



Public Hearing Summary Report

FM 457 Swingbridge Replacement

At Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) near Sargent
FM 457

Matagorda Co

CSJ: 0605-01-060

Alan Migl, Yoakum District

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PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Yoakum District, conducted a public hearing on September 1, 2015, at the Sargent V.F.W. Post 2412 Hall, located at 20305 FM 457, Sargent, Texas. The purpose of the hearing was to present the public with TxDOT's preferred alternative and allow the public to comment on the proposed swingbridge replacement project.

The proposed project would replace the existing swingbridge with a concrete bridge that would span the GIWW. The project limits are from Anchor Way Street north of the GIWW south to the southern terminus of FM 457 at Sargent Beach. The length of the proposed project is approximately 0.54 mile. Acquisition of additional right-of-way would be required for the proposed project. The project CSJ is 0605-01-060.

A notice for the public hearing was posted in the Bay City Tribune on August 2 and August 19, 2015 (see Appendix A). An advertisement was also sent to two local newsletters that are published on a weekly basis; The Coastal Clipper and The Sargent News (see Appendix B). A news release was also sent out to various Matagorda County media outlets (see Appendix B). A virtual public hearing was set up and made available to the public on September 1, 2015 on the TxDOT website at the following link: <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/yoakum/fm457-bridge-replacement.html>. All meeting materials from the previous open house and public meeting were posted to this web site.

The public hearing started with an open house session from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. The formal public hearing was called to order by the public hearing officer, Paul Retiz P.E., at 6:30pm. Following the formal presentation from TxDOT (see Appendix D), the public was allowed to comment on the proposed project. Attendees were invited to sign in when they entered (see Appendix C). Comment forms were provided to attendees to either present verbal comments during the hearing, submit written comments, or to mail comments to TxDOT to share their thoughts regarding the proposed project. A total of 151 people attended the public meeting; of which, 129 were members of the public, 1 State Representative, 1 County Judge, 1 Texas Parks and Wildlife representative, 1 environmental consultant from Hicks Environmental, and 18 TxDOT employees.

Public Comments

The public was encouraged to submit comments on the proposed project either verbally or in writing. Four citizens verbally commented on the proposed project during the public comment portion of the hearing. Eleven written comments were either submitted at the public hearing or received through mail and/or email during the 10 day public comment period following the hearing. Three of the citizens who spoke at the public hearing also submitted written comments. TxDOT responded to all received comments,

12 total, with a written mailed letter. Copies of the comments received and the TxDOT response letters are located in Appendix E, and the verbatim transcript of the public hearing can be found in Appendix F. Of the comments received, seven were in favor of the project and 5 were opposed.

Appendix A

Notice of Public Hearing



SARGENT SWING BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT OPEN HOUSE AND PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, September 1, 2015

5:30 pm Open House

6:30 pm Hearing and Presentation

Sargent VFW Hall

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is hosting an open house and public hearing to learn more about and comment on the proposed Sargent Swing Bridge replacement project. A formal presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information about the meeting and project, please contact Paul Reitz at (361) 293-4437 or Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov.

Notice of Public Hearing

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a public hearing Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at the VFW, Post 2412 Hall, 20305 FM 457 in Sargent, TX. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements for the FM 457 Swing Bridge over the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) and to receive public comments. Displays will be available for viewing at 5:30 p.m. with the formal hearing commencing at 6:30 p.m.

The existing facility is a divided roadway with one 12-foot lane in each direction with no shoulders. The existing roadway crosses a 120-foot metal pontoon bridge at grade. The pontoon bridge is operated by a control tower regulating both vehicular and water traffic. The width of the existing facility ranges from approximately 24 to 30 feet.

The proposed project would replace the existing, at-grade, pontoon barge swing span and approach spans with a new fixed-span, high-clearance structure with spiral approaches. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a replacement structure that offers a more structurally sound bridge, reduced maintenance costs, and timely, reliable access across the GIWW along FM 457. The proposed improvements would require approximately 4.2 acres of additional right of way (ROW). The proposed project would displace one single-family residence, several TxDOT owned buildings, and potentially impact one water supply well. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displacements, as well as information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition and construction may be obtained from the TxDOT Yoakum District Office. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. The project would traverse the 100-year floodplain and cross wetlands.

Maps and other drawings showing the proposed project's location and design will be displayed at the hearing. Environmental documentation for the project will also be available for inspection at the hearing. Other information about the proposed project is on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Yoakum District Office located at 403 Huck St., Yoakum, TX 77995 as well as the TxDOT Matagorda County Maintenance Office located at 500 Ave. F, Bay City, TX 77414 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this public hearing. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding this project are requested and may be presented for a period of 10 calendar days following the hearing. Written comments may be submitted either in person or by mail to the TxDOT District Office, Mr. Paul Reitz, PE., Director of Transportation, Planning, and Development, 403 Huck St., Yoakum, TX 77995. Comments must be received on or before September 14, 2015 in order to become part of the official hearing record.

The Public Hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs, or need an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Mr. Andrew Carlson, TxDOT Public Information Officer, at (361) 293-4436. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the public hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs. If you have general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project, you may contact Mr. Paul Reitz, PE. at (361) 293-4447.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.



219 E Houston St., Suite 350
San Antonio, TX 78205

TXDOT AD PLACEMENT ESTIMATE APPROVAL

Date: 7/24/2015

TXDOT District: Yoakum

Type of ad: Public Notice

Market: Bay City and Sargent, TX

Requested By: Brian P. Kutach

Publication Name: Bay City Tribune

Ad dates: Aug. 2, 2015 and Aug. 19, 2015

Publication Contact: Dena Matthews

Publication Phone #: 979-245-5555

Publication email: classified@baycitytribune.com

Qty	Description of Advertisement	1st day Cost	Add. Day Cost	Nbr of Days	Total	Comment
	FM 457 Public Hearing Notice	\$ 400.00		2	\$ 800.00	Classifieds/Legal
		\$ -		0	\$ -	
		\$ -		0	\$ -	
		\$ -		0	\$ -	
		\$ -		1	\$ -	
		\$ -		0	\$ -	
		\$ -		0	\$ -	
Advertising Sub-Total					\$ 800.00	
Qty	Agency Fees				Total	Comment
1	Commission	\$ 141.18			\$ 141.18	
					\$ -	In order for ad to run, publication must receive approval by 3 pm Monday, July 27
Agency Fees Sub-Total					\$ 141.18	
GRAND TOTAL					\$ 941.18	

Approved by: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Appendix B

Public Hearing
Media News Release



NEWS RELEASE

YOAKUM DISTRICT

Andrew Carlson
(361) 293-4436

Andrew.Carlson@txdot.gov

 [Share This](#)

 [Tweet This](#)

TxDOT TO CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FM 457 BRIDGE IN SARGENT

Proposed "corkscrew" bridge would replace aging and costly swing bridge at Gulf Intracoastal Waterway

August 3, 2015

SARGENT – The Texas Department of Transportation will conduct a public hearing Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at the V.F.W. Post 2412 Hall, 20305 FM 457 in Sargent. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned replacement of the FM 457 Swing Bridge at the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) and to receive public comments. Displays will be available for viewing at 5:30 p.m. with the formal hearing commencing at 6:30 p.m.

The existing facility is a divided roadway with one 12-foot lane in each direction with no shoulders. The existing roadway crosses a 120-foot metal pontoon bridge at grade. The pontoon bridge is operated by a control tower regulating both vehicular and water traffic. The width of the existing facility ranges from approximately 24 to 30 feet.

The proposed \$28.7 million project would replace the existing, at-grade pontoon barge swing span and approach spans with a new fixed-span, high-clearance structure with spiral approaches. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a replacement structure that offers a more structurally sound bridge, reduced maintenance costs, and timely, reliable access across the GIWW along FM 457. The decades-old swing bridge requires significant ongoing maintenance costs, requires 24/7 staffing, and can slow emergency vehicle response time if the bridge is open to marine traffic.

The proposed improvements would require approximately 4.2 acres of additional right of way (ROW). The proposed project would displace one single-family residence, several TxDOT-owned buildings, and potentially impact one water supply well. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displacements, as well as information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition and construction may be obtained from the TxDOT Yoakum District Office. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. The project would traverse the 100-year floodplain and cross wetlands.

Maps and other drawings showing the proposed project's location and design will be displayed at the hearing. Environmental documentation for the project will also be available for inspection at the hearing. Other information about the proposed project is on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Yoakum District Office located at 403 Huck St., Yoakum, TX 77995 as well as the TxDOT Matagorda County Maintenance Office located at 500 Ave. F, Bay City, TX 77414 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this public hearing. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding this project are requested and may be presented for a period of 10 calendar days following the hearing. Written comments may be submitted either in person or by mail to the TxDOT District Office, Mr.

Paul Reitz, P.E., Director of Transportation, Planning, and Development, 403 Huck St., Yoakum, TX 77995. Comments must be received on or before September 14, 2015 in order to become part of the official hearing record.

The Public Hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs, or need an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Mr. Andrew Carlson, TxDOT Public Information Officer, at (361) 293-4436. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the public hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs. If you have general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project, you may contact Mr. Paul Reitz, P.E. at (361) 293-4347.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

TxDOT's [Yoakum District](#) encompasses 11 counties in South Texas, serving over 333,000 residents. The district employs approximately 300 people, and has offices in each of the counties we serve.

For news media inquiries, contact Andrew.Carlson@txdot.gov or (361) 293-4436.

