).

South of the stream crossing, the vegetation is similar to other parts of the Study Area with boxelder, pine, sweet cherry, and red maple. The understory and shrub layer is dense, with bittersweet blackberries, raspberries, sumac, and wild roses and poison ivy. Occasional willow oak and princess trees are found in this area. The property adjacent to the west side of the roadway has many old cars on it. A stream here is rather small, with very little flow. Wetland 11 (W11 on Figures III-3 and III-4) is located along the southbound roadway near the ramp to the interchange at $W$. Nursery Road. The floodplain is fairly natural, opening out into pasture land. The trees in this area are mostly boxelder and tulip poplar. The floodplain has typical vegetation with jewelweed, jack-in-the-pulpit, honeysuckles and wild roses. Along the highway corridor in this area is more natural woodland with oaks and tulip poplar in the canopy, red maple in the understory, and some black cherry. In the lower areas are occasional black locust. Greenbrier and wild grape are common in this area.

Along Maryland Route 295 north of I-695 there are generally smaller sized trees (mostly mulberry and boxelder), with scattered sumac, catalpa, American elm, in the understory. Black locust, short leaf pine, and black cherry are also evident. Poison ivy, elderberry, and various vines and brambles such as roses, blackberries and raspberries are also found along the edges. The median has understory-sized trees similar to those on the highway edges.

On the southeast side of the Maryland Route 295 crossing of the Patapsco River is another extensive non-tidal wetland (W14 on Figures III-3, III-4). This wetland is a Type 39 fresh marsh, dominated by common reed (phragmites). The National Wetlands Inventory classifies it as a palustrine, seasonally flooded wetland with narrow-leafed, non-persistent emergent vegetation. It is bordered by forested areas similar to those previously described. The northeast side of the crossing is a palustrine forested wetland with trees typical of the rest of the site.

The Maryland Route 295 crossing of the Patapsco River is constructed on fill over tidal and non-tidal wetlands, and bridges the river itself. The edges of the roadway are lined with typical grasses and wildflowers, while the banks and adjacent areas are covered with ashleaf maple, silver maple, and other trees and shrubs, most of which are bottom land hardwoods. These areas are classified on the National Wetlands Inventory maps as palustrine forested, seasonally tidal, temporarily tidal, or temporarily nontidal wetlands, with broad-leaved deciduous vegetation. A small wetland (W14) on the southwest side of the crossing and an extensive wetland on the northwest side border the river and the forested areas next to the highway. Although these are not mapped on the State Wetland maps, they should be Classified as Type 34 fresh tidal wetlands, dominated by cattails. The NWI classifies them as palustrine wetlands with non-persistent and narrow-leafed emergent vegetation. Considerable diversity exists in these wetlands. They are bordered by a scrub/shrub hardwood swamp with buttonbush, silky dogwood, red maple, and black willow. The shrub layer is dominated by bittersweet vine as well as common poison ivy.

North of the Harbor Tunnel Thruway, vegetation along the road edges consists of understory-sized trees, primarily black locusts, black cherries, short leaf pines, catalpas and mulberries. The shrub layer is similar to that described previously. Occasional scattered red maples are also found in the area. At the higher elevations to the north there are numerous oaks, as well as red maples and other species commonly found in this area. Highway edges are scattered primarily with catalpa, sumac and locust. There are some scattered black oaks and scarlet oaks in the higher elevations. Ornamental shrubbery, such as barberry and various viburnums, is planted in the median, with some southern red oaks, black oaks, and white oaks in certain areas.

On I-895, near the Maryland Route 295 interchange, road edges are bordered by understory-size trees common to the rest of the area, such as butternut and catalpa, with a number of large sycamores, black locusts and black cherries. The shrub layer contains viburnums and other ornamental species, as well as raspberries and poison ivy. There are also numerous pines and a few oak trees scattered in this area. Near the Y-split of I-895 the vegetation is tidal marsh, dominated by phragmites, with scattered water hemlock, characteristic of tidal wetlands (W15 on Figures III-3 and III-4). There are also some scattered trees, primarily black locust. Trees along the river include weeping willow, black cherry, black locust, boxelder and princess tree. The tidal wetlands identified in the previous section are environmentally sensitive; however, this area would not be disturbed by the Selected Action.

The Southwest Area Park appears to be a fill area with little vegetation and a minimal amount of phragmite reed along the edge (W16 on Figures III-3 and III-4). At the Y-split, most of the vegetation is understory-size black locust. The bank along this area is rather steep down to the river and is situated fairly close to the highway. Sycamores, black cherries and black willows are found in this area.

The locations of these wetlands are shown on Figures III3 and III-4 and II-8 through II-22.

## 5. Terrestrial and Aquatic Habitat

The Patapsco River and its adjacent wetlands and floodplains provide important habitat for fish and wildlife. However, those areas directly adjacent to the existing highway do not have as great a value, due to human intrusion, as more remote areas.

The Patapsco River, bottom land hardwoods, upland forest, emergent wetlands, and shoal waters provide habitats for both resident and migratory bird species. During the spring and fall diving ducks use the river for resting and feeding during their migration. These birds remain in this area or continue their migration, depending on the availability of local food resources and weather conditions. Resident puddle ducks reside in the high marsh area and/or bottom lands, where they nest and rear their young close to the open water and vegetated wetlands that provide their food and cover. Raptors (birds of prey) utilize the woodland/highway edge for hunting small rodents. The forest provides limited nesting, resting, and breeding habitat. Wading birds utilize the areas of shallow open water, mud flats, and tidal and non-tidal wetlands primarily for feeding and resting areas. Various species of herons feed on small fish and crustaceans. Resident and migratory passerine birds (primarily songbirds) utilize the shrub and forested areas throughout the year.

Only those common mammals which have become used to human activity would be expected in the Study Area. Since the majority of mammals found in the eastern United States are nonmigratory, these species are considered resident. Small rodents and cottontail rabbits would be expected to dominate the open areas, raccoon, opossum, and squirrels the woods, and muskrat and otter the shoreline and wetlands. Mammals residing in one habitat would, on occasion, be expected to be observed moving through other habitats.

There is little specific data regarding reptile and amphibian species in the Study Area. Fisheries data for the Patapsco River indicated that alewife, blueback herring and white perch spawn in this area; white American eel, round bullhead, white catfish, and yellow perch are residents. A number of other less well know species may also be found in the area.

## 6. Prime Farmland

A review of the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) Soils Surveys for Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties indicates that areas of prime farmland soils are located in the I-695/I-95 vicinity, the Hollins Ferry Road interchange area along the I-695 inner loop, and the Maryland Route 295/I-895 interchange. None of these areas are currently being farmed.

The secs has determined that due to the nature of the project and current land use in the area, there is no prime farmland present in the Study Area (see letter in Section VIII, pages VIII-D28 and VIII-D29).

## 7. Woodlands

There is a minimal amount of woodland in the Study Area. The primary woodlands area is located in the southwest quadrant of the Maryland Route 295/I-895 interchange, which is part of the Patapsco Valley State Park. This area would not be disturbed by the Selected Action.

## 8. Rare. Threatened and Endangered Species

A search of available information by the Natural Heritage Program of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Annapolis Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, indicates that there are no records of threatened or endangered plant or animal species at or in the vicinity of the project site. Field reconnaissance performed during this study did not reveal any such species. (See letters in Section VIII, page VIII-D17).

## 9. Parklands

The Study Area contains several parks maintained by the State of Maryland, Baltimore County or Anne Arundel County. These parks are indicated on Figures III-3 and 4. The two largest parks are described below. Local park facilities are summarized in Table III-4.

The 27-mile long Patapsco Valley state Park contains 11,347 acres and averages $1 / 2$ a mile in width. Except for segments which flow through a few cities and towns, the patapsco River is bordered primarily by State, County or City parkland or other open space land. The entire Patapsco-Back River watershed drainage area encompasses 673 square miles. Water quality of the river is influenced by construction site run-off, industrial discharges, sanitary sewer overflows, and failing septic systems. The park consists of six sections. Section $I$, the Seven Ponds Area, is in the Study Area.

The Seven Ponds Area, between the Beltway and Belle Grove Road, consists of 70 acres of man-made ponds. Once a gravel excavation pit, the pond now supports fish such as bullhead, sunfish, catfish and pickerel. Proposed recreational facilities include nature interpretation, community recreation, a fishing lake and walk-in picnicking.

Proposed recreational facilities in the Halethorpe Farm Ponds Area, west of the Beltway, consists of fishing, boating, nature interpretation and walk-in picnicking.

The Southwest Area Park is a unique project in Baltimore County which will maximize the use of land by converting a 230-acre public landfill into viable park land. In 1984 the first phase of development, which included entrance roadways and parking, tot play area and tennis courts, was completed. Future plans call for biking and hiking trails, water access to the Patapsco River and a nature pavilion to highlight natural features and demonstrate uses for methane gas. Entrances are located at Georgia Avenue and Patapsco Avenue. This park was acquired in 1968 using funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

## 10. Existing Sensitive Natural Areas

The Patapsco River passes under all roadway segments of the project. The river originates in the Liberty Reservoir, located north of the Patapsco Valley State Park, and travels in a primarily southeasterly direction to the Study Area. The Patapsco River then empties into the Middle Branch. The Patapsco River is environmentally sensitive and is protected by the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas plan.

In 1984, the Maryland Legislature passed S.B. 664, which established a Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas Commission. This bill established a state policy of resource protection for the Bay and its shorelines. It requires local governments to develop programs
for the critical areas within their boundaries. Critical Areas are defined as all lands and waters within 1,000 feet of the Bay or its tidal tributaries. As of June 1, 1984, for any proposal to subdivide or rezone land within the critical area, the local jurisdiction must consider its impact on water quality, fish, wildlife, and plant habitat prior to approving any applications. The local government must determine that proposed projects in the critical area minimize adverse impacts on these resources.

## E. AIR QUALITY

The I-695/Maryland Route 295 project is within a regional airshed shared with Baltimore City, and Carroll, Harford, and Howard Counties. The entire region has been designated as a nonattainment area for ozone. Portions of the area have also been designated as non-attainment for carbon monoxide. Transportation control measures have been instituted as part of the state Implementation Plan (SIP). The project will be included in the Draft 1992-1996 TIP which will be analyzed for comformity with the state implementation plan. The Draft 1992-1996 TIP is expected to be adopted in September 1991.

A detailed microscale air quality analysis to determine the carbon monoxide (CO) impact of the proposed project has been performed, and is described in Section IV-D. Detailed information on the air quality analysis is presented in the $1-695 /$ Maryland Route 295/I-895 - Air Analysis Quality report. This report is available for review at the Maryland State Highway Administration, Project Planning Division, 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

## F. NOISE

Detailed information on the noise analysis study is presented in the I-695/Maryland Route 295/I-895 - Noise Analysis Report. This report is available for review at the Maryland State Highway Administration, Project Planning Division, 707 North Calvert street, Baltimore, Maryland.

## 1. Description of Noise Sensitive Areas

The 28 noise-sensitive areas (labeled A thru Z on Figure IV-3) for which ambient noise levels were determined are presented in Table III-11. Ambient noise levels were sampled at 44 selected locations during peak and off-peak traffic conditions. Of the 44 sites selected for ambient measurements, 40 measurements were taken at residences that represent a potential worst case (most impacted) location within their respective communities. Two ambient measurements were taken in parks; one in Patapsco Valley State Park and one in Overlook Park. Measurements were also taken at the Maiden Choice Center and Overlook Elementary School. Noise impacts occur when the Federal Highway Administration noise abatement criteria are approached or exceeded or when the predicted traffic noise levels substantially exceed the ambient noise levels.

TABLE III-11 - I-695/Maryland Route $295 /$ I-895 AMBIENT NOISE LEVELS (page 1 of 3 )

$\begin{array}{ll}\text { NOTES } & \text { AM Peak } \\ & \text { Off-Peak } \\ & 9: 30-9: 30-3: 30 ~ P M ~ \\ & \end{array}$ $\begin{array}{ll}\text { PM Peak } & \text { 3:30-6:30 PM }\end{array}$
$1 \quad$ All sites were measured during both a "peak" and "off-peak" traffic condition on I-695 except A-27 and B-28. "-" denotes that the site was not monitored during that peak which would have been adjacent to the off-peak direction of travel.
Note: Sites A27, B28, HH29, HH30, II 31 and II 32 were monitored in 1991.

TABLE III-11 - I-695/Maryland Route $295 /$ I-895 AMBIENT NOISE LEVELS


| NOTES | AM Peak | $7: 30-9: 30$ AM |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Off -Peak | $9: 30-3: 30 \mathrm{PM}$ |
|  | PM Peak | $3: 30-6: 00 \mathrm{PM}$ |

1 All sites were measured during both a "peak" and "off-peak" traffic condition on I-695. "-" denotes that the site was not monitored during that peak which would have been adjacent to the off-peak direction of travel.
2 Noise abatement has been constructed since ambient measurements were monitored.
3 Interior ambient measurements monitored because school is not air-conditioned.

TABLE III-11 - I-695/Maryland Route $295 / \mathrm{I}-895$ AMBIENT NOISE LEVELS (page 3 of 3 )


The Federal Highway Administration has established, through 23 CFR 771, maximum noise levels for various land uses. These noise levels are presented in terms of A-weighted equivalent sound level, abbreviated as Leq. The Leq is a single number representing a fluctuating sound level accounting for sound energy over a specified time. The Leq units are A-weighted decibels (dBA). A-weighting refers to the sound level measurement that approximates the response of the human ear. All ambient and predicted levels in this section are Leq levels.

Ambient or existing noise in an area is typically made up of a combination of sounds generated from many sources. Generally, these sounds are constant in nature and are representative of the average human and/or mechanical activity in and close to the area. Unusual sounds such as a fire siren or a vehicle with an inadequate muffler will occasionally produce a short-term increase in an area's noise level. Both the average and short-term noise levels are important in describing the noise environment. Residents in the vicinity of this proposed widening project presently experience a combination of sounds generated primarily from highway sources.

All measurements at these sites were made using a Metrosonics Sound Level Analyzer (Type II - ANSI S1. 4-1971) with associated microphone and calibration equipment. Standardized setup, calibration and measurement procedures were performed in accordance with the FHWA Report, Sound Procedure for Measuring Highway Noise: Final Report (FHWA-DP-45-1R).

Ambient noise levels were measured at 44 receptor sites within the 28 Noise Sensitive Areas identified for this project. The results are presented in Table III-11. An additional ambient noise level was obtained for site number 24 from a Type II noise program project that was recently conducted within the $I$ 695/Maryland 295 Study Area. These measurement sites are mapped on Figure IV-3 and described further in Section IV-F. In accordance with the FHWA noise policy, this is a Type I noise abatement project.

All sites were measured during both "peak" and "off-peak" traffic conditions on I-695 except sites A-27 and B-28. For example, the peak period for sites on the southbound side (outer loop) of $\mathrm{I}-695$ is during the morning peak travel time, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Sites located on the northbound side (inner loop) were measured during the afternoon peak travel time, between 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Each site was also measured during an "off-peak" period between the morning and afternoon rush hours. As the results indicate, the "peak" and "off-peak" ambient noise levels are marginally different. This low variation is a function of higher travel speeds during lower traffic periods, in addition to a slightly higher percentage of trucks that operate during the "off-peak" period.

The State Highway Administration has two types of noise analysis and abatement programs. These are defined by Federal legislation as Type I and Type II programs. The proposed widening of the Beltway was analyzed under the Type I program.

The Type I program addresses noise impacts created by new highway construction or the physical alteration of an existing highway which significantly changes either the horizontal or vertical alignment or increases the number of through traffic lanes. Noise mitigation is considered under this program when noise impacts result from the proposed project. Impacts are defined as a 10 ABA increase over existing noise levels, or exceedance of the FHWA Noise Abatement Criteria (see Tables IV-6, IV-7). Noise mitigation will be further investigated if determined to be both reasonable and feasible.

The State Highway Administration adopted their Type II Noise Abatement Program, in conjunction with Federal legislation, to provide relief from existing noise levels for residential areas and public institutions adjacent to existing major highways.

The SHA Type II (retrofit) noise barrier projects begun during this study have been completed and are noted on Figure IV3. There are no other locations within the limits of this study which are under consideration for Type II barriers.

## G. CULTURAL RESOURCES

1. Historic sites

An inventory performed by the state Highway Administration, with concurrence from the Maryland Historic Trust (see Section VIII), indicates that three sites in the Study Area are National Register Eligible (NRE). These sites are identified on Figures III-3 and III-4 and in the table below.

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TABLE III-12 - STUDY AREA HISTORIC SITES
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Maryland Historic Trust

Identification
Number
AA 89
AA 111

BA 4

MHT Level of Significance

Sands Road NRE
Summerfield- NRE
Benson Home
Old Salem
Lutheran Church

## 2. Archaeological Sites

The Division of Archaeology of the Maryland Geological Survey has reviewed the site and proposed improvements and indicates that there are no sites which would be impacted by any alternate under consideration (see letter in Section VIII, pages VIII-D12 and VIII-D13).

An archaeological reconnaissance was conducted in the Study Area. Much of the area immediately adjacent to I-695 has been extensively disturbed and did not require an archaeological survey. The reconnaissance consisted of evaluating areas proposed for mainline widening, new interchanges or ramps, and connecting roads.

## IV. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

## A. INTRODUCTION

This section describes the potential environmental effects which will result from the Selected Action for the widening of approximately 9.0 miles of $\mathrm{I}-695$ from I-70 to West of Maryland Route 170, Selected Interchange Improvements at I-70, Hollins Ferry Road and the Maryland Route 295 interchange, and Selected Option 1 along Maryland Route 295 from Maryland Route 46 to the Baltimore City Line, a distance of approximately 4.1 miles.

As previously discussed in this document, the overall.size of this project, funding constraints, and varying project needs will result in the staged construction of improvements. While the following discussion addresses specific impacts for a combined "full-length" Build Alternate, the actual incremental impacts during any three-to five-year period would be different because of the staged construction of the Selected Action.

The following elements were reviewed for the Selected Action: social, economic and land use impacts, transportation, topography, geology, soils, farmland, water and coastal resources, wetlands, floodplains, terrestrial habitat, woodlands/reforestation, wildlife, parklands, visual quality, air, noise, historic and archeological.

The Selected Action along I-695 and Maryland Route 295 assumes completion of the widening along the outside of I-695 and in the existing median of Maryland Route 295. In conjunction with this widening, the existing interchanges along I-695 and Maryland Route 295 would be improved by adjustment or reconstruction. The construction or reconstruction of the interchanges along Maryland Route 295 at Maryland Route $46 / I-195$ and $W$. Nursery Road were completed after this study began.

## B. SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND LAND USE

## 1. Social

An analysis of the probable residential displacements caused by the Selected Action has been made by the State Highway Administration. Relocation of individuals displaced by the proposed project would be accomplished in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Land Acquisitions Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-446), and Amendments of 1987. A summary of the Relocation Assistance Program for the State of Maryland is presented in Appendix $C$.

The Selected Action would displace one owner-occupied residence. Comparable decent, save and sanitary replacement housing is available within the Study Area for these displaced residents.

As indicated on Table $S-1$, right-of-way acquisition required for the construction of the selected Action is approximately 9.6 acres. The right-of-way required for the construction of Interchange Option B at Hollins Ferry Road would be approximately 2 acres. The majority of the required right-ofway consists of narrow strips of land adjacent to the existing right-of-way. Adverse impacts associated with these takings are not anticipated, nor is a large decrease in the tax base expected.

Because I-695 is proposed to be widened adjacent to the existing roadway and Maryland Route 295 to be widened in the median, the Selected Action should have no adverse social impacts. Patterns of pedestrian movement would not be disrupted, and no communities would be divided by the proposed improvements. Residential-business interaction will probably be enhanced due to improvements in vehicular access and safety.

The Selected Action does not represent any real changes in existing road patterns or any significant disruptive socioeconomic impacts. At the I-70, Hollins Ferry Road and Maryland Route 295 interchanges the revisions are relatively minor, and would not be expected to disrupt travel patterns or community patterns.

Between I-70 and I-95, where intense residential development is located adjacent to the Beltway, a comparison was prepared of the right-of-way effects of providing retaining walls for the majority of the area versus construction of full outside safety grading. Provision of a retaining wall adjacent to the new shoulder would considerably reduce the extent of right-of-way required with the provision of full safety grading (a flat-graded area provided for the recovery of errant vehicles) adjacent to the shoulder.

The results of this construction of Alternate 2 for the section of I-695 between I-70 and I-95 indicates that with retaining walls, 2.10 acres of private property would be acquired and no displacements would be required.

During final design a modified graded section, will be considered, to reduce cost within the right-of-way. The resulting impacts will not be significant relative to those described for the Selection Action.

A detailed discussion of the combined social, economic and land use impacts is presented in Section IV-B-3.

No adverse effects are anticipated for any community facilities, including police, fire, or hospitals from the construction of this project. The Selected Action would not effect any proposed development or change the population density. Adjacent property values would not be adversely affected by the proposed improvements.

## Summary of the Equal Opportunity Program of the Maryland State Highway Administration

It is the policy of the Maryland State Highway Administration to ensure compliance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and related civil rights laws and regulations, which prohibit discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin, age, religion, physical or mental handicap in all State Highway Administration program projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Highway Administration. The State Highway Administration will not discriminate in highway planning, highway design, highway construction, the acquisition of right-of-way, or the provision of relocation advisory assistance.

This policy has been incorporated into all levels of the highway planning process in order that proper consideration may be given to the social, economic, and environmental effects of all highway projects. Alleged discriminatory actions should be addressed to the Equal Opportunity Section of the Maryland State Highway Administration for investigation.
2. Economic

No farms would be displaced by the Selected Action.
Efforts would be made to minimize temporary inconvenience to customers patronizing existing businesses during construction activities. Businesses located in the Edmondson Avenue, Washington Boulevard, Hollins Ferry Road and Nursery Road interchange areas would be affected. The long-term effect of improved access and enhanced safety should be of considerable benefit to the existing businesses.

The economic benefits of the reconstruction of I-695 and Maryland Route 295 should considerably enhance business and development opportunities in this portion of Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties. Although the reconstruction of I-695 would displace one residence and require the acquisition of private property, no large decrease in the tax base is anticipated as a result of this project.

## 3. Land Use

As discussed in Section III-B of this document, land use varies considerably throughout the 13.1 miles of the Study Area. For this reason, the social, economic and land use assessment of the Selected Action has been divided as follows:

- I-695 - From I-70 to I-95

Existing land use adjacent to I-695 is primarily residential. Pedestrian circulation patterns are already established and accustomed to existing highway traffic patterns and would not be affected by the proposed lane additions. Likewise, community interaction would not be affected. Residential access would be enhanced due to the improved intersection configuration at the ramp termini of Frederick Road. The proposed Selected Action improvements would not adversely alter access to the existing interchanges.

Very few small open areas remain to be infilled by residential or other development. The proposed widening would not affect the potential for development in these small areas.

- I-695 - From I-95 to West of Maryland Route 170

Existing land use adjacent to $\mathrm{I}-695$ is primarily commercial and industrial in nature.

The character of the existing development is not anticipated to be altered by the Selected Action. Development, however, does not depend on the Beltway widening. There are some very small areas along the Beltway which would be expected to develop irrespective of the proposed widening.

- Maryland Route 295 - From Maryland Route 46/I-95 to the Baltimore Beltway

This portion of the Study Area is rapidly undergoing office, service and industrial development, with residential development adjacent to the Maryland Route 295/I-695 Interchange. The BWI Airport vicinity is developing into an industrial and technological area. With improved access to the w. Nursery Road area, the Maryland Route 295 corridor between Maryland Route 46/I195 and the Beltway is anticipated to develop in a similar manner.

Selected option 1 , the reconstruction of the Maryland Route 295/Maryland Route 46/I-195 interchange, as well as the construction of the Maryland Route $295 / \mathrm{W}$. Nursery Road interchange, would improve access and increase the capacity of the mainline roadway.

## - Maryland Route 295 - From I-695 to

 the Baltimore City LineThis portion of the Study Area is already developed with medium density residential to the north and a combination of residential and industrial adjacent to the Maryland Route 295/I695 interchange vicinity. Pedestrian circulation is already established and a pedestrian overpass at Baltimore Highlands is heavily utilized. The improvements proposed would not affect community interaction or access to the communities.

## C. TRANSPORTATION

## 1. Traffic Volumes

The Baltimore Beltway is probably the single most important highway facility in the Baltimore metropolitan area. Combining local trips with longer distance commuter/business trips and interstate trips, a wide range of trip purposes and origins/ destinations can be observed on the Beltway. Projected increases in suburb to suburb work trips, coupled with the increasing interstate component of travel (especially the I-70 to I-95 and I97 to Russell street connections via I-695), are anticipated to result in more vehicles on the Beltway in the 2015 design year.

Traffic volumes in the Beltway portion of the Study Area ranged from approximately 93,000 to 120,000 vehicles per day (vpd) at the beginning of this study. 1989 information revealed that in the preceding six years, the rate of increase experienced in the industrial area from Maryland Route 295 to I-95 was different than that experienced in the more residential area between I-95 and I70. Traffic volumes in the industrial portion increased by approximately $10,000 \mathrm{vpd}$. During the peak period hours, several sections of this portion already exceed the anticipated design year conditions for the mainline. The majority of ramp volumes in this portion, however, are still below the design year projections. The portion between I-95 and I-70 also experienced an increase in traffic volume, with most areas exceeding 30,000 pd. Fewer sections in this portion are either at or exceed the design year traffic projections. Similar to the industrial portion, ramp volumes still below the design year projections.

This overall increase in traffic volume could be attributed to several factors. Since construction along the Harbor Tunnel Thruway (I-895) has been underway during this period, motorists have been encouraged, by signing and variable message signs, to use the Fort McHenry Tunnel (I-95) or the Francis Scott Key bridge (I-695). The large increase of traffic along I-695 between I-95 and I-70 seems to indicate that a large portion of the detouring traffic probably uses the Ft. McHenry Tunnel route.

The Average Daily Traffic (ADT) volumes on I-695 are anticipated to increase over 40 percent from the original base year traffic volumes of nearly 156,000 vehicles per day (vpd) to 171,000 vpd in the year 2015 for the Build condition south of I-70. A 45 percent increase is projected during the same period on I-95 for the Build condition north of I-695. The Maryland Route 295 portion of the project is projected to experience traffic growth on the order of 50 percent between current conditions and volumes anticipated in the year 2015 for the No-Build condition.

Under the Build Condition, traffic volume in the design year is estimated to be high throughout the day, filling the entire roadway to capacity. Because of this consistent capacity specific peaks would not be evident. Although additional capacity would be added to the roadway, due to the very high projections for traffic growth, the added capacity would be utilized for longer periods of the day than under the current conditions. Peak period hours under the Build Alternate would be longer, possibly extending the current two-hour congestion peak period to a four-hour congestion period. For residents living near the facility, the congestion and noise currently experienced would occur for a longer period of time.

Since traffic volumes on the industrial portion of the Study Area, between Maryland Route 295 and I-95, have already increased by approximately $10,000 \mathrm{vpd}$, a volume increase in the 25 to 35 percent range is anticipated within the next 25 years. The increase in traffic volumes on the portion of I-695 between I-95 and $I-70$ has also been very rapid. While other roadways have recently been completed and other facilities are anticipated to be completed (see Section I-D.5), most of those projects terminate at I-95. In order to continue to the north or west, motorists will still be using I-695 between I-95 and I-70.

The lengthening of the peak periods of travel, caused by the projected increases in traffic volumes, is presented for both the No-Build and Build Alternates on Figure IV-1. The diurnal curve data indicates that under the No-Build condition on I-695, peaking characteristics would be absent, while peaking would be evident under the Build condition. The peaking conditions refer to the highest traffic volumes which occur during the 24-hour period. Currently, there is a peak morning two-hour period from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and a peak evening two-hour period from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Maryland Route 295 diurnal curve data indicates a somewhat similar condition for the No-Build and Build conditions, although there would continue to be defined peaks (Figure IV-2).

## 2. Traffic Operations

Traffic operations for the year 2015 No-Build and Build scenarios have been analyzed for the Selected Action. These operations are presented in Table III-7.



The following summarizes traffic operations anticipated in the 2015 design year:

No-Build: Severe levels of traffic congestion and lengthy periods of vehicular delay are predicted for the existing roadway. During a "normal" peak period, traffic conditions are expected to be worse than conditions which exist today on the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving. As commuter interstate traffic volumes increase on the Beltway, it is likely that local traffic would use the Beltway less frequently then they do today.

Build:
The provision of an additional lane in each direction, and the associated interchange improvements, is expected to improve traffic service in comparison to the No-Build. In comparison to today's operating conditions, however, improvements are not expected to be dramatic. In essence, the additional capacity provided by the additional lane will be more than offset by dramatic increases in traffic volumes.

Each of the interchange ramps along I-695 has been evaluated for the Selected Action. Levels of service (LOS) for the majority of the ramps would operate at LOS "C" due to the ramp geometry which limits travel speeds. However, ramp volumes are not excessive. Exceptions to these statements are the interchange ramps located at Maryland Route 295 and I-95. These two interchanges provide for movement of freeway to interstate and interstate to interstate traffic, respectively, and therefore tend to have larger traffic volumes.

Ramps at the Maryland Route 295 interchange, which will carry the largest peak hour traffic volumes in the design year, are Ramp B (from northbound I-695 to northbound Maryland Route 295) and Ramp D (from southbound I-695 to southbound Maryland Route 295). Under the proposed designs, each of these ramps would be two lane ramps, with LOS "D" for Ramp D and LOS "E" for Ramp B during the morning peak hours.

At the I-95 interchange, where Ramp I and $J$ merge into the northbound I-695 roadway, Ramp I would operate at LOS "F" and Ramp J at LOS "D". Ramps diverging from southbound I-695 to I-95, Ramps $C$ and $D$, will operate at LOS "D" during the peak hours.

Ten at-grade intersections located adjacent to interchange ramps are predicted to operate at LOS "A" to LOS "C", with signalization anticipated at many of these locations in the design year, under either the No-Build or Build condition.

## 3. Accidents

The ongoing development in and around Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties is expected to increase use of the Beltway. As mentioned in Section III-C, accidents occur in clusters in the interchange areas, particularly on the I-695 portion of the Study Area. These accidents are primarily due to the congestion and weaving conditions presently experienced on this roadway.

## Summary

The "No-Build" alternate proposes no action. Under this alternate the present accident patterns would be expected to continue. With the high volumes of traffic using both the I-695, I-95 and Maryland Route 295 Study Area roadways, and projected traffic increases by the year 2015, accidents and congestion would continue to be an everyday occurrence on this highway.

The addition of one lane to the inner and outer loops of I-695 and to the northbound and southbound lanes of Maryland Route 295, proposed under the Selected Action, would increase capacity and allow a smoother flow of traffic, thus decreasing the probability of accidents caused by congestion. These proposed improvements would help to lower the accident rate to less than the statewide average for rear-end accidents and would reduce the rate for sideswipe accidents.

In view of the anticipated large increase in traffic volumes along I-695, it is unrealistic to expect the proposed improvements to be the complete solution to the traffic congestion problem in this area. Accidents and delays would continue to increase as a direct result of increasing traffic volumes and conflicts.

## I-695 Selected Action

The addition of one lane to both the northbound and southbound roadways would increase capacity and allow a smoother flow of traffic, thus decreasing the probability of accidents caused by congestion. With the implementation of the Selected Action, the number of rear-end accidents occurring on the I-695 roadway would be anticipated to be reduced by approximately 50 percent and sideswipe accidents would be reduced by approximately 20 percent. The accident rate is expected to be reduced to 58 acc/100 MVM.

Between U.S. Route 40 and south of Frederick Road, the existing $3.5-\mathrm{ft}$. median shoulder would be replaced with a 10 -foot shoulder which would allow a disabled vehicle to move off to the left-hand side of the road. This would improve the safety of the four-lane and five-lane portions of the Beltway.

The accident cost associated with the implementation of this alternate would be approximately $\$ 600,000 / 100$ million vehicle miles (MVM), with a possible reduction to $\$ 400,000 / 100 \mathrm{MVM}$ if the fatal accident rate remains at today's level.

## I-695/I-70 and Security Boulevard Interchanges Selected Action

The relocation of Ramp $M$ behind the piers at the I-70 interchange would be expected to result in the reduction of ramp and mainline conflicts for the interchange. The fixed object collisions occurring in the gore and merge areas are expected to decrease with the ramp realignment in these interchange areas.

## I-695/Hollins Ferry Road Selected Action

The relocated Ramp $F$ would improve the alignment for Ramp $F$ and thereby the merge condition along northbound I-695 in the Hollins Ferry and U.S. 1 Alt.-Washington Boulevard interchange vicinities. Additional conflicts are anticipated, however, where Ramp A from I-895 joins the relocated Ramp F.

The new four-legged intersection created by the relocation of Ramp $F$ to the south side of Hollins Ferry Road would be expected to experience an increase in angle and left-turn collisions. The junction of the relocated Ramp $F$ and I-895 Ramp A would be expected to have rear-end and sideswipe collisions.

I-695/Maryland Route 295: Hollins Ferry Road to Maryland Route 295

An add-lane from Hollins Ferry Road to Maryland Route 295 would provide another auxiliary lane for traffic entering and leaving the Beltway. This extra lane would alleviate some of the rear-end accidents due to congestion experienced in this area.

Maryland Route 295 Option 1 - Mainline Widening
The addition of one lane per direction would reduce the number of rear-end accidents occurring on this section of the Study Area roadway from $44 \mathrm{acc} / 100 \mathrm{mvm}$ to $22 \mathrm{acc} / 100 \mathrm{mvm}$. The total rate would be reduced from $89 \mathrm{acc} / 100 \mathrm{mvm}$ to $67 \mathrm{acc} / 100 \mathrm{mvm}$. The accident cost associated with the implementation of this alternate would be approximately $\$ 750,000 / 100 \mathrm{mvm}$, an estimated savings of approximately $\$ 170,000 / 100 \mathrm{mvm}$ when compared to the accident cost of the existing highway.

## D. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

## 1. Effects on Topography. Geology and soil

The Study Area is situated in two of Maryland's physiographic provinces: the Piedmont Plateau and the Atlantic Coastal Plain. The Piedmont portion, generally the area north of Wilkens Avenue, is characterized by a rolling to hilly upland topography. The Atlantic Coastal Plain is characterized by deposits of unconsolidated sediments, which increase in thickness to the southeast. The excavation and construction proposed as part of the Selected Action should not dramatically alter or affect the area's topographic or geological features. The majority of construction would take place within the existing right-of-way, and by utilizing retaining walls, the local terrain would not be adversely affected.

The Study Area north of Wilkens Avenue is covered by upland soils of the Legore-Aldine-Neshaminy association which are moderately well suited to road building. Between Wilkens Avenue and the Patapsco River soils are classified as loamy and clayey, presenting difficulties for road construction due to the poor stability of plastic soils, poor drainage, frost action and seasonal high ground water. Careful attention to these problems during design will ensure that adequate drainage of the subbase is provided. The Anne Arundel County portion of the Study Area is covered by well-drained soils on gentle to steep slopes, underlain by upland Coastal Plain deposits generally well suited, with minor limitations, to road construction.

## 2. Effects on Farmland

The Selected Action would not displace any existing farms.

The U.S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS) has determined that due to the nature of the project and the current land use, no prime farmland is present in the Study Area (see letter in Section VIII Page VIII-D28 and D29).

## 3. Effects on Water Resources

The two principal waterways within the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Study Area are the Patapsco River and Herbert Run. Herbert Run's 7.2 square miles of watershed outfall into the Patapsco River, and is included as part of this river's 365 square mile watershed. Herbert Run crosses I-695 and I-95. The Patapsco River crosses I-695, Maryland Route 295 and I-895 in the Study Area.

Water quality considerations and potential impacts are addressed in this document for two phases of project development. The first phase occurs during construction, when clearing, grubbing and excavation could cause sedimentation of streams. The second phase occurs during operation, when special considerations are directed to reducing the quantity and rate of run-off (storm-water management) and to minimizing the pollutant load carried by these waters (water quality).

Possible effects on water quality in the Study Area could arise from permanent changes in the physical environment. These changes result from the additional pavement constructed along the mainline of the project and adjustments made to the interchange ramps.

Potential impacts associated with storm water management ponds have not been fully assessed for the preliminary engineering stage. Open interchange areas could be utilized to provide storm water management. These stormwater management measures will be fully developed during final design.

Removal of vegetation, alteration of topography, and an increase in the areas of impervious surfaces can increase the velocity of stormwater runoff and stream peak flow, potentially adding to the sediment load discharged into adjacent surface water bodies. To minimize this effect, the removal of existing vegetation would be limited and all construction areas revegetated as quickly as possible. There are four streams crossing the I-695 portion of the project and two streams crossing the Maryland Route 295 portion, none of which would require relocations.

Impacts could result from increased levels of oil and other motor vehicle-related pollutants. These substances, in addition to deicing agents (road salt) used in the winter months, are flushed into nearby surface water bodies during storm conditions. Stormwater runoff can also carry agents used in the construction of permanent structures, including asphalt, cement, aggregates, paint, expansion joint compounds, and crack fillers.

To the extent that runoff velocities are increased and impervious surfaces are added, groundwater infiltration is reduced and the potential impact on groundwater would increase. This could lead to reductions in stream base flow and warming of streams.

On the basis of an analysis of the wells discussed in Section III-D.3, it is not anticipated that the proposed construction would have an adverse effect upon the quantity of water in the wells in the Patapsco and Patuxent formations or in the crystalline bedrock. These wells obtain water from aquifers which transmit ground water from relatively distant and widespread recharge areas. Therefore, the very localized activities of the proposed construction should have very little effect on wells which use those aquifers.

The Pleistocene deposits, Patapsco and Patuxent formations, and several bedrock formations outcrop within the Study Area. The aquifers within these formations receive recharge from precipitation in the areas where they are exposed at ground surface and from ground water moving downward from overlying formations. The individual water bearing strata are most susceptible to chemical contamination where they occur at ground surface and receive recharge. Although it is not known how important the outcrop areas of these formations within the Study Area are with respect to recharge of the aquifers over the general area, appropriate precautions would be taken to prevent motor fuels and lubricants and other potentially contaminating chemicals associated with highway construction from infiltrating into the ground water system.

Impacts on surface water quality would be anticipated to be intermittent and localized in nature. No permanent significant adverse effects on any of the surface water bodies in the project area would be expected. The impacts anticipated to occur would coincide with the first hours of precipitation.

State Water Resources Administration regulations .01-. 10 Comar 08.05.05 "Storm Water Management", effective July 1, 1984, requires water quality to be addressed in design. These regulations stipulate that the order of preference for storm-water management is as follows:
a. Infiltration of runoff on site
b. Flow attenuation by use of open vegetated swales and natural depressions
c. Stormwater retention structures
d. Stormwater detention structures

Infiltration controls both the quality and quantity of runoff and is to be utilized wherever soils conditions and topography allow. Control, infiltration and attenuation methods would be designed in accordance with the "Maryland Standards and Specifications for Stormwater Management Infiltration Practices", Water Resources Administration, February, 1984. Retention and detention structures would be designed in accordance with "Soil Conservation Service Standards and Specifications for Ponds" No. 378-1, July, 1981. Since infiltration design applies to the twoyear and ten-year frequency storms, retention or detention structures would be used to control the 100 -year design storm.

Potential adverse water runoff impacts would be further mitigated by the installation of stormwater management ponds and infiltration ponds. It has been proven that these measures can significantly filter out roadway pollutants as well as control the rate of runoff. In areas where well-drained soils are located in the Study Area, effective infiltration techniques could be used to reduce adverse water runoff impacts.

Sediment control plans, which would be developed by the State Highway Administration during the final design phase and approved by the Maryland Department of the Environment, would be strictly adhered to during the construction phase. These measures include stabilizing all exposed slopes as soon as practical to minimize the area exposed at any time and the appropriate placement and maintenance of sediment traps and other control measures. Because of the developed nature of the project area and the linear nature of the construction projects, the Selected Action would not be expected to have an adverse effect on water resources.

Coordination has been undertaken with the Coastal Resources Division (CRD), Tidewater Administration, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR). A representative of Maryland DNR participated in the February 19, 1988 wetlands field review, and coastal resource impacts were discussed. A letter on page VIIID17 documents Maryland DNR's coordination with this project.
5. Effects on Wetlands

In accordance with Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, and other State and Federal Regulations, the improvement alternates proposed for I-695/Maryland Route 295 have been developed to avoid and minimize adverse impacts on wetlands. Sixteen wetlands have been identified in the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Study Area (see Table III-10) and were reviewed during a wetland field review on February 18, 1988 with representatives of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Maryland DNR (see memorandum in Section VIII). Construction of the Selected Action would require the displacement of approximately 0.065 acres of non-tidal wetlands. Wetland impacts of the Selected Action are presented in Tables S-1 and IV-1.

The wetland delineations for this project were completed using the Army Corps of Engineers wetland delineation manual prior to the adoption of the new Federal Manual. Verbal concurrence was received from Corps representatives that the wetland boundary determinations presented to the agencies at the February 18, 1988 field review would still be accurate under the new Federal Manual.

There are five non-tidal wetlands within the project corridor which would be affected by the proposed construction.

W4 This non-tidal wetland would be directly impacted by the construction of a retaining wall. There would be an impact of approximately 0.009 acres.

W5 Affected by the construction of the selected Action, this area is an open stream beside Leeds Avenue, just south of I695. This non-tidal riverine wetland is confined to the stream bed, and construction of a ramp at this location would affect about 0.02 acres of wetlands.

W9 This wetland taking would be approximately 0.0082 acre. This area will be evaluated during final design to determine whether slopes could be modified to avoid encroachment on the existing non-tidal wetland.

W10 The reconstruction of the I-695 bridge crossing the Patapsco River would require pier widening to accommodate the roadway widening. This non-tidal wetland impact would be approximately 0.0075 acres.

W12 Located along the southbound Maryland Route 295 roadway, approximately 0.02 acres of this non-tidal wetland would be impacted by the proposed shoulder and outside grading associated with the auxiliary lane proposed between the Beltway and W. Nursery Road.

## Avoidance, Minimization, Mitigation

Many wetland impacts have been avoided on this project by Selected Alternatives which do not impact wetlands. The interchange options at US Route 40 and the Maryland Route 295/I-895 interchange which impacted wetlands were not selected. Also, the reduced grading section along the Maryland Route 295 median was selected. The Selected Action avoids 12 of the 16 wetlands identified in the Study Area. The no-build alternate was not selected because it would result in a continued increase of congestion and accidents. The no-build alternate does not meet the need for the project.

Avoiding wetland impacts by shifting the roadway alignment was considered and found to be unreasonable. Shifting the alignment would increase residential impacts as well as increasing the overall impacts of the project. Such a shift would result in an unreasonable increase in the cost of the project. In addition, wetlands W5 and W12 could not be avoided by shifting the alignment.

The Selected Action proposes using retaining walls and I695 rather than providing safety grading. Although safety grading is desirable, retaining walls are an acceptable alternative due to the right-of-way constraints. The reduced median grading alternate selected for Maryland Route 295 minimizes impacts along this route. These actions have resulted in reduced impacts to wetlands W4, W5, W9 \& W10.

Further reduction of the typical section is proposed in some areas. Considering both the existing and future conditions, a shoulder width of less than 10 feet has been proposed where it could be provided safely, where providing a full shoulder was unreasonably costly or where the impacts from a full shoulder was unreasonable to mitigate. Reducing shoulder widths has resulted in further minimizing the impacts to wetlands W9 and W10.

As a result of these efforts, the total impact to wetlands with the Selected Action is less than 0.1 acre.

Based on this minimal acreage of wetlands impacted, SHA does not anticipate a mitigation requirement from the permitting agencies, at this time. However, if this situation should change, mitigation will be further investigated.

Impacts to a number of small stream crossings have been avoided or will be minimal.

Permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Maryland DNR would be obtained for all operations within the impacted wetlands during the final design stage of this project.

## Wetland Finding

In accordance with Executive Order 11990, efforts were made to avoid and minimize harm to wetlands and still satisfy the proposed project need. As stated above, there are no practicable alternatives that would avoid all wetland impacts. The Selected Action proposes the use of retaining walls, reduction of the safety grading and typical section to minimize harm to wetlands in the study area. Based upon the above considerations, it is determined that there is no practicable alternative to the proposed construction in wetlands and that the proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to wetlands which may result from such use.

## 6. Effects on Floodplains

Existing floodplains for the 100 -year flood have been delineated by FEMA and are shown for the Selected Action in Section II. Although the proposed improvements would increase the area of ground surface paved with impervious material, thereby increasing the rate and volume of runoff, the possible increases would be small in comparison with existing volumes of floodwater passing through the Study Area and would not result in a large increase in floodwater elevations. During final design, the State Highway Administration will prepare existing 100-year storm discharge and floodplain information. In addition, stormwater management practices would be strictly followed to limit increases in the floodwater discharges (see discussion in Section IV-D.6).

At Edmondson Avenue, Leeds Avenue, and the proposed I895/Maryland Route 295 interchange, the floodplain extends beyond the non-tidal wetland boundaries. An existing culvert at Leeds Avenue would minimize floodplain taking for the Selected Action improvements associated with that interchange. The Selected Action at the other two interchange locations would not affect the floodplain.

For the proposed widening in the median associated with Maryland Route 295, the bridge crossing the Patapsco River would not require widening to accommodate this improvement since this bridge was recently widened as part of a bridge redecking project. Therefore, there would be no floodplain encroachment.

TABLE IV-1 - WETLAND IMPACTS


[^9]Floodplain encroachment associated with this project has been reviewed. In accordance with the requirements of E.O. 11988, the impacts of the encroachment were evaluated to determine if it were problematic. Although flooding is presently a problem in some portions of the Study Area, no areas of increased encroachment where the considerable probability of the loss of human life, the likelihood of future damage substantial in cost or extent, the disruption of emergency or evacuation routes, or an adverse impact on the "natural and beneficial floodplain values" have been identified.

Adequate design technology is available and will be incorporated in the final design of this project to insure that impacts of flooding are not critical. Since I-695 and Maryland Route 295 are access controlled and most of the Patapsco River floodplain is owned by the Patapsco Valley State Park, the proposed improvements are not expected to generate development which is incompatible with the natural and beneficial values of the Patapsco River floodplain.

## 7. Effects on Terrestrial Habitat

The Selected Action would not result in adverse impacts to the overall terrestrial ecology of the Study Area. Because the majority of the proposed improvements are along existing I-695 and Maryland Route 295, losses would be minimal.

The wooded areas that would be affected would be limited to strip taking along existing wooded parcels. None of the wooded areas that would be affected are known to be inhabited by wildlife of Statewide importance or to be otherwise notable or unique. Wooded areas of similar age and species composition are abundant throughout Baltimore and Ann Arundel Counties.

