



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**

Community Input Survey – SUMMARY UPDATE *Total Sent: 308 Rec'd: 42 (13.4%) As of: 1/17/17*

1. Were you aware of this Bridge Improvement Study? Yes No

- YES (22)
- NO (19)
- Blank (1)

2. How often do you use the Kingsland Avenue (de Jessa Memorial) Bridge? (please check)

Everyday (30 days) Often (5-10 days) Seldom (1-3 days) Never

- Everyday (20)
- Often (9)
- Seldom (6)
- Never (0)

3. Do you use public transportation in this area? Everyday Often Seldom Never If so, what type? NJ Transit Private Bus Other

- Everyday (5)
- Often (6)
- Seldom (8)
- Never (27)

- NJ Transit (10)
- Private Bus (3)
- Other (6)

- Local Jitney Service
- DeCamp to Manhattan (2)
- Car service to Newark Airport

4. Do you walk or ride a bike in this area? Yes Often Sometimes No

a. If walking across the bridge, which sidewalk did you use prior to the closure:

Northside (westbound traffic) Southside (eastbound traffic) Both Not on bridge

b. If bicycling, please circle: sidewalk or shoulder and which side:

Northside (westbound traffic) Southside (eastbound traffic) Both Not on bridge

- YES (15)
- Often (4)
- Sometimes (3)
- NO (19)



a. WALK

- *Everyday* (1)
- *Often* (1)
- *Sometimes* (1)
- *Never* (1)

Walking across bridge which side do you prefer

- *Northside* (2)
- *Southside* (1)
- *Both* (6)
- *Not on Bridge* (13)

b. BIKING

- *Everyday* (0)
- *Often* (1)
- *Sometimes* (2)
- *Never* (1)

Biking using sidewalk or shoulder, which side do you prefer

- *Northside* (1)
- *Southside* (2)
- *Both* (4)
- *Not on bridge* (14)

5. How is this study important to you - your involvement/representation? (circle any that apply)

- a. **Resident or Commuter (how do you use this bridge for travel, local or regional)?**
- b. **Type of Mobility and Access (local use - walking, biking, transit)**
- c. **Economic interest (business owner, chamber of commerce member)?**
- d. **Social service provider (non-profit agency, house of worship, human resources)?**
- e. **Historic features of interest (member of historical society or organization)?**

- a. *Resident or Commuter* (38) • Purpose for Doctor's office visits
- b. *Type of Mobility and Access* (10)
- c. *Economic interest* (8)
- d. *Social service provider* (2)
- e. *Historic features of interest* (2)

For students attending Eastwick college

6. What are the key issues near the Kingsland Avenue (de Jessa Memorial) Bridge as you see them (access, safety, traffic, mobility, aesthetics, marine activity)?

- *Access* (17)
- *Safety* (22)
- *Traffic* (37)
- *Mobility* (11)
- *Aesthetics* (7)
- *Marine activity* (4)



6. What are the key issues - comments:

- *Other – Access to bridge takes 20 min. when it should only take about 2 minutes. Blocks homes intersection making it impossible to get to home.*
- *Poor light timing causes unnecessary traffic back up and delays.(2)*
- *Severe traffic & unsynchronized lights. We wait every night for approximately 25 minutes in traffic to cross bridge.*
- *Traffic is heavily impacted in a negative way because lights are not synchronized.*
- *Traffic Flow*
- *It is a NIGHTMARE at any time of the day or night to try and get over the bridge or just around it*
- *Congestion gets heavy on both sides. The ability to move more cars at once and to allow flow in and out of Rt. 21 without slowing bridge traffic would be beneficial.*
- *Even when cars coming off route 21 have a red light, they don't stop. They keep trying to make a right on the red light. I am coming from Nutley trying to get to Lyndhurst. Traffic gets backed up on the bridge going to Lyndhurst. I leave room in case the light turns red my way and don't want to block cars coming off route 21. But when I do this and still having the green light and traffic starts moving on the bridge, I can't go because cars from 21 keep making the right and I can't move. There should be a no turn on red for cars coming off route 21, Also, coming from Lyndhurst (Kingsland Rd) to Nutley, when the light turns green we can't go because cars are still making a right on red by three gas station. There should be no turn on red.*

7. Is the bridge wide enough to service the transportation needs (vehicles, pedestrian, bicyclists) in the project vicinity? How many lanes are needed each way?