###

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail, and public transportation across the state. TxDOT and its 12,000 employees are committed to working with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas by maintaining a safe system, addressing congestion, connecting Texas communities, and being a Best in Class state agency. Find out more at txdot.gov. "Like" us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter/TxDOTYoakum](#).

Maintain a Safe System • Address Congestion • Best-in-Class State Agency • Connect Texas Communities

An Equal Opportunity Employer

www.txdot.gov | [TxDOT on Facebook](#) | [TxDOT on Twitter](#)

Appendix C

Sign-in Sheets



Citizen Sign In
FM 457 Bridge Replacement Project
Public Hearing
September 1, 2015

Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
Jan Foreman				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Carolyn Pennington				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Carla Rae Southard				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Munk DeB...				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Judy Pape				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Vickie Dewar				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Lynn Ressler				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
CHARLES Osina				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Chris Hill				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Karen Hill				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Wilkin Dobby	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____			



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Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
Alan & Lucia Fuller				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Elizabeth Jackson				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio <u>Local</u> Community Flyer <u>Recent</u> Other (please specify) ___
Kenneth DeZecny				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
DENNIS LINDEN				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
James Farran				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio <u>both</u> Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Mary Quinlan				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Dennis Bascon				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) ___
GENE ALLEN				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Nancy Wellen Rep. Dennis Bonner				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
RL BOYER				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___



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Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
RICK PATTY				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
SALLY KNIGHT				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
JOE TAYLOR				Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
Chad & Kim Ware				Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
JAMIE & JUNNY GEL				Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
RAY & DIANA McFarlan				Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
Kevin Graham				Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
Nelson DAVIES				Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
Tracey Wollney				Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <u>owner</u>
Jan Brooks				Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____



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Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
ADOLPH SCHADE	[REDACTED]			Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) ___
LAWRENCE FOSTER				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) ___
Bill Orton				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) <u>County</u>
MIKE WAITS				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Shaerun Wilson				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Billy Sprouse <i>Texsper night</i>				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Joe Zamora				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
GARY LOPEZ				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
SUE RASTI				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
LARRY PAGE				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___



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Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
J.D. Williams				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Ray Fossell				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Mark Hochma				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Debbie Nelson				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Melody Brazda ³				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
BRIAN THURS				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Ron Bush				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Jim & Cindy Barton				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
JD STAYTON				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Marie Zikunke				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ Other (please specify) ___



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Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
Cecil CARNES				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
John Nagy				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign ___ TV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Maria Minor				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
DONALD KAMINSKI				Newspaper___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Bill ANDREAS				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Jerome Auselmo				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
George Cringto				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Paul Summit				Newspaper___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Trent Hess				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Mr + Mrs Gene Ferry				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____



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Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
Jude Hegzell				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
P. Karhu				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Andrew Nelson				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
VINCENT SAZERA				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
CD Billy Lane				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Jay Hobbs				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Sissy Nagy				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
DAVID & JUDY KVEDAL				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Phil Smith				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) ___
Leslie Folkes				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___



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Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
Joel Heaton				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Mrs MRS David Tuttle				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
MR & MRS BJ Mundine				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
MR + MRS Farguhar				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Skipper Osborne				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Freddie Driven				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Willie Younger				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
CLAUDE 'TIGER' LANE				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
TOM WOOTERS				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____
Tim Simpson				Newspaper___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend___ Radio___ Community Flyer___ Other (please specify) _____



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Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
Marie Bozeman	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Charlene TIPS				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
John + Debby Ellis				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Jan + Pam Kremmel				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Kim e. Clint Falls				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Ed [unclear]				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
L E Bason				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Ruth Staley				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Kaye Gilliam				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Alton Boudry				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____



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Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
J. McCullah				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
RW Blahwell				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Si + Kasey Laurie				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Tom Ward				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Robert Smith				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
J DAVIS				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Jan Slawinski				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Edward Slawinski				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Leon Biecki				Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Jeremy McKeon				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____



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Public Hearing
September 1, 2015

Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
Will Amc Smith Jr				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) <u>Radio</u>
ROG TIPPES				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Dianne Davis Russell				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) <u>Other</u>
Cathy Bolter				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <u>X</u> TV ___ Friend <u>X</u> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
TOM PUSTANSKI				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
CHITTENDEN DON & CHERRI				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) <u>Other</u>
JANA RAMSEY				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <u>X</u> TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Aaris + Jessica Mccl				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <u>X</u> TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____



Citizen Sign In
FM 457 Bridge Replacement Project
Public Hearing
September 1, 2015

Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
PAUL DAVIS	[REDACTED]			Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
KRISTIE BOBICHAY				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
JOE BONC III				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____



Citizen Sign In
FM 457 Bridge Replacement Project
Public Hearing
September 1, 2015

Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
Sheila Taylor				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
Nate McDonald				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) _____



OTW
Citizen Sign In

FM 457 Bridge Replacement Project

Public Hearing

September 1, 2015

Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
Alan Misl	403 Huck St. Yoakum, TX	361-293-4424	Alan.Misl@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Amanda Fling	403 Huck St Yoakum, TX	361-293-4429	Amanda.Fling@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Greg Polasek	403 Huck St. Yoakum, TX	361-293-4312	Greg.Polasek@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
MICHAEL BRZDZOWSKI	1512 FM 102 WHARTON, TX	(979)532-3143	MICHAEL.BRZDZOWSKI@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
RYAN SIMPER	1512 Fm 102 WHARTON, TX	(979)532-3143	RYAN.SIMPER@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Annie Lagow	200 E Riverside AUSTIN, TX	(512) 416-2110	annie.lagow@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Doire Miers	200 E. Riverside AUSTIN, TX	512 416-33	doire.miers@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Steven Austin	118E Riverside Austin, TX	210-445-9659	Steven.austine@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Jeff Tomkins	"	512 416 2225	jeff.tomkins@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Jason Butz	1504 W. 5TH ST Austin TX 78703	512 844 0977	jbutz@phiers-env.com	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___



~~1001~~
Citizen Sign In

FM 457 Bridge Replacement Project
Public Hearing
September 1, 2015

Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	How did you hear about the meeting?
Steve GARTMAN	PO Box 4123 TX 77404	240 599 7	SGGARTMAN@GARTMAN	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Panny Perez	HOUSTON		danny.perez@ txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Bryan Ellis	Victoria, TX.	361- 572-5220	bryan.ellise@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Clay Churchill	Childress, TX	940 937-7157	clay.churchill@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Jessica Fields		979 5579103	Jessica.Fields@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
David W. Down	Bay City	979 245-8338		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Duane Rymer	Bay	245-8338	Martin.Rymer@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Meghan Paulowski	ENV - Austin	512 466-2433	Meghan.paulow@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
Mario Mata	ENV - Austin	512-416-2620	mario.mata@txdot.gov	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___
				Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Other (please specify) ___

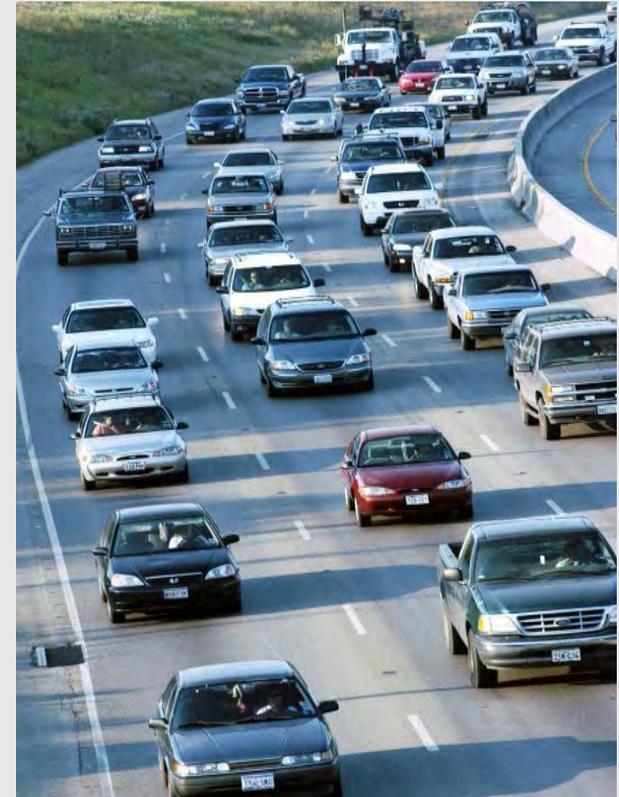
Appendix D
Presentation



FM 457 SWING BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Public Hearing

September 1, 2015



Agenda

- Meeting Format
- Project Overview
- Environmental Overview
- Project Schedule
- Public Comments

Why Am I Here?

- Learn and ask questions about the proposed project
- Review purpose and need for project
- Review the proposed project alternatives, including the preferred alternative
- Provide comments and feedback on the proposed project and alternatives

How To Submit Comments

- Verbal comments will commence after presentation
- Written comments can be placed in the comment box
- E-Mail comments to: Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov
- Fax comments to: 361-293-4372
- Mail comments to: TxDOT Yoakum Office
403 Huck Street
Yoakum, Texas 77995

Deadline for comments is Monday, September 14, 2015



PROJECT OVERVIEW

FM 457 Swing Bridge Replacement Project

Project Overview

- Replace current swing bridge with concrete “corkscrew” bridge over the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW)
- Corkscrew bridge will have two lanes – one lane in each direction
- Anticipated displacements are one residence and TxDOT bridge control tower
- Estimated project cost \$28.7 million



What are we trying to do?

- Provide reliable access across the GIWW
- Provide a bridge that requires less upkeep and does not need 24/7 staffing

What problems are we trying to address?

