

Ocean Drive Upgrades & Bridge Improvements
Local Concept Development Study
Township of Lower, Cape May County, New Jersey

[Project Alternatives Descriptions](#)

Alternative 1: No Build

Alternative 1 would maintain the existing conditions of the roadway and bridges in their current state of repair. This No Build alternative will not address structural, geometric, carrying capacity, and operational deficiencies of the bridges. The roadway will remain below the 100-year flood elevation. Routine repair of the bridges will be performed as required. Routine maintenance and operation of the roadway would continue.

Alternative 2: Rehabilitation

For Alternative 2, the Mill Creek and Upper Thorofare bridges will be replaced. The Middle Thorofare bridge will be rehabilitated. Ocean Drive roadway will be reconstructed and raised to meet the 100-year flood elevation requirements.

For Alternatives 3 to 8, the main difference is the location of the new alignments (see attachment). Mill Creek, Upper Thorofare and Middle Thorofare bridges will be replaced and will be widened to meet geometric requirements. The new bridges will utilize a precast concrete girder structural option. A new 2-way access road will be constructed to maintain access to local businesses. Ocean Drive roadway will be reconstructed and raised to meet 100-year flood elevation requirements.

Alternatives 3, 4 and 5

For Alternatives 3, 4 and 5, the horizontal alignment of the Middle Thorofare bridge will be shifted to the south, while the Mill Creek and Upper Thorofare bridges will be realigned to the north. The new Middle Thorofare bridge will be a fixed span structure with an 80' vertical clearance along the navigation channel.

Alternatives 6A and 6B

For Alternatives 6A and 6B, the horizontal alignment of all three bridges will be shifted to the north. The Middle Thorofare Bridge will be replaced with a double leaf moveable bridge with a 45' vertical clearance along the navigation channel. The main difference between alternatives 6A and 6B are the proposed pier types.

Alternatives 7

For Alternative 7, the horizontal alignment of the Upper Thorofare bridge will be shifted to the south, while the Mill Creek and Middle Thorofare bridges will be realigned to the north. The new Middle Thorofare bridge will be a fixed span structure with an 80' vertical clearance along the navigation channel. A new access road will be constructed to provide access to the businesses currently along Ocean Drive.

Alternatives 8

For Alternative 8, the horizontal alignment of the Middle Thorofare bridge will be shifted to the south, while the Mill Creek and Upper Thorofare bridges will be realigned to the north. The new Middle Thorofare bridge will be a fixed span structure with an 80' vertical clearance along the navigation channel.