Construction of the proposed highway improvements would have a minimal impact on upland vegetative communities, since construction in most cases will be confined to the existing right-of-way. Most of the native vegetation in this area is sparse, immature, and has very little species diversity. Many areas are open, with a few grasses and wild flowers. Where forested areas exist, they are usually dominated by locust, cherry and other species typical of young woodlands. In some areas, existing landscaping materials would be removed by construction.

## 8. Effects on Woodlands/Reforestation

The Selected Action would not result in acquisition of woodlands requiring reforestation.
9. Effects on Wildife, Threatened or Endangered Species

A review of existing data by the Heritage Program of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildife Service had determined that no known population of rare, threatened or endangered (RTE) species occur within the portions of the Study Area where highway improvements could be implemented. These determinations are documented in Section VIII, page VIII-D17 of this document.

Loss of upland and wetland habitat can have an adverse impact on wildlife. The wildlife value of the upland habitat in the corridor is not high, due to the limited species diversity, fragmentation, lack of suitable nest sites, and proximity to existing development and the highway. However, some of the small mammals which would be expected to inhabit the area would be displaced. To the extent that birds preferring this type of edge habitat, such as hawks, owls, blackbirds, mocking birds, sparrows, and robins exist in the project corridor, they would be displaced by the loss of that edge habitat along most of the highway. This would occur particularly in areas where, because of physical limitations, the highway shoulder would abut a retaining wall, rather than having space for a vegetated bank.

The loss of wetland habitat can have much more serious impacts on wildife populations, since there are generally more species inhabiting these areas, and a limited number of other suitable habitats in the area.

## 10. Effects on Parklands

Of the twelve parks identified in the study Area, none would be affected by the Selected Action. For the parklands which are adjacent to the project, such as Patapsco Valley State Park and Overlook Park, construction would take place within the existing right-of-way. Constructive or destructive use of the parkland would not occur. The Maryland Route 295 bridge over the Patapsco River was widened and redecked and would therefore not require additional widening. The I-695 bridge reconstruction would take place within the SHA right-of-way, thereby not impacting the Patapsco Valley State Park.

## 11. Effects on Sensitive Natural Areas

There are several sensitive natural areas within the project corridor which may be affected by this project. The Patapsco River water quality could be affected by construction activities and stormwater runoff after construction. The river is a spawning area for several anadromous fish. All non-tidal wetlands are considered by Baltimore County, the State of Maryland, the U.S. Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as important for wildife and water quality and deserving protection. The impacts on these sensitive areas would be minimal.

## 12. Effects on Visual Quality

Existing I-695 is a six-lane and seven-lane divided highway extending throughout the Study Area. Twelve interchanges currently operate between I-70 and Maryland Route 170. Extensive commercial and residential development already exists along I-695 with access provided from cross streets. Maryland Route 295 is a four-lane divided highway with three existing interchanges and two recently completed interchanges (Maryland Route $46 / I-195$ and $W$. Nursery Rd.), within the study limits. While development has not encroached along the portion of the project between Maryland Route $46 / I-195$ and I-695, this is anticipated to be a high growth corridor for industrial/business parks. Consequently, the visual quality of the project area is largely shaped by the existing highway and adjacent development.

The Selected Action proposes improvements at all of the major interchanges along $I-695$. While these improvements would alter the visual environment, the facility would be compatible with a developed suburban area.

Most of the changes in the visual quality of the corridor would be minor, with certain exceptions. Where landscaping and green space is totally eliminated along the highway edges, there would be a visual impact.

None of these impacts seem to be adverse, since most of the changes are minor additions and modifications to an existing Interstate highway.

The most noticeable affect on visual quality would be that of the proposed retaining walls. While the retaining walls would appear as jersey barriers in fill areas adjacent to the shoulders as viewed from the Beltway, the view from the residence side could be very different. The retaining walls would range in height from 2-feet to 16-feet, and although additional right-of-way is not required in most areas for their construction, the visual impacts would be adverse. The addition of some of these retaining walls may reduce the amount of sunlight on individual properties.

Along $\mathrm{I}-695$ in the Study Area, there are two areas in which noise barriers will be evaluated during final design. In some areas, this would require that noise barriers be placed on top of retaining walls. While the noise barriers will provide protection from the noise influence of the Beltway, the ramifications of this are that noise barriers placed on retaining walls would intrude on the view from the residential side. The retaining walls, ranging in height from 2-feet to 16 -feet would be the base for noise barriers ranging from 9 to 12 feet in height. Shadows would be cast on the residential areas behind the wall/noise barrier for several hours of the day depending on the location of the barrier. The noise barrier would be constructed of the same material as the existing barriers along the Beltway near Frederick Road and Edmondson Avenue.

## 1. Findings

An air quality analysis was conducted for the No-Build Alternate and the Build Alternate for 9.0 miles of I-695 and 4.1 miles of Maryland Route 295. Figure IV-3 indicates locations of Air and Noise Sensitive Receptors. Using the MOBILE 3 and CALINE 3 air quality models, one-hour and eight-hour carbon monoxide (CO) concentrations were determined for each of 11 receptors. As summarized below, violations of State or National Ambient Air Quality Standards are not predicted to occur.

TABLE IV-2 - SUMMARY: CO CONCENTRATIONS

|  | 1-Hour | 8-Hour |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| State and National Amb <br> Air Quality Standards <br> Year 1995 Background <br> Year 2015 Background | 35 ppm <br> 2.8 ppm <br> 2.4 ppm | $\begin{array}{r} 9 \mathrm{ppm} \\ 1.6 \mathrm{ppm} \\ 1.5 \mathrm{ppm} \end{array}$ |
| NO-BUILD <br> Year 1995 range* <br> Year 2015 range* <br> NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS | 3.1 to 7.8 ppm <br> 3.1 to 23.8 ppm <br> 0 | 1.8 to 3.1 ppm <br> 1.7 to 4.6 ppm <br> 0 |
| BUILD <br> Year 1995 range* <br> Year 2015 range* <br> NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS | 3.1 to 10.9 ppm 3.1 to 17.4 ppm <br> 0 | 1.8 to 3.3 ppm 1.7 to 5.1 ppm <br> 0 |

* Includes background CO concentrations


## 2. Analysis Objectives and Methodology

An air quality analysis was conducted for the No-Build and Build Alternates for the year 1995 (year of project completion) and 2015 (project design year). The objective of the analysis was to compare carbon monoxide (CO) concentrations estimated to result from traffic configurations and volumes of each alternate with the State and National Ambient Air Quality Standards (S/NAAQS). The NAAQS and SAAQS are identical for CO: 35 ppm (parts per million) for the maximum 1-hour period and 9 , ppm for the maximum consecutive 8-hour period.


Complete details of the technical air analysis and findings are included in the "I-695/Maryland Route 295/I-895 Air Quality Analysis Report", copies of which are being circulated to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Maryland Air Management Administration. This report is available for review at the Maryland State Highway Administration, project Development Division, 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

A microscale Co pollutant diffusion simulation analysis, based on free-flow conditions, was conducted. This analysis consisted of calculating 1 -hour and 8 -hour CO concentrations resulting from automobile emissions at various receptor sites. The receptor sites affected by the Selected Alternate and Options are shown on Figure IV-3 and are described in Table IV-3. The emission factors were calculated using the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA MOBILE 3) computer program. Line Source CO dispersion estimates were calculated using the third generation California Line Source Dispersion Model, CALINE 3. The results of this analysis are shown in Tables IV-4 and IV-5. The analysis indicated that no violations of the 1 -hour or 8 -hour standards will occur due to implementation of the Build Alternate. Emission levels tend to be slightly higher for the Build Alternate because the Build Alternate has higher traffic volumes.

## 3. Consistency with State Implementation Plan

Since the National Environmental Policy ACT (NEPA) process for the I-695 project started before the enactment of the Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) of 1990 and the project was not in a grandfathered Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the project will be included in the Draft 1992-1996 TIP which will be analyzed for comformity with the state implementation plan. The Draft 1992-1996 TIP is expected to be adopted in September 1991.

## 4. Construction Impacts

The construction phase of the proposed project has the potential of impacting the ambient air quality through such means as fugitive dust from grading operations and materials handling. The State Highway Administration has addressed this possibility by establishing standard Specifications for construction and Materials, which specifies procedures to be followed by contractors involved in state work.

The Maryland Bureau of Air Quality Control was consulted to determine the adequacy of the Specifications in terms of satisfying the requirement of the Regulations Governing the control of Air Pollution in the State of Maryland. The Maryland Bureau of Air Quality Control found that the specifications are consistent with the requirements of these regulations. Therefore, during the construction period, all appropriate measures (Code of Maryland Regulations 10.18 .06 .03 D$)$ will be taken to minimize the impact on air quality of the area.

The "I-695/Maryland Route 295/I-895 Air Quality Analysis Report" has been circulated to EPA and the Maryland Air Management Administration for comment.

|  | Location |
| :---: | :---: |
| I-695-1 | 603 Maryland Avenue |
| 2 | 712 Kent Avenue |
| 3 | 703 Fern Place |
| 5 | 22 Arbutus Avenue |
| 6 | 15 Arbutus Avenue |
| 8 | 313 Kenwood Avenue |
| 9 | 230 Oglethorpe Road |
| 13 | 5001 Benson Avenue |
| 14 | 703 Evelyn Avenue |
| 15 | 800 Nursery Road |
| 17 | 2238 Monumental Road |
| Md. 295-1 | 506 Louise Avenue |
| 2 | 513 Heath Avenue |
| 4 | 2943 Freeway Road |
| 6 | 322 Cheddington Road |
| 8 | 1504 W. Nursery Road (S. of Maryland Route 295) |
| 9 | W. Nursery Road (N. of Maryland Route 295) |

* Air receptor sites Md. $295-7$ a, b, $c$ and I-895-2, 3, 4 were not affected by the Selected Action.


## I-695/Maryland Route 295



NOTES: 1. State and National Ambient Air Quality Standards (S/NAAQS) for One-Hour CO are 35 ppm.
2. See Figure IV-3 for receptor locations.
3. Includes background $\mathbf{C O}$ concentration
$1995=2.8 \mathrm{ppm}$
$2015-2.4 \mathrm{ppm}$

I-695/Maryland Route 295

| RECEPTOR (2) | NO-BUILD (3) |  | BUILD (3) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1995 | 2015 | 1995 | 2015 |
| I-695 1 | 2.7 | 3.5 | 2.9 | 3.8 |
| 2 | 2.7 | 3.5 | 2.9 | 3.9 |
| 3 | 3.1 | 4.1 | 3.3 | 4.6 |
| 5 | 2.7 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 4.2 |
| 6 | 2.7 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 3.7 |
| 8 | 2.9 | 4.5 | 3.3 | 4.7 |
| 9 | 2.7 | 3.5 | 2.8 | 4.1 |
| 13 | 3.1 | 4.1 | 3.0 | 5.1 |
| 14 | 2.6 | 3.5 | 2.8 | 3.5 |
| 15 | 3.1 | 4.6 | 3.3 | 4.3 |
| 17 | 2.5 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 2.5 |
| Md. 2951 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.8 |
| 3 | 2.2 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 2.4 |
| 4 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 2.2 |
| 6 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.9 |
| 8 | 2.2 | 2.5 | 2.1 | 2.4 |
| 9 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.5 |

NOTES: 1. State and National Ambient Air Quality Standards (S/NAAQS) for Eight-Hour CO are 9 ppm.
2. See Figure IV-3 for receptor locations.
3. Includes background $\mathbf{C O}$ concentration

$$
1995=1.6 \mathrm{ppm}
$$

$$
2015=1.5 \mathrm{ppm}
$$

## F. NOISE IMPACT ANALYSIS

## 1. Noise Abatement Criteria and Land Use Relationships

This noise analysis was completed in accordance with the FHWA Noise Abatement Criteria and 23 CFR, Part 772. The factors that were considered in identifying noise impacts are:

- Identification of existing land use;
- Existing noise levels;
- Prediction of future design year noise levels; and
- Potential traffic increases.
o Alternative noise abatement measures.
The noise impacts of the project were based upon the relationship of the projected noise levels to the FHWA Noise Abatement Criteria (shown in the following table) and to the ambient noise levels. Noise impacts occur when the Federal Highway Administration noise abatement criteria are approached or exceeded or when the predicted traffic noise levels substantially exceed the ambient noise levels. Maryland State Highway Administration uses a 10 dBA increase to define a substantial increase. Noise abatement measures or mitigation will be considered when a noise impact is identified.

The factors that were considered when determining whether mitigation is reasonable and feasible are:

- Whether a feasible method is available to reduce the noise;
- Whether the noise mitigation is cost-effective for those receptors that are impacted - approximately $\$ 40,000$ per impacted residence;
- Whether the mitigation is acceptable to a majority of the affected property owners.

An effective barrier should, in general, extend in both directions to four times the distance between receiver and roadway (source). In addition, an effective barrier should provide a 7-10 dBA reduction in the noise level as a preliminary design goal. However, any impacted noise receptor which will receive a 5 dBA reduction is considered when determining the cost-effectiveness of a barrier.

TABLE IV-6
NOISE ABATEMENT CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN 23 CFR 772

| Activity Category | Leq (h) | Description of Activity Category |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | 57 (Exterior) | Lands on which serenity and quiet are of extraordinary significance and serve an important public need and where the preservation of those qualities is essential if the area is to continue to serve its intended purpose. |
| B | 67 (Exterior) | Picnic areas, recreation areas, playgrounds, active sport areas, parks, residences, motels, hotels, schools, churches, libraries, and hospitals. |
| C | 72 (Exterior) | Developed lands, properties, or activities not included in Categories A or B above. |
| D | - | Undeveloped lands. |
| E | 52 (Interior) | Residences, motels, hotels, public meeting rooms, schools, churches, libraries, hospitals, and auditoriums. |

Cost-effectiveness is determined by dividing the total number of impacted sensitive sites in a specified noise sensitive area, that will receive at least a 5 dBA reduction of noise levels, into the total cost of the noise mitigation. For the purpose of comparison, a total cost of $\$ 16$ per square foot is assumed for estimated total barrier cost. This cost figure is based upon current costs experienced by the Maryland state Highway Administration and includes the cost of panels, footing, drainage, landscaping, and overhead. The State Highway Administration has established approximately $\$ 40,000$ per residence protected as being the maximum cost for a barrier to be considered reasonable.

Consideration is based on the size of the impacted area (number of structures, spatial distribution of structures, etc.) and the predominant activities carried on within the area.

The method used to predict the future noise levels produced by the No-Build and Build Alternates was developed by the Federal Highway Administration. The computer model derived from this method, STAMINA 2.0, utilizes an experimentally and statistically determined reference sound level for three classes of vehicles (autos, medium duty trucks, and heavy duty trucks) and applies a series of adjustments to each reference level to arrive at the predicted sound level. The adjustments include (1) traffic flow corrections, taking into account number of vehicles, average vehicle speed, and a specific time period of consideration; and (2) an adjustment for various types of physical barriers that would reduce noise transmissions from source (roadway) to receiver.

As previously stated, one of the criteria for determining whether noise abatement should be considered is when predicted noise levels approach or exceed the FHWA noise abatement criteria. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels do exceed the FHWA 67 dBA noise abatement criteria at 24 of the 28 noise sensitive areas.

## 3. Impact Analysis and Feasibility of Noise Control

As indicated in Table IV-7, sites A thru N, P, S, T, V, $W$, and $Z$ have predicted design year noise levels, for the Build Alternate, that exceed FHWA noise abatement criteria. Design Year No-Build noise levels are also predicted to exceed FHWA noise abatement criteria. The improvements proposed in this widening project are predicted to increase future build noise levels 1-2 dBA. This increase is consistent with predictions for similar highway widening projects where 1-2 additional travel lanes were provided per direction.

Noise sensitive areas with predicted noise increases of 10 dBA or more over ambient levels are also considered for noise abatement. Area E, on Arbutus Avenue, has a predicted noise level that is 11-12 dBA greater than its respective ambient level. This site also qualified for noise abatement consideration by having a predicted noise level in excess of 67 dBA.

TABLE IV-7: COMPARIBON OF AMBIENT \& PREDICTED Leq NOIBE LEVELS (page 1 of 5)

| NOISE SENSITIVE AREAS, AMBIENT NOISE RECEPTOR NUMBERS$\qquad$ |  |  | DISTANCE FROM CENTERLINE | 1986 <br> AMBIENT LLEQ <br> NOISE <br> MEASUREMENTS <br> (dBA) | PREDICTED Leq FOR <br> DESIGN YEAR 2015 (dBA) <br> WITHOUT NOISE BARRIERS <br> NO-BUILD SELECTED <br> (ALT. 12 ACTION |  | PREDICTED Leq FOR <br> DESIGN YEAR 2015 (dBA) <br> WITH NOISE BARRIERS <br> SELECTED <br> ACTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I-695 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A | 19 | Residence in Westview 6008 Moorehead Road | $160^{\prime}$ | 70 | 74 | 74 | 66 |
| A | 27 | Residence in Westview 6409 Craigmont Road | $560^{\prime}$ | 71 | 74 | 74 | 66 |
| B | 20 | Residence in Westview 1101/1103 Starway Court | $215{ }^{\prime}$ | 64 | 71 | 71 | 64 |
| B | 28 | Residence in Westview 1337 Dillion Heights | $270^{\prime}$ | 73 | 74 | 74 | 66 |
| c | 2 | Residence in Dunmore Ridge 712 Kent Avenue | 190' | 68 | 72 | 72 | 65 |
| c | 21 | Residence in Edmondson Ridge 612 Stoney Lane | $200^{\prime}$ | 68 | 69 | 69 | 62 |
| D | 1 | Residence in Catonsville Heights 603 Maryland Avenue | $190{ }^{\prime}$ | 67 | 72 | 72 | 65 |
| D | 3 | Apartment on Fern Valley Court 703 Fern Place | $160^{\prime}$ | 65 | 74 | 74 | 66 |
| E | 4 | Residence in Dunmore Estates 115 Arbutus Avenue | 2001 | 62 | 74 | 74 | 66 |
| E | 5 | Residence in Dunmore Estates 22 Arbutus Avenue | $160^{\prime}$ | 64 | 75 | 75 | 66 |
| F | 6 | Residence in Catonsville 15 Arbutus Avenue | 2001 | 65 | 71 | 72 | 65 |

68 - Underlined predicted noise levels approach or exceed 67 decibel criteria
Sites A27, B28, HH29, HH3O, II31, II32 were monitored in 1991.

TABLE IV-7: COMPARIBON OF AMBIENT \& PREDICTED LEG NOIBE LEVELE (Page 2 of 5)

| NOISE SENSITIVE AREAS, <br> AMBIENT NOISE RECEPTOR NUMBERS <br> - AND MEASUREMENT LOCATIONS | $\begin{gathered} \text { DISTANCE } \\ \text { FROM } \\ \text { CENTERLINE } \end{gathered}$ | 1986 <br> AMBIENT LEQ <br> NOISE <br> MEASUREMENTS <br> (dBA) | PREDICTED Leq FOR DESIGN YEAR 2015 (dBA) WITHOUT NOISE BARRIERS <br> (ALT. 1) <br> ACTION | PREDICTED Leq FOR <br> DESIGN YEAR 2015 (dBA) <br> WITH NOISE BARRIERS <br> SELECTED <br> ACTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I-695 |  |  |  |  |
| G $7 \quad$ Residence in Catonsville | 235' | 68 | $72 \quad 72$ | 65 |
| H $9 \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Residence in Paradise } \\ & 230 \text { Oglethorpe Road }\end{aligned}$ | $210^{\prime}$ | 64 | $72 \quad 73$ | 66 |
| H $10 \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Kenwood Garden Condominiums } \\ & 1 \text { Summit Hill Court }\end{aligned}$ | $370^{\circ}$ | 59 | 67 67 | 61 |
| H $18 \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Residence in Paradise } \\ & 321 \text { Kenwood Road }\end{aligned}$ | 240' | 68 | $69 \quad 70$ | 63 |
| 1нн $29 \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Residence in Arbutus } \\ & 4855 \text { Carmella Drive }\end{aligned}$ | 181' | 70 | 73 73 | 65 |
| ) HH 30 Maiden Choice Center | $180^{\prime}$ | 73 | 74 73 | 63 |
| I $8 \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Residence on Kenwood Avenue } \\ & 313 \text { Kenwood Avenue }\end{aligned}$ | $140^{\prime}$ | 70 | 74 75 | 66 |
| I $11 \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Residence on Kenwood Avenue } \\ & 326 / 328 \text { Kenwood Avenue }\end{aligned}$ | 2201 | 64 | 72 73 | 66 |
| II 31 Residence in Arbutus 1013 Regina Drive | 210' | 69 | 72 73 | 65 |
| II $32 \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Residence in Arbutus } \\ & 1218 \text { Greystone Road }\end{aligned}$ | $100^{\prime}$ | 75 | 77 79 | 66 |
| J $12 \begin{aligned} & \text { Residence in Halethorpe } \\ & 5030 \text { Arbutus Avenue }\end{aligned}$ | 2001 | 62 | $\underline{68} \underline{69}$ | 62 |
| J 13 Residence in Halethorpe Benson Avenue | $170^{\prime}$ | 62 | 68 69 | 62 |
| $J 22$ Residence in Halethorpe | 955' | 66 | 66 67 | 60 |
| $J 23$ Residence in Halethorpe | 7901 | 62 | 65 66 | 59 |

68 - Underlined predicted noise levels approach or exceed 67 decibel criteria
Sites A27, B28, HH29, HH30, II31, II32 were monitored in 1991.

TABLE IV-7: COMPARIBON OF AMBIENT \& PREDICTED LEQ NOIBE LEVELB (page 3 of 5)

| NOISE SENSITIVE AREAS, <br> AMBIENT NOISE RECEPTOR NUMBERS $\qquad$ |  |  | DISTANCE FROM CENTERLINE | 1986 <br> AMBIENT LEQ <br> NOISE <br> MEASUREMENTS <br> (dBA) | PREDICTED LEq FOR <br> DESIGN YEAR 2015 (dBA) <br> WITHOUT NOISE BARRIERS <br> NO-BUILD <br> (ALT. 1$)$ |  | PREDICTED Leq FOR <br> DESIGN YEAR 2015 (dBA) <br> WITH NOISE BARRIERS <br> SELECTED <br> ACTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | -695 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| K | 17 | Residence on Monumental Avenue 2238 Monumental Avenue | $335^{\prime}$ | 66 | 69 | 70 | 63 |
| L | 16 | Residence in Raynor Heights 822 Fairview Avenue | $310^{\prime}$ | 59 | 66 | 67 | 60 |
| M | 15 | Residence on Nursery Road 800 Nursery Road | 180' | 63 | 71 | 71 | 64 |
| N | 14 | Residence on Evelyn Avenue 703 Evelyn Avenue | $260^{\prime}$ | 62 | 68 | 68 | 61 |
| P | 24 | Residence at 5929 Linthicum Lane | 190' | 69 | 72 | 73 | 65 |
| z | 25 | Overlook Elementary School (Exterior) | 170' | 68 | 71 | 72 | 65 |
| 2 | 25 | Overlook Elementary School (Interior) | $250{ }^{\prime}$ | 49* | 52* | 53 * | 46* |
|  | 26 | Overlook Park | 3901 | 58 | 64 | 65 | NR |

68 - Underlined predicted noise levels approach or exceed 67 decibel criteria

* Interior level with windows open.

NR - Barrier analysis not required, predicted noise levels do not approach or exceed fHWA Noise Abatement Criteria.

TABLE IV-7: COMPARIBON OF AMBIENT \& PREDICTED LEQ NOIBE LEVELE (page 4 of 5)

| NOISE SENSITIVE AREAS, AMBIENT NOISE RECEPTOR NUMBERS AND MEASUREMENT LOCATIONS |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { DISTANCE } \\ \text { FROM } \\ \text { CENTERLINE } \end{gathered}$ | 1986 <br> AMBIENT LEQ <br> NOISE <br> MEASUREMENTS <br> (dBA) | PREDICT <br> DESIGN YE <br> WITHOUT NO <br> NO-BUILD <br> (ALTT. 1$)$ | D Leq FOR R 2015 (dBA) ISE BARRIERS SELECTED ACTION | PREDICTED Leq FOR <br> DESIGN YEAR 2015 (dBA) <br> WITH NOISE BARRIERS <br> SELECTED <br> ACTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MD. 295 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - | 6 | Residence in Crestwood 322 Cheddington Road | 205 ${ }^{\circ}$ | 62 | -1 | -1 | -1 |
| Q | 8 | Residence on W. Nursery Road Southside, W. Nursery Road | $250^{\circ}$ | 58 | 64 | 65 | NR |
| R | 9 | Residence on W. Nursery Road (vacant) Northside, w. Nursery R | $320^{\prime}$ | 57 | 64 | 65 | NR |
| s | 1 | Residence in North Linthicum 506 Louise Avenue | $210^{\circ}$ | 65 | 70 | 71 | 64 |
| S | 2 | Residence in North Linthicum 513 Heath Avenue | 170. | 63 | 65 | 65 | 58 |
| T | 3 | Residence in Ridgeway Manor <br> 2 Eleanor Avenue | 255' | 61 | 68 | 68 | 61 |
| U | 7 | Patapsco State Park | $310^{\prime}$ | 60 | 63 | 64 | NR |
| v | 4 | Residence in Lansdowne 2943 Freeway | $230^{\prime}$ | 63 | 68 | 69 | 62 |
| v | 5 | Residence in Lansdowne 3123 Freeway | 2351 | 61 | 68 | $\underline{69}$ | 62 |
| W | 5A | Residence in Baltimore Hignlands | 190' | 61 | 68 | 69 | 62 |

68 - Underlined predicted noise levels approach or exceed 67 decibel criteria
1 - Barrier analysis not required, predicted noise levels do not approach or exceed fHWA noise abatement criteria.
1 - Noise abatement has been constructed since ambient sites were monitored.

TABLE TV-7: COMPARISON OF AMBIENT \& PREDICTED LEG NOIEE LEVELS (page 5 of 5)

| NOISE SENSITIVE AREAS, <br> AMBIENT NOISE RECEPTOR NUMBERS <br> AND MEASUREMENT LOCATIONS | DISTANCE FROM CENTERLINE | 1986 <br> AMBIENT LEQ <br> NOISE <br> MEASUREMENTS <br> (dBA) | PREDICTED Leq FORDESIGN YEAR 2015 (dBA)WITHOUT NOISE BARRIERSNO-BUILD SELECTED <br> (ALT.1) ACTION  ll | PREDICTED Leq FOR <br> DESIGN YEAR 2015 (dBA) <br> WITH NOISE BARRIERS <br> SELECTED <br> ACTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I-895 |  |  |  |  |
| $x \quad 1$ Residence in Baltimore Highlands <br> 2901 Delaware Avenue | $360^{\prime}$ | 57 | 59 ** | ** |
| x $2 \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Residence in Baltimore Highlands } \\ & 3001 \text { Delaware Avenue }\end{aligned}$ | $290^{\circ}$ | 57 | 61 ** | ** |
|  | $180^{\prime}$ | 64 | 67 ** | ** |
| Y 4 Residence in Baltimore Highlands | 2251 | 60 | 63 ** | ** |

[^10]AREA A
The Westview Park community is located north of US Route 40 along the inner loop of the Baltimore Beltway. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels for the Build Alternate are 3-4 dA greater than the 1986/1991 ambient noise levels and are the same as the predicted No-Build noise levels. Noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 20,600$ per residence with 77 residences benefited (See Noise Abatement Analysis Summary - Table IV-8). Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during the final design of this project.


AREA B
Westview, located north of US Route 40 along the outer loop of the Baltimore Beltway, is a community of single-family homes. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 1-4 dEA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are the same as the predicted No-Build noise levels. Noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 25,600$ per residence (See Noise Abatement Analysis Summary - Table IV-8). Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during the final design of this project.

Edmondson Ridge is located between US Route 40 and Edmondson Avenue along the inner loop of the Baltimore Beltway. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 1-4 ABA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are the same as the predicted No-Build noise level. A noise barrier was considered at this location (See Figure below) and was determined to not be reasonable or feasible because it is not cost effective - noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 55,200$ per residence.


AREA D
Catonsville Heights is located between U.S. Route 40 and Edmondson Avenue along the outer loop of the Beltway. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 5-9 ABA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are the same as the predicted No-Build noise level. A barrier would cost approximately $\$ 17,200$ per residence with 10 homes and 24 apartments benefited. Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during the final design of this project.

Dunmore Estates is located between Edmondson Avenue and Frederick Road along the inner loop of the Baltimore Beltway. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 11-12 ABA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are the same as the predicted No-Build noise levels. Noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 29,400$ per residence. Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during the final design of this project.


## AREA F

This community is located north of Frederick Road along the outer loop of the Baltimore Beltway. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 7 dA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are 1 dBA higher than the predicted No-Build noise level. Noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 39,400$ per residence. Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during the final design of this project.

This community is located south of Frederick Road along the outer loop of the Baltimore Beltway. An existing noise barrier protects all but two homes in this community. These two homes, and two residences located within the Spring Grove Hospital Center, represent all of the affected residences within this noise sensitive area. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 4 dA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are the same as the No-Build noise levels. A noise barrier was considered at this location (See Figure below) and was determined to not be reasonable or feasible because it is not cost effective - noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 108,000$ per residence.


## - AREA H

This community of single family and multi-family dwelling units is located north of wilkens Avenue along the inner loop of the Baltimore Beltway. The community includes the Kenwood Gardens Condominium on Kenwood Avenue and the homes on Oglethorpe Road. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 2-9 dEA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are 1 dA higher than the predicted No-Build noise level. Noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 28,400$ per residence. For multifamily units barriers will only provide measurable protection for first floor apartments. The upper floors will receive little or no protection. Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during the final design of the project.

## AREA HM

Located north of the inner loop of the Baltimore Beltway is the Arbutus community. Homes in this area consist primarily of townhouses. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are as much as 5 dBA greater than the 1991 ambient noise levels, and are approximately the same as the predicted no build noise levels. The noise barrier cost is estimated as approximately $\$ 12,100$ per residence with 85 residences benefitted (see Noise Abatement Analysis Summary - Table IV-8). Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during the final design of the project.


## AREA II

Located south of the outer loop of the beltway is the Arbutus community. Homes in the area consist of single family residences, rowhomes, and apartments. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 3 to 4 dA greater than the 1991 ambient noise levels, and are approximately 2 dBA greater than the predicted no build noise levels. The barrier cost is estimated as approximately $\$ 8,100$ per residence with 120 residences benefited (see Noise Abatement Analysis Summary - Table IV-8). Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during the final design of the project.

## - AREA I

This community is located north of Wilkens Avenue along the outer loop of the Baltimore Beltway. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 9 dBA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are 1 dBA higher than the No-Build noise levels. A noise barrier was considered at this location (See Figure on previous page) and was determined to not be reasonable or feasible because it is not cost effective - noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 44,000$ per residence.


- AREA J

This community is located along the outer loop of the Baltimore Beltway between Southwestern Boulevard and the I-695/I-95 interchange. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 1-7 dBA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are 1 dBA higher than the No-Build noise levels. A noise barrier was considered at this location (See Figure above) and was determined to not be reasonable or feasible because it is not cost effective - noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 96,300$ per residence.

One residence is located along the outer loop of the Baltimore Beltway between the B\&O Railroad and Hollins Ferry Road. This is the only residence in a light commercial/industrial area. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 4 dA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are 1 dA higher than the No-Build noise levels. A noise barrier was considered at this location (See Figure below) and was determined to not be reasonable or feasible because it is not cost effective - noise barrier would only protect one residence at a cost estimated at approximately $\$ 124,800$.


## ${ }^{9}$ AREA L

Raynor Heights is a community of single family homes located along the inner loop of the Baltimore Beltway, north of the Nursery Road interchange. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 8 dA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and equal the FHWA 67 dA criteria. Noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 35,200$ per residence. Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during the final design of this project.


## - AREA M

A row of single family homes is located along the outer loop of the Baltimore Beltway at Nursery Road. The homes face Nursery Road and are on the north side of the road. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 8 dA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are the same as the No-Build noise levels. A noise barrier was considered at this location (See Figure above) and was determined to not be reasonable or feasible because it is not cost effective noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 80,000$ per residence.

- AREA N

Located along the outer loop of the Baltimore Beltway just north of the $I-695 / \mathrm{Md}$. 295 interchange is a community of single-family homes. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 6-7 dBA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and exceed the FHWA 67 dBA criteria by 1 dBA. A noise barrier was considered at this location (See Figure below) and was determined to not be reasonable or feasible because it is not cost effective - noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 61,200$.


- AREA P

Located along the outer loop of the Baltimore Beltway, just north of the I-695/Md. 170 interchange, is a community of single-family homes. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 4-5 dBA greater than the 1985 ambient noise levels and are 1-2 dBA higher than the No-Build noise levels. A noise barrier was considered at this location (See Figure above) and was determined to not be reasonable or feasible because it is not cost effective -noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 54,100$ per residence.

- AREA $S$

North Linthicum, a community of single-family homes, is located between the Baltimore Beltway and Nursery Road along the northbound roadway of the Baltimore-Washington Expressway. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 5-8 ABA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are 1 dA higher than the No-Build noise levels. Noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 25,200$ per residence. Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during final design of this project.


## - AREA T

Ridgeway Manor, a community of single-family homes, is located along the northbound roadway of the Baltimore Washington Expressway, between Nursery Road and Patapsco Valley State Park. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 7 dEA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are the same as the No-Build noise levels. A noise barrier was considered at this location (See Figure above) and was determined to not be reasonable or feasible because it is not cost effective - noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 72,000$ per residence.

The area of Patapsco Valley State Park represented by Noise Sensitive Area $U$ is a wetland/floodplain area not presently being utilized for recreational purposes (picnic area, playground, sport area, etc.).

The predicted Build Alternate noise levels are 4 dBA higher than the ambient levels for the Selected Action. A noise barrier was not considered reasonable or feasible at this site because the existing uses of this portion of the park are non-recreational.


Located between Hollins Ferry Road and the southbound roadway of the Baltimore Washington Expressway is a community of brick townhomes. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 6-9 dBA greater than the 1986 ambient noise levels and are 1 dBA higher than No-Build noise levels. Noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 7,800$ per residence with 88 residences benefitted. Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be further investigated during the final design of this project.


## n. AREA W

Located between Old Annapolis Road and the northbound roadway of the Baltimore-Washington Expressway is a community of brick townhomes. Predicted design year (2015) noise levels are 1 dBA higher than the No-Build noise levels. Noise barrier cost is estimated at approximately $\$ 19,200$ per residence with 57 residences benefitted. Mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible. This area will be investigated during the final design of this project.

Located along the inner loop of the Beltway, northwest of the Maryland Route 170 interchange, is the southern portion of the North Linthicum Community. This area contains Overlook Park and Overlook Elementary School and some single-family residences. Predicted noise levels for the park are below FHWA noise criteria. Predicted exterior noise levels at the school would exceed 1988 ambient levels by 4 dBA and are 1 dBA higher than the No-Build noise level. Construction of a noise barrier to protect the school and four homes would be reasonable at a cost of $\$ 35,100$ "per residence" (with the school counted as ten residences). This will be investigated further during final design.

However, mitigation of the noise impacts at the school are possible with the addition of a split air conditioning equipment. This mitigation would require a split air conditioning system to address the two large class rooms of the school located in the southwest wing of the school. These classrooms are designated as rooms 201 through 204 and 205 through 207. The air conditioning system which would be most applicable for this location consists of a condensing unit mounted on an exterior concrete pad near the endwall and a floor mounted air-handling unit just inside of the endwall. The total cost of the installation of this system would be between $\$ 65,000$ and $\$ 70,000$. Air conditioning these two classrooms which will be impacted by future condition, therefore, would provide protection of the entire school and is considered reasonable and feasible. This area will be studied further during final design.


| Noise <br> Sensitive <br> Area | Residences Benefitted ${ }^{2}$ | Ambient | Noise Le No Build (Design Year) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ls Range } \\ & \begin{array}{l} \text { Builda } \\ \text { (Design } \\ \text { Year) } \end{array} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { (Leq) } \\ & \text { Buardaw/ } \\ & \text { barrier } \\ & \text { (Design } \\ & \text { Year) } \end{aligned}$ | Length <br> (ft.) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Barriers } \\ \text { Height } \\ (f t .) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Cost }^{1} \\ & (\$ \mathrm{M.} .) \end{aligned}$ | Cost per residence (\$) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | 77 | 70-71 | 74 | 74 | 66 | 6,610 | 12-15 | 1.586 | 20,600 |
| B | 66 | 64-73 | 71-74 | 71-74 | 64-66 | 7,040 | 12-15 | 1.689 | 25,600 |
| c | 15 | 68-69 | 69-72 | 69-72 | 65 | 3,450 | 12-15 | 0.828 | 55,200 |
| D | $\frac{10}{24} \text { (hapts. }{ }^{\text {homes }} 3$ | 65-68 | 72-74 | 72-74 | 65-66 | 2,030 | 12-18 | 0.584 | 17,200 |
| E | 16 | 62-65 | 74-75 | 74-75 | 66 | 2,450 | 12 | 0.470 | 29,400 |
| F | 6 | 65-66 | 71 | 72 | 65 | 1,230 | 12 | 0.236 | 39,400 |
| G | 4 | 68 | 72 | 72 | 65 | 1,500 | 12-18 | 0.432 | 108,000 |
| H | $20^{3}$ | 60-68 | 67-72 | 68-73 | 61-66 | 2,370 | 12-15 | 0.568 | 28,4003 |
| HH | 85 | 70-75 | 73-74 | 73-75 | 63-65 | 4,030 | 7-26 | 1.031 | 12,100 |
| I | 9 | 64-71 | 72-74 | 73-75 | 66 | 1,650 | 12-15 | 0.396 | 44,000 |
| II | 120 | 69-75 | 72-77 | 73-79 | 65-66 | 3,820 | 12-24 | 0.977 | 8,100 |
| J | 7 | 62-66 | 65-68 | 66-69 | 59-62 | 3,510 | 9-12 | 0.673 | 96,300 |
| K | 1 | 66-67 | 69 | 70 | 63 | 650 | 9-12 | 0.124 | 124,800 |
| L | 6 | 59-62 | 66 | 67 | 63 | 1,100 | 9-12 | 0.211 | 35,200 |

$\begin{array}{ll}1 & \text { Cost in millions based on Slis per square foot } \\ 2 & \text { Residences benefitted equals an impact of } 67 \mathrm{dBA} \text { or greater and a } 5 \text { dBA reduction in noise }\end{array}$ Residences benefitted equals first floor units only

TABLE TV-8 - NOISE ABATEMENT ANALYSIS SUMMARY (page 2 of 3)

|  | Noise <br> Sensitive <br> Area | Residences Benefitted ${ }^{2}$ | Noise Levels Range (Leq) |  |  |  | Barriers |  |  | Cost per residence (\$) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Ambient | ```No Build (Design Year)``` | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Build } \\ & \text { (Design } \\ & \text { Year) } \end{aligned}$ | ```Build w/ barrier (Design Year)``` | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Length } \\ & \text { (ft.) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Height } \\ & \text { (ft.) } \end{aligned}$ | $\operatorname{cost}^{1}$ <br> (\$ M.) |  |
|  | M | 3 | 63 | 71 | 71 | 64 | 1,000 | 15 | 0.240 | 80,000 |
|  | N | 2 | 62-64 | 68 | 67-68 | 60-61 | 850 | 9 | 0.122 | 61,200 |
|  | 0 | -4 | -4 | -4 | -4 | -4 | -4 | -4 | -4 | -4 |
|  | P | 9 | 69 | 72 | 73 | 65 | 2,030 | 15 | 0.487 | 54,100 |
| $\stackrel{H}{H}$ | Q | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 | _5 | -5 | -5 | -5 |
| $\pm$ | R | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 |
|  | $s$ | 30 | 63-66 | 65-70 | 65-71 | 58-64 | 3,150 | 15 | 0.756 | 25,200 |
|  | T | 4 | 61 | 68 | 68 | 61 | 1,200 | 15 | 0.288 | 72,000 |

1 Cost in millions based on $\$ 16$ per square foot
Residences benefitted equals an impact of 67 dBA or greater and a 5 dBA reduction in noise
Inciudes first fioor units only
Barrier analysis not required ructed since ambient sites were monitored.
Barrier analysis not required, predicted noise levels do not approach or exceed FHWA noise abatement criteria

TABLE IV-8 - NOISE ABATEMENT ANALYSIS SUMMARY (page 3 of 3)

$1 \quad$ Cost in millions based on $\$ 16$ per square foot Includes first floor units only
Noise abatement has been constructed since ambient sites were monitored.
These areas were dropped because selected Action does not include these areas.

In addition to noise walls, other abatement measures were considered. These include:

## Traffic Management Measures

Traffic management measures which could be used include traffic control devices and signing for prohibition of certain vehicles (heavy trucks), time use restrictions for certain types of vehicles, modified speed limits and exclusive lane designations.

It is not possible to prohibit heavy trucks from this type of facility, as it is part of the interstate system.

Alterations of Horizontal and Vertical Alignment
This is not reasonable or feasible since Interstate Route 695 is an existing facility.

## Acquisition of Real Property or Property Rights to Establish Buffer Zone

Existing residential development immediately adjacent to existing Interstate Route 695 makes it infeasible to acquire large amounts of adjacent right-of-way for buffer areas.

## Berms

The construction of earth berms would encroach on adjacent properties and would require acquisition of additional right-of-way.
5. Summary

Predicted noise levels for the Build Alternate are 1-2 dBA higher than predicted noise levels for the No-Build Alternate at all noise sensitive areas. This indicates that the proposed widening project will not create a perceivable increase in future noise levels.

Using approved cost effectiveness criteria, barrier costs exceed $\$ 40,000$ per residence in all areas except $A, B, D, E, F, H$, HH, II, L, S, V and W. Per resident costs were established by dividing the total cost of the barrier by the number of residences that are impacted ( 67 dBA or greater) and which would receive a minimum of 5 dBA protection from the barrier under consideration.

Based on the noise analysis study completed to date, the SHA will consider noise abatement measures in the form of barriers at NSAs A, B, D, E, F, H, HH, II, L, S, V, W, and Z during final design. If during final design the height, length, noise reduction, and cost of the noise barrier substantially changes, the abatement measures may not be provided. A final decision on the implementation of abatement measures will be made during the design phase of the project. Noise abatement for NSA $Z$ at the overlook Elementary School in the form of air conditioning will also be considered during final design.

Should the planned widening be constructed, landscaping and vegetative plantings will be incorporated to screen residential areas as much as possible.

## 6. Construction Impacts

As with any major construction project, areas around the construction site are likely to experience varied periods and degrees of noise impact. This type of project would probably employ the following pieces of equipment that would likely be sources of construction noise:

Bulldozers and Earth Movers
Graders
Front End Loaders
Dump and Other Diesel Trucks
Compressors
Maintenance of construction equipment will be regular and thorough to minimize noise emissions because of inefficiently tuned engines, poorly lubricated moving parts, poor to ineffective muffling systems, etc.

## G. CULTURAL RESOURCES

## 1. Impact on Historic Sites

Three historic sites are located in the Study Area, although none of these sites are presently listed on the National Register. The Maryland Historic Trust (State Historic Preservation Office) has completed their review of this project and determined that they are eligible. The Trust has made the following determination of effects (see letter in Section VIII, page VIII-D7:

Sachs Residence (Figure II-20) (A A-89) No Effect Summerfield-Benson House (Figure II-20) (AA-111) No Effect Old Salem Church
Outside mapping limit - near U.S. Route 40 Interchange along

Ingleside Avenue
The Sachs residence (AA-89) is located along northbound Maryland Route 295 on the south side of $W$. Nursery Road. The project would not require any right-of-way from the site. In addition, there would be no change in access, visual, audible or atmospheric characteristics of the existing environmental setting.

The Summerfield-Benson House (AA-111) is located.. along southbound Maryland Route 295 on the north side of $W$. Nursery Road. The project would not require any right-of-way from the site. In addition, this site would not experience a change in access, visual, audible or atmospheric characteristics of the existing environmental setting.

Old Salem Church (BA-4) is located on Ingleside Avenue in the Study Area but is not on the available mapping. The project would not require any right-of-way from the site, nor would there be any change in access, visual quality and noise characteristics of the existing environmental setting.
2. Impact on Archaeological sites

The Maryland Geological Survey completed by a Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance of the areas currently considered for improvements along the I-695/Maryland Route 295 project (see letter Section VIII, page VIII-D12). Their work consisted of background research and field surveys. There are two areas of reported sites in the Study Area:

1. Near Maiden Choice Center at Shelbourne Road (Figure II-13), Site 18 BA 159 is reported from the records of T.D. Jones who collected prehistoric artifacts from c. 1900-1908. Examination of the area in 1980 by archaeologists from Baltimore County indicated that portions of the site may be intact.
2. At the Patapsco River (Figures II-17, 21) are three large collection areas, again reported by T.D. Jones. Portions of 18BA154 are believed to be intact. Site 18BA90, which lies inside 18BA154 and includes most of the area crossed by I-695, is reported to have been destroyed. There is no recent information on Area \#26.

In general, the archaeological potential of the I-695 project is low to moderate, based primarily on extensive prior disturbance of the area by various construction activities. The highest area of potential is at the Patapsco River crossing, but again it is likely that previous construction has caused extensive disturbance. The coordination letter from Maryland Historic Trust concurs that "proposed improvements will have no effect upon significant archaeological resources." Therefore investigation of these sites is not warranted (see Section VIII, page VIII-D16) .

## H. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM EFFECTS AND LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY AND ENHANCEMENT

The Selected Action would result in improved traffic flow circulation and safety along both the Baltimore Beltway and Maryland Route 295. Long-term environmental effects include the acquisition of parkland, floodplain and wetland acreages. While noise levels would increase marginally with the Selected Action, perceptible differences are not anticipated between the No Build and the Selected Action.

Construction impacts include dust and noise associated with highway construction and potential erosion and siltation. The State Highway Administration would make every reasonable effort to minimize the adverse effects of these short-term impacts.
I. IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

The Selected Action represents the irreversible and irretrievable commitment of land for highway usage. As presented on Table S-1, wetlands would be required to complete the widening of the existing I-695 and Maryland Route 295. These required lands would be essentially and permanently committed to transportation uses.


## A.

## INTRODUCTION

Section $4(f)$ of the Department of Transportation Act (49 U.S.C. Section 303), states that utilizing land from a significant publicly-owned public park, recreation area, wildlife refuge, or any significant historic site for a Federally funded transportation project is permissible only if there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the taking and if all possible planning to minimize harm is included as part of the project.

The Selected Action affects one Section 4(f) property, which would be impacted with the mainline widening (see Figure V-1).