- Current bridge has to be open for barge traffic
- Motorists have to wait to cross current bridge
- Emergency response times can be delayed
- Current bridge is in need of major, costly repairs

Why a Corkscrew Bridge?

A corkscrew bridge best accommodates the limited space along FM 457 and height requirements for a new bridge.

Benefits of a Corkscrew Bridge

- Unrestricted vehicular flow across the GIWW
- Unrestricted boat and barge traffic
- Unrestricted emergency access across the GIWW
- Eliminate swing bridge maintenance costs

Road Design Considerations

- Designed for 30 mph speed
- Road width minimum of 32' with 48' width preferred
- Lane width of 12'
- Shoulder width 4' with 12' width preferred
- Flush 4' median for large trucks
- Maximum grade of 7%
- Pedestrian and bicycle access

Bridge Design and Construction Considerations

- Need 73' of vertical clearance over 225' of GIWW
- Main span and support span length
- Limited footprint on island
- Potential storm surge and other environmental forces
- Corrosion protection for 75 to 100 year service life
- Few or no retaining walls
- Location for new bridge substructure
- Aesthetics
- Access to residences and businesses
- Minimizing work in channel clearance zone

Project Alternatives

Project Alternatives	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C
Description	No build alternative – the current bridge would remain		
Consistent with Purpose and Need?	No	Yes	Yes
Potential for residential relocations?	No	Yes (4)	Yes (1)
Potential for commercial displacements?	No	Yes (1)	No
Impacts to Waters of the U.S.?	No	No	Yes
Impacts to potential wetlands?	No	Yes	Yes
Additional right-of-way (ROW) required?	No	Yes	Yes
Preliminary Decision	Required to be further considered	Not Recommended	Preferred alternative

Preferred Alternative – Alternative C

Alternative C is the preferred alternative because it:

- Meets the project purpose and need.
- Requires fewer residential displacements.
- Does not require any commercial displacements.
- Has fewer permanent impacts to wetlands.
- Uses natural vegetation as a buffer between the construction area and the beach. This natural buffer provides protection for federally listed sea turtles and shore birds.





ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW

FM 457 Swing Bridge Replacement Project

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

Environmental Assessment (EA)

- A detailed study called an Environmental Assessment (EA) was done for the proposed project.
- The study resulted in a draft EA report.
- The study and report document impacts to the natural and human environment including potential impacts to:
 - Floodplains
 - Potential wetlands
 - Vegetation
 - Wildlife
 - Land use
 - Threatened and endangered species
 - Aesthetic and visual resources
 - Surface water
 - Historic and archaeological resources
 - Potential displacements to residents and businesses
 - Social and community impacts

Project plans and the draft environmental assessment report document are available for viewing:

- Tonight at the Public Hearing
- Project website at www.txdot.gov and search keywords “FM 457”
- TxDOT Matagorda County Maintenance Office
 - Monday – Thursday 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
 - 500 Ave. F
 - Bay City, TX 77414
- TxDOT Yoakum District office
 - Monday – Friday 8 am - 5 pm
 - 403 Huck St.
 - Yoakum, TX 77995

Right of Way Acquisition and Relocation Assistance

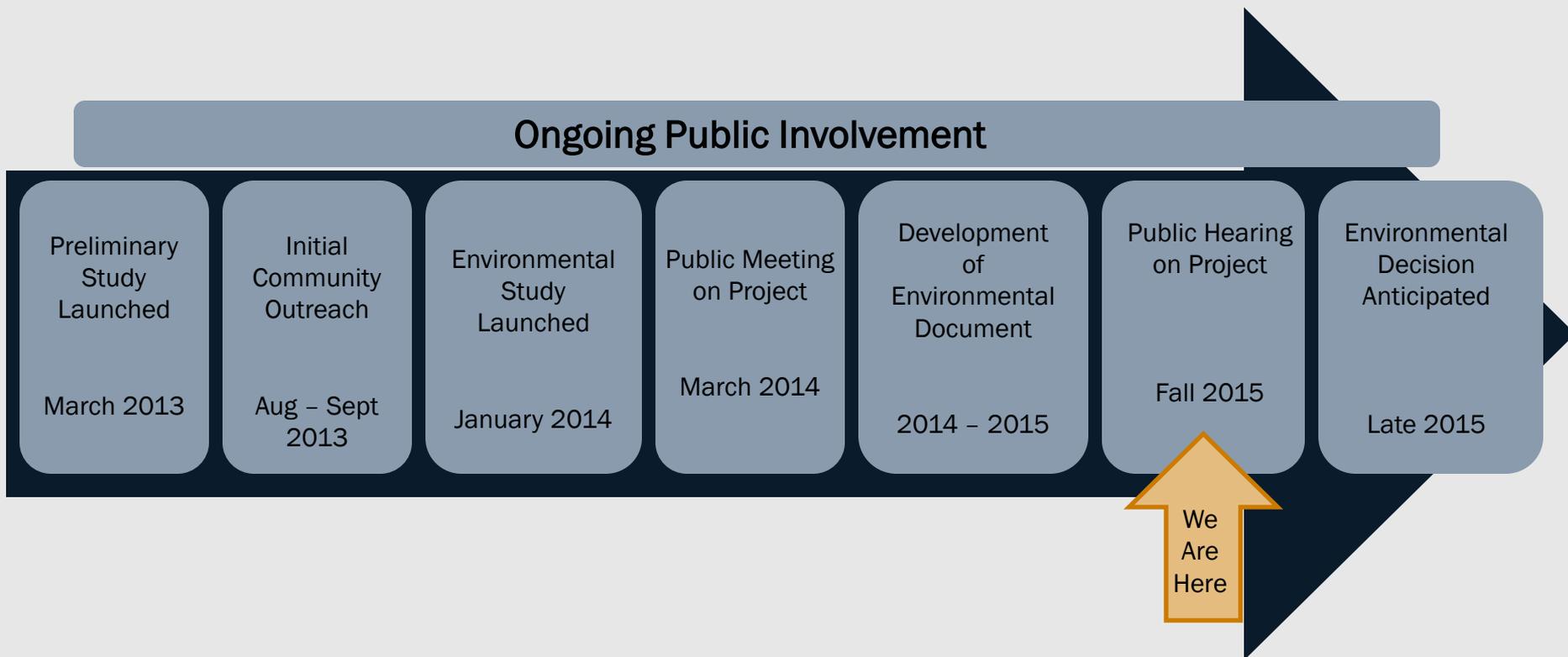
Greg Polasek

TxDOT Right of Way Supervisor

361-293-4312

Greg.Polasek@txdot.gov

Project Schedule*



*** This project schedule and dates are preliminary and subject to change.**

Next Steps

- Compile and consider community input from tonight's public hearing
- Submit Environmental Assessment document for a decision on if the project will be built

How To Submit Comments

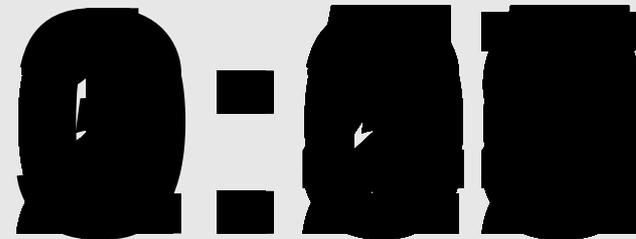
- Verbal comments period
- Written comments can be placed in the comment box
- Email comments to: Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov
- Fax comments to: 361-293-4372
- Mail comments to: TxDOT Yoakum Office
403 Huck Street
Yoakum, Texas 77995

Deadline for comments is Monday, September 14, 2015

10 Minute Break

Public Comment Period

- Use the microphone
- State your name
- State your interest in the project
- Give your comments on the project
- Please observe 3 minute rule



Thank You for Your Participation!

Please remember to submit comments on or before
Monday, September 14, 2015

- Written comments can be placed in the comment box
- E-Mail comments to: Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov
- Fax comments to: 361-293-4372
- Mail comments to: TxDOT Yoakum Office
403 Huck Street
Yoakum, Texas 77995

Appendix E

Written Public Comments,
TxDOT Responses,
Verbatim Transcript

Don



FM 457 SWING BRIDGE PROJECT COMMENT CARD

YOAKUM DISTRICT

SEP 10 2015

TEXAS DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: DONNA ANDERSON YOUNGER

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: SELF

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

- I am employed by TxDOT
- I do business with TxDOT
- I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

COMMENTS ① WITH THE SWING BRIDGE AT SARGENT BEING THE ONLY ONE REMAINING ALONG THE INTRACOASTAL CANAL, IT NOW HAS AN EXALTED POSITION OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, THEREFORE, IT SHOULD REMAIN IN OPERATION AS A TOURIST ATTRACTION ASSERTIVELY PROMOTED BY TxDOT AND OTHER ADVOCATES OF VISITOR/HOSPITALITY-INDUSTRY GROWTH.

② THE ROADS AND BRIDGES OF TEXAS ARE VITAL TO THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING OF THE RESIDENTS OF OUR STATE AND NATION. YET, MANY OF THESE TRANSPORTATION NECESSITIES ARE IN A DETERIORATED STATE. IT WOULD APPEAR REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT 28 OR 29 MILLION DOLLARS WOULD BE BETTER SPENT ON REPAIRING AND/OR UPGRADING OUR EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE. IT IS APPARENT THAT THIS 'NEW' BRIDGE WOULD REPRESENT A SIZEABLE INVESTMENT OF TAX DOLLARS THAT WOULD PROVIDE A CONVENIENCE TO ONLY A MINISCULE PORTION OF THE STATE'S POPULATION (I.E., 3 DOZEN HOME OWNERS & A "VERY" SMALL NUMBER OF BEACH VISITORS). PLEASE SEND "OUR" MONEY AS WISELY AS HUMANLY POSSIBLE!

