



Midcounty Corridor Study
Montgomery County, Maryland

2013 DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS REPORT

This Draft Environmental Effects Report (EER) details the potential impacts of five build alternatives on the natural and built environment. This document is being prepared to assist the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in complying with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and to fulfill the requirements of the Clean Water Act and the Maryland Non-tidal Wetlands Protection Act regarding an alternatives analysis. No Federal Highway Administration funding is being pursued for this project. Therefore, USACE is the lead federal agency for purposes of NEPA compliance. A joint federal/state permit application has been submitted to USACE and Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for authorization to impact waters of the U.S., including jurisdictional wetlands.

The USACE, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and MDE were invited to concur with MCDOT reports at three milestones in the project development process: Purpose and Need, Alternatives Retained for Detailed Study, and Preferred Alternative/Conceptual Mitigation. The first two milestones have been completed.

Other agencies participating on the study team include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Planning Department, M-NCPPC Parks Department, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (MCDEP), and the City of Gaithersburg.

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation, in cooperation with USACE and MDE, is making this document available for public review prior to conducting a joint USACE/MDE public hearing. The public hearing will be announced in a public notice that will be mailed to those on the project mailing list, and advertised in local newspapers. The Draft EER is available on the project website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/midcountycorridorstudy and at the following public libraries and County offices (please call in advance to reserve a time slot for viewing):

Damascus Public Library
9701 Main Street
Damascus, MD 20872
Phone: 240-773-9444

Quince Orchard Public Library
15831 Quince Orchard Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Phone: 240-777-0200

Rockville Memorial Library
21 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850
Phone: 240-777-0140

Germantown Public Library
19840 Century Boulevard
Germantown, MD 20874
Phone: 240-777-0110

Upcounty Regional Service Ctr.
12900 Middlebrook Road
Suite 1000
Germantown, MD 20874
Phone: 240-777-8040

Gaithersburg Public Library-
Interim Branch
701 Russell Ave., Suite D201
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
Phone: 240-773-9490