



FACT SHEET

PROJECT NEED

The Elkton Road Improvements Project is the second phase of work on Elkton Road. The purpose of the project is to reconstruct deteriorating pavement, improve traffic capacity and operations, add pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and improve safety.



PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Elkton Road Improvements Project began as a planning study from the Maryland (MD) State Line to Delaware Avenue. The study, performed in the mid-2000's, identified structural, capacity, operational and safety improvements needed on Elkton Road from Delaware Avenue to the MD state line. As part of this effort, traffic count and crash history data were collected and analyzed to determine the improvements needed. In addition, existing data such as environmental and cultural resources were identified. Due to the number of stakeholders, a comprehensive public outreach program was put in place. The effort began with stakeholder meetings with the City of Newark, the University of Delaware, and the Newark Bicycle Sub-Committee. A working group representing these interests consisting of WILMAPCO, business owners, community representatives, and legislators was formed. This group helped guide the development of alternatives and selection of the preferred alternative.

Due to the scope and cost to address the issues identified, the improvements were broken into two main phases. The first phase was completed in 2012, which included pavement reconstruction, implementing a road diet (reduction in the number of lanes) from Apple Road to Delaware Avenue, adding a second left turn lane onto Casho Mill Road, upgrading traffic signals, adding bike lanes, and improving transit and pedestrian facilities including the addition of a mid-block crossing east of Beverly Road. The second phase, Elkton Road from Casho Mill Road to MD State Line, will start construction in August 2020 and is estimated to be complete in Spring 2023.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

During the Elkton Road Improvements Project, the following improvements will be made:

1. Reconstruction of Elkton Road pavement from the MD state line to Gravenor Lane and widening of Elkton Road to provide three northbound travel lanes from Ott Chapel Road to SR 4 (Christina Parkway).
2. Addition of a second right turn lane from westbound SR 4 onto northbound Elkton Road.
3. Addition of a 1.5-mile-long, ten-foot wide shared use path on the northbound side of Elkton Road from Stone Gate Boulevard (MD) to Gravenor Lane. The path is located on the East Coast Greenway, the country's longest bikeway and walking route, and proposes two pedestrian bridges to span two branches of the Christina River. A connection to the Mason Dixon Trail (aka Rittenhouse Trail) is proposed near the Christina River at the northerly project limits.
4. Addition of sidewalk on the southbound side of Elkton Road from the Louviers Credit Union entrance to northerly project limits and on the north side of McIntire Drive from Elkton Road to Twin Lakes Boulevard. A connection from the sidewalk will be provided to the Mason Dixon Trail (aka Rittenhouse Trail).
5. Addition of a ten-foot wide shared use path on the south side of McIntire Drive and sidewalk on the north side of McIntire Drive from Elkton Road to the Newark High School entrance.
6. New traffic signals at the following Elkton Road intersections:
 - a. McIntire Drive
 - b. Otts Chapel Road
 - c. Interchange Boulevard
 - d. SR 4 (Christina Parkway)/Suburban Drive
7. Additional pedestrian crossings at the following Elkton Road intersections:
 - a. Stone Gate Boulevard/Fletcherwood Road – across Elkton Road and Stone Gate Boulevard
 - b. Otts Chapel Road – across Elkton Road, Otts Chapel Road, and Louviers Credit Union entrance drive
 - c. Interchange Boulevard – across Elkton Road and Interchange Boulevard
 - d. SR 4 (Christina Parkway)/Suburban Drive – second across Elkton Road
 - e. Existing pedestrian crossings at McIntire Drive will be maintained
8. Rehabilitate bridge over West Branch of the Christina River located west of Otts Chapel Road.
9. New lighting throughout the project limits.
10. Upgrading pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities.

For more information about this project, please visit or email: elktonroadimprovements.com

or email: dotpublic@delaware.gov