



What Does This Study Build Upon?

In January 2008, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Federal Transit Administration convened a transportation workshop where several transportation experts and community leaders met to discuss transportation issues at the refuge and around Chincoteague. Participants identified problems and some solutions to those problems. Read below for a recap of the issues and ideas that were shared in January. These ideas can be considered in the current alternative transportation study.

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES AND PROBLEMS	IDEAS AND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS
<p>(1) Congestion at critical access points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottlenecks at the refuge entrance • Congestion at the causeway • Backups at the beach parking lots <p>(2) Beach Parking Limitations and Constraints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constraints on the number of parking spaces • Tension between habitat management and parking lot maintenance <p>(3) Safe Bicycle-Pedestrian Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaps in existing bicycle paths forcing cyclists to the road • Lack of sidewalk or bicycle paths on causeway • Street widths that limit sidewalks or bicycle paths <p>(4) Safety and Emergency Preparedness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “One way in/one way out” challenge for first responders <p>(5) Traveler Information and Transportation Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited information available to visitors about backups, peak times, etc. 	<p>(1) Improve Bicycle Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete/improve/widen bike trail on Beach Rd. • Improve transition from bike trail to causeway • Paved shoulders on Rt. 175 for non-auto use <p>(2) Improve Automobile Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automated fee entry and/or congestion pricing • Parking garage • Relocate beach parking • Relocate beach parking <i>and</i> beach • Smaller or new causeway • Close down Assateague Island to automobiles <p>(3) Consider Access by Other Modes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incentives to hotels/motels to provide mass transit • Gondola • Ponies and wagons / horses and buggies • Monorail • Water transit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ferry dock at Wallops Flight Facility • Canoes and kayaks • Internal shuttle