- *Needs at least 2 lanes each way (20)*
- *Not sure (2)*
- *No need bike lane, remove the light on Nutley side, traffic since the light went in is unbearable.*
- *No solution not enough lanes and traffic too dense.*
- *Not big enough 4 lanes are needed.*
- *Obviously the bridge can no longer can handle volume of traffic.*
- *The bridge has not been updated to deal with current vehicular traffic. Lights are not in sync buses have difficulty making right turn off Riverside to go over the bridge.*
- *Yes wide enough if the lights were synchronized better.*
- *No (3)*
- *Bicycle Lanes*
- *At least 3 lanes each direction*
- *You would probably need two lanes both ways. The traffic lights also need to be synced as it is a NIGHTMARE to drive around this area at any time of the day or night. The traffic is HORRENDOUS*
- *The bridge would allow for a much better flow of traffic if there were two lanes in each direction. Currently when traveling east, the right lane (can only go east) must merge with the left lane (allowed to turn North or go east). This is a very awkward configuration as the right lane traffic needs to veer left to enter the bridge while at the same time yielding to traffic in the left lane. While allowed, proceeding east in the left lane annoys the people in the right lane because they*

assume the left lane must turn left onto route 21. Because of this drivers who need to travel east tend to avoid the left lane. This results in traffic in the River Road/Park Ave intersection. Going west. It would be much better if both lanes could go west on Park Avenue. Currently the left lane must turn left. This leads to traffic in the right lane for drivers who need to go west.

- *No, bridge is not adequate to service transportation need. Need 2 westbound lanes, 2 eastbound lanes, auxiliary lane to carry through left turn lanes, plus shoulder for bike lane: 6 lanes in total. A separate pedestrian lane-sidewalk is also needed.*
- *Not wide enough to handle traffic*
- *Get lights properly timed*
- *Yes, the addition of the traffic lights have caused more traffic.*
- *Need two lanes each way, to relieve traffic congestion and safety issues.*
- *No the bridge is not wide enough. How many lanes, as many as possible. May be two levels. Riverside and River Road get really backed up coming from Kearny and Lyndhurst. May be there could be several ramps leading to the bridge to decrease and speed up the traffic. I have to say, when the new traffic lights were put up on the Nutley side. it did make it better than it was.*

8. What should the study team be aware of concerning any traffic changes or detours near the Kingsland Avenue (de Jessa Memorial) Bridge (past, present, or future)?

- *Affects on homes and businesses (2)*
- *Alternate routes are rev.*
- *Coordinate the traffic signals on both sides of the bridge.*
- *Do Not Close Bridge – it was hell on River Road in Lyndhurst and took too long to fix it the last time!*
- *Ease traffic on Kingsland Avenue going over bridge to Nutley.(2)*
- *For the past month the problem is on the Lyndhurst side of bridge. The lights are not synchronized and are held up.*
- *Future – fine apparatus.*
- *Impact on local business, commuting time.(2)*
- *It takes nearly a half hour to cross bridge from Lyndhurst to Nutley during evening rush hour even after 7 p.m.*
- *Light timing on River Road favors north bound (left turning) cars. 30 minute delays crossing it.*
- *Present and future.*
- *Present and future – Place a traffic officer A.M. & P.M. to deal with amount of cars & buses.*
- *Rt. 21 entrance and exit ramps (3)*
- *There is only 1 other bridge access point to use if this bridge is out of service for any point of time.*
- *Traffic delays (2)*
- *Traffic has been awful since work was done on the Nutley side of the bridge.*
- *Traffic flow corner of Riverside*
- *N/A*
- *Lyndhurst population keep increasing. It must be done immediately*