THANK YOU!

Please submit all comments by Monday, September 14, 2015

E-Mail to Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov

Fax to 361-293-4372

Mail to TxDOT Yoakum Office, 403 Huck Street, Yoakum, Texas 77995



Texas Department of Transportation

403 Huck Street | Yoakum, Texas 77995 | (361) 293 4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 29, 2015

Donna Anderson Younger

Dear Donna,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

The Sargent Swingbridge is not the only remaining swingbridge located along the Intracoastal Canal. There are several in the eastern part of Texas and one located in South Texas. The bridge was not determined to be an historic structure. The project is being proposed to eliminate the costly operation and maintenance of the swingbridge. The amount of money saved by eliminating the maintenance and operation of the swingbridge will be greater than the cost to construct the new bridge over the life span of this structure.

If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.

OUR GOALS

MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer

001



FM 457 SWING BRIDGE PROJECT COMMENT CARD

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: Dianne Russell

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: _____

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

I am employed by TxDOT

I do business with TxDOT

I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

COMMENTS: I am 100% in favor of the construction
of the new bridge on 457 @ Sargent Beach
This will bring much needed economic
growth to the area as well as
faster response time for emergency
services to residents + tourists

Please submit all comments by Monday, September 14, 2015

E-Mail to Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov

Fax to 361-293-4372

Mail to TxDOT Yoakum Office, 403 Huck Street, Yoakum, Texas 77995



Texas Department of Transportation

403 Huck Street | Yoakum, Texas 77995 | (361) 293-4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 30, 2015

Diane Russell



Dear Ms. Russell ,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

Your comment to support the bridge replacement project is appreciated and will be entered into the official public hearing submittal.

If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.

Don



FM 457 SWING BRIDGE PROJECT COMMENT CARD

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: James A. Farrar, AIA Emeritus NCARB

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: Myself jafarrar@gmail.com

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

- I am employed by TxDOT
- I do business with TxDOT
- I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

COMMENTS: looks good as good goes. What could be improved is how the ramp lands on the Gulf side. I believe this arrangement will require more apron & retention of the Gulf from undermining the termination.

Please submit all comments by Monday, September 14, 2015
E-Mail to Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov
Fax to 361-293-4372
Mail to TxDOT Yoakum Office, 403 Huck Street, Yoakum, Texas 77995

~~Done~~

Paul Reitz

From: James Farrar [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 8:28 PM
To: Paul Reitz
Subject: FM 457 Bridge Replacement Project.

Hello Paul,

I appreciate you and your team coming and presenting the bridge project. We have talked and corresponded about the bridge in the past. I have attended all your meetings. It was a good presentation that you and your team made. I believe this is the third time you have done this. I was sorry to see it appearing to not be as well received as it should.

There were three speaker against the and one for it. If you haven't already found out you will find Sargent is very dysfunctional with various groups and people wanting control yet not knowing what to do with it even if they attain some.

I know the state is going to build the bridge irrespective of the opinions. I think the bridge is a good thing. And any objections to it is based upon catastrophes that will be met by the state being responsible for it use and maintenance. Irrespective of the future of the bridge TxDOT will be married to it as they are managers for everything else in the state;s road inventory. And that is reason enough to support it. The preferred alternative appears to be the best scheme.

There are a couple to things you might consider in the design. The first is that instead of the helical super-elevated ramp on the land side it might be a straight run with the rise starting further down FM 457. That might standardize the precast concrete beams sections and the ledgers. There could be a bend in the road occurring at the land side of the ICH if you want the roadbed in that position in order to build it and not interfere with the operation of the existing swing bridge while building the new bridge. With this you would need a frontage road which you probably would anyway.

You might also consider some sort of radar monitor for if you don't they will by some accidents with some of the folks who live at Sargent out having their fun.

The helical super-elevated ramp on the beach side is mandatory. The landing of it in a tee to the road is done a lot but is always awkward coming off a ramp. Better the road continue as a curve and continue as a part of Canal Drive. Other roads can connect to Canal Drive at a right angle. The will be no further development down the beach other than the fishing park since the state owns the land all the the way to Mitchell's Cut is my understanding. I think Roy Cullen donated it to the State of Texas maybe 25 years ago. The frontage road on the land-side should be held tight to the roadway to keep from taking more road frontage from property owners.

One of the commentators mentioned FM 457 taking a beating from the construction and that is real. The road is not designed for carrying the weights of the precast concrete sections. So there should be something in the planning to rehab it and make it into an even better more durable roadway than it already is. It could also stand some shoulders and better ditching for maintenance and drainage.

If you would like me to provide you with some freehand scanned sketches of what I am suggesting for the land side elevated roadway and the landing of the beach helical let me know and I will prepare and send them.



Texas Department of Transportation

403 Huck Street | Yorktown, Texas 77995 | (361) 293-4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 29, 2015

James Farrar



Dear Mr. Farrar,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

In considering your comment concerning the helical ramp on the land side, the project team determined to minimize the impacts to a Federal Reserve Park and landowners along FM 457 the helical would be built on existing state property. The landing on the island side was designed with a T intersection due to the fact that it would minimize impacts to wetlands and sea turtle habitat. There is a road widening project going out for bids Spring 2016 to add shoulders to FM 457 from Sargent to the intercoastal waterway.

If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.

Done



FM 457 SWING BRIDGE PROJECT COMMENT CARD

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: (Wanda) Ruth Staley

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: Self

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

- I am employed by TxDOT
- I do business with TxDOT
- I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

COMMENTS: Att. "C" TO support

However, we are concerned about general
nails for the bridges as you come
of the bridges - we do not want
anyone running into our Staley
home.

Please submit all comments by Monday, September 14, 2015
 E-Mail to Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov
 Fax to 361-293-4372
 Mail to TxDOT Yoakum Office, 403 Huck Street, Yoakum, Texas 77995



Texas Department of Transportation

403 Huck Street | Yoakum, Texas 77995 | (361) 293 4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 22, 2015

Ruth Staley

Dear Ms. Staley,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

In considering your comment concerning having enough guardrail coming off the bridge, the project team will ensure that the required length of rail is needed to create a safe departure off the bridge.

If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.

0015



FM 457 SWING BRIDGE PROJECT COMMENT CARD

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: Nelson DAVIES

ADDRESS: _____

REPRESENTING: _____

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

I am employed by TxDOT

I do business with TxDOT

I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

COMMENTS: I Am 100% FOR THIS BRIDGE.
I think it would bring much needed
economic growth to the SARGENT Beach
Area and create jobs. Not to
mention Emergency Vehicles Accessing the
island.

Please submit all comments by Monday, September 14, 2015

E-Mail to Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov

Fax to 361-293-4372

Mail to TxDOT Yoakum Office, 403 Huck Street, Yoakum, Texas 77995

Paul Reitz

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 1:37 PM
To: Paul Reitz; Alan Migl
Subject: FM 457 Bridge Replacement Project - Comment

Name: nelson davies

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Comment:

i am 100 for this bridge and the proposed location. I think it is great.
Will creat jobs and enhance the local economy as well. Finally tax payers are getting a reliable bridge for the people on the island not to meantion the safety factors involved. Fire, medical emergencies that would br greatly improved. Its about time for this bridge to happen. Old bridge not safe and unreliable.

I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting



Texas Department of Transportation

403 Huck Street | Yoakum, Texas 77995 | (361) 293 4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 30, 2015

Nelson Davies
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr Davies ,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

Your comment to support the bridge replacement project is appreciated and will be entered into the official public hearing submittal.

If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.

DPX



FM 457 SWING BRIDGE PROJECT COMMENT CARD

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: Tracye Wollney

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: _____

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

- I am employed by TxDOT
- I do business with TxDOT
- I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

COMMENTS: I am 100% in favor of the new bridge at 457 to Sargent Beach. It will have a positive economic impact as well as provide growth to the ~~com~~ community. Emergency services will also be improved to residents as well as tourists.

Please submit all comments by Monday, September 14, 2015
 E-Mail to Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov
 Fax to 361-293-4372
 Mail to TxDOT Yoakum Office, 403 Huck Street, Yoakum, Texas 77995



Texas Department of Transportation

403 Huck Street | Yoakum, Texas 77995 | (361) 293-4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 30, 2015

Tracye Wollney
[REDACTED]

Dear Tracye ,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

Your comment to support the bridge replacement project is appreciated and will be entered into the official public hearing submittal.

If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.



FM 457 SWING BRIDGE PROJECT
COMMENT CARD

YOAKUM DISTRICT

SEP 08 2015

TEXAS DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: Jan S. Brooks - Caney Creek Marina

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: Caney Creek Marina

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

I am employed by TxDOT

I do business with TxDOT

I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

COMMENTS: I am a seasonal business, (bait camp) May-Oct., during that time the money I make has to pay for the winter months bills and the \$10,000. property taxes due each year. The fear I have is the increase in property taxes to pay for the bridge cost of 28 M. It seems a waste of money for the Loop before going over the ICW. The Loop across the ICW is where the Loop is needed.

