

## ***Public Information Center #3***



**January 28, 2004**

**Presented by: NJ Department of Transportation**

***Visit us at:*** [www.state.nj.us/transportation/works/studies/rt295](http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/works/studies/rt295)





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# PROJECT OVERVIEW AND MEETING OBJECTIVE





**I-295/I-76/Route 42**  
**Direct Connection**  
Camden and Gloucester Counties

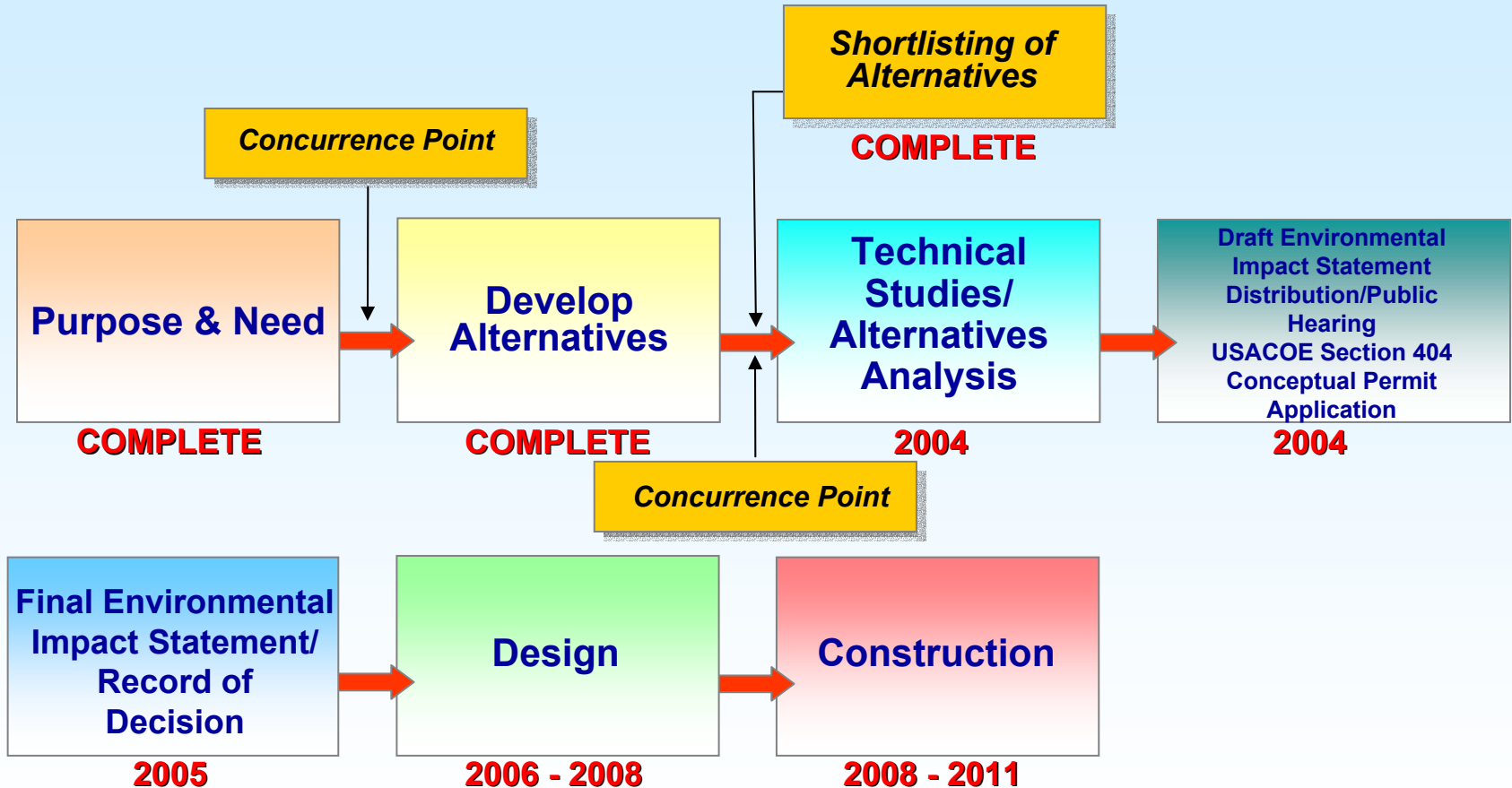
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# PURPOSE & NEED

