



**US 113 NORTH/SOUTH STUDY**

# **US 113 North/South Study Millsboro-South Area Public Workshops**

**Millsboro: May 24, 2010  
Selbyville: May 25, 2010**



# Welcome

- Welcome to the eighth round of public workshops for the US 113 North/South Study in the Millsboro-South Area.
  - The area includes the towns of Millsboro, Dagsboro, Frankford, and Selbyville and portions of Sussex County on both sides of these towns.
- These workshops are a continuation of DelDOT's extensive consultation with the public (including the Millsboro-South Area Working Group), local officials, and federal and state environmental resource agencies.

# Workshop purpose

- The purpose of this workshop is to explain:
  - Why DeIDOT is planning for improvements in the US 113 corridor
  - What has occurred since the last workshop in March 2007
  - The process used to identify a Recommended Preferred Alternative, including:
    - Which alternatives have been retained for further evaluation and which have been dropped
    - Why the Blue Alternative has been preliminarily identified as the Recommended Preferred Alternative
    - Changes that have been made to the Blue Alternative
  - What happens next

# Tonight's Displays

1. Welcome / Purpose of the Workshop
2. Community Involvement / Resource Agency Coordination
3. Property Acquisition Process
4. Yellow Alternative (On-Alignment)
5. Green, Purple Alternatives (Western Bypasses)
6. Red, Blue Alternatives (Eastern Bypasses)
7. Blue Alternative
8. Status Updates
  - Milford Area
  - Ellendale Area
  - Georgetown Area
9. Next Steps
10. Thank You

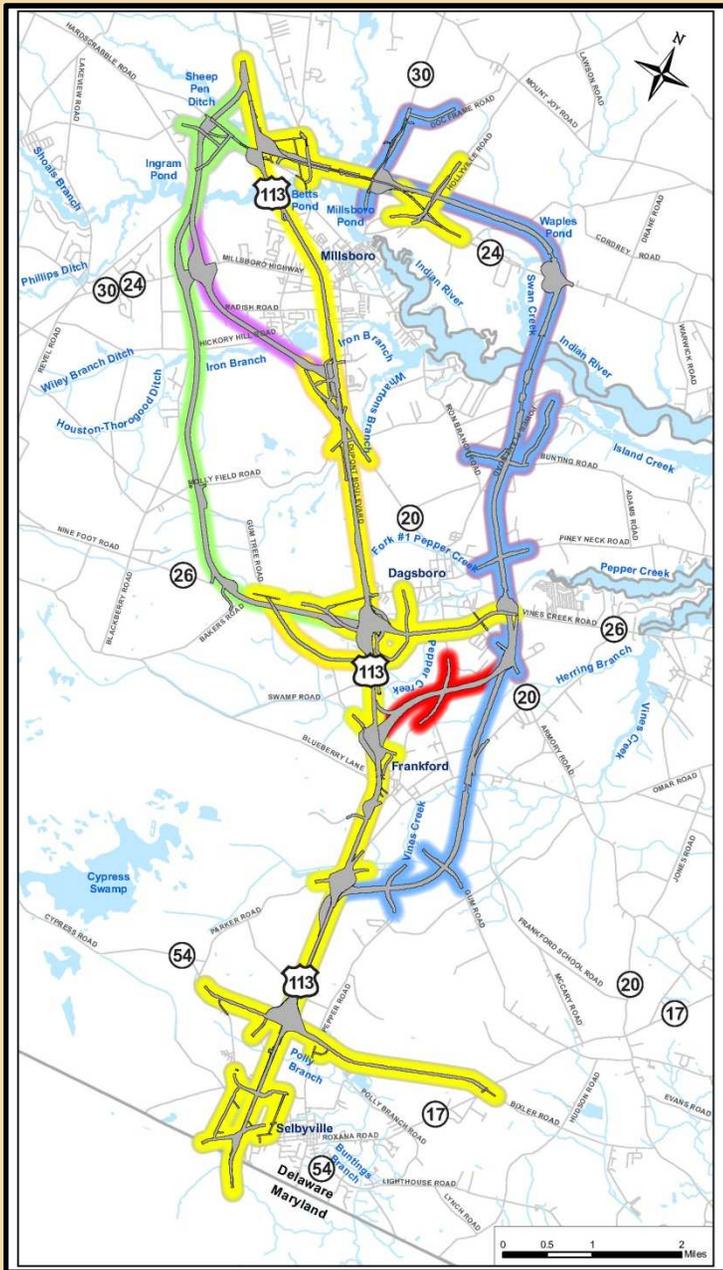
# Purpose and Need for the US 113 Project

