

PUBLIC NOTICE

In compliance with Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 USC 303), hereinafter referred to as "Section 4(f)," and its implementing regulations codified at 23 CFR Part 774, the Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation (PGDPW&T) is notifying the public through this notice that it will request the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) make a *de minimis* (or minor) impact finding in accordance with Section 4(t) regarding the permanent effects of the proposed Replacement of the Bridge No. P0495 Brandywine Road Bridge over Piscataway Creek through Piscataway Creek Stream Valley Park and to provide the opportunity for public review and comment of this proposed determination.

Section 6009(a) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) allows the FHWA to determine that certain transportation uses of Section 4(t) land will have no adverse effect on protected resources. With respect to publicly owned parks and recreation areas, a finding of *de minimis* impact may occur if a transportation project does not "adversely affect the activities, features and attributes" of the Section 4(t) resource. When this is the case, the finding by FHWA requires written concurrence from the official(s) with jurisdiction over the resource. Public notice and opportunity for public review and comment on the finding is also required.

The purpose of the proposed project is to replace the bridge and improve pedestrian and vehicular safety. PGDPW&T is proposing to replace the Bridge No. P0495, Brandywine Road Bridge with a new bridge structure in approximately the same location. The proposed structure will be widened to provide two five-foot one-inch wide sidewalks and a two 12-foot wide roadway lane and two 15-foot wide Bike lane/shoulder for a total clear roadway width of 54 feet (see Attachment 2). The proposed bridge and approach roadway widening will include a 15-foot bike lane/shoulder and a 5-foot 1-Inch sidewalk on both sides of Brandywine Road. The roadway will reduce gradually to meet the existing roadway section on both sides. Speed control devices, such as pavement markings and signage will be used to slow traffic for safety measures. The profile grade of the roadway is being raised by approximately 2.5 feet at the bridge to allow 25-year flood under the bridge.

Replacement of the wider bridge and approach roadway work will involve permanent and temporary construction right-of-way impacts to Piscataway Creek Stream Valley Park, managed by the M-NCPPC. Although the right-of-way to be transferred from the recreation area is considered a "use" as defined by Section 4(t) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act (1966), there will be no negative impact on the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the recreation area for protection under Section 4(t).

PGDPW&T is currently seeking concurrence with M-NCPPC, as officials with jurisdiction, regarding the *de minimis* finding. The public is requested to provide comments on this finding. Comments regarding the proposed Section 4(f) *de minimis* impact findings may be submitted to FHWA and PGDPW&T in writing or through the PGDPW&T website during the 15-day comment period; the comment deadline is September 10, 2018. Written comments may be provided to:

Prince George's County Department of Public
Works and Transportation
Highway & Bridge Design Division
9400 Peppercorn Place, 4th
floor Largo MD 20770