



December 10, 2018

DECEMBER UPDATE: PELL BRIDGE RAMPS PROJECT

Dear Stakeholders,

We wanted to provide an update on the Pell Bridge Ramps project and to share the exciting news that we have received a \$20 million BUILD grant for the project. This grant will enable us to accelerate the JT Connell and Coddington Highway work in addition to several other safety improvements. Here's a copy of the [release \[r20.rs6.net\]](https://www.ridot.net/press-releases/2018/12/10/build-grant) with more details.

In the last few months, our focus has been reviewing the public input, meeting with various stakeholders and developing the draft Environmental Assessment (EA). As most of you know by now, the draft EA is a comprehensive assessment of the environmental impacts of the project. Our preliminary draft EA has been submitted to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for their review and comment since they are an important partner for this project.

Once we receive FHWA input, we will update the EA, and if approval to advance the EA is received, we will then post the document. The public will be provided both online and hard copies of the EA at various locations in the Newport area such as City Hall, the Newport Library and the Florence Gray Center for a 30-day public review and comment period. Following that, we expect to conduct a public hearing. This will be another opportunity to share your voice on the project by offering input or asking questions. Stay tuned for dates and times as they are made available.

We have enjoyed meeting so many of you during our outreach and look forward to continuing to work together to deliver a successful project.

Happy Holidays from all of us at RIDOT!