What will happen when the beach ends at the retention wall? a big 5 hurricane comes? Why not have the barges going thru swingbridge, paying for the expenses 500,00 when they use it daily? Why not have an Emergency Boat for the island to bring across critically ill patients to meet an ambulance? My business does not make enough money to support my

Please submit all comments by Monday, September 14, 2015

E-Mail to Paul.Reitz@txdot.gov

Fax to 361-293-4372

Mail to TxDOT Yoakum Office, 403 Huck Street, Yoakum, Texas 77995

P.S. Why not put in jetty's?

expenses in the winter months so, the Bridge is too expensive AND may not work out in the long run. Thanks



Texas Department of Transportation

403 Huck Street | Yoakum, Texas 77995 | (361) 293-4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 29, 2015

Jan S. Brooks
[REDACTED]

Dear Jan Brooks,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

The bridge costs will not be paid by property taxes. Texas Department of Transportation will utilize a funding program through our bridge division that is paid from gasoline taxes and various other avenues but not property tax. The loop is need on the mainland side to reduce impacts to property. The property the loop on the mainland side is being built on is owned by the state so this reduces the amount of property we will need to purchase for this project.

If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.

JD30

Paul Reitz

From: William Younger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 9:18 AM
To: Paul Reitz
Subject: BRIDGE COMMENTS
Attachments: COMMENTS on the PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION of a FIXED BRIDGE.docx

Mr. Reitz,

The opportunity to comment, in person and in writing, on the proposed bridge at Sargent is greatly appreciated! Attached is my written response to the prospective construction of a fixed bridge over the GIWW. I am sharing these with local, state and federal elected officials; potentially involved agencies; and, civic leaders concerned with the affairs of the Sargent Area in hopes the erosion issue on Sargent Beach will be duly considered before this feature is built.

Thank you!

Willie Younger
Former Extension Marine & Coastal for Matagorda County (FYI - intimately involved in the installation of Sargent Beach Revetment Wall), Taxpayer and 36-yr. resident of Matagorda County

**COMMENTS on the PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION of a FIXED BRIDGE
OVER the GIWW at SARGENT, TEXAS**

- In the mid-80's, Sargent residents sensed a mounting urgency to curtail the astounding rate of beach loss at Sargent Beach (i.e., UT Bureau of Economic Geology and the Corps of Engineers verified an average erosion loss of 30-plus feet per year along a 8-mile stretch of the coastline there; with a few trouble spots approaching 60 ft./yr.).
- With the support of local leaders; elected county, state and federal officials; TxDOT; and, petro-chemical and shipping industry representatives; the US Congress appropriated and allocated funds (+\$60 M) which allowed the Army Corps of Engineers to oversee the construction of a 7 ½ -mile granite-block revetment wall along Sargent Beach (i.e., seaward of the GIWW).
- The primary goal of this major US Public Works project was to protect the GIWW, the billions of dollars in commerce and large number of jobs which this essential maritime transportation artery provides.
- Secondly, Sargent Beach (as locals hoped for) has been relatively stable since this horizontal defense system was installed. Yet, the glaring, and most troubling, fact surrounding the potential effectiveness of this protective structure is that...it has not yet been tested by a major hurricane (e.g., Category 3, 4 or 5) striking at or near this artificially-defended beach.
- From the TxDOT graphics supplied at the hearing, it appears that the toe of the corkscrew ramp at beachside will be solidly pressed against the 'inside' wall of this granite shield.
- Thus, it would seem apparent that, even the remotest prospect of, an irreparable breach in this revetment wall, anywhere in the vicinity of this spiraling bridge ramp, should be of utmost importance when designing this major transportation feature!!
- However, it was baffling to note that there was no specific reference to this chronic (and well-documented) erosion issue in the PowerPoint presentation, or comments, given by the TxDOT Hearing Officer at the 09-01-15 public hearing in Sargent???
- Hopefully, the historically-validated possibility of the insatiable erosion suddenly, and viscously, reappearing at Sargent Beach, will be thoughtfully factored into both the design, and GO or NO GO decision-making, equations.
- Otherwise, Sargent might soon gain a spot in the BOOK of RECORDS for being home to the tallest, most expensive and least-functional fishing pier in the world.

THANK YOU for EXERCISING CAUTION WHILE PONDERING the INVESTMENT of LARGE AMOUNTS of the U.S. TAX-PAYERS HARD-EARNED DOLLARS in SARGENT'S, MATAGORDA COUNTY'S and TEXAS' FUTURE!

Willie Younger, 150 Lower Colorado, Bay City, TX 77414; 979-240-4872; w-younger@att.net



Texas Department of Transportation

403 Huck Street | York, Texas 77995 | (361) 293 4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 29, 2015

William Younger



Dear Mr. Younger,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

We understand the erosion issue at Sargent Beach. Our design team will look at the landing to ensure we have a some distance between our landing and the granite wall. We have followed the AASHTO (American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials) load requirements for natural forces including extreme wind, scour, wave action, tidal effects and storm surge.

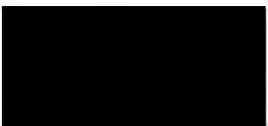
If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.

J. R. & Karen McDonald

6018



September 2, 2015

TxDOT District Office
Mr. Paul Reitz, P.E.
Director of Transportation, Planning and Development
403 Huck Street,
Yoakum, TX, 77995

YOAKUM DISTRICT
SEP 02 2015
TEXAS DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

Dear Mr. Reitz,

RE: FOR the proposed plan to replace the current swing bridge.

We own [redacted] Sargent Beach and are very excited to hear that we may soon have better access to our property.

We are for this proposal for the following personal reasons:

1. Easier access / no waiting either direction.
2. Easier boating when trying to access the Matagorda Bay area. Not having to wait for the bridge to open or for the boat bridge to be raised will greatly enhance our fishing & boating pleasure.
3. Economic increase. Hopefully, this will convince persons interested in the Sargent area that we are not forgotten and progress is steadily moving our direction.
4. Emergency Response Time will be much faster, which is a concern for my wife & I as we are in our 60's and the bridge has always been a concern when considering possible medical issues.

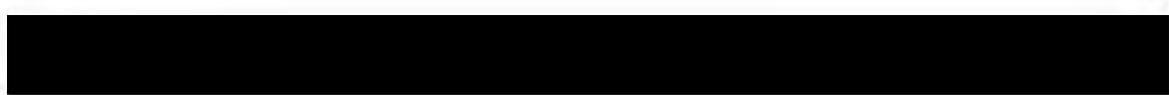
We realize the reasons above are all very selfish and personal and that those reasons alone would not be sufficient to replace the swing bridge.

As property owners we can only assume that the State of Texas has determined it will be in the best interest of all taxpayers to replace a high maintenance, outdated and inconvenient method of crossing the GIWW with a modern, convenient and much safer alternative.

We certainly hope the project moves forward and we look forward to seeing concrete in the ground soon.

Best Regards

J.R. McDonald *Karen McDonald*
J.R. & Karen McDonald





Texas Department of Transportation

403 Huck Street | Yoakum, Texas 77995 | (361) 293 4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 30, 2015

J.R. & Karen McDonald

Dear McDonalds ,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

Your comment to support the bridge replacement project is appreciated and will be entered into the official public hearing submittal.

If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.



- [Close Window](#)
- [Print This Page](#)
- [Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

Case: 00068097

Case Number	00068097 [View Hierarchy]	Parent Case	
Case Origin	Web	Case Record Type	Complaint
Priority	Medium	Contact Name	JD Stayton
Status	New	Contact Email	[REDACTED]
Issue Type	Environmental	Contact Phone	[REDACTED]
Case Owner	Rhonda Moorman	Contact Preference	Email
Private		Disable Automatic Emails	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Media Interest		Received From	Business
Tort		DDOR Reporting Issue	[REDACTED]
Do Not Delete	Standard	Reported By	Yoakum

Name of person Reporting DDOR on behalf of contact or government official (State or Federal)

Additional Information

Received Date		Acknowledged Date	
Due Date	9/16/2015	Date/Time Closed	
Date/Time Opened	9/2/2015 11:12 AM	Days Overdue	-14
Service Level	10		

Description Information

Subject environmental concern (plz provide agency referral info if not TxDOT related) YKM

Description Sargent property owner for 43 yrs and I've seen lots of changes in the Sargent area. The erosion of our beaches started over 55 yrs ago when Dow change the flow of the Brazos River for their use. About 23 yrs ago the Corp of Engineers suggested the area needed a barrier wall to stop the Gulf from reaching the ICW. Well, that didn't work.

Location Details

DDOR (Mobile)	
DDOR	YOAKUM
County	
Route	Route Name
Mile Marker	
CSJ	



403 Huck Street | Yoakum, Texas 77995 | (361) 293 4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 29, 2015

JD Stayton
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Stayton,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

Your comment can be better addressed by United States Corp of Engineers and United State Coast Guard relating to the erosion on the beach. The bridge replacement project will not address any of the erosion issues.

If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.

Paul Reitz

From: Mary Quinlan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2015 8:11 AM
To: Paul Reitz
Subject: Sargent Swing Bridge

Dear Mr. Reitz,

I am writing in regard to the proposed bridge replacement for the existing Sargent Swing Bridge.

I am a long time resident of Sargent Beach, over 30 years, longer than anyone else. I have probably sat and waited on barges longer than anyone at this point. And you know what? I moan and groan sometimes when I have to wait and other times I get out of the car, (if I am on the beach side), and run down the beach for some added exercise, or pull out a book and read, or if I am on the land side I get out and see if the fishermen are catching any fish. Do you really want to take this treasured land mark away?

It appears to me, after listening to your very short and unimpressive presentations at the VFW that no one at the TxDOT really is too concerned as to what the residents want; that your presentations were done solely for the purpose of political necessity.

