



Eleventh Street Ledger

11TH STREET BRIDGE PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Spring 2012

Getting it Done! - New River Bridges Open with Fanfare

On December 16, 2011, a ribbon cutting celebration full of fanfare and pomp was held for the opening of the two new freeway bridges across the Anacostia River. The celebration held on the new, 11th Street Inbound Freeway Bridge (I-695 WB) was attended by more than 60 persons, including local and federal dignitaries. The Honorable Vincent C. Gray, Mayor of Washington DC, opened the ceremony by acknowledging and thanking everyone involved in the project for reach-

this important juncture,” said Mayor Gray. Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the first car traveled along the new inbound I-695 bridge the following day. Approximately two weeks following the opening of the inbound bridge, the outbound bridge opened for traffic.

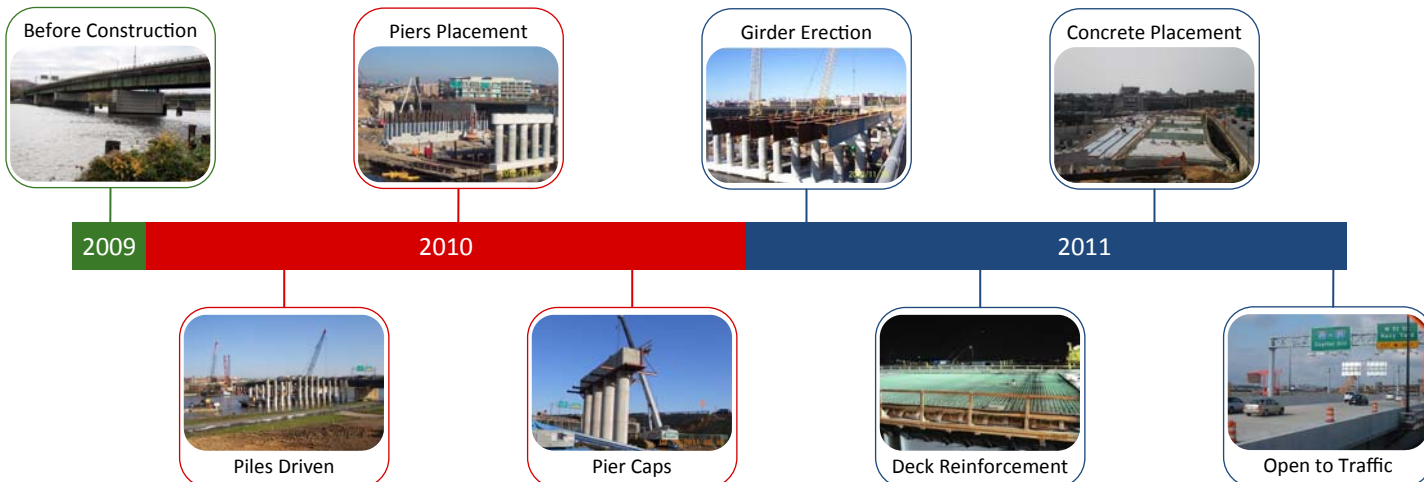
the missing ramps to/from northbound DC-295 from I-695 will be completed. By Winter 2012/2013, all significant construction associated with the project east of the Anacostia River will be completed - including the new ramps from 11th Street to DC-295/I-295 & the new pedestrian shared use path across the river.

The opening of these bridges marked a continued commitment by the project to deliver the new infrastructure with the least impact to the traveling public. By locating the new river bridges between the existing footprint of the old bridges, the contractor was able to fully construct the new river bridges without significantly disrupting traffic on the old bridges. The opening of these bridges marked a milestone in the 11th Street project.

The celebration wasn't over for the project by any means! On May 24, 2012, the local 11th Street bridge was open in an interim condition connecting the communities of Historic Anacostia and Capitol Hill. By this Fall, relief will come to neighborhoods as



ing such a momentous milestone. “Just two years after construction began, we have already arrived at



11th Street Bridge Project Continues to Deliver Progress as Promised...



The 11th Street Project continues to deliver the necessary infrastructure improvements while maintaining its commitment of minimally impacting residents, motorists and other important stakeholders. Since the opening of the new freeway bridges, traffic along the corridor has improved, and both local and regional commuters are awaiting the completion of this project.

The River

Work continues in the river with the construction of the local 11th Street Bridge. On May 24, 2012, the local bridge was open in an interim condition to allow the contractor to begin the demolition of the existing outbound bridge. Once the demolition of the superstructure begins, the existing river piers will be converted for use as overlooks along the local bridge. The overlooks will provide a view of Capitol Hill and a place to view the regattas along the river.

