



Documentation of Public Meeting

Project Location

Newton County, TX and Vernon Parish, LA

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at the Sabine River

TxDOT CSJs: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035, 0214-03-037

Meeting Location

Leesville High School

502 Berry Drive, Leesville, LA 71446

Meeting Date and Time

December 11, 2018 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Translation Services

English into Korean (upon advanced request)

Presenters

N/A

Elected Officials in Attendance

Rick Allen, Mayor of Leesville (LA)

Chris Robertson, Leesville City Council Seat 1 (LA)

Gary Fomby, Newton County Commissioner Precinct #3 (TX)

Tom Gill, Newton County Commissioner Precinct #2 (TX)

Phillip White, Newton County Commissioner Elect Precinct #2 (TX)

Keith Weeks, Newton County Judge Elect (TX)

Total Number of Attendees (approx.)

89

Total Number of Commenters

109



Contents

- A. Comment/Response Matrix
- B. Notices
- C. Sign-in Sheets
- D. Comments Received
- E. Figures
- F. Online Engagement Report (MetroQuest Survey Results)
- G. LADOTD Solicitation of Views Letter Responses



Attachment A

Comment / Response Matrix

Contents

1. Comment / Response Matrix
 - a. Written comments submitted on a comment form at the public meeting or via US mail (11)
 - b. Comments submitted via MetroQuest Survey (91)
 - c. Comments submitted via the LADOTD Solicitation of Views Outreach (7)

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at the Sabine River – December 11, 2018 - Comment / Response Matrix

Comment Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Comment	Response
COMMENTS SUBMITTED AT PUBLIC MEETING (ATTACHMENT A)					
1	Casey, Anne	12/11/18	Written Comment Received at Public Meeting	Must be 4 lane & I 14 compatible	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
2	Fuzederzek, Brian J.	12/11/18	Written Comment Received at Public Meeting	This project is “way” past due!! Why would TxDOT & LADOTD not put in a 4 lane bridge with the proposed I-14? The cost today may be high but <u>not</u> near as high as the future cost of an additional bridge project. Forward thinking. Either “A” or “E” look to be the best proposed routes. “A” being closer to Toledo bend may not be the best route due to water pressure with a major water release.	The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards. Your preference for Alternative E is noted.
3	Haymon, David	12/11/18	Written Comment Received at Public Meeting	Prefer option D. Recommend demolition of bridge to prevent future issues with maintenance costs. Preparing for future interstate is highest priority for me.	The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards. Your preferences for demolishing the existing bridge and building a new bridge on Alternative D are noted.
4	Nash, Thermen	12/11/18	Written Comment Received at Public Meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I recommend to close & build new bridge & rd. 2. Leave old bridge (historical) 3. I recommend alternative C (purple) 	Your preferences to close and build a new bridge, leave the existing bridge, and for Alternative C are noted.
5	Parker, Jeremy	12/11/18	Written Comment Received at Public Meeting	Regardless of planned route... I feel very strongly about a 4 lane bridge minimum to permit expansion of road servicing it to be upgraded to four lanes... saving future highway dollars of conversion. Many transports (large) have to be currently re-routed as the 2 lane does not adequately serve such needs.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
6	Parker, Noah	12/11/18	Written Comment Received at Public Meeting	I like the idea of the black route, however erodin is a problem that may make the route more expensive over time. I purpose at a minimum of the economic growth potential of the decision. If the black route is chosen create a 4 lane highway with a 4 lane bridge across the span of orange over time. A bridge b/c you cannot control this erodin tax Gas & Industry that uses it. & tax the city of Leesville on proper benefiting from the improvement.	The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards. Your preference for the existing SH 63/LA 8 alignment is noted.

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at the Sabine River – December 11, 2018 - Comment / Response Matrix

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7	Walker, Dan	12/11/18	Written Comment Received at Public Meeting	<p>The existing bridge needs to be replaced. A replacement needs to be designed and constructed to meet requirements for I 14.</p> <p>The new bridge site needs to be located in the site that is most suitable for bridge construction. Option D seems to be the most reasonable.</p>	<p>The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards. Your preference for Alternative D is noted.</p>
8	Walker, Jim	12/11/18	Written Comment Received at Public Meeting	<p>I own property on right side going into Texas. When will property owners know of right area for new bridge.</p>	<p>After a proposed preferred alternative and route alignment are selected, affected property owners will be notified to request right-of-entry for engineering and environmental studies. Potentially affected property owners will also be contacted by right-of-way agents to discuss acquisition.</p>
COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY MAIL (ATTACHMENT A)					
9	Thompson, John P.	12/28/18	Written Comment Received via US Postal Service (USPS)	<p>On behalf of the board of directors of the Gulf Coast Strategic Highway Coalition (GCSHC), allow me to thank you for the opportunity to provide a public comment for the record on potential new bridge options and potential SH63/LA 8 route alternative options for the Sabine River crossing known as the Burr's Ferry Bridge. Our Coalition has been supporting TxDOT efforts to plan and upgrade this crossing for almost two decades.</p> <p>A crossing at or near this location is part of the Central Texas Corridor. The U.S. Congress officially identified the Central Texas Corridor as a high priority east-west corridor in federal highway legislation (FAST Act) passed in 2015 and specified that it will be Interstate Highway 14 in the future. Further, our Coalition and congressional delegations from Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi are pursuing additional federal legislation that would extend this future interstate route across Central Louisiana and Central Mississippi, connecting to I-49, I-55 and I-59. Future I-14 across these three states will provide an important upland alternative to coastal Interstate 10.</p> <p>We are confident TxDOT, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and FHWA will find the best engineering solution to the question of new bridge location.</p> <p>We recognize that improvements to SH 63 and LA 8 will be incremental and based on traffic demand, safety considerations and available funding. The Sabine River bridge crossing and highway approaches should be positioned and engineered with eventual upgrade to interstate highway standards as an essential guiding design criterion. The new bridge should be engineered so that it will fit into future improvements without further modification.</p> <p>We appreciate TxDOT's work to resolve the challenging issues associated with the Sabine River crossing and look forward to seeing the replacement bridge completed.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.</p>
10	Hammond, John M.	12/31/18	Written Comment Received via USPS	<p>First, I would like to thank everybody from Texas for the people, time and money involved in this meeting. It was very informative. My first choice would be Alternate D with Alternate C close behind. I would like to thank you for keeping the old bridge open as much as possible for us, but I'll be looking forward to a new bridge.</p>	<p>Your preferences for keeping the existing bridge open and building a new bridge on Alternatives D and C (in that order) are noted.</p>
11	Smith Shaw, Donice K.	1/7/19	Written Comment Received via USPS	<p>I am a lifelong resident of the Burr Ferry community. 82 yrs. I live right near the Sabine River Bridge, in fact from my drive way I can see the river bridge. My comments are demolish and build new. Alternative B (orange) Estimated Cost (\$25 million)</p>	<p>Your preferences to demolish the existing bridge and build a new bridge on Alternative B are noted.</p>

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Comment Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Comment	Response
RESPONSES TO METROQUEST SURVEY COMMENTS - SEE ATTACHMENT F					
12	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 77657)	11/6/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Enhance Connectivity:</i> Consider IH14 to be under both connectivity and future needs.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
13	MetroQuest commenter from Ohio (zip code 45429)	11/29/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Suggest Other-Comment:</i> Build to accommodate Future IH-14.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
14	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/3/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Preserve Existing Bridge:</i> Our history must be preserved so must this bridge.	Comment noted.
15	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/3/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Enhance Connectivity:</i> Highway 8 from Texas to Louisiana (Leesville) should not be widen it should be repaired as needed.	Comment noted.
16	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/3/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Limit Right-of-Way:</i> Taking from property owners should be the last priority of this project.	Comment noted.
17	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/10/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Preserve Existing Bridge:</i> This can be accomplished as long as another bridge with 4 lanes (or two new bridges each with two lanes) is constructed and the access to all motor traffic is eliminated on the historic bridge (similar to the bridge in Humble, TX on IH 69 over the San Jacinto River).	Your preference to preserve the existing bridge is noted.
18	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/10/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Enhance Connectivity:</i> This should be included as a part of addressing future needs.	Comment noted.
19	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/10/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Improve Safety:</i> This is essential for current traffic and future traffic (especially if a new interstate is constructed).	Comment noted.