- *Impact on commuting*
- *The traffic is HORRENDOUS. Any closures or detours will definitely screw up traffic somewhere else*
- *None*
- *Traffic associated with Route 21 overwhelms the capacity at the Lyndhurst and Nutley intersections and will need to be addressed by implementing a localized and coordinated signal control system.*
- *The lights in the Lyndhurst and the Nutley sides are not synced, increasing traffic.*
- *Potential new residential developments on E Centre St. https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3Dr7Z-Zm_jqNzdiZIZEUEI2NjA/view*
- *Potential new residential developments on the Roche Redevelopment property – https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3Dr7Z-Zm_jqOUdsaW1henk0U3c/view*
- *Potential new mixed use – apartments throughout Nutley – <http://www.nutleynj.org/planning-board> and <http://www.nutleynj.org/zoning-board-of-adjustment>*
- *Nutley NJ Master Plan and Township Code - <http://ecode360.com/NU0665>*
- *Timing of traffic lights*
- *Any closure of the bridge will hurt business in the direct area.*
- *Where do you route buses?*
- *You have the gas station, the Lyndhurst diner and other businesses that cars need better access.*

9. Do you currently use the Passaic River in the vicinity of this bridge for recreational or business activity, or plan to in future? Please explain. If marine vessel, please provide type and height.

- *Business activity* (5)
- *No, do not use* (19)
- *Use River walkway – access to malls and eatery* (1)
- *Used to use but not much anymore.*
- *Business located on corner*
- *N/A*
- *Have in the past, expect to do so in future*
- *I am an active rower on the Passaic River and do not have height clearance issues.*
- *Not wide enough to handle traffic*
- *No. The Passaic is so polluted I won't go near it.*

10. Are you interested in becoming a stakeholder representing your organization, business, school, neighborhood or interest group (attend 2-3 meetings)? Yes No

- a. If so, what days and times of the week are preferred? (M, Tu, W, Th, F) (am, afternoon, pm)
- *YES* (17)
 - *NO* (22)
 - *Unable – handicapped caregiver to husband.*
 - *I don't have the time.*

- Days: Mon (0) Tues (0) Wed (5) Thurs (4) Fri (0) Mon-Fri. (3)
- Time: a.m. (4) afternoon (5) p.m. (7) Any time (3)
11.00 a.m. - 02.00 p.m. (1)

11. Are any special provisions needed for you to attend a meeting such as mobility, hearing, or visual or language assistance? Yes No If yes, please indicate:

- YES (1) • Mobility (can travel but not long distance, keep meetings close by)
- NO (29)

12. Are there any organizations or individuals you would suggest we contact as possible stakeholders?

- AmVets (2)
- Boy Scouts
- Contact the people in the apartments next to my property
- Contact additional residents and business owners within walking distance of the bridge i.e. Kings Court Gym etc.
- Lyndhurst and Nutley Police
- Nutley & Clifton Mayor's offices
- Nutley Public Safety Department
- NJ Transit, Nutley Township, city of Clinton - since buses with commuters travel over the bridge.
- Mount Carmel Senior Citizens Group, Mayor
- The local mental health organization to help with the upcoming psychological damage done to all who use the current bridge
- Nutley Educational Foundation, John Lee – Tap Into Nutley, Nutley Municipal Alliance of the Board of Education, Green Nutley
- Nutley Rescue
- King's Court, Bistro 21, Lyndhurst Diner

13. Do you have any comments/questions about the bridge or any other suggestions you wish to share about the study that may help with planning future meetings?

- I am just worried that during the construction and/or renovation of the current bridge there might be a much greater traffic and safety problem. The traffic on River Road is not good now. This may worsen traffic situations.
- I live on Kingsland Avenue and can't get out of my driveway between 4:30 – 7 p.m. The traffic blocks intersections & driveways – you can't even cross the street and the traffic makes right on red turns at the corner – bad.
- I need to use the bridge to get to my Doctors appointments in Nutley & Clifton as I do not drive on highways. My husband and I are both handicapped.
- Look at traffic flow throughout the area (Rt 21, Rt 3, Rt 17) and how this may affect bridge traffic. Need to understand am/pm differences & realize light timing may not work well at all times. Alternate River Road n/s lights.