East of the River

While work seems to be wrapping up in the river, work continues on finishing bridges and ramps that will make the connection into the new

local 11th Street corridor. Once the new local bridge was opened, the current 13th Street ramp onto the 11th Street Inbound Freeway Bridge (I-695 WB) was permanently closed. During this time, local traffic will be directed along Martin Luther King, Jr Road and Good Hope Road to access the Freeway.

Since the 13th Street ramp has closed, work can proceed to finish constructing the missing interstate ramps connecting I-695 and DC-295

West of the River

Work continues on the new inbound bridge over I-695 (SE/SW Freeway) and the associated ramp movements. On May 18th, the new outbound interstate connection ramp from 11th and M Streets opened. In addition, the new ramp connection from 11th Street to westbound I-695 (SE/SW Freeway) will be opened by the 4th of July.

Project Completion

In April 2012, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) authorized the current Design/Build Contractor, Skanska/Facchina – Joint

Venture (SFJV), to proceed with engineering and preconstruction services of the remaining portion of the 11th Street Bridge Project. This phase, so named Project Completion, will complete all of the movements identified in the Record of Decision issued by the Federal Highway Administration and replace all of the infrastructure along I-695. Key elements of Project Completion include the following:

- Providing an additional evacuation route out of the city by providing an additional lane eastbound (outbound) on I-695.
- Providing a new interchange along I-695 at 11th Street, SE.
- Restoring the local street connectivity by converting a portion of Southeast/Southwest freeway, east of 11th Street to a boulevard, and extending 12th Street, SE to the new boulevard section.

Construction is anticipated to begin on this portion of the project in Summer of 2012 with an estimated completion of Winter 2015. This schedule is subject to change, so continue to check the newsletter for schedule updates.

What's up with I-695?

The opening of the new 11th Street Inbound Freeway Bridge was met with slight confusion because of the new signing across the river bridges. Not to be confused with Baltimore's Beltway, I-695 is indeed a part of the District's interstate system. Approved in 1958 this stretch of highway was to provide a connection from I-395 to I-295. When plans were abandoned to finish the construction of I-295 to DC-295 north of Pennsylvania Ave, the portion of the roadway to be designated as I-695 was never signed.

With the 11th Street project, officials saw an opportunity to correct the signing of the interstate system. As a result, the portion of I-695 between 11th Street and Pennsylvania Ave is being decommissioned from the inter-

state system, and I-695 is being designated to continue across the new 11th Street bridges to the new ramps at the I-295/DC-295/11th Street interchanges. While all of this seems con-

fusing, this re-designation is necessary to maintain continuity in the interstate system, and brand new signs are installed to help guide motorists.



A New Way to I-695 from Anacostia

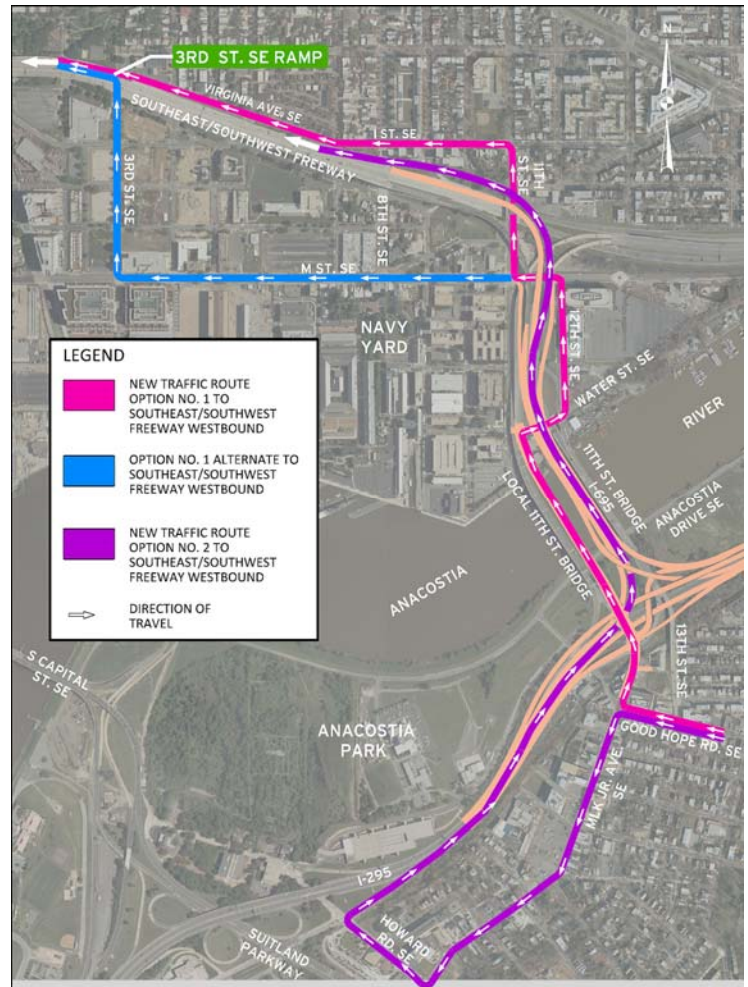
As part of the 11th Street Bridge Project, the District Department of Transportation will route Anacostia traffic accessing WB I-695 (SE/SW Freeway) as shown on the map. Access via the 13th Street SE Ramp will be permanently removed. This detour is temporary until the new ramp from 11th Street to WB I-695 opens before July 4th. Regional motorists are strongly urged to find alternative routes until the missing ramp from SB DC-295 to the 11th Street Inbound Freeway Bridge (I-695 WB) is opened, also by July 4th.