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20	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/10/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Address Future Needs:</i> This will reduce costs in the future that are usually greater as construction costs (labor, equipment, and materials) continue to increase.	Comment noted.
21	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75977)	12/11/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Preserve Existing Bridge:</i> I would appreciate having the historical memories.	Comment noted.
22	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75977)	12/11/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Reduce Road Closures:</i> We need to upgrade so we don't have so many road closures.	Comment noted.
21	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75977)	12/11/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Address Future Needs:</i> Need to always consider the future.	Comment noted.
22	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Suggest Other-Comment:</i> Minimize cost. Maximize potential.	Comment noted.
23	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Limit Right-of-Way:</i> LA & TX are studying 4-lane construction & efforts are under way establish an I-14 Corridor consistent with this routing. It already exists in TX and is ready for legislation in LA. We should select a plan that facilitates a smooth transition through this process.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
24	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78852)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Preserve Existing Bridge:</i> My dad hauled steel for the old bridge from the railroad at Leesville. It would be nice to preserve it, but not a major priority.	Comment noted.
25	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78852)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Improve Safety:</i> Meeting a log truck on this bridge is downright scary.	Comment noted.
26	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78852)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Reduce Road Closures:</i> The erosion and damages to the old bridge are only going to get worse.	Comment noted.

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27	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78852)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Address Future Needs:</i> This is probably the future route of IH 14, so whatever you build must be capable of parallel duplication.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
28	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 77630)	12/27/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Suggest Other-Comment:</i> Please find the Fastest easiest most cost efficient, ecologically moral way to solve the problem. then do it. stop wasting money on what all the right wing wackos think. just do whats right.	Comment noted.
29	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 76087)	12/27/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Enhance Connectivity:</i> A new bridge would keep traffic from having to go to I-10 Which is already overloaded.	Comment noted.
30	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 76087)	12/27/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Improve Safety:</i> Texas roads and bridges are some of the best in the country. This one should be the same.	Comment noted.
31	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 76087)	12/27/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Address Future Needs:</i> This bridge should be build to handle traffic for the next 50 years or more.	Comment noted.
32	MetroQuest commenter (no zip code provided)	12/27/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Reduce Road Closures:</i> Stop the amount of flooding due to lake levels better, causing the erosion.	Comment noted.
33	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 77079)	12/30/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Suggest Other-Comment:</i> Hurricane Evacuation, Economic Development (I-10 is at capacity and expansion is practically impossible- Fort Polk and the other Forts along the I-14 route are dependent on their ability to deploy rapidly. Just can't miss this opportunity to save and possibly grow this important part of our Nations defense and improve all of the other items listed above.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
34	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 77079)	12/30/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Enhance Connectivity:</i> Connectivity is what will open up Central Louisiana to the rest of the US moving East and West.	Comment noted.

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35	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 77079)	12/30/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Improve Safety:</i> Based on the type of traffic moving East and West. (Wood products, Military, Hurricane Evacuation, Tourism). Safety is a must!	Comment noted.
36	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 77079)	12/30/18	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Address Future Needs:</i> I-14 IS the future for Central Louisiana.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow.
37	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/4/19	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Enhance Connectivity:</i> Current restriction to substandard 2 lane is stifling economic development in east central Texas and west central Louisiana.	Comment noted.
38	MetroQuest commenter (no zip code provided)	11/8/18	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Close and Build New:</i> Close to vehicles but make pedestrian/bicycle route.	Your preferences to convert the bridge to bicycle/pedestrian use and build a new bridge are noted.
39	MetroQuest commenter (no zip code provided)	11/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Close and Build New:</i> Does this include demolition of the historic bridge?	The close and build new option could include leaving the bridge in place for an alternative use or as a monument.
40	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Repair for Continued Use:</i> Plans for the past, waste of money.	Your comment against repairing the existing bridge is noted.
41	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Convert to Ped Bridge:</i> Waste of money in renovation and future maintenance. We do not have the money to waste.	Your comment against converting the existing bridge into pedestrian use is noted.
42	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Convert to Scenic Bypass:</i> Waste of money in renovation and future maintenance. We do not have the money to waste.	Your comment against convert the existing bridge into a scenic bypass is noted.
43	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Close and Build New:</i> Waste of money in renovation and future maintenance. We do not have the money to waste.	Your comment against leaving the existing bridge closed is noted.

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44	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Demolish and Build New:</i> Initial 2-lane, 4-lane convertible. Forward planning to accommodate future Interstate 14.	Comment noted.
45	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Steel Design:</i> Would seem to mitigate issues with washing and erosion by minimizing bridge/river contact & enhancing shoreline stabilization efforts.	Comment noted.
46	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Segmental Design:</i> Would seem to mitigate issues with washing and erosion by minimizing bridge/river contact & enhancing shoreline stabilization efforts.	Comment noted.
47	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78758)	12/13/18	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Close and Build New:</i> This does not look good at all - some aesthetics would be nice.	Comment noted.
48	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/2/19	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Repair for Continued Use:</i> We here in the area love this old bridge but understand something better is needed for future use and traveling especially for larger vehicles. It's also obvious it has many issues including changing river conditions. Whatever the outcome the bridge should be preserved following the building of a new bridge, with access being the same as it is now until an alternative route is in place. This is extremely important to those of us who live in Louisiana with family just across the river or vice versa.	Comment noted.
49	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/2/19	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Convert to Ped Bridge:</i> I could only approve this option if the bridge is open until the new one is built and assurances are given it will be preserved afterwards and not just closed.	Comment noted.
50	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/2/19	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Convert to Scenic Bypass:</i> In this option, as in the conversion to a pedestrian bridge, most important is that the bridge is preserved and left open for access to those who value its historical significance to our community.	Your preference to preserve the existing bridge as a pedestrian bridge or a scenic bypass is noted.
51	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/2/19	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Close and Build New:</i> Simply closing the bridge and limiting access is not an option.	Your comment against closing the existing bridge is noted.
52	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/2/19	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Demolish and Build New:</i> This is an option those of us who live and use this bridge on a regular basis cannot accept and will protest!	Your comment against demolishing the existing bridge is noted.

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53	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/4/19	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Demolish and Build New:</i> We cannot afford to not put practicality first and foremost.	Comment noted.
54	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/4/19	MetroQuest Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options Comment	<i>Segmental Design:</i> The current design with piers in the river itself contributes greatly to turbulence, bank erosion and instability in the immediate proximity of existing bridge.	Comment noted.
55	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	11/23/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>General comment:</i> Green, red, and purple.	Comment noted.
56	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 75932)	11/27/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative A Green:</i> Higher cost to build and several families live where this will be built. Like my family.	Comment noted.
57	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 75932)	11/27/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative C Purple:</i> This direction of bridge will not conflict with many families living on property needed to build a new bridge. Most were flood out with river rising.	Comment noted.
58	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 75932)	11/27/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative D Yellow:</i> The cost is always a problem. This seems the easiest place to build a new bridge.	Your preference for Alternative D is noted.
59	MetroQuest commenter from Ohio (zip code 45429)	11/29/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative A Green:</i> Alternative A will best accommodate a potential Future I-14.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
60	MetroQuest commenter from Ohio (zip code 45429)	11/29/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative E Red:</i> Alternative E is a good second alternative that can accommodate a potential Future I-14	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.

