

Public Scoping Open House | February 2026

WELCOME

PLEASE SIGN IN

**Purpose of today's
open house session:**

- Provide an overview of the WCBAA
- Answer questions
- Obtain public comments —
Submit form today,
online, or by mail
within 30 days

WCBA Overview

- The Washington Crossing Toll-Supported Bridge (WCTSB) connects Bucks County, PA, and Mercer County, NJ
- The bridge is over 120 years old, with some elements nearly 200 years old
- It is the narrowest of the Commission's vehicular bridges
- The bridge has two 7.5-foot lanes, a south-side pedestrian walkway, and a 3-ton weight restriction
- In 2025, the bridge carried an average of 6,500 vehicles a day, along with bicycle and pedestrian traffic
- Despite continued maintenance and numerous rehabilitations, the bridge faces significant deficiencies, including deterioration, limited load capacity, resilience concerns, and inadequate pedestrian and bicycle accommodations
- The Washington Crossing Bridge Alternatives Analysis (WCBA) aims to improve functionality, maintenance, and traffic operations while benefiting users, local businesses, and nearby state parks and mitigating possible impacts to the area's historic and natural character



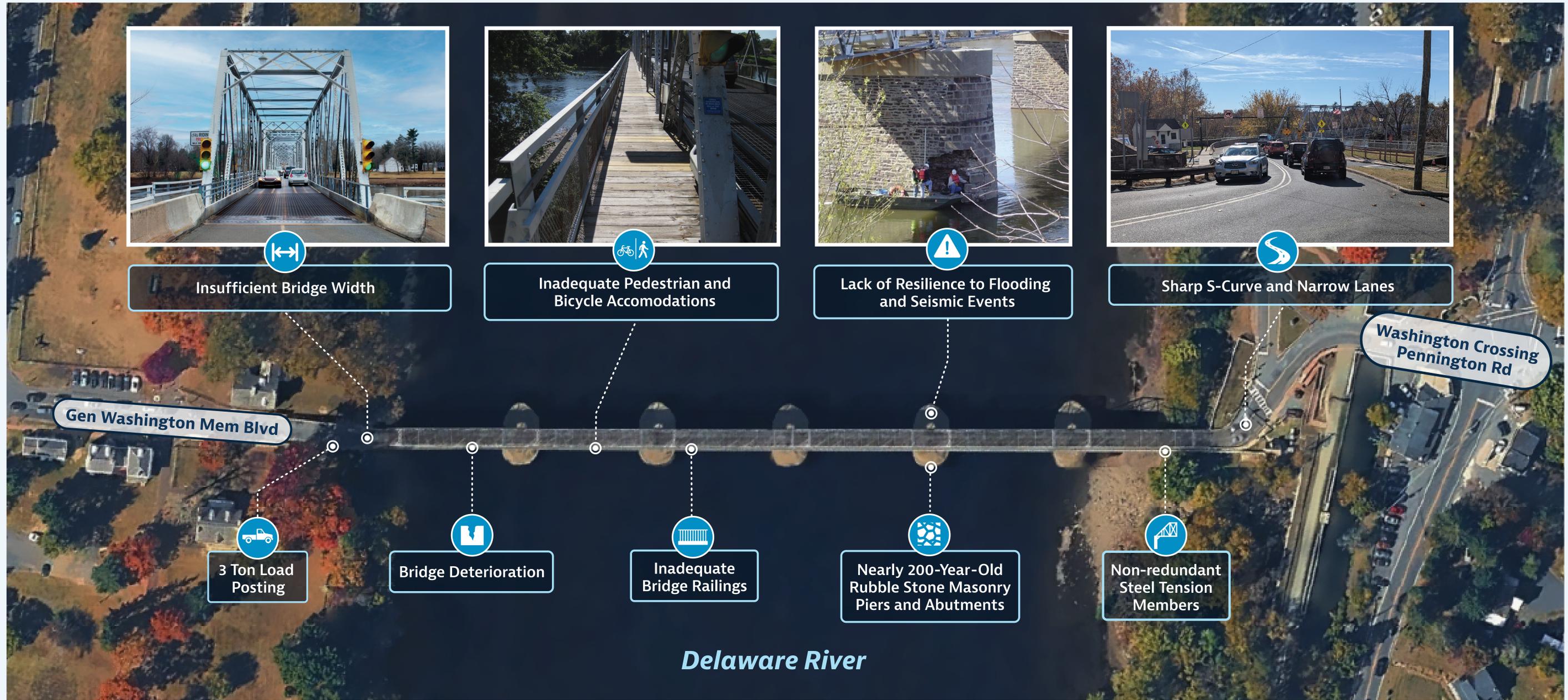
Purpose

- Provide a safe, reliable, and efficient crossing
- Identify and evaluate alternatives to address the bridge's deficiencies
- Maintain connectivity for commuters, businesses, area residents, and park users
- Accommodate vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian modes of traffic

Needs (to Address)

- Bridge and roadway deficiencies
- Bridge reliability and resilience deficiencies
- Inadequate pedestrian and bicycle accommodations
- Transportation system linkage and connectivity
- Fiscal responsibility

Needs



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NEPA applies to any proposed actions funded or sponsored by federal agencies, but it also can apply to proposed actions that require federal agency permits.