- **Improve traffic safety**
  - ✓ Accident rates – over 4 times the statewide average
- **Reduce congestion**
  - ✓ Identified by NJDOT as one of the 10 most congested locations in NJ
- **Meet driver's expectations**
  - ✓ No direct connection for I-295 thru-traffic



# PROJECT MILESTONES





**I-295/I-76/Route 42**

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# OUTREACH

- **Public Meetings**
- **Community Advisory Committee Meetings**
- **Agency Coordination Meetings**
- **Local Public Officials Meetings**
- **Partnering Meetings**
- **Web Site**
- **Newsletters**
- **Notice Letters to Property Owners**



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## ALTERNATIVES

- **26 alternatives were developed to provide a direct connection for I-295 through traffic. Features common to all are:**
  - ✓ **3 lanes on NB & SB I-295**
  - ✓ **Full right and left shoulders**
  - ✓ **2 lane ramps**
  - ✓ **I-76/Route 42 express/local configuration removed**
  - ✓ **I-295 speed limit: 55 MPH**
  - ✓ **Ramps speed limit: 40 MPH**





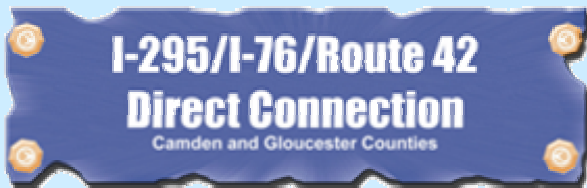
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# CONSTRAINTS



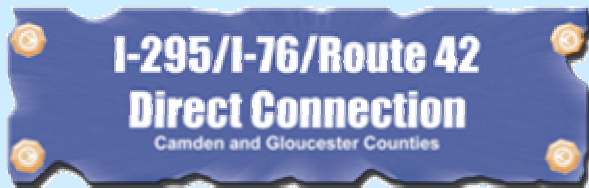


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# ALTERNATIVE SCREENING PROCESS AND RATIONALE - SHORTLISTED ALTERNATIVES AND RATIONALE







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# OVERVIEW

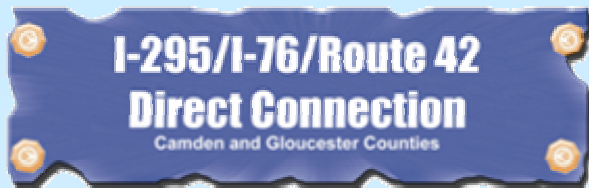
- Review Screening Process
- Present Overview of Recommendations by Each Stakeholder Group
- Discuss Rationale
- Next Steps