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61	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	11/29/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>No Build Black (Existing Roadway):</i> The cost savings is worth the minor public hardship.	Your preference for the No Build Alternative is noted.
62	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/9/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>General Comment:</i> I like the purple route.	Your preference for Alternative C is noted.
63	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/10/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative A Green:</i> Seems like this option requires a lot of property. Also, if the current bridge becomes historical it will be easier to see from other options.	Comment noted.
64	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/10/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative B Orange:</i> Any option that includes more bank erosion is throwing good money down the drain.	Comment noted.
65	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/10/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative C Purple:</i> This option seems like the least intrusive to other properties and is a lower cost.	Your preference for Alternative C is noted.
66	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/10/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative E Red:</i> I like this option depending on where the road veers to the right off of the current Hwy. 63. Also, will the Hwy 63 that is beyond the veer be maintained in the future?	Comment noted. If alternatives bypass the current roadway between the alternative and the Sabine River, these roads would have to be maintained to existing driveways on SH 63 and LA 8.
67	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78852)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative A Green:</i> Far too expensive!	Your comment against Alternative A is noted.
68	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78852)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative B Orange:</i> Throws money away without solving the problem of erosion.	Your comment against Alternative B is noted.
69	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78852)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative C Purple:</i> Best alternative as to price and solving the problem long-term.	Your preference for Alternative C is noted.

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70	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78852)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative D Yellow:</i> Second runner-up to purple, only slightly more costly.	Your preference for Alternative D (Second to Alternative C) is noted.
71	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78852)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative E Red:</i> Costs too much!	Your comment against Alternative E is noted.
72	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/2/19	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative A Green:</i> This is the worst option with the most impact by acres of right away and too far off the existing route.	Your comment against Alternative A is noted.
73	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/4/19	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative A Green:</i> Unecesary expense on untested ground, too many “new” miles of unknown.	Your comment against Alternative A is noted.
74	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/4/19	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative B Orange:</i> Correct bridge construction (no piers in the river) will enhance bank stability and minimize erosion and “wandering”. Savings can be applied to 4 lane construction.	Your preference for Alternative B is noted.
75	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/4/19	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative C Purple:</i> Unecesary expense on untested ground, too many “new” miles of unknown.	Your comment against Alternative C is noted.
76	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/4/19	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative D Yellow:</i> Unecesary expense on untested ground, too many “new” miles of unknown.	Your comment against Alternative D is noted.
77	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/4/19	MetroQuest Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives Comment	<i>Alternative E Red:</i> Unecesary expense on untested ground, too many “new” miles of unknown.	Your comment against Alternative E is noted.
78	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	11/23/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Please don't Detour us 40 or more miles again!	Comment noted.

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at the Sabine River – December 11, 2018 - Comment / Response Matrix

Comment Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Comment	Response
79	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	11/24/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> If the Feds want that old bridge sell it to them!	Comment noted.
80	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	11/25/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> 2 new bridges 2 lanes east/west.	Comment noted.
81	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	11/26/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> I am currently the City Admin for Leesville.	Comment noted.
82	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	11/27/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> I've lived near this bridge on CR 2118.	Comment noted.
83	MetroQuest commenter from Ohio (zip code 45429)	11/29/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Related studies should consider Future I-14 plans.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
84	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/3/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Fix the bridge and repair existing highway.	Your preference to repair the existing bridge is noted.
85	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 70124)	12/5/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Twitter	Comment noted.
86	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/7/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> What about building something that serve I-14?	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at the Sabine River – December 11, 2018 - Comment / Response Matrix

Comment Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Comment	Response
87	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/9/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Thank you TXDOT.	Comment noted.
88	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/10/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Keep old bridge, build new one!	Your preferences to preserve the existing bridge and build a new bridge are noted.
89	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75977)	12/11/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Needs to be expedited get it down.	Comment noted.
90	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Great information.	Comment noted.
91	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/12/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> C. Of G Vernon CC Trans./Board GCSHC/I-14 Coalition	Comment noted.
92	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 75932)	12/13/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Road closure is the biggest worry!	Comment noted.
93	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Current bridge is dangerous & needs replacement.	Your comment to replace the current bridge is noted.
94	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 78852)	12/16/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Former nearly resident (LA), know it very well.	Comment noted.
95	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	12/18/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Get-her-done.	Comment noted.

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at the Sabine River – December 11, 2018 - Comment / Response Matrix

Comment Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Comment	Response
96	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 77630)	12/27/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> God Bless.	Comment noted.
97	MetroQuest commenter (no zip code provided)	12/28/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments</i> Better highways/bridges translates to positive eco.	Comment noted.
98	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 76244)	12/28/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Remember this is future I-14.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
99	MetroQuest commenter from Texas (zip code 77079)	12/30/18	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> I-14's Future Importance, Build to Interstate NOW.	Comment noted. The current proposed project is a bridge replacement project, and it is not associated with a future interstate project or roadway widening. If a new bridge is constructed, TxDOT would attempt to make it compatible for future expansion as current funding and environmental laws allow. All current conceptual route alternatives would meet interstate standards.
100	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/2/19	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Local resident also with family here and in Texas.	Comment noted.
101	MetroQuest commenter from Louisiana (zip code 71446)	1/4/19	MetroQuest Screen 5: Exit Screen	<i>Other comments:</i> Eco. Dev., defense base connect., hurricane evac.	Comment noted.
RESPONSES TO METROQUEST SURVEY COMMENTS RECEIVED AFTER THE COMMENT PERIOD - SEE ATTACHMENT F					
102	MetroQuest commenter (no zip code provided)	1/5/19	MetroQuest Screen 2: Project Priorities Comment	<i>Address Future Needs:</i> Ft Polk is a vital training base for U.S. many people travel bridge to base to work.	Comment noted.
RESPONSES TO LADOTD SOLICITATION OF VIEWS (SOV) LETTER COMMENTS - SEE ATTACHMENT G					
103	Bradley Spicer - Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry	11/21/18	Written Comment Received via USPS	See Attachment G, SOV Letter Comment A <i>Applicable Statements:</i> I have no comment at this time regarding the above referenced project.	Comment noted.

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at the Sabine River – December 11, 2018 - Comment / Response Matrix

Comment Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Comment	Response
104	Britt Evans - Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism	11/26/18	Written Comment Received via email	See Attachment G, SOV Letter Comment B <i>Applicable Statements:</i> We have no parks, sites, or other recreational areas located near this project and have no objections or concerns.	Comment noted.
105	John Smith - State Senator District 30	Undated (post marked envelope 11/28/18)	Written Comment Received via USPS	See Attachment G, SOV Letter Comment C <i>Applicable Statements:</i> Rehab existing bridge one way traffic - new bridge to carry one way traffic.	Comment noted.
106	Yuanda Zhu - Louisiana Department to Health	12/5/18	Written Comment Received via USPS	See Attachment G, SOV Letter Comment D <i>Applicable Statements:</i> Based upon the information received from your office we have no objection to the referenced project(s) at this time.	Comment noted. Appropriate environmental compliance and coordination will be completed after a preferred alternative is selected.
107	Terence Plaskon - Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Region 6	12/13/18	Written Comment Received via email	See Attachment G, SOV Letter Comment E <i>Applicable Statements:</i> It doesn't appear we have any impacted services, projects, or grantees. Therefore, FTA has no comments on the project.	Comment noted.
108	Stephen Pfeffer US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	12/19/18	Written Comment Received via email	See Attachment G, SOV Letter Comment F <i>Applicable Statements:</i> Information and signatures obtained from recent maps, aerial photography, information provided with your request, and local soil surveys concerning this site are indicative of the occurrence of waters of the United States, including wetlands... Additionally, waters that may be subject to Corps' jurisdiction under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) are located in the project area.	Comment noted. Appropriate environmental compliance and coordination will be completed after a proposed preferred alternative is selected.
109	Amity Bass - Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries	12/28/18	Written Comment Received via email	See Attachment G, SOV Letter Comment G <i>Applicable Statements:</i> Our records indicate the fresh water mussel Texas heelsplitter (<i>Potamilus amphichaenus</i>) occur within a mile of the project area... The Suckermouth minnow (<i>Phenacobius mirabilis</i>) occurs within the Sabine River and Toledo Bend reservoir...Our records also indicate Western Sand darter (<i>Ammocrypta clara</i>) may occur in water bodies within the project area...Our records indicate Gulf Coast Waterdog (<i>necturus beyeri</i>) may occur in water bodies within the project area...After careful review of our database, no other impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project.	Comment noted. Appropriate environmental compliance and coordination will be completed after a proposed preferred alternative is selected.