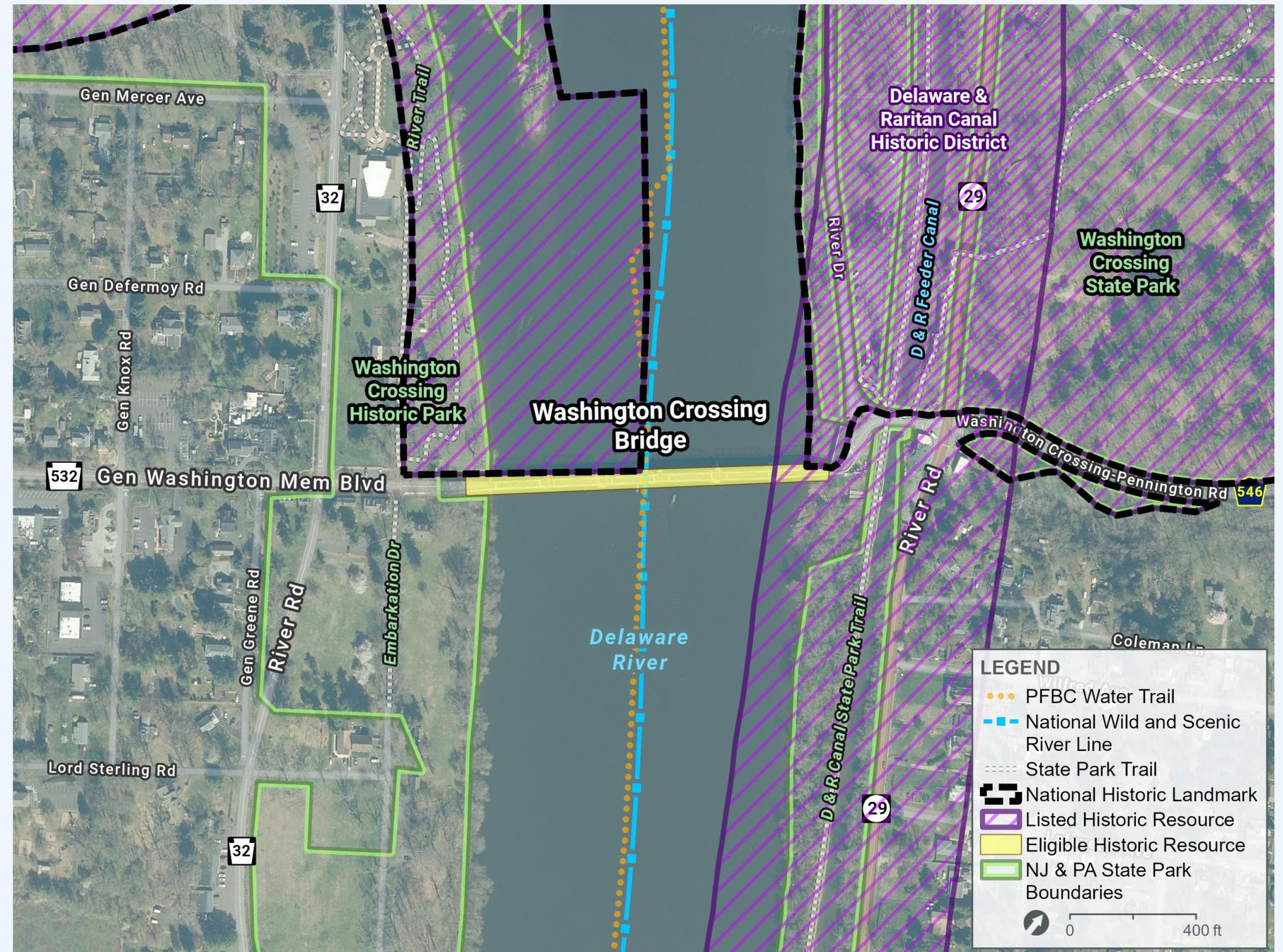
Potential alternatives for the WCBAA include replacement, rehabilitation, modification, or some other approaches. Since some of the potential alternatives could require a waterway permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), an environmental review document needs to be prepared in accordance with NEPA.

