

# COLUMBIA TURNPIKE BRIDGE OVER THE BLACK BROOK LOCAL CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT STUDY

Borough of Florham Park, Morris County, New Jersey



## Stakeholders Meeting Summary

**Date/Time:** September 11, 2018, 3:00 PM  
**Location:** Hyatt House Morristown  
194 Park Avenue, Morristown, NJ

<b>Attendees:</b>	Richard Brundage	NJTPA – Project Manager
	Melissa Hayes	NJTPA
	Meghan Paccione	Morris County
	Kenneth Burkhardt	McCormick Taylor – Project Manager
	Amy Sokalski	McCormick Taylor
	Walter Marks	McCormick Taylor
	Katie Carver	McCormick Taylor
	Peter Berg	TranSystems
	Jeff Stiles	TranSystems
	Paul McEachen	RGA, Inc.
	Steve Elias	Ely’s Tropical Fish

A Community Stakeholders Meeting was held for the Columbia Turnpike Bridge over Black Brook Local Concept Development (LCD) Study. A presentation was not held due to the lack of attendees at the scheduled presentation time (4:00 PM).

Steve Elias of Ely’s Tropical Fish attended the meeting and requested information on the alternatives. Peter Berg and Ken Burkhardt discussed the staging concepts, roadway plans and profiles. Staging Concept 1 is 6 stages and the proposed bridge remains within the existing right-of-way (ROW). The project limits are shortened compared to the other concepts. Staging Concept 2 includes 4 stages, and the bridge is shifted slightly to the south and would require ROW acquisition. Staging Concept 3 also has 4 stages and the bridge is shifted slightly to the north and would also require ROW acquisition. Staging Concepts 2 and 3 would also result in slightly longer project limits than Concept 1. All three concepts will slightly raise the profile of the bridge compared to existing conditions. The final bridge configuration for Concepts 1, 2 and 3 will include two 12-foot lanes and an 8-foot outside shoulder in each direction. A 6-foot sidewalk will be provided in the WB direction.

It was discussed that the Concepts 1 and 2 would have the least impact on Ely’s Tropical Fish, since those concepts maintain the existing alignment or shift the bridge to the south. Mr. Burkhardt stated that access to Ely’s would be maintained during construction for all three concepts. Mr. Marks asked Mr. Elias if he had ever seen any turtles near his business. Mr. Ely stated that he has seen certain species of turtles, but no species that may warrant wildlife passage under the bridge. Mr. Marks asked if Mr. Elias had seen regulated species such as bog turtle or wood turtle. Mr. Elias stated that he had not seen either species.