Attachment B

Notices

Published in English in the *Leesville Daily Ledger*, Wednesday November 28, 2018 and Wednesday December 5, 2018*

Published in English in the *Newton County News*, Wednesday November 28, 2018
Distributed in Korean to four culturally-specific facilities, Wednesday December 5, 2018

Mailed to 34 elected officials in Texas and Louisiana on November 21, 2018
Mailed to 43 adjacent property owners in Texas and Louisiana on November 29, 2018**
Email blast to people who signed up for project notifications on December 4, 2018

Electronic Changeable Message Sign (CMS)

From November 26, 2018 to December 12, 2018, one CMS was placed at the western approach of the SH 63 bridge at the Sabine River, facing eastbound traffic. The message advertised the Public Meeting date and location.

Contents

1. Public Notice in English
2. Public Notice in Korean
3. TxDOT Online Notice
4. Newspaper Publications and Affidavits
5. TxDOT Memorandum documenting the distribution of the Public Notice in Korean
6. Example Letter to Elected Officials
7. Louisiana Elected Official Mailing List
8. Texas Elected Official Mailing List
9. Adjacent Property Owner Mailing List
10. Email blasts
11. Twitter Notices from TxDOT-Beaumont District

*The *Leesville Daily Ledger* agreed to publish the notice in Korean on December 9, 2018. The newspaper's business manager emailed TxDOT's public involvement consultant on January 15, 2019 to let TxDOT know that the notice in Korean was never published.

**The public meeting notice was also sent to two potential Section 106 Consulting Parties (the Historic Bridge Foundation and Preservation Texas) since they were invited to the March 2018 Alternatives Workshop.



PUBLIC MEETING
SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River
Tuesday, December 11, 2018
TxDOT CSJs: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035, 0214-03-037
LADOTD State Project Number: H.000986

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in conjunction with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), will conduct a public meeting to solicit input on the existing SH 63/LA 8 bridge over the Sabine River, potential new bridge options, and potential SH 63/LA 8 route alternative options. Information on the meeting is provided below:

Tuesday, December 11, 2018
Leesville High School Cafeteria
502 Berry Drive
Leesville, LA 71446
Open House (no formal presentation) 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The existing SH 63/LA 8 bridge over the Sabine River is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as Burr's Ferry Bridge and is designated as a Texas State Antiquities Landmark. Currently, the existing bridge carries two-way vehicular traffic on SH 63 in Texas and LA 8 in Louisiana. The proposed project will focus on providing a structurally sound bridge with adequate width and height to accommodate existing and foreseeable future transportation needs.

Displays of potential alternatives and other project information will be available for review and comment at the public meeting. All interested persons are invited to attend the meeting to provide input regarding the project. The meeting will be an open house format, so the public may come and go at their convenience, and staff will be available to answer questions. Written comments may be submitted at the meeting. Written comments may also be submitted by mail to **Andrew Lee, TxDOT Beaumont District Office, 8350 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77708** or **emailed to SH63-LA8bridge@blantonassociates.com**. Comments must be received or postmarked by **Wednesday, January 2, 2019** to be included in the official public meeting record.

TxDOT, in partnership with LADOTD, encourages the public to take a quick interactive online survey to provide input on potential bridge options and route alternatives. Submit your survey by **Wednesday, January 2, 2019** by visiting the project's online project page at bit.ly/sh63-LA8bridge, or scan the following Quick Response (QR) code with your smartphone or tablet:



Additional information about the project is available by contacting **Andrew Lee** at **409-892-7311** or **SH63-LA8bridge@blantonassociates.com**. You can also view additional information by visiting www.txdot.gov and entering **SH 63/LA 8 Bridge** in the search area or by visiting the **TxDOT Beaumont District Office located at 8350 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77708**.

Persons interested in attending the public meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact **Sarah Dupre, TxDOT Beaumont District Public Information Officer**, at **409-898-5745** or **Sarah.Dupre@txdot.gov** at least five days prior to the meeting. Because the public meeting will be conducted in English, any requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should also be made at least five days prior to the public meeting. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.



공청회

사빈 강 SH 63/LA 8 교량

2018 년 12 월 11 일 화요일

TxDOT CSJs: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035, 0214-03-037

LADOTD 주 프로젝트 번호: H.000986

텍사스 교통국 (TxDOT)은 루이지애나 교통 개발부 (LADOTD) 및 연방 고속도로 관리국 (FHWA)과 함께, 사빈 강 위 기존의 SH 63/LA 8 교량에 대한 조언, 잠재적인 새로운 교량 옵션들, 그리고 잠재적인 SH 63/LA 8 루트 대안 옵션들을 얻기 위한 공청회를 실시할 것입니다. 공청회의 정보는 아래와 같습니다:

2018 년 12 월 11 일 화요일

Leesville High School Cafeteria
502 Berry Drive
Leesville, LA 71446

오픈 하우스 (공식 발표 없음) 오후 5:00 ~ 7:00 p.m.

사빈 강 위의 기존 SH 63/LA 8 교량은 Burr's 페리 승강용 교량으로 국립 역사 유적지에 등록되어 있으며 텍사스 주 고대 주요 지형지물로 지정되어 있습니다. 현재, 기존 교량은 텍사스의 SH 63 및 루이지애나의 LA 8 에서 양방향 차량 교통을 담당합니다. 제안된 프로젝트는 기존 및 예측 가능한 미래 교통 수요를 수용할 수 있도록 적절한 너비와 높이를 가진 구조적으로 튼튼한 다리를 제공하는 데 중점을 둘 것입니다.

공청회에서 검토하고 의견을 제시하기 위하여 잠재적 대안 및 기타 프로젝트 정보 발표들이 있을 것입니다. 모든 관심있는 사람들이 프로젝트에 관한 조언을 하기 위해 공청회에 초대됩니다. 이 공청회는 오픈 하우스 형식이므로, 대중은 편리하게 왕래할 수 있으며, 직원이 질문에 대답하기 위해 상주합니다. 공청회에서 서면 의견들을 제출할 수 있습니다. 서면 의견들은 우편으로 Andrew Lee, TxDOT Beaumont District Office, 8350 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77708 로 제출할 수 있고 또는 전자 우편으로

SH63-LA8bridge@blantonassociates.com 로 제출할 수도 있습니다. 의견들은 공식적인 공청회 기록에 포함되기 위해 2019 년 1 월 2 일 수요일까지 접수되거나 소인이 찍혀야 합니다.

TxDOT 는 LADOTD 와의 협력을 통해, 대중들에게 잠재적인 교량 옵션들과 경로 대안들에 대한 조언을 제공하기 위해 신속한 양방향 온라인 설문 조사에 참여하기를 권장합니다. 2019 년 1 월 2 일 수요일까지 프로젝트의 온라인 프로젝트 페이지 bit.ly/sh63-LA8bridge 를 방문하여 설문 조사를 제출하거나, 또는 스마트 폰 또는 태블릿에서 다음의 빠른 응답 (QR) 코드를 스캔하십시오:



이 프로젝트에 대한 추가 정보는 Andrew Lee (409-892-7311 또는 SH63-LA8bridge@blantonassociates.com)에게 문의하면 얻을 수 있습니다. www.txdot.gov 를 방문하여 검색 영역에 SH 63/LA 8 Bridge 를 입력하거나 또는 8350 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77708 에 위치한 TxDOT Beaumont 지구 사무실을 방문하여 추가 정보를 볼 수도 있습니다.

