



**Local Concept Development Study for  
Passaic County  
Sixth Avenue Bridge over the Passaic River  
City of Paterson, Borough of Prospect Park and Borough of Hawthorne**



PROJECT INFORMATION



Passaic County in conjunction with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) and the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is performing a Local Concept Development (LCD) Study for the Sixth Avenue Bridge over the Passaic River in the City of Paterson, Borough of Prospect Park and Borough of Hawthorne. The overall purpose of this LCD study is to address structural, geometric, and operational deficiencies of the Sixth Avenue Bridge over the Passaic River and to provide a safe and efficient crossing for all modes of transportation. The LCD study will also review and assess existing roadway conditions within the project limits.

The Sixth Avenue Bridge (Structure No. 1600-012) designated County Route 652 crosses over the Passaic River connecting the City of Paterson with the Borough of Prospect Park and intersecting a portion of the Borough of Hawthorne in Passaic County. The Sixth Avenue Bridge is the main crossing from Paterson to points west, including William Paterson University and the Passaic County Vocational & Technical High School. The bridge is an important connection between the Bunker Hill section of Paterson and the communities of Hawthorne and Prospect Park.

The Project Background:

The bridge was originally constructed circa 1900 and consisted of a four span steel arch structure supported on stone masonry piers and abutments. In 1987, the four span steel arch structures were replaced with temporary four span continuous steel Acrow panel trusses. The bridge roadway deck was replaced with an open-grid steel decking system. The Sixth Avenue Bridge is classified as fracture critical due to the non-redundant continuous steel Acrow panel trusses. The Acrow panel trusses were installed over 29 years ago, which is beyond the typical temporary time period. The Acrow panel trusses are showing signs of age, fatigue, rust, missing/dislodged components and loose/shifted pins. The 2015 Bridge Re-Evaluation Report identified a number of safety concerns related to the deck geometry, superstructure and substructure of the bridge. In total, the report rated the Sixth Avenue Bridge's overall condition as fair due to the condition of the superstructure and substructure. The bridge is functionally obsolete due to inadequate deck geometry.

### The Proposed Study:

During the LCD phase a well-defined and well-justified Purpose and Need Statement will be developed focusing on the need to improve safety and maintain a local crossing over the Passaic River in the Study Area. The LCD Phase elements also include data collection; coordination with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), local municipal officials, community stakeholders, and permitting agencies; and the development of a reasonable number of sensible and practical conceptual alternatives, culminating in a recommended Preliminary Preferred Alternative. The study process will include environmental, right of way, access, utilities, design, community involvement, constructability, and cost.

The primary tasks of stakeholders are to provide community input to assist in the development of the Project Purpose and Need Statement, assist in the development of conceptual alternatives, identify possible fatal flaws, and to assist in the development of a recommended Preliminary Preferred Alternative based on the Project Purpose and Need.

### Local Concept Development Project Schedule (Major Milestones)

Develop Project Purpose and Need Statement	Winter 2017
Development of Conceptual Alternatives	Spring 2017
Recommended Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Summer 2017
Submission of Draft Concept Development Report	Fall 2017
Obtain Resolutions of Support for Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Fall 2017
Completion of Local Concept Development Phase	Winter 2018

### Anticipated Community Involvement Schedule

Community Stakeholders Meeting for Purpose & Need Statement Development	Winter 2017
Public Information Center for Purpose and Need Statement Development	Winter 2017
Obtain Community Stakeholders Input for Developed Alternatives	Summer 2017
Public Information Center Presentation of Developed Alternatives	Summer 2017
Local Officials Meeting No. 2 for Preliminary Preferred Alternative Recommendation	Fall 2017
Local Officials Meeting No. 3 for Obtaining Resolutions of Support	Fall 2017

### Contact Information

**Jonathan Pera, P.E.**  
***Passaic County Project Manager***  
County of Passaic  
Department of Public Works  
Division of Engineering  
401 Grand Street  
Paterson, NJ 07505  
973-881-4456  
jonathanp@passaiccountynj.org

**Steven J. Edmond, P.E.**  
***Passaic County Engineer***