First off, there is no way that you are going to be able to construct a "cork screw" bridge at that site and have it be safe. The concept is ludicrous. Cork Screw bridges are very few and the ones that have been built are known to be some of the most dangerous bridges in the world. Add that on top of young drunks down on the beach partying on vacation and you have a major setting for some very bad accidents. Does the Tx DOT want to be held liable for this secondary to building a most dangerous bridge? And this will happen sooner or later.

Secondly, there is no way that this bridge is going to withstand the powers of nature. This is a very controversial bridge design on a beach that has been eroding at a mammoth rate for years. The rock revetment is not going to stop any real erosion from a major hurricane. It may slow down the day to day erosion for a few years but not for any great length of time. So please do not look at it for protection of this multi-million dollar bridge you are planning on building. I would imagine the beams, (or whatever you call the supporting structures of this bridge), will be almost on the beach. How far from the mean tide will they be? How can you think that this bridge is not going to be affected by erosion in the next 10 years? Our weather patterns are changing and sea levels are rising. Storms are getting much more severe. We are due for a good hurricane.

Thirdly, do you really expect anyone to believe that you can angle the curve in this "cork screw" bridge such that you can go 30 miles an hour on it? And that is what was said at your short, little presentation. That is not even feasible.

This bridge is most obviously being built for the tug companies and all the chemical and oil companies that utilize their services. How much money are they donating to the TxDOT such that you will build their bridge for them and cut their transportation cost?

We, in Sargent, predominantly do not want this bridge. It is going to totally destroy the aesthetic beauty of the Sargent Beach environment. Our swing bridge is historic. It is a vital part of Sargent. It is the last one left in the state. I do not believe it is quite as costly to maintain as you indicate. I do believe that the cost of this proposed bridge is going to be much greater than you are estimating. Are you looking in to law suits that will

arise secondary to accidents secondary to the design of this most dangerous bridge? Are you looking into the cost of erosion and damage caused by storms?

I beg of you to re-consider this design and plan. It is not a good one. And if you do go through with this, why can you not have a straight incline on the land side? I do understand that there is a wild life preserve on some of that land that would have to be accessed. But I do feel that that is an option that could be looked into. Would the environmental impact of accessing a small piece of that reserve to make the incline of this bridge straight and much safer and aesthetically pleasing be greater or lesser than using the land that the bridge house currently stands on and thus having the "cork screw" incline?

I very much hope you read through this carefully and reconsider your current plans.

Thank-you,

Mary S. Quinlan





Texas Department of Transportation

403 Huck Street | Yoakum, Texas 77995 | (361) 293-4300 | www.txdot.gov

September 30, 2015

Mary Quinlan


Dear Ms. Quinlan,

Thank you for your interest and recent participation in the FM 457 public hearing. Public input is a vital part of TxDOT's project planning and development process. Following the hearing, the project team reviewed and considered all public comments.

The "cork screw" bridge will be designed using current AASHTO (American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials) approved roadway design standards. These design standards are utilized on all state highways and bridges to create a safe travel way for the public. The bridge is also being designed to resist current AASHTO (American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials) load requirements for natural forces including extreme event wind, scour, wave action, tidal effects, and storm surge. The entire bridge including the columns, footings, and foundations will be designed to resist bending and shear forces from hurricanes and storm surge events. The concrete pile foundations are projected to penetrate nearly 100' below the surface. Their length will enable the bridge to stand even with several feet of erosion. TxDOT has enlisted the services of coastal engineers who are well versed in the design of coastal structures such as offshore platforms that withstand hurricanes and wave action on a regular basis. These engineers will determine the extent of wave and storm surge loads on the structure, and will develop plans for measures to protect the bridge from extreme coastal natural events. The design standards used will allow 30 mph speed to traverse the bridge. At this early design stage of the bridge we will estimate the posted speed limit to be 20mph.

If you have questions or would like to further discuss the response to your comment, please contact Paul Reitz at 361-293-4347. Thank you again for your participation and input.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Reitz, P.E.

OUR GOALS

MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Appendix F

Verbatim Transcript

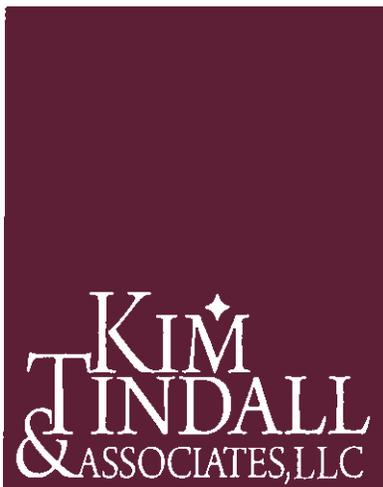
Transcript of the Testimony of
TXDOT Public Hearing

Date:

September 01, 2015

Case:

TXDOT PUBLIC HEARING



COPY

Kim Tindall and Associates, LLC

Phone: 210-697-3400

Fax: 210-697-3408

Email: ktindall@ktanda.com

Internet: www.kimtindallandassociates.com

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TXDOT PUBLIC HEARING AND OPEN HOUSE
SARGENT SWING BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT
SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2015

HEARING COMMENCED AT THE VFW HALL
20305 FM 457
SARGENT, TX

SUZI GLADNEY-O'NEILL, CSR, RPR, ON BEHALF OF
KIM TINDALL & ASSOCIATES, LLC

S P E A K E R S

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Mr. Paul Reitz
Mr. Willie Younger
Mr. J.D. Stayton
Mr. Brian Theros
Ms. Mary Quinlan

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1 MR. REITZ: Well, as he said, thank y'all
2 for spending time and coming here tonight. As he said,
3 I'm Paul Reitz; and I am the Director of Transportation
4 Planning and Development for the Yoakum District of the
5 Texas Department of Transportation and also your Public
6 Hearing Officer for tonight's proceeding.

7 TxDOT welcomes you to this public hearing for
8 the proposed replacement for the FM457 swing bridge.
9 Citizen participation and input is important in this
10 transportation planning process, and I appreciate you
11 taking time from your busy schedule to be here.

12 Tonight's public hearing is a more formal
13 meeting than the open houses that we've had on this
14 project. There will be a formal public comment period
15 after the presentation. Because of the format of a
16 public hearing, we will not be responding to questions or
17 comments during the formal comment period this evening.
18 Before the comment period begins, we'll take a 10-minute
19 break so you can talk with our TxDOT staff and get any
20 questions you may need answered. We'll also be available
21 to talk with you after the presentation and the comment
22 period. Any comments that are brought up or asked us
23 tonight, we'll respond in writing to those comments. We
24 won't be able to respond tonight.

25 This presentation will describe the proposed

1 replacement for the Sargent swing bridge, let you know
2 the environmental factors that are considered for this
3 proposed project, give an overview for the timeline for
4 this project, and then we'll wrap up with the hearing
5 portion of the evening for the public comment period.

6 Why am I here? Tonight's public hearing
7 is an important step in studying and potentially
8 constructing this project. Tonight's open house and
9 public hearing is an opportunity for you to learn more
10 about the proposed project, the details about the
11 proposed project, talk with our project staff and ask
12 questions, and leave any comments you have about this
13 proposed project or our preferred alternatives.

14 How you can submit comments: There are several
15 ways to get your comments submitted. As I mentioned,
16 we'll take your verbal comments which we'll call you --
17 whoever filled out the verbal comment sheet, we'll call
18 your name and you can step up to the microphone and you
19 can make comments to the public. Just make sure -- we
20 have a sign-in table in the back that you can get your
21 name written down. We'll give a break later on if
22 somebody wants to go do that.

23 If you would like to submit comments and not
24 wish to make them verbally, you may submit them in a
25 written form. There are comment forms available at our

1 sign-in table; and that may be placed in our comment box,
2 e-mailed, faxed, or mailed to the addresses on the form
3 which is myself. And these will all get answered in
4 writing, replied back. All written comments, though,
5 must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than
6 September the 14th in order to be included in the public
7 record for our hearing tonight.

8 I'll try and get started in the project
9 overview. The project details, this project will replace
10 the current swing bridge with a concrete -- what we call
11 a corkscrew bridge. The proposed bridge will have two
12 lanes, one lane in each direction. The preferred option
13 or alternative for the proposed project is anticipated to
14 displace one residence and the control tower for the
15 current Sargent swing bridge. The proposed bridge is
16 anticipated to cost approximately 28 million.

17 The purpose and need for this project,
18 replacing the current swing bridge, is being considered
19 to allow more reliable access across the Intracoastal
20 waterway and eliminate waiting when the bridge is open
21 for barge traffic. This is especially important for
22 reliable emergency response times.

23 Also the current bridge requires
24 round-the-clock staffing, is expensive to maintain, and
25 is in need of major costly repairs. Just our approximate

1 numbers on that, our maintenance costs are about 500,000
2 a year; and as far as the costly repairs that the bridge
3 needs now, it's probably 10 to \$12 million rehab project
4 on the bridge.

5 So, under the corkscrew bridge detail that
6 we're proposing, the proposed corkscrew bridge is a
7 unique design that has been used for other bridges and
8 will work well for this project. A corkscrew bridge will
9 allow the bridge to be at the necessary height so that
10 barges can pass underneath while also accommodating
11 limited space on the island for the side where the bridge
12 ramp comes down to grade.

13 The corkscrew bridge won't have to be opened
14 and closed like the current bridge. So, there would be
15 no unrestricted vehicle, boat, and barge traffic. This
16 will also eliminate potential emergency response delays
17 associated with the swing bridge. The proposed bridge
18 will also cost less to maintain than the swing bridge.