특별 통신 또는 숙박이 필요한 공청회에 관심있는 사람들은 적어도 회의 5 일 전에 409-898-5745 또는 Sarah.Dupre@txdot.gov 의 TxDOT Beaumont 지구 공개 정보 관리자인, Sarah Dupre 에게 연락하는 것이 좋습니다. 공청회가 영어로 진행될 예정이기 때문에, 언어 통역사 또는 기타 특별 통신 필요에 대한 모든 요구 사항들을 적어도 공청회 이전 적어도 5 일 전에 신청하셔야 합니다. TxDOT 는 이러한 요구 사항들을 수용하기 위해 모든 노력을 기울일 것입니다.

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Open House - SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River

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Contact Us

Where: Leesville High School, Cafeteria
 502 Berry Drive
 Leesville, LA 71446 (Map)

When: Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018
 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Purpose: The purpose of the public meeting is to gather public input on the existing bridge over the Sabine River on SH 63 in Texas and LA 8 in Louisiana, potential new bridge options, and potential SH 63/LA 8 route alternative options. The meeting will be an open house format so the public may come and go at their convenience, and staff will be available to answer questions. Comments must be received on or before Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019, to be a part of the official public meeting record.

Description: The existing SH 63/LA 8 bridge over the Sabine River is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as Burr's Ferry Bridge and is designated as a Texas State Antiquities Landmark. Currently, the existing bridge carries two-way vehicular traffic on SH 63 in Texas and LA 8 in Louisiana. The proposed project will focus on providing a structurally sound bridge with adequate width and height to accommodate existing and foreseeable future transportation needs.

Special Accommodations: The public meeting will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending who have special communication or accommodation needs, or require an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Sarah Dupre, TxDOT's Public Information Office, at (409) 898-5745. Requests should be made at least five days before the event. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

Downloads:

- Notice
- Notice - Korean (공정회)
- Exhibits
- Handout
- Preliminary Bridge Options Matrix
- Proposed Conceptual Route Alternatives Matrix
- Schematics
- Presentation

Contact: TxDOT Beaumont District
 8350 Eastex Freeway
 Beaumont, TX 77708

(409) 892-7311
 Email

Posted Nov. 16, 2018

AFFP
DOTP PUBLIC MEETING

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF LOUISIANA}
PARISH OF VERNON}

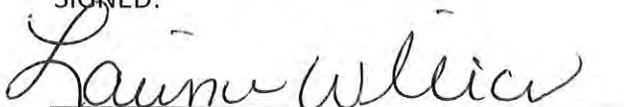
Larissa Williams, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Business Manager of the Leesville Daily Leader, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Leesville, Vernon Parish, Louisiana; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

November 28, 2018 and December 5, 2018

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:


Business Manager

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 15th
day of January 2019.


Lisa McCain, Notary Public, Vernon Parish,
Louisiana

Commission expires at death.
Notary number: 000554



PUBLIC MEETING
SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River
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Rotary club hears from Fort Polk, Soul Soup

By **LAUREN BLANKENSHIP**
Editor

On November 13th, Leesville Rotary Club welcomed invited guests from Ft. Polk. Ron Semerena and John Bradford represented the Dept. of the Army, and its Commanding General Franks, in appreciation of the military base allowing Leesville Rotary Club to use Honor Field at Ft. Polk to host its annual George C. Thompson Cross Country Run this year.

Rotarian Mario Sorce coordinated efforts with Semerena and Bradford once he obtained approval through General Franks. The gentlemen even assisted with creating the course for the meet.

The cross country meet hosted teams from surrounding parishes, and the event was a great success.

At the meeting, Semerena and Bradford accepted an award of appreciation for helping to facilitate a competitive path, for the participants, on and around the Honor Field track. Additionally, at the meeting, Rotarian Jenny Rogers was honored as Club 125 contributor, bringing the total contributions for Rotary Foundation and Polio Plus by Leesville Rotarians to \$2125.

On November 27th, Leesville Rotary Club invited Artie Carhee to speak and represent the Grace Church Soul Soup Kitchen.

Carhee is the Director of the all-volunteer program which serves meals daily from 5pm-630 p.m. "Sometimes we have 40 and sometimes we have 100," Carhee acknowledged when asked about how many individuals they serve daily. She further stated, "No one is turned away."

Carhee reports the kitchen has served meals every single day, since opening in December of 2010.

She reported, last year, they served 18,250 meals and have already exceeded that number this year.

In addition to a hot meal, individuals also receive community resource infor-

mation, to include instructions in a safe place where they can stay for the night if needed.

The kitchen operates completely off of food donations from local individuals and



Artie Carhee speaking at the Rotary Club meeting about Soul Soup Kitchen.

Photo submitted by Brenda Willis

businesses.

"Many times we are at the end of the food supply, and we will wonder (and pray) about where the remainder for the night will come, and a vehicle will drive up with additional food which carries us through," Carhee said.

Soul Soup is such an inspiration, Rotarian Angela DeGray challenged her fellow Rotarians to "pony up" and match her \$25 donation with several answering the call.

If anyone would like to make a food or monetary donation, they may do so at Soul Soup Kitchen or Grace Church (for Soul Soup Kitchen) or they can call Carhee at 337-348-3610.

Southern Air heats the town



Southern Air of Leesville is giving back this Christmas season through its heat the town program.

Submitted photo

Staff report

Southern Air of Leesville wants to extend a helping hand this Christmas season with its Heat the Town program. The business wants to help those who cannot afford to make repairs to their central heating system by offering heater tune-ups and repairs at no cost to approved and accepted nominees.

Southern Air of Leesville will start taking nominations on its Facebook page starting Dec 1st.

If you know someone in need please go to our Facebook page (Southern Air and Heating (Leesville)) and give a short description of the need along with a contact phone number.

They will then start the process of

gathering the necessary information about the Nominee. The deadline to nominate is December 20, 2018.

This program is their way of giving back to the community during this holiday season. They want to use our talents and resources to give back to those in need. It's technicians will donate their time to give the gift of heat to those who really need it this Holiday Season.

Southern Air of Leesville will perform all work and will use new parts and material to meet Louisiana state mechanical code requirements.

Heaters will be repaired, except where costs exceed \$500.

At that point, the situations will be assessed on an individual basis. Southern Air of Leesville reserves the right to refuse service for any reason.

Hale concert brings the Christmas Spirit



Dorothy Goins Hale performed a concert on Monday Night. Classic carols, timeless tunes, and inspirational hymns were performed by Hale and her friends from various church groups in the area. Hale would accompany each singer with her talent on the electric keyboard. There were over 100 people in the Vernon Parish Public Library to see them. The room was at official capacity.

Photo by Micah Pickering

Village of Simpson holds council meeting, amends 2017-2018 budget

By **O. CHIP ROBINSON**
Staff Reporter

The Village of Simpson held their monthly meeting Monday evening with all council members present.

In addition to general governmental business, the council members approved Resolution No. 9525 of 2018.

The resolution requests the Police Jury to dig out the ditches on Dogwood Lane, Forest Drive, Oak Street, Magnolia, Chipper Lane, Misty Lane, Kountry Road and Welcome Cemetery Road.

Mayor Vickie Standifer said that the Parish has already done the maintenance on Shadywood and Buck Run Road.

It also requests for the Parish to mow or bush hog along all of the roads and streets within the Village limits to reduce the current low visibility hazards.

Road grading is also needed on Misty Road, Odie Jackson Road, Forest Drive, Buck Run Road, Magnolia Drive, Chipper Lane, G. Parker Lane and Kountry Lane.

The resolution also requests the Parish to perform maintenance on stop signs and add road name signs. This request was initially made to the Police Jury by email on November 21, 2017.

