

I-80 NESCOPECK CREEK BRIDGES PROJECT

Environmental Assessment – Notice of Availability for Review and Comment

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have issued this Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared for the I-80 Nescopeck Creek Bridges Project in Luzerne County. The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

The public is encouraged to review and comment on the EA during a public comment period **beginning at noon on April 27, 2022, and ending at 11:59 p.m. on May 27, 2022**. Formal public testimony will be received during an in-person Public Hearing scheduled for May 12, 2022. Comments can also be provided through other methods listed below.

Copies of the EA are available for review online at www.penndot.pa.gov/i80Nescopeck and at the following locations:

**McBride Memorial
Library**

500 N. Market St.
Berwick, PA 18603

Nescopeck Township Office

429 Berwick Hazleton Hwy
Nescopeck, PA 18635

Hazleton Area Public Library

Nuremberg Branch
45 Brush St.
Nuremberg, PA 18241

PennDOT District 4

55 Keystone Industrial Park
Dunmore, PA 18512

FHWA Pa. Division

228 Walnut St., Room 508
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Additional project information is available online at www.penndot.pa.gov/i80Nescopeck and will be presented at the in-person **Public Hearing scheduled for 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. May 12, 2022, at the Nescopeck Township Social Hall, 510 Zenith Road, in Nescopeck**. An open house display on the project will begin at 3:30 p.m. with public testimony starting at 4:30 p.m.

The public has numerous options to provide comments on the EA between now and May 27:

- Testimony will be received at the in-person hearing before an audience with a stenographer. Those providing testimony are asked to register in advance at www.penndot.pa.gov/i80Nescopeck or by calling 570-218-3559. Oral testimony will be limited to five minutes per participant and the number of slots will depend on available time.
- Individuals may provide testimony privately in a separate hearing room with a stenographer.
- Written comments may be brought to the in-person hearing, completed at the event and deposited in a comment box, or mailed to: PennDOT District 4, Attn: I-80 Nescopeck Creek Bridges project, 55 Keystone Industrial Park, Dunmore, PA 18512.
- Comments may be emailed to i80Nescopeck@pa.gov.
- The public may provide comments through the form available online at www.penndot.pa.gov/i80Nescopeck.
- Comment forms will be provided at the in-person Public Hearing and at locations where the Environmental Assessment is available for review.

All testimony and comments submitted by the May 27 deadline will receive equal consideration regardless of the method of submission.

Anyone requiring additional information or special assistance to participate in the hearing or public comment process can reach out via the project email at i80Nescopeck@pa.gov or hotline number, 570-218-3559, to coordinate arrangements.

If you would like to request translation services, please reach out via the project email at i80Nescopeck@pa.gov or hotline number 570-218-3559.

Si usted desea solicitar servicios de traducción para el Proyecto de Puentes I-80 Nescopeck Creek, por favor contacte al correo electrónico del proyecto i80Nescopeck@pa.gov o llame a la línea directa del proyecto 570-218-3559.

The I-80 Nescopeck Creek Bridges, which cross Nescopeck Creek in Luzerne County, are aging and do not meet current design standards. The purpose of the project is to provide a sustainable travel way/crossing that accommodates interstate highway freight and mobility and to provide a safe and efficient highway for motorists over Nescopeck Creek.

The I-80 Nescopeck Creek Bridges Project is a candidate for bridge tolling through the Major Bridge Public-Private Partnership Initiative, as part of the PennDOT Pathways Program. The Pathways program seeks to identify potential alternative funding solutions for transportation in the state. Under the initiative, tolls collected would be used for the replacement bridges' construction, maintenance and operation. Traffic would only be tolled westbound at this location.