- To identify, select, and protect an alignment for a limited-access US 113 through Sussex County to:
  - Address current and future transportation needs
  - Minimize impacts to natural and cultural resources
  - Accommodate planned economic growth
  - Provide property owners impacted by the alignment with a path forward
  - Have a protected alignment when it is time for construction

# Progress since the spring 2007 workshops

- Eliminated from further consideration potential alternatives connecting the Georgetown and Millsboro areas
- Held multiple meetings with the resource agencies to evaluate potential impacts to natural and cultural resources
- Evaluated and compared impacts associated with each alternative
- Refined alternatives to reduce and mitigate potential impacts as much as possible
- Reduced the number of alternatives to be presented and evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
- Preliminarily identified a Recommended Preferred Alternative

# We retained and evaluated six alternatives:



- No-Build Alternative
- On-Alignment
  - Yellow Alternative
- Western Bypasses
  - Green Alternative
  - Purple Alternative
- Eastern Bypasses
  - Blue Alternative
  - Red Alternative

# We evaluated the alternatives using the following criteria:

## ■ Public/Community Involvement

- Public, Working Group, and resource agency input
- Socio-economic impacts
- Acquisitions and relocations
- Changes in access
- Agricultural districts and easements

## ■ Natural Resources

- Wetlands
- Streams and tax ditches
- Rare, threatened and endangered species
- Forests

## ■ Cultural Resources

- Historic properties
- Archaeological sites and sensitivity
- Cemeteries

## ■ Noise

## ■ Air Quality

## ■ Engineering

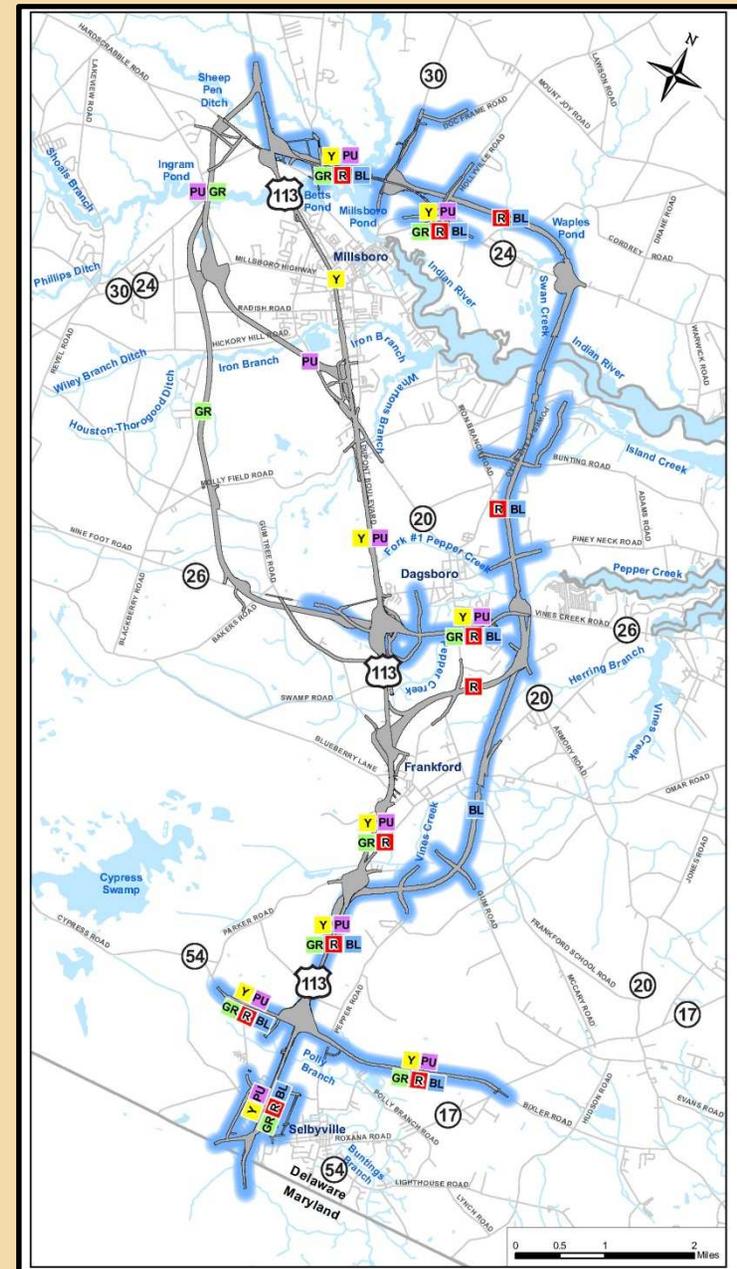
- Effectiveness at meeting project needs (including traffic, safety, and emergency evacuation)
- Consistency with State and Local Comprehensive Plans
- Construction impacts
- Cost