# ALTERNATIVES SCREENING RESULTS

ALTERNATIVES RECOMMENDED FOR ADVANCEMENT THROUGH EIS	
Alternative	RATIONALE
D	Low residential, commercial, floodplain, air and wetland impacts, moderate noise impacts, low cost
D1	Similar to D with low residential, socioeconomic, visual, and wetlands impacts, moderate noise and air impacts but keeps A/J's Curve and has higher wetlands and floodplains impacts, high constructability
G2	Best of the elevated alternatives; Low residential, ROW and wetland impacts; minimizes footprint of disturbance for majority of environmental areas
H1	High wetlands, floodplain, noise, air, and visual impacts. High constructability and cost. A/J curve remains.
K	Low noise, air, visual, wetlands and residential impacts. Best of the tunnel options. Can be constructed with minimum impacts to the community; ballparks can be reconstructed at the same location
ALTERNATIVES TO BE DISMISSED FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION	
Alternative	RATIONALE
A	High noise, wetlands, Bellmawr Park, ROW and residential impacts; A family of alternatives offers no real benefit over D
A1	High wetlands, floodplains, residential, noise and Bellmawr Park impacts, high cost, A/J curve remains.
A2	High noise, wetlands, residential, floodplain and Bellmawr Park impacts.
B	High constructability, High noise, wetlands, visual, residential and Bellmawr Park impacts; no benefit over D
B1	High constructability, high residential, commercial, floodplain, wetlands, Bellmawr Park and noise impacts.
B2	High residential, wetlands, Bellmawr Park and floodplains impacts.
C	High noise, constructability, residential, socioeconomic, floodplains, wetlands and air impacts; no benefit over D
C1	High noise, constructability, socioeconomic, floodplains, wetlands and air impacts
C2	High constructability, wetlands, floodplains, noise and air impacts; high construction cost
E	High residential, and socioeconomic impacts, high impacts to cemetery.
E2	High constructability, socioeconomic, residential, commercial and cemetery impacts. High cost.
F	F family of alternatives does not offer significant benefits over other alternatives and has high wetland, constructability, noise and air impacts;
F1	High wetlands impact, high constructability, residential, floodplains, air and noise impacts, A/J curve remains
F2	Higher wetlands and floodplains impacts; High constructability.
G	Alternative G2 is the best of the elevated alternatives; comparatively, G does not offer any significant benefits; High constructability, high visual, air and noise impacts
G1	Similar to G, does not offer significant benefits over G2 which is the best of the elevated alternatives; High constructability, high air, noise, and visual. A/J curve remains. High cost.
H	High noise, air, and visual. High construction cost.
I	High cemetery impacts, high commercial and socioeconomic impacts
I1	High cemetery impacts, high commercial and socioeconomic impacts, use of A/J curve
	High residential, school, floodplain and wetlands impacts. High constructability, maintenance and cost.
L	High constructability, and maintenance; high wetlands, ROW and school impacts. High cost.





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# ALTERNATIVES SCREENING

**OBJECTIVE** - Select a shortlist of feasible alternatives that satisfy the project purpose and need with minimal impacts to the natural and built environment to be studied through the EIS process.





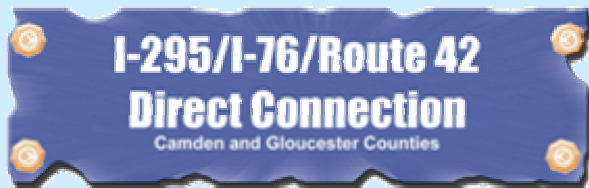


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# SELECTION CRITERIA

- **Constructibility**
- **Maintainability**
- **Compliance with Standard Design Criteria**
- **Comparison of Order of Magnitude Construction Cost**
- **Right-of-way Acquisition**
- **Wetlands Preservation**
- **Noise**
- **Air Quality**
- **Socioeconomic Conditions**
- **Environmental Justice**
- **Archaeological Resources**
- **Historic Resources**
- **Potential Hazardous/Contaminated Sites**



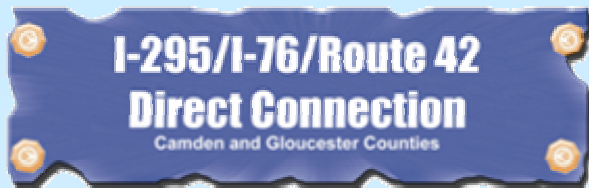


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# ALTERNATIVES SCREENING PROCESS

- Informed qualitative decision-making approach
- Iterative
- Consensus amongst stakeholders
  - ✓ Project team members
  - ✓ DOT core group
  - ✓ LOB, CAC, ACM
  - ✓ Impacted communities
  - ✓ Traveling motorists





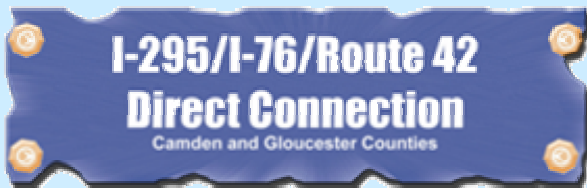
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# ALTERNATIVES SCREENING PROCESS

- **Multi-disciplinary Teams**
  - ✓ **Engineers**
  - ✓ **Planners**
  - ✓ **Scientists**
  - ✓ **Residents and Other Interested Parties**
  - ✓ **General Public**
- **Preliminary impact assessment by alternative – with respect to all screening criteria**
- **Fill out matrix**
- **Compare alternatives**
- **Recommend shortlist for further study**







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# ALTERNATIVES SCREENING PROCESS

Workshops were conducted with the following groups, each reaching a consensus on recommended alternatives for further consideration. A partnering session was conducted with the stakeholders on January 7, 2004 to confirm a consensus on these recommendations which was presented at the Public Information Center on January 28, 2004.