Councilman Neil Standifer made a motion to approve the resolution, Councilwoman Lisa Thompson seconded.

The council also adopted Ordinance

No. 10 of 2018 to accept the amended the 2017-2018 Village of Simpson Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018.

The amended budget was presented to the council on November 12, 2018, and a notice was published on November 16, 2018, that a public hearing was scheduled for December 3, 2018.

There were two questions posed by the public to clarify terms and categories, but no one objected to the amended budget.

Councilwoman Lisa Thompson made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Neil; Standifer.

New business brought before the council involved a public nuisance caused by constantly barking dogs in the village.

Legal council was consulted to clarify the ordinances currently in place to advise the council members, the police chief and residents the legal course of action.

Mayor Standifer told those in attendance that the DOTD has informed her that the asphalt has been laid on Welcome Cemetery Road.

The road will reopen once the guardrails are installed and the drainage issues are fixed. Also, DOTD will begin the chip and seal process on HWY 465 to HWY 28.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2019 at 6 PM.



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Tuesday, December 11, 2018
TxDOT CSJs: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035, 0214-03-037
LADOTD State Project Number: H.000986

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CASA helps kids through the holidays

By MICAH PICKERING
Staff Writer

Christmas is a season of giving, and many groups work hard to give to those in need. It is the belief of the hardworking volunteers at Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) that every child deserves to feel the warmth that Christmas can bring.

This season they have been hard at work with their annual Christmas Project. The project is designed to provide Christmas presents for children who are in the foster care system.

Those who would like to participate can do so by stopping by the CASA office in DeRidder or Leesville, and getting a child in foster care's "Christmas Wish List."

Once the gifts have been purchased they can be brought back to the CASA office unwrapped to be given to the child.

The idea of sponsoring a child in foster care is to not only help the child but to remind the community about the struggles that many children in the foster care system face.

"Our hope is that through The Christmas Project our community members have an opportunity to help CASA. This is another way that our



CASA is working to ensure that children in the foster care system receive Christmas Presents. Those that want to help can visit the CASA office at 113 S 3rd St in Leesville or at 420 McMahon St. in DeRidder and get more information.

Photo by CASA

children are reminded that they are loved and are so very important." CASA of West CenLa Director Tommy Edwards said.

The project has been active for over a decade now and is something that the CASA volunteers look forward to every year.

CASA is always looking to train more volunteers in their ongoing efforts to help children in need. CASA is a national association in the United States that supports and promotes court-appointed

advocates for abused or neglected children in order to provide children with a safe and healthy environment in permanent homes.

CASA of West CenLa serves both Beauregard and Vernon Parishes and during their last tracking period, they increased their trained volunteers by 10.

They are actively recruiting community members who are interested in joining. They are looking for new people to train in 2019.

Fatal crash in Leesville

Courtesy of LOUISIANA STATE POLICE

On Saturday night, a crash involving two vehicles killed a man and seriously injured a woman, both from Fort Polk.

Troopers responded to the crash around 9:50 p.m., which occurred on LA Hwy 8, west of Leesville. The crash involved a 2005 Ford Expedition, driven by Omar Rendon (O/M 38 yoa) of Leesville and a 2013 Nissan Altima, driven by a female (O/F 22 yoa).

The female driver, of the Nissan Altima, is identified as Celeste M. Marquez. Her deceased male passenger is identified as Santiago Marquez.

The Ford was westbound on LA Hwy 8 when Rendon lost control and crossed the centerline. This action resulted in the Ford colliding head-on with the eastbound Nissan. After the initial collision occurred, both vehicles became disabled in the roadway and were later struck by two other vehicles, resulting in separate crashes.

Rendon was wearing his seat belt and received minor injuries. He was transported to Byrd Hospital for treatment.

Celeste Marquez was wearing her seat belt but received serious injuries. She was transported to Rapides Regional Trauma Center for treatment. Santiago Marquez (O/M 22 yoa) was wearing his seatbelt, but was pronounced dead. The exact identities of the driver and passenger are being withheld until notification to the next of kin is made.

Routine toxicology tests are pending. The crash remains under investigation.

While not all crashes are survivable, seat belts can greatly decrease the occupant's chance of death and will greatly reduce the extent of injury.

Although the exact cause of the crash remains under investigation, Troopers would like to remind the public of the following: inattentive and distracted driving is dangerous and is a leading cause of crashes in our state.

It is important for motorists to pay attention to what is going on outside of the vehicle they are driving. More information on distracted driving may be found online at the federal government's official distracted driving website, www.distracted.gov.

In 2018, Troop E has investigated 43 fatal crashes resulting in 47 deaths.

Mayor recognizes Wampus Cat football team



The Leesville Wampus Cat football team is achieving feats that the city hasn't seen in years. In honor of the football team's success, Mayor Allen presented a proclamation to the Leesville High School football team for their excellence. Mayor Allen also declared Friday, Nov. 30 as black and gold day.

Photo by the CITY OF LEESVILLE

SPCA named best charity in Louisiana

By MICAH PICKERING
Staff Writer

Financial website business.org recently released data ranking the best charities at the state and national levels.

It was revealed that by their metrics that the Louisiana Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) is the best charity in the state.

Their mission statement claims that the Louisiana SPCA seeks to "promote, protect and advance the well-being of Louisiana's companion animals."

They are an animal shelter and also provide health services to animals. According to their website, they seek to "eliminate animal suffering."

According to business.org, the Louisiana SPCA received the highest score in Louisiana with a final score of 91.7 (out of 100). For every \$15 spent in fundraising, the SPCA brings in \$1, and 84.8% of all donations go straight back into the program's causes. Only 9.4% of funds go to administrative costs.

It is estimated that the Louisiana SPCA impacts more than 59,000 homeless and companion animals annually. They care for homeless animals and help animals find "fur-ever homes."

Lori Sanderson, of New Orleans, expressed her satisfaction with the Louisiana SPCA stating "The staff was great very caring and want the very best for



The Louisiana SPCA was named the top charity in the state.

Photo by SPCA

the animals they are adopting to their fur-ever homes. We adopted three of the most wonderful dogs from them. I would highly recommend them for your adopting your fur-ever pet," she said.

Shelly Chancon spoke about the time that her pet's life was saved thanks to the due diligence of the staff at the Louisiana SPCA.

"I can't thank these folks enough. Absolutely paws down the best at caring. They saved our dog Pattie's life when we were turned down at all vets and animal hospitals. I owe them all big time and this won't be the last time they see me!" Chancon said.

For more information on the Louisiana SPCA log on to www.la-spc.org.



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LABBY MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOMES

"OUR FAMILY SERVING YOUR FAMILY"

WIN

\$10,000

Enter now at LeesvilleDailyLeader.com/Contests

CLASSIFIED ADS

Services

OVERCOMERS OUTREACH 12 STEP SUPPORT PROGRAM
Overcomers Outreach, a new meeting located at 501 Twin Street in Jasper at the Lone Star District Association Campground off Hwy. 190. All are welcome! 7 p.m. Thursday's. Call 409-379-2785.

IF YOU WANT TO DRINK, that's your business...If you want to stop, that's our business. Call 409-379-8308.

For Rent

MARSUE PROPERTIES - Quality residential rentals and leases. Call 409-382-0871 or MarsueProperties.com.

WANTED: Applicants for Housing: Elderly (1) Bedroom Apartments; Single (1) Bedroom Apartments; Family Size: 2, 3 & 4 Bedroom Apartments.

All sites have playgrounds and laundry facilities. All apartments have washer hook-ups and clothes lines, AC and Heat at affordable rents. Minimum \$50, maximum \$638 monthly. Rent is based on income. Applicants welcome. Applications taken Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 12 noon. Equal Opportunity Renter. Apply today at Newton Housing Authority, one mile north of Newton on Hwy. 87 at Sartain Street. Phone TDD 1-800-735-2989.