## B. DESCRIPTION OF SELECTED ACTION

As discussed in Section III of this document, a number of potential Section 4 (f) resources are located within the Study Area along I-695, Maryland Route 295 and I-895. These sites are:

- Maiden Choice Center
- Patapsco Valley State Park
o Southwest Area Park
o Overlook Park
Only the Maiden Choice Center is affected by the Selected Action, as described below.


## Selected Action

The Selected Action involves widening along mainline portions of I-695, I-95 and Maryland Route 295 in Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties (see Section II for detailed descriptions of the proposed improvements). Although three parks exist within the Study Area, no parkland would be required with the Selected Action.

Widening in the vicinity of the Patapsco Valley state Park would occur along I-695. This widening would occur within the existing SHA-owned right-of-way and would not impact the park. Access to the bridge over the Patapsco River for construction could take place from Hammond Ferry Road.

Since the Selected Action does not propose construction along I-895, which is adjacent to the Southwest Area Park, this park would not be impacted.

Construction proposed under the Selected Action would take place adjacent to the Beltway mainline near Overlook Park. Since all construction would be maintained within the existing SHA-owned right-of-way, there would be no impacts to this park. An easement within the right-of-way would be used for the construction of a retaining wall.

The only 4 (f) impact resulting from the Selected Action would be to the Maiden Choice Center. This impact results from the construction of two additional lanes and replacement of a retaining wall, requiring a shift in the necessary right-of-way. Six parking spaces and one access point to the parking lot (one of three) would be taken. The mitigation of impacts will require the taking of two additional spaces due to the replacement of the third entrance to the parking lot.

## C. DESCRIPTION OF (f(f) RESOURCE (see Figure V-2')

The Maiden Choice Center is located along the inner loop of I695, immediately west of Leeds Avenue. The property is adjacent to the existing Beltway right-of-way fence and the entrance ramp from Leeds Avenue. The school is a special education facility for retarded, autistic and handicapped students between the ages of 6 and 21, and is owned and operated by the Baltimore County Board of Education. Enrollment during Spring 1991 is 150 students, with a 43 person staff. Total acreage of the school site is 9.3 acres.

Recreational facilities, located on the school property along the Beltway and the Leeds Avenue ramp, are used by both the school and the Arbutus community. Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks also schedules softball and soccer activities on the property. Registration for these programs for 1987 was 179 individuals, attended by 2,104 spectators during the season. A basketball court and a tot play area located next to the parking area are also used by the community.

Access and parking is provided along Shelbourne Avenue, with a pedestrian overpass providing access from the west side of the Beltway. The parking lot in front of the school is fully utilized during each regular school day. For recreational purposes, the community uses that lot and adjacent streets, such as Shelbourne Road and Ten Oaks Road, for parking.

## D. IMPACTS OF THE SELECTED ACTION (See Figures V-2,3)

In the Leeds Avenue interchange area, the Selected Action requires the addition of two lanes to accommodate a fully-developed major merge from I-95 along northbound I-695, and adjustment of the entrance ramp from Leeds Avenue for a standard acceleration lane. Thus, the roadway cross-section adjacent to the Maiden Choice Center would be six mainline lanes (three lanes from I-95 and three I-695 lanes), with an acceleration lane tapering from Leeds Avenue.

The existing I-695/I-95 interchange configuration requires the higher ramp volume (Ramp I from southbound I-95) to facilitate the merge into the add-lane developed from Ramp $J$ (from northbound I95): Currently, this merge condition operates at LOS 'F'. With a projected increase in volume by the 2015 design year, operation under the No-Build Alternate would deteriorate to an even lower LoS 'F'. If no improvements are provided, additional accidents would occur due to increased congestion levels.




Along I-695 northbound (inner loop), the evening peak hour is currently the highest volume peak period. I-695 provides 60 percent of the total volume, with the ramps from $1-95$ providing the remaining 40 percent. In the 2015 design year, this volume will shift to 52 percent on I-695 and 48 percent from the I-95 ramps. This volume shift requires that consideration be given to a modification of the existing interchange configuration, particularly with on-ramp volumes projected to increase to 4,000 vph during the evening peak hour.

Roadway improvements in this area provide a standard outside shoulder. This improvement is necessary because of the four percent volume of truck traffic (approximately 300 vph during the peak hour) and the long three percent grade on I-695. A retaining wall would be placed 14 feet from the outside lane in order to minimize the right-of-way required from the school. If retaining walls were not used, the area beyond the roadway shoulder would be safety graded, requiring an encroachment of at least 25 feet into the parking lot along the adjacent length of the Beltway. The pedestrian overpass would also require additional lengthening if the retaining wall were not in place.

Approximately 0.13 acres of property from Maiden Choice Center will be required for construction of the Selected Action. As indicated on Figure $V-2$, the taking of this 250 foot long strip would be primarily in the parking area of the property, eliminating one of three access points to the parking lot and six parking spaces. There will be no structures required from this site, nor any acreage taken from playing fields with the proposed highway improvements. The right-of-way fence along the school property will be replaced.

The construction of the widening can be accomplished within the 0.13 acres of proposed right-of-way identified by constructing the retaining wall from the existing roadway shoulder. Access to this area can be obtained from both I-695 and Shelbourne Avenue. No construction easements or temporary use of the property outside this area of 0.13 acre will be required.

Baltimore County Public Schools and the Department of Recreation and Parks indicated, by letter dated March 29, 1988, that the proposed Beltway improvements would have minimal impact on the site.

## 1. Air Quality Impacts

The results of the air quality analysis are summarized in Table IV-2, and are described in detail in the "I-695/Maryland Route 295/I-895 Air Quality Analysis Report", available at Maryland SHA, 707 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. No violations are anticipated in the affected section 4 (f) properties.

A noise study was conducted for the segment adjacent to I-695 between Wilkens Avenue and Leeds Avenue during 1991. The analysis of this study showed that the current measured noise level is 74 dA. The noise level for the Year 2015 for the Build condition without a sound barrier is 73 dBA . This small decrease may be attributed to the retaining wall which will be placed adjacent to the roadway revisions associated with the selection Action.

The analysis of noise mitigation indicates that a noise barrier would reduce the noise level at this location by 10 dBA to 63 dBA. A noise barrier would benefit the Maiden Choice Center and 85 homes. It would cost approximately $\$ 20,700$ per residence. Therefore, noise mitigation in this area is reasonable and feasible and will be further investigated during final design.

## E. AVOIDANCE OPTIONS AND THEIR IMPACTS

Due to the increase in ramp volumes, merging with the I-695 mainline volumes, 113 percent during the projected year 2015 AM peak period (to $3,200 \mathrm{vph}$ ) and 48 percent during the PM peak (to $4,000 \mathrm{vph})$, an improvement is necessary to address these changes. With the existing merge condition of LOS ' F', a major change in merge design is required to provide for an improvement in operations (see discussion of traffic in Section III-C.

The first avoidance option to consider'is the No-Build. This, however, creates a number of different possibilities for that condition:

> - $\quad$ No-Build for entire project
> - $\quad$ No-Build between I-95 and U.S. Route 40
> - No-Build between I-95 and Wilkens Avenue
> No-Build between I-95 and Wilkens Avenue in the northbound direction

The No-Build for the entire project would not be prudent or feasible because it would not address the purpose and need for the project. The existing traffic conditions would continue to deteriorate causing congestion for longer periods on the Beltway, I-95 and Maryland Route 295 and increased accidents on each of the roadways.

The No-Build between I-95 and U.S. Route 40 would result in maintaining the existing lane configuration for the heaviest travelled portion of the project. This would result in the continuing deterioration of traffic service for the Beltway. The existing merge and diverge conditions on the west side of I-695 and along I-95 would be maintained causing back-ups along southbound I695 in the AM peak and southbound I-95 in the PM peak extending for longer periods of time. The lack of available capacity would cause continuing and increasing congestion and increased accidents on the Beltway. This partial No-Build condition would not address the purpose and need for the project and would not provide lane continuity or logical termini for the project and therefore would not be prudent or feasible.

The No-Build between I-95 and Wilkens Avenue would result in maintaining the existing lane configuration on the west side of the I-95 interchange. The existing merge and diverge conditions on the west side of I-695 and along I-95 would be maintained causing back-ups along southbound $I-695$ in the $A M$ peak and southbound I-95 in the PM peak occurring for longer periods of time. Implementation of the No-Build Alternate in the vicinity of the Maiden Choice Center would have eliminated the proposed improvements, particularly the fork design between I-95 and Wilkens Avenue. Thus, the proposed interchange revisions, which would improve the operational capacity of the interchange as well as the roadway facility, would also not be provided. Traffic in the merge area would be extremely congested (very low LOS ' $\mathrm{F}^{\prime}$ ), with backups on $1-95$ in both the northbound and southbound directions, resulting in further congestion and accident potential on the ramps impacting the mainline of I-95. Even though the ramp from Leeds Avenue would remain open under the No-Build Alternate, if additional Beltway capacity were not provided, the number of vehicles per lane would increase. This increase could cause serious impedance to emergency vehicles. The ramp from Leeds Avenue is used by the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department, one of only six stations in Baltimore County with specialized Emergency Medical Equipment. Since their service area is primarily to the north of the station, the ramp from Leeds Avenue provides the primary access to northbound I-695. The discontinuity of providing roadway improvements would cause deterioration in operations on either side of this segment, as well. The lack of increased capacity would not provide Beltway land continuity. This partial No-Build condition would not address the purpose and need of the project and therefore would not be prudent or feasible.

The No-Build between I-95 and Wilkens Avenue in the northbound direction would result in maintaining the existing lane configuration on the west side of $I-95$ resulting in increased congestion. This congestion would affect the merge and diverge conditions of the ramp from southbound I-95 to northbound I-695, primarily in the PM peak. This congestion would be expected to increase and lengthen and would cause deterioration in operations on either side of this segment, as well. The lack of increased capacity would not provide Beltway lane continuity. This partial No-Build condition would not address the purpose and need of the project and therefore would not be prudent or feasible.

Another avoidance option would be to close the ramp from Leeds Avenue. This ramp closure would reduce the amount of property taken from the school, and with elimination of the outside shoulder, would avoid the school property altogether. This option was considered during early stages of the study and dropped because of the severity of the impact of this ramp closure to the community and the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department. As stated previously, the Arbutus Fire Department is one of only six in Baltimore County that provides Emergency Medical Service, and in order to provide this service, depends heavily on the ramp from Leeds Avenue to northbound I-695. Development has increased in the northern
portion of the Department's service area, particularly in the Catonsville and Woodlawn areas. Since this northern portion accounts for 60 percent of the Department's emergency calls, use of this ramp has intensified. The Fire Department's effectiveness is based on travel time. Removal of the Leeds Avenue ramp would severely hamper that effectiveness. The alternate route, Maiden Choice Lane, has two signalized intersections and would effectively double travel time to the same place on the Beltway. This avoidance option would not be prudent or feasible due to the major impact on emergency service.

A build alternative could be constructed to provide an adequate number of lanes, and also avoid the Maiden Choice Center. This would require shifting the roadway approximately 30 feet to the west and would involve reconstruction of the existing eight lanes and construction of an additional four lanes in this section (approximately 2,550 -feet of the Beltway).

Construction of this avoidance alternative (shifting the roadway 30 feet) is limited by a restrictied right-of-way (see Figure V-4). This restriction constricts the construction area, allowing for construction/reconstruction of two lanes at a time, resulting in phased construction. Each phase of construction decreases the efficiency, and therefore increases the cost. The constricted area would also require the use of smaller construction equipment, thereby increasing the number of workers, the construction time and the overall cost.

Since all lanes must remain open during peak traffic periods, additional construction phases may be required in order to maintain traffic. Other impacts would occur as a result of this option such as the displacement of two homes, the acquisition of approximately 0.26 acres of residential property, and additional air, noise, and visual disturbance to residences during construction.

This avoidance alternative would not be prudent or feasible because the constricted construction area would result in an increase in driving up the overall cost and construction time, thus causing lengthier intrusions on residences. Overall, this option, when compared to the proposal for outside widening of the roadway, would result in a decrease in traffic service during construction because all lanes would be disturbed.

## F. MITIGATION

The impacts of the Selected Action would be minimized by the provision of replacement parking on the school property (See Figure $\mathrm{V}-2$ ). Replacement parking could be provided on a portion of the school property which is adjacent to the lot located directly in front of the school. The parking spaces would be placed within an area adjacent to the existing grassed area next to the parking lot. The eight parking spaces which will be taken' as a result of right-of-way acquisition for Beltway widening and the driveway relocation will be replaced in addition to the spaces relocated within the lot.

Placement of perpendicular parking spaces at this location precludes the existing parallel parking along the existing curb of the lot. In addition, the access currently provided nearest the Beltway would be replaced near that location.

This mitigation has been coordinated with and is acceptable to the Baltimore County Public Schools.

A new retaining wall and noise barrier, approximately 11 feet in height, would replace the existing retaining wall along I-695. There would be minimal aesthetic change from the existing condition with the revised location.

## G. SUMMARY

There are no feasible and prudent alternatives to the use of land from the 4 (f) property. All practicable measures to minimize harm will be included in the proposed project.

The investigation of mitigation has shown that there is acceptable replacement due to the loss of access and parking spaces from the school site. Through coordination with the Baltimore County Public Schools this issue has been resolved.

## H. COORDINATION

The agencies responsible for this Section 4(f) resource have been contacted and coordination has taken place to verify their understanding of the project impacts. Letters are included in Section VIII, and are summarized below.

> Agency/
> Letter date

1. Baltimore County Public Schools/
March 29, 1988
2. Baltimore County Public Schools/ January 15, 1991
3. Baltimore County Public Schools/ March 5, 1991

## Comments

Public School System and Department of Recreation and Parks agreement that Beltway improvements would have minimal impact on site.

Revised concept of replacement sites adjacent to lower parking lot with access from Shelbourne Avenue. For consideration by RK\&K and Baltimore County Department of Traffic Engineering.

Revised concept accepted by the Baltimore County Public Schools providing parking space replacement adjacent to the northern parking lot.


This Final Environmental Impact Statement was prepared by the Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration, the Federal Highway Administration and Rommel, Klepper \& Kahl. The following persons were responsible for the preparation of this document.

## State Highway Administration

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Mr. Louis H. Ege Jr. } & \begin{array}{l}
\text { Deputy Director, } \\
\text { office of Planning \& Project } \\
\text { Engineering }
\end{array} \\
\text { Ms. Cynthia D. Simpson } & \begin{array}{l}
\text { Deputy Chief, Project Planning } \\
\text { Division }
\end{array} \\
\text { Mr. Mark D. Duvall } & \text { Environmental Manager } \\
\text { Ms. Catherine Rice } & \text { Project Manager }
\end{array}
$$

## Federal Highway Administration

Mr. Herman Rodrigo

Ms. Kay Batey

Mr. Paul Wettlaufer

Mr. Andrew Mergenmeier
Mr. Peter Kleskovic
Planning, Research, Environmental and Safety Engineer. Specializing in Environmental and Safety Requirements and NEPA process requirements. 17 years experience.

Environmental Engineer. Specializing in Environmental Requirements and NEPA requirements. 4 years experience.

Environmental Engineer. Specializing in Environmental requirements. 13 years experience.

Area Engineer
District Engineer

## Consultants

| Mr. Henry Bankard | Kummel, Klepper \& Kahn <br> Noise analysis and graphics | 18 years |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Mr. Joseph Crivello | Kummel, Klepper \& Kahl <br> Highway Design | 39 years |
| Ms. Nancy Kelly | Coastal Resources, Inc. <br> Natural environment <br> specialist, wetlands | 19 years |
| Ms. Norine Walker | Kummel, Klepper \& Kahn <br> Transportation Planning | 8 years |
| Mr. David Wallace, PE | Kummel, Klepper \& Kahn <br> Transportation Planning <br> Management | 18 years |

SECTION VII
DISTRIBUTION LIST

```
FINAL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT STATEMENT/
    SECTION 4 (f) EVALUATION
```


## A. FEDERAL AGENCIES

Mr. Pearlie S. Reed
State Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

339 Revel Highway, Suite 301
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Mr. Jonathan Deeason, Director
Office of Environmental Project Review
U.S. Department of the Interior

18th and C Streets, N.W., Room 4239
Washington, D.C. 20240

* Ms. Diana Esher, Acting Chief (3ES41)

Federal Agency Compliance Section
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Region III
841 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
Regional Director
National Marine Fisheries Service
Federal Building
14 Elm Street
Gloucester, Massachusetts 19130

* Ms. Margaret A. Krengel

Regional Environmental Officer
Philadelphia Regional Office
U.S. Department of Housing and

Urban Development
Region III
Liberty Square Building 105 South 7th Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-3392
Director
Office of Ecology and Conservation
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

14 th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 6222
Washington, D.C. 20230

* Provided Written Comments on DEIS included in Section VIII of this Document.

Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1715

Baltimore, Maryland 21201
ATTN: NABOP-F
Commander
U.S. Coast Guard, 5th District

431 Crawford Street
Portsmouth, Virginia 23703
Division of NEPA Affairs
U.S. Department of Energy

Room 4G 064
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20230

Mr. Paul Giordano
Regional Director
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Liberty Square Building
105 South 7th. Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106
ATTN: Mr. Walter Pierson

Maryland Department of State Planning

Ms. Kathleen Fay
State Depository Distribution Center
Enoch Pratt Free Library
400 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
Ms. Mary Abrams, Director
Intergovernmental Clearinghouse
State Clearinghouse
301 West Preston Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

* Mr. Stan Wong

Water Resources Administration
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Tawes Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Judge John North
Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission
West Garrett Place, Suite 320
275 West Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
ATTN: Mr. Ben Serey
Power Plant and Environmental Review
Tidewater Administration
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Tames State Office Building C-2
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Attn: Mr. Elder Ghigiarelli
Ms. JoAnn Watson
Division of Standards and Certification
Maryland Department of the Environment 2500 Broening Highway
Baltimore, Maryland 21224
Mr. Donald E. MacLauchlan
Assistant Secretary
Maryland Forest, Park \&
Wildlife Service
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Tawes Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Attn: Mr. James Burtis

Karen Cecil, Deputy Director
Public Affairs
Maryland Department of Transportation
Clyde E. Pyers, Director
Office of Transportation Planning
Maryland Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 8755

BWI Airport, Maryland 21240
Office of General Counsel
Office of the Maryland Secretary of Transportation
Maryland Department of Transportation
P.O. Box $875!5$

BWI Airport, Maryland 21240
Maryland State Law Library
Upper Level Court of Appeal Building
361 Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
D. COUNTY/LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

* Planning Director

Anne Arundel County
Planning and Zoning
P.O. Box 1831

Annapolis, Maryland 21404
Anne Arundel County
Public Works Department
1 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

## * P. David Fields

Director of Planning
Baltimore County Office of Planning and Zoning
301 Washington Avenue
Towson, Maryl.and 21204

* Gene Neff, Director

Baltimore County Department of Public Works
County Office Building, Room 307
111 W. Chesapeake Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204
Baltimore County Fire Department
Towson, Maryland 21204

## E. COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

Holy Apostles Episcopal Church
Reverend John Rabb
Leeds Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

Kenwood Gardens Condominium Association
Mr . Thomas C. Gorak, President
3 Summit Hill Court \#C-3
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

Kenwood/Paradise Citizens Association
Joe Getzendanner
330 W. Kenwood Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

Linthicum Hills Homeowners Association
Bart Highfield, President
P.O. Box 25

Linthicum Hills, Maryland 21090

Maiden Choice Civic Association
c/o Mr. Arthur Howe
4912 Gateway Terrace
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

The North Linthicum Improvement Association, Inc.
Mr. Dominick Morea, President
Box \#258
Linthicum Heights, Maryland 21090-0258

Shady Nook Citizens Association
Mrs. Gloria Cameron
424 Shady Nook Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
SECTION VIII COMMENTS AND COORDINATION

## VIII. COMMENTS AND COORDINATION

## Introduction

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (May, 1988) prepared by the Maryland Department of Transportation, was circulated to Federal, State, and local agencies as well as businesses and community associations. A Combined Location/Design Public Hearing was held on June 22, 1988 at the Catonsville Senior High School in Catonsville, Maryland. Approximately 500 citizens were in attendance, with 2 elected officials and 26 citizens providing public testimony.

Written comments and verbal testimony received as a result of these activities were considered in the selection of the Final Build Alternative or "Selected Action".

This Section of the Document has five subsections, outlined below, which include the comments received and responses to them.
$\left.\begin{array}{ll}\text { A. Agency Comments Received on the Draft EIS } & \text { Page } \\ \text { (May 1988) and Responses Thereto Concerning } \\ \text { the Selected Action. }\end{array}\right]$

## A. AGENCY COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT EIS (MAY. 1988)

 AND RESPONSES THERETO CONCERNING THE SELECTED ACTIONThe following agencies provided comments on the Draft EIS:

## Agency

Baltimore County Department of Public Works - Bureau of Traffic Engineering

US EPA, Region III
US Department of Commerce NOAA/Ecology and Environmental Conservation Office

Maryland State Department of Education

Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Md. State Police)

Regional Planning Council
Maryland DNR/Capital Programs Administration

Maryland DNR/Water Resources Administration

Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning

Maryland Department of State July 14, 1988 Planning

Baltimore County - Director of Public Works

US EPA Region III.
US Department of HUD

July 25, 1988
Date of Letter
June 8, 1988 and
June 13, 1988

June 19, 1988
June 20, 1988 and
June 30, 1988

June 14, 1988

June 23, 1988

June 24, 1988
July 6, 1988

July 7, 1988 and
July 11, 1988
July 13, 1988

July 19, 1988

July 25, 1988
baltinore county departient of public works - bureai of traffic engineering
TO: Mr. Frank Fisher
Office of Planning and zoning
401 Bosley Avenue
401 Bosley Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21404

RE: PROJECT REVIEW FORM
Project: $\quad 0 \in I S / 5 e c .4(f)$ Evaluation - I-695 \& MD 295

R\&R File Number: $0416-88104$ (St. ID \#: 880531-0415)

Comments should be returned by: 6/21/88
Check One
_This agency has no comments on this proposal.
——OTh project is consistent with or contributes to the fulfillment
Of local comprehensive plans, goals, and objectives. of local comprehensive plans, goals, and objectives. plans or intergovernmental probleas, and a meeting with the applicant is requested. (Explain below.)
$\downarrow$ This project raises issues concerning compatibility with local plans or intergovernmental problems; however, a meeting with the applicant is not requested. (Explain below.)
_This project is generally consistent with local plans, but qualifying comments are necessary. (Explain below.)
 mereared troif. icolimi $t$ the isilleny Some of this freffic inould use the soultoound samp from Aclenvil hive. This couls necesribte the extersion of the 3elmont Are rimp
The Offce of Plosininy in study this trouth area as port of the

auight be apedel
RETURN TO LOCAL REFERRAL COORDINATOR NAMED ABOVE

Signature $\begin{aligned} & \text { gll Gons } \\ & \text { Title Engineer } \\ & \text { Agency DPw-BurTrafric Engumetin }\end{aligned}$

Responses to Baltimore County Department of Public Works. Bureau of Traffic Engineering
June 8, 1988

For specific comments and responses see June 13, 1988 letter on following pages ( Pp . VIII-A3 to VIII-A4).

## This project is compatible with the Baltimore County Master Plan see page III-14 for further discussion.

The Belmont Avenue ramp referenced here is actually Ramp $M$ from Security Boulevard. This improvement has been included into the selected Action of this FEIS and is described on page II-7.

## BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

## INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Paul L. Hudson, Chief T0...Buream_é_Eogineering $\qquad$ Date....June.13_1988 $\qquad$
C. Richard Moore, Bureau Chief FROM....-Bureau_Qf.Iraffic_Engineering

SUBJECT_-_Eat_S_Comments_for_Beltway-South Widening

The following comments and aerial photographs are offered concerning the E.I.S. for the Beltway-South widening project:

1. Edmondson Avenue:
a. Widen southbound exit ramp to three approach lanes for a free right turn lane and double left turn lanes for possible future signalization at Edmondson Avenue.
b. Widen Edmondson Avenue to five lanes for a left turn lane into the on-ramps, both inside and outside the Beltway.
c. Close Forrest Avenue at Edmondson Avenue and tie into Glenwood Avenue.
2. Frederick Road:
a. Widen southbound exit ramp to three approach lanes for a free right turn lane and double left turn lanes for possible future signalization at Frederick Road.
b. Because of the fact that Frederick Road is on structure at I-695, it would be difficult to widen to five lanes. It could be restriped, however. for two eastbound lanes to receive the proposed double left turn lanes from the southbound exit ramp.
3. Kenwood Avenue: Clear and grade for sight distance between Kenwood Avenue and the southbound to westbound exit ramp.
4. Hollins Ferry Road - Provide east and westbound left turn lanes on Hollins Ferry Road into the commercial accesses opposite the exit ramps, by cutting back the existing medians.
5. I-70 - Lengthen the ramp from southbound Security Boulevard on the west side of the columns supporting the $1-70$ overpass. so that the merge lane onto $1-695$ would be longer and would take place south of I-70.

Responses to Baltimore County Department of Public Works Bureau of Traffic Engineering June 13, 1988
la,b This was considered and not selected because existing and future traffic volumes do not indicate a need for these improvements.

1c. Closing Forest Avenue has been investigated. The close proximity of the homes along Glenwood Avenue would preclude a connection. The design recommended in the FEIS at Edmondson Avenue does not require closure of Forest Avenue.
2a. Signalization of the ramps at Frederick Road is being investigated by Signalization of the ramps at Frederick Road is being investigated by SHA District office.
signalization study.

2b. The Frederick Road bridge over I-695 will be reconstructed as part of the I-695 widening. The new bridge will accommodate two lanes in each direction, a center turn lane and sidewalk on either side.
3. Wilkens Avenue Interchange Option 1 was not selected, therefore grading is not required at this location.
4. Modifications on the west side of the interchange are not included in this project. Reconfiguration on the east side to accommodate relocated Ramp $F$ will require median revisions.
5. This is included in the Selected Action as part of the FEIS.

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Responses to Baltimore County Department of Public Works
Bureau of Traffic Engineering - page 2
June 13, 1988
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Paul L. Hudson. Chief
Page Two
June 13. 1988

The study limits of the project included the I-70 interchange, "however, the construction limits do not. The short southbound Security Boulevard ramp is only part of the problem at the I-70 interchange. The Beltway is only six lanes wide here with narrow shoulders that are not wide enough to accomodate stopped vehicles. The traffic volume at this. point is one of the highest on the Beltway. Since the maximum width is limited to oniy six lanes because of the large columns supporting three levels of ramps widened to eight lanes. These limitations make it even more important to extend the southbound Security Boulevard ramp because it appears to be the only improvement that can be reasonably made.
cc: Mr. J. Trenner Mr. S. Poelman

CRiH/GMJ/pml-b
6. The DEIS (May 1988) and presentation during the Location/Design Public Hearing did not include the $I-70$ interchange. Since that time, the limits have been extended to the I-70 interchange. The revisions proposed address the ramp $M$ movement from Security Boulevard only. Wroposed address the ramp $M$ movement from Security Boulevard only: will be done by the District in the northbound direction. The proposed improvements in the southbound direction of I-695 will include restriping of $\mathrm{I}-695$ to accommodate four lanes and relocation of ramp M behind the pier carrying $\mathrm{I}-70$ over $\mathrm{I}-695$.

Baltimore Beltway@I70 IouterLogo):

$$
5 / 2 / \int s
$$



I695 at I 70 -Proposed extension of southbound on camp from Belmont Ave with retaining wall supporting side slope
(looking southbound)


The existing southbound on ramp from Belmont Ave ends just before ITo overpass
(looking southbound)

81 Chestnut Bullding
hiladetohia, Pennsylvania 1910 .
JUN 191888
Ms. Cynthia D. Simpson, Chier
Environmental Management
State Highway Administration
Projent Development Division (Rocm 3i0)
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Re: I-695 from US Rt. 40 (Hest) to MD Rt. 170 including MD Rt. 295 from MD Rt. 46 to the Baltimore City Line (88-04-591)

## Dear Ms. Simpson

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean A1r Act, EPA has reviewed the Draft Air Quality Analysis for the above referenced project. he are satisfied with the approach, and the assumptions used, or analyzing the air quality impacts of the project. The esults or the analysis indicate that the project will not inlate the National or State Amhient Air Quality Standards ir quality impacts.

Thank you for including EPA in the early coordination of this report. Should you have any questions, or if we can he of further assistance, please contact Lynn F. Rothman or Larry Budney at 215/597-7336 or 597-0545 respectively.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Sincerely, } \\
& \text { Jerrey M. Alper, chier } \\
& \text { NEPA Compliance Section }
\end{aligned}
$$

elected Action, including the I-70 interchange is consistent with these comments.

See page IV-19 to IV-23 for air quality analysis of Selected Action.
PROJEAT
UEVEInP:
IG


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE The Chlat Sclentist
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Washington, D.C. 20230


June 20, 1988

Mr. Louis H. Ege Jr
Deputy Director
State Highway Administration
707 North Calvert Street
8altimore, Maryland 21202
Dear Mr. Ege:
This is in reference to your Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the I-695: Baltimore 8eltway, Maryland Route 295:
8altimore, Maryland. Enclosed are comments from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

We hope our comments will assist you. Thank you for giving us an opportunity to review the document.

Please note the change in our address:

## Director

Department of Commerce
NOAA/CS/EC/ROOm 6222
14th \& Constitution Avenue, N.W. washington, D.C. 20230

Sincerely,
Devid Catting han
David Cottingham
Ecology and Environmental Conservation office

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration comments of June 30, 1988 discussed geodetic control survey monuments in the Study Area. All horizontal and review. Further of this project.

Enclosure

## Response to United States Department of Commerce - NOAA June 20, 1988

Conservation office

## united states oepartment of commerce

## ational Oceanic ond at

OFFICE OF CCHARTINGANO GEOOETIC SERVICES
GOCKVILLE. MARYANO

## UN 30 lQE8



The subject statement has been reviewed within the areas of Charting and Geodetic Services' (C\&GS) responsibility and expertise and in terms of the impact of the proposed actions on C\&GS activities and projects.

A preliminary review of C\&GS records has indicated the presence project area. numerous horizontal control triangulation stations are located in the vicinity of the proposed project. Attached are four horizontal and one vertical control quadrangles of published data for the proposed project area as identified below:

1. Quadrangle number 390763 (Vertical)
2. Quadrangle number 390763 NE (Horizontal)
3. Quadrangle number 390763 SE (Horizontal)
4. Quadrangle number 390763 SW (Horizontal

These quadrangles should be reviewed for identifying the location and designation of geodetic control monuments that may be and designation of geodetic control monuments that may be activities which will disturb or destroy these monuments, CsGs activities which will disturb or destroy these monuments, CsGS
requires not less than 90 days' notification in advance of such activities in order to plan for their relocation.

C\&GS recommends that funding for this project include the cost of any relocation required for CsGS monuments. For further information about these monuments, please contact the National Geodetic Information Branch, N/CG17, Rockwall Bldg., room 20, National Geodetic Survey, HOAA, Rockville, Maryland 20852, telephone 301-443-8631.

Attachments
cc:
N/CG17 - Spencer
N/CG1x25 - Poust
is Years Stimulating America:s Progress * 1913-1988

## Response to United States Department of Commerce - NOAA

Review of all monument information available to the Maryland SHA resulted in the identification of approximately 8 monuments which may be affected by the Selected Action. This information, as well as the records of monuments collected by the project team, will be transferred into final design be made during final design. Effect The exact determination of effect fully investigated.
manyland state oefabtment or Education 200 WEST BALTiMORE STREET $13011 \operatorname{cosk} 2202$

## Received on $4 / 15 / 88$ MIN sohood fullitien

ate June 14， 1988 $\qquad$ － $!$

Al Abend
From：Skip Sanders
Subject：Attached Proposal

Please review the attached proposal and return your response to me by

## JUNE 21， 1988

Thank you．

## $6 / 1188$

KIP:

ONLY ONE SCHOOL APPEARS TO BE IMPACTED UPON BY THAIS ROAD CONSTRUCTION－ MAIDEN CHOICE CENTER （SPFEaALEDUCATION）． 1 have spoken to enrico． PUBL schools 亩 TWEY EXPRESS NO CONCERN ALTHOUGH THEYWIL LOOSE ONE OR TWO PARKING SPACES FROM ONE PARKING LOT．


## Responses to Maryland State Department of Education

 June 21， 1988he school parking spaces and access which would be impacted with the elected Action，will be mitigated onsite as per letter received from Baltimore County Public Schools on March 5， 1991 （see letter on pages VIII－ D33 and VIrI－D34）．
$\qquad$

Response to Maryland State Police June 23, 1988

## _ For your information

As requestedApprove and return
Note and return
See me
$\qquad$ Take charge ofFor additional information ent/recommendation
$\qquad$ Pre me facts so $I$ can answer Prepare reply for my signature

RE: SHA - State Planning MD880531-0416
The Draft Environmental Impact Statement, as it pertains to the State Highway Administration's State Application pertains to MD88053l-0416, has been reviewed. With the projected increases: in traffic volume, it is obvious the proposed widening of both Interstate 695 and Maryland Route 295, which include interchange traffic operation and safety. raffic operation and safety.

The proposed changes under Build Alternate 2, mainline widening, with Interchange Options 1,2 , and/or 3 , would have the Anne Arundel Counties. The environmenty in both Baltimore and designated areas would be minimal. Obviously impact in the will have an adverse effect on Traffic flow during construction and may require the utilization of uniformed troopers present capacity, due to this Agency's agreement with seyond ou Highway Administration to provide assistance in various pro zones. Every effort will be made by this Agency to resolve in timely fashion, any problem areas that may arise to resolve, in a specifically deal with traffic flow and safety.
EHT: sg

Construction will have some effect on traffic operations. Maintenance of traffic, however, will be designed to minimize the impact on traffic peration. For example, number of travel lanes.

In addition, staqing of construction will be conducted in a coordinated effort such that disturbance to certain areas will be minimized.

Regional Planning Counci
2225 North Charies Street Baltimore, Maryland 21218-5767 (301) $554-5600$ Dennis F. Rasmussen, Chairman Guy W. Hager, Executive Director

## Regional Planning Council cover letter response June 24, 1988

June 24, 1988

Ms. Mary F. Abrams, Director
Maryland State Clearinghouse
for Intergovernmental Assistance
Department of State Planning
301 West Preston Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Re: Metropolitan Clearinghouse Review and Referral Memorandum, Project:0415-88104
DElS-Sec. 41f) Evaluation -
I-695 \& MD 295

880531-0416

## Dear Ms. Abrams :

The artached review and referral memorandum is certification that the above referenced project has undergone review and comment by that the above referenced proiect has undergone review has been determined based on the Council's findines.

Comments on this project were requested from:Anne Arundel and 8altimore counties.

We appreciate your attention to Metropolitan Clearinghouse procedures. If you have any questions, please contact us at 554-5609.

Sincerely,

Darvi L. Rawlines, Coordinator Metropolitan Clearinehouse

## Attachment

Anna Aundet Councy Baltimore Ciry Battomore County Catroll County Harford County Howard County

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
2225 North Charles Street Baltimore, Maryland 21218

RPC Meeting: 06/24/88


Response to Regional Planning Council June 24, 1988

1. The project is consistent with local plans. See page III-13, 14 for discussion.
2. The Belmont Avenue ramp referenced here is actually Ramp M from Security Boulevard. The extension of this ramp has been included as the Selected Boulevard. The extension of this ramp has been included as the Selected Action.

## $\frac{\text { Response to Regional Planning Council - page two }}{\text { June } 24,1988}$ June 24, 1988

RPC Meeting: June 24, 1988

|  | AMNE ARUNDEL \& BALTIMCRE COUNTIES |
| :---: | :---: |
| Project: 0416-88104 | OEIS/Sec. 4(f) Evaluation - I-695 \& MD 295. The |
|  | Maryland Department of Transportation has submitted a CEIS/Sec. 4(f) evaluation for I-695 \& MD 295. |
|  | Several options are given for consideration, such as: |
|  | (1) regular maintenance, no construction; (2) addi- |
|  | tion of a mainline lane in each direction; and (3) |
|  | proposed interchange improvements at various sections. |
|  | Some natural environmental impacts would occur depending upon which interchange option would be chosen. |
| Referral Source: | Department of State Planning |
|  | COAMENTS |

Recormendation:

1) ionsider extentiny the projects limits to include improvements to I 70 interoliange. Any improreme.te ho this intercliange could be phased to be implemented as needes and as fends became available.
2) U'e are not asking for a cummitment to impreve this intorchang at this time. We only muuest that the project $1 / \mathrm{m}$. $/ \mathrm{s}$ of the E/S. te extended to inclube this interchange.
1. Project limits have been extended to include improvements at the $\mathbf{I - 7 0}$ interchange.
2. As noted, FEIS limits have been extended to include this interchange. See description of proposed improvements on page II-7.

Capital Programs Administration
2012 Industrial Drive
Annapolis. Maryland 21401

## MEMORANOUM

TO: M. Q. Taherian, Waterway Permits Division, W.R.A.
FROM: Gene Cheers, fand planning Services, C.P.A.
SUBS: Oraft Environmental Impact Statement
I-695 from U.S. 40 (West) to Md. 170 including : 1 d .295 from Md. 46 to the Baltimore City Line.
The alternatives presented in this Oraft EIS vary considerably in their impact on state and local parkland. The comparative impact of the No-build vrs. Basic Mainline Widening (Alternative 2) is minor and I hav no problem with widening I-695 and 295 as proposed under Alternative 2. However, coupled with the mainline widening are three Interchange Options (1 thru 3), and it is those variations that may significantly impact state parkland or POS funded local recreational facilities.

Both Interchange Option 1 and 2 (see S-2 in EIS) would require a small area ( 0.2 acres) from the local Overlook Park. Interchange Option 3 would require 12.7 acres from Patapsco Valley State Park and 2.5 acres from the OS funded local Southwest Area Park. Clearly, interchange Option 3 would have major impact on existing state and local parkland. It would also result in by far the greatest destroyed), and floodplain ( 7.8 acres). In order to eliminate or indes ine recommend that SHA droo interchang Option 3 from consideration.

Any conversion of Patapsco Valley State Park land for highway use will require Section 6 (f) land conversion approval by the National Park Service:

Responses to Maryland Department of Natural Resources - Capital Programs Administration
July 6, 1988

1. Interchange options 1 and 2 at the I-695/Ma. 295 interchange have been dropped from further consideration so there will be no right-of-way taken from Overlook Park.
2. I-695/Md. 295 Interchange option 3 has been dropped from consideration due to public and agency comments and recommendations for proposed interchange improvements.
3. Conversion of Patapsco Valley State Parkland for highway use is no longer required since the I-695/Md. 295 Interchange Option 3 has been dropped from consideration.
$\qquad$

Responses to Maryland Department of Natural Resources Capital Program Administration - page two
July 6, 1988
M. Q. Taherian

July 6, 1988
Page 2

In addition, the Master Plan for Patapsco Valley State Park inciudes proposed development in the lower Patapsco area; and, more currently, the Lower Patapsco Greenway Study is being prepared by a consultant for the Department of Natural Resources. Proposals and concepts in these plans. should be considered and coordinated with the highway improvements.
cc: Arnold Norden
Tolly Peuleche
GC:sab
4. Coordination with Md. DNR staff regarding the Lower Patapsco Greenway Study indicated that the proposed improvements of the selected Action will not adversely intrude on the areas of the Lower Patapsco Greenway Study.

PROJECT
Maryland Department of Natural ResourdesYFLGP:F:?
Water Resources Administration
Tawes State Office 8uilding
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Telephone: (301) 9742265
William Donald Schaefer
Torrey C. Brown. M.D.
Catherine P. Stevenson
Cacherine P. Stevenson
Director

July 7, 1988

## Mr. Louis H. Ege, Jr.

Deputy Director
Project Development Division (Room 310
State Highway Administration
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
Re: WRA No. 86-PP-0433
SHA No. AW-758-151-072
DEIS fro I-695 from U. S. 40 West to MD 170 and MD 295 from MD 46 to Baltimore City Line
Dear Mr. Ege:
The above referenced Draft Environmental Impact Statement Section 4(f) Evaluation has received necessary review by this office and other agencies within the Department of Natural Resources. Accordingly, the following is a list of comments and concerns raised by the Department:

1. In accordance with the Water Resources Administration's Rules and Regulations COMAR 08.05.03.01 to 08.05.03.13, the effects of the proposed work on the stream channels and floodplain limits of th Patapsco River, Herbert Run and tributaries should be analyzed from this office. Any modifications to the existing bridges culverts and floodplain limits which may require permit(s) mus meet the requirements outlined in the aforementioned Rules and Regulations. The necessary hydrologic and hydraulic analyses must be based on ultimate development of the watershed with existing zoning and latest wethodologies accepted by the engineering community. The SHA available analysis for I-195 can be utilized in performance of hydrologic and hydraulic analyses of the subject proposed project.
2. In addition to the soil erosion and sediment control plans, necessary measures such as stream diversion during construction and other pertinent procedures outlined in the Maryland Guidelines to Waterway Construction as part of the sequence of construction should be incorporated in the construction plans and
specifications. specifications.

DNR TTY for Deaf: 301-974-3683 design for this project.
2. All required permits will be obtained. The issue of stream diversions required during construction will be considered during final design.

Mr. Louls H. Ege, Jr.
July 7, 1988
Page Two
3. p. IV-14 Page 5-8 indicated that . 04 acres of wetlands would be
to 17 impacted. However, the total on $p$. IV-17 is 12.29 acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands. should have been listed early sumary to avoid confusion
4. p. IV-16 The analysis of werland \#13 suggests that this interchange has several options. Since option $\# 3$ apparently impacts the greatest acreage, a different option should be selected.
5. p. IV-22 This page states that up to 21.5 acres of wetlands in the Critical Area could be impacted. The document must be consistent and state clearly all the impacts.

```
Responses to Maryland Department of Natural Resources - Water Resources
Administration - page 2
JulY 7, 1988
```

3. Page $S-8$ of the DEIS referenced 0.04 acres of wetland which was for the Alternate 2 - Mainline Widening improvements. None of the impacts associated with the interchange options proposed at that time were in the summary table. The wetland impacts outlined in Table exact impact depends on the proposed alternate and option(s) which exact impact depends on the selected Alternate and option(s) whel improvements is 0.04 acres (see page IV -13 of this document).
4. As described in Section II of the DEIS (May 1988) and this document, the Options are actually optional improvements to the I-695/Md. 295 interchange. One component of I-695/Md. 295 Interchange Option 3 proposed two additional ramps at the Md. 295/I-895 interchange, one of which would impact Wetland \#W13. I-695/Md. 295 Interchange Option 3 was not selected and therefore W 13 is not affected.
5. Again, the total wetland impact for the Selected Alternate and Options is 0.04 acres.

M. Q. Taherian

Project Engineer Waterway Permits Division

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

## Water Resources Administration

Tawes State Office 8uilding
Annapolis. Maryland 21401
Telephone: Maryland 21401
William Donald Schaefer
Governo

## Torrey C. Brown, M.D.

Secretary
James W. Dunnyer
Director
Directior

July 11, 1988

Maryland Department of Natural Resources Cover Letter response July 11, 1988

The Capital Programs Administration comments, dated July 6, 1988 , specifically address taking of parkland and associated environmental impacts' resulting from the proposed I-695/Md. 295 Interchange Option 3 construction. coordination, as well as lack of available funding.

The Selected Action described in Section II - Alternates of this document does not encroach on an parkland within the study limits.

Coordination with Md. DNR staff regarding the Lower Patapsco Greenway Study indicates that the Selected Action will not encroach on the proposed Greenway.
$\begin{aligned} & \text { ARUNOEL CENTER } \\ & \text { PO. BOX:831 }\end{aligned}$
$\begin{aligned} & \text { P.O. BOX : } 831 \text { N } \\ & \text { ANNAFO IS, MAAYLANO } 21404\end{aligned}$
OFFIEE OF PLANNING AND ZONING

Mr. Louis H. Ege, jr., Deputy Director Project Development Division
State Highway Acministration
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Mr. Ege
The need for further improvements to I-695 and Ma. 295 are well
documented. In view of existing traffic congestion and accident rates

Re: I-695 Draft Environmental Impact Statement
July 13, 1988 as well as projected growth for the area, we do not believe the "Nates, option is a reasonable course of action. Although it is clear that any expansion of capacity will be extremely difficult and costly due to th close proximity of developed areas, we feel that safety and capacity improvements are essential to the economic viability of the area and to the comfort and safety of the travelling public. The study area is affected to a great extent by regional and interstate traffic which is
independent of local plans and development control. The interchange at I-695 and $\% \mathrm{~d} .295$ is a key focal point of regional and interstate traffic. It is also a potential bottleneck and source of network breakdown.

Option 3, utilizing I-895, has several clear advantages for traffic flow, safety, costs and residential impact. It would reduce traffic on I-695 along with the weaving problems related to this significant traffic movement. By creating this alternate route, Option 3 would provide a bypass on occasions when accidents or other delays would cause extreme traffic backups on I-695. Options 1 or 2 would not have this advantage. Option 3 could be built with far less dissuption to the maintenance of existing traffic than the other options. This is a critical safety factor to consider. Option 3 should be considered as the preferred plan along with the obvious need for enviromental protection and mitigation.

## Responses to Anne Arundel County office of Planning and zoning

Improvements to the I-695/Maryland Route 295 interchange will be provided by the Selected Action by constructing one additional lane in each direction along both facilities and an additional lane on the southbound I-695 to northbound Maryland Route 295 ramp.

I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange Option 3 was not selected for numerous reasons: it impacted parkland and had other considerable environmental impacts, it did not reduce the traffic volumes or improve the operations at the I-695/Maryland Route 295 interchange.

The widening of Md. 295 would still be needed as evidenced by today's traffic and the intensive development that is now in progress along the Md. 295 corridor. We expect the I-195 project to relieve this congestion tenuorarily but, not enough to negate the need for capacity mprovenents. The I-195 project will provide an alternate diversion route for certain I-695 traffic flows similar to the Option 3. The anvironmental impacts of I-195 were much more difficult to resolve than Option 3 appears to be

Thank you for the opportunity to review this Draft Environmenta Inpact Statement. If ycu have any questions regarding the above comments, you may call me at (301) 280-1474 or 974-6750, ext. 1474.

Roland Davis

Sr. Transportation Planner
$\infty$ : T. Osborne K. Krach

Responses to Anne Arundel County office of Planning and zoning page two
July 13, 1988

The widening of Maryland Route 295 to accommodate three lanes in each direction for the entire section between Maryland Route $46 / I-195$ and the Baltimore city Line was selected. The traffic projections developed for the design year included an assumption of the completion of $I-195$ although they were developed prior to the opening of that facility.

ILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER governod

## MARYLAND

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE PLANNING

301 W. PRESTON STREET
BALTIMORE. MARYLAND 21201.2363
July 14, 1988

Mr. Neil J. Pedersen
Department of Transportation - SHA
707 N . Calvert Street
Baltimore, Md., 21203-0717

## ONSTANCE LIEDER

RECEIVEI

JUL 201988
director. office or PLANING \& PRELHMWARY ENELKELR

SUBJECT: REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
State Application Identification Number: MD880531-0416
Applicant: Department of Transportation - SHA
Description: DEIS/Section 4(f) Evaluation - I-695 from US 40 (West)
to Md. 170 including Md. 295 from Md. 46 to the Baltimore City Line

Location: Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties
Approving Authority: DOT
Recommendation: Endorsement Subject to Comments

## Dear Mr. Pedersen:

In acco:dance with Presidential Executive Order 12372 and Code of Maryland Regulation 16.02.01, the State Clearinghouse has coordinated the intergovernmental review of the referenced subject. As a result of the review, it has been determined that the subject is consistent with Maryland's plans, programs and objectives as of this date. The State process recommendation is endorsement subject to comments.

All directly affected State and local public officials were provided notice of the subject. Review comments were requested from the following local jurisdictions and regional and State agenices:

Regional Planning Council, Department of Education, Department of General Services, Department of Agriculture, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services,
Department of Housing and Community Development, including the Md. Historical Trust,
Department of Environment, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of
Natural Resources, including the Coastal Zone Resources Division, and the
Department of State Planning.
The following specific comments are provided for your consideration:

TELEPHONE: 301-225.4490
Tr tor Doat: 301 - 303.7555 .

In accordance with 16 U.S.C. 1456, Section 307(c)(1) and (2) the Department of Natural Resources' Tidewater Administration has determined that the subject is located within the coastal zone and is not inconsistent with the Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program. The Department submitted the enclosed comments
noting additional concerns regarding the subject
-
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services indicated that the proposed improvements would enhance future traffic operations and safety.

Department of Education noted that the Maiden Choice Center School would lose one or two parking spaces from the parking lot due to the improvements.

The State Historic Preservation Officer has determined that the subject will not affect known archeological or historic resources. This "determination of no effect" evidences that the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's regulations ( 36 CFR Part 800) have been met for the subject. this letter is evidence of compliance with federal and State historic preservaHon review requirements.

Regional Planning Council noted that the proposed profect raises issues concerning compatibility with local plans or intergovernmental problems; however, a meeting $\leqslant$ with the applicant is not requested. The growth area proposed for the lst Districe would add increased traffic volumes to the Beltway. Some of this thafic would use the southbound ramp from Belmont Avenue that could necessitate Planning Planning Will study this growth area as part of the updated Master plan due

In response to the review request, this letter with attachment constitutes the State process recommendation. The applicant is required to include a copy of comments and recommendation with the application consideration given to the approving authority. A copy of this statement should as submitted to the federal the State Clearinghouse. Additionally, you are required to place the Stare Application Identification (SAI) Number on the application for financial assistance.

The State Clearinghouse must be informed if the recommendation cannot be recommendation is valid for by the federal approving authority. The Clearinghouse recommendation authority has not made a decision regarding the subject within that time period, information should be submitted to the Clearinghouse requesting a review update.

## Maryland Department of State Planning

July 14, 1988

1. Maryland DNR indicated concern about wetland impacts which were not clearly identified in the DEIS. This has been clarified in the FEIS, as described in page IV-13. The selected Action requires the taking/ encroachment of 0.04 acres of wetlands. See actual letter dated July 7 , 1988 on pages VIII-A16 and VIII-A17.
2. See letter dated June 23, 1988 on page VIII-A-10.
3. Coordination with Baltimore County Public Schools and Baltimore County Department of Public Works - Bureau of Traffic Engineering, resulted in resolution of impacts associated with Maiden Choice center as described 15 and March 5 ection 15 and March 5, 1991 on paces Vill-D3i through Vifir-034
4. See letter dated July 9, 1986, on page VIII-D7 which states the "No effect determination" by SHPO.
5. See letter dated June 24, 1988, on pages VIII-A11 thru VIII-A13.
6. Comments noted
7. These responses are valid until July 14, 1991, and are thereby in accordance with this requirement.

We apprecfate your attention to the intergovernmental review process and look forward to continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

Mary/J. Abrams, Director
Maryland State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance
MJA:SB:mk
Attachments
cc: Bruce Gilmore - DNR Sheiala Moskow - DHCD Mac Voelcker - MDE
Daryl Rawlings - RPC (88104)
Daryl Rawlings - RE
Eric Walbeck - DGS
$\varepsilon 己 \forall-I I I \Lambda$
James Duffy - DAGR
kipp Sanders - MSDE
John 0'Neill - DPSCS

Maryland State Clearinghouse
for Intergovernmental Assistance
bol vest Preston Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2365
SUBject: REVIEN COMEMT did recommendation State Application Identiffer: MD880531-0416 Applicant: MDOT - SHA
Description: DEIS/Section $4(f)$ Evaluation - I-695 from US 40 (West) to Md. 170 including Md. 295 from Md. 46 to the Baltimore City Line

Responses must be returned to the State Clearinghouse on or before Tune 28,1988 $\qquad$ Based on a review of the notification information provided, we have determined that: check One:
$\qquad$ 1) It is consistent with our plans, programs, and objectives. For those agencies which are responsible for making determinations under the following federal consistency requirements, please check the appropriate response:
___ It has been determined that the subject has "no effect" on any known archeological or historic resources and that the requirements of section 106 of the National Historic Preservat the requirements of Se have been net for the subject.
—— It has been determined that the requirements of Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program have been met for the subject in accordance with
16 USC 1456 , Section 307 (c)(1) and (2).

- $x$ 2) It is generally consistent with our plans, prograns, and objectives, but the qualifying coment below is submitted for consideration.

3) It raises problems concerning compatiblifty with our plans, prograns, or objectives, or it -way duplicate existing program activities, as inograns, or obj comment belos. If a meeting with the applicant is reouesteo please check here $\qquad$ -
$\qquad$ 4) Additional information is required to complete the review. The information needed is identified below. If an extension of the revie: period is requested, please cherk here $\qquad$ -.
4) It does not require our comments.
comments: See attachments - copies of correspondence
(idditional comments riay be placed on the back or on separate sineets of paper)
Signature: $\square$ Neveler

Name: Virginia Tauber 7/11/88
Organization: DisR/water Resources Admin.
Address: $\qquad$ Annapolis, MD 21401

## Response to Maryland Department of Natural Resources Water Resources Administration - Maryland State clearinghouse July 14, 1988

WRA letter comments of July 7, 1988 address permitting requirements and wetlands inconsistencies within the DEIS. These comments have been addressed in the FEIS as described in the responses to the letter on pages VIII-AlG and VIII-A17.

## rector

Maryland State Clearinghouse
for Intergovernmental Assistance
01 West Preston Street
baltimore, Maryland 21201-2365
subject: review comment and recommendation
State Application Identifier: M0880531-0416 Applicant: MDOT - SHA

Date: June 21, 1988

Description: DEIS/Section 4(f) Evaluation - I-695 from US 40 (West) to Md. 170 including Md. 295 from Md. 46 to the Baltimore City Line
Responses must be returned to the State Clearinghouse on or before_ June 28, 1988 Based on a review of the notification information provided, we have determined that: Check One:

XXX ${ }^{1)}$ It is consistent with our plans, programs, and objectives. For those agencies which are responsible for making determinations under the following federal consistency requirements, please check the appropriate response:
—_ It has been determined that the subject has "no effect" on any known archeological or historic resources and that the requirements known ion 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR 800 Se have been met for the subject.
—_ It has been determined that the requirements of Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program have been met for the subject in accordance with 16 USC 1456, Section 307(c)(1) and (2).
2) It is generally consistent with our plans, programs, and objectives, but the qualifying comment below is submitted for consideration.It raises problems concerning compatibility with our plans, programs, or objecrives, or it may duplicate existing program activities, as indicated in the here $\qquad$ -.
$\qquad$ 4) Additional information is required to complete the review. The information needed is identified below. If an extension of the review period is requested needed is check here
$\qquad$ 5) It does not require our comments.
comments: $\qquad$ PLEASE SEE ÄTTÄCHED COMMENTS I

## (Additional comments may be placed on the back or on separate sheets of paper) <br> $$
\begin{aligned} & \text { lack or on separgje sheets of pager) } \\ & \text { signature: } \\ & \text { Name: A. skippy sanders. Ed.D. } \end{aligned}
$$

Organization: MD STATE DEPT. OF EDUCATION

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Address: } \quad 200 \text { West Baltimore Street } \\
& \hline
\end{aligned}
$$

Maryland State Department of Eduction - Maryland State Clearinghouse June 22, 1988

Accompanying letter/comment to this cover letter is on page VIII-A9. This letter/comment identifies impacts to the Maiden Choice center and the attached comments describe the mitigation which has been agreed to by letters from Baltimore County Public Schools. These letters can be found on pages VIII-D31 through VIII-D34.

## irector

Date: June 28, 1988

Maryland State Clearinghouse
for Intergovernmental Assistance
301 West Preston Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2365
SUBJECT: REVIEW COMMENT AND RECOMENDATION
State Application Identifier: MD880S31-0416
Applicant: MDOT - SHA
Description: DEIS/Section 4(f) Evaluation - I-695 from US 40 (West) to Md. 170 including Md. 295 from Md. 46 to the Baltimore City Line
Responses must be returned to the State Clearinghouse on or before June 28, 1988 $\qquad$ -.
3ased on a review of the notification informarion provided, we have determined that: Check One:
X_1) It is consistent with our plans, programs, and objectives. For those agencies which are responsible for making determinations under the following federal consistency requirements, please check the appropriate response:

It has been determined that the subject has "no effect" on any known archeological or historic resources and that the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR 800 have been met for the subject.Ha has been determined that the requirements of Maryland Coastal Zone 16 USC 1456 , Section have been met for the subject in accordance with , Section 307 (c)(1) and (2)
qualifying comment below is sumith our plans, programs, and objectives, but the
$\qquad$ 3) It raises problems concerning compatibility with our plans, programs, or objec tives, or it may duplicate existing program activities, as indicated in the here here $\qquad$ -
$\qquad$ ) Additional information is required to complete the review. The information needed is identified below. If an extension of the review period is requested, please check here $\qquad$ -
$\qquad$ 5) It does not require our comments.
comments: $\qquad$

[^11]
## Garyland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services faryland State clearinghouse

June 28, 1988

Letter dated June 23, 1988 indicates concerns of Maryland State Police regarding the result of construction traffic operations. The comments on page

FROM: Mr: Frank Fisher Office of Planning and Zoning
Oi Bosley Avenue
dowson, Maryland 21204

DATE: June 8, 1988
RPC MEETING: June 24, 1988
Joint RPC/CMHSA Review Cycle (up to 60 days)

RE: REFERRAL COORDINATOR REVIEW SUMMARY
Project: DEIS/Sec. 4(f) Evaluation - I-695 \& MD 295
R\&RFile Number: 0416-88104 (St. ID \#: 880531-0416)
Comments should be return by: 6/21/88

This project has been forwarded to the following local depart ments or agencies (check appropriate blanks and attach comments from. the reviewing agencies):

```
Planning (anval Protection < Public Works Others (Specify) - Human Relations
```

$\qquad$
JURISDICTION!S COMMENTS
Check One

- This jurisdiction has no comments on this proposal.
_- This project is consistent with or contributes to the fulfillment of local comprehensive plans, goals, and objectives.
_ This project raises problems concerning compatibility with local plans, or intergovernmental, environmental, or civil rights issues, and a meeting with the applicant is requested.
_- This project raises problems concerning compatibility with local plans, or intergovernmental, environmental, or civil rights issues; however. a meeting with the applicant is not requested.
$\qquad$ This project is generally consistent with local plans, but quai-tying comments are necessary (attach comments).

RETURN TO:
Coordinator, Metropolitan Clearinghouse
Regional Planning Council
2225 North Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21218


Date: $\qquad$

Administrative office June 8, 1988

Baltimore County
Department of Public Works
Touson. Maryland 21204
$\underset{\substack{\text { Gene } \\ \text { Drectior }}}{\text { Deff. P.E. }}$ Project Development Division Room 310
State Highway Administration
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202 PDMS No. 251029 Line

Dear Mr. Ege:
comments:

## Response to Baltimore County Department of Public Works July 19, 1988

Mr. Louis H. Ege, Jr., Deputy Director

RE: Draft Environmental Impact Statement Contract No. AW 758-151-072N
Including MD. 295 . 40 (West) to MD 170 Including MD 295 from MD 46 to the

We have reviewed the referenced document and offer the following

1. All existing county utilities which are located within the areas of proposed improvements should be investigated as a project responsibility to determine the effecrs of intended construction. Consideration should be given of potential problems adjacent to the immediate area of construction which may be generated by the intended i provements.
a. Optional improvements to Edmondson Avenue could exacerbate storm water flooding requiring storm drain improvements to be extended upstream.
b. Sanitary sewers of various sizes exist in several locations along the right-of-way line of I-695, as well as 6 or 8 crossings of project roadways. Proposed noise barrier walls, retaining walls and other improvements should be investigated to avoid con-
flicts.
c. Water mains of various sizes exist within the project roadways as well as attached to some existing bridges. Proposed improvements should provide relocations necessary to avoid conflicts.
2. An extensive utility inventory was conducted using existing county and private utility information and costs for relocation and/or revisions were considered. Design of these changes will take place during final design.

1a. The I-695/Edmondson Avenue Option 1 and 2 improvements have been deleted from consideration, therefore, additional changes to storm drain improvements upstream would not be necessary to address the options.

1b, c Utilizing roadway as-built plans and utility information, consideration utilities was included in design and costs. This information will be transferred into final design.

Mr. Louis H. Ege, Jr.
Deputy Director - SHA
July 19, 1988
Page two
2. Improvements to Baltimore County roads will be expected to conform to our proposed ultimate widths for project roads, bridges, retaining wall locations, etc.
3. Traffic control plans affecting County roads should be reviewed and approved by this department
4. The Edmondson Avenue interchange options should consider:
a. Widening the southbound exit ramp to three approach lanes for a free right turn lane and double left turn lanes for possible future signalization at Edmondson Avenue.
b. Widening Edmondson Avenue to five lanes for a left turn lane into the on-ramps, both inside and outside the beltway.
c. Closing Forrest Avenue at Edmondson Avenue and connecting to Glenwood Avenue.
5. The Frederick Road interchange option should consider:
a. Widening the southbound exit ramp to three approach lanes for a Eree right turn lane and double left turn lanes for possible future signalization at Frederick Road.
b. Since Frederick Road is on structure at I-695, it would be difficult to widen to five lanes. It could be restriped, however, for two eastbound lanes to receive the proposed double left turn lanes from the
southbound exit ramp.
6. The Wilkens Avenue interchange option should consider:
a. Clearing and grading along the north side of Wilkens Avenue to provide horizontal sight distance between Kenwood Avenue (west of I-695) and the proposed southbound I-695 off ramp.
b. An alternative to elimination of the left turn movement into Kenwood Avenue (east of I-695) from the northbound I-695 off ramp by providing additional
lanes on the off ramp and on Kenwood Avenue. Widen the off ramp to three approach lanes at Kenwood Avenue and to at least two lanes near the point where this ramp separates from I-695. Provide four lanes on Kenwood Avenue at the ramp terminus. (This pro-

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2. Ingleside Avenue and Edmondson Avenue are currently crossed by the Beltway. Widening to the Beltway will affect the vertical clearance of these bridges. The current standard of $15^{\prime \prime} 0^{\prime \prime}$ is not currently available at Ingleside Avenue. Other proposed construction elements such as roadway widths, retaining walls, etc. will not be affected by the Selected Action.
3. The coordination will be done during Final Design.
$4 a, b$ This was considered and not selected because existing and future traffic volumes do not indicate a need for these improvements.

4c. Closing Forest Avenue has been investigated. The close proximity of the homes along Glenwood Avenue would preclude a connection. The design recommended in the FEIS at Edmondson Avenue does not require closure of Forest Avenue.

5a. Signalization of the ramps at Frederick Road is being investigated by SHA District Office. Widening will be considered as part of the signalization study.

5b. The Frederick Road bridge over I-695 will be reconstructed as part of the I-695 widening. The new bridge will accommodate two lanes in each direction, a center turn lane and sidewalk on either side.

6a. Wilkens Avenue Interchange Option 1 was not selected, therefore grading is not required at this location.

6b. Currently, two off-ramps provide access to Wilkens Avenue from I-695. Ramp A serves eastbound wilkens Avenue and Ramp D serves Kenwood Road and westbound Wilkens Avenue, Coordination with the communities in the public Hearing have resulted in the selection of Alternate 2 at this interchange.

Mr. Louis H. Ege, Jr.
Deputy Director - SHA
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Page three

> posal should not only accommodate existing traffic conditions, but should also accommodate future traffic signalization as traffic volumes increase).
7. The Hollins Ferry Road interchange option should consider cutting back the existing medians on Hollins Ferry Road in order to provide eastbound and westcommercial access roads Hollins Ferry Road into the commercial access roads opposite the intersections of
the $I-695$ ramps.
8. The study limits of the project included the $\mathrm{I}-70$ interchange, however, the construction limits do not Consideration should be given to lengthen the ramp from southbound Security Boulevard on the west side of the columns supporting the I-70 overpass, so that the merge lane onto I-695 would be longer and would take place south of I-70. The short southbound Security Boulevard ramp is only part of the problem at the $I-70$ interchange. The Beltway is only six lanes wide here with narrow shoulders that are not wide enough to accommodate stopped vehicles. The traffic volume at this point is one of the highest on the Beltway. Since the maximum width is limited to only six lanes because of the large columns supporting three levels of ramps, the volume per lane will be even higher after the rest of the beltway is widened to eight lanes. These limit bound Security Boulevare important to extend the southbe the only improvement that can be reasopplys

We understand that this project is funded for the planning and engineering (final design) phases. We request that you keep us fully informed and submit data and plans for review by our Bureau of Engineering and our Bureau of Traffic Engineering as the project advances.


GLN: ISP/ cjp
cc: C. R. Moore, J. W. Arford, R. A. Childress, P. Y. Rickman
C. L. Warfield, J. J. Trenner

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7. See responses to letter from Bureau of Traffic Engineering, June 13, 1988. Modifications on the west side of the interchange are not included in this project. Reconfiguration on the east side to accommodate relocated Ramp $F$ will require median revisions. The exact intersection configuration will be determined during final design.
8. See responses to letter from Bureau of Traffic Engineering, June 13 1988. The DEIS (May 1988) and presentation during the Location/Design public Hearing did not include the $I-70$ interchange. Since that time the limits have been extended to the $I-70$ interchange. The revision proposed address the ramp $M$ movement from Security Boulevard only, will be done by the District in the northbound direction. The proposed will be done by the District in the northbound direction. The proposed
improvements in the southbound direction of I-695 will include restriping of $\mathrm{I}-695$ to accommodate four lanes and relocation of ramp M behind the pier carrying $I-70$ over $I-695$.
, 5:9 :

##  REGION III <br> 841 Chestnut Bullding Philadelphia. Pennsylvania 19107

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Mr. Louis H. Ege, Jr., Deputy Director
Project Development Division (Room 310)
State Highway Administration
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Re: I-695 from U.S. 40 (West) to MD 170 , including MD 295 from MD 46 to the Baltimore City Line (88-05-666)

Dear Mr. Ege:
In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, EPA has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the above referenced project. We have rated Alternate 1 (No-Euild), Alternate 2 (Mainline Widening), Interchange Option 1 and
Interchange Option 2 EC-2 on EPA's rating scale, a copy or which is enclosed for your reference. This rating is hased upon potential adverse noise impacts to residential commanties. Interchange Option 3, however, has been given a separate rating of EO-2. This rating reflects EPA's concern regarding potential impacts to parkland and wetlands, resulting from I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange Option 3. The rollowing comments are provided for your consideration in the final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). I-695/MD Route 295 Interchange option 3:

Option 3 would impact 12.7 acres of the Patapsco Valleg State Paris, approximately 2.5 acres of the Southwest Area Park and a total of 12 acres of wetlands. The loop ramp of Option would impact a proposed biking trail along the northern bank of the Patapsco River, while the construction of Ramp Y-1 Furthermore option 3 would impact approximately 14 acres Rnvirermo, Bay Critical Areas Act (p. IV-19). In addition to the taking of parkland, wetlands and sensitive areas, increased noise levels and an increase in contaminant laden runorf will affect the enjoyment or proposed recreational activities and the water quality and aquatic life in the Patapsco River.

## Responses to U.S. EPA - Region III July 25, 1988

1. The rating for the Selected Action in EC-2 which is not objectionable to EPA. The EO-2 is not applicable to this project since the Ito EPA. The EO-2 is not applicable to this project since
2. I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange option 3 was not selected because of the extensive environmental impacts, the cost of the proposed roadway improvements and the fact that the operations at the I-695/Maryland Route 295 interchange operations would not be measurably improved.

We have based our rating of Option 3 on the aforementioned potential impacts. Note that the elimination of option 3 would not preclude the selection of Alternate 2, Interchange patapsco or 2 , which do not require right-of-way from the Patapsco Valley State Park (p. V-11).

Page $\nabla-1$ explains that Option 3 provides improvements to
 Section $4(f)$ requirements were appreciates the fact that the will nou be availabents were met nevertheless. The information among the options and to inform federal aring the impacts
of proposals being considered by
in case some portion of option 3 is eventually fighay administration, eligible by frym. Iet federal fundingentually determined requiring a proposed project to be included in the onf criteria process. Major rederal actions significantly affecting quality of the environment also require documentationg the NEPA. Prior to the implementation of Option 3, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must issue a Section 404 permit for the filling of wetlands, which could be considered to be a major federal action, thereby requiring full NEPA documentation.

Edmondson Avenue Interchange Options $1 \& 2$ :
Both options 1 and 2 include an option to relocate the intersection of Arbutus Avenue between $W 00 d l a w n$ Avenue and Edmondson Avenue to a site across from Harlem Lane. This relocation requires crossing 0.2 acres of rloodplain and 0.18 acres of wetlands. Unless the FEIS demonstrates the need for implemented, regardless of

Alternate 2: I-695 between U.S. Route 40 and I-95:
The results of the analysis for this section indicates that the acreage of private property and the number of residential displacements required is dependent upon whether retaining walls or full safety gradirg is utilized. The FEIS should discuss the advantages/disadvantages of the two construction methods and state which method is preferred.

MD Route 295 Options 1 and 2:
The comparison of haryland 295 0ptions 1 and 2 on Table S-2 shows that neither option is environmentally superior for all of the comparison factors. For example, Option 2 inpacts wore properties than option 1 , but Option 1 impacts more wetlands than option 2 . The FEIS should identify the preferred option and give the rationala for its selection.

## Responses to U.S. EPA - Reqion III

Page two
July 25, 1988
3. I-695/Edmondson Avenue Interchange Options 1 or 2 were not selected because of the environmental impacts identified on pages II-17 and 18.
4. As described in Section II of this Document, three alternative grading sections will be considered during the final design process of this project. Retaining walls are included as the preferred method of construction. The other alternatives may be considered during final design under the condition that the design does not result in additional displacements or proximity impacts to residences beyond what is presented in the FEIS. See page II-II for discussion of grading alternatives.
5. Section II of this Document identifies the Selected Action improvement proposed for the I-695/Maryland 295 interchange. Page II-11 identifies proposed for the I-695/Maryland 295 interchange. Page II-11 identifies the proposed improvements between Hollins Ferion Road and Maryland Route the proposed improvements between Hollins Ferry Road and Maryland Route 695 /Maryland Route 295 interchange. The reasons for which options 1, 2 and 3 were not selected are outilined on pages II-19 - II-21.

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## Wetlands:

It is EPA policy that impacts to wetlands be aroided whenever possible. Where avoidance is not possible, impacts should be minimized and mitigation measures employed. As discussed prepiously, impacts to wetlands could be greatiy reduced by eliminating Option 3 from consideration.

Fage IV-14 states, "Acceptable replacement sites are present and all displaced wetlands would be replaced on a one-for-one basis where deemed necessary." It is not clear What is meant by the fact that wetlands will be replaced wethands be replaced on at least a one-tolicy that all impacted addition, the FEIS should identiry the locone basis. In replacement sites for any impacted areas. EPA is wilitiog assist in the delineation or wetlandsand in is willing to of a wetland fitigation plan

Nolse:
Area O (Patapsco Valley State Park) is not presently being utilized for recreational purposes and is not governed by the noise abatement criteria for land use category A or B to the environmental dooumentation developments propased pidered for noise abatement, the recreational uses currently proposed for the park should be taken into account in the evaluation of noise impacts.

Areas A, B, $E, P, G, H$ and $I$ appear to meet the requirements for the Type II Noise Abatement frogram given on page III-47. Econonic criteria are not given for the Type II program, however, Areas $A, B$ and $H$ appear to meet the cost $\$ 40,000$ per residence" (p. IV-32). Therefare, the FEIS ghould $\$ 40,000$ per residence" (p. IV-32). Therefore, the FEIS should pron $B$ arther information concerning the status of areas $A, B$ and $B$.

In addition, we question the logic of disqualifying an area for noise mitigation on the basis of one criteria alone. ote that Frim regulations or May 5, 987 , "Trarric Noise support the position that oriteria should be ueighedio Lanes" aoise abatement should not be rejected solely on the basta of one criteria. For example, areas $C$ and $D$ equirements listed on page IV-32 for a Type Noise prograd oxcept for a minimum 5 din increase of Build over No-Build aoise levels in the design fear. Iet it is possible that a highway is only widened one lane at a time, the noise level

## Responses to U.S. EPA - Reqion III

Page three
July 25, 1988
6. I-695/Md. 295 Interchange Option 3 was not selected, therefore these wetland impacts would not occur. Wetland Finding on page IV-14.
7. Sections III and IV of this Document reflect current policy of Md. SHA which address issues cited here with respect to the study Area and Selected Alternate, as appropriate.
8. Individual areas are described on pages IV-32 through IV-43. These descriptions indicate that in Areas $\boldsymbol{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{D}, \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{F}, \mathbf{H}, \mathrm{HH}, \mathrm{II}, \mathrm{L}, \mathrm{S}, \mathrm{V} \mathbf{W}$, and 2 , mitigation is reasonable and feasible and that mitigation will be further investigated during final design of this project.

4
could increase significantly over time, while never meeting the 5 dEA threshold for each additional lane. Therefore, EPA suggests that the results of further analysis regarding the feasibility of noise barriers for Areas $C, D, V, H$ and $Y$ be
included in the FEIS.

Thank you for including EPA in the early coordination and review of this project. Should you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance, please contact lynn Rothman at $215 / 597-7336$

Sincerely


Enclosure
ce: Mr. Ronald Carmichael, FHHA

U.S. Departmant of Housing and Uban Development

Philadalphla Reglonal Office, Region III
Uberty Squaro Building
105 South Sevanth Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-3392

## JUL 251988

Mr. Louis H. Ege, Jr
Deputy Director
Project Development Division (Room 310)
Maryland State Highway Administration
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21202


US Department of Housing and Urban Development July 25, 1988

Dear Mr. Ege:

We have received the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on proposed changes to I-695 and Maryland Route 295. We have reviewed the document and have no comment on it.

Thank you for providing us with this review opportunity.
Very sincerely yours,
margant qliugel
Margaret A. Krengel
Regional Environmental Officer

Comments noted. No response required.

## B. SUMMARY OF AND RESPONSES TO PUBLIC VERBAL TESTIMONY

## 1. Combined Location/Design Public Hearing

A Combined Location/Design Public Hearing for this project was held on June 22, 1988 beginning at 7:30 PM. Mr. Robert Olsen, District Engineer, District \#4, State Highway Administration, presided. Representatives of the State Highway Administration's Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering described the project process and the alternatives and options under consideration and provided an Environmental Overview for the Project. Representatives of the Office of Real Estate explained the Right-of-Way Acquisition Process and Relocation Assistance Program. Persons attending the Public Hearing were provided a copy of the "Combined Location/ Design Public Hearing" brochure, which summarizes features of the alternates. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (May 1988) was available for review prior to and at the Hearing. Displays were available during the meeting which included $1^{\prime \prime}=100^{\prime}$ scale maps featuring the Build Alternates and options; project photographs; charts explaining current and future traffic trends; noise projects and other highway projects; and representatives to describe right-of-way and relocation procedures.

An official transcript was prepared of the combined Location/Design Public Hearing. The Hearing record contains the remarks of 27 speakers, along with several written statements.

The following summarizes the public testimony received during the Hearing:

1. Senator John Coolahan

Senator Coolahan recognized the changes in the proposed improvements (i.e. reduction in residential takings and elimination of ramp closures) which have occurred through the project planning process. Senator Coolahan warned SHA:
"Don't come back in 8 years asking for more lanes - find another route - possibly Md. 100." Senator Coolahan also remarked that noise barriers are urgently needed in the Study Area.

## Response:

Other roadways have recently been completed or are under construction which will provide alternative routes for some movements, however, the Baltimore Beltway will still require the widening described in this Document by the design year. Noise barriers have been constructed along southbound I-695 from Ingleside Avenue to Frederick Road and along northbound and southbound I-695 between Frederick Road and Wilkens Avenue. Other noise abatement projects are currently under construction in final design or under consideration in other portions I-695.

Delegate Louis Morsberger
Delegate Morsberger advised: "Don't keep widening the Beltway, find another route."

## Response:

It is expected that this will be the final widening project along this portion of the Baltimore Beltway. During the project planning study, a concerted effort has been made to minimize the impacts and obtain little if any, additional right-of-way. Due to the proximity of the residential communities along the Beltway, this has not been an easy task.

Other routes for the east-west movement have recently been completed, are under construction or in final design. These include Maryland Route 32, Maryland Route 100, and Interstate 195.
3. Mr. Paul Genovese - 315 Kenwood Avenue

Mr. Genovese supports Alternate 1 and opposes Alternate 2 and I-695/Wilkens Avenue Interchange Option 1.

He stated that noise abatement on Kenwood Avenue, West Kenwood Avenue, and Oglethorpe Avenue should be considered for Type I since these areas do not meet Type II criteria.

## Response:

Alternate 2 was selected in the I-695/Wilkens Avenue Interchange. The I-695/Wilkens Avenue Interchange vicinity was analyzed for Type I noise barriers. This area did not qualify for barriers due to limited noise reduction and cost.
4. Ms. Denise Myers - 2953 Freeway

Ms. Myers represents residents on Freeway bordering Maryland Route 295, north of I-895 and south of the City Line who support widening Maryland Route 295. The experience of these residents, however, is that the current construction noise (from the widening and landscaping project along Maryland Route 295 southbound) is intolerable, and the lights used during nighttime construction are intrusive.

She questioned why the wooded area between the homes and the roadway were destroyed.

Ms. Myers questioned the noise analysis and the results which were reported.

The community has concerns about drivers on Maryland Route 295 that approach their houses when their vehicles suffer mechanical difficulties.

## Responses:

Heavily travelled roadways, of which Maryland Route 295 is one, demand major maintenance and construction projects to be undertaken during non-peak time periods. Unfortunately, those are time periods when the majority of residences are occupied, and thus a conflict results.

In an effort to improve the aesthetic quality along the Maryland Route 295 roadway, trees and shrubbery in some areas were thinned out.

The ambient noise data which was gathered as part of this study are documented in Section III of both the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and this document. The analysis of existing and future conditions is based on current technology. A detailed noise report is available from the Maryland State Highway Administration.

The right-of-way of through highway along Maryland Route 295 and I-695 should be fenced in its entirety. If there are breaks in the fence from accident occurrences or vandalism, this should be reported to the SHA District 5 office for Anne Arundel County and District 4 office for Baltimore County, in order for them to be repaired.
5. Mr. Joseph E. Hopkins, Jr. - 1015 Grove Hill Road

Mr. Hopkins supports Alternate 1. He says that too much money is spent on development of new highways and altering existing ones. Mr. Hopkins is concerned about pollution from the traffic and the environmental impact to the Study Area.

He suggested that HOV lanes be introduced, more park-n-ride areas should be provided and Light Rail Systems developed instead of spending money on the proposed highway improvements.

## Responses:

During the project planning process for the I-695/Maryland Route 295 project, the study team has been conscious of the trade-off between roadway capacity improvement, environmental impact and cost. The investigation, development and analysis of alternatives and options for the study and the public participation and agency comments have resulted in decisions the team agrees will provide the greatest traffic capacity and safety improvement with the least amount of environmental impact and cost.

Findings of environmental analysis for this project are documented in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement as well as this document. A separate Air Quality Report and Noise Analysis Report are available at the Maryland State Highway Administration.

During 1988, the Maryland Department of Transportation initiated the Statewide Commuter Assistance Study to determine the feasibility of multi-modal transportation improvements such as light rail transit, commuter rail, express bus service, High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes and highway improvements. This study addressed future travel demands in 24 major corridors throughout the state. The goal of this study was to determine how best to move people along the most heavily travelled corridors in the State. The final phase of this study, completed in 1990, examined the addition of one HOV lane in each direction to the existing Beltway. The result of this analysis indicates that an HOV lane would not attract a large number of users and would, therefore, increase congestion on the remaining lanes. Therefore, HOV lanes were not recommended for further consideration.
6. Mr. Gerald Hinderer - 6612 Kilmarnoch Drive

Mr. Hinderer believes that most residents along the Beltway between I-95 and U.S. Route 40 are opposed to further widening and would favor Alternate 1. He also believes that other highway projects currently being constructed or studied will relieve traffic congestion.

Mr. Hinderer mentioned that many projects have inconvenienced residents by the construction noise, pollution, and safety hazards.

He suggested that SHA build an outer Beltway further west instead of tearing up neighborhoods. Mr. Hinderer said that "Future projections of Beltway traffic and safety increases can.be as erroneous as all of your past wrong projections." Mr . Hinderer commented that neighborhoods do not need additional construction pollution resulting from Beltway construction which usually takes 5 to 10 years and they don't need pollution from two more lanes of traffic.

He requested that Baltimore County and State legislators change the Baltimore County Master Plan and substitute Alternate 1 for proposed improvements to the Beltway between U.S. Route 40 and I-95.

He suggest:ed that there are other ways to improve traffic flow and decrease accidents.

Responses:
Early in this project it was determined that I-695 passed through a sensitive residential area. Efforts were made to reduce overall impacts by staying within the right-of-way as much as possible.

Other projects which have been recently completed (I-195), are under construction (I-97 and Maryland Route 32) or are in final design (Maryland Route 100) will temporarily reduce the east-west demand on the Beltway. Those facilities were considered in the development of the projected year 2015 traffic volumes and additional capacity would still be required on the Beltway.

Construction will not be done during peak hours and will be in accordance with local noise ordinances.

An outer Beltway, a portion of which was known as Metropolitan Boulevard, was previously considered but deleted for political reasons. The Baltimore County Master Plan 19892000, adopted February 5, 1990, has identified roadway facilities which will be addressed to provide motorists with acceptable traffic service. The widening along the Beltway in the Study Area is included in the Master Plan.

During 1988, the Maryland Department of Transportation initiated the Statewide Commuter Assistance Study to determine the feasibility of multi-modal transportation improvements such as light rail transit, commuter rail, express bus service, High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes and highway improvements. This study addressed future travel demands in 24 travel corridors throughout the state. The goal of this study was to determine how best to move people along the most heavily travelled corridors in the State.

The Baltimore Beltway was identified as Corridor 1 for this study. In the initial phase of this study, light rail transit, other guideway transit and Commuter rail were determined not to be appropriate because they do not meet the needs of the type of traffic using the corridor. The Report states that "the many trips occurring within the Beltway Corridor are very dispersed as to origin and destination, and many involve only short segments with the circumferential corridor itself. Future travel projections indicate continuation of this pattern, a pattern extremely difficult to serve effectively with a fixed guideway system."1

[^12]The final phase of this study, completed in 1990, examined the addition of one HOV lane in each direction to the existing Beltway. The result of this analysis indicates that an HOV lane would not attract a large number of users and would, therefore, increase congestion on the remaining lanes. Therefore, HOV lanes were not recommended for further consideration.
7. Mr. Richard Snader, President Arbutus Volunteer

Fire Department - 5200 Southwestern Boulevard
Mr. Snader is concerned about the geometrics of the Wilkens Avenue loop ramp which result in a high number of traffic accidents. He supported the relationship with the SHA and the Fire Department(s) so that responses can be planned with construction maintenance of traffic.

## Responses:

Wilkens Avenue loop ramp B has a restricted geometry which has caused this ramp to be rated as a high accident interchange ramp in the past. Within the past year, the SHA District office has placed chevrons and a large warning sign at the ramp to warn drivers to use caution in approaching the sharp curve.
8. Mr. James Judge, Baltimore County Fire Department

Mr. Judge represents the Baltimore County western district from Greenspring Avenue to the Anne Arundel County Line. He noted the roll-over problem resulting from the geometrics with trucks at ramps at US Route 40, Edmondson Avenue, Wilkens Avenue. The Fire Department supports the I-695/Wilkens Avenue Interchange Option 1 for the relocation of the southbound loop ramp.

## Responses:

This option was not selected because the proposed ramp would have a high potential for rear-end accidents. This type of accident is more common for the diamond-type ramp proposed. The steep descending grade would have required vehicles to decelerate while travelling downgrade in order to stop safely. This would have further increased the likelihood of rear-end accidents.

At the I-695/Wilkens Avenue Interchange several studies, in addition to Option 1, were investigated. Due to cost considerations, however, none of the optional configurations were selected.
9. Mr. Richard Siebenaler - 1207 Leeds Terrace

In general, Mr. Siebenaler supports improvements on I-695 and Maryland Route 295 and also suggests the need for an additional lane between U.S. Route 40 and Maryland Route 140.

Mr. Siebenaler suggested that SHA Study extending I-70 into Downtown Baltimore.

A specific area of concern is weaving along I-695 northbound between I-95 and Wilkens Avenue and from Wilkens Avenue along I-695 southbound to I-95.

## Responses:

The Selected Action would result in at least four lanes in each direction from Maryland Route 295 to Maryland Route 140 except at I-95(s) and I-795.

A study extending I-70 into Baltimore City to connect with I-95 was undertaken in the early 1970s. Environmental legislation enacted during the study resulted in the identification of critical environmental impacts which would have resulted from the construction of the highway. There is no possibility of resurrecting that study with the current environmental legislation and processes.

The proposed improvements for the area between Wilkens Avenue and I-95 has been designed to provide a major fork in each direction. This design, described in Section II of this document should improve the overall operation on this portion of the Beltway.
10. Ms. Berchie Manley - Vice President, of the Southwest Coalition

Ms. Manley supports light rail for the north/south route. She mentioned the need for an outer Beltway and the need to encourage car pooling.

Ms. Manley questioned whether the project could be constructed in phases addressing the I-95 interchange and ramps at certain interchanges that require revisions. In terms of phasing, however, she does not support widening the Beltway first and then providing interchange improvements at a later time.

She said that the SHA should consider extending truck restrictions along the entire Beltway.

The Lansdowne Improvement Association requests noise barriers if any improvements are made in their area.

## Responses:

Portions of the $30-\mathrm{mile}$ north/south route of the Central Light Rail Line are currently under construction with others in design.

An outer Beltway, a portion of which was known as Metropolitan Boulevard, was previously considered but deleted for political reasons.

The construction would be staged. The highest priority for this Study Area is the portion between Wilkens Avenue and I95. The two interchange options selected could not be constructed subsequent to the widening along the mainline; each would be constructed as part of the mainline widening.

Truck restrictions are provided on this portion of the Baltimore Beltway due to the length of the grade on the mainline. The State Highway Administration has restricted trucks on the Beltway in selected areas where the steep grades cause operational difficulties. The Administration, however, has a general policy to not restrict trucks in the left-hand or high speed lanes other than in four-lane sections

Noise mitigation has been determined to be reasonable and feasible in noise areas $V$ and $W$ which are adjacent to Md. 295 north of the Harbor Tunnel Thruway (I-895). These mitigation measures will be further investigated in final design.
11. Mr. Sam Guida - 18 University Avenue

Mr. Sam Guida pointed out that with the proposed I695/Wilkens Avenue Interchange Option 1 by eliminating left turning traffic at Kenwood Road, additional traffic must use Maiden Choice Lane.

He also agreed with previous speakers regarding inability of widening the Beltway to solve the traffic problems.

## Responses:

Interchange Option 1 was not selected.
12. Mr. Keith Gallagher - 206 Shadynook Court

Mr. Gallagher supports HOV lanes. He said that enforcement of truck restrictions on the northbound Beltway is needed in this section.

Mr. Gallagher had concerns about the consideration for time of day of construction. Mr. Gallagher had a question about the method of construction in the vicinity of existing or proposed noise barriers.

## Responses:

Results of the Maryland Statewide Commuter Assistance Study show that an extra lane and maybe HOV considered later.

Construction will be done off-peak and conform with noise regulations.

The specific question regarding method of construction along Shadynook Court was answered by SHA staff at the meeting.
13. Mr. Arthur Howe - 4912 Gateway Terrace

Mr. Howe expressed concern about the height of the retaining walls with noise barriers.

## Responses:

The noise barriers along the northbound Beltway in the Gateway Terrace vicinity would be placed on top of the retaining walls located to accommodate the proposed widening. These walls would be approximately 15 feet in height atop the high retaining wall.
14. Mr. Frank Baird - 1204 Greystone Road

Mr. Baird commented on noise abatement. He also had concerns about the erosion problems resulting from poor maintenance on County or State owned properties adjacent to residential properties.

## Responses:

Noise mitigation was determined to be reasonable and feasible for noise Area II. These measures will be investigated during final design.

Maintenance concerns should be brought to the attention of the District Engineer.
15. Mrs. Dorothy McCrory - 1 Bristol Hill Court

Mrs. McCrory is concerned about the increase of traffic on Wilkins Avenue when the left turn at Kenwood Road at I695/Wilkens Avenue interchange is eliminated with Interchange Option 1.

## Responses:

Interchange Option 1 was not selected at this location.

While testimony was being taken at the microphones in the school auditorium, additional private testimony was being taken in the gymnasium. The following summarizes the testimony taken in the gymnasium.
16. Mr. William F. Lacky - 114 Forest Avenue

Mr. Lacky expressed concern about the interchange options at Edmondson Avenue and access from Forest Avenue to Edmondson Avenue and supported I-695/Edmondson Avenue Interchange Option 1.

## Responses:

Alternate 2 was selected at Edmondson Avenue.
17. Mr. Bruce Van Newkirk - 217 South Paradise Avenue

Mr. Van Newkirk would prefer to not have the noise barriers in the Shady Nook area moved closer to residences as required by widening along the northbound roadway with Alternate 2.

## Responses:

Preliminary design provided during the project planning process indicates the need to shift the existing noise barrier to accommodate the widening.
18. Mr. Charles Gillian - 608 Woodsdale Road

Mr. Gillian said that a noise barrier is needed.

## Responses:

The Type II noise barrier has been constructed between Ingleside Avenue and Frederick Road which includes protection of Woodsdale Road.
19. Ms. Frances Leitch - 5914 Moorehead Road

Mr. Leitch said that a noise barrier is needed (Westview Park).

## Responses:

A noise barrier at this location has been found to be reasonable and feasible. It will be considered during final design.
20. Mr. Philip Lazercaten - 121 Water Street (Raynor Associates Limited Partnership)

Mr. Lazercaten supports the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange Options 2 and 3.

## Responses:

Alternate 2 was selected in the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange vicinity.
21. Ms. Joan Dodson - 280 Blakeney Road

Ms. Dodson questioned whether the existing noise barriers will be moved back to accommodate the widening?

## Responses:

A portion of the existing noise barrier in the Shady Nook Court and Shady Nook Avenue vicinity would be relocated to provide for the Selected Action. Since ramp $F$ in the Frederick Road interchange would be relocated closer to the Beltway, however, the noise barrier along the existing ramp paralleling Blakeney Road will not be disturbed.
22. Mr. Stanley Vitkoski - 4855 Carmella Drive

Mr. Vitkoski asked where the noise barriers are that were promised when the Beltway was built. He also questioned why I-70 was not extended to I-95.

## Responses:

A noise barrier between Wilkens Avenue and Leeds Avenue has been found to be reasonable and feasible and will be considered during final design.

A study extending I-70 into Baltimore City to connect with I-95 was undertaken in the early 1970s. Environmental legislation enacted during the study resulted in the identification of critical environmental impacts which would have resulted from the construction of the highway. There is no possibility of resurrecting that study with the current environmental legislation and processes.
23. Mr. Mitchell Raines - 4918 Gateway Terrace

Mr. Raines opposes widening of I-695 and Maryland Route 295. His major concerns are about value of homes and noise resulting from the widening.

## Responses:

A noise barrier between Wilkens Avenue and Leeds Avenue has been found to be reasonable and feasible and will be considered during final design.
24. Ms. Mary Tope - 464 Susan Court (Co-President Linthicum Hills Association)

Ms. Top prefers Alternate 1. If Alternate 1 is not selected, the second choice at the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange would be Interchange Option 3.

The Linthicum Hills community needs noise barriers and fencing around the community and would like to have a landscape buffer around community.

## Responses:

Alternate 2 was selected at the I-695/Maryland Route 295 interchange. Existing open space between the Beltway and the neighborhood will not be disturbed and therefore will remain as a landscaping buffer.

As documented in Section IV of the DEIS, a noise barrier was considered in the North Linthicum vicinity and was determined to be unreasonable because the Build Alternate noise level is less than 5 aBA greater than the No Build Alternate in the design year and is less than 10 ABA greater than the ambient noise level.
25. Mr. Kingsley Smith - 115 Arbutus Avenue

Mr. Smith said that although his community does not qualify for noise barriers, being opposite to barriers will cause noise deflection. He, therefore, would like some protection.

## Responses:

A study was conducted to evaluate impacts resulting from the construction of a noise barrier and retaining wall system on the opposite side of I-695 from the Arbutus Avenue area. Comparison of the 24-hour noise measurements both "before" and "after" the barrier was constructed showed a 1.3-1.4 aBA increase over the "before" condition. Traffic volumes have also increased which resulted in approximately one-half (0.7 dA) of the total noise increase noted. Therefore, it may be inferred that less than 1 ABA may be attributable to reflection. In terms of perception, a change in noise level of 2-3 dBA is just detectable by the average person. Based on the results as shown, reflected noise from the barrier opposite Arbutus Avenue is not within the perceptible range of human response.
26. Mr. Henry Helwick - 5922 Moorehead Road

Mr. Helwick stated that if property is taken from backyards and retaining walls are constructed, noise barriers should also be required.