- Project Team
- NJDOT Core Group
- ACM
- CAC
- Local Officials Briefing
- Partnering Session
- PIC

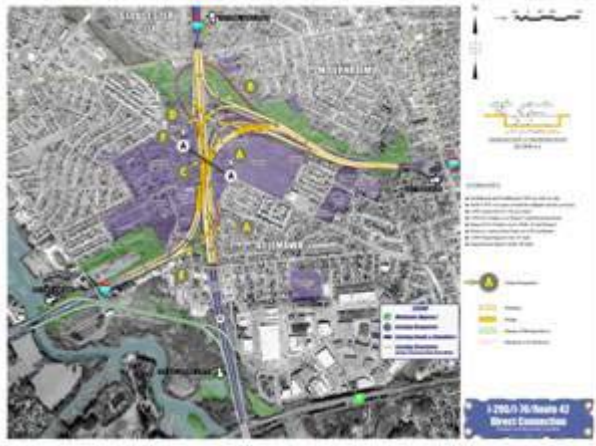


# I-295/I-76/Route 42 Direct Connection

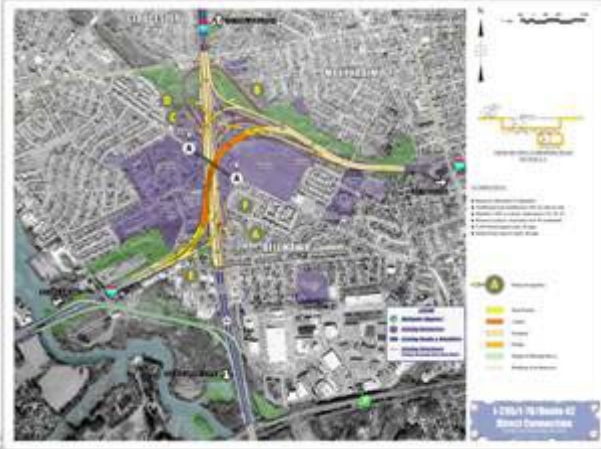
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# TECHNICAL PROJECT TEAM



