George Washington Bridge
Replacement of Suspender Ropes and Main Cables Rehabilitation & Rehabilitation of Cable Strands in Anchorages

December 8, 2011
Committee on Operations
Project Background

Planning Authorization – March 2009

- Authorized $4.5 million for planning and engineering services
- Entered into a professional services agreement with Ammann & Whitney for a total value of $14.9 million, of which $2.5 million was authorized.
Work Accomplished

Under the initial Planning Authorization:

- Inspections and analysis of existing conditions
- Verification of project need
- Evaluate details of suspender rope connections and enhancements
- Development of preliminary design solutions
Conditions

Suspender Ropes:
• Many have corrosion
• Some have reduced strength
• Average age at replacement of several similar bridges is 70 years

Main Cables and Strands:
• Main cable wires are in early stages of corrosion, no significant loss of strength to main cables
• Minimal broken wires within cable strands in the Anchorages

No need for traffic and load restrictions at present time.
Need for this increase

Continued development of the design for timely project implementation, including:

- Utility relocation details
- Suspender rope connection details
- Potential sidewalk relocation
- Details to minimize corrosion of the main cables and cable strands
- Associated permits/approvals process
- Multi-contract approach
**Program Schedule Summary**

- **UTILITY RELOCATION**
  - Design Development – Starts 1st Quarter 2012
  - Project Authorization - 4th Quarter 2012
  - Construction contract Award – 2nd Quarter 2013

- **REHABILITATION OF CABLE STRANDS IN ANCHORAGES**
  - Design Development – Continues from Initial Authorization
  - Project Authorization – 4th Quarter 2012
  - Construction contract Award – 2nd Quarter 2013

- **REPLACEMENT OF SUSPENDER ROPES AND REHABILITATION OF MAIN CABLES**
  - Design Development – Continues from Initial Authorization
  - Project Authorization – 4th Quarter 2013
  - Construction contract Award – 2nd Quarter 2014

**OTHER CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY**
Recommendations

• Increase in Planning Authorization
  • Previously Authorized - $4.5 million
  • Requested Increase - $15.5 million
  • Total Proposed Planning - $20.0 million
    • Of the $15.5 million increase:
      • Consultants $6.0 million; Staff $7.7 million

• Authorize the expenditure of $6.0 million from previously authorized professional services agreement

• Economic Impact upon Project Implementation:
  • 3,600 jobs
  • $260 million in wages
  • $1.1 billion in economic activity