Frequently Asked Questions

**Why is the project needed?**

The bridges that make up the Viaduct are near the end of their design lives and have deteriorated due to age, wear, and harsh winter conditions.

**Are the bridges safe?**

Yes, inspections and ongoing maintenance enable the bridges to remain in a state of good repair.

**What Alternatives are being considered?**

- No Build
- Viaduct Alternative
- Community Grid
- Tunnel Alternative

Read more about the project [alternatives](#).

**What are the costs of the alternatives?**

The estimated costs, as of April 2015, are:
- Viaduct: $1.4 Billion;
- Community Grid: $1Billion;
- Tunnel: Unknown at this time.

These costs, which include construction and acquiring right of way, will be refined as the project advances.
How will the project be funded?

A funding plan needs to be developed. Funding will most likely have a combination of Federal, State, and local funding.

Who makes the final decision?

NYSDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are the lead agencies for the project and are jointly responsible for selection of a preferred alternative. Their decision will be based on public input and a detailed evaluation of the alternatives as prescribed by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

What is the next step?

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) will be prepared which will comprehensively document the potential environmental impacts of each project alternative. The DEIS will be published and made available for public review and comment.

What are the anticipated property impacts for each Alternative?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative Name</th>
<th>Potential Number Of Buildings To Be Impacted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Viaduct</td>
<td>21-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Grid</td>
<td>5-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunnel</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the project advances, these numbers will be refined. Read more about the project alternatives.
What if my property is impacted?

All necessary acquisitions will be disclosed in the Draft EIS and will follow established procedures set forth in Federal and State law. Learn about NYSDOT’s Real Estate Procedures.

When will construction begin?

After the preferred alternative is identified in the NEPA Record of Decision, the Detailed Design phase of the alternative will begin. This will likely take 2-3 years. Due to the size of this project, construction will most likely occur in phases.