19 Some of the road design considerations: The
20 design has not been finalized, but the corkscrew bridge
21 will be designed for 30-mile-per-hour driving. The
22 design will be at least 32 feet wide with a 12-foot wide
23 lane and shoulders at least 4 foot. The middle median
24 will be flush with the pavement and won't be raised like
25 some with a concrete raised island. It will be -- the

1 middle median will be about 4 feet wide so trucks can
2 easily make the turn up and down the corkscrew. The
3 maximum grade of the bridge will be 7 percent to
4 accommodate not only vehicles but bikes and pedestrians
5 also.

6 The area is very unique, so there is a variety
7 of factors that go in designing and potentially building
8 the proposed corkscrew bridge. Because of the barge
9 traffic, the bridge has to be at least 73 feet above the
10 water and must be 73 feet high for at least a 225-foot
11 span over the Intracoastal waterway. Because of these
12 requirements, the design of the main bridge span and
13 support span are important, as is the location of the
14 underground substructure for the proposed bridge.

15 Environmental factors such as the limited space
16 on the island and potential storm surge were
17 also considered so the proposed bridge can last 75 to 100
18 years. Accessing homes and businesses is also being
19 considered into the design. If the project is approved
20 for construction, you're looking at a corkscrew bridge
21 and keeping a clear zone of the Intracoastal waterway
22 open during construction will be factored in.

23 The table has a lot of information that would
24 be hard to see from the back of the room. The same
25 information is on our display boards in the back of the

1 room and is easier to see. This table details the
2 factors TxDOT must consider in evaluating a proposed
3 project and the various project options called our
4 project alternatives.

5 For this project, three alternatives were
6 studied and considered before coming to a preferred
7 alternative that I will discuss in a minute -- in detail
8 in a minute. Alternative A is also called the no-build
9 alternative. This alternative would leave the current
10 swing bridge in place. A no-build alternative must be
11 studied and considered for all of our proposed projects.

12 Alternative B would be a corkscrew bridge with
13 ramps on opposite sides as you can see in the pictures.
14 Alternative C would be a corkscrew bridge with ramps on
15 the same side as you see in the pictures. As I
16 mentioned, many factors were studied and considered for
17 this proposed project: Factors such as if the
18 alternative would meet the goal of the proposed project,
19 the number of displacements, and amount of additional
20 right-of-way that would be necessary and also impacts to
21 the environment.

22 As I said, Alternative A is required to be
23 further considered. Alternative B is not recommended
24 because of the impacts it would have. Alternative C is
25 our recommended, preferred alternative to move forward.

1 Preferred Alternative C: Alternative C is the
2 preferred alternative because it meets the purpose and
3 need for this proposed project. It requires fewer
4 displacements than Alternative B and also fewer impacts
5 to the wetlands. This alternative also uses natural
6 vegetation as a buffer between the construction area and
7 the beach that can be used as a protective area for
8 wildlife.

9 Going into more detail on environmental
10 overview, I would also like to talk to you about the
11 environmental study that has been done so far on this
12 project. Last December TxDOT assumed federal authority
13 for all our environmental reviews of transportation
14 projects funded through the federal highway
15 administration. So, TxDOT headquarters will be reviewing
16 and evaluating the study for this project and make the
17 determination of whether or not the bridge replacement
18 project will move forward to construction.

19 The proposed project is undergoing a study
20 called an Environmental Assessment, or EA. The study has
21 been done so far as documented in the draft EA report
22 which is available for review tonight. The study and
23 report evaluated and considered impacts to the human and
24 natural environment and included the items that are
25 listed on this slide.

1 As I've mentioned, if you would like to read
2 the draft report from the study, the report is available
3 here tonight; and it's also available online at txdot.gov
4 by searching the FM457 bridge. The report can also be
5 reviewed at our TxDOT office in Bay City and Yoakum.
6 Please note that the office in Bay City is only open
7 Monday through Thursday. That's our maintenance office
8 there.

9 The right-of-way and acquisition, Greg Polasek
10 is here tonight. If you have any questions, you can
11 visit with him. He's our TxDOT right-of-way supervisor
12 and can answer any questions if you have them on the
13 right-of-way process or what's involved in that
14 right-of-way.

15 Moving on to our project schedule, many of you
16 have attended meetings on this project since it began in
17 2013. We thank you for your patience and participation
18 during this time. Now that the draft study has been
19 developed, we are approaching the end of this stage for
20 the proposed bridge replacement project.

21 After tonight's public hearing, project staff
22 will evaluate and consider public comments and send the
23 comments and environmental assessment report to our TxDOT
24 headquarters. TxDOT headquarters in Austin will make the
25 final decision on whether or not this project moves

1 forward and is constructed. That decision is expected
2 later this year. If the project is approved for
3 construction, that is anticipated to go to bid in July of
4 2016 and will last approximately 24 months during
5 construction.

6 The next steps in the process, as I mentioned,
7 after tonight's public hearing, our project staff will
8 evaluate and consider public comments and prepare the
9 final environmental assessment report to send to our
10 TxDOT headquarters so a decision can be made on whether
11 or not this project moves forward and is constructed.

12 That concludes the formal public hearing
13 presentation. In a few minutes, we'll take a break so
14 you can visit with our project staff, if you have any
15 further questions. We'll resume with a verbal public
16 comment period. If you want to make verbal comments
17 tonight, please be sure to complete a speaker
18 registration card at our sign-in table.

19 If you prefer to make written comments, you can
20 also leave these comments tonight, e-mail, mail, or fax
21 them to the addresses listed there. I also have some
22 cards if somebody needs a business card with those
23 address and contact information on them. So, I think
24 we'll take about a five-minute break. If there's some
25 more questions and we need to take a little longer, that

1 will be okay; but our public comment cards, you can get
2 those if you need to fill those out. And we'll call your
3 name up to make a comment at that time. Thank you.

4 (Recess was taken)

5 MR. REITZ: I think we can get started
6 with our comment period now. If I could ask everybody to
7 have a seat, we can get our comment period started. Can
8 everybody have a seat so we can get started? Does
9 everybody have their comment card turned in if they would
10 like to make comments? We'll go ahead and get started on
11 that. I've got Willie Younger.

12 MR. YOUNGER: Use this microphone?

13 MR. REITZ: Yes, sir.

14 MR. YOUNGER: My name is Willie Younger.
15 I've been a resident of Matagorda County for 35 years.
16 Of that, half of it was spent as your extension marine
17 agent in this county, coastal marine agent. For the last
18 17 and a half years, I spent 6 years working on the
19 Sargent Beach erosion control with local leaders and
20 state officials and federal authorities trying to get
21 that issue resolved.

22 I'm not here as an advocate to speak for
23 that bridge project or to speak against it, but I think
24 there is some information and observations that might be
25 helpful in coming to a solution that would be long

1 lasting and certainly represent a good investment of the
2 taxpayers' dollars.

3 Just a little history lesson that in the
4 mid '80s there were some members of this community and
5 others throughout the state that recognized that Sargent
6 had one of the most astounding records of erosion in the
7 entire world, that Sargent Beach was losing an average of
8 30 feet per year with hot spots that approached 60 feet
9 per year. At that rate in the small distance between the
10 Gulf and the Intracoastal waterway, there is not much
11 time left to save that beach if that were to be the goal.

12 The locals here that saw that it impacted
13 their lives and their future really were looking for a
14 way to save the beach at first. It became glaringly
15 apparent that saving the beach could not be justified in
16 terms of the dollars that it would take to do that. They
17 looked at other communities -- Galveston, Miami, Atlantic
18 City, New Jersey -- and felt that that was the kind of
19 solution they needed here to re-nourish the beach.

20 The reality sank in eventually that that
21 was not going to save Sargent Beach. What was going to
22 save Sargent Beach was the hope of saving the
23 Intracoastal waterway. I went to a meeting just
24 yesterday where the Corps of Engineers made the statement
25 that that canal now provides on an annual basis nearly

1 \$42 billion of commerce annually. So, it didn't take
2 much to figure out that there was some people that might
3 be interested in that.

4 Astoundingly, the Corps of Engineers is
5 not allowed to identify problems. That takes the
6 citizens to do that. They can only act on Congress'
7 recommendations; and, of course, the Congressmen will
8 only react to what the citizens, their voters, tell them.
9 But they eventually got the word that the petrochemical
10 industry of this state was in great danger.

11 Without the petrochemical industry, there
12 is no Texas. Let's just put it that way. We produce
13 most of the free world's chemical product. We don't make
14 anything with it in Texas. It's shipped up north via the
15 Mississippi/Missouri Rivers and Tombigbee, those
16 waterways.

17 And I'm getting to the point that what I'm
18 trying to say is that once that recognition was accepted,
19 the Corps of Engineers took what was normally -- in their
20 estimation, normally a 20-year project and compressed
21 putting in a revetment wall here at Sargent in eight
22 years. It's never been done before. It's never been
23 done since. It will probably never happen again.
24 Katrina is about the closest that they came to rebuilding
25 the levees around New Orleans.

1 What I'm trying to get at was that we're
2 building a bridge here on a very precarious spot. Now,
3 if that wall were to give way, there's nothing for a
4 landing. It would come off the bridge right into the
5 Gulf of Mexico if it does not hold. It hasn't been
6 tested. There has not been a Category 4 or a Category 5
7 hurricane hit directly on Sargent Beach. We hope there
8 never will be. But if it does, that wall could possibly
9 be it. It may hold as they predict it will; but either
10 way, unless you read the reports, you do not know that
11 the plan all along is to let the beach rise right up to
12 that revetment wall. There's no effort to save anything
13 seaward, that revetment wall.