## Responses:

A noise barrier at this location has been found to be reasonable and feasible. It will be considered during final design.
27. Mr. Edward Fisher - 466 Susan Court

Mr. Fisher supports Alternate 1. If Alternate 1 is not selected, the second preference is Alternate 2 , with no interchange options, and the third preference is Alternate 2 , with the I-695/Md. Rte. 295 interchange Option 3.

Mr. Fisher suggested that there should be fair and strong consideration for noise barriers.

## Responses:

Alternate 2 was selected in the I-695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange.

As documented in Section IV of the DEIS, a noise barrier was considered in the North Linthicum vicinity and was determined to be unreasonable because the Build Alternate noise level is less than 5 aBA greater than the No Build Alternate in the design year and is less than 10 aBA greater than the ambient noise level.
28. Mr. Joe Getzendanner - 330 West Kenwood Avenue

Mr. Getzendanner questioned whether there is a priority list for project phasing.

## Responses:

The construction for Beltway widening would be staged. This highest priority for this Project is the portion between Wilkens Avenue and I-95.

## C. SUMMARY OF AND RESPONSES TO PUBLIC WRITTEN COMMENTS

## Letter From

## 1. Business Comments

Ms. A. J. Zissler, Executive Director Greater BWI Commuter Assistance Center Suite E 100
793 Elkridge Landing Road Linthicum, Maryland 21090

Mr. Richard B. Schmitt
Supplies Unlimited Inc.
2320 Monumental Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21227

## 2. Community Association Comments

The North Linthicum Improvement Association, Inc. Box \#258
Linthicum Heights, Maryland 21090-0258
Mr. Dominick Morea, President
Crestwood Community
100 form letters
The Linthicum Hills Homeowners Assoc.
Barry Scheitlin and Mary Topa
Co-Presidents
Kenwood Gardens Condominium Association
Mr. Thomas C. Goral, President
3 Summit Hill Court, \#C-3
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Maiden Choice Community
125 form letters
Maiden Choice Civic Association
Mr. Arthur Howe
a petition of 200 homeowners
in Maiden Choice Area and form
letters from 127 residents

## 3. General Public Comments

Mr. J. Homer Weidemeyer
7602 Windsor Mill Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21207
Mr. James Gary
720 Kent Avenue
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

July 10, 1988

July 28, 1988
Date of Letter

June 15, 1988

August 1, 1988

June 22, 1988

July 5, 1988

July 20, 1988

July 22, 1988

June 2, 1988

June 9, 1988
Mr. \& Mrs. Donald MaiselJune 11, 1988
1139 Linden Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland ..... 21227
Mr. Joseph S. Clark ..... June 13, 1988

88
5512 Bluecoat Lane Columbia, Maryland ..... 21045
Ms. Carolyn A. Keefe ..... June 13, 1988

June 13, 1988
5931 Linthicum Lane
Linthicum, Maryland 21090
Ms. Martha Boyd ..... June 14, 1988
41 Badgergate Ct.
Baltimore, Maryland ..... 21228
Ms. Mary B. Clark ..... June 14, 1988
9 Carroll Road
Baltimore, Maryland ..... 21228
Mr. Charles J. Lindner
June 14, 1988
5724 Calverton StreetBaltimore, Maryland 21228
Mr. Pfaff
June 14, 1988
520 Kent Avenue
Catonsville, Maryland ..... 21228
Ms. Reginia J. Stanhope
June 15, 1988
4 Winds - Box 53 Lyme RoadLyme, New Hampshire 03768
Mr. \& Mrs. Edward J. Bedford ..... June 16, 1988
2 Kenwood Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Mr. Robert G. Dill ..... June 19, 1988
17 University Avenue Catonsville, Maryland ..... 21228
Mr. Kenneth R. Fair

June 20, 19885941 Linthicum LaneLinthicum, Maryland 21090
Ms. Jane L. Dinkel
2 Dungarrie Road Catonsville, Maryland 21228

June 22, 1988
Mr. William K. Lawrence ..... June 22, 1988
101 Arbutus AvenueCatonsville, Maryland 21228
June 11, 1988
June 14, 1988

Ms. Nancy J. Miller
53 Winslow Park Drive
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Mr. \& Mrs. Rick Siebenaler
1207 Leeds Terrace
Arbutus, Maryland 21227
Mr. Jacob B. Davis
5934 Linthicum Lane Linthicum, Maryland 21090

Mr. \& Mrs. Scott Zimmerman
4848 Carmella Drive Arbutus, Maryland 21227

Ms. Evelyn Blackwell
14 Badger Gate Court Baltimore, Maryland 21228

Ms. Agnes M. Lam
3035 Freeway
Baltimore, Maryland 21227
Mr. Robert Neuter
P.O. Box 1514

Baltimore, Maryland 21203
Stanley and Mary Topa June 29, 1988
464 Susan Court
Linthicum, Maryland 21090
Ms. Olive L. Edson June 30, 1988
Ms. Barbara Jean Edson
514 Kent Avenue
Catonsville, Maryland 21228
Ms. Connie Freeman June 30, 1988
9 Pomona, North \#7
Pikesville, Maryland 21208
Mr. Robert W. Basset
4105 Hollins Ferry Road Baltimore, Maryland 21227

Mr. E. Henry Hinrichs, D.D.S.
7703 Bellona Avenue
Ruxton, Maryland 21204
N. Myers

2945 Freeway
Baltimore, Maryland 21227

June 22, 1988

June 22, 1988

June 23, 1988

June 23, 1988

June 24, 1988

June 27, 1988

June 28, 1988

July 2, 1988

July 5, 1989

July 5, 1988
Nancy Pirtle-Connelly
5018 Gateway Terrace
123 Forest Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Mr. Thomas J. Connelly and
Nancy E. Pirtle-Connelly5018 Gateway TerraceBaltimore, Maryland 212277 Somerset RoadBaltimore, Maryland 21228
Baltimore, Maryland 21227 ..... 21227
4908 Gateway Terrace Baltimore, Maryland 21227 ..... 21227July 13, 1988
Mr. Thomas P. Feulner, Jr.

July 15, 1988
Ms. Donna Machin ..... July 18, 1988
Mr. James W. Mohler

August 2, 1988

July 27, 1988

##  <br> RECEIVED

President
Prestident
Thomas L. Osborne
Plamning ond Zoning Plonning ond zoning Olficer Anne Arundet County Ollice of Planning and Zoning
Chaliman
Josepn S. Dollord Deputy Manager Manulaciuring Operations Div
Vice-Cnaliman
Vice-Cralrman Somuel I Hellner, Preside
Dickinson Hellner, Inc.

Treasurer
We riel Minsholl
Chuel Development Ollicer Chief Developmen
Parkway Center $\underset{\sim}{\infty}$ Secrete $\underset{\square}{\square}$ Sectrectry Catherine T. Smith. Chiel 1 Maloonal Securily Agency

Joy Hiecholizer
Associale Administrator Associote Administrator
Markeling $E$ Development Slate Axration Administration
Robert Bennington Slation Monaget
Piedmant Airlines

Mr. Neil J. Pedersen
Director
Offace of Planning and Preliminary Engineering
State Highway Administration
P. O. Box 717

Haltimore, MD 21203-8717
SUBJ: Public Hearing/Baltimore Beltway and Baltimore/Washington Expressway (MD Route 46)
Contract Number: AW 758-151-072
PDMS Number: 251029
Dear Neil:
Our staff has reviewed the key data and major findings of the project planning study to develop improvements to both I-695 (Baltimore Beltway) and the Baltimore/Washington Expressway to Route 46 . We wish to subrit these written comments related to the public hearing to be held on June 22 nd in Catonsuille.

The Greater BWI Commuter Assistance Center, a transportation management association, supports the build alternate $\$ 2$ because this construction will help relieve traffic growth impacting the BWI area and will improve highway safety.

At a meeting held in Annapolis last January, our membership collaboratively compiled a list of both short-term and long-term transportation-related problems and solutions, focusing on the greater BWI area and oytending south to Fort Meade and Route 32. Consensus of the group (attachment) was that the major commute corridor from Route 795 to the BWl area including the Baltimore Beltway and Route 295 was the top priority short-term transportation problem that needs to be addressed.

The group views capital improvements necessary to help relieve growing traffic along this corridor. our association also supports and implements traffic major hours and ridesharing. .

Page 2
State Highway Administration
For your project staff's information, the Center has been documenting feedback from commuters and trends for the past three years. Employees travelling along this corridor from Baltimore, Frederick and Carroll Counties as well as from Pennsylvania during peak hour have revealed a perception that commate time for employees is growing longer and frustration due to traffic is increasing.

Interviews with employes regarding residential location indicate a movement toward outlying counties in northern Maryland and Pennsylvania where new housing is more affordable. This has become a factor affecting commute time.

In selected cases, our staff is hearing from some employees who now commute through Baltimore city to get to the Bwlarea, in order to avoid using the Beltway.

Our staff has provided Cathy Pecora information pertaining to employment, land use and development trends in the BWl employment area. If any additional information from the Center's database is useful for this project, we would be glad to provide this information.

He understand the project is funded for the planning and engineering phases. We support funding for right-of-way acquisition and construction.

Sincerely,<br>Jucur<br>Executive Director

Enclosures
cc: Ed Meehan

## GREATER BWI COmmoter assistance Cgater, inc <br> CAC ATTBUDABCE LIS <br> ASEAPOLIS, MD

Anne Arundel County, Thomas Osborne, Planning and zoning Officer Annapolis Fine Homes \& investments, Inc.. Norman Lutkefedder, President/Broker

Cardinal Industries, Robert Guirlinger, Location General Manager Deloitte Haskins \& Sells, Tom Kelley, Manager, Tax Department Dickinson-Heffner, Inc., Samuel Heffner, President

First National Bank, Steve Levin, Branch Manager
Ford Aerospace, Joseph Wilson, Industrial Relations Manager
Gateway lnternational Partnership, Vernon Kalkman, Vice president $\lesssim$ International Hotel, Norman Barrack, General Manager
F Lancelotta/Hunt Partnership, Tom Shaw, Partner
ค) Loyola Federal Savings and Loan Association, Charles Schmitt Senior Vice president

Manekin Corporation, Ellen Davey, Industrial and Commercial Real Estate

Marriott/Host International, Michael Olivera, General Manager
McCormick Properties, John Lansinger, Marketing and Development Manager
MCCormick Properties, Robin Maisel, Marketing Representative McDonald's Corporation, Tina Adamides, Personnel Department MIE Development, Steve Hartman, Vice president Mass Transit Administration, Ken Goon, Director of Planning National Security Agency, Catherine Smith, Chief, Commuter Transportation Center

National Security Agency, Ronald Smith, Chief, Office of facilities and Engineering

State Aviation Admınistration, Jay Hierholzer, Associate Administrator, Marketing and Development
The KMS Group, Robert Strott, Vice president
The Parkway Companies, Werner Minshall, Chief Development Officer
Trans-Union, Rick Hearn, Operations Manager
Westinghouse Electric Corporation, JosephManager, Manufacturing Operations Manager
Capital Resources
Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Fritz Wheeler, Manager of Capital Resources planning and Administration

Richard H. Traino
Hal Kassoff

Ms. A. J. Zissler, Executive Director Grester BWI Commuter Assistance Center Suite El OU
793 Elkridge Landing Road
Linchicum, Maryland 21090
Dear Ms. Zissler:
Thank you for your June 15 th letter in support of the proposed widening of the Baltinore Beltway.

We understand the importance of providing adequate service to the BWI area and can appreciate the frustration associated with the current congestion on the Beltway.
However. given the extensive size and cost of this project an sure you can appreciate that it cannot be done as a before construction would begin.

Thank: you again for your support. If you have any questions, plesse call Ms. Catherine Pecora at 333-1191.

> Very truly yours.
> Meif of Pedecuer

Neil J. Pedersen, Director
Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering
NJP:ss
cc: Mr. Louis H. Ege, Jr. Catherine Pecor Mr. Edward Meehan

I/wa wian to commont or Inquire about the following aspacta of this prolect:
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Parsons who heve recoived e copy of this brochura intough the mall are already on ine project Malling List.
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695 irom U. s. Pout No. 25102 )
including Md Rie
Location/Design Public Hearí
Catonsville Senior High School
Richnol B. Schmitf June 22, 1988
NAME Supplies Uonhimiteo Inc. $\qquad$
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ADORESS. 2320 Monumentul $L$ Rd
cirvitown Boltimore

\section*{| AUESTIONS ANO AOMNISTRATION COMMENTS |
| :--- | <br>  <br> CONTRACT NO. AY 758-151-072 N}

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The Hollins Ferry Road Interchange Option which has been selected will not require acquisition from Supplies unlimited, Inc. Construction funding of the entire Beltway widening project will be phased due to the high cost of the project.
$\qquad$
-

State Hignwar Aoministration
Office it flunning ano irellaminary Engineerang
Contract No Aw $758-151-072$ Contract NO Aw 758-151-072
Baltamure Ma
Dear Sirs:
fis 1 was not able to attena the June e2na meetang due to a frior commitment the following concerns are meta ralsed by the catilens of North Linthicum Improvement Association

Baltimore Washarigton Farkway (route 295 installed along the Baltimore Washifigton Farkway (route 295 nor thbound) from
the Beltway to the Haiter Tuinel the Beltway to the Harbur Tumel Road exit.

Aoditionally, we request a nuise study be done at Overiook Eleneritary Senool for the purpose of a sourid study indicates a sound Darrier is necessary. If the noise Elementary an for some physical reason a barrier cannot constructer at this location, we request funds be set aside to air condition the Scriool.
roads due to the increased it is necessary to expand these roads due to the increased traffic flow projected for the future yeari, but we also believe that the trariquility of before the eastence of both the Beltway and the Baltamore Washangton Parkway.
President

CC: Overlout Elementary School
Anne Arundel Eounty Executave
Theooure Sophocleus - list District County Cauncalmen Senater Micnael Wajner - 3Z̈nd District
House of belleyates sänd District: Pat Siannello
Tyrus Athey
George Schmancke

Mr. Dominick D. Morea
Page 2

In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments. please contact me or the project manager. Ms. Catherine Pecora. Ms. Pecora's telephone number is 333-1191.

Very eruly yours.
Nail of Vedersur
Neil J. Pedersen, Director Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering
NJP: vw
c: Overlook Elementary School Mr. James Lighthizer
Councilman Theodore Sophocleus Senator Michael Wagner
Delegate Patrick Scannell
Delegate Tyrus Athey
Delegate George Schmincke
Mr. Hal Kassoff
Ms. Catherine pecora

CONTRACT NC.
PDMS NO
AN
$251029-151-072 ~$ PDMS NO. 251029

July 5, 1988

Gentlemen:
Regarding your Project Planning Study, specifically the proposed options at Maryland Route 295 and 695, it is my sincere belief GPTYCN to alleviate the increasing traffic volume and subsequent problems at this interchange.

The utilization of an existing section of 859 to divert trafific from 695 is by far the best choice for many reasons.

One reason is cost: Pifty-seven million versus 87.2 and 88.7 million dollars for Options one and Two respectively.

Land acquisition for OPTICN 3 would utilize unused landfill and non-accessible wetiands that would be minimally affected by bridge-pier construction. Option one would seriously affect buildings and property aliong the 695 and 295 interchange, especially six or seven houses along Cheddington Road which, because of the percentage of land taken, would be rendered useless as homes.

Construction noise problems of OPTICN 3 would be non-existent compared to Options one and Iwo because there are no homes or businesses in the immediate area of the construction.

The impact on existing traffic patterns during construction is also a consideration. Currently the old Harbor Tunnel Thruway (895) is being used minimally since the opening of the new Fort Mchenry Tunnel and construction there would affect a very low percentage of traffic compared to the other options.

In sumation, I strongly urge you to consider OPTICN 3 as the only feasible option to the 695 and 295 interchange problem.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Sincerely, } \\
& \text { The y h́rs. (hathus lv. Jab-, ge } \\
& 407 \text { hikdixglia Rat. Ofintherens }
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This form letter was submitted by persons listed on pages VIII-Cl2 - VIII-C14. The response made to the Linthicum Hills Homeowners Association, dated August 8, 1988 is on page VIII-C16.



| D. | Lewis Long Lorber |
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| M. | Manuel |
| T. | Marashkey |
| E. | Martin |
| R. | Matanin |
| c. | Matuszewski |
| W. | McCarthy McGarrity |
| G. | McGhan |
| E. | Menikheim |
| M. | Miller |
|  | Mims |
| E. | Miskimon Mitchell |
| E. | Moore |
| A. | Morris |
| J. | Myers |
|  | Neubauer |
| J. | O'Connor |
| J. | Palmer, Sr. |
| D. | Pease |
| J. | Perry <br> Pettit |
| H. | Porter |
| T. | Powell |
|  | Reichelt |
| H. | Reusch |
| B. | $\text { Ross, } \mathrm{Sr} .$ Sachs |
| B. | Scherer |
| R. | Schreiner |
|  | Scochin |
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| L. | Shaber |
| L. | Shaffer |
| M. | Shamer |
| R. | Shipley |
| F. | Shryock |


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| E. | Snyder |
| A. | Stepp |
| D. | Stewart |
| M. | Stone |
| M. | Vaise |
| E. | Varner |
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| L. | Vraisch |
| B. | Walsh |
| E. | Walter |
|  | Warner |
|  | Webb |
|  | Weiland |
| A. | West |
| H. | Wharry |
| L. | Yannuzzi |
| L. | Zybstra |

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Page Two

- If the proposed expansions (particularly Alternate Two Options Two or Three) become in effect, pleas only cut down trees that ara absolutely necessary. These trees around our community act as a natural sound barrier and also hide the appearance of the beltway. We need these trees to remain.
- We would also like to request that your Landscape Architect give particular attention to our community when planning the follage, etc. that can be planted around our community to as a natural sound barrier and assist in keeping the not sa levels down.

Sincerely submitted:


Bare Scheitlin - Co-President LBHOA


Thaw thus.
nancy Kplleher - Treasurer - LHHOA

cc: Neil J. Pedersen Edward Meghan
Catherine Pecora
Robert Olsen
David W. Wallace, PE.


Linthicum Hills Homeowners
Association Execurive Soard
Hr . Barry Scheitlin and
Ms. Mary Topa
Ms. Mary
inthicum. Maryland
21090
Dear Mr. Scheitiin and Ms. Topa:
 Linthicum Hills Homeorners issociation.

Wa are aware of your coneara about the inpaces of the I-695/ MD 295 interchange proposels and can understand your preference fon the no-build aitrernate or alternata 2-0prion 3 at preference will be corsidering your freferences as we put together a recom-
-endation over the -.ext few -cnths. ndation over the -.ext few ...cnths

The possibility of providing sound barriers for your neighborhood has been investigatad. Ther are a number of criteria that must be net for in area to qualify for noise barriers under thange i. noise level as a desulr tration's noise policy. The
 the touses were constructed because this is the cesult of aince eral increase ir : : affic. Fct a result of state : inghway hdministration improverents. The other criteria we consider are:

- wherher the Federal :̈ghway administration noise abatement

-     - F.ether noise abatifent is feasible
- wherfar noise abatemert can be provided fer apprcximately $\$ 40.000$ per residence
- Wherher a matcity of the affected residenzes wera there befcre the in fhway

Mr. Scheitlin and Ms. Topa Fage :-No

In che case of this project, the proposed improvements do not create a significant increase in roise level. In addition, per house and your neighborhood was not there before the highway. Therefore, your community does not qualify for the construction of noise barriers.

We will be installing a ferce around your community as pert of the proposed improvements. In addition. landscaping will be investigated during the final design stage of the project. An borhoods such as yours that will notional landscaping for neighMr. Charles adans. Chief of whe will recaive a copy of this lettar to make himapare of your concern.

Every affort will be made to limit the amount of trees impacted by the project. However. there are times when space is pate that this would be zequired in your area. but a final deterrination will not be made until final design of the project. Once this project has been designed. Mr. Frank Rosensweig. the project engineer, will be able to provide you with up-to-date irformarion regarding this issue. Kr. Rosensweig's telephone rumber is 333-1269.
feel finez to mantime, $\begin{aligned} & \text { fif you have any further questions. please }\end{aligned}$

## 

## Onil of Podecur

Meil J. Pedersen, Director Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering
: $15 \sum:$ n
ce: Mr. Edward H. Heehan
:Ir. Eharles idams
$\mathcal{V}_{\mathrm{Hs} \text {. Erank Rosensweig }}^{\text {Mr }}$

My telephone number is 1301 , 333-1110
303-7s5s Batimore Melio Teletrpewiter for Impalred Hearing or Speech

Kenvood Gardens Condominiums July 20, 1988

Ms. Catherine Pecora Project Manager
Project Development Division State Highway Administration Baltimore, Maryland 21202
be an effective and far less drastic means of accomplishing your puxposes.

Fourth, it has come to our attention that the left turn ramp is necessary for access to the vocational school. It is our understanding that the school busses will have a difficult time if the ramp is eliminated.

For these reasons, we urge you not to inciude the There - Option 1 in your final recommendations. There its elimination seriousiy affects our property

Additionally, if the widening of the beltway does result in the elimination of the hill which has served as our sound barrier, ve uzge you to recommend that adequate soun qualify under curzent guldelines, ve urge you to consider the following factors. We currentiy have the natural sound barrier provided by the hill. If the changes proposed affect that barrler, it would seem only falr for the state to replace that barrler. In other vords, ve do quallfy under the first criterion, because our community existed before the "widening" of the beltway.

Please place these comments in the official record of these proceedings. of course, if there are any questions, please
do not hesitate to contact us.

Finally, thank you for taking the time to address ou assoclation's meeting. Your presentation was apprectated

Most sincerely,
Thomasces Gorak
president,
Kenvood Gardens condominium
ussociation
3 Summit Hil Ct, C-3
Balt MD $21028^{\circ}$

Marland Department of Transportation
State Highway Administration

August 9, 1988
RE: Contract No. AW 758-151-072 N $1-695$ from US 40 (west) to MD 170 including MD 295 from MD 46 to the No. 251029 cy line
PD4S No. 251029

## Mr. Thomas C. Gorak, President

3 nwood Gardens condominum Association
3 Summit Hill Court, © C-3
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

Dear Mr. Gorak:
Thank you for the opportunity to speak to your association and for your July 2 Uth comments regarding the proposed widening of the

Option understand the objections of your association to Interchange Option at Wilkens Avenue and Kenwood Road. You have raised some

With regards to the construction of noise barriers in your neighborhood, there are a number of criteria that have been
evaluated in addition to whether your homes were constructed before the highway. We have looked at the amount of additional noise that would be generated by the proposed widening as compared to if the widening were not done. It has been found that the addition of a cost ro protect this area is grea protected, which we do not consider to be cost-effective.

For these three reasons, we will not be recommending the construction of noise barriers as part of the widening project.

## My telephone number is 1301

383-755S sallimore metro Telotypowriter for Impalred Hearino or Spech
707 North Calvert St.. Balilmore, Marylond $21203-0717$

Page 2
Mr. Thomas C. Gorak


#### Abstract

Your comments will be included in the Final Environmental Impact Statement. This document will be available next year. I have verified your name on our mailing list so that you whll be notified when it is available. In the meantime, feel free to call


Very truly yours,

Louls H. Ege, Jr.
Deputy Director
Project Development Division

By:


STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTS

CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N PDMS No. 251029
1-695 from L.S. Route 40 (West) to Md. Rte. 170 including Md. Rte. 295 from Md. Rte. 46 to
the Baltimore Ciry Line
Catonsville Senior High School
June 22, 1988
name klillige F Hall


This form was submitted by persons listed on pages VIII-C20 through VIII-C23. A formal response was not provided.

|  | MM | FIRST | MI | LAST | ADDRESS | CITY | State | 2IP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mr. and Mrs. | Eugene | т. | Ambrose | 902 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 2 | Mr . and Mrs. | Richard |  | Armstrong | 929 Wilton Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 3 | Mr. and Mrs. | Robert | L. | Asna | 490 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 4 | Ms. | Elizabeth |  | Aune | 943 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 5 | Mrs. | Elizabeth |  | Baker | 922 Wilton Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 6 | Mr . | Kenny |  | Baker | 924 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 7 | Ms. | Helen | E. | Balzer | 916 Courtney Road | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 8 | Mr. and Mrs. | William | E. | Barrett | 4839 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 9 | Mr . | Timothy | M. | Bauer | 5002 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 10 | Ms. | Kimberly |  | Baugher | 902 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 11 | Ms. | Alice | M | Becker | 5011 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 21227 |
| 12 | Mr . | M. |  | Bender | 933 Wiiton Drive | Baltimore, | MD MD | 21227 21227 |
| 13 | Mrs. | Marie |  | Brooks | 4821 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, Baltimore, | MD | 21227 21227 |
| 14 | Mr . | Carl | T. | Brushweiler | 912 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 21228 |
| 15 | Mr . ${ }^{\text {Mr. and Mrs. }}$ | Austin | L. | Byrd, Jr. Byrnes | 1 Summit Hill Court | Baltimore, Baltimore, | MD MD | 21228 |
| 17 | Ms. | E. | E. | Calder | 937 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| $\leq 18$ | Mr . | William | T. | Clampitt, Jr. | 901 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 建 19 | Ms. | Catherine | L. | Clark | 5010 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| $\cdots 20$ | Mr . | т. | M. | Cleary, Jr. | 907 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| $\bigcirc 21$ | Mr . | Brian |  | Combs | 4828 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| N 22 | Mr. and Mrs. | Robert |  | Connor | 4932 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 23 | Mrs. | Anthony | B. | Cooper | 920 Wilton Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 24 | Mr . | Joseph | K. | Corbett, Jr. | 906 Courtney Road | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 25 | Ms. | Meredith |  | Crum | 927 Wilton Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 26 | Ms. | Catherine | c. | Cugle | 5001 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD MD | 21227 21227 |
| 27 | Mr . | S. |  | Davis | 921 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD MD | 21227 21227 |
| 28 | Mr . and Mrs. | George | L. | Dickel | 4926 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 29 | Mr . | Howard | B. | Dickerson | 4928 Gateway Terrace |  | MD MD | 21227 |
| 30 | Mr . | Arthur | D. | Dotterweich | 918 Courtney Road | Baltimore, | MD MD | 21227 |
| 31 | Ms. | Dorothy | E. | Dowell | 916 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 32 | Mr . | James | E. | Downs | 908 Wilton Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 33 | Mr. | Joesph | D. | Dualle | 5000 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 34 | Mr . ${ }^{\text {Mr }}$. | Timothy | J. | Durkin | 926 Wilton Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 35 36 | Mr. and Mrs. Mrs. | Theodore John | F . | Duvall | 904 Courtney Road | Baltimore, | MD | 21228 |
| 37 | Mrs. | Thelma | R. | Everett | 911 Palladia Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 38 | Mr . | W. | G. | Fehrmann, Jr. | 918 Wilton Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| 39 | Ms. | Elizabeth | B. | Feulner | 4908 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |



| 80 | Mr . and Mrs. | Julian |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 81 | Mr . | Francis |
| 82 | Mr . | Wiliam |
| 83 | Mr. | James |
| 84 | Miss | Edna |
| 85 | Mr. | Robert |
| 86 | Ms. | Joyce |
| 87 | Ms. | Maria |
| 88 M | Ms. | Norma |
| 89 | Ms. | Elinor |
| 90 | Mr . and Mrs. | Mitchell |
| 91 | Mr. and Mrs. | Daniel |
| 92 | Mr. and Mrs. | Frank |
| 93 | Ms. | Catherine |
| 94 | Ms. | Mardella |
| 95 | Mr. | Richard |
| 96 | Mr. | Richard |
| 97 | Mr . and Mrs. | Lawrence |
| 98 | Ms. | Anna |
| $\leq 99$ | Mr. | Joseph |
| 苗100 | Mr . and Mrs. |  |
| -101 | Mr. | Donald |
| N 102 | Ms. | Mary |
| 103 | Mr. | Richard |
| 104 | Mr . and Mrs. | Raymond |
| 105 | Mr . and Mrs. | R. |
| 106 | Mr . and Mrs. | Stanley |
| 107 | Mr . and Mrs. | Theodore |
| 108 | Mrs. | Nadine |
| 109 | Ms. | Diane |
| 110 M | Mr . | Edgar |
| 111 | Mr. | David |
| 112 | Mr . and Mrs. | Stanley |
| 113 | Mr. | Joe |
| 114 | Mr . | George |
| 115 | Mr . | M. |
| 116 | Mr . | Henry |
| 117 M | Mr . and Mrs. | Joseph |
| 118 | Mr . and Mrs. | James |
| 119 | Ms. | May |
| 120 | Mr. | Robert |


|  | Middleton | 5013 Wilkens Avenue | Baltimore, | MD | 21228 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| X. | Milesky, Jr | 950 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| H. | Mix, Jr. | 920 Courtney Road | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| W. | Mohler | 7 Somerset Road | Baltimore, | MD | 21228 |
|  | Olter | 942 Pallidi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| R. | Pace | 4824 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Phelps | 4934 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| R. | Phillips | 909 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| L. | Pulley | 939 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Qydings | 5005 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Rainess | 4918 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Reichert | 5015 Wilkens Avenue | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| V. | Scaccio | 4904 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Schmidt | 4915 Wilkens Avenue | Baltimore, | MD | 21228 |
|  | Schmigel | 933 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| B. | Schmitt | 2320 Monumental Road | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Schmoeller | 941 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| A. | Schultz | 4808 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| M. | Schwartzman | 4817 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Serio | 944 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Sesplankis | 5014 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Sickle | 4851 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| L. | Sipi | 4802 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| L. | Smit | 910 Courtney Road | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| F. | Stilling | 4906 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| J. | Stryjewski, | Jr. 4800 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Stupi | 4843 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Stupi | 4843 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Thompson | 4853 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Thompson | 4806 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| A. | Trust | 925 Wilton Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Tryte | 483 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Vitkoski | 4855 Carmella Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Vladich | 432 Madingly Road | Linthicum, | MD | 21090 |
| R. | Wagner | 913 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
| L. | Wagner, Sr. | 903 Palladi Drive | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Warner | 4910 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Webster | 4902 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Weinreich | 5003 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Welker | 5008 Gateway Terrace | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |
|  | Wh | 918 Palladi Driv | Baltimore, | MD | 21227 |


| $121 \mathrm{Ms}$. | Patricia | C． | Wilford |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 122 Mr. | Wayne | M． | Wilson |
| $123 \mathrm{Ms}$. | Jacqueline | M． | Wyatt |
| 124 Mr. | Robert |  | ZuWallack |

914 Palladi Drive
Baltimore，MD
21227
922 Courtney Road
5023 Wilkens Avenue
Baltimore， Baltimore， Baltimore，

MD
MD MD 9340 Palladi Drive 21228 21227

Ms. Catherine Pecora
Project Manager
707 Note Highway Administration
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Ms. Pecura,
The petition attached is a listing of over 200 homes in the Maiden Choice area, District 12 of Baltimore County protesting the Maryland Highway Administrations proposal under alternate plan 2, to add two additional lanes on I-695 to I-70

BUILD Maiden Choice Community favors Alternate Plan 1 NO


All /who



IETITION II: FEVOR OF ALTERAHATE $\sharp$ H WTI CONETRUCTION OF SOUND BARRJEH OMI.Y.
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RIm N.echin 4822 Canncier Qr. hnary gohmesif. 4801 Coumelea br.



PETITION IF FAVOL UF AI. TREANATE H WITH CONSTHUCTIUN OF SOUND




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PETITION IN FAVOR OF ALTERANATE \#1 WITH CONSTRUCTION OF SOUND DARLEER ONH.Y.



G. Homer wheidemeyers

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Balt. Mod 21207
$301-6 \sqrt{5}-0127 \quad 6 / 2 / 88$
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R.D. Rot 717 nom.

Salto. hed.21203-0717
Dear Sins;
The proposed wide your of 1-6950 concinn and a hearing on fume $25 \% 8$.
l will swot he able to attend the-
$\leq$ hearing and since lour Various properties - both Baltic. a ane ar advising sue as to ald pera so pargertios of mine that miletiofferal.


RECTO
Aw 758-151-012 JUN $8^{209}$
OFTDE CF REAL ESTMAS
Right of whir Distrain:
PD.M.S. 251029


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H_{i}^{\prime} \cdots \because \cdot
$$

Richard H. Trainer Secretary

Mr. J. Homer Weidemeyer
7602 Windsor Mill Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21207

Dear Mr. Weidemeyer:

I am writing in response to your June ind requests for information regarding the impact of the proposed widening of the Baltimore Beltway.

The project we are studying extends from just north of US 40 to MD 170. The project does not extend as far north as Windsor Mill Road so there would be no impacts to your property. Your letter refers to more than one property you own. If there are other properties you are concerned about that are along the beltway in the project area please let me know so that I may investigate them.

You can call me at 333-1191 if 1 can be of further assistnace.

Very truly yours,

Louis H. Ese, Jr. Deputy Director Project Development Division

By:


LHE:CP:VW
$\qquad$


D Ploese ead myjour nemels) to the Melling List. -

## $\square$ Pleose dolete myfour namelsi from the Moling List.

Porsons who hoverecolvod a copy of this brochure through the moil are already
on the prolect Melling List.
'炾 $\because, ~ A$
Richard H. Trainor Sectrenty
Hal Kassoff

## Maryland Deparment of Transponation State Highway Administration

Mr. James Gary
720 Kent Avenue
Catonsville, Maryland 21228
Dear Mr. Gary:
I am writing in response to your June gth letter about the proposed widening of the Beltway (I-695) from US 40 to MD 170 .

A retaining wall has been proposed as part of this project in order to eliminate right-ot-way impacts in your area. This is a concrete wall that will start on the ground, at street level with Lanvale Street, and will go up to meet the Beltway. This wall retains" dirt behind it and will hold the widened beltway in place. A sketch of this is attached. This wall does not act as a noise barrier.

A noise barrier is being evaluated separately. There is a possibility that your area could qualify for noise barriers as part of this project but the final decision has not been made. statement next year. since you are on our mailing list ropact receive a notice when this becomes available.

If I can be of any assistance in the meantime you can call me at 333-1191.

Very truly yours,
Louis H. Ege, Jr.
Deputy Director
Project Development Division
by:


LHE:CP:ss
Attachment

> My telephone number is $13011 \quad 3 \quad 33-1191$ Teletypewriter $10 \times 1$ Impalred Hearing $\alpha$ Speecn 707 North Catvert St.. Baltimore. Maryland $21203-0717$


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\begin{aligned}
& \text { PROJECT } \\
& \begin{array}{l}
\text { OEVELOPDE: } \\
\text { pIUS: }
\end{array} \\
& \text { STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATIGNKH 'iE } \\
& \text { QUESTIONS ANDIOR CQHIMENTS } \\
& \text { CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N } \\
& \text { 1-695 from U.S. RDMS No. } 251029 \\
& \text { including id. Route } 40 \text { (West) to Md. Rte. } 170 \\
& \text { Md. Rte. } 295 \text { Som Md. Rte. } 46 \text { to } \\
& \text { the Baltimore City Line } \\
& \text { Catonsville Senior High School } \\
& \text { June 22, i988 }
\end{aligned}
$$

NAME Pr. \& Mrs. Donald Maisel June 11, 1988 PLEASE adDRESS _1139 Linden Ave.

CITYITOWN Baltimore, $\qquad$ STATE Maryland _ZIP CODE 21227
tWo wish to comment or inquire about the following sapecta.of this project: Since wc :ill be out of town on June 22, 19R8, we wish to rake the following conn Since this project is going to be rammed down the taxnivers throats anyway and that we will more or less have to face blucher eresoline, nronorty, etc, taxes i we do not know why:; bother having hearings and westing more money on this.

Secondly, since this project will go through anyway regardless of how the taxpayers feel, why are sound barriers still being. put up at frat expense when they rill only hive to be torn down when this project is started?
He sincerely feel that the pubiricuavs in Annapolis are trying their best to make
Maryland the number one hi -hest taxed state in the nation instead of and or third.
Conceit ib
PS. THE STATE CANT KEP WHAT GE HOLE NOWT DL二ENT

Ht
$\square$ Piease add mylour nomels) so the Mailing List. *
$\square$ Please delete my lour nametsi firm the Mailing List.
on the project mailing List copy of this brochure through the mall are already


Page 2
Mr. and Mrs. Maisel

Thank you for your comments. If I can answer any further questions please call me at 333-1191.

Very truly yours,

Louis H. Ege, Jr
Deputy Director
Project Development Division

By:


LHE: CP: w


5931 Linthicur Lane
Linefijcija, Haryland 21090 June 13. 1968

Mr. Neil J. Federsen. Director Office of Pianning anc Preliminary Engineering State Highway Administration
Fost office box 717
Baltimore, Maryland 21203-0717 Jon 16

Dear Mr. Pedersen:
Please accept this written statement in lieu of on oral presentation at the hearing scheduled for June 22 , 198 B , regarding the proposal to widen Interstate Route 695 from
U.S. Koute 40 to Marvand Roure 170 ano Marvland Route 295 from Maryland Route 46 to the Baltimore City Line.

I have a principal interest in this project, as my property directly abuts Interstate Route 695 and lies within the bouncaries of the proposed construction. Furthermore, I have lived at this residence since 1976. Therefore, wy comments should be weighted accordingly.
After a revieu of the recent information that has been provided on this project, as well as previous information that I have received from the State Highway Administration in regard to other
(1) Since 1976 and according to your documents, Route 695 now cerries approxizately 30 x more traffic.
(2) Since 1976 . considarsble fodersi monies ware received by the Stste of Maryisnd to sddreas snd promote mass trsnsportation (1.e.. rideaharing, vanpooling, increased bus sarvice) as opposed to aingle-cer commutes.
(3) Since 1976. the Key Bridge has provided a more attractive alternative to east-bound traffic than the Harbor Tunnel hai provided. This has resulted in a consioerable increase in provided. traffic on that portion of Route $\in 95$ lying behind my resioence.
(4) Since 1976. the Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI) has experienced a tremendous srowth apurt which consequently resulted in increased traffic both in the air and on murrounding roaswayb--rany of which include residential streets running through Linthicum.

## RECEIVED <br> 

blatici tolki o!
Pullimi o Pri:ivituth Lhentidim
(5) Since 1976. the Airport Square Technojogiesd Park in Linthicur hea grown at leat ten-fold, and construction continues--again causing a considerable increase in triffic around and through Linthicum.
(6) Since 1976, the State of Maryland initiated and implemented the $1-97$ profect to address the current and projected increases in traffic along the existing Route 3
(7) Since 1976, the State of Maryland began construction of a new interchange at Route 295 and Foute 695 . Once again, of multi-mililion dollar project to address increased traffic in an area that lies less than 1 mile from my home.
(8) Since 1976. the State of Karyland has announced plans to run a light-rsil aystem through Linthicum. which will travel to Baltimore and then to Hunt Valley. This rail systes will cross over various residential streets in Linthicum (i.e.. Maple Road. Twin Oaks Road. Route 170 ) thereby causing delays and potential hazsrdoua aituationa for residente who travel these roadways regulariy.
(9) Now, the State of Maryland is announcing plans to widen Route 695 , which will generate more traffic in back of our homes and cause an even greater negative effect on the Linthicum community.

Would you not agree that the Linthicum area has had to give up more than its fair share of land, tranquility, safety. and peaceful residential ilfestyle to make way for the transportation needs of the rest of the State?

Why then are steps not taken immediately to ensure that the remainder of the community is at least protected from the that is generated from this increased traffic?

Here are some facts for you to consider:
Since the initisi hearinge on the $1-97$ project, residents of our community were told, and provided in writing. that the State of Maryland would take meaaures to ensure our onvironmentsl protection from the increasea in the traffic in the form of noiae walla. Wo ware told thet all reas of ilnthicum buttine Route 695 would heve noine berrieri conetrueted. The inthlcum lsne and Medora Rosd residents ware told that theae areas, while they did not come under the I-97 project. ware ireeot bbatement Prolect and scheduled for edvertisement of nolae barrier construction in Fiscal year 1986.

However, when fiscal Year 1988 began (in July 2987 ) the residenta of the ininthicum lane and Medors Road area inquirad

## Page 3

an to the status of the Type if project. We were informed that the State of Maryland has inatituted a new "Noise
 denim phase for the barrier prosowewver, aa part of the Washington Parkway/interitate Route 605 the Baltimore State Highway Adainiatration) will study the poise, we (tb additional landscape planting in your the possibility of the highway from the raaldenta. If fund to vialiable the planting is zouñ to be fonetbie the lendeceplne will included in the barrier project."

When was the public hearing conducted to discuss this new Noise Abatement Policy? What factors now constitute qualification for noise walls? what happened to the money
that wat budgeted for our nolde male?

If the "new" policy requires that the homes be in existence before the roadway to constitute noise barrier protection such a requirement is ludicrous--especially when that roadway $<$ a <-lane roadway, and possibly 5 lanes. What should be considered is the increase in traffic over a particular time period and the projected increases.

1. personally, have had to contend with noise, fumes, trespassing. dirt and debris. plant erosion. and more over the past 10 years. In return. I have been given promises community decided to construct in fact. other people in our that noise barriers were going hew homes after we were told have your representatives tell us that constructed. So, don't was there when we bought or built our homes. The beltway there, yes, but there was 308 less traffic. there was no i-97 feeding more cars and trucks onto 695, there was no Key Bridge attracting more trucks, the growth of BHI and the construction of the technological park were still thoughts in
someone's mind.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS THIS...DON'T ASK US (THE RESIDENTS) O COMMUNITIES BORDERING THE BELTWAY TO LISTEN TO YOUR NOT UNTIL YOU DO SOMETHING IMMEDIATELY TO PROTECT OUR. COMMUNITIES FROM THE NOISE AND PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE INCREASED TRAFFIC ON ROUTE 695. ONCE THE COMMUNITIES ARE protected. then the state of maryland should look at ways to provide better means of commuting for its general public

Sincerely.

:

Maryland Department ofTTansportation State Highway Administration

Richard H. Trainer Secretary Hal Kassoff Hal Kissoff ${ }^{46}$

July 8, 1988

Ms. Carolyn A. Keef
5931 Linthicum Lane
Linthicum. Maryland 21090
Dear Ms. Keef:
Thank you for your June 13th letter expressing your concern about the proposed widening of the Baltimore Beltway.

We have proposed this project in response to the transportation needs of Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties. Al though a number of other transportation alternates are being investigated throughout these counties, there is still a need to provide additional highway capacity along this section of the beltway.

The study of this proposed widening has included an evaluation of noise impacts. Decisions regarding the provision of noise barriers are made in accordance with our policy as a way to insure consistency throughout the state. Due to the limited financing available for noise barrier our impact criteria and can be cost those areas which meet Although Maryland has the largest noise barrier program in the Country, we have to turn down many areas for noise barriers.

If you have any questions regarding this information, Ms. Catherine Pecora, the project manager, is also available to assist you. Ms. Pecora's phone number is 333-1191.

Very truly yours,
once of pedeuer
Neil J. Pedersen, Director Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering

NJP:Bs
cc: Mr. Louis H. Age, Jr.
$\checkmark$ Ms. Catherine Pecora

My telephone number is $(301) \quad 333-1110$
 707 Notion Calvert St., Baltimore. Maryland 21203-0717
PROJECT
DEVELOP F:F!T
DINE! ! ! :
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTS JUt 17 || 10 MM 'go
CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N
$1-695$ from U.S. Route 40 (West) to Md. Rte. 170
including Md. Rte. 295 from Md. Rte. 46 to
Location baltimore City Line
Catonsuille Senior High School
June 22, 1988
NAME - Nlahtla i Reed DATE_co/14/85
PLEASE
PRINT ADDRESS $41 \beta$ ROlGevinile Ct.
cityitown_Sakt STATE Ald.
ZIP CODE 2/228
I/We what to comment or Inquire about the following aspacta-ol india project:

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## Response to comment by Martha Boyd

In response to comments generated at the Combined Location/Design Public Hearing and those made by Baltimore County and Team members, the limits of the study were extended to north of I-70 interchange. As a result of further study, the Selected Action will include a repaving and restriping to provide four lanes in each direction through the $\mathrm{I}-70$ interchange.
PROJECi
DEVELORGF,
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION ${ }^{D} \cdots \cdots \cdot$

CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N
1-695 from U.S. Route 40 ( 251029
including Md. Rte. 295 (Fromt) to Md. Rte. 170
the Baltimore City Line
Location/Design Public Hearing
June 22. 1988
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Please I/Wo wish to comment or inquire about the following aspects-op this project:

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August 17, 1988
RE: Contract No. AN 758-151-072 N Interstate Route 695 from
 MD 295 from MD 46 to the Baltimore City Line PDMS No. 251029
Ms. Mary B. Clark
9 Carroll Road
Baltimore, Maryland
21228
Dear Ms. Clark:
I am writing in response to your June 14 th comments regarding the proposed widening of 1 -695.

As you have noted there are a number of impacts that occur when highways and residential areas are next to each other.

Noise quality can be improved to some degree by the construction of noise barriers. Due to the limited financing available for noise barrier projects, we construct barriers for those areas which meet our impact criteria and can be costbarrier program in the country. we have to has the largest noise for noise barriers.

Thank you for expressing your concern. I have verified your name and address on the mailing list for this project so that you will be notified when a final decision is reached. If I can answer any questions in the meantime, please call me at 333-1191.

Very truly yours,
Louis H. Ege, Ir.

by:
Project Manager

LHE:CP:ss

333-1191
My ielophono number is (301) 333-1191
383-7555 Batimore Motro Tolerypowriter for Impalrod Hoaring or Spoech 707 North Calvort St., Bullimore. Maryiand 21203-0 717

STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION NVIEIO:
QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTS 17 || 10 LH ' 82
CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N
-695 from U.S. PDis No. 251029
including Md. Rte. 295 (West) to Md. Rte. 170
the Baltimore City Line
Location/Design Public Hearin
Catonsville Senior High School
June 22, 1988
NAME CHARLES $J$ LI~D~ER
DATEMY JUNE゙ 88

## PRINT ADDRESS 572Y CALUERTON ST.

CITYITOWN $B_{A L T I M O R E ~ S T A T E ~}^{\rightarrow} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$
ZIP CODE2/228
I/Wo wish to comment or inquire about the following aspects of thls profect:

## sir:

This letter should probably be sent to a different state office, but I am not sure where so I will complain to you. I am very concerned about the shortsighted general state attitude which is we the argument for building the Maryland a big time state. For example development growth which i believe is leading to get continiuing problem. We will destroy our oreatest unique to a castitrophic the bay and the ocean. Travel to ocean city andets; the mountains congestion, 90 to the bay and observe the boat congestion, travel to the mountains out Fit 70 and observe the housing development
spreading. I realize the power of the development industry better get someone to lool: beyond next year's profit sheet but we into the future. I see trees, parks and open spaces being replaced by homes, shopping centers and roads. "disqusting isnt it"

## Thank You

Mr. Lindner
(plesse formond to opproperite stote ffice

## Please edd myiour nemets) to the Melling List.*

$\square$ Plesse delete mylour namo(s) from the Melling LIst.