- My concerns are for Public Safety Mutual aid agreements between Nutley and Lyndhurst.
- Need to articulate bypass plans for traffic, clearly broadcast duration of project, clearly broadcast benefits of infrastructure upgrades.
- Problem with traffic is really bad. Creates many frustrations, especially for those living in affected streets.
- Several weeks ago they adjusted the T.L. on Nutley side, ever since then the lights are out of sink which causes back ups on the Lyndhurst side every day!!!

13. Do you have any comments/questions about the bridge or any other suggestions you wish to share about the study that may help with planning future meetings?

(continued)

- Something has to be done about the constant traffic on Kingsland Ave. and Riverside on the Lyndhurst side. It's very dangerous and someone will be killed in an accident.
- Something has to be done with the light on Nutley side of bridge. Since the traffic light went in for people exiting & entering Rt. 21, the traffic in Lyndhurst is a nightmare. The light is the cause and it's a hassle everyday trying to use Kingsland Avenue trying to get home in and out of Amboy Court.
- the bridge needs at least 4 lanes. The bridge is over burdened as the communities it provides access to (Clifton, Nutley) continue to grow.
- The bridge was adequate about 30 years ago. Now it cannot handle all the traffic. Cars turn through red lights blocking traffic patterns, etc. Need traffic officer to monitor the Lyndhurst side.
- There should remain recreational aspect for Passaic River activities as currently exist. Bicycle path is important.
- Traffic across bridge going from Lyndhurst to Nutley is often at a standstill due to congestion, can normally take 20-30 minutes to cross the bridge. Seems as though the 3 lights need to be synchronized better to allow traffic to move.
- Traffic was never this bad prior to past renovation of bridge.
- Where is the county or local police?? The timing of the lights lend to large traffic back ups on a Mon. - Fri. schedule. Officers should be stationed at the bridge lights from 5 to 6 pm daily. Too many angry drivers converge in a small area. It is unfixable and this is a waste of time and money to even try and convince anyone in Lyndhurst that a fix is available. Bergen County can't even repair roads and fill potholes.
- Yes the bridge needs to be rebuilt, however, you need a temporary solution for the traffic tie up on the Lyndhurst side. This problem is the lights are not synchronized, once synchronized the traffic is much lighter and manageable. (2)
- Yes, please keep river clean; Enforce good ecology practices. Once a month clean-up crew: Local club would help.
- Traffic coordination with traffic lights is of utmost importance.
- Impact on my business
- You could sync the traffic lights, that would be a tremendous help to the traffic flow
- What are the tentative plans for closure?
- The current bridge has served for more than a century. The design of the proposed bridge should be beautiful as well as functional.

- *The current traffic situation needs to be studied and significantly improved!*
- *Request that the feasibility of a ferry be studied in the event new bridge construction is approved. Ferry could be for pedestrians/bikers only during construction or permanently.*
- *Request that NJ Transit review the existing bus routes, add additional routes, look at the possibility of a NJ Transit parking area with bike racks near the bridge entrance on the Nutley side.*
- *Nutley Township elected officials need to be contacted re: Improving communications with Nutley citizens re: Community outreach. (a notice of this survey end date was not sent to citizens via the Township communications system as of 11-16-16)*
- *Please advise of date of next Community Outreach meeting. Thank you.*
Print <https://mg.mail.yahoo.com/neo/launch?.rand=f9rf2u88cvbc2#9782...3>
- *No (4)*
- *The bridge should never be closed at any time.*
- *Ok*
- *We have a lot of students from Bergen that take the bridge as well as Essex & Passaic*

Thank you for completing this survey. Please return by August 30, 2016 to: maculbertson@verizon.net or fax to: 856-795-8523, or mail to: M.A. Culbertson, LLC, P.O. Box 45, Haddonfield, NJ 08033

If you have any questions regarding the project, please contact: Joseph Baladi, P.E., Bergen County Traffic Engineer, jbaladi@co.bergen.nj.us, 201-336-6428 or Luis E. Rodriguez, Essex County Project Manager, lrodriguez@essexcountynj.org, 973-226-8500

