

Get Involved

Project information shared here is available for review after the public hearing at the location listed below:

VDOT Staunton District Office
811 Commerce Road
Staunton, VA 24401-9029

Comments can be submitted in writing to:

Mr. Ronald Tabor
Project Manager
Virginia Department of Transportation
811 Commerce Road
Staunton, VA 24401-9029

Comments may also be sent to:
StauntonVDOT@VDOT.Virginia.Gov

Please include "Route 624 PH Comment" in the subject line.

Ten days after this public hearing, on February 14, 2015, the public comment period will close. VDOT will review and evaluate any information received as a result of this hearing. This information, including the hearing summary, will be available for review at the VDOT office address listed below.

After all comments have been addressed the information received as a result of the hearing will be presented to VDOT's Chief Engineer or designee for consideration.

If approval of the major design features is received for this project, it will move forward to the final design phase. Public hearing participants who provide contact information will be notified of this decision by letter.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Ronald Tabor	Project Manager	811 Commerce Road Staunton, VA 24401-9029	540-332-9075 800-367-7623 (TDD/TTY 711)
J. Kirk Thomason	Right of Way Acquisition Team Leader Western Region	811 Commerce Road Staunton, VA 24401-9029	540-332-9128 800-811-7337 (TDD/TTY 711)
Sandy Myers	Staunton District Office of Communications	811 Commerce Road Staunton, VA 24401-9029	540-332-9201 800-367-7623 (TDD/TTY 711)



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Design Public Hearing

Route 624 (Morgan Ford Road) Bridge Replacement Warren County

Wednesday, February 4, 2015, 4-7 p.m.
North Warren Fire Department
89 Rockland Road
Front Royal, VA 22630



Public Meeting

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) design public hearing on proposed improvements to Route 624 (Morgan Ford Road) in Warren County from Route 643 (Howellsville Road) to 0.5-mile north of Route 643.

This design public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for any person, acting on his/her own behalf or representing a group or governing agency, to give the department comments and/or suggestions on the proposed project.

VDOT strives to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation projects and programs affecting them.

VDOT representatives are present to discuss the project and answer your questions.

A comment sheet is included in the handouts for this meeting, and your input is encouraged.

All oral and written comments received on this project will be included in a transcript for review by VDOT personnel, citizens and other interested parties.

Project Overview



Concept - Morgan Ford Road Bridge over the Shenandoah River

Cost - \$9.713 million

Purpose - This project replaces an existing substandard bridge.

From - 0.02-mile south of Route 643

To - 0.36-mile north of Route 643

Total length - 0.38-mile long

Improvements - Construct new bridge over the Shenandoah River.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The low-water single-lane bridge over the Shenandoah River on Route 624 (Morgan Ford Road) will be replaced with a new two-lane bridge in the same location as the existing structure. This project in Warren County extends from 0.02 mile south of Route 643 (Howellsville Road) to 0.36 mile north of Route 643.

The driving surface of the proposed bridge will be approximately eight feet higher from the existing driving surface. The bottom of the proposed bridge will be approximately six feet above the ordinary high water level.

Substandard curves on the bridge's southern end will be improved. The approaches on either side of the bridge will have two nine-foot lanes with six-foot shoulders where guardrail is needed. Four-foot ditches will be provided where needed.

Improvements will also be made to the Route 624 intersection with Route 643 (Howellsville Road).

At the existing bridge site there are easements with the Virginia Outdoor Foundation on the north side and Department of Game and Inland Fisheries property on the south side. Morgan Ford Boat Landing is on the southeastern side of the existing bridge.

The existing multi-span bridge is a single lane structure built in 1925, which is 321-feet long with a single 11-foot wide lane.

There are no bicycle or pedestrian accommodations on the existing or new bridges.