- Persons who nevereceivod a copy of this brochure inrougn the mail are alroady on the profoct Melling List.


## MARYLAND

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE PLANNING

## 301 W. PRESTON street

 BALTIMORE. MARYLAND $21201 \cdot 2365$
## DONALD SC covennor

## CONSTANCE LEDER

 becretany```
Mr. Charles J. Lindner
5724 Calverton Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
```

Dear Mr. Lindner:
Thank you for your concern for our environment. If all Maryland's citizens shared your concern, this State would be a better place in which to live.

The Department of State Planning strives to maintain a balance between State growth and preservation of our natural resources. We do have guidelines which require that a percentage of our open space, forests and parklands remain in its natural state. We realize that somerimes it appears that no one is concerned about our natural resources; it seems that our only goal is to attract people, industry and money.
ur Department is as concerned aa you are about preservation of our hatural resources. It is our goal to insure that the abundance of available for the enjoyment of many generations in the furure.


REE:VT:mv
cc: Catherine Pecora

TELEPHONE: $\mathbf{3 0 1 . 2 2 5 . 4 5 5 0}$
FFICE Of COMPREHENSIVE POUCY PLANNING

Richard H. Trainor
Secretasy
Hal Kassoff Adminttetor

Allgust 10, 1988

Contract No AU 758-151-072
Contract No. AW 758-151-072 N
$1-645$ from US 40 (west) to MD 170
including MD 295 from
MD 46 to the Baltimore City Line PDMS NO. 251029

Mr. Charles J. Lindner
5724 Calverton Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

Dear Mr. Linaner:
Thank you for your June 14 th comments regarding the impact of < growth plans in Maryland. Your comments could be addressed by the $\Rightarrow$ co Mr. Koland English the Director of the office of comprehensive State Planning, at Koom 1101.301 West Preston Street, Baltimore, ○ Maryland 21201 . He can be reached at $225-4550$. If I' can assist you in any other matters I can be reached at 333-11y1.

Very truly yours,

Louis H. Ege, Jr.
Deputy Director
Project Development Division

By:


LHE: CP: vw
Catherine Pecora
Project Manager
cc: Mr. Koland English (w/incoming)

My ielephone number is (301)



## PLEAS: PRINT

Name DATE 6-14-88

ADDRESS
520 KENT • AVENUE
CATONSVILLE HEIGHTS
CITYITOWN CATONSVILLE__STATE_MO 2IP CODE_21228
I/Wo wlah to comment or Inquire about the following aapects of thls profect:
CREATING A SHOULDER OF $5^{\prime}$ AT THE FOOT OF KENT AVENUE BETWFFN _ROUTE 40 ANO EOMONUSORN AVENUE (EXITS 15 TO 14) WOULO NOT BE OBJECTIONABLE -PROYIDING_THAT ON_TOP OF THE RETAINING WALL, THERE WAS_ALSO_PLACED_A SOUNO BARIER WALL, TO BE OONE AT THE SAME TIME. 1 WOULO LIKE TO HEAR_AROUT_YOUR_PROROSALS_FOR_SOUNO BARLERS_IN_IHIS_AREA

IN AOOITION, I WOULO LIKE TO HEAR YOUR OPINIONS ON THE BENEEITS OF WIOENING THE BELTWAY IN ANY WAY. IT SEEMS TO ME, THAT NO MAJTER HOW WIOE THE BELTWAY BECOMES, IT WILL NOT BE ENOUEH, AS SOON AS THE TRAEEIC 'FLOR. IMPROVES, MORE PEOPLE WULL SIARI USING IT. THE RESULTS WILL BE THE SAME CONJESTED CONOITION AS EXISIS TODAY.

RAPIO TRANSIT, MORE EXTENSIVE METRO SYSTEM ANO GOOO, FREE PARKING AREAS AT THE TERMINALS SEEM TO BE A MORE SENSIBLE APPROACH TO THE PRORLEM OF MOVING PEOPLE

I WOULO REALLY APPRECIATE SOME RESEARCH BEING OONE ANO HEARING YOUR IOEAS ON MY OPINION.

## P Piease add my/our name(s) to the Melling List.

$\square$ Ple日e⿻ delete my/our namo(s) from the Melling List.
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on the propoc ; alling List.

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Mr. Pfaft
August 19, 1988
Page 2
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Thank you for your comments．If I can answer any other questions please call me at 333－1191．

Very truly yours，
Louis H．ERe，Jr
Deputy Director
Project Development Division
by： Catherine Decor Project Manager

## LHE：CP：3s

cc：Mr．Ray Weber
Ms．Cynthia Simpson
Mr．Charles Adams


perlic.
Richard H. Trainor
Hal Kasso
Adminiturior

## August 2, 1988

Ms. Regina J. Stanhope
4 Winds - Box 53 Regme Road
Lyme, New Hampshire 03768
Dear Ms. Stanhope
I am writing in response to your June 15 th request for more information about the proposed widening of the Baltimore Beltway in the area or Ingleside Avenue

I was unable to precisely locate your property on our tax maps. although $I$ do have a general idea where it is located.

Therefore, I have attached copies of the proposed alternates that are more detailed than the brochures you received earlier. This map shows that the proposed widening would require the This would the bridge carrying the Beltway over Ingleside Aven roadway widening hor an additonal lane in each direction. Administration's right-of-way so that no land would be required from adjacent properties.

If you have any additional questions feel free to call me toll free at 1-800-548-5026 or at my private line, (301) 333-1191.

Very truly yours.
Louis H. Ege, Jr.
Deputy Director
Project Development Division
by:


LHE:CP:SS
Attachment

My telephone number is 3011 333-1191
Teletypewriter for Impalrod Hearing or Spooch 707 North Calvert 383-7555 Ball 707 North Calvert Si.. Ealtimore. Meryland 21203-0717



1-695 from USs. PDMS No. 251029
including Md. Rte. 295 (From (to Md. Rte. 170
the Baltimore City Line
Location/Design Public Hearing
June 22, 1988
Name Edward J. Bedford ADDRESS A Ken mow Avernus
crryrow Baltimore state Mo _ZIP CODE 2/228 I/we with to comment or Inquire about the following aspects ot intis project:

Edmadison An Intechirae - Ever Option $/$

## $\square$ Please ed d my/our names) to the Mailing List.*

De please delete my/our namely) from the moiling List.
-Persons who hove received a copy of this brochure through the mail are already ${\underset{\sim}{e n}}^{\text {en the project Mailing List. }}$

RE: Contract No. AW 758-151-072 I-695 from US 40 (West) to D 170 including $M D 695$ from Mo PDMS No. 251029

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Bedford 2 Kenwood Avenue
baltimore, Maryland 21228

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Bedford:

I am writing in response to your June 16 th comments in reference to the alternates being studied for the widening of the Baltimore beltway in your area.

We have investigated the possibility of signalizing the ramps on Frederick Road at the interchange with the beltway. Installing traffic lights here would be possible but would impact the county roads that are close to these ramps. We are working with Baltimore County to develop a system that would be acceptable.

I have noted you preference for option 1 at the Edmondson Avenue Interchange and have also deleted your name from the mailing
list as you requested.

Thank you for your comments.

Very truly yours,

Louis H. Ese, Jr.
Deputy Director
Project Development Division

By:


LHE:CP:VW
cc: Mr. Daryle Wiles
My telephone number is 301 ) 333-1 191
383-7555 Baltimore Metro Taletypowitar for impaired Hearing or Speech 707 North Calvert St.. Belitmora, Maryland 21203-0717ewte roll free
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STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
DIVジン： QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTS JUH $22 \quad 319$ PH＇88 CONTRACT NO．AW 758－151－072 N PDMS No． 251029
1－695 from U．S．Route 40 （West）to Md．Rte． 170
including Md．Rte． 295 from Md．Rte， 46 to the Baltimore City Line Catonsville Senior High School Nune 22， 1988


address． 17 Wiversity Ave

I／We wish to comment or Inquirs sbout the tollowing sspects of this prolsct：

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＊Persons who hove toceived copy of this brochure incough the mail are alteady －on the proloct Mailing Llst．

Richard H．Trainor Secretery Hal Kassoff Acminustretor

Contract No．AW 758－151－072 N $1-695$ from US 40 （West）to MD 170 including MD 295 from $\therefore$ MD 46 to the Baltimore City Line PDMS No． 251029

Mr．Robert G．Dill
17 University Avenue
Catonsville，Maryland 21228

Dear Mr．Dill：

Thank you for your comments regarding option 1 at the Wilkens Avenue interchange that is under consideration as part of the proposed widening $1-695$ ．We are aware of your concern regarding the diversion of traffic onto Maiden Choice Lane that would result from this option．We wion this location．

I have added your name to the mailing list for this project as you requested．It $I$ can be of any further assistance I can be reached st 333－1191．

Very truly yours，

Louis H．Ege，Jr
Deputy Director
Project Development Division


LHE：CP：VW

My telephone number is（301）
Telet ype
383－7555 Battimore Metro Toietypowriter for tmpaired Houring or Spoech

707 North Calvort St．，Baitumore，Maryland 21203－0717


PLEASE ADDRESS $594 \%$ LINTHICUM LANE
$\qquad$ STATE $\qquad$ ZIP CODE 21090

I/ We wish to comment or Inquire about the following aspects of this project:

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D Please delete my lour names from the Mailing List.
-Persona who have received a copy of this brochure through the mail are already on the project Mailing List.

Mr. Kenneth R. Fair 5941 Linthicum Lane Linthicum, MD 21090

Dear Mr. Fair,
Thank you for your June 20th comments expressing your interest in having noise barriers constructed for your neighborhood.

Noise impacts along this project and throughout the state have become increasingly important in recent years. In order to address these concerns fairly throughout the state. we evaluate each neighborhood according to a statewide policy. The results of the studies done for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed widening indicate that your area does not qualify for noise barriers. We will be reviewing this over the next few months and a final decision will be available next year in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

I have added your name to the mailing list for this project so that you will be notified when this document is available. If I can answer any questions in the meantime please call me at 3331191.

> Very truly yours.

Louis H. Eve, Jr.
Deputy Director
Project Development Division
by:


LHE:CP:ss

Teletypewriter for Impaired Heerlng or Speech
303-7555 Baltimore Metro = 565-0451 D.C. Metro - 1-e00-492-50e2 Statewide Toll Frat 707 North Calvert St.. Baltimore, Maryland 2:203-0717
name Jane $h$. Dinkel _date 22 June 88
address 2 Dungarrle Road
$\qquad$ I/We wiah to commant or inquira about tha tollowing aspacta of thia prolact: Re: I. $695 /$ wilkens Avenue Interchange option 1:
Ramp $D$ poses a mull geeater Risk for muthvenicle accidents than Ramp B. Essentially, RampD permits traffic to flow in all foue dieections (North South, Ecast, and west). Cuerently there are five lanes of traffic convergung ar one point on Wilkens Avenue, The peeposid chang to pechibit acciss to Kenwood Rd. fRom. Ramp D only adds to the conciestion at this junctuee. At inceeased Risk tor accidents are those vehicles turening left from Rampi onto ecistbound Wilkens Avenue, and those vehicles on eastbound wilkens Averue turning left ont Ramp. $D$ to the norethbound beltway.
Considenation should be given to this issue before a final decision is malle

I Suppore the paoposed change to RampB.

## Pioase add my/our nama(s) to the Malling Lita :

## Plasta delete mylour name(s) from the Malling List

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## Mayland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration

## Richard H. Traino

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Hal Kasaoff I-695 from US 40 (We st) to MD 170 including MD 295 from MD 46 to the Baltimore city inne MD 46 to the 8 Ba
PDMS No. 251029

LHE:CP:VW
Very truly yours.

Louis H. Ege, Jr
Project Development Division


Ma. Jane L. Dinkel
2 Dungarrie Road
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

Dear Ms. Dinkel:

Thank you for your comments regarding option 1 at the Wilkens Avenue interchange that is under consideration as part of the propoaed widening I-695. We are aware of your concern regarding the this opion of traffic onto Maiden Choice Lane that would result from this option. We wll be investigating the impacts of this option this location.

I have added your name to the mailing list for this project as you requested. If I can be of any further aasiatance 1 can be reached at 333-1191.

My teleptione number is 13011 .
Tolay
383-7555 Ballimora Motro Teleotypowriter for impaliod hearing or Spoech
707 North Calvert St., Ballimore, Maryind 21203-0717

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Richord H. Trainor
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Hal Kassof
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## STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTS

CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N
$1-695$ from U.S. Route 40 (West)
including Md. Rie. 295 Irom Mdo Yd. Rte. 170
the Baltimore City Line
Location/Design Public Hearing
Catonsville Senior High School


Mr. Willian K. Lawrence
Page 2

If I can answer any questions in che meantime please call me at 333-1191.

Very truly yours,
Louis H. Ege, Jr.
Project Development Division
by:


LHE:CP:ss

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STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTSUH 28 222 PH 8R
CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N
                PDMS No. 251029
I-695 from U.S. Route 40 (Test) to Yd. Rte. 170
including Md. Rte. 295 from Md. Rte. 46 to
the Baltimore City Line
Location/Design Public Hearing
Catonsville Senior High School
June 22, 1988
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$\qquad$ Nancy J miller DATE $\quad 6-22-88$
$\qquad$
ADDRESS
city/town $\qquad$ Baltimore state $\qquad$ MD ZIP CODE
(Clio wish to comment or Inquire about the following aspects of this protect:
I-695/Wilkers av Inter charge Option 1:
Ramp D poses a muck greaten accident risk then. Rasp B. Essentially, Ramp D permits traffic to flow in all four directions (North, Som, East, ace West). Currently there are 5 lanes of traffic converging at one point on Wilkes Arne. The proposed carege to prohibit access to Kenwoad Re from Ramp $D$ only edo to the congestion at this juncture. At increased risk for accidents are those vehicles turning left from Rasp D onto Eastbound Wilkes A rexue, and those rehicen un eastbound Wilkes Aremue turning left on Ramps to the north bul Bcitway Consideration should be glen to this issue before a final decision is made.

I do support the proposed change to Ramp $B$

Please odd my/our nomals) to the Mailing List.*
Please delete my lour namelsifrom the Mailing List.

- Persons who have resolved copy of this brochure through tho mail ere already on the project Melting List.


Mandand Department offransportation State Highway Administration

July 14. 1988

RE: Contract No. AW 758-151-072 N. I-695 from US 40 (West) to MD 170 including MD 295 from MD 46 to the Baltimore City Line PDMS No. 251029

Ms. Nancy J. Miller 53. Winsiow Park Drive Baltimore, Maryland 21228

Dear Ms. Miller:

Thank you for your comments regarding option 1 at the Wilkens Avenue interchange that is under consideration as part of the proposed widening I-695. We are aware of your concern regarding the diversion of traffic onto Maiden Choice Lane that would result from chis option. We will be investigating the impacts of this option this reaching a decision regarding recommended improvements at this location.

I have added your name to the mailing list for this project as you requested. If I can be of any further assistance $I$ can be reached at 333-1191.

Very truly yours.
Louis H. Ese, Jr. Deputy Director
Project Development Division


LHE:CP:VW

My telephone number is 1301). $\qquad$
Teficiypowilter for impalrad Hearing or Speech
303-7555 Baltimore Metro - 505-045t D.C. Metro - 1-800-492-5002 Statewide Toll Freak 707 North Calvert St.. Baltimore. Maryland 21203-0717

STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION QUESTIONS ANDIOR GYMMENESIG ' 8 E

CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N
1-695 from U.S. Route 40 (West) to Md. Rte, 170
including Md. Rte. 295 from Md. Rte. 46 to
the Baltimore City Line
Location/Design Public Hearing
Catonsville Senior High School
June 22, 1988

July 29, 1988

Mr. and Mrs. Rick Siebenaler
1207 Leeds Terrace
Arbutus, Maryland 21227
Dear Mr. and Mrs. Siebenaler:
I am writing in response to your June 22 nd comments regarding the proposed widening of $1-695$ from US 40 to MD 170.

We are aware of concerns regarding traffic congestion through the $1-70$ interchange but felt that this could not be included in providing an additional lane along the beltway here because of the size of I-70 bridges. The cost of expanding these bridges is prohibitive and will probably not be considered until reconstruction is required for structural reasons.

The proposal to extend I-70 into Baltimore City has been examined in the past. Such a connection would provide some relief to this section of the beltway; however,it is not feasible due to impacts to neighborhoods and parks that are located within this corridor.

The design we have proposed at the 1-95 interchange will provide through lanes along the northbound beltway for the two i-95 entrance ramps as you have suggested. This will be done by adding a sixth lane to the beltway from I-95 to Wilkens Avenue. way sixth lane will handle three lanes of traffic from the Beltadditio from I-95 northbound and two from I-95 southbound. The Beltway is necesary $1-95$ southbound from Caton Avenue to the using this ramp in the future. It will end as an exit-only at Wilkens Avenue so that traffic coming from I-695 will have to cross two lanes to exit at Wilkens Avenue.

My itelephone number is (301) 333-1191
Telet ypewriter for impalred Hearing or Speech
303-7555 Batilmore Metro - 565-0451 D.C. Meiro - 1-900-492-5062 Stinewide Tal Free r07 North Calvert St., Batimore, Maryland 21203-0717

Mr. and Mrs. Rick Siebenaler
Qage Two

Thank you for your input regarding this project If I can be of any further assistance. I can be reached at (301) 333-1191.

Very truly yours,
Louis H. Ege, Jr
Deputy Director
Project Deveiopment Division
by:


LHE/CP/Ih

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\text { STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION } \\
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& \text { QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTS } \\
& \text { CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N }
\end{aligned}
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I/We wlah to comment or Inquire about the following aspecta-of this prolect: I constructed my home in 1968 and since then the noise, caused by increased traffic on I-695, has materially, increased. Other sections of the Beltway have been resurfaced with newer material which muffles the traffic noise and noise barriers have been erected in other places. I have been told that the State feels that it is under no cbligation to deal with the noise along the section of the Beltway where I live because the Beltway existed when I moved there. I do not accept this as a valid reason on the part of the state to do nothing because, among other reasons, the increase in traffic on the Beltway has caused a substantial increase in noise from that which existed in 1968.

## $\square$ Ploase edd mylour namelsi to the Malling List. *

$\square$ Please detet my/our nema(s) from the Malling List
-Parsons who hevarocolved a copy. ol this brochura through the mail are elready on the profect Mafling List.


Mr. Jacob B. Davis 5934 Linthicum Lan Linthicum, Maryland 21090

Dear Mr. Davis:
I an writing in response to your June 23 rd comments regarding noise barriers along the Beltway in your neighborhood.

The impact of highway noise on residential areas has become an increasingly important concern in recent years. In order to address these concerns fairly throughout the state, we evaluate each neighborhood according to a statewide policy that includes a number of items. In addition to the year the houses were built, we look at whecher noise abarement would be cost-effective. Our barrier in your area would cost significantly more than this.

Although Maryland has the largest noise abatement program in the country, we are still unable to provide barriers for all the requests we receive. If i can provide you with any more information on this issue, please call we at 333-1191.

Very truly yours,
Louls H. Ege, Jr Deputy Director Project Development Division
by:


LHE:CP:ss

My telephone number is (301)_333-1191
383-7555 Bellimore Metro Telot ypowilter tor impalred Hearing or Spaech 707 North Calvert SI., Saltimore, Marylana 21203-0717

## Maryand Depantment of Transportation State Highway Administration

Richard H. Trainor Secreany Hal Kassoff
state highwar administricirio QUESTIONS ANDIOR QPMMENSSS'n' '罳

CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N
1-695 from U.S. Route 40 RDM 251029
including Md. Route 40 (West) to Md. Rte. 170
Location Baltimore City Line
Catonsville Senior High School

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: $\operatorname{Mane}$ MR. MRS. SCOTZIMMERMAN_DATE $6 / 23 / 88$
PLEASE
ADORESS 4848 CARMELLA DR
cirvitown Arbiutus state. $M_{D}$ $\qquad$ 21P cooe 21227
1/We wish to commant or Inquite about tha following aspecta.ot thia prolect:

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on the project melling Llat.

Mr . and Mrs. Scotr 2 immerman
4848 Carmella Drive
Arbutus, Maryland 21227

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman:

I am writing in response to your June 23 rd inquiry abour the impact of the proposed widening of the Beltway on Gareway Terrace and Carmella Drive.

Neither of these roads would be atfected by the proposed project. We have proposed building a wall as part of rhis widening that would allow all the construction to be done within the Stare Highway Adminstration right-of-way.

I have added your names to the mailing list for this project. This will enable you to receive notiticarion of which alternare is approved for the project. It l can answer any other questions in

Very truly yours,

Louis H. Ege, Jr.
Depury Director
Project Development Division


LHE:CP:Vw

Ay telephone number is 1301
-
383-7555 Batumpare Teletypawiter for impairea Hearing of Speech


## state highway administration

 QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTSCONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N

the Baltimore City Line
Location/Design Public Hearing
Catonsville Senior High School
June 22, 1988
NAME Evelyn Blackwell
ADDRESS 14 Badger Gate Court
CITYITOWN Balt1more STATE Mary;and _ZIP CODE 21228 IWo wian to comment or inquire about the following aepecte of this project:

I am in favor of I-695/Wilkens Ave. - Option 1
Ms. Evelyn Blackwell
14 Badger Gate Court
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Dear Ms. Blackwe11:
Thank you for your June 24 th comment in favor of Option 1 at the I-695/Wilkens Avenue interchange. Please feel free to contact me at (301) 333-1191 if you have any additional comments.

Very truly yours.
Louis H. Ege, Jr
Deputy Director
Project Development Division
by:


LHE/CP/ih

My telephone number is 3011 333-1191

 707 North Calvert St., Baltimore. Maryland 21203-0717

Plin: Richard H. Trainor Secrotary $\underset{\substack{\text { Hat Kessoff } \\ \text { Admunatrator }}}{ }$

## P Please add my/out namels) to the Malling List.*

## $\square$ Plesse delote my/our namele) Itom the Malling List

-Porans who heve recoived a copy ol this brocnure infough the mall are already on the prolect malling List

## STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTS

CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N
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-695 from U.S. Route 40 (West) to Md. Rte. 170
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the Baltimore City Line
Catonsville Senior High School
June 22, 1988

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-persons who heveroceived a copy of this brochure through the mall are oread
on the project Mailing List.

## Maryland Department of Transportation

 State Highway AdministrationAugust 2, 1988

Ms. Agnes M. Lam
3035 Freeway
Dear Ms. Lam:
I am writing in response to your June 27 th inquiry regarding the proposed widening of MD Route 295.

This project proposes the addition of one lane in each direction to be constructed in the median of the Baltimore Washington Expressway from MD Route 46 to the Baltimore City Line. of the southbound section behind your house; however, office. Therefore, the project we are studying now our District similar widening on the northbound roadway.

This project would not require the purchase of any property along the Expressway because all the work is being done within existing state right-of-way. If $I$ can answer any additional questions please feel free to call me at 333-1191.

Very truly yours.


LHE:CP:SS

CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072
-695 from U.S. Route 40 (West) to Md. Rte. 170
including Md. Rte. 295 from Md. Rte. 46 to
the Baltimore City Line
Catonsville Senior High School
June 22, 1988
NAME Robert Rooter DAte 23 J. we 88 PLEASE ADRESS PO Boy 1514
PRINT
city town BalTimore statemp ZIP CODE 21203 IW W was to comment or Inquire about the following aspects of ins project: tan in Fever of Alternate I The No Build



## Cathy

Richard H. Taino
Secretory
Hal Kissoff
Administrator

Mr. Robert Renter
P.O. Box 1514

Baltimore, Maryland 21203
Dear Mr. Renter:
Thank you for your recent comments expressing your preference for the no-build alternate for the proposed widening of $1-695$ from US 40 to 11170.

This project has been proposed to improve the severe accident and congestion problem on this section of the Beltway. In addition, cheridered before a final decision is reached for the proposed widening.

As part of the legislation passed to fund the light rail system from Hunt Valley to Glen Burnie, the Maryland Department of Transportation has been asked to conduct a study to assess th appropriateness of various modes of transportation in twenty-four travel corridors throughout the state. The Baltimore Beltway is one of the corridors being investigated. The results of this study will be available in october. The State Highway Administration's representative for this study is Mr. Ray Weber. He is available at 333-1127 if you would like to acquire any additional information.

Thank you for your comments. It I can answer any additional questions please call me at 333-i191.

Very truly yours,
Louis H. Eke, Jr
Deputy Director
Project Development Division
by:


LHE: CP: ss
cc: Mr. Ray Weber

My telephone number is (301)
383-7555 Saltimara Motto Tole ypewriter for Impaired Hoar ing $\alpha$ Speech 707 North Calvert Si.. Salilmore. Maryland 21203-0717
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DION:
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
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CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N
1-695 from U.S. Route 40 (West) to ud. Rte. 170 Including Ma. Rte. 295 from Ma. Rte. 46 to
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Location/Design Public Hearing

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& \text { June 22, } 1988
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ry Topa

ADDRESS 464 Susan Court

CITYITOWN_..tnchicum $\qquad$ STATE_Maryland _ZIP CODE_21090 h to comment or inquife about the following aspects.of thls projeci:


We live in a nev development called Linchicum hills which is located between Interstates 695 and 295 . We hear loud noise and can feel vibrations in our house because of chese two highways

The folloulng are our comments resardine the Lecation/besien_Plans you have designed ans you have-desifned號 general public on Wed. June 22nd:

## - We prefer Alternate 1 - the No bulld Alternate over all the others.

- If you decide Alternate 1 is not feasible, we prefer option 3 uithin Alternate 2 which utilizes I-895 (Harbor Tunnel Route) as an alternate route. We feel this I-895. There is plenty of space to widen this route and 095 and 205 hy helletiriag or private residences vill be affected by this route and no personal properties or private residences will be affected by this uidening.

He are greasdy concerned about the Beltways coming 50 feet closer to our homes
The noise is already enough to keep us awake at night. The additional traffic the noise id already enough to keep us awake at night. The additional traffic volume predicted in the future will make it unbearable for us to hear ourselves think Uithout Sound Barriers erceted. PLEASE consider us for Sound Barriers. If not, please Chicken_che woods around_our commuliv_by_plantios_shrubs_and fast groving_trees_ta hide the looks and sounds of the beltway. $\qquad$
We also request that some kind of fence be erected around our comminity to keep pedestrians from the beltway away from our homes. Pleaso add mylour nemo(s) to the Malling Llst.* $\square$ Pleasa delela my fout namalal from the Malling List.

- Porsons who haverecolvad a copy of this brochure through the mall are already
on line projoct Mefling Lisi.

This letter was responded to through the Linthicum Hills Homeowners Association by letter dated August 8, 1988 on page VIII-C16.

STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTS

CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N PDMS No. 251029
1-695 from U.S. Route 40 (West) to Md. Rte. 170
including Md. Rte. 295 from Md. Rte. 46 to
the Baltimore City Line.
Location/Design Public Hearing
Catonsville Senior High School June 22, 1988
name Glue L. + Barbra Jean Edson one Jonezolags

HOo wish to comment or inquire about the following a apecta-of this project:
We deluat agree louth lice proposals! There Qurula be NO May lanes trust. Enough co enough! fox should lure hexer the belturar on d hear the heres you say ain't warrant norse banners for Cestandy have burt is the pact anal hat lour collat upas deere dong - evangels. eph ended eypchangeging Clatauall anmponles ape mane acadenta (meg favoleg incmbe does oh is tho zs dunt) You present Coles tor we hex Cochue es not erect thought thru prapsaly' Benwood avenue closeng url really course haver an Wethers Maiden Arrack anal Cumber PLEASE CONSIDER SOMETHING ELSE: Tret rape es the GNLY urey to Ge We'llemd up Dike the her angles Enessuar, Plenosdin't Pet the i hap pan! Ye parents / gnandporenter had tobuld thees house other est es tola e the haves
$\qquad$ hoes for the bidtuze. U) UE SAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! NO BUILD! FIND ASEISIBLE Plato add my lour nama(s) io the Malting List.* ALTERNATIVE Piosso delta my lour namalsi from the mailing List. $\quad$ PLEASE !! - Persons who never received a copy of finis biochufa through the mail are almaty on In piojaci Mailing List.

Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration

RE: Contract No. AW 758-151-072 N I-695 from US 40 (west) to MD 170 including MD 295 from MD 46 to the Baltimore City Line PDMS No. 251029

Ms. Olive L. Edson
Ms. Barbara Jean Edson 514 Kent Avenue Catonsville, Maryland 21228

Dear Mss. Edsons:
I am writing in response to your June 30 th comments regarding the widening of the Baltimore Beltway that is being studied.

We are aware of the noise levels that exist in your neighborhood and have evaluated the area for noise barrier eligibility in accordance with our Administration's policy. The area is not eligible for noise barriers for two reasons. The first is that the majority of residences close to the highway were built after the highway. These are the apartments off Ingleside Avenue. The second reason noise barriers are not being considered in conjunction with the proposed widening is that the difference between the build and no-build noise levels is not significant: that is, the proposed widening will not cause a significant increase in noise level.

Your concern about the changes to Kenwood Avenue proposed as part of Interchange Option 1 has been raised by a number of people in this area. We, will be considering these comments as we make our final decision.

Your final point suggesting that other modes of transportation, such as light rail, be investigated is in the process of being addressed. As part of the legislation passed to fund the light rail system from Hunt Valley to Glen Burnie, the Maryland Department of Transportation has been asked to conduct a study to assess the appropriateness of various modes of transportation in 24 travel corridors throughout the state. The Baltimore Beltway is one of the corridors being investigated.

My telephone number is 13011 $\qquad$
Teletypewriter for Impaired Hearing or Speech
38.3-7555 Baltimore Metro - 565-0451 D.C. Metro - 1-000-492-50e2 Statewide Toll Free 707 Nor: n Calvert St.. Balilmore. Maryland 21203-0717

Ms. Edson
Page 2

Thank you for your comments. If I can'be of any further sistance please call me. My phone number is $333-1191$.

Very truly yours,
Louis H. Ege, Jr
Deputy Director
Project Development Division

By :


LHE:CP: VW
cc: Ms. Cynthia simpson Mr. Charles Adams


August 22, 1988

RE: Contract No. AW 758-151-072 N
1-695 from US 40 (west) to
MD 46 to the Baltimore City Line PDMS No. 251029

Ms. Connie Freeman
y Pomona North
Pikesville, Maryland 21208

Dear Ms. Freeman:
I am writing in response to your June $30 t h$ inquiry regarding the proposed widening of the Baltimore Beltway near Altamont Avenue.

At this time we are not proposing to purchase right-of-way from any properties on Altamonr Avenue. I have added your name to the project mailing list so that you will be notified when an alternate has been approved for this project. Since there is no funding for final design, right-of-way acquisition or construction, I will not e at 333-1191 when you want an update on the star of the al

Very truly yours,

Louis H. Eke, Jr.
Deputy Director
Project Development Division

By:


LHE:CP: Nw
Le:

My telephone number is (301)
383-7555 Baltimore Metro Taler ypewriter tor Impaired Hearing or Speech more Moro - 565-0451 O.C. Metro- 1-800-492-5062 5 Sate
707 North Calvert St., Baltimore. Maryland 21203-0717




IWo wish to comment or Inquire about the following a gpocts of this project:
There is My Son Pho by who is
skateboarder and I hum t Flier
Font suns Consolone skate Fart in the Southwest Rove ail br teromeroll dozed bor my sens behalf anal all the skatebamols Gad Biker Please do Not dmolith this Par.
tease inform ne caber there any thing Going an about this area.

Thank you

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Please add my/our nemels) 10 the Mailing LIst.* $V$
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- Parsons who heverecolved a copy of this brochure through the mail apo already
on the project Mailing List. on the project Mailing List.


RE: Contract No. AW 758-151--072 N
I-695 from US 40 (west) to MD 170 including MD 235 from MD 46 co the Baltimore City Line PDMS No. 251029

Mr. Robert W. Basset 4105 Hollins Ferry Road Baltimore, Maryland 21227

Dear Mr. Basset t:
I writing in response to your July ind comments regarding the proposed widening of the Baltimore Beltway and MD 295 in your area.

The project we are proposing will not have any impact on the Lansdowne Skate Park. Perhaps this park is being closed by a private project.

I have added your name to the mailing list for the proposed widening study so that you will be notified when we receive approval for a design tor the project. Construction is not funded and is not anticipated to start sooner than seven years. If you have any other questions in the meantime please call me at 333-1191.

Very truly yours.

Louis H. Eg, Jr. Deputy Director
Project Development Division

By:


My telephone number is (301)


## Mantand Department ofTransportation State Highway Administration

August 18. 1988
E. Henry Hinrichs, DDS 7703 Bellona Avenue 21204

Dear Dr. Hinrichs:
Thank you for your recent comments expressing your preference for the no-build alternate for the proposed widening of I-6y5 from US 40 to MD 170 .

This project has been proposed to improve the severe accident and congestion problem on this section of the Beltway. In addition, other modes of transportation, are being investigated and will be considered before a final decision is reached for the proposed widening.

As part of the legislation passed to fund the light rail system fron Hunt Valley to Glen Burnie, the Maryland Deparment of Transportation has been asked to conduct a study to assess the
appropriateness of various modes of transportation in twenty-four ravel corridors throughout the state. The Baltimore Beltway is one of the corridors being investigated. The results of this study will be available in October. The State Highway Administration's representative for this study is Mr. Ray Weber. He is available at 333-1127 if you would like to acquire any additional information.

Thank you for your comments. If I can answer any additional questions please call me at 333-11y1.

Very truly yours,
Louis H. Ege, Jr.
Deputy Director
Project Development Division
by:


LHE:CP:s
cc: Mr. Ray Weber

My telephone number is (301) $\qquad$ Toletypewritar for Impelred Heering of Speoch
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| StATE highway administratio QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTS |  |

CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N
1-695 from it © Routo a cwo
1-695 from U.S. Route 40 (West) to Yd Rte 170
including Md. Rte. 295 Irom Md. Rite. 46 to
the Baltimore City Line
Location/Design Public Hearing
Catonsville Senior High School
June 22. 1988

Wo wiah to comment or inquire about the following aspects of this project:
Mrisy aspect of the arnh should nat be

Mr. N. Myers
2445

Dear Mr. Myers:
I am writing in response to your July 5 th comments regarding the proposed widening of 14 D 295 in your area.

The widening of ID 295 chat is currently undervay is performed at night because the high traific volumes make it too dangerous to work for the majority of the day. Noise mpacts during construction an not be avoided but are reduced by allowing the contractor to work at night and finish the project as quickiy as possible.

Part of the purpose of the widening was to improve the safety of this section of the highway. This included renoving some trees within the State Highway Administration right-of-way to allow a clear, saie area ror venicles that are our-or-concrol. The amount or trees removed were not enough to create a substantial increase in noise although this did reduce the visual butfer that you were used to.

We have evaluated your area for noise barriers as part of the Drait Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed widening. there is a possibility that your area could qualify for noise barriers as part of this project but the tinal decision has not been mpact scateent loxt mpact State will receive a norice when chis oecomes available

My telephone number is (301)
Telet ypewther $t=1$ l 1
 707 Nortin Calvert St.. Baitimore, Maryiand 29203-0717

Page 2
Mr. N. Myers

If I can be of any assistance in the meantime or answer any other questions you can call we at 333-1191.

Very truly yours,
Louis H. Ege, Jr
Deputy Director
Project Development Diviaion

By:
 Project Manager

STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION QUESTIONS ANDIOR COMMENTS

CONTRACT NO. AW 758-151-072 N PDUS No. 251029
I-695 from U.S. Route 40 (West) to Md. Rte. 170
including Md. Rte. 295 from Md. Rte. 46 to
the Baltimore City Line
Location/Design Public Hearing
Catonsville Senior High School

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\text { June 22. } 1988
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name Dona, Pisthe-Crinnelly mate $7 \cdot 13.98$
Please address sola Gateway Terrace
PRINt
cityitown Balto._state MD_ziP code_2122才
if the beltway must be widened, please leave the trees growing between northbound 695 and my nome and nechloorhood on Gatrunay Terrace adjacent to the Wilkins Avennentankp as untouched as possible. The thirty year old trees are very important to our quality of life as they serve as a noise and pollutantbasmier. They Sill be just as important even with a sound barrier wall solaced along the outer edge of the beltway. The sound barnet? wall is much headed but so ale the trees because they are twice the height of the proposed sound barrier therefore helping to subdue traffic exhaust and worse pollution escapukg over the roarcierwall.
The trees serve other important purposes for my community as well. They supply many homes with mosh needed trade during the hot summer mantis. Or townhouse y ards ace small and many of my neighbors cannot plant trees in their

Please ado my four names) to the Mailing List.
Sloes delete my lour namols) from the Mailing List.

- Persons who haverocalved copy of intis brochure through tho mall are already $\underset{\sim}{\mathrm{C}}$ on tho project Mailing List.
backyards as there is not adequate space for tree roots to grow without interfering with water and seubage piping.
In addition, pleasing usual barer is formed by the trees hat pung to conceal the beltway and beltway traffic Sitcom our backyard. Hawing the beltway visually hidden from view, even with a sound barrier, is not on ky psychologically bennof icial but in my mind, contributes to the value of my home.

Also the trees supply vast number of different species of birds with shat er. and homes. It almost seems that wildlife has only small wooded areas along highways in which to live anymore as mostlaraer woods are being tort down for the construetron of new lovildungs and roads. It woold. toe very mice to preserve what has beconice. Doer the years a small "bird sanctuary" located beside or houses.
The Palladi homeowners un my neighborhood and I would woe verry upset to lobe the "small forest". Several neighbors have already expressed the vestry same concerns to me as presented in this letter to you. The trees took sou many years to grow that it mold be a dreadful erred to eliminate them when they contrilate to so many positive aspects of our lives. I hope the State Highway Administration ores the trees are as on important ann asset to save ar the community utrich lives boside them and needs them feels they are.

## RECEIVED <br> JUL ${ }^{\# 8}{ }_{9}^{805} 1988$

Mr. Neil J. Pedersen, Director
Office of Planning \& Prelim. Engineering
State Highway Administration
707 N. Calvert Street
Olesclon, opfice of


Re: Contract \# AW 758-151-072N
PDMS \# 251029
Widening of I-695 from U.S. Rte. 40 to mo Rte. 170
Dear Mr. Pedersen:
As a resident of the 4900 block Gateway Terrace, 1 attended the recent community meeting your departmert sponsoreu at catonsville S. H.S. on Wednesday, June 22, 1988. I was eager to see what revisions you made to your prior Beltway, only more of it. I felt uncomfortable with the lack of detail your presentation contained as to how much widening would be occurring and how it will affect my neighborhood.

Our neighbors scheduled a meeting that took place yesterday, Thursday, July 14, with Ms. Catherine Pecora. I finally saw understandable drawings that clearly showed what lanes are being planned and the approximate location of the retaining/sound attenuation wall. Why couldn't you have had $1: 50$ scale maps available at the community meetings?

While 1 feel more comfortable about the future of my community, I feel I must address some issues discussed in your Draft Environmental Statement. Let me start wich air quality. Your Oraft Report cites that levels of Carbon Monfortunately, also and will continue to be acceptible. Air poltution particulate dust, hydrocarbons ( HC ), and Carbon Dioxide ( $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ ). Metropolitan residents are required to have their cars tested for the latter two compounds. By their omission, your report implies that these pollutants are not significant enough in the air we breathe to merit study. I feel otherwise.

Another fallacy in your Oraft concerns the Interstate's effect on the immediate property values of those residences closest to the Beltway. To quote your report, "adjacent property values would not be adversly affected by the proposed improvements." (IV.A.I) While values have appreciated, they have done so at a slower rate than in other non-impacted communities. A widened Beltway would only add to existing disincentives to move into Maiden Choice or other community near the Beltway. It doesn't matter how architectural a retaining wall is designed

As Ms. Pecora saw at her meeting with the residents along Gateway Terrace, many of my neighbors are elderly and I get the feeling they feel trapped here. The value of their house cannot command the value that a similar unit in a non-impacted area would bring and, as a result, they cannot afford to move.

I wish to extend my thanks to Ms. Pecora for comi-g yesterday and discuss with us the proposed Beltway widening. The information she presented was clear and understandable. I must grudgingly approte of the plan as presented with the following comments. With $1-70$ being a perpetual no-build situation, what will happen after the design year 2015 when the five main line lanes become congested as the existing four lanes are n.w? Do you relocate your proposed retaining wall to the existing wall? How will the remaining green space be cared for or will it?

I plan to follow your proposal as it continue to eselop.

Sincerely,


Thomas P. Feulner Jr.
4908 Gateway Terrace
Baltimore, MD 21227

Mr. Thomas P. Feulner. Jr.
4908 Gateway Terrace
Baltimore, Maryland 21227
Dear Mr. Feulner:
Thank you for your recent letter regarding the project planning study of the Baltimore Beltway in your area.

I am glad that Ms. Pecora was able to provide clearer details of the project for you and your neighbors at the July $15 t h$ meeting. Due to the fact that the work performed by our office is entire length of the project. Such detaile drawings for the individual community groups that express an interest in meped for information so that a better understanding of the project can gained.

With respect to air quality, our report did not intend to imply that pollutants other than carbon monoxide do not merit study. The pollutants you mention are regional in nature and, as possible. These poringful evaluation on a project-by-project basis is not pransportation system air quality instead included in a regional transportation system air quality analysis conducted by the Council to demonstrate attainment of the National ional Planning Quality standards. The Vehicle Emissions National Ambient Air mention was developed as part of this plan to pollutant emission levels.

The effect of the proposed widening on property values is a difficult item to quantify due to the fact that attractiveness of a property is subjective and depends on a large number of variables. While a wider highway could make an area less desirable, improved access tends to increase the attractiveness of a to this area and general, since the highway already exists next feel result of the widening.

As you have noted, traffic volumes along the beltway will continue to increase with time. This is, however. the last beltway due to cost and right-of-way limitations part of che

My tolophono number is 1301) 333-1110
Talotyoguriter for Impalied Maering or Speach
 707 Norin Calvert St.. Baltimora. Marylond 21203-0717

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Mr. Thomas P. Feulner, Jr
Page Two
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The final question in your letter refers to how the green space between the Beltway and Gateway Terrace will be maintsined. it is maintained by spraying to control the weeds. We expect that it will continue to be maintained in the same way. We expect that widening is done 6 be maintained in the same way once the

Thank you for your comments. If we can provide you with an further information, please feel free to call me or Ms. Pecora. Ms. Pecora's telephone number is (301) 333-1191.

Very truly yours,

## Onil of Yedecur

Neil J. Pedersen, Director
Office of Planning and
Preliminary Engineering
NJP:ss
cc: Mr. Louis H. Ege, Jr. Ms. Cynthia D. Simpson Ms. Catherine Pecora

## RECEIVED <br> JUL 871298 <br> \# 844 <br> 

Mr. Hal Kassoff
State Highway Administrator
707 N . Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Dear Mr. Kassoff:
On 22 June, at the State Highuay Administration meeting regarding beltway expansion, wy neighbor Barbara Bridge, wy husband and 1 had an opportunity to speak with Mr. Gene Miller. Although ve do understand the proposed alternatives for expansion do not include encroachment of our real estate at this time, ve are concerned about possible furure expansion.

After speaking last week with Steve and Barbara Bridge ( 125 Forest Avenue) ve vould like to request further information frow the State regarding possible cquisition of our properties. Both families vould prefer to stay in possible neighborhood, but ve are truly concerned if further expanaion is proposed in the future our homes will not be eble to co-exist with the roaduay.

Please advise us if this request is possible, or if you can suggest another solution
dm

Very aincerely yours,


Machin
123 Forest Avenue altimore, Maryland 21228

18 July 2988

Ms. Donna Machin
123 Forest Avenu
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Dear Ms. Machin:
Thank you for your July 18 th letter bringing your concern about your proximity to the beltway to my attention. Detailed information regarding the design of the noise barrier that is compatible with the proposed widening will be available at the end of September.

In the meantime. I have asked Mr. Charles Adams. Chief of the Bureau of Landscape hrchitecture, to contact you. He will be able to discuss the impacts of the noise barrier project and options that are available for right-of-way negotiation.

I look forward to hearing your final decision on this issue. I: you have any questions, Mr. Adams can be contacted at (301) 321-3521

HK: eh
c:: Mp. Ne:l J. Pecerser Mr. Louis i. Ege. Jr Mr. Robert Tresselt
Mr. Chazles hdams
Mr. Gent Miller
Mr. Gent Mille Adrinistrator
$\qquad$

## S018 Gateway Terrace Baltimora. MD 21227 July 27. 1988

State Highway Adminietration
Contract No. AW 758-151-072 N
I-695 from U.S. Route 40 (Nest) to MD Rte. 170
Comments
After attending the last meeting concerning the widening of the beltway in June, we felt disappointed in that the general attitude of the publice eeemed to be one of acceptance towarde the beltway
widening project. We decided writing to you would be fruitlees aewe were one family agaiet the plan. Thue we wrote you a letter aeking the etate to pleese not cut down the treee eurrounding our houee if widening of the beltway occured ae happened in the expanalon of 295. However, eince that meating, the community in which we llve hae decided to proteat the preaent plans of a two lane widencommunity does, that widening of the beliway will not not at the the lem of increasing trafflc in the yeare to come and will moet certainly jeopordire the comunity in which we live.

Another alternata routc for travel enould be invectigated and bullt. Widening of the beltway ie a ehort term eolution to an ever increasing need. Traffic will soon increaee to such allevel as to etiate the extra epace provided by two extra lanea.

Becauee many honee are very cioee to the beltway, the etate hae very little epace in which to expand the beltway. The noiee level is noiee of trucks pascing by can be deafening. Increaeing the width of the beltway would definltely increaes the density of traffic pasaing by at a given time thue producing a much higher lavel of noiee that even a oound barrier would probably not be able to decrease to a senslble noise level, not to mention the fact that the noiee would be much closer to our house. In addition, becauee of the deneity increace of traffic, the pollution level would aleo increaee.

It ia certainly a ohame to even consider widening the beltway ae the community in which we reaide ie reapectable and well cared for. here. Fo increaee the noiee and pollution by moving the beltway to our homes would decrease the value of our houee and contribute to the deteriation of the community. We.hope the eteta eeriously conadera an alternate route as an answer to the growing trafilic neede of the public rather than expanding a road that pushee eeveral neighorhoode living beside it to a point of unbearable tension and moet likely eventually deeertion.


## Responge to Connelly Letter

1. The construction of a new road to handle the traffic demand along the beltway is not considered reasonable. The density of development in the Baltimore area precludes new construction of this magnitude. Such construction would involve the acquisition of a great deal of right-of-way and, along with that, a much greater extent and severity of impact than is currently proposed.
2. The noise analysis conducted in this vicinity indicated that the construction of a noise barrier here is reasonable and feasible. This will be considered during final design of the project.


## D. Agency Coordination

Important letters and memoranda of conferences, resulting from coordination efforts are reproduced in this section in chronological order. All remaining letters and memoranda are available for public inspection at the State Highway Administration, 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

Date
April 4, 1986

June 10, 1986

July 9, 1986
August 28, 1986

December 2, 1986 and
January 16, 1987

January 29, 1987
March 18, 1987

March 25, 1987

May 26, 1987

June 19, 1987
October 6, 1987

## Coordination

Meeting with Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department

Meeting with Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department

Letter from Maryland Historical Trust
Letter from Anne Arundel County-Recreation and Parks regarding Overlook Park.

Letter to Baltimore County Zoning
Commission regarding proposed office park located on the southwest side of the Baltimore Beltway with access via Kenwood Avenue.

Letter from Maryland Geological Survey.
Letter to Maryland Historical Trust from SHA requesting concurrence of finding.

Letter from Maryland Historical Trust regarding archeological resources.