Key Components of the NEPA Process:

- Purpose and Need
- Alternatives analysis
- Documentation of existing conditions, impacts, and mitigation
- Interagency coordination
- Public comment

Resources

- Publicly available resources were identified using existing data sources such as local, state, and federal government GIS layers and agency databases
- Detailed studies are being conducted to identify resources
- Due to the number of resources within the study area, an Interagency Advisory Committee (IAC) comprised of relevant federal, regional, and state agencies has been formed
- The IAC will provide coordinated guidance throughout the WCBAA



Key Environmental Resource Areas Being Studied

Natural Environment

- Biological Resources: wildlife, vegetation, threatened and endangered species
- Wetlands and Waters: streams, rivers, wetlands, floodplains
- Soils and Geology: erosion potential, stability, unique geologic features
- Air Quality: existing conditions, potential emissions, conformity requirements

Land Use and Community Resources

- Land Use Compatibility: zoning, planned development, community character
- Socioeconomics: demographics, community cohesion
- Recreation and Open Space: parks, trails, public access

Noise

- Existing noise conditions
- Potential construction and operational noise
- Sensitive receptors (schools, residences, hospitals)

Cultural Resources (Section 106)

- Archaeological surveys
- Historic structures and districts
- Tribal consultation

Water Resources and Quality

- Surface water and groundwater
- Stormwater management

Hazardous Materials

- Site history and potential contamination
- Hazardous materials handling if any construction is involved
- Regulatory compliance

Visual and Aesthetic Resources

- Viewsheds and scenic quality
- Changes to visual character

These Studies Will Be Used To:

- Evaluate project alternatives
- Identify potential impacts
- Develop mitigation measures
- Prepare an environmental document
- Support informed decision making

Alternatives Analysis

The alternatives analysis is being conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, assessing the needs of users and stakeholders while considering potential impacts to environmental and cultural resources.



A wide range of alternatives will be evaluated:

A No Action

Bridge Rehabilitation

B1 Existing Traffic Configuration

B2 One-Way Traffic

B3 Repurposing for Pedestrians and Bicycles Only

C,D Widening

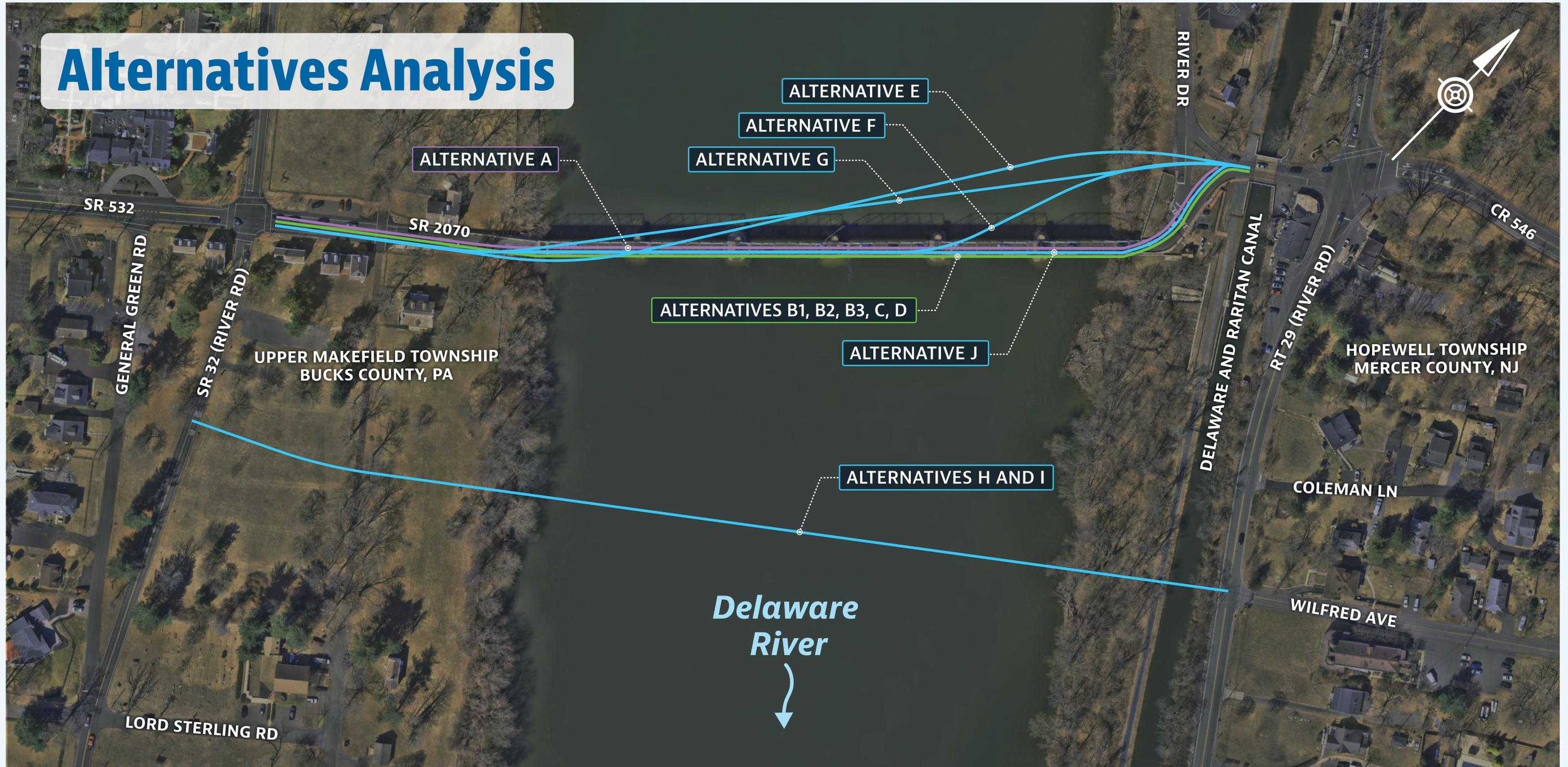
Bridge Replacement

E, F, G, J On or Near Existing Alignment

H Downstream Alignment

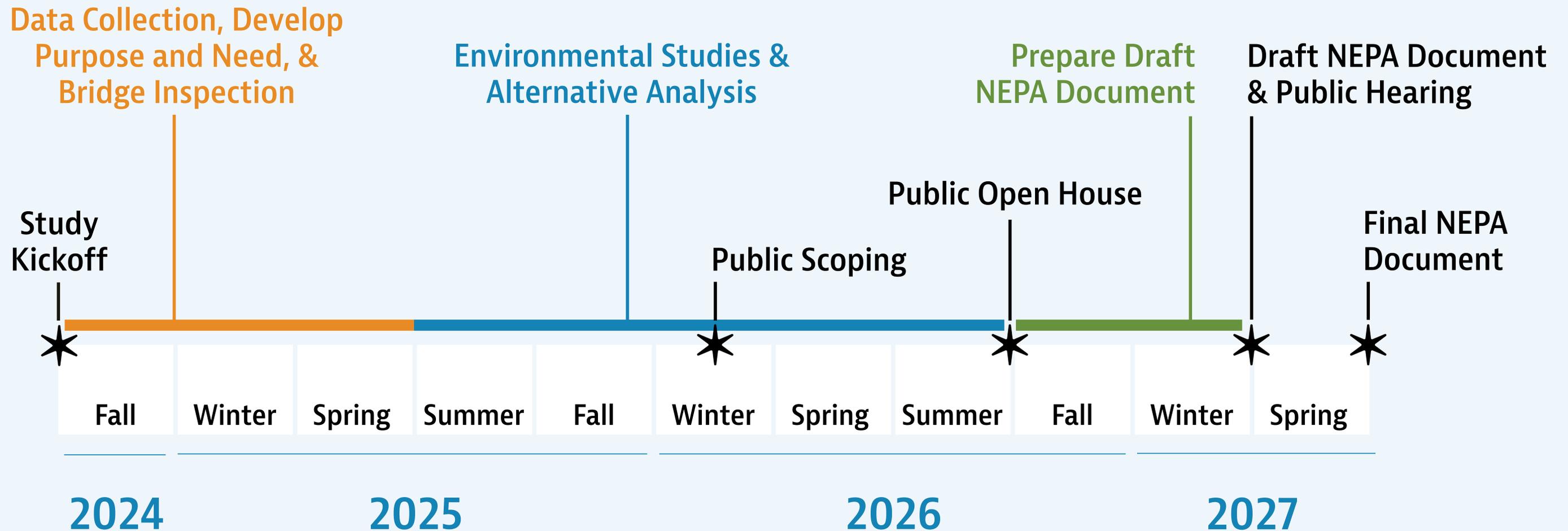
I Downstream Alignment for Vehicles, Repurpose Existing Bridge for Pedestrians and Bikes

Alternatives Analysis



Proposed Schedule Timeline

Dates are estimates and subject to change



Opportunities for Continued Public Involvement

- Public open house after completion of the alternatives analysis
- Public hearing after completion of a draft environmental document
- Website for WCBAA updates
- Submit questions throughout the WCBAA via the website comment form



Written Comments