



HANOVER STREET CORRIDOR STUDY

includes the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge

Project Background

The historic Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge was opened to traffic in 1917 and serves as a major gateway into Baltimore City from I-95 and the Port of Baltimore. This 100-year old drawbridge is located on South Hanover Street and crosses the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River between West Cromwell Street and Waterview Avenue. The bridge is a primary access corridor into the city for many south Baltimore neighborhoods.

In 2009, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) created a program as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which authorized the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grants as a means of funding needed transportation projects. The Baltimore City Department of Transportation (BCDOT) submitted an application for a TIGER Grant to conduct a study that would identify the implementation steps needed to repair or replace the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge.

In 2014, BCDOT was awarded \$1.1 million in TIGER funds to begin studying the Hanover Street Corridor, including the iconic bridge.

Why is a Study Needed?

BCDOT realizes the importance of this corridor and iconic gateway bridge for the City. As with other major infrastructure improvements, BCDOT needs to follow a process to identify and analyze the multimodal needs of the corridor, understand the complex economic market surrounding the corridor, identify processes for

obtaining necessary environmental clearances, and identifying potential funding sources that would move the City closer to implementation. Nearly 50 percent

Quick Facts about the Study

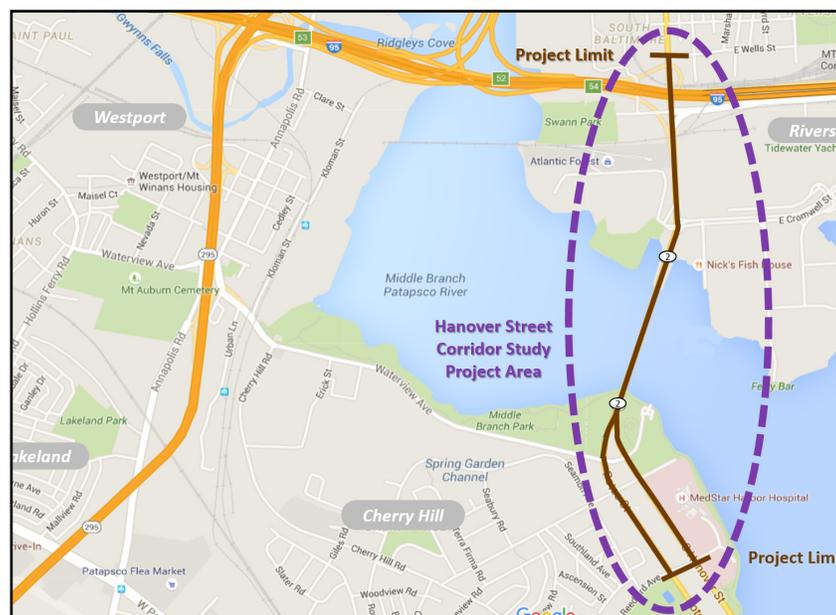
- Study Limits: Hanover Street between Wells Street and Reedbird Avenue
- Study Completion: February 2018
- Bridge Built: 1916 (opened to traffic in 1917)
- Bridge Length: 2,290' (0.43 miles)
- Bridge Width: 72' total (60' roadway width)
- Bridge Configuration: 5 lanes (2 each direction and reversible center lane)

of the households in South Baltimore do not have access to a vehicle and are dependent on alternative modes of transportation to access key employment centers and other city assets. At an estimated cost of \$150 million, the City acknowledges that an in-kind replacement of the 100-year old bridge may not meet all current and future multimodal transportation needs. This study will result in a comprehensive transportation plan for a multimodal corridor that safely accommodates all modes of travel prior to beginning roadway and bridge design. BCDOT will be sure to provide key stakeholders and users with multiple opportunities to offer input on how the corridor should be designed.

What is the Hanover Street Corridor Study?

The goal of the Hanover Street Corridor Study is to identify ways to upgrade and enhance the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge and the adjacent corridor. The project will study ways to improve accessibility for local and regional motorists, provide passage to and from the Port of Baltimore, promote better connectivity between Local Bus and Light Rail services, provide the surrounding communities with safe and reliable access to key quality of life resources, and enhance a critical link between existing and planned bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

The Hanover Street Corridor Study is the first step in the larger project development process. It will include the evaluation of current and future multimodal transportation conditions along Hanover Street from Wells Street in South Baltimore to Reedbird Avenue in the Cherry Hill neighborhood. The Study Team will assess ways to improve mobility and safety for all users of the bridge and the adjacent corridor, including pedestrians, bicyclists, commercial freight, transit and motorists. The team will collect data to determine



how the corridor is currently being used and assess how it is expected to be used in the future. The study will also evaluate the existing bridge and determine next steps for rehabilitation or replacement of some or all of the structure. All of this information will then be used to create a Design Master Plan and an Investment Implementation Plan that will help BCDOT determine how to address the needs of the corridor in the future. Future steps in the project development process, which are not part of this study, include securing future funding, conducting planning and environmental regulatory reviews, and initiating detailed design phases for the ultimate construction of improvements.

How Will this Study Be Conducted?