Getting Ready for Christmas? How about having a Garage Sale to earn extra money? Christmas is less than a month away, so it's time to start planning! Get your kids involved - have them go through the toys they don't play with anymore - clothes they can't wear - games they are tired of - and let them spend what they earn! Call Karyn today at 379-2416

Legals

PUBLIC MEETING SH 63/LA 8 BRIDGE AT SABINE RIVER TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018
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Legals

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How to Take Advantage of National Scholarship Month

(StatePoint) Bargain hunters will spend November tracking down Black Friday deals to save on holiday shopping, but savvy higher education shoppers know November is also National Scholarship Month, a perfect time to find free money for college.

To help students and families get the most out of scholarship season, Sallie Mae, the nation's saving, planning, and paying for college company, is offering six tips:

- Get an early start. Apply for scholarships your junior year of high school and every year in college. Approximately 50 percent of available scholarships are for students already enrolled in college. There are also many scholarships available for graduate school.

- Don't miss out. To qualify for \$150 billion in financial aid, including scholarships, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Schools use the FAFSA to put together financial aid packages, states use it to determine eligibility for state aid, and it's required for many scholarship applications. Some aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, or from programs with limited funds, so the earlier families fill out the FAFSA, the better.

- Remember, not everything is a deal. Never pay for scholarships and be wary of "guaranteed" money. Don't be lured in by sites or organizations that charge a fee to access scholarship applications. School counselors and school financial aid offices can recommend reputable options.

- Even small savings count. Many scholarships may just be for a few hundred dollars, but these can add up and can be used for a variety of college expenses. Apply for as many as possible - you'll be surprised by how much you can earn.

To find additional tips and to register for Sallie Mae's Scholarship Search, home to 5 million scholarships collectively worth more than \$24 billion, or the recently launched Graduate School Scholarship Search, home to 850,000 graduate school scholarships worth more than \$1 billion, visit www.salliemae.com. After filling out a brief profile, students are matched with relevant scholarships, their award amounts, application requirements, and deadlines. The tool automatically sends updates when it identifies new matches.

"Scholarships are one of the most prevalent funding sources families use to help pay for college," said Martha Holler with Sallie Mae.

Six Tips To Help Those In Recovery Avoid Alcohol During The Holidays

The holidays are a time for family and friends to gather and share laughs, memories - and perhaps a drink or two. But for people recovering from an addiction, all that alcohol often present at special events can be worrisome.

"Holiday parties are when many alcoholics fall off the wagon," says John Collopy, author of the book *The Reward of Knowing* (www.johncollopy.com), which relates his own struggles with addiction. "There just seems to be alcohol everywhere, sometimes even at the office. It can be very difficult, especially for people who have only recently stopped drinking."

Although Collopy has been sober for many years, he knows that the holidays are a gateway to his past life. He used alcohol to help him deal with memories of a troubled childhood with a dysfunctional family and abusive father. When he became an adult, he quickly became dependent on alcohol to get through the day, plus he had anger management issues.

"Every day for an alcoholic is a challenge, but over the holidays it can be overwhelming" says Collopy, who today is a successful real estate broker. "People don't realize when they offer drinks to people over the holidays how difficult it is for some people to say no. Real alcoholics know they can never have just one."

For those who want to stay sober during the holidays, here are a few tips from Alcoholics Anonymous and the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation:

- Skip any drinking occasions you are nervous about. If you are really concerned

about an event, just ask yourself if you really need to go. But you don't have to just sit home. Take your family out and look at the holiday lights or find another activity that gets you in the holiday mood without alcohol.

- Leave early. If you know you will be tempted to drink at a party, plan in advance to tell people when you arrive that you only stopped by briefly and have somewhere else you need to be.

- Go with a sober friend. There is safety in numbers, and you can help each other should you be tempted to drink.

- Carry around a soft drink. If you already have a drink in your hand, people are less likely to ask you if you want a drink.

- Avoid known risks. If you know your brother is a heavy drinker, for example, stay away from him. If you know the same party last year was full of excessive drinking, just stay home.

- Create new traditions. It can be a downer if you have to skip all the holiday fun. So come up with some of your own. Buy a new board game, go look at the holiday decorations or host your own small non-alcoholic party with sober friends.

It has been many years since Collopy was an alcoholic, but he says the rewards of his life now are much better than any drink he ever took.

"Once you're sober, you can allow yourself to begin to dream about life again, the way you did when you were a kid," he says. "That doesn't mean those dreams are going to be easy to achieve, but at least you can look at them and say, 'I've got a shot.'"



Get ready for the big game!
Newton Eagles vs. Troup Tigers
Friday, November 30th
7:30 p.m. at Homer Bryce Stadium in Nacogdoches

ADVERTISEMENT: 3 Temporary job openings Nancy B. Hanks in Duson, LA 12/16/2018 to 6/15/2019. General worker needed for crawfish and rice farm. Work includes tractor driving, field prep, water maint, fertilize, plant and harvest of crops. Field prep includes operate farm equipment, manual shovel work and hoeing of weeds, spot spray and gen farm labor. Help repair and maintain bins, buildings, equip, farm, fences, field, levee, ponds, property, roads and shop. Load and unload. May operate motorized crawfish boat and/or walk/pushboat. Crawfishing involves manually cutting up of fish bait, set traps, bait and check traps. Grade, wash sack, and ice crawfish for shipment, make and repair traps as needed. Pickup/deliver crawfish as required. May deliver crop to coolers or market. Worker must be able to lift/carry 50 lbs. M-F, some Sat/Sun, OT varies. Employees may be compensated above the stated hourly wage, this decision to pay above the prevailing hourly wage will be made by the employer, basing this decision on factors that include the individual recipient's performance and work history. Allergies to ragweed, goldenrod, insect spray and related chemicals and pesticides, etc. may affect workers' ability to perform the job. Employer may require post hire, random, upon suspicion or post accident drug testing, all at no cost to employee. Testing positive or failure to comply may result in immediate termination from employment. Job involves stooping, lifting and working outside in inclement weather. Must have 3 mo exp in similar position. All tools furnished at no cost. \$10.73 hourly, wage may change with AEWR. Free housing provided for all workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence daily. Guaranteed ¾ contract beginning with worker date of arrival. If applicable, Transp & subsistence exp to worksite provided/paid by employer by 50% of contract, rtn at completion of contract. Apply/Send resumes for this job at the nearest local SWA @ 710 S Wheeler, Jasper, TX 75951 Ph 409-384-9031 using LA JO# 826587.

ADVERTISEMENT: 1 Temporary job openings Limco, Inc. in Crowley, LA 1/15/2019 to 10/15/2019. General worker needed for crawfish, rice, and cattle farm. Work includes tractor driving, field prep, water maint, fertilize, plant and harvest of crops. Field prep includes operate farm equipment, manual shovel work and hoeing of weeds, spot spray and gen farm labor. Help repair and maintain bins, buildings, equip, farm, fences, field, levees, ponds, properties, roads and shop. Load and unload. May operate motorized crawfish boat and/or walk/push boat. Crawfishing involves manually cutting up of fish bait, set traps, bait and check traps. Grade, wash, sack and ice crawfish for shipment, make and repair traps as needed. Pickup/deliver crawfish as required. May deliver crop to coolers or market. Worker must be able to lift/carry 50 lbs. M-F, some Sat/Sun, OT varies. Employees may be compensated above the stated hourly wage, this decision to pay above the prevailing hourly wage will be made by the employer, basing this decision on factors that include the individual recipient's performance and work history. Allergies to ragweed, goldenrod, insect spray and related chemicals and pesticides, etc. may affect workers' ability to perform the job. Employer may require post hire, random, upon suspicion or post accident drug testing, all at no cost to employee. Testing positive or failure to comply may result in immediate termination from employment. Job involves stooping, lifting and working outside in inclement weather. Must have 3 mo exp in similar position. All tools furnished at no cost. \$10.73 hourly, wage may change with AEWR. Free housing provided for all workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence daily. Guaranteed ¾ contract beginning with worker date of arrival. If applicable, Transp & subsistence exp to worksite provided/paid by employer by 50% of contract, rtn at completion of contract. Apply/Send resumes for this job at the nearest local SWA @ 710 S Wheeler, Jasper, TX 75951 Ph 409-384-9031 using LA JO# 833908.