Alternative D



Alternative K



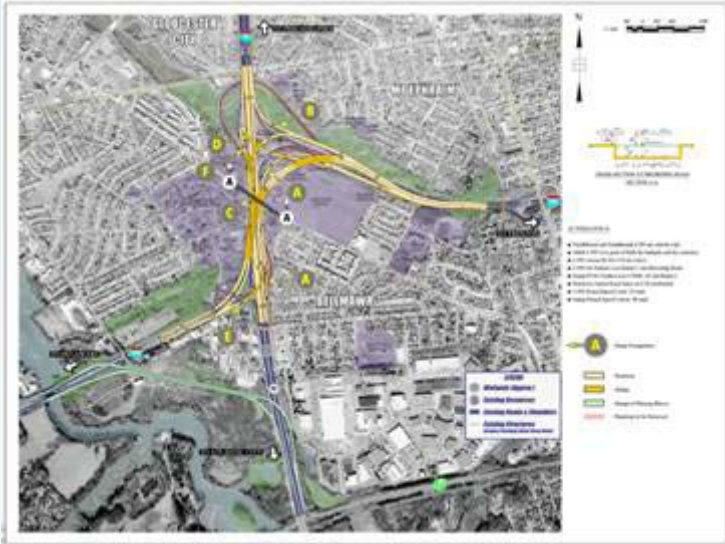
Alternative G2



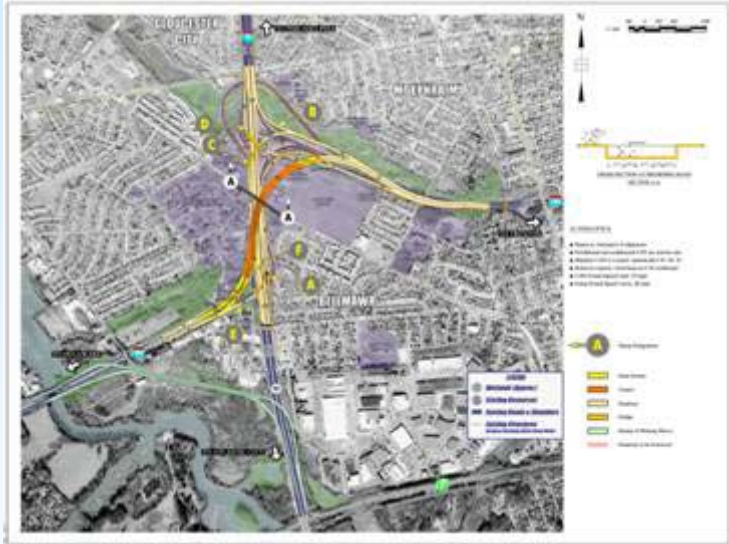
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# NJDOT CORE GROUP COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Alternative D



Alternative K



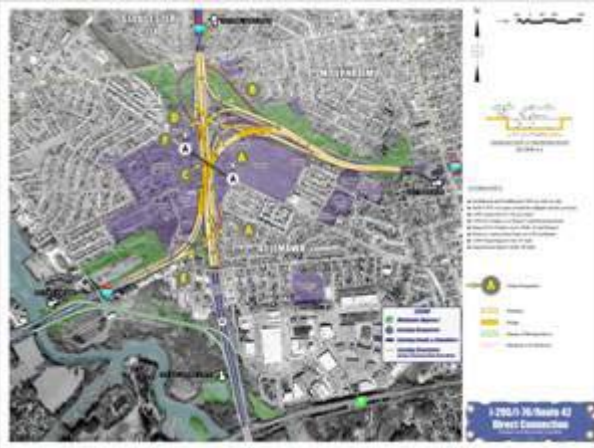


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# AGENCY COORDINATION MEETING



