



**COUNTY OF BERGEN / COUNTY OF ESSEX**  
**Local Concept Development Study for**  
**Kingsland Avenue (De Jessa Memorial) Bridge**  
**Township of Lyndhurst and Township of Nutley, NJ**

---



**PROJECT INFORMATION**

Bergen County and Essex County are conducting a study for bridge improvements such as a major rehabilitation or replacement of the existing Kingsland Avenue (De Jessa Memorial) Bridge over the Passaic River to address its structural deficiencies and maintain an important transportation connection for local residents and regional commuters in Bergen County and Essex County. Due to its age, the bridge has deteriorated over time and routine maintenance can no longer address the deficiencies.

**The Project Background**

The existing bridge is in poor overall condition. Several factors contribute to this assessment:

*Condition:* The bridge is structurally deficient with its superstructure in poor physical condition with observed fatigue cracks found in numerous steel members and loss of section at panel point joints of most below deck truss members. The substructure is in satisfactory condition but has a moderate potentially vulnerability to scour. The bridge's mechanical machinery and electrical system are in poor condition; reaching the end of their serviceable life.

*Highway Safety:* The bridge railings do not meet current crash and safety standards.

*Public Safety:* Many parts of the electrical installation on the bridge do not conform to or are in violation of current standards. The bridge control system is not provided with any backup form of operation in the event of a control device or relay failure.

*Seismic:* The bridge is susceptible to seismic forces and does not meet current seismic design standards.

**The Proposed Study:**

The current phase of this project is Local Concept Development (LCD). During this phase a well-defined and well-justified Purpose and Need Statement will be developed focusing on the need to improve safety and maintain the current crossing over the Passaic River. The LCD Phase elements also include data collection; coordination with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, US Coast Guard, local officials, community stakeholders, and permitting agencies; the development of a reasonable number of sensible and practical conceptual alternatives; the development of a Preliminary Preferred Alternative, and to investigate all aspects of the project. These aspects will include environmental, right of way, access, utilities, design, community involvement, constructability, and cost (see NJTPA LCD flowchart).

The primary tasks of stakeholders are to provide community input to assist in the development of the Project Purpose and Need Statement, assist in the development of conceptual alternatives, identify possible fatal flaws, and to assist in the recommendation of the Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) based on the Project Purpose and Need.

## Local Concept Development Project Schedule (Major Milestones)

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Develop Project Purpose and Need Statement                         | Fall 2016   |
| Development of Conceptual Alternatives                             | Winter 2017 |
| Recommendation of Preliminary Preferred Alternative                | Fall 2019   |
| Submission of Draft Concept Development Report                     | Winter 2020 |
| Obtain Resolution of Support for Preliminary Preferred Alternative | Winter 2020 |
| Completion of Local Concept Development Phase                      | Spring 2020 |

## Anticipated Community Involvement Schedule

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Local Officials Meeting No. 1 - Input on Purpose and Need  | Fall 2016                 |
| Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 1 for Purpose & Need Statement Development                                  | Fall 2016                 |
| Public Information Center for Purpose and Need Statement Development   | Fall 2016                 |
| Community Stakeholders Meeting No. 2 - Input for Conceptual Alternatives                                       | Spring 2017               |
| Local Officials Meeting No. 2 for Preliminary Preferred Alternative Recommendation                             | Fall 2019 / Winter 2020   |
| Public Information Center No. 2 – Conceptual Alternatives and Preliminary Preferred Alternative Recommendation | Fall 2019 / Winter 2020   |
| Obtain Resolutions of Support for PPA from Municipalities & Counties   | Winter 2020 / Spring 2020 |

## Contact Information

**Joseph Baladi, P.E.**  
***Bergen County Division Head - Planning***

County of Bergen  
Department of Planning and Engineering  
One Bergen County Plaza  
Hackensack, NJ 07601  
201-336-6428  
jbaladi@co.bergen.nj.us

**Luis E. Rodriguez**  
***Essex County Assistant County Engineer***

County of Essex  
Division of Engineering  
900 Bloomfield Avenue  
Verona, NJ 07044  
973-226-8500 x2650  
lrodriguez@essexcountynj.org

**Joseph A. Femia, P.E.**  
***Bergen County Engineer***

**Sanjeev Varghese, P.E., P.P.**  
***Essex County Engineer***

For additional project information, visit the project website: [www.kingslandavenuebridge.com](http://www.kingslandavenuebridge.com)