14 So, I would hope that what happens with
15 the design of this is that they take into consideration
16 the prospect that that could happen. We could lose the
17 wall. The erosion rates could return at record-breaking
18 pace. And there might not be nowhere to drive your cars
19 once you come off that beach. And we end up with a \$28
20 million fishing pier.

21 So, all I'm looking for is to refuse that;
22 and I did not see it on your list of things that y'all
23 took into consideration about the erosion at Sargent
24 Beach which all these studies that were done were done by
25 the University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology. They

1 have had --

2 MR. REITZ: Excuse me, Mr. Younger.

3 MR. YOUNGER: Yes, sir.

4 MR. REITZ: We're going to have to
5 probably finish the rest of the comments --

6 MR. YOUNGER: I'm through.

7 MR. REITZ: Okay.

8 MR. YOUNGER: I just want you to put that
9 in there.

10 MR. REITZ: Thank you. I appreciate your
11 comment.

12 Our next speaker is J.D. Stayton.

13 MR. STAYTON: I'm not as well prepared as
14 this gentleman was, but a little history about myself in
15 the Sargent community.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: We can't hear you.
17 Get up to the mic.

18 MR. STAYTON: I've been here 44 years next
19 month; and when I came down here, you could drive across
20 the drawbridge and you could not get into the Gulf until
21 you drove one mile to the Gulf where you get into the
22 water. We had canals and houses on that side, and they
23 put this revetment wall in. They went down to the land
24 breaking, ground breaking ceremony; and they threw me out
25 of that meeting because I asked too many smart-ass

1 questions, I guess.

2 Why didn't they jetty -- instead of
3 spending all that money on the revetment wall, they just
4 never retained -- it was breached in Claudette 13 years
5 ago. It went over that wall into the Intracoastal. I
6 asked them why didn't -- why wouldn't they jetty it. It
7 saved lighthouses on the East Coast up in Maine. They
8 did kelp, plastic kelp to save the erosion up there; and
9 they put this revetment wall in, 8 miles. And we all
10 know how 457 is all tore up for years. So, that didn't
11 work; and it's still not working.

12 Dow Chemical created this mess over 55
13 years ago, rerouting the Brazos; and that's what started
14 the erosion. Why don't they pay for this instead of the
15 taxpayers, which our taxes will go up if somebody says
16 they won't, but they will. But, you know, I'm against
17 the bridge. It's not going to benefit anybody. We don't
18 have a beach now for people to come to. We used to years
19 ago, but they now put in a revetment wall. We don't even
20 have cabanas out there for the general public to use
21 anymore. So, that's all I have to say. I'm not -- I'm
22 very against this thing.

23 MR. REITZ: Thank you.

24 Our next speaker is Bryan Theros. I got
25 that wrong probably.

1 MR. THEROS: That's pretty darn close.

2 Hi, guys. I'm Brian Theros. I'm a
3 newcomer here to this town. I moved in here in June of
4 last year, and I understand a lot of things that people
5 are saying of what's happened over the years to this
6 place. However, who wants to be the person with the
7 heart attack on the island while the bridge is up? Who
8 wants to be that person? Is there a show of hands in
9 here? I didn't think so.

10 I think what we need to do is we need to
11 look at things from what is going to support Sargent and
12 to help it grow, and I believe this bridge is that idea
13 that will get people from one side to the other in a safe
14 manner.

15 Some of the things that I am concerned
16 about is during the construction process. What is going
17 to happen to 457 with the heavy traffic? We have a lot
18 of vehicles that are going to be required, hauling heavy
19 equipment up and down that road. The condition of that
20 road is -- there's no doubt it's going to be compromised.
21 How is that going to be maintained? How is that going to
22 be taken care of?

23 What is the work schedule? Is it five
24 tens? Is it six tens? We have a lot of weekend traffic
25 here. We have a lot of weekenders that come in through

1 here that want to come down and enjoy our waters and
2 enjoy our beach. So, I want to make sure that we keep
3 that in mind during the construction phase of the bridge
4 if, in fact, it gets approved.

5 The other thing I want to make sure of is
6 the pictures look terrific. It looks great, but
7 work-in-process has a different appearance to it. I'd
8 like to make sure that we protect our waterways, that we
9 utilize the inland land for the laydown areas. I had
10 conversations with some gentlemen here before the meeting
11 about that.

12 I want to make sure that we protect that
13 wildlife. I want to make sure we protect the community.
14 There's things that I heard that were very encouraging on
15 the construction style of that bridge, the types of piles
16 they were going to drive. I'm very encouraged about the
17 way they're going to do that.

18 All in all, like I said, I think there's a
19 lot for this community to reap the benefits from; and I
20 understand and I respect the people that have been here
21 for a very long time. But what we've got to do is we
22 need to move forward with something like this and then
23 why don't we address -- let's get that wall and make sure
24 it can sustain a Cat 3. If we're worried about this
25 bridge sustaining a Cat 3 -- if the bridge isn't here,

1 that swing bridge sure isn't going to be able to sustain
2 a Cat 3.

3 So, what do we want, folks? I think it's
4 a good idea. I think it's something that TxDOT has put a
5 lot of time and effort into. And I think they really
6 looked at this community from a community standpoint
7 considering space consolidation, how they're going to do
8 it, and from the words that I heard early on, to be able
9 to protect the environment the best they can to keep it
10 to a minimum, so...

11 MR. REITZ: Thank you.

12 That's the last of the comment cards I
13 have.

14 MS. QUINLAN: (Indicating).

15 MR. REITZ: Yes, ma'am. Please state your
16 name and --

17 MS. QUINLAN: Hi, my name is Mary Quinlan;
18 and I've been down here for 30 years or so on the island.
19 And I have to say, Mr. Younger, I agree 100 percent.
20 That's one of my main concerns is -- aside from the fact
21 that I think it's going to be a monstrosity of an
22 eyesore, what is going to happen with a hurricane?

23 This land is eroding. It's eroding fast.
24 We had a storm about a month ago, and I go out there to
25 the beach. I walked out on the beach and I can see a

1 substantial amount of beach gone just from, you know, a
2 rather rough storm out there. And I don't see how
3 possibly there's going to be enough land for this bridge
4 to be built out there and not be affected by erosion -- I
5 mean, major erosion -- if we have any type of big
6 hurricane at all.

7 Another concern I have is we have a lot of
8 weekenders down here. They're partying, they're
9 drinking, they're young kids, they're young adults. And
10 they're coming down a bridge that, wow, isn't this fun,
11 that bridge is dangerous. I was looking at bridges that
12 were built like that -- very few of them, I couldn't find
13 very many -- and they were considered some of the most
14 dangerous bridges in the world, I mean, very dangerous.
15 And this is just -- I mean, the location here -- the
16 geography here at the bridge is going to be very
17 dangerous.

18 No. 3, why do we have to have a corkscrew
19 on the land side? We don't need a corkscrew on the land
20 side. I mean, I'm not an engineer. So, you know, maybe
21 there's a good reason that I'm not aware of. But I mean,
22 is that just to say that we don't have to buy or purchase
23 more land down the road for something because the bridge
24 already -- the State already owns the land that the
25 bridge building is on? I don't know about that.

1 As far as the comment, having a heart
2 attack on the island, if somebody had a heart attack on
3 the island, by the time they contacted EMS, the EMS --
4 the bridge will stay open for emergency vehicles. So, I
5 don't think that's something anybody needs to worry about
6 there. In fact, it might be safer than the ambulance
7 going down the corkscrew bridge. I don't know.

8 As I look at this, being a staunch
9 environmentalist, if we are furthering the profits of the
10 oil companies by building this bridge -- and that's
11 probably basically what it comes down to, what this is
12 all about, and, you know, promoting American consumerism
13 which I think as we know is blowing up our environment,
14 which is probably a cause of the erosion and so forth and
15 so on.

16 And lastly, I had one other comment about
17 oil and chemical companies -- and I guess that's about
18 it. I could go on and on.

19 MR. REITZ: As I said at the beginning of
20 the hearing, citizen input and participation are very
21 important in this process. I know you could be at home
22 with your families doing something else this evening.
23 So, I thank you again for attending and participating
24 tonight. The Texas Department of Transportation mission
25 is to work with others to provide safe and reliable

1 transportation solutions for Texas. Thank you for
2 working with us on this proposed bridge replacement
3 project. We look forward to receiving additional
4 comments.

5 Thank you again for participation and
6 drive safely.

7 (Hearing concluded)

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1 THE STATE OF TEXAS)

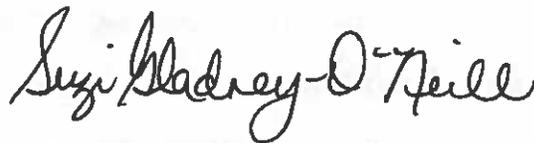
2 COUNTY OF MATAGORDA)

3 I, Suzi Gladney-O'Neill, CSR, RPR, Certified
4 Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Texas, do
5 hereby certify that the above and foregoing contains a
6 true and correct transcription of all portions of
7 evidence and other proceedings requested in writing by
8 counsel for the parties to be included in the statement
9 of facts, in the above styled and numbered cause, all of
10 which occurred and were reported by me.

11 I further certify that this transcription of the
12 record of the proceedings truly and correctly reflects
13 the exhibits, if any, offered by the respective parties.

14 I further certify that the total cost for the
15 preparation of this Reporter's Record is \$_____.

16 Given under my hand and official seal of
17 office this the 14th day of September, 2015.

18
19 

20
21 _____
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