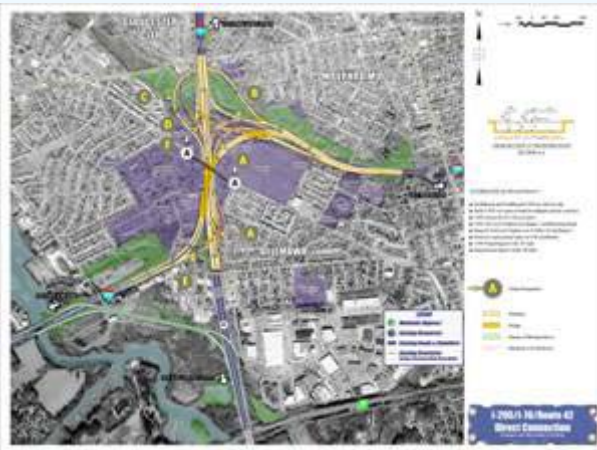
Alternative D



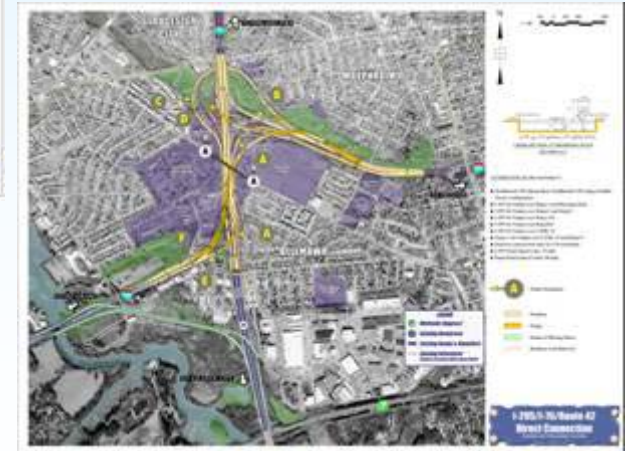
Alternative G2



Alternative K



Alternative D1



Alternative H1

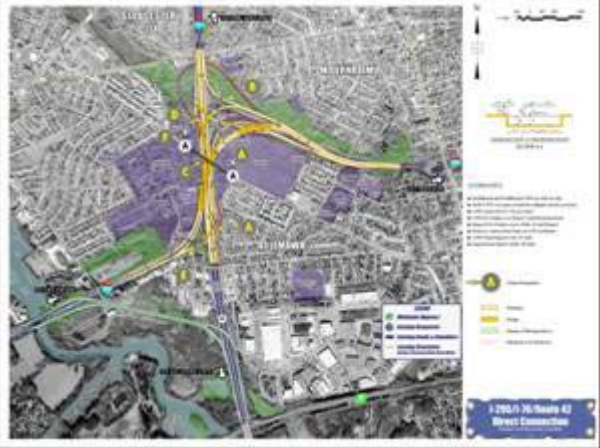


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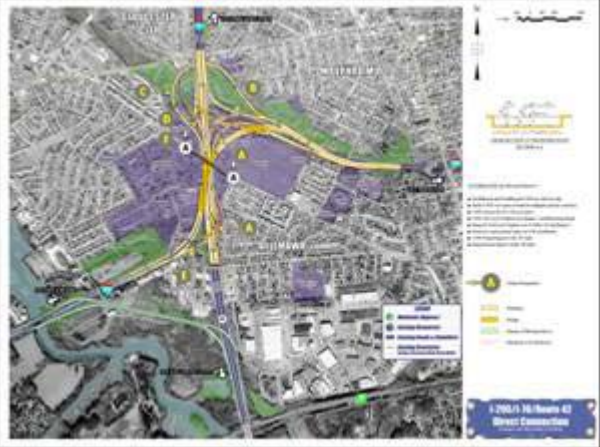
# PARTNERING SESSION



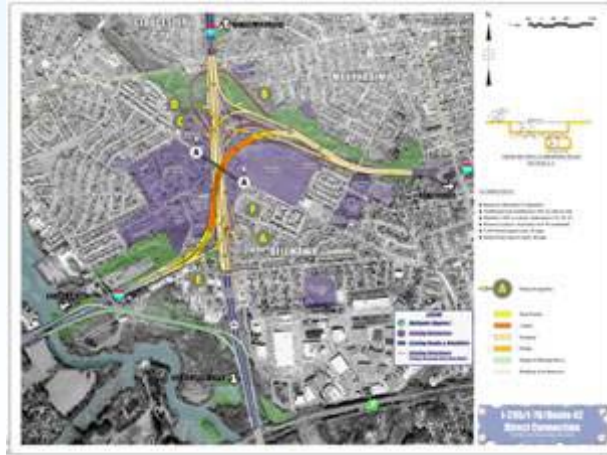
Alternative D



Alternative G2



Alternative D1



Alternative K





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## SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES RECOMMENDED FOR FURTHER STUDY

- Project Team – Alternatives D, G2, K
- NJDOT Core Group – Alternatives D, K
- Local Officials Briefing
- ACM – Alternatives D, D1, G2, H1, K
- CAC – Alternatives D, K
- Partnering – Alternatives D, D1, G2, K





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# ALTERNATIVES D and D1



Alternative D  
Total Residences Impacted - 22  
Total Businesses Impacted - 8

Alternative D1  
Total Residences Impacted - 24  
Total Businesses Impacted - 9





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# ALTERNATIVES D and D1



Alternative D  
No Cemetery Plots Impacted  
1 Park Impacted  
Moderate Impacts on Schools



Alternative D1  
No Cemetery Plots Impacted  
2 Park Impacted  
Moderate Impact on Schools