Letter from Md. DNR - Maryland Forest, Park and Wildlife Services regarding threatened or endangered species.

Letter from USEPA - Region III
Letter from USDOI - Fish and Wildlife Service regarding Federally listed or proposed endangered or threatened species

## Date

December 10, 1987

January 15, 1988

February 18, 1988
March 23, 1988

March 29, 1988
April 22, 1988

July 18, 1988

January 15, 1991.

March 5, 1991

## Coordination

Letter from Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks - Southwest Area Park

Letter from Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks

Memorandum of Wetland Field Review
Letter from Md. DNR - Capital Programs Administration

Letter from Baltimore County Public Schools
Letter from USDA - Soil Conservation Service regarding Prime Farmland Soils

Letter from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers agreeing to be a cooperating agency.

Letter from Baltimore County Public Schools identifying replacement parking sites on the lower parking lot.

Letter from Baltimore County Public Schools providing parking space replacement adjacent to the northern parking lot.

## MEMORANDUM OF MEETING

| Date: | April 4, $1986 \quad$ :30 AM |
| :--- | :--- |
| Place: | Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department |
| Attendance: | $\frac{\text { Baltimore County Fire Department }}{\text { Edward Bartenfelter }}$ |
|  | Clarence R. Ward |
|  | Arbutus V.F.D. |
|  | Joseph H. Grusch |
|  | Edwin F. Preston |
|  | Douglas R. Simpkins |
|  | Richard A Snader |
|  | Stephen M. Watts |
|  | Patrick J. Wheltle |

SHA
John Contestabile
$\frac{\text { RK\&K }}{\text { Norine Walker n.m. Hathem }}$
Project: I-695: From U.S. Route 40 (West) to West of Md. 170
Md.295: From north of Md. 46 to the Baltimore City Line

RK\&K arranged this meeting with the Baltimore County Fire Department in order to explaf the widening project to then and to present the proposals of closure of the Leeds Avenue (I-695 Interchange No. 12A) and the Harbor Tunnel Thruway (I-695 Interchange \#8A) Interchanges. Specific concerns of the County include the fact that this is one of only 6 stations in the County having Emergency Rescue Equipment. That being the case, their responsibility ranges from the Patapsco River (County line) to $\mathrm{I}-70$. The firefighters have noticed an increase in the number of calls from the areas in Catonsville and Westview where there is on-going development taking place.

The concern of the Arbutus V.F.D. was that as traffic increases on the Beltway, the number of incidences which require their response will increase as well (such as truck fires, collisions). Understanding that High Accident Location Areas are a consideration in highway planning, the Fire Department emphasized that this also affects the number, frequency and location of a portion of these calls requiring adequate access.

Other discussion items:

- Baltimore County currently acquiring homes in floodplain (specifically in Leeds Avenue vicinity).
- Harbor Tunnel Thruway ramp closure would increase response time due to traveling south to I-95 in order to access I-895.
- Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department responsibility area airport.
- Noise impacts of utilizing residential street for emergency access.
- Consider access ramps restricted for emergency use only.

The Baltimore County Fire Department agreed to collect data from the stations affected by the I-695 widening and interchange improvement proposal and to again meet to discuss findings and possible alternatives.

NMW/sms
cc: Mr. John Contestabile
Dep. Chief Edward Bartenfelter

## MEMORANDUM OF MEETING

Date: June lo, 1986
Place: Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department
Attendance: Baltimore County Fire Department
Clarence R. Ward
Baltimore County Police Department - Precinct 1. Public Relations

John N. Dittman
Arbutus V.F.D.
Douglas R. Simpkins
SHA
John Contestabile
RK\&K
norine walker 'niM. Halter
Project: I-695: from US Route 40 (West) to West of Md. 170 Md.295: from north of Md. 46 to the Baltimore City Line

Subject: Baltimore County Fire Department/Leeds Avenue

This meeting was organized to present the findings of statistical research collected by the Baltimore County Fire Department indicating the use of and need for the Leeds Avenue ramps accessing I-695. Chief Ward reviewed the summary of finding and the display which outlined each of the fireboxes in the Service Area of the Arbutus VFD. A copy of "The Baltimore County Fire Service in Retrospect", the lo-year planning document for the County Department, was also presented.

Chief Ward emphasized that the Baltimore County Fire Department would oppose closure of the Leeds Avenue ramp proposed under Alternate 3 of the SHA widening study. The need for access to northobund I-695 via the ramp is increasing with
the increase of development in the upper county reflective in the high rate of Baltimore County Master Plan Approvals. Use of the ramp by Fire and Rescue equipment has increased steadily between 1983 and 1986 while use for medical equipment calls has remained consistent. Chief Ward reminded us that their service is based on travel distance and travel time.

Officer Dittman emphasized that the fire department had a more complex problem than the police department because of the unchanging origination point. He indicated that elimination of the ramps would not be detrimental to the police since they are more flexible due to their changing originations.

Mr. Contestabile indicated that cross-sections are currently being plotted upon which proposed roadway sections can be placed and impacts can be assessed. When that work is completed, another meeting will be held with the Fire Department to discuss those findings. The alternate which considers closing the ramps was developed in order to minimize impacts to the church and school adjacent to the Interchange. Mr. Contestabile explained the $4(f)$ Environmental constraints.

NMW/sms

Maryland Historical Trust
July 9, 1986

Ms. Cynthia Simpson
Environmental Management
Maryland Department of Transportation
State Highway Administration
P.O. Box 717

707 N. Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21203-0717
Re: Contract AW 758- -072

1) I-695 from W. of MD 170 to U.S. 40W

2) Baltimore Washington Parkway from MD 46 to City Line

Dear Ms. Simpson:
This is in response to your letter of October 23,1985 regarding the above-referenced project.

We concur with your evaluations of the following properties and with the boundaries drawn for them on the maps you enclosed.

AA 89 Sachs Residence - Possibly NR Eligible
AA 111 Summerfield-Benson Home - Possibly NR Eligible
BA 4 Old Salem Lutheran Church - Possibly NR Eligible
Since the proposed plans outlined in your letter are restricted to existing right-of-ways and require no taking of land from the three properties we concur in your determination of no effect on historic resources.

We thank you for your cooperation.
Sincerely,


Director State Historic Preservation Officer

JRL/AHL/bjs
cc: Ms. May C. Robinson
Mr. Harrison B. Wetherill, Jr.
Ms. Linda Collins
Ms. Rita Suffness

# Anne Arundel County 

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21404

August 28, 1986

Ms. Noreen Walker
Kummel, Klepper and Kohl 1035 North Calvert Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Ms. Walker:
In response to your recent inquiry, Overlook Park, also known as North Linthicum Recreation Area, is a 19.877 acre property bordering the Baltimore Beltway. It was purchased in 1978 using Program Open Space funds, POS $\ddagger 935-2-76$. I have requested that the General Engineering Division of our County's Public Works forward to you a boundary survey of the park under separate cover.

If you have any further questions concerning the above-mentioned park, please contact me by calling 987-9600.


John T. Rene
Capital Projects Officer
Anne Arundel County
Recreation and Parks

JTK/vif
cc: William A. Rinehart, Parks Administrator

SEP 2988

Marfland Department of Transportition

State Highway Administration ${ }^{*}$

WIIliam K. Hellmam<br>Secroury

## Hal Kassoff <br> Adminastrater

December 2, 1986
Mr. A. Jablon
Zoning Commissioner
County Office Building
Towson, Maryland 21204

ATT: James Dyer
RE: Baltimore County

Item No. 193
Property Owner: The
Fels Company, Inc. Location: NE/S Paradise Ave., 86]' N. Wilkens Avenue (Rout:e 732) Existing Zoning: R.O. and D.R. 3.5
Proposed Zoning: Spec. Exception for new Class "B" office bldg. in R.O. and commercial parking in a D.R. 3.5 and Variance

Dear Mr. Jablon:
This letter is to provide information for the proposed Office Park located on the south west side of the Baltimore Beltway-I-695 with all access to the site by way of Kenwood Avenue.

The State Highway Administration Bureau of Engineering Access Permits has very serious concerns with the close proximity of the proposed relocated I-695 off ramp and needed improvements for commercial access office park from Wilkens Avenue, Maryland Route 372 and Kenwood Avenue.

The distance required by the Bureau of Access Permits between an interstate highway ramp and the next access point is 195' plus an additional 230' of taper. The number of vehicles generated by this development would require enforcement of that requirement.

The weaving conflicts of vehicles which exit northbound I-695 to Wilkens Avenue introduces a safety problom based on number of conflicts that must be addressed.

Current State Highway Administration Stage II Preliminary Engineering proposal replaces the high accident loop ramp from $\mathrm{I}-695$ southbound by a diamond-type ramp directly across from the existing ramp to southbound $\mathrm{I}-695$.

Continued

- My telephone number is 301-333-1350

Teletypewriter for Impaired Hearing or Speech

Mr. A. Jablon
Page 2
December 2. 1986

The impact on this proposed intersection would have to be assessed by the developer, in his traffic study.

We strongly recommend that the developer investigate providing access to this site from Paradjse Avenue us of eliminating the impact This would have the advantage Wilkens Avenue and would to the proposed interchange at improvement sight distan provide an entrance with an at Kenwood Road. distance over what could be achieved
Charles Lee, Chief

CL-GW:es | Bureau of Engr. Access Permits |
| :--- |
| CC: J. Ogle George Wittman |.

# STEPHEN E. COLLINS 

DIRECTOR
January 16, 1987

Mr. Arnold Jablon
Zoning Commissioner
County Office Building
Towson, Maryland 21204
Item No. $193 \quad$-ZAC- Meeting of November 25, 1986
Property Owner:
Location:
Existing Zoning:
Proposed Zoning:

Area:
District:
The Fell Company, Inc.
NE/S Paradise Avenue, 861 feet $N$ Wilkins Avenue R.O. and D.R. 3.5

Special Exception for new Class "B" Office Building in R.O. and commercial parking in a DR. 3.5 and Variance from definition of a Class "B" Office Building limiting the height to "no higher than 35 feet" and Variance to permit a freestanding illuminated sign not to exceed 25 square feet in area in a D.R. 3.5 zone 11.88 acres
lIst Election District
Dear Mr. Jablon:
The proposed office building can be expected to generate approximately 1,725 trips per day as general offices; medical offices would cause a larger number of trips.

All access to this site is by Kenwood Avenue, a small residential road which was not designed for this amount of traffic.

This department received recent notification from the State Highway Administralion's consultant that this proposed use would interfere with the plans to construct a new Beltway ramp in conjunction with the Beltway widening. A copy of the State Highway Administration's comments concerning this problem is attached.

Very truly yours,


GM J:1t
Attachment


JAN 211887
c.c. Mr. George Wittman, Bureau of Access Permits, State Highway Administration, 707 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Ms. Norine Walker, RK\&K, 1035 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

STATE OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# MARYLAND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY 

2300 ST. PAUL STREET

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21218

Division of Archeology<br>(301) 554-5530

29 January 1987

Ms. Cynthia D. Simpson
Environmental Management Section
State Highway Administration
P.O. Box 717/707 North Calvert Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21203-0717
RE: I-695 from U.S. 40 to MD 170;
MD 295 from MD 46 to the City line; and I-895 from I-695 to the Y-split
Dear Ms. Simpson:
I have reviewed the above-referenced project with regard to archeological resources. Although a portion of the present I-895 interchange was previously surveyed by Curry during a reconnaissance of Maryland 295 (see File Report 113) the majority of the area to be impacted by the proposed project was not surveyed. The attached map shows the work conducted by Curry, noted in which has yielded artifacts site has been recorded in the area (18BA154) floodplain from the proposed interchan the entire length of the Patapsco River shows the boundaries as depicted on Division of Archeology maps (noted map yellow). Although there has not been a field check of the area to deted in if the portion of the site within the right-of-wy is still intact, (the Patapsco River floodplains have been extensively quarried) as long as lower has been no major disturbance the area is still quarried) as long as there given the potential for undisturbed archeolo still considered very sensitive

Additionally, site 18BA89 (noted in green on attached map), near the proposed right-of-way of I-895, also has yielded aboriginal artifacts. This
site if still intact, also holds potential for site if still intact, also holds potential for undisturbed buried deposits surface collection.

For the remainder of the proposed project, it is expected that prehistoric sites may exist along small undisturbed areas of the Patapsco River floodplains as well as several small undisturbed knolls and hilltops extending along the east side of I-895. An M-DOT survey (Transect 7-047) paralleled a portion of the present project to the west which yielded negative results (in green). For the remaining portion, however, the potential remains moderate to high provided there has not been disturbance from prior construction or quarrying.

If you have any additional questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.


Hettie L. Ballweber
Archeologist
HEB: $1 \mathbf{w}$
cc: Jodi Hopkins"
11

William K. Hellmam Secratary
Hal Kassoff
Adminstrator

March 18, 1987
RE: Contract No. AW 758-072
Interstate Route 695 from
U.S. Route 40 to Maryland

Route 170, Maryland Route
295 from Maryland Route 46
to the City Line and Interstate Route 895 from Interstate Route 695 to the Y -Split

Mr. J. Rodney Little
State Historic Preservation Officer
Maryland Historical Trust
1517 Ritchie Highway
Arnold, Maryland 21012
Dear Mr. Little:
We have reviewed the improvements proposed for this project along with the attached assessment of archeological potential prepared by the Maryland Geological Survey (MGS), Division of Archeology, on January 29, 1987. In only two areas are improvements being made outside the right-of-way in areas identified as sensitive by the MGS. One area, Area A (Maps A, B) is at the intersection of Hammonds Ferry Road and Interstate Route 695. The other area, Area B, is at the Y-split on the Harbor Tunnel Thruway (Maps A, C).

Area A was identified as collection area \#26 from the records of T. D. Jones, who collected artifacts from 1900-1908. The site has not been revisited by the MGS. On examination of the map, the portion of the collection area \#26 which will be affected is now under a building and a parking lot. We believe. this has destroyed any stratigraphic integrity of this portion of the site (Map B).

Area $B$ is located in the vicinity of the $Y$-split of the Harbor Tunnel Thruway, Interstate Route 895 (Maps A, C). Dr. Jody Hopkins of the Environmental Management Section visited this area and determined it had been extensively disturbed. The area south and west of the Y-split (Locus I on Map C) has been extensively quarried, and is either wetlands or open water. The area north and west of the Y-split (Locus II on Map C) is in the Patapsco River or adjacent wetlands. The area east of the Y-split (Locus III on Map C) has been extensively graded, and a berm of material has been pushed up around the area. Consequently, it is felt that any archeological site in the vicinity of proposed improvements near the Y-split would have been destroyed.

Mr. J. Rodney Little
March 18, 1987
Page Two

In no other area are improvements being made outside existing rights -ofway in areas identified as of moderate or high archeological potential. We feel therefore, that no more archeological work is needed for this project.

We seek your concurrence in the same by April 3, 1987. Should you have any questions, please call Dr. Jody Hopkins at 333-1183.

Very truly yours,<br>Louis H. Age, Jr. Deputy Director Project Development Division

LHE:CDS:th
Attachments (4)
cc: Ms. Cathy Pecora
Mr. Mark Duvall (w/attachments)

Maryland Historical Trust

March 25, 1987

Mr. Louis H. Ege, Jr.
Deputy Director
Project Development Division
State Highway Administration
P. O. Box 717

707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21203-0717


Re: Contract No. AW 758-072 I-695 from U.S. 40 to MD Route 170, MD Route 295 from MD Route 46 to the City Line and I-895 from I-695 to the Y-split Baltimore County, Maryland

Dear Mr. Ege:
Thank you for your letter of March 19, 1987, regarding the above referenced project.

This office concurs that the proposed improvements will have no effect upon significant archeological resources. Therefore, archeological investigations are not warranted for this particular project.

Sincerely,
 State Administrator of Archeology

RBH: BCB: lab
cc: Mr. Tyler Bastion
Dr. Jody Hopkins
Ms. May C. Robinson
Mr. Paul McKean

TORREY C. BROWN. M.D secaetary

Department of Natural Resources MARYLAND FOREST, PARK \& WILDLIFE SERVICE

Tawes Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

May 26, 1987

Norine M. Walker
Project Engineer
Rummel, Rlepper and Kahl
1035 N. Calvert Street Baltimore, MD 21202-3891

RE: SHA Contract No. AW 758-151-072 I-695 North of U.S. Rt. 40 (West) to West of MD 170; Md. 295 North of MD 46 to the Baltimore City Line PDMS No. 251029

Dear Ms. Walker:
Your request for information we may have concerning threatened or endangered species has been reviewed by Glenn D. Therres and Jonathan McKnight.

There are no federally listed threatened or endangered species in the proposed areas. The Heritage Program's data base contains no current record of any rare species or unusual community at either project site.


JB: emp
cc: Therres
Boone
Taylor


VIII-D17

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
JUN 191
Ms. Cynthia D. Simpson, Chief
Environmental Management
State Highway Administration
Project Development Division (Room 310)
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Re: I-695 from US Rt. 40 (West) to MD Rt. 170 , including MD Rt. 295 from MD Rt. 46 to the Baltimore City Line (88-04-591)

Dear Ms. Simpson:
In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, EPA has reviewed the Draft Air Quality Analysis for the above referenced project. We are satisfied with the approach, and the assumptions used, for analyzing the air quality impacts of the project. The results of the analysis indicate that the project will not violate the National or State Ambient Air Quality Standards. Therefore, we do not object to this project on the basis of air quality impacts.

Thank you for including EPA in the early coordination of this report. Should you have any questions, or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Lynn F. Rothman or Larry Budney at 215/597-7336 or 597-0545 respectively.

Sincerely,


Jeffrey M. Alder, Chief NEPA Compliance Section

# United States Department of the Interior 

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE<br>DIVISION OF ECOLOGICAL SERVICES<br>1825 VIRGINIA STREET<br>ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

October 6, 1987

Ms. Novine M. Walker<br>Project Engineer<br>Rummer, Klepper and Kahl<br>1035 North Calvert Street<br>Baltimore, MD 21202-3891

Re: SHA Contract No. AW 758-151-072, I-695 and Rt. 295

Dear Ms. Walker:

Per your September 28, 1987, conversation with Diane Eckles of my staff, enclosed is the endangered species information relative to preparation of the draft environmental impact statement for the referenced project. Because you have obtained pertinent wetland information for the draft document, we have no additional information to provide you with at this time. We do suggest that the draft environmental document address existing terrestrial and floodplain resources, impacts to these systems and measures available to mitigate those impacts.

Except for occasional transient individuals, no Federally listed or proposed endangered or threatened species under our jurisdiction are known to exist in the project impact area. Therefore, no Biological Assessment or further Section 7 Consultation pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 is required with the Fish and Wildlife Service. Should project plans change, or if additional information on listed or proposed species becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered.

Should you desire additional information with respect to fish and wildlife resources, please do not hesitate to contact us.


OCT 81987

Baltimore County
Department of Recreation \& Parks
Towson, Maryland 21204
494.3817
494.3058 (Deaf/TDD)

Robert R. Stab
Director

December 10, 1987

Ms. Norine Walker, Project Engineer
Rummer, Klepper \& Kahl
Dennis F. Rasmussen County Executive

1035 N. Calvert Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21202-3891
RE: S.H.A. Contract No. AW758-151-072
Dear Ms. Walker:
This letter will confirm our phone conversation of December 9, 1987 in reference to Alternate 2, Option 3B of the subject contract.

The proposed ramp Y-2 will require approximately 0.5 Acres $\pm$ of our Southwest Area Park property. While we do not anticipate any development in this area, we must: mention that this acquisition was made in 1968 using funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. As such, we would have to request permission from H.U.D. to allow any development not for "recreational purposes."

Should you give this option any serious consideration, please be in touch so that we may be contact with H.U.D. for their requirements and conditions.

If we can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me at 494-3822.

Sincerely,


ARS:ssm

# Anne Arundel County <br> ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401 

## DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

January 15, 1988

Ms. Norine M. Walker, Project Engineer Kummel, Klepper \& Kahl 1035 North Calvert Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202-3891

RE: SHA Contract No. AW-758-151-072
Interchange of I-695 and MD 295
Dear Ms. Walker:
As we discussed on Monday, the Department of Recreation and Parks has studied Alternative 2, Option 2 and Alternative 2, Option 3A in regard to their possible impact on Overlook Park. Of the two options, we believe Option 2 would have a less deleterious effect on the park; since the elevated roadway in Option 3A would increase the noise level and visual intrusion of the roadway to a greater degree than at-grade Option 2. We would ask that additional buffer landscaping be planted in the park to compensate for trees lost due to the road widening, and that they be planted in areas which will not infringe on existing playing fields.

We would also appreciate the opportunity to monitor changes to your plans for possible park impact as this project progresses.


Planning, Construction \& Environmental Programs

JIK/vif
cc: William A. Rinehart, Parks Administrator


JAN 211988

## MEMORANDUR

Date: February 18, 1988
Attendance: Steve Harmans - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Peter Knight - US FWS Mark Duvall - SHA Environmental Nancy Kelly - Coastal Resourges Norine walker - RK\&K 7.m. Jtalke
Project: I-695: US Route 40 to Md. 170 Md. 295: Md. 46 to the Baltimore City Line

Subject: Wetland Field Review

The comments and decisions made with respect to the wetlands in the study area, as referenced on Figures III-3 and III-4, are summarized below. The numbering of the wetlands will be revised in the environmental document to reflect the deletions which were made during the Wetland Field Review. W1 - I-695/U.S. Route 40

No apparent impact with proposed improvements.

## W2 - I-695/Edmondson Avenue

While the proposed structure crossing the wetland is an optional realignment of Arbutus Avenue, it would be preferable to discontinue consideration of this option so that the wetland would not be affected.

W3 - I-695/south of Frederick Road
Delineation found, no major conflict or comment.

W4 - I-695/Leeds Avenue
Delineation found, no major conflict or comment.

W5 - I-695/Washington Blvd. (US 1 Alt.)
Concerns regarding toe of slope and possibility of encroachment on wetland.

W6,7 - I-695/Washington Blvd. (US 1 Alt.)
Delete
w8 - I-695/Patapsco River Crossing
It appears as if the area on the west side of Hammonds Ferry Road along the Beltway outer loop has been disturbed by the ongoing EPA flood control project or other utility work. The portion per pendicular to Hammonds Ferry Road appears to have been eliminated. (Bill Kuehn - please investigate possible new utility in this area). Wetlands should be expanded on mapping for inner and outer Beltway loops in Patapsco River Area.

W9 - Md. 295/Median north of Hammonds Ferry Road
Delete

Wlo - Md. 295 south of Hammonds Ferry Road SBR
Stream channels. Construction observed near wetland does not seem to affect wetland.

Slopes required with construction of proposed improvements may impact the portion of wetland paralleling the roadway.

Portion shown in median should be revised on mapping to reflect $30-\mathrm{ft}$. width.

W12 - Md. 295 north of W. Nursery Road
Along SBR - verify that current Nursery Road Interchange construction has taken the wetland into consideration. As part of proposed construction, the existing observed structure may require an extension.

Along NBR - eliminated.

RUMMEL•KLEPPER \& KAHL consuliting engineers

WII - Maryland 295 south of Hammond Ferry Road NBR
.....---. Delineation found, no major conflict or comment.
'W13 - Southeast quadrant of I-895/Md. 295 Interchange
To avoid the significant wetlands adjacent to the river's edge, the design of the loop ramp should be modified to utilize the existing, unpaved access road and avoid the utility between the edge and existing, unpaved access road. (Bill Kuehn - Please investigate the utility and the impact of a proposed loop ramp in this vicinity). The design of the ramp should stipulate that the inner loop vegetation remain.

## W14 - Patapsco River crossing along I-895 EBR

The proposed ramp $Y-1$ is shown on fill and a structure should be investigated for the eastern channel of the Patapsco River.

## W15 - Patapsco River crossing along I-895 WBR

The proposed ramp $Y-2$ is proposed to be on structure and does not appear to encroach on wetlands except for structure supports.

## Wl6 - Patapsco River crossing along I-895 EBR

See Wl4. Incorporate into W14.

## W17,18,19-I-95/Caton A venue

These sites are not affected by proposed impacts and therefore were not field reviewed. They will, however, be included in the DEIS as wetlands in the Study Area.

The wetlands table in the DEIS will include acreage taken and affects on wetlands as well as possible locations of replacement wetlands.

NMW/sms
Attachments
cc: Attendees
Ms: Cathy Pecora
Mr. Bill Ruehn
RUMMMEL•KLEPPER \& KAHL consulting engineers

2012 Industrial Drive
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Torrey C. Brown, M.D. Secretary

Michael J. Nelson Assistant Secretary for Capital Programs

Ms. Norine Walker
Rommel, Klepper \& Kahl 1035 N. Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-3891
Re: I-695 from U.S. 40 to Md. 170
Md. 295 from Md. 46 to the Baltimore City Line

Dear Ms. Walker:
Thank you for coming to Annapolis to discuss these projects with us. I hope that our input was useful. After reviewing the plans that you left, I have the following comments concerning the potential impact of these roadway improvements on public parkland in this area. These comments are in addition to those noted in your January 19,1988 memorandum of our meeting.

My greatest concern is the direct loss of parkland as a result of expansion of highway rights-of-way into existing state or local parks. of the build alternatives reviewed for these projects (I-695 Alt. 2, Options 2, 3A, 3B; and Md. 295 Alt. 2, Options 1 and 2), only the $I-895^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{Y}^{\prime \prime}$ split offered as part of I695 Alternate 2, Option 3B would require existing parkland. However, that option would require about 17 acres from the Patapsco Valley State Park and an undetermined acreage from the Southwest Area -Park. which was purchased and developed with funds from Program Open Space. Because of the magnitude of this impact, I recommend that option $3 B$ be dropped from further consideration. If it is carried forward, the Southwest Area Park involvement will require Section $4(f)$ consideration, and the Patapsco Valley State Park conversion will require Section 6 (f) consideration since it is considered federalized.

Walker, Norine March 23, 1988

In response to your request concerning the use of excess land acquired by State Highway Administration for the I-195 improvements as replacement land to offset this conversion, I can only say that it may be acceptable, and that we would certainly be willing to consider it. Obviously, each conversion and land replacement must be considered individually, and in the case of Patapsco Valley State Park, would require approval from the National Park Service.

Another point that should be considered is how these projects merge with our Lower patapsco Greenaway Study. Since the proposed Greenway will extend along the Patapsco River beneath all of these bridge crossings, you should consider potential impacts in the forthcoming environmental documents. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely.


Gene F. Cheers
Chief
Capital Improvements Planning and Environmental Review
cc: Arnold Norden
Chip Price

# BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 

Robert Y. Dubel, Superintendent
Towson, Maryland - 2.1204

March 29, 1988

Ms. Norine M. Walker, Transportation Engineer
Kummel, Klepper and Kohl 1035 N. Calvert St. Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Ms. Walker,
In accordance with your request, I am submitting the following information regarding the Maiden Choice Center, Shelbourne and Ten Oaks Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21227.

This site is utilized by the Baltimore County Board of Education as a center for the education of handicapped children, ages 6 thru 21. Current enrollment is 134 students. There are 42 current staff members.

This site is also utilized by the Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks for softball and soccer programs. Registration for these programs last year was 179 individuals. The programs were attended by 2,104 spectators.

Anyone wishing to utilize this site or building must obtain a use of facileti :s permit from the school principal.

The consensus of the Public School System and the Department of Recreation and Parks is that the proposed Beltway improvements would have a minimal impact on this site. The proposed SHA property taking would eliminate several parking spaces and one access to the western parking lot. However, I'm certain this can be resolved as the project develops.

If you need additional information, do not hesitate to contact me.


Donald L. Harper
Specialist, Department of Grounds
DLH/jkd
CC: Judy Kanigel, Principal Rolling Road School

Al Svehla
Department of Recreation and Parks


MAR 301988


Room 522, 4321 Hartwick Road College Park, Maryland 20740

Ms. Norine M. Walker
Project Engineer
Kummel, Klepper \& Kahl
1035 N. Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21202-3891

Dear Ms. Walker:
Please find enclosed the completed Form AD-1006 for the I-695/MD 295
Highway widening project. No "Prime Farmland" was determined to be present as the definitions for such are written.

Please accept my apology for the delayed response.
Thank you for the thorough information for the project which you included with your request. I am enclosing an additional supply of AD-1006 for your future use. The original AD -1006 with carbons should be submitted along with the background information.

Please let me know if you are in need of any further information.

Sincerely yours,


Carol A. Wettstein
State Soil Scientist

Enclosures

APR 261988
U.S. Department of Agriculture

## FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING



Fussen For Stiecion
Remarks: Lands involved do not meet "Prime Farmland" definition due to current land use/committed to urban development.

July 18, ' 1988

Mr. Louis H. Ene
Deputy Director
Project Development Division
State Highway Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation
707 North Calvert Street, Room 310
Baltimore, Maryland 21203-0717
Dear Mr. Age:
Reference your letter of April 18, 1988, seeking concurrence of the Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers (Corps), as a cooperating agency for the Environmental Analysis for the widening and interchange improvements along Interstate Route 695.

The District will be pleased to serve as a cooperating agency in the development of the Environmental Analysis for the improvement of Interstate Route 695. The only limiting factors for Corps involvement are manpower and funding constraints.

If you have any other questions on this matter, please call me or my action officer, Mr. Larry Lower, at (301) 962-4905.

> Sincerely,


James $F$. Johnson Chief, Planning Division

# BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 

Ms. Norine M. Walker
Kummel, Klepper and Kahl
81 Masher Street
Baltimore, MD 21217
Dear Ms. Walker;
Thank you for meeting with me on January 3, 1991 to discuss the impact of the proposed improvements for the Baltimore Beltway on the Maiden Choice Center property.

Upon review of the information we discussed, it appears that a minimum of five (5) existing parking spaces and one (1) existing entrance to the parking area would be lost due to the proposed right-of-way needed for the Beltway improvements.

Rather than construct five (5) replacement spaces adjacent to the service drive as we discussed, I would like to consider the proposal shown on the enclosed sketch. This office would prefer not to modify the existing service area for replacement parking spaces.

As part of your review process, I believe you will want to have Baltimore County Traffic Engineering review the proposal.

If your need additional information do not hesitate to contact me.
Thank you for your continued cooperation in this matter.


JAN 181991
RUM MEL, KLEFAER \& KARL

Sincerely,


Donald L. Harper, Specialist Site Development
sh
enclosure
16L-21


# BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 

March 5, 1991

Ms. Norite Walker
Rommel, Klepper and Kahl
81 E. Masher Street
Baltimore, Maryland
21217
Dear Ms. Walker,
This office has received the revised sketch, dated March 4, 1991, showing the proposed relocation of parking spaces at the Maiden Choice Center.

The proposal has been reviewed and appears acceptable. When the design for the relocated spaces begins, please contact me for review and coordination.

If you need additional information, do not hesitate to call me at 887-3076.


DLH/jar


SHELBOLBRNE AVENUE

MAIDEN CHOICE CENTER OPTION 7

$$
\text { SCALE: } 1 " \approx 40^{\prime}
$$

MABCH 4, 1991
$B Y: S R R$
E. Community Association

Memoranda of meetings held with community groups and elected officials are reproduced in this section in chronological order. All remaining letters and memoranda are available for public inspection at the State Highway Administration, 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

Date
June 9, 1987

August 26, 1987

September 8, 1987

October 1, 1987

October 22, 1987
January 20, 1988

February 5, 1988

December 11, 1989

May 10, 1990

## Coordination

Linthicum Hills Community Association Meeting

Meeting with Shady Nook Homeowners Association

Meeting with Kenwood/Paradise Citizens Homeowners Associates

Meeting with Holy Apostles Episcopal Church.

Meeting with Legislative Delegation
Community Informational Meeting Announcement

Community Information Meeting Follow-up Letter

Meeting with Regina Drive/Circle Drive Community

Meeting with Forest Avenue Community

## MEMORANDUM OF COMMONITY MEETING

To: Louis H. Ege, Jr.. Deputy Director Project Development Division

| From: | Catherine Pecora <br> Froject Manager |
| :--- | :--- |
| Subject: $\quad$ | Contract No. AW 758-151-072N |
|  | Interstate Route 695 from |
|  | $0 . S$ Route 40 (West) to |
|  | Maryland Route 170 including |
|  | Maryland Route 295 from |
|  | Maryland Route 46 to the |
|  | Baltimore City Line |
|  | PDMS No. 251029 |

Re: $\quad$ : Minutes of Linthicum Hill Homeowners Association
Date: June 9, 1987
place: Friendship Church of the Bretheren
Time: 7:30 PM
Attendees:

## Name

[^13]
## INTRODUCTION

This meeting was held at the request of the HomeOwners Association to provide information on the project status and improvements proposed. Ms. Pecora introduced State Highway Administration and consultant representatives and explained the highway development process. The community was advised of the Alternates Public Meeting of November 1985 and the progress on engineering and environmental studies as a result of comments made at, and subsequent to, that meeting. During the next few months, community meetings will be held; publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be followed by a Localtion/Design Public Hearing this fall. Comments provided at the public hearing and subsequent to it will be reviewed and a presfired alternate will be selected and described in the final Environmental Impact Statement.

Currently, this project is funded for planning only. Should funding for engineering, right-of-way, and constriction be programmed, construction would not be anticipated prior to the mid-l990s. Considering the size and cost of this project and the improvements proposed, requiring extensive maintendance of traffic, it is expected that the project will be segmented and constructed in phases.

## GEOMETRIDS

Ms. Walker described the widening project, in general, beginning with an overview of the limits and general widening along the mainline of Interstate Route 695 and Maryland Route 295. The general differences between the minor adjustments required with Option 1 and the interchange modifications of Option 2 were also identified.

With regard to the improvements at the Interchange Route 695/Maryland Route 295 interchange, the following options were described:

Option 1: Mainline widening and ramp adjustments.
Option 2: Mainline widening with two-lane collectordistributor road requiring additional right-of-way from the 50 -foot easement set aside by the developer in the Linthicum Hills community.

Option 3A: Mainline widening with directional ramps. Two interchange concepts were discussed. The previous State Highway Administration study, as described below was eliminated due to costs and impacts.

Previous SHA Study
Directional ramps provided as right hand take-offs which would require extensive additional right-ofway acquisition in each of the four developed quadrants of the interchange.

## Current SHA Study

A four lane (two-lanes per direction) directional ramp provides a take-off and touchdown in the median(s) of Interstate Route 695 and Maryland Route 295. The northbound movement from Glen Burnie will take place in the median from Interstate Route 97 (currently Maryland Route 3) and in order to avoid weaving movements, this option provides the continuation of the northerly movement in the median. The southbound movement takes off in the median of Interstate Route 695 to Interstate Route 97.

Additional right-of-way would be required east of the 50-feet easement in the Linthicum Hills community. This option addresses the high traffic volumes with directional ramps on structures.

Option 3B:
Provision of additional ramps at the Interstate Route 895 Y-Split and at Maryland Route 295 allowing a continuous movement from northbound Interstate Route 97 to proceed northbound on Maryland Route 295. This option will have significant park and wetlands impacts, as well as high costs but will remove traffic from the Interstate Route 695/Maryland Route 295 Interchange.

## Noise

Mr.. Adams reviewed the current Type II retrofit noise programs and the Type I program which is considered for new construction. Since the Linthicum Hills Community was constructed recently it will not qualify for noise barriers under the Type II program. The preliminary noise analysis indicates that the area will not qualify for Type I noise abatement because the difference between build and no-build noise levels are not significant. There are landscaping treatments which can be provided to improve the aesthetics adjacent to the Beltway where the developer removed some of the vegetation.

## Discussion

Items which were discussed include the following:

1) A comparison of the Build Alternates regarding tradeoffs between traffic, impacts and costs were discussed.
2) The community questioned the use and ownership of the easement provided by the developer. The State Highway Administration explained that since a study had been on-going at the time the development plans were submitted for review by the County, an easement was provided by the developer for use by the State Highway Administration. The Homeowners Association does not Own that property.
3) Drainage problems were identified at the end of Susan Court which seem to be from the Beltway. Mr. Elliott will discuss this issue with District Engineer Meehan.
4) The community is concerned that there is no right-of-way fence along the Beltway or Maryland Route 295 adjacent to their community. With the current Beltway lighting project, they anticipate problems with travelers on Interstate Route 695 and are concerned about the safety of their families. This will also be brought to the attention of Mr. Meehan for installation of a fence.
5) The height of the directional fly-over ramps is a concern from an aesthetic standpoint. Mr. Elliott suggested that we examine depressing the interchange similar to the Interstate Route 97 interchange at the Beltway.
6) Delegate Scanello requested that the Crestwood community, directly across the Beltway from Linthicum tills, be notified of proposed improvements and that the State Highway Administration meet with them to discuss plans.

As the formal presentation and discussion ended, the group examined the wall maps ( $1^{n}=100^{\prime}$ scale) and the crosssections which were available. The meeting ended at 9:30 PM.

NMW/sms
CC: Neil J. Pedersen
Bart Highfield, President Linthicum Hills Homeowners Assoc. Charles Adams
Larry Elliott

September 9, 1987

Re: Contract No. AW 758-1512. Interstate Route 695
Maryland Route 40 to Maryland Route 295 Baltimore City Line to Maryland Route 46 poMS No. 251029

Ms. Gloria Cameron
Shady Nook Citizens Association
424 Shady Nook Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Dear Ms. Cameron:
Thank you for the opportunity to speak to your community group last month. I am enclosing a copy of the minutes of our meeting for your information. If you have any questions regarding anything we discussed, please call me at 333-1191.

> Very truly yours,

Louis F. Eye, Jr. Deputy Director Project Development Division
by:


LHE/CP/sms
Attachment
cc: Mr. Charles R. Olsen w/attach.

## MEMORANDUM OF COMMUNITY MEETING

| To: | Louis H. Ege, Jr., Deputy Diregtor <br> Project Development Division |
| :--- | :--- |
| From: $\quad$Catherine Pecora <br> Project Manager |  |
|  | Contract No. AW $758-151-072 \mathrm{~N}$ |
|  | Interstate Route 695 from |
|  | U.S. Route 40 (West) to |
|  | Maryland Route 170 including |
|  | Maryland Route 295 from |
|  | Maryland Route 46 to the |
|  | Baltimore City Line |
|  | PDMS No. 251029 |

Re: Minutes of Shady Nook Homeowners Association Meeting

Date: August 26, 1987
Place: Baltimore County Library, Catonsville Branch Frederick Road

Time: 7:30 PM
Attendees:
Name
Neil Pedersen Director, Office of Planning and
Catherine Pecora
Charles Adams Preliminary Engineering

Darrel Wiles
Frank Rosensweig
Ken McDonald Lorenzo Bryant Dudley O'Donnell Norine Walker Project Manager, Project Development Divsion Chief, Bureau of Landscape Architecture Acting Assistant DE for Traffic District 4 Highway Design Highway Design Project Development Division Rummel, Klepper \& Kahl Rummel, Klepper \& Kahl Shady Nook Honeowners Association Members (see attached list)

This meeting was held at the request of the HomeOwners Association to provide information on the project status and improvements proposed. Mr. Pedersen introduced State Highway Administration and consultant representatives and explained the highway development process. The community was reminded of the Alternates Public Meeting of November 1985 and the current status of this project. This Beltway project is one part of a study of the Beltway which extends from east of the BaltimoreWashington Parkway to east of of $\mathrm{I}-95$.

Currently, this project is funded for planning only. Should funding for engineering, right-of-way, and construction be programmed, construction would not be anticipated prior to the mid-l990s. It is important that the planning process begin at this time for purposes of prioritizing projects. Considering the size and cost of this project and the improvements proposed, requiring extensive maintenance of traffic, it is expected that the project will be segmented and constructed in phases.

Ms. Pecora indicated that the purpose of the Alternates Meeting was to provide concepts of the proposed widening. She indicated that changes had been made to the alternates since the Alternates Meeting. There are still two basic project concepts, both include widening the Beltway mainline by one lane in each direction. One of the two options has been reduced in scale due to comments made at the Alternates Meeting and comments provided by the local elected officials. Retaining Walls have also been used extensively to protect homes and reduce the right-of-way required.

The Public Hearing has been postponed until Spring,
1988.

## GEOMETRIES

Ms. Walker described the proposed widening project, beginning with an overview of the limits and widening along the mainline of Interstate Route 695 and Maryland Route 295. The basic differences between the minor adjustments required with Option 1 and the interchange modifications of Option 2 were also identified.

With regard to the proposed improvements along I695 between U.S. Rte. 40 and Wilkens Avenue, the following options were described:

Option 1: Mainline widening and interchange ramp
Option 2: Mainline widening with the following interchange improvements:
o A one-lane collector-distributor road in the USS. 40 interchange area to remove interchange weaving from the mainline.

- A mainline lane shift at Edmondson Avenue to improve the sight distance and safety conditions along the median side of the inside curve northbound.
- A mainline lane shift at Frederick Road to improve the sight distance and safety conditions along the median side of the inside curve southbound.
- Revisions to the interchange configuration at Wilkens Avenue to reduce right-of-way and residential acquisition impacts.

In comparing the alternates presented at the November, 1985, Alternates Meeting and those developed since that time, the biggest significant change is the number of residential acquisitions. The preliminary proposal, for the alternate presented comparable to Option 2, anticipated 32 residential acquisitions whereas, by utilizing retaining walls, there are no residential acquisitions required between U.S. Rte. 40 and I-95. There is one residence and one business required along the entire project, both in the southern end of the project.

Three cross-sections were presented which indicated the existing conditions and, by use of colored overlays, the proposed improvements. While these indicate improvements from the centerline of the Beltway only, they do reflect proposed changes in the shady Nook community adjacent to the Beltway.

## NOISE

Mr. Adams indicated that while this area is fortunate to have barriers, some of those will have to be relocated due to the proposed widening. Construction impacts will be kept to a minimum and the time wherein there is lack of protection will be kept to a minimum. There are landscaping treatments which can be provided to improve the aesthetics facing the community along the retaining wall and/or noise barriers. Coordination with the community, regarding this project. $\quad$ be maintained throughout the design phase of

Items which were discussed include the following:

1) Citizens requested that the Intersection of Frederick Road with the ramps to and from outer loop be signalized because turns are very difficult to make. Mr. Wiles will review, or conduct if necessary, an intersection analysis and follow- up with the results.
2) The special provisions for the construction plans will require that noise barriers be shifted prior to construction wherever possible. The goal would be to keep the area "barrierless" for as short a time period as possible.
3) The project is not funded for design, construelion or right-of-way acquisition. At such time as funding is available it is anticipated that construction would be $90 \%$ Federally, $10 \%$ State funded. The earliest time frame would be the early 1990's for any portion of the Beltway, although prioritizing along the entire Beltway would be required.
4) The level of noise change with the additional lane is anticipated to create is 1-3 decibels over the projected no-build condition. A 3-decibel increase is considered barely detectable by the human ear and, therefore, a significant change in noise level is not anticipated.
5) With the addition of a travel lane it is anticipated that the hourly traffic volume will increase $25 \%$ and fill that additional lane. The daily volume is anticipated to increase because of the added roadway capacity and continued regional growth.
6) Air quality studies are being conducted to identify the increase in quantity of emissions, particularly CO (carbon monoxide).
7) Although two additional lanes will not resolve capacity constraints beyond the year 2015, if nothing is done, conditions will continue to breakdown and create safety hazards. Other regional highway improvements are currently under study to shift traffic from Beltway use i.e.: Md. 100 from Md. 3 to U.S. 29. will be funded for construction in the 1988-1993 CTR.
8) Shifting improvements to one or the other side of the Beltway to reduce impacts in the Shady Nook Community would require significant cost increases due to the structures along the Beltway.
9) The concept of High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes is successful for long distance, downtown oriented travel. The Beltway, however, serves many local, short trips which are not downtown oriented and tends to be more circumferential which does not lend itself to HOV lanes. Similarly, a fixed guideway system such as a monorail or subway is most successful when used for radial trips as opposed to circumferential trips.
10) For properties adjacent to the noise barrier, where the noise barrier would be placed inside the existing right-of-way fence, it is common to allow the property owner to use the property and maintain it. Acquisition of property involves assessment by independent appraisers and is acquired by fee simple. Side yard fencing could be extended at the property owners expense.
11) Restriction of trucks to the median lane is not recommended due to the safety of maneuverability. If an automobile were to want to pass a truck travelling in the median lane, he would proceed to the right which would be a nonstandard maneuver.
12) The special provisions for the roadway construction will require some physical separation between the highway and adjacent residences for a long as possible so that the residences are protected from vehicles.

The construction schedule would be reviewed in the design portion of the project. Consideration of citizens concerns regarding hour of days, season and impact of construction lights will be considered.
13) Maintenance of traffic is not anticipated to cause the type of inconveniences during construction as on the I-83 reconstruction. Priorities of construction will be established to minimize inconvenience. The Bureau of Highway Design will be requested to retain ramps providing alternate routes if an interchange ramp must be closed during construction.
14) Regarding the anti-graffitti paint being applied to the noise barriers, unfortunately the state has limited control of the contrastors. Efforts will be made to request the contractor to notify residents prior to the next application (3rd of 3 coats). The urethane paint is not expected to have adverse health impacts. Additional problems should be directed to the State Highway Administration district office so the contractor can be notified of his liability.
15) While the Beltway was designed for 60 mph travel speed during the $1950^{\prime}$ s, the Edmondson Avenue interchange area has sight distance restrictions which do not meet today standards for current travel speeds.
16) The options currently being considered can be revised during the on-going review process.
17) Construction would begin at the earliest in 1992-3.

Mr. Pedersen expressed his appreciation at being invited to discuss the project and invited continued dialogue with the Association. He reiterated the fact that there could be changes made to the proposed improvement, based on citizen comments, prior to the Location/Design Public Hearing anticipated in Spring 1988.

