Messaging, Planning & Environmental Documents for Communities

Cross Harbor Freight Program Tier I EIS

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Port Commerce Department
Purpose & Need

*Improve the movement of goods in the greater New York/New Jersey region by enhancing the transportation of freight across New York Harbor.*
# Tiered Environmental Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIER I</th>
<th>TIER II</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Complex Regional Projects</td>
<td>• Depending on alternative(s) selected, could be a CE, EA, or EIS</td>
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<td>• Cost-efficient evaluation of a broad range of alternatives</td>
<td>• Assessment of potential effects associated with a specific facility or activity</td>
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<td>• Assessment of alternatives when level of detail is limited</td>
<td>• Project-specific mitigation measures</td>
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<td>• Selection of mode, alignment, and termini</td>
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Tier 1 EIS Timeline

- **Notice of Intent**: May 2010
- **Public Scoping**: Oct-Nov 2010
- **Response to Comments**: June-July 2011
- **Screening Analysis**: 2010-2014
- **Detailed Evaluation**: 2011-2014
- **Publish Tier I DEIS**: Nov 2014
- **Public Comment Period & Hearings**: Winter 2014/15
- **Publish Tier I FEIS**: Fall 2015
- **Tier I ROD**: January 2016
Tier I DEIS Narrowed Down Alternatives

Diagram showing the process:
1. Long List of Alternatives
2. Initial Screening/Fatal Flaw
   - Leads to 27 alternatives
3. Screening Using Project Goals
   - Leads to 14 alternatives
4. Detailed Evaluations
   - Leads to 10 alternatives
Robust Public Outreach for DEIS

49 Repositories for DEIS viewing

Over 1,000 Comments accepted by mail, email, and fax, and as oral or written testimony at public hearings

7 Public Hearings (January - March 2015)

120 Day Public Comment Period (NEPA - 45 Days)

23 Public Outreach Meetings with interested parties
DEIS Public Participation Effort

Requirements of SAFETEA-LU

Port Authority-Directed Outreach

- Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Participating Agencies
- Co-operating Agencies
- Public Meetings/ Hearings

- Borough/Town Councils
- Special Interest Groups
- Elected Officials
- Residents
- Businesses
- Property Owners

Involvement
Providing Updates

Website

CrossHarborStudy.com

Meetings Advertised in local Publications

Newsletters

E-Communication/Social Media
Lessons Learned

- Flexibility and accommodation are critical to an effective outreach effort.
- Coordination with all internal stakeholders ensures smooth public outreach process.
- Broad distribution of project information helps to ensure that affected communities have correct information at hand to formulate their own opinions.
Questions?