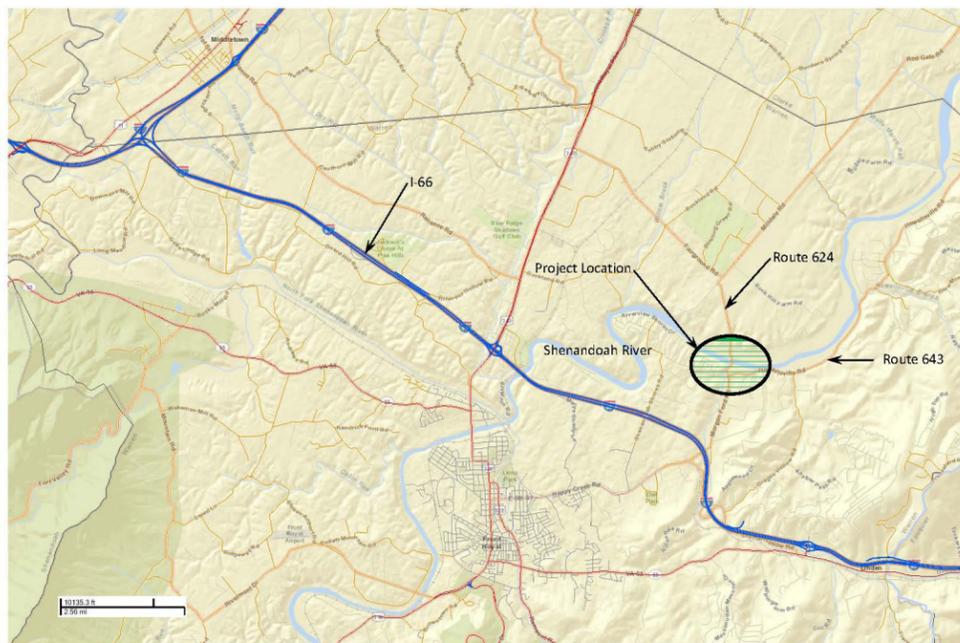
The current traffic counts on this portion of Route 624 are 1876 vehicles per day. This number is projected to increase to 3005 in the year 2035.

The design of this project is in compliance with the Stormwater Management Act, stormwater regulations and the annual stormwater management standards and specifications approved by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. The construction of this project will conform to the nationwide best management practices, VDOT specifications and special provisions, and the Virginia Department of Soil and Water conservation regulations. Also, during construction, every reasonable effort will be made to protect the environment with respect to dust and erosion control. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction.

Potential impacts to the flood plains will be evaluated and addressed on this project.

Location Map

Route 624 Morgan Ford over the Shenandoah River
Project No. 0624-093-192; UPC 77272



Estimated Project Cost

Total Cost:
\$9,713,152

Engineering of the Roadway Plans:
\$1,176,677

Right of Way Acquisition, Relocation Assistance
and Utility Relocation:
\$675,189

Construction:
\$7,861,286

This cost is subject to change.

Environmental Review

VDOT's Staunton District Environmental Office has performed environmental reviews and coordination to obtain information about environmental resources in the project vicinity; to provide natural and historic resource agencies an opportunity to review and comment on the project during its development; and to identify opportunities for avoidance, minimization and mitigation of potential environmental impacts.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is applicable to this project and a Categorical Exclusion (CE) NEPA document has been developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and in accordance with federal guidelines. The NEPA document includes information from various technical reviews including those related to natural resources, water quality, threatened and endangered species, air quality, noise, etc. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is also provided in the environmental documentation.

The project will continue to be coordinated with the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies as part of environmental review and approval processes required throughout project development and construction. All required environmental clearances and permits will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. Strict compliance with all environmental conditions and commitments resulting from regulatory approvals, and implementation of VDOT's specifications and standard best management practices will protect the environment during construction.

The NEPA document and the results of other environmental studies are available at today's meeting. Representatives from VDOT's Environmental Section are available to discuss this information and to answer questions.

Anticipated Schedule

The following schedule has been proposed:

Consideration for Design Approval – 2015

Begin Acquisition of Right of Way – 2015

Construction – 2016

Civil Rights

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

If you need more information in regards to your civil rights on this project or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the project manager listed on the back of this brochure.

Right of Way

The construction of the project will not require the displacement of any families, businesses or non-profit organizations.

As we further develop and finalize the development of this project, additional easements for utility relocation may be required beyond the proposed right of way shown on the public hearing plans.

The property owners will be informed of the exact location of the easements during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

Information about right of way acquisition is discussed in VDOT's brochure entitled, *Right of Way and Utilities: a Guide for Property Owners and Tenants*.

Copies of this booklet are available from a VDOT right of way agent.

After this meeting, information regarding right of way may be obtained from the right of way contact listed on the back of this brochure.