CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The purpose of the scoping process, as outlined in CEQ’s regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1501.7), is to determine the scope of issues to be addressed in the EA and to identify significant issues relating to the proposed action. The lead agency is required to invite input from Federal, State, and local agencies, affected Native American tribes, project proponents, and other interested parties (Section 1501.7 (a)(1)). To satisfy scoping requirements for this project, scoping letters were mailed out requesting public and agency input on issues to be addressed in the EA. Table A-1 in Appendix A lists all persons, agencies/organizations to whom the scoping letters were sent. The public scoping letter is presented as Figure A-1, and the news release that announces that the Parkway was seeking public input as Figure A-2.

The public scoping period for the project began on October 23, 2007 and ended on December 1, 2007. There were 364 comments received from the public during this period. Table A-2 in Appendix A provides a content analysis report of these comments. The NPS also underwent consultations with several state and Federal agencies regarding the project. These consultation letters are presented in Figures A-3 through A-8 in Appendix A.

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