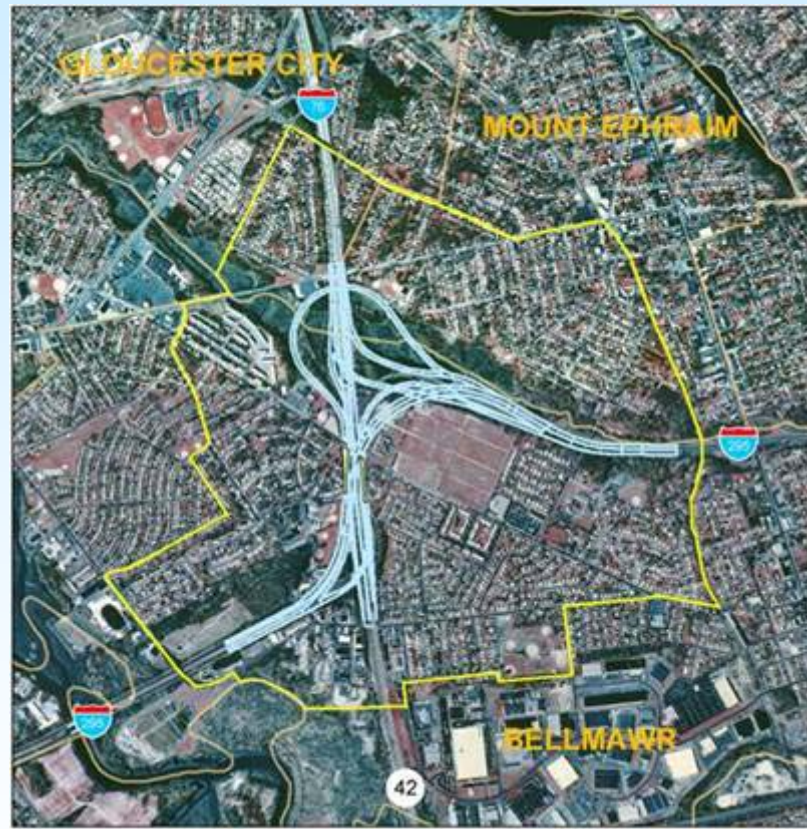
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# ALTERNATIVES D and D1



Alternative D  
Low Potential Socioeconomic Impacts



Alternative D1  
Low Potential Socioeconomic Impacts





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# ALTERNATIVES D and D1



Alternative D  
Potential Floodplain Impacts – 6 Acres

Alternative D1  
Potential Floodplain Impacts – 13.5 Acres





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# ALTERNATIVES D and D1



Alternative D  
Potential Wetlands Impacts – 8 Acres



Alternative D1  
Potential Wetlands Impacts – 11.5 Acres





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# ALTERNATIVES G2 and H1



Alternative G2

Total Residences Impacted - 22

Total Businesses Impacted - 10



Alternative H1

Total Residences Impacted - 32

Total Businesses Impacted - 10





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# ALTERNATIVES G2 and H1



Alternative G2  
No Cemetery Plots Impacted  
1 Park Impacted  
Low Impact on Schools



Alternative H1  
No Cemetery Plots Impacted  
2 Park Impacted  
Moderate Impact on Schools





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# ALTERNATIVES G2 and H1



Alternative G2  
Low Potential Socioeconomic Impacts



Alternative H1  
Low Potential Socioeconomic Impacts





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# ALTERNATIVES G2 and H1



Alternative G2

Potential Floodplain Impacts – 7 Acres

Alternative H1

Potential Floodplain Impacts – 12.5 Acres





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# ALTERNATIVES G2 and H1



Alternative G2  
Potential Wetlands Impacts – 9 Acres

Alternative H1  
Potential Wetlands Impacts – 11.5 Acres





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# ALTERNATIVE K



Potential Residential and Commercial ROW Impacts  
 Total Residences Impacted - 30  
 Total Businesses Impacted - 10



Potential Community and Recreational ROW Impacts  
 No Cemetery Plots Impacted  
 1 Park Impacted  
 Moderate Schools Impacted



Low Potential Socioeconomic Impacts





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# ALTERNATIVE K

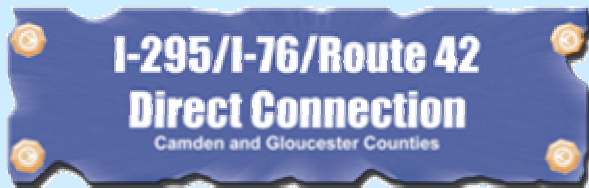


Potential Wetlands Impacts- 12 Acres

Potential Floodplain Impacts- 9.5 Acres







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## NEXT STEPS

- Finalize The Shortlist of Alternatives
- Begin Detailed Technical Studies on Shortlisted Alternatives
- Prepare Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Conceptual USACOE Permit Application
- Public Hearing
- Prepare Final Environmental Impact Statement

