

7.0 Public and Agency Involvement

7.1 Public Involvement

A public information meeting for the Project was held on June 21, 2018. The meeting was advertised 2 weeks in advance in three local newspapers, via a DDOT email list, and with palm cards placed at Union Station, local grocery stores, and transit stops. There were 41 attendees, including 11 residents, representatives of ANC 6C, and the DC Office of Planning. DDOT received nine verbal comments and four written comment forms at the meeting. Comments were related to improving pedestrian and bicycle travel on the bridge, construction staging and phasing, transit/intermodal connections, preserving the Hopscotch Kids mosaics, and other concerns.

Following the meeting, DDOT received the following:

- Letter from ANC 6C concerning coordination with the planned WUSEP, Burnham Place development, and the public. DDOT met with ANC 6C on September 5, 2018, to discuss their comments. Because the comments were specific to the WUSEP, these comments were provided to DDOT staff coordinating with FRA.
- Email from Deirdre Saunder, artist of the Hopscotch Bridge mosaics, that included information on the removal, refurbishment, and reuse of the panel tiles on the bridge, and a cost estimate.

DDOT has also maintained a Project website for public information (<https://www.hstreetbridgeproject.com/>). The Project website contains a short description of the Project, a map of the Project limits, a Project schedule, email contact link, and materials used at the public meeting, including the following:

- Project fact sheet
- Meeting presentation
- Public meeting brochure
- Public meeting boards
- Comment sheet
- Title VI participant form

A summary of the public involvement efforts to date is provided in Appendix H.

The next public meeting will be scheduled after the environmental process is completed and prior to the start of construction.

7.2 Agency and Stakeholder Coordination

Agency and stakeholder coordination for the Project began with a kickoff meeting on November 30, 2017. This meeting included members of Amtrak, USRC, their design teams, and DDOT.

Throughout Project development, periodic meetings have been held with various agencies and stakeholders who have an interest in the design and construction of the bridge. DDOT met frequently with Amtrak, USRC, and the FRA so that design details were closely coordinated between the railyard and the bridge. The meetings typically included an update of the Project design, integration with the WUSEP, sharing of relevant design and environmental information, and discussion of the design needs and preferences of the agencies and stakeholders that relate to the bridge. Similarly, DDOT met several times with Akridge (developer of Burnham Place) and adjacent property owners to share design information and discuss access management during construction.

DDOT also met with the following District agencies:

- DC SHPO—effects on historic resources
- DC FEMS—construction impacts; emergency access, evacuation, and coordination during construction; fire protection design for the bridge and intersecting streets
- DOEE—stormwater permitting requirements, air quality permitting requirements, and hazardous materials studies
- DC Streetcar—streetcar design criteria and bridge design alternatives
- WMATA—bus and rail service impacts in design and during construction

Agency and stakeholder coordination is summarized in Appendix J.