Option No. 1

Inbound Anacostia traffic heading to I-695 (SE/SW Freeway) will be routed to NB Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue and proceed inbound on the Local 11th Street Bridge then turn right on to O Street; Left on to 12th Street; Left on to M Street right on to 11th Street; Left on to I Street; and proceed on Virginia Avenue to 3rd Street ramp to access Southeast/Southwest Freeway. As an alternative to I Street and Virginia Avenue, traffic can continue on M Street and proceed to 3rd Street ramp to access I-695 (SE/SW Freeway).

Option No. 2

Inbound Anacostia traffic heading to I-695 (SE/SW Freeway) will be routed SB Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue and proceed to Howard Road to NB I-295 and proceed across the 11th Street Inbound Freeway Bridge (I-695 WB).



DBE Education & Training Program

The goal of the 11th Street Bridge DBE Project Management Team is to increase the capacity of DBE firms interested in accessing contracting opportunities on the 11th Street Bridge Project. The DBE Project Management Team (PMT) works closely with the Business Opportunity & Workforce Development Center (BOWDC) of the District's Department of Transportation (DDOT) to identify training issues essential to the ability of DBE contractors to competitively position their firms for transportation contracts.

The PMT began their series of education and training workshops by focusing on DBE certification, conducting bi-weekly workshops at the 11th Street Bridge project site during



the month of November in 2011. By December, the DBE PMT Workshop Planning Committee decided to take the education and training initiative on the road, hosting events in the community where larger audiences could be accommodated. On December 6, 2011, the DBE Project Management Team identified the Anacostia Public Library as the venue for the third training seminar in the series. The workshop focused on Estimating and Teaming Agreements.

A total of 23 non-panelists participated in the third event where 47% of the participants rated the workshop "Superior;" 33% rated the workshop "Excellent;" and 20% rated the workshop "Good." In addition to the favorable evaluations, forty percent (40%) of the evaluators responded affirmatively regarding the need for follow-up. One-third of these participants asked for bonding and the balance of the group requested teaming and finance assistance. This invaluable input provided the PMT Workshop Planning Committee the opportunity to plan the January Finance and Bonding workshop. In addition, the PMT began to structure an on-going program of technical assistance to compliment the training.



This event was structured to accommodate "Resource Partner" representatives from local banks, financial institutions and bond producers. The event also attracted co-sponsorships from the Federal Department of Transportation's OSDBU Office, the SBA's Surety Bond Guarantee Program, the District's Department of Small & Local Business Development (DSLBD) and the Surety and Fidelity Association. Since the inaugural seminar, attendance increased with each successive event. January produced more than two dozen DBE firms and banking industry leaders M&T Bank, Industrial Bank of Washington and Virginia Heritage Bank, both local participants in DOT's Short Term Lending Program and who target DBE transportation contractors with financial needs.

Milestones

Forecast	2012
1 Opened 11th Street Local Bridge S-1 Interim Conditions	May 24
2 Closed 13th Street Ramp to Inbound 11th Street Bridge	May 24
3 Open DC-295 SB to I-295 IB Ramp B-1 to Bridge S-3	Before July 4th
4 Open I-295 OB to DC-295 NB Ramp B-2	Late September