The Study Team will complete several different steps to create a feasibility study and implementation plan. The first task in the study is the collection and review of existing master plans, regional and community demographic data, existing and proposed land uses, current traffic data, and recent bridge inspection reports. In a concurrent step, the team will conduct an economic market analysis to assess the current economic climate and identify opportunities for future development. Following this effort, the existing transportation network will be analyzed to understand how all users travel through the corridor. Some of the assets to be considered include roadway design, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational facilities, transit facilities, freight and goods movement, and safety amenities. All of this data will ultimately be used to inform the development of a feasibility study for the transportation corridor and help the team develop guiding principles for BCDOT to use when finalizing plans for the Hanover Street corridor.

What is the Project Schedule?

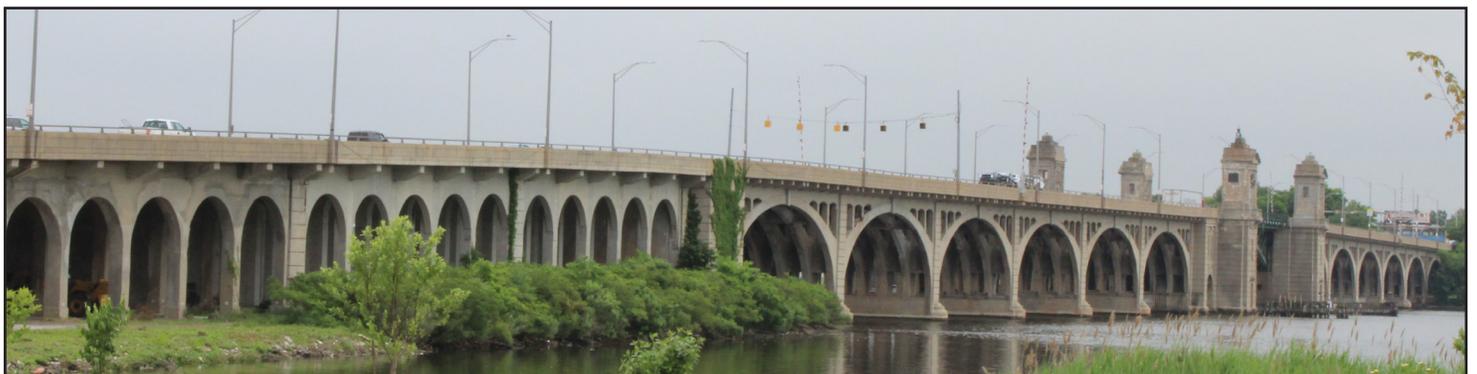


The project will adhere to scheduling guidelines administered by the USDOT to grant recipients. BCDOT is expected to complete this study within 2 years.

How Can I Be Involved?

BCDOT is engaging two stakeholder groups throughout the Study: a Community Advisory Panel (CAP) and an Interagency Advisory Group (IAG). The CAP is comprised of leaders from community groups and key property and business owners that will help the Study Team understand the needs of the corridor from a local perspective. The IAG is made up of representatives from various state and local agencies working in the study area. Meetings for the CAP and IAG began in the Spring of 2016 and are expected to continue throughout the project. Presentation materials from the CAP and IAG meetings will be available for review on the BCDOT website. In addition to these two advisory groups, BCDOT will periodically hold meetings for the general public to attend throughout the study to learn more about the process and findings as well as provide input and feedback. Additionally, the team will use the project newsletter and public meetings to:

- Share information on the progress of the study;
- Explain results at study milestones;
- Provide insight into the parameters of the Study; and
- Engage the public about the project work and solicit public feedback.



Please Join Us at Our Upcoming Public Information Meeting:

Thursday, September 15, 2016

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

(formal presentation begins at 6:30 PM)

MedStar Harbor Hospital Auditorium

3001 South Hanover Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21230

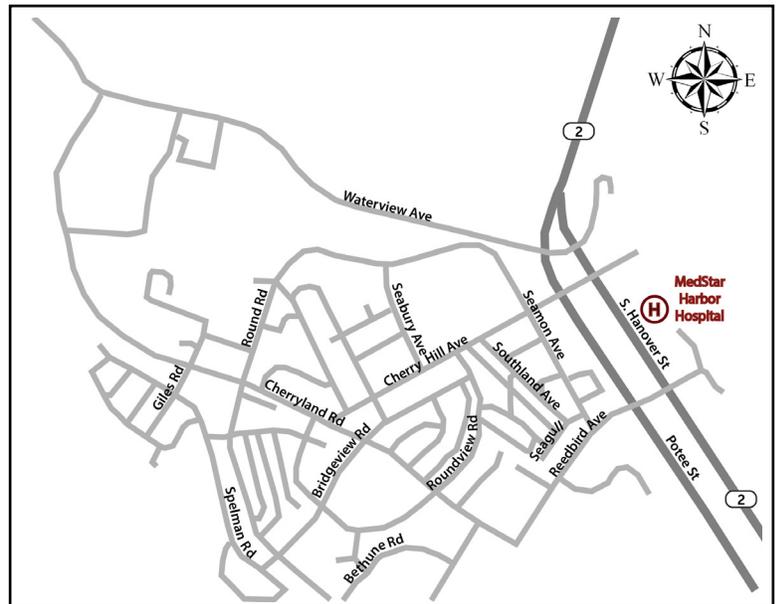
Stay Involved!

In order to receive periodic information about the Hanover Street Corridor Study, please join our project mailing list by sending an email request to Ms. Odessa Phillip at Odessa.Phillip@baltimorecity.gov or by calling our office at (410) 396-6856.

You may also visit Baltimore City Department of Transportation's website for additional project information at <http://transportation.baltimorecity.gov/>.

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