NMW/sms
cC: Gloria Cameron, president of Shady Nook Homeowners Assoc. Charles Adams
Darryl Wiles
Frank Rosensweig


Mr . Joe Getzendanner
Kenwood/Paradise Citizens Association
330 W. Kenwood Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Dear Mr. Getzendanner:
Thank you for the opportunity to speak to your community group earlier this month. I am enclosing a copy of the minutes of our meeting for your information, and the study which has been prepared to address your suggestion of a fly-over ramp for direct access to UMBC from southbound I-695. If you have any questions regarding anything we discussed, please call me at 333-

Very truly yours,

LHE/CP/sms
Attachment
cC: Mr. Charles R. Olsen w/attach.

## MEMORAEDUM OF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING

| To: | Louis H. Ege, Jr., Deputy Director Project Development Division |
| :---: | :---: |
| From: | Catherine pecora Project Manager |
| Subject: | Contract No. AW 758-151-072N <br> Interstate Route 695 from <br> U.S. Route 40 (West) to <br> Maryland Route 170 including <br> Maryland Route 295 from <br> Maryland Route 46 to the <br> Baltimore City Line <br> PDMS No. 251029 |
| Re: | Minutes of Kenwood/Paradise Citizens Association Meeting |
| Date: | September 3, 1987 |
| Place: | University of Maryland, Baltimore County University Center, Ballroom Lounge |
| Time: | 7:30 PM |
| Attendees |  |

Name
Neil Pedersen
Catherine Pecora Bob Olsen Norine Walker

Director, Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering
Project Manager, Project Development Division District Engineer, District 4 Rummel, Klepper \& Kahl Kenwood/Paradise Citizens Association Members (see attached list)

## INTRODUCTIOA

This meeting was held at the request of the Citizens Association to provide information on the project status and inoprovements proposed. Mr. Pedersen introduced state explained the highway developent contant representatives and reminded of the Alternates public process. The community was the current status of this project Meeting of November 1985 and

Currently, this project is funded for planning only. Should funding for engineering, right-of-way, and conprior to the mid-199d, construction would not be anticipated process begin at this time for purposes that the planning projects. Considering the size and cost poses of prioritizing improvements proposed, requiring cost of this project and the traffic, it is expected that constructed in phases.

Ms. Pecora indicated that the purpose of the Alternates Meeting was to provide concepts of the proposed widening. She indicated that changes had been made to the alternates since cepts, bothtes Meeting. There are still two basic project coneach direction. scale due to comments the two options has been reduced in comments provided by the local the Alternates Meeting and Walls have also been used extensivel officials. Retaining reduce the right-of-way required.

The Public Hearing has been postponed until Spring, 1988. A draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available list will be notified of its and those persons on the mailing

## GEOMETRICS

project, beginning with an overview of the proposed widening along the mainline of Interstate Route 695 limits and widening 295. This Beltway project is one part of 695 and Maryland Route which extends from east of the Baltimore-Washington Pa Beltway east of of 1 -95. The basic differences hington Parkway to adjustments required with Option landences between the minor tions of Option 2 were also identified.

With regard to the proposed improvements along I695 between U.S. Rte. 40 and I-95, the following options were described:

Option 1: Mainline widening and interchange ramp
adjustments.

Option 2: Mainline widening with the following interchange improvements:

- A one-lane collector-distributor road in the weaving interchange area to remove interchange weaving from the mainline.
- A mainline lane shift at Edmondson Avenue to improve the sight distance and safety condilions along the median side of the inside curve northbound.
- A mainline lane shift at Frederick Road to improve the sight distance and safety condilions along the median side of the inside curve southbound.
- Revisions to the interchange configuration at Wilkens Avenue to reduce right-of-way and residential acquisition impacts.

In comparing the alternates presented at the November, 1985, Alternates Meeting and those developed since that time, the biggest significant change is the number of residential acquisitions. The preliminary proposal, for the alternate presented comparable to Option 2 , anticipated 32 residential acquisitions whereas, by utilizing retaining walls, there are no residential acquisitions required between U.S. Rte. 40 and I-95. There is one residence and one business required along the entire project, both in the southern end of the project.

A cross -section was presented which indicated the existing conditions and, by use of colored overlays, the proposed improvements. While these indicate improvements from the centerline of the Beltway only, they do reflect proposed changes in the $W$. Kenwood Avenue community adjacent to the Belt-
way.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

## Noise

The most significant issue for citizens along Kenwood Avenue is the noise condition. Mr. Pedersen provided an explanation of the Maryland State Highway Administration noise abatement programs. He explained that the Type I Program is geared towards providing abatement where a substantial increase in noise results from new construction. The Type II program studies retrofitting noise abatement in areas where a highway was built next to an existing neighborhood.

Noise abatement was not shown as part of the I-695 widening because none has yet been approved for the project. The preliminary noise results indicate that the increase in noise level between the build and no-build alternates is small. Therefore, noise abatement would not be provided under the current policy.

Eligibility under the Type II Program has been investigated separately by the Bureau of Landscape Architecture. An analysis was done to check for the three criteria which are warranted. They are:

1. A noise level of 67 dA or greater.
2. Construction of the residence prior to the Beltway.
3. A cost of approximately $\$ 40,000 /$ residence or

The Kenwood neighborhood qualifies under the first two_ criteria however not under the third. The cost per residence significantly exceeds $\$ 40,00 /$ residence because of the small number of residences impacted.

Mr. Pedersen explained that this cost criteria is necessary because it results in achieving the most benefit for every dollar of the noise abatement program that is spent. Maryland currently allots one-quarter of Interstate Highway Rehabilitation funds (approximately $\$ 35$ million this year) to the program. This is currently the largest program in the
country.

## Outer Beltway

A question was raised regarding an outer roadway as a relief for the Beltway traffic which does not necessarily require the use of that facility. Mr. Pedersen indicated the current studies for Maryland Route 100 from Maryland 3 to I-95 and into Howard County as one project which addresses this issue. The current construction of I-195 from the BaltimoreWashington Expressway (Maryland Route 295) to I-95 will serve traffic oriented to the Baltimore-Washington International Airport and associated emloyment centers. While an outer Beltway is not feasible in all areas surrounding the Beltway, the State Highway Administration is providing some circumferential service to radial facilities.

## Proposed Alternates

The No-Build Alternate continues to be considered as part of this study. The traffic projections for the Beltway, however, indicate that without some type of improvements, significant congestion and increasing safety hazaras will be experienced along the Beltway.

As far as the Options for the Build Alternates are concerned, both Option 1 and Option 2 will continue to be considered. Option 1 does not encroach on the $W$. Kenwood Avenue community as significantly as Option 2. Option 2, however, improves the existing High Accident Interchange loop ramp by replacing it with a diamond-type ramp.

A suggestion was also raised to consider a separate ramp from the Beltway into UMBC. This configuration had been studied. While it would provide relief to the Wilkens Avenue interchange there would be a number of problems associated with it. They are:

1. A large, expensive structure would be required.
2. An adjacent stream would create drainage problems that would be expensive to correct.
3. Traffic volumes would not justify this expense.
4. The ramp alignment would not be constructed with adequate geometrics.

## Other Improvements

Improvements to valley Road and other county facilities would be provided by Baltimore County.

The SHA has provided improvements to Rolling Road in specific areas as needed. A significant change to the character of Rolling Road is no longer being considered due to opposition of the residents along that facility.

NMW/sms
CC: Mr. Joe Getzendanner, Kenwood/Paradise Citizens Association

| Attendees |
| :--- |
| Don Schatz |
| Delegate Kenneth H. Masters |
| Albert J. Maras |
| Robin Getzendanner |
| James G. Winters, Jr. |
| George E. Deal, Jr. |
| Ed Jaeger |
| Harold Klee |
| Paul Genovese |
| Sandy Sautter |
| Cathy Born |
| John Cullom |
| Joe Getzendanner |
| Leland R. Cooley |
| Senator Coolahan |
| Delegate Nancy Murphy |

Address
5206 Wilkens Ave.
1809 Edmondson Ave. 21228
338 W. Kenwood Ave. 21228
332 W. Kenwood Ave. 21228
431 S. Paradise Ave.
435 S. Paradise Ave. 21228
429 S. Paradise Ave. 21228
427 Paradise 21228
315 Kenwood Ave. 21228
315 Kenwood Ave. 21228
320 Kenwood Ave. 21228
437 S. Paradise Ave. 21228
330 W. Kenwood Ave.
320 W. Kenwood Ave. 21228

October 15. 1987

Re: Contract No. AW 758-151Interstate Route 695
Maryland Route 40 to
Maryland Route 295
Baltimore City Line to
Maryland Route 46
PDMS No. 251029

Rev. John Nab
Holy Apostles Episcopal Church
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

Dear Rev. Rabb:
Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you and Senior Warden Pinkerton last month. I am enclosing a copy of the minutes of our meeting for your information. If you have any questions regarding anything we discussed, please call me at 3331191.

Very truly yours,


LHE/CP/sms
Attachment
cc: Mr. Charles R. Olsen w/attach. Attendees with attachment

## MEMORANDUM OF COMMUNITY MEETING

| To: | Louis H. Ege, Jr., Deputy Director Project Development Division |
| :---: | :---: |
| From: | Catherine Pecora Project Manager Cxheme theosis |
| Subject: | Contract No. AW 758-151-072N |
|  | Interstate Route 695 from |
|  | U.S. Route 40 (West) to |
|  | Maryland Route 170 including |
|  | Maryland Route 295 from |
|  | Maryland Route 46 to the |
|  | Baltimore City Line |
|  | PDMS No. 251029 |
| Re: | Minutes of Meeting with Holy Apostles Episcopal Church |
| Date: | October 1, 1987 |
| Place: | Holy Apostles Episcopal Church Leeds Avenue |
| Time: | 2:30 PM |
| Attendees: |  |
| Name |  |
| Neil Pedersen | n Director, Office of Planning and |
|  | . Preliminary Engineering |
| Catherine Pecor | cora Project Manager, Project Development Divsion |
| Ralph Manna | Bridge Design |
| John Logan | Bridge Design |
| Norine Walker | r Rummel, Klepper \& Kahl |
|  | Rabb Holy Apostles Episcopal Church |
| Delegate Louis Morsberger Holy Apostles Episcopal Church |  |
|  |  |
| Senator John Coolahan |  |

This meeting was arranged by Delegate Murphy and Reverend kab to discuss the impacts of the proposed Beltway widening project on the Holy Apostles Episcopal Church property. Mr. Pedersen made introductory comments emphasizing the fact that since the November 1985 Alternates Public Meeting, more detailed design work has been completed on the project. Significant reductions in impacts have resulted from development of engineering details. Ms. Pecora explained that there are several issues in the area of the Church.

The Project Planning study for widening the Beltway is not currently funded for right-of-way, engineering or construction. The bridge redecking is scheduled to be advertised in the spring of 1988. The noise wall construction is scheduled to be advertised during the winter of 1987-88. The bridge reconstruction and noise barrier construction, therefore, is anticipated to be underway simultaneously beginning during the summer of 1988. A decision regarding how these projects will be coordinated will be available by the end of October.

The completion of the bridge redecking could provide an opportunity to improve the operation of the I-695/I-95 interchange and will be investigated. It will also allow the interchange ramp from I-695 southbound to Southwestern Boulevard to remain open and would be compatible with the proposed widening. This ramp would, however, need to be closed to traffic during the first phase of the bridge reconstruction.

The Maintenance of Traffic plans were reviewed which indicated the following stages:


The relationship of the noise barriEr corsciuction to the proposed widening was discussed next. The noise barriers plans for this area presented at the May 26,1987 meeting showed some barriers placed in a "temporary" location which would require relocation if the Beltway were widened. This would allow the construction of barriers to proceed before any decision on widening the Beltway was made. The trade-offs between this approach and that of placing the barriers in an ultimate location still need to be resolved prior to advertisement of the Noise Barrier project.

## Discussion Items

1. Construction time for the bridge redecking project is 18-24 months. Four mainline lanes would be provided on the Beltway at all times which should alleviate backups associated with the construction.
2. The bridge redecking is a "definite" and the widening project is a "maybe". While the bridge and noise barrier projects have been funded for construction, the widening project has not.
3. Neither the redecking nor the Beltway widening project are going to require right-of-way from the Holy Apostles Church property. SHA is optimistic that all construction for the improvements can take place within SHA's Right-of-Way.
4. The retaining wall would be one of the first items to be constructed on the bridge redecking project. While removal of vegetation will be kept to a minimum, landscaping between the proposed retaining wall and the right-of-way fence can be pro-
vided by SHA.
5. The major advantage to the community of redecking the bridge is that it maintains the use of the ramp from southbound I-695 to weeds Avenue and accommodate possible future beltway widening within the existing right-of-way.
6. The drainage concerns associated with the bridge and highway improvements will be addressed by providing a pipe system under the retaining wall with outfall into Herbert Run. Those familiar with the area remarked that it would be helpful if the County would periodically clean out the floodplain.
7. The actual redecking would involve removing a two-inch layer of pavement in some areas of the existing bridge and removing the entire depth of deck in other areas. While some of the substructure would be required to be replaced, the columns themselves will not be moved in location.

NMW/sms
cc: Attendees

## MEMORANDUM OF COMMUNITY MEETING



## Name

## Office

Hal Kassoff
Neil Pedersen Bob Olsen Darrel Wiles Charlie Adams Catherine Pecora Senator John Coolahan Delegate Louis Marsberger Delegate Kenneth Masters Norine Walker

Administrator
Director of Planning \& Preliminary Engineering
District Engineer, District 4
Assistant District Engineer - Traffic
Chief, Bureau of Landscape Architecture
Project Development Division
State Senator, District 12
Maryland House of Delegates, District 12
Maryland House of Delegates, District 12 Rummer, Klepper \& Kahl

Senator Coolahan requested this meeting to discuss the Beltway widening project and the impacts associated with the proposed improvements. Mr. Pedersen suggested a review of the proposed improvements and then a discussion of further community coordination that will be required.

Using a table which summarizes the impacts associated with the alternates presented at the November, 1985 Alternates Public Meeting and the current studies, the proposed improvements were reviewed. Comments relevant to each interchange include the following:

## U.S. Route 40 (West)

- In order to transition from the five-lane northbound section to the three-lane section in the $I-70$ interchange, consider dropping the fifth mainline lane after the interchange on the median side. This may be done by dropping the median side lane to provide a three-lane section at I-70. This will be examined as part of the project planning study.


## Edmondson Avenue

- The elected officials felt that it was appropriate for the state Highway Administration to purchase properties that have substantial proximity damage. However, they felt that it should be done on a case-by-case basis with the affected property owners involved only.
- The ramp grade from Edmondson Avenue to northbound I-695 should be examined. This was cited as a difficult ramp merge to negotiate although an auxiliary lane to US Route 40 is provided. This less than desirable situation will be exacerbated should the C-D road option be selected at the US Route 40 interchange. The ramp grade will be refined as part of the project planning study.
- Investigation of sign placement in island between ramp legs from Edmondson Avenue to $I-695$ NBR will be handled by SHA's District Traffic Office.
- Noise barrier studies will require an additional meeting with the community (to be scheduled in November, 1987) along Forest Avenue. Senator Coolahan requested a copy of the letter from the citizens in this area who requested that the barrier be shortened, Mr. Adams will provide this letter to Senator Coolahan's office.


## Frederick Road

- Intersection signalization for current conditions needs to be reexamined. The District Traffic office will investigate whether a signal is warranted under current conditions.
- The ramp intersections would probably work better in the current offset intersection configuration than in the proposed condition which would provide a single intersection. Mr. Wiles, however, predicted that the intersections will require signalization by the time the project is constructed.
- Consideration should be made to provide a signal at the Delrey Road intersection with Frederick Road. However, Mr. Wiles expressed concern regarding the distance between this signal and those at the interchange.


## Wilkens Avenue

- Verify that the proposed ramp grade will not compromise safety and provide a worse condition than the high accident interchange ramp which is being replaced in the southbound direction.
- An auxiliary lane between the Frederick Road on-ramp and the Wilkens Avenue offramp will be provided for both alternates.
- Review the signing for each off-ramp from northbound I-695 at Wilkens Avenue, and the prohibition of the left turn from the ramp to eastbound Wilkens Avenue.


## Leeds Avenue

- The redecking of the bridge and the Type II noise barrier project may be combined. This would delay the construction of the noise barrier, although the retaining wall and noise barrier would be the first things of that contract to be constructed. Mr. Adamswill provide Senator Coolahan with a schedule for the construction of this barrier by the end of November.


## I-95

- Improvements are currently proposed that had not been previously presented at the Alternates Meeting. The proposal will improve operations as well as providing additional capacity for the increased traffic projected by the design year.


## Hollins Ferry Road

- Redecking of the structure is anticipated to begin in the Spring of 1988. Mr. Olsen will provide Senator Coolahan with a schedule for this reconstruction.
- Alternatives to reconstructing the $B \& O$ Bridge are being studied.

Administrator Kissoff outlined the noise barrier policy and indicated the desire to provide protection where it is justified. He also emphasized the timing of the project and possibility of segmenting due to the budgeting process.

NMW/sms
Attachment
cc: Mr. Pedersen
Mr. Olsen
Mr. Wiles
Mr. Adams
Ms. Pecora
Mr. Walsh
Ms. Walker

I-695: From West of US 40 (West) to Md. 170
Md. 295: From North of Md. 46 to the Baltimore City Line
briefing to baltmore county delizgation

| Interchange |  | \# Properties affected |  |  |  | \# Improvements Taken |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Location | Proposed Improvements | Alt. 2 | (Option 1) | Alt. | (Option 2) | A1t. 2 | (Option 1) | Alt. 3 | (Option 2) |
| US Rte. 40 (West) | Alt. 3 - Two-lane C-D Rd. Current Opt. 2 - One lane C-D Rd. | 2 | (0) | 2 | (7) | 0 | (0) | 0 | (0) |
| Edmondson Ave., Frederick Rd. | Alt. 283: Intersection improvements Current Opt. 2 - Mainline shift to improve sight distance | 8 | (13) | 8 | (14) | 4 | (0) | 3 | (0) |
| Wilkens Ave. | ```Alt. 3: Major interchange reconstruc- tion Current Opt. 2: Replace High Accident ramp``` | 8 | (6) | 10 | (7) | 0 | (0) | 21 | (0) |
| Leeds Ave/US 1Alt/ <br> Southwestern | Alt. 3: Elimination of Access to and from 1-695 <br> Current Opt.: Access to 1-695 both options | 6 | (0) | 5 | (0) | 1 | (0) | 2 | (0) |
| 1-95 | Alt. $2 \& 3:$ Ramp adjustments Current Opt.: Dualization of ramps and "major fork" (Option 3) | 3 | (0) | 1 | (0) | 0 | (0) | 1 | (0) |
| US 1 Alt. | Alt. 2 \& 3: Ramp adjustments Current Opt.: Dualization of rampa | 4 | (0) | 5 | (0) | 0 | (0) | 0 | (0) |
| Hollins Ferry Rd. | Alt. $2 \& 3:$ Ramp adjustments Current Opt.: Possible ramp relocation | 6 | (0) | 6 | (2) | 2 | (0) | 3 | (0) |
| 1-895 | Alt. $2 \& 3$ : Ramp adjustments Current Opt.: Ramp adjustments | 0 | (0) | 0 | (0) | 0 | (0) | 0 | (0) |
| Nursery Road, Md. Route 295 | Alt. 3: Collector-Distributor Road Current Opt.: C-D Road and "Flyover" (Option 3) interchange providing direct acceas in median from Md. 295 to 1-97 | 29 | (14) | 32 | (30) | 1 | (1) | 2 | (2) |
| Md. Route 295 | Alt. 2: Median Widening Current Opt.: Two concepts for median grading. One option vill allow maintaining "Parkway characteristics". Provide auxiliary lane outaide Beltway to Hursery Road | 0 |  |  | (8) | 0 | (0) | 0 | (0) |
| 1-895 | Alt. 2: Additional ramps considered as alternate to improvements at 1-695/Md. 295 <br> Current Opt.: Same as above | 13 | (6) | - | - | 0 - | (0) | - | - |

Alt. $2 \& 3$ presented at November 1985 Alternates Public Meeting; Options 1,2 and 3 Current Study Options

October 22, 1987
Maryland State Highway Administration Rummel, Klepper \& Rahl
A1t. 2
(0)(0)(0)(0)

## A COMMUNITY INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

Wednesday, January 20, 1988
7:30 p.m.
Hillcrest Elementary School
1500 Frederick Road
Catonsville, Maryland 21228
At the request of some residents in the area, the State Highway Administration has agreed to consider the merits of closing one or more of the ramps at the interchange of Edmondson Avenue with the Baltimore Beltway.

This informational meeting is being held to provide an opportunity for interested citizens to discuss the issues associated with this proposal. The meeting will consist of a short presentation followed by a comment period. An informational brochure will also be available at the meeting.


If you would like more information or wish to make written comments, please contact Mr. Neil J. Pedersen, Director, Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering, State Highway Administration, 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202-0717.

Dear Resident:
I am writing as a follow-up to the community meeting held on Wednesday, January 20, which addressed the issue of possible ramp closures at the Edmondson Avenue interchange with the Baltimore Beltway.

We raised this issue as a result of interest that had been expressed to us, as well as our own thoughts that the idea had merit. However, before proceeding very far with the proposal, we felt that a community meeting was essential. The meeting was very helpful in identifying the problems and impacts the closure of any ramps in this area would create for local residents and businesses. Based on the input we received from the meeting, we have decided not to pursue the concept of closing ramps at the Interstate Route 695/Edmondson Avenue interchange.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please address them to Mr. Neil J. Pedersen, Director of the Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering, 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.


HK: db

This meeting was arranged to discuss the $1 m p r o v e m e n t s$ proposed for the construction of Wllkens Avenue Interchange option 2. The residents of approximately 50 homes closest to the proposed revised ramps were invited. Ms. Bice briefly introduced the two interchange option concepts (option 1 relocated ramp $F$ to the northwest quadrant of the interchange). She described the differences in geometry and 1mpacts for the two options as well as for Alternate 2. Approximately twenty persons attended. Half were residents of Gateway terrace which is located across the beltway from the area being discussed.

The residents of the home which would be closest to the relocated ramp $F$ of the option 2 improvement, mentioned the following concerns they have regarding this option. They were concerned that venicles on the ramp coming closer to their house would run off the road and that the retaining wall and guardrail would not prevent this. They also felt that since ramp $B$ would still be a sharp curve, that the accident rate would not 1 mprove enough to be worthwhile. They were also concerned because they have seen deer in the wooded area which would be used for the proposed construction of relocated ramps $B$ and $F$.

They suggested that relocated ramp $B$ of option 1 be constructed to handle the heavy traffic headed west on wilkens avenue (towards Spring Grove and the colleges) and that the existing loop ramp (Ramp B) remain to handle the eastbound trafic. several people commented on the fact that the existing left turn from the loop ramp creates congestion back onto the Beltway which contributes to the accidents on the ramp. The above suggestion would allow this left turn movement to be a iree right turn from relocated ramp B which would bef preferred, according to this group.

The citizens present were not in favor of extending the noise barrier beyond the limit discussed with them previously, even though the proposed configuration of relocated ramps $B$ and $F$ with option 2 would shift these ramps closer to their homes. At the request of this group, the Bureau of Landscape Arch1tecture had agreed not to construct the noise barrier in front of these nomes. The citizens present at this meeting still co not want a noise barrier here.

The residents of the Gateway Terrace neighborhood, located along the Beltway innerloop, were present $i o$ express their concern about the deiay in the construction of the noise barrier. They also pointed out that iney expect the wall to be built at the location where the stakes had been placed last year by SHA. These stakes indicate the ultimate location of the retaining wall/noise barrier as shown at the

Location/Design Public Hearing. The viewpoint of this neighborhood should be considered when the final noise wall contract 18 advertised and they should be informed of any changes prior to beginning construction. One resident of this neighborhood was concerned that the retaining wall/noise barrier combination would be so high that $1 t$ would block sunlight and breezes from these homes.

Both Mr. Howe of Gateway Terrace and Mr. Getzendanner of Kenwood Avenue contacted me by phone to express their objection to not being invited to this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM. Reporters from the Catonsville Times and television's Channel 2 News arrived at the end of the meeting and interviewed the project Manager regarding the purpose of the evening's meeting. They had been informed about it from citizens in the vicintiy who were upset.

NMW/sme
Attachment
co: Mr. Nell Pedersen
Mr. Charlie Adams
Senator Nancy Murphy
Delegate Thomas Newberry Delegate Kenneth Masters Mr. C. Robert Olsen

## MEMORANDUM OF COMMUNITY MEETING

To: Louis H. Ege, Jr., Deputy Director Project Planning Division

From:
Catherine Rice Project Manager


Subject: Contract No. AW 758-151-072N
Interstate Route 695 from
US Route 40 (West) to
Maryland Route 170 including
Maryland Route 295 from
Maryland Route 46 to the Baltimore City Line PDMS No. 251029

Re: Minutes of Regina DrivelCircle Drive Community Meeting
Date: December 11, 1989
Place: Baltimore County Library - Catonsville Branch
Time: 7:00 PM
Attendees:

Catherine mile
Bob Olsen
Jim Wynn
Senator Nancy Murphy
Delegate Kenneth Masters
Delegate Thomas (dewberry
Norine walker $D$

Project Manager
District 4 - District Engineer Project Planning

RK\&K

| TO: | Mr. Louis H. Ege, Jr. Deputy Director Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering |
| :---: | :---: |
| FROM : | Catherine P. Rice <br> Project Manager <br> Project Planning Division |
| SUBJECT: | Contract No. AW 785-151-072 N Interstate Route 695 from <br> US Route 40 (West) to <br> Maryland Route 170 including <br> Maryland Route 295 from <br> Maryland Route 46 to the Baltimore City Line <br> PDMS No. 251029 |
| RE: | Minutes of Forest Avenue Community Meeting |
| Date: | May 10, 1990 |
| Place: | 122 Forest Avenue |
| Time: | 7:00 p.m. |
| Attendees: |  |
|  | $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Catherine Rice } & \text { Project Manager } \\ \text { Norine Walker } & \text { RK\&K }\end{array}$ |

This meeting was arranged to discuss the improvements proposed for the construction of Alternate 2 at the I-695/ Edmondson Avenue interchange. We were invited to meet with the residents along Forest Avenue and approximately 16 attended (see sign-in sheet attached).

I briefly described the Alternate 2 proposal with respect to the existing retaining wall and noise barrier. It was explained that because an alternate had not been selected during the noise barrier project design phase, the wall is in a location that would accomodate any of the proposed interchange options that had been studied.

I then explained that the decision has been made by the State Highway Administration to provide only the Alternate 2 improvement. This involves adding a mainline lane in each direction on I-695. A small portion of the recently completed barrier will have to be relocated, this includes the section on the bridge and a short distance along I-695. The majority of the wall will not be relocated.

The members of this community were very concerned that a separate ramp was going to be constructed. Since the recently completed wall allows for it. I am sending a copy of these meeting minutes to the members of the community to document the commitment that a separate ramp will not be constructed over the Edmondson Avenue/Forest Avenue intersection. In addition, I informed those attending that once the location approval for this interchange vicinity has been granted, the community will be informed.

The residents were also very concerned that the widening which is proposed would encroach on the intersection of Forest Avenue with Edmondson Avenue. Although the intersection will not be directly affected, the bridge pier will further reduce the turning site distance. I suggested that a cantilevered pier could be investigated. However, upon checking with the Office of Bridge Development, it was decided that the current bridge is structurally unable to accommodate a cantilever-type of widening. The issue of encroachment on this intersection should be considered during the final bridge design phase and an attempt should be made to minimize the amount of pier that must be built to accommodate the widening.

It was pointed out that the proximity of the bridge will create hardships for the neighborhood during construction because it could be very difficult to access the street. I have discussed this issue with Jim Kelly, the Assistant District Enigneer for construction. He agreed that traffic safety would need to be addressed during the preparation of the construction plans and carefully monitored during construction. This will be pursued during final design. The community suggested that a flagman be provided to facjlitate travelling through the intersection during construction. This suggestion will be considered.

The group then raised several related issues. They raised the question of why $I-70$ could not be extended into the city as was originally planned. I explained the history of the I-70 project. Regarding the schedule for the proposed widening I explained the current status and the investigation of staging
priorities.

They also wanced to know whether any other widening would be proposed along the beltway. I stated that it is highly unlikely due to the right-of-way constraints that additional widening would ever be done on the Beltway. The residents were very concerned about this possiblity. I also discussed the Statewide Commuter Assistance study as an example of alternative solutions that are being investigated rather than highway widening.

Finally, two requests were made which are being followed-up on. The first is to have the maintenance improved on the piece of state property at the Forest Avenue intersection. I contacted Allen Ault's office and they will handle this. The other request was to have the noise levels monitored for increases in noise across the beltway from the recently constructed noise barrier. Gene Miller of the Bureau of Landscape Architecture is investigating this.

CPR:ds
Attachment
cc: Mr. Jim Kelly
Mr. Allen Ault
Mr. Gene Miller
Ms. Ann Powers (W/Attachment)


## APPENDIX A ALTERNATES MAPPING






## SELECTED ACTION WITH RETAINING WALL

LOOKING NORTHBOUND BETWEEN U.S. ROUTE 40 AND FREDERICK ROAD
STA. $348+$ TO STA. $325+$
STA. $310+$ TO STA. $300+$



I-695
SELECTED ACTION WITHOUT RETAINING WALL
LOOKING NORTHBOUND BETWEEN HOLINS FERRY ROAD AND MARMAND ROUTE 295



MARYLAND ROUTE 295
SELECTED ACTION
LOOKING NORTHBOUND BETWEEN MD. $46 / \mathrm{I}-195$ AND SOUTH OF I-695
STA. $310+$ TO STA. $167+$




LOOKING NORTHBOUND JUST SOUTH OF JOH aVENUE


I-95
SELECTED ACTION
LOOKING NORTHBOUND AT CATON AVENUE












## APPENDIX B

## SUPPORTING DATA

Table B-1
Table B-2
Table B-3
Table B-4
Table B-5
Table B-6

Analysis of Comments Alternates Public Meeting

Summary of Responses Resulting from Location/Design Public Hearing

Study Area Population Data
Study Area Household Data
Classification of Employment
Wetland Classification in Study Area

## TABLE B-1 - ANALYSIS OF COMMENTS <br> ALTERNATES PUBLIC MEETING

November 26, 1985

## WRITTEN COMMENTS

(Approximately 4,300 on mailing list 3\% response)
Mailing list addition (or no comment) - 20
Opposed to project in general - 7
Favor project in general
Issues raised:
Specific property impacts . - 34
Noise - 32
Favor Outer Beltway - 4
Control Truck Traffic - 1
Control Development - 1
Class I-695/Harbor Tunnel Ramps - 1
Oppose closing Leeds Avenue - 2
Questioned aspects of impacts at:
I-695/Maryland Route 295 - 2
I-695/Nursery Road - 1
I-695/Wilkens Avenue - 2
I-895 - 1

VERBAL COMMENTS
40 (Approximately 400 attended meeting)
Issues raised:
Noise - 8
Outer Beltway - 5
Closing Leeds Avenue - 2
Flooding at Stoney Lane - 2
Propose constructing elevated roadway in median - 2
Close more Beltway ramps to limit traffic - 1
Consider Rapid Transit - 1
Former SHA property at Woodlawn
Ave \& Fred. Rd. - 1
Questioned aspects of impacts at: I-95/Wilkens Avenue - 4
I-695/Maryland Route 295 - 2
U.S. Route 40 - 2

WRITTEN AND VERBAL COMMENTS
Issues Raised:
Noise - 40
Specific property impacts - 34
Need for Outer Beltway - 9
Impacts at Wilkens Avenue - 6
Impacts at I-95/Maryland Route 295 - 4
Oppose closing Leeds Ave. Interchange - 4

## TABLE B-2 - SUMMARY OF RESPONSES RESULTING FROM LOCATION/DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING <br> June 22, 1988

## Verbal Comments

Total Number of Speakers Major issues raised
28
Delegate Nancy Murphy requested a copy of the transcript

- Noise
- Support Alt. 1 - No-Build
o Construct Outer Beltway
- Proper ramp design
- Extend I-70
- Support Light Rail
- Phase Project
- Oppose Interchange Option 1 at Wilkens Avenue/Kenwood Road


## Written Comments

> Total Number of Mailers and/or Letters Major issues raised

- Support Alt. 1 No-Build
- Support I-695 MD 295 Interchange Opt. 3
- Noise
- Support public transit
- Oppose Interchange Opt. 1 at Wilkens Ave./Kenwood Road

Community Group Preferences
North Linthicum Improvement Association

- Noise barrier along MD 295 between I-695 and I-895
- Noise barrier or air conditioning for Overlook Elem.School


## Linthicum Hills Association

- I-695/MD 295 Interchange Option 3
- Fence highway right-of-way NOW.

Crestwood Community Association

- I-695/MD 295 Interchange option 3

Maiden Choice Civic Association

- Alternate 1 - No-Build
- Noise barrier


TABLE B-3 - STUDY AREA POPULATION DATA


Sources: Bureau of Census 1980: Baltimore and Anne Arundel County Planning and Zoning.

TABLE B-4 - STUDY AREA HOUSEHOLD DATA


Sources: Bureau of Census 1980: Baltimore and Anne Arundel County Planning and Zoning.

TABLE B-5: CLASSIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT ${ }^{1}$

Managerial and professional specialty occupations
Executive, administrative, and managerial occupations Professional specialty occupations

Technical, sales and administrative support occupations
Technicians and related support occupations Sales occupations Administrative support occupations, including clerical

Service occupations
Private household occupations
Protective service occupations Service occupations, except protective and household

Farming, forestry and fishing occupations

Precision production, craft and repair occupations

Operators, fabricators and laborers
Machine operators, assemblers and inspectors Transportation and material moving occupations Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers and laborers

Wetland Classification


## APPENDIX C

## SUMMARY OF THE RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION OF MARYLAND


#### Abstract

All State Highway Administration projects must comply with the provisions of the "Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real property Acquisition policies Act of 1970" (Public Law 91-646 and amendments as published in CFR Vol. 51, No. 39 on February 27, 1986) and/or the Annotated Code of Maryland, Real Property, Title 12, Subtitle 2, Sections 12-201 through 12-212. The Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration, Bureau of Relocation Assistance, administers the Relocation Assistance Program in the State of Maryland.


The provisions of the Federal and State Law require the State Highway Administration to provide payments and services to persons displaced by a public project. The payments that are provided include replacement housing payments and/or moving costs. The maximum limits of the replacement housing payments are $\$ 15,000$ for owner-occupants and $\$ 4,000$ for tenant-occupants. Certain payments may also be made for increased mortgage interest costs andor incidental expenses, provided that the total of all housing benefits does not exceed the above mentioned limits. In order to receive these payments, the displaced person must occupy decent, safe, and sanitary replacement housing. In addition to the replacement housing payments described above, there are also moving cost payments to persons, businesses, farms, and non-profit organizations. Actual moving costs for residences include actual moving costs up to 50 miles or a schedule moving cost payment, including a dislocation allowance, up to $\$ 500$.

The moving cost payments to businesses are broken down into several categories, which include actual moving expenses and payments "in lieu of" actual moving expenses. The owner of a displaced business is entitled to receive a payment for actual reasonable moving and related expenses in moving his business, or personal property; actual direct losses of tangible personal property; and actual reasonable expenses for searching for a replacement site.

The actual reasonable moving expenses may be paid for a move by a commercial mover or for a self-move. Generally, payments for the actual reasonable expenses are limited to a 50 mile radius. The expenses claimed for actual cost commercial moves must be supported by receipted bills. An inventory of the items to be moved must be prepared, in all cases. In self-moves, the state will negotiate an amount for payment, not to exceed the lowest acceptable bid obtained. The allowable expenses of a self-move may include amounts paid for equipment hired, the cost of using the business'
own vehicles or equipment, wages paid to persons who physically participate in the move, the cost of actual supervision of the move, replacement insurance for the personal property moved, cost of licenses or permits required and other related expenses.

In addition to the actual moving expenses mentioned above, the displaced business is entitled to receive a payment for the actual direct losses of tangible personal property that the business is entitled to relocate but elects not to move. These payments may only be made after an effort by the owner to sell the personal property involved. The costs of the sale are also reimbursable moving expenses. If the business is to be reestablished, and the personal property is not moved but is replaced at the new location, the payment would be lesser of the replacement cost minus the net proceeds of the sale (or trade-in value) or the estimated cost of moving the item. If the business is being discontinued or the item is not to be replaced in the reestablished business, the payment will be the lesser of the difference between the value of the item for continued use in place and the net proceeds of the sale or the estimated cost of moving the item. When personal property is abandoned without an effort by the owner to dispose of the property for sale, unless permitted by the State, the owner will not be entitled to moving expenses, or losses for the item involved.

The owner of a displaced business may be reimbursed for the actual reasonable expenses in searching for a replacement business up to $\$ 1,000$. All expenses must be supported by receipted bills. Time spent in the actual search may be reimbursed on an hourly basis, within the maximum limit.

In lieu of the payments described above, the business may elect to receive a payment equal to the average annual net earnings of the business. Such payment shall not be less that $\$ 2,500$ nor more than $\$ 10,000$. In order to be entitled to this payment, the state must determine that the business cannot be relocated without a substantial loss of its existing patronage, the business is not part of a commercial enterprise having at least one other establishment in the same or similar business that is not being acquired, and the business contributes materially to the income of a displaced owner during the two taxable years prior to displacement.

Considerations in the state's determination of loss of existing patronage are the type of business conducted by the displaced business and the nature of the clientele. The relative importance of the present and proposed locations to the displaced business, and the availability of suitable replacement sites are also factors.

In order to determine the amount of the "in lieu of" moving expenses payment, the average annual net earnings of the business is considered to be one-half of the net earnings, before taxes, during the two taxable years immediately preceding the taxable year in which the business is relocated. If the two taxable years are not representative, the state may use another two-year period that would be more representative. Average annual net earnings include
any compensation paid by the business to the owner, his spouse, or his dependents during the period. Should a business be in operation less than two years, the owner of the business may still be eligible to receive the "in lieu of" payment. In all cases, the owner of the business must provide information to support its net earnings, such as income tax returns, for the tax years in question.

For displaced farms and non-profit organizations, the actual reasonable moving costs generally up to 50 miles, actual direct losses of tangible personal property, and searching costs are paid. The "in lieu of" actual moving cost payments provide that the state may determine that displaced farm may be paid from a minimum of $\$ 2,500$ to a maximum of $\$ 10,000$ based upon the net income of the farm, provided that the farm has been discontinued or relocated. In some cases, payments "in lieu of" actual moving costs may be made to farm operations that are affected by a partial acquisition. A non-profit organization is eligible to receive "in lieu of" actual moving cost payments, in the amount of $\$ 2,500$.

A more detailed explanation of the benefits and payments available to displaced persons, businesses, farms, and non-profit organizations is available in Relocation Brochures that will be distributed at the public hearings for this project and will also be given to displaced persons individually in the future along with required preliminary notice of possible displacement.

In the event comparable replacement housing is not available to rehouse persons displaced by public projects or that available replacement housing is beyond their financial means, replacement "housing as a last resort" will be utilized to accomplish the rehousing. Detailed studies must be completed by the State Highway Administration before "housing as a last resort" can be utilized.

The "Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970" requires that the State Highway Administration shall not proceed with any phase of any project which will cause the relocation of any persons, or proceed with any construclion project, until it has furnished satisfactory assurances that the above payments will be provided and that all displaced persons will be satisfactorily relocated to comparable decent, safe and sanitary housing within their financial means or that such housing is in place and has been made available to the displaced person.

## APPENDIX D

## GLOSSARY

(These terms may appear either in the EIS or as noted on the drawings)

Arterial Highway :

Aux. Lane
A.D.T.

CollectorDistributor (C-D) Road
:

## Control of Access :

A highway primarily for thrutraffic, usually on a continuous route.

Auxiliary Lane
The portion of roadway adjoining the traveled way for parking, speed change, or for other purposes supplementary to the thru-traffic movement.

Average Daily Traffic
The total volume of auto and truck traffic passing a given point in both directions during a given time period (greater that one day and less than one year) in whole days, divided by the number of days in that time period.

A road contiguous to and generally paralleling an expressway, freeway, parkway or thru-street. Designed to intercept, collect, and distribute traffic desiring to cross, enter or leave such highways and may furnish access to property that otherwise would be isolated as a result of the controlled access. (Also referred to as Service Road.)

Full - Complete restriction of access on a thru facility except at interchanges. Grade separations for all crossings.

Uncontrolled - Access control limited only to safe geometrics. All crossroads, driveways, etc. may have points of ingress or egress.

| $\frac{\text { Design Hour Volume }}{(\text { DHV) }}$ | : | The percent of average daily traffic (ADT) generally accepted as the criterion used in the geometric design of rural and urban highways. Ideally the 30th highest hourly volume during a year, the DHV is commonly found to vary from 8\% to $12 \%$ of the ADT. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Design Speed: |  | A speed selected for purposes of design and correlation of those geometric features of a highway, such as curvature and sight distance, upon which safe vehicle operations is dependent. |
| Diurnal | : | Recurring every day, daily cycle. In reference to traffic flow, a term identifying hourly variations in traffic volumes (hourly flow rates). |
| Endangered | : | An organism of very limited numbers which may be subject to extinction, and is protected by law under the Endangered Species Act. |
| Expressway | : | A divided arterial highway for thru-traffic with full or partial control of access and generally with grade separation at major highways. |
| Freeway | : | An expressway with full control of access, grade separations at all roadway crossings. Access is permitted only at interchanges. |
| Grade Separation | : | Bridge structure such as an underpass or overpass that vertically separates two or more intersecting roadways, thus permitting traffic to cross without interference. |
| Herbaceous | : | A non-woody plant. |

Horizontal Sight Distance :

Housing of Last Resort : Interstate Freeway :

Levels of Service

The clear zone required adjacent to a highway curve which permits drivers to "see around the corner" for potential obstructions or other objects in their path.

A Maryland SHA Program to rehouse people who are displaced by right-of-way acquisition for highway projects when the cost to do so exceeds the limits of the Uniform Relocation Act.

A freeway primarily for thrutraffic with full interchanges for access. Interchange spacing is generally greater than that for a freeway.

Levels of Service are a measure of the conditions under which a roadway operates as it accommodates various traffic volumes. Influencing factors include speed, travel time, traffic interruptions, maneuvering freedom, safety, driving comfort, economy and, of course, the volume of traffic.

Levels of Service on expressways and freeways with uninterrupted flow conditions are ranked from $A$ to $F$ (best to worst) as follows:

Level A - free traffic flow, low volumes; high speeds.

Level B - stable traffic flow; some speed restrictions.

Level C - stable flow; increasing traffic volumes.

Level D - approaching unstable flow; heavy traffic volumes, decreasing speeds.
\(\left.$$
\begin{array}{ll}\text { Mainline } & : \begin{array}{l}\text { The portion of a roadway or } \\
\text { highway that carries through } \\
\text { traffic. }\end{array} \\
\text { Major Highway }\end{array}
$$ \quad \begin{array}{l}An arterial highway with <br>
intersections at grade and <br>
direct access to abutting <br>
property, and on which geometric <br>

design and traffic control\end{array}\right\}\)| measures are used to expedite |
| :--- |
| the safe movement of thru- |
| traffic. |

Initial - To be constructed initially Ultimate - The configuration subsequent to future construction.

| Outer Separation | A separator between a frontage <br> road or ramp and the roadway (or |
| :--- | :--- |
| ramp) of a controlled-access |  |
| highway. |  |



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[^0]:    1 "A Study of Appropriateness and Applicability of Light Rail Transit in Maryland - Final Report to the Legislative Policy Committee", Maryland Department of Transportation, October 1, 1988, p. 6-4.

[^1]:    1 "Baltimore /Washington International Airport Master Plan Update" for State Aviation Administration, Maryland Department of Transportation, by the Ralph M. Parsons Company/BartonAschman Associates, Inc., Volume VII Highway Access Plan, September, 1986.

    2 Office of Labor Market Analysis and Information, Maryland Department of Economic Development, January 1991.

[^2]:    1 Master Plan Baltimore County 1989-2000, Approved February 5, 1990, p. 23

[^3]:    Sources: Bureau of Census 1980: Baltimore and Anne Arundel County Planning and Zoning, pp. 21-24, 31-32, 65-68, 75-76

[^4]:    General Development Plan for Anne Arundel County and Round III Population Forecasts, Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning, May 1986.

[^5]:    1 Master Plan Baltimore County 1989-2000, Adopted February 5, 1990, p. 23

[^6]:    $T$ The quality of traffic flow along a roadway segment or through an intersection is measured in terms of Level of Service (LOS), ranging from 'A' best to 'F' worst.
    (Refer to Appendix $D$, pages $D-3$ and $D-4$ for full description)

[^7]:    1 "Maryland Water Quality Inventory", Office of Environmental Programs, Maryland Department of the Environment, April 15, 1986.

[^8]:    1 Water Resources Data Maryland and Delaware Water Year 1985 by Robert W. Jones, Robert H. Simmon, and Bernard F. Strain, U.S. Geological Survey Water-Data Report MD-DE-85-1

    2 "Maryland Water Quality Inventory", Office of Environmental Programs, Maryland Department of the Environment, April 15, 1986.

    3 "Ground Water Supplies in Anne Arundel County", Bulletin 26, Department of Geology, Mines, and Water Resources, State of Maryland, 1962.

[^9]:    ' See Appendix B Table B-6 for Wetland Classifications notes.
    2 Width determined from limited $1^{\prime \prime}=100^{\prime}$ scale project mapping.
    3 Wetlands $1,2,3,6,7,8,11,13,14,15,16$ identified in the DEIS are not impacted by the Selected Action.

[^10]:    68 - Underlined predicted noise levels approach or exceed 67 decibel criteria ** - Selected Action does not affect these areas.

[^11]:    (Additional comments may be placed on the back or on sepanare sheets of paper)
    Signature: $\square$ rld
    Name: $\qquad$ Joln J. O'Neill Organization: Dept. Of Public Safety

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[^12]:    1 Maryland Statewide Commuter Assistance Study, Maryland Department of Transportation, July, 1990.

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    464 Susan Ct.
    454 Susan Ct.
    466 Susan Ct.
    455 Susan Ct.
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    452 Susan Ct.
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