ADVERTISEMENT: 2 Temporary job openings Michael D & Rhonda Talley in Jennings, LA 1/1/2019 to 7/15/2019. General worker needed for crawfish and rice farm. Work includes tractor driving, field prep, water maint, fertilize, plant and harvest of crops. Field prep includes operate farm equipment, manual shovel work and hoeing of weeds, spot spray and gen farm labor. Help repair and maintain bins, buildings, equip, farm, fences, field, levee, ponds, property, roads and shop. Load and unload. May operate motorized crawfish boat and/or walk/pushboat. Crawfishing involves manually cutting up of fish bait, set traps, bait and check traps. Grade, wash sack, and ice crawfish for shipment, make and repair traps as needed. Pickup/deliver crawfish as required. May deliver crop to coolers or market. Worker must be able to lift/carry 50 lbs. M-F, some Sat/Sun, OT varies. Employees may be compensated above the stated hourly wage, this decision to pay above the prevailing hourly wage will be made by the employer, basing this decision on factors that include the individual recipient's performance and work history. Allergies to ragweed, goldenrod, insect spray and related chemicals and pesticides, etc. may affect workers' ability to perform the job. Employer may require post hire, random, upon suspicion or post accident drug testing, all at no cost to employee. Testing positive or failure to comply may result in immediate termination from employment. Job involves stooping, lifting and working outside in inclement weather. All tools furnished at no cost. \$10.73 hourly, wage may change with AEWR. Free housing provided for all workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence daily. Guaranteed ¾ contract beginning with worker date of arrival. If applicable, Transp & subsistence exp to worksite provided/paid by employer by 50% of contract, rtn at completion of contract. Apply/Send resumes for this job at the nearest local SWA @ 710 S Wheeler, Jasper, TX 75951 Ph 409-384-9031 using LA JO# 831859.



MEMO

December 6, 2018

To: File - CSJ #0214-03-035
SH 63/LA 8 @ Sabine River

From: Leanna Sheppard
Environmental Specialist – TxDOT Beaumont District

Subject: Public Involvement – Outreach
Limited English Proficiency

Based on the review of a 1-mile; 2-mile; and 5-mile buffer of the project location, a limited English proficiency population was determined to exist. With the assistance of the Environmental Affairs Division Community Impacts Subject Matter Experts, Spencer Ward and Nicolle Kord, the LEP population was identified as Korean. In addition, it was determined that a rather large Korean community is established around Leesville, Louisiana and culturally-specific community facilities were identified.

1. Kim's Asian Market - Entrance Road, Leesville, LA 71446
2. Korean Presbyterian Church of Leesville - 308 Section Line Rd, Leesville, LA 71446
3. Korean Full Gospel Church (possibly the former Korean Assembly Church of God) - 190 Haymon Loop, Leesville, LA 71446
4. Korean United Methodist Church - 151 Kvvp Dr, Leesville, LA 71446
5. Leesville Korean Baptist Church - 187 Browns Ln, Leesville, LA 71446

Leesville is approximately 18 miles east of the project site, but is also the nearest location able to offer a venue (high school) for the project public meeting scheduled for December 11, 2018.

On Wednesday, December 5, 2018, the Beaumont District's environmental specialists, Joel Stein and Leanna Sheppard, traveled to Leesville, Louisiana, and distributed public meeting notices (Korean translation) to four of the five facilities – (Kim's Asian Market, Korean Full Gospel Church, Korean United Methodist Church, and Leesville Korean Baptist Church). Some of the church signs indicated a Wednesday Night Bible Study.

No notices were provided to the Korean Presbyterian Church as a prior phone call (December 4, 2018) resulted in the Pastor stating that he would not participate in distributing the notices to his congregation. Although a visit was made to the church site; no one was available. TxDOT staff respected the Pastor's instruction and did not leave any notices at the church.

The Korean translated public meeting notice is scheduled to be published in the Sunday Edition (December 9, 2018) of the *Leesville Daily Leader*. In addition, the Korean notice is available on the public meeting/hearing page of www.txdot.gov.

OUR VALUES: *People • Accountability • Trust • Honesty*

OUR MISSION: *Through collaboration and leadership, we deliver a safe, reliable, and integrated transportation system that enables the movement of people and goods.*

An Equal Opportunity Employer



November 21, 2018

The Honorable William Fuller
County Commissioner Precinct 1, Newton County
129 CR 3073
Kirbyville, TX 75956

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River
TxDOT CSJ: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035, 0214-03-037
LADOTD State Project Number: H.000986
Newton County, Texas and Vernon Parish, Louisiana

RE: Public Meeting for SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River

Dear Commissioner Fuller:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in conjunction with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), will conduct a public meeting to solicit input on the existing SH 63/LA 8 bridge over the Sabine River, potential new bridge options, and potential SH 63/LA 8 route alternative options. You and/or a representative from your office are cordially invited to attend the public meeting. Information on the meeting is provided below:

Tuesday, December 11, 2018
Leesville High School Cafeteria
502 Berry Drive
Leesville, LA 71446
Open House (no formal presentation) 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

A copy of the public meeting notice and a project location map (**Figure 1**) are enclosed. The public meeting notice is scheduled to publish Wednesday, November 28, 2018 in *The Newton County News* (Texas) and *The Leesville Daily Leader* (Louisiana). The public meeting notice is scheduled to publish a second time in *The Leesville Daily Leader* on Wednesday, December 5, 2018. The meeting will be an open house and the public may come and go at their convenience.

The existing bridge over the Sabine River is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as Burr's Ferry Bridge and is designated as a Texas State Antiquities Landmark. The proposed project will focus on providing a structurally sound bridge with adequate width and height to accommodate existing and foreseeable future transportation needs.

If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact me at (409) 892-7311 or email at andrew.lee@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew C. Lee".

Andrew Lee, P.E.
TxDOT Beaumont District Bridge Engineer

Enclosed

The Honorable Rick Allen
Mayor, City of Leesville
Leesville City Hall, 101 W Lee Street
Leesville, LA 71446

The Honorable Chris Robertson
Council Member District 1, City of Leesville
402 N 4th Street
Leesville, LA 71446

The Honorable Willie Mae Kennedy
Council Member District 2, City of Leesville
1205 West Street
Leesville, LA 71446

The Honorable Nicole Ybarra
Council Member District 3, City of Leesville
906 Pickney Avenue
Leesville, LA 71446

The Honorable Tonny Shapkoff
Council Member District 4, City of Leesville
P.O. Box 1287
Leesville, LA 71446

The Honorable Alice Guess
Council Member-At-Large, City of Leesville
1005 W Union
Leesville, LA 71446

The Honorable William Thomas
Council Member-At-Large, City of Leesville
P.O. Box 1168
Leesville, LA 71446

Chief Kyle Bush
Fire Chief, Leesville Fire Department
Fire Station #1, 109 E South Street
Leesville, LA 71446

Mr. Grant Bush
Director of Planning and Development, City of Leesville
P.O. Box 1191
Leesville, LA 71446

Mr. Greg Hill
Police Chief, Leesville Police Department
101 W Lee Street
Leesville, LA 71446

Police Jury, Vernon Parish
P.O. Box 1548
Leesville, LA 71496

School Board, Vernon Parish
201 Belview Road
Leesville, LA 71446

Floodplain Administrator, Vernon Parish
P.O. Box 1548
Leesville, LA 71496

Sheriff John Craft
Sheriff, Vernon Parish
P.O. Box 649