# Above all, we've listened!

- 17 Working Group meetings
  - The Millsboro-South Area Working Group recommended the Blue Alternative, which includes the On-Alignment segment through Selbyville.
- 7 rounds of public workshops
  - The potential alternatives connecting the Georgetown and Millsboro areas, which were shown at the last round of public workshops in 2007, were removed from consideration based on your comments.
- Multiple meetings with the environmental resource agencies, including extensive field views
  - The Aqua, Brown, Pink, and Orange Alternatives were removed from consideration based on agency coordination.
- Meetings with elected and appointed officials from the State, Sussex County and Towns in the project area
  - The Gold Alternative was removed from consideration based on consultation with the Town of Selbyville.

# Why the Blue Alternative?

- Most effectively meets current and future needs
  - Attracts the greatest volume of traffic
  - Can be constructed with the least impact to the traveling public
  - Provides the best option for creating a new corridor to facilitate emergency evacuations from the coastal areas of Delaware and Maryland
  - Improves local emergency vehicle access
- Recommended by the Working Group; preferred by the towns, county and state elected officials, and general public
- Better opportunity to mitigate natural resource impacts
- Lowest potential impact to historic properties
- Fewest properties impacted
- Most compatible with State Strategies and Local Comprehensive Plans



# Potential Project Phasing

- Based on current need, the East-West Connector Roads (SR 24, SR 26, SR 54) would likely be constructed first.
- The remaining off-alignment segments would likely be constructed north to south; however, construction priorities would be based on demand, as determined by traffic monitoring, and on funding availability.
- It is anticipated that the on-alignment segment south of Frankford (through Selbyville) to the state line would be constructed last.

# Next steps

- Consider public comments and continue to refine alternatives.
- Revise the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) based on Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and resource agency comments.
- Finalize the DEIS and provide it to FHWA for approval and publication.
- Publish the DEIS for public review and comment in late 2010.
- Conduct a public hearing in early 2011.
- Publish Final Environmental Impact Statement.
- Secure Record of Decision from FHWA, completing the environmental process.
- Protect the selected alignment until it is needed.

# What you can do to be heard!

- Ask questions and provide comments
  - The Project Team is here to answer your questions.
  - Tonight: Submit your comment form in the boxes provided.
  - Before July 2, 2010, send your comments to DelDOT by:
    - **Mail:** DelDOT Public Relations at the address on the form
    - **Fax:** DelDOT Public Relations at 302-739-2092
    - **Phone:** 800-652-5600 (in DE) or 302-760-2080
    - **Email:** dot-public-relations@state.de.us
    - **Online:** <http://www.deldot.gov/information/projects/us113>

**Thank you  
for your interest  
and participation!**