

# TEXAS HISTORIC BRIDGES

SUMMER 2015



## PROJECT MISSION STATEMENT:

Identify ways to retain historic truss bridges as viable assets open to vehicular traffic or repurposed for new uses.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

### Truss Bridge Open Houses

July 23, 2015, Bastrop

4:00-6:00 PM

Bastrop Historical Society Museum and Visitor Center  
904 Main Street  
bastropcountyhistoricalsociety.com

July 28, 2015, Waco

4:00-6:00 PM

Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, Education Center  
100 Texas Ranger Trail

August 4, 2015, Abilene

4:00-6:00 PM

Elks Art Center Ballroom  
1174 N. First Street  
abilenepreservation.org/elks

August 11, 2015, Victoria

4:00-6:00 PM

Victoria Public Library Bronte Room  
302 N. Main Street



*TxDOT and Fayette County recently partnered to rehabilitate the 1885 Pratt truss Piano Bridge for continued vehicular use.*

## TXDOT KICKS OFF HISTORIC TRUSS BRIDGE MANAGEMENT CAMPAIGN

Each year, Texas' metal truss bridges are lost due to deterioration, safety concerns, or current traffic needs. TxDOT, in partnership with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and the Historic Bridge Foundation (HBF), wants your help to create a management plan to preserve these bridges for future generations.

Last year, you may have participated in our statewide planning process for Texas bridges constructed after World War II. This year, we are focusing our efforts on our truss bridges still in vehicular service. Several of Texas' metal truss bridges are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, while TxDOT and the THC consider all truss bridges as historically significant.

This summer, we plan to hold workshops throughout the state (as well as an online open house) to showcase Texas' metal truss bridges and talk about our process and preservation options. We hope you will attend a workshop and tell us your thoughts. Please visit our website at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov), keyword "Texas Historic Bridges" for more information on how you can get involved.





## GET INVOLVED: STAY CONNECTED!

### Take our online survey!

[goo.gl/e3DGtn](http://goo.gl/e3DGtn)

### Learn about truss bridges.

[www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov)

Keyword "Historic Bridges"

### Review best care practices for truss bridges.

- Repair suggestions for long term preservation of metal truss bridges
- Routine maintenance suggestions for metal truss bridges

### Locate truss bridges across the state.

[arcg.is/1BMcHmh](http://arcg.is/1BMcHmh)

### Join our email list!

Want to get the latest news and announcements?

Email TxDOT's environmental consultant Maryellen Russo at [mrusso@blantonassociates.com](mailto:mrusso@blantonassociates.com) to start receiving project updates to your inbox!

### FOR LATEST UPDATES:

[www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov)

Keyword "Historic Bridges"

## TIMELINE:



*A truss bridge on U.S. 183 in Cuero, Texas.*

### Own a Piece of History?

Share your story! Bring your family photographs, newspaper articles or other items related to Texas' metal truss bridges to our Open House. We will scan your items for archiving into the history collections of a local library and the Texas Historical Commission!

### DID YOU KNOW?

Truss bridges have different designs due to age, span length, and road usage. Bridges on state highways tend to be substantial, while bridges on county roads are smaller and easier to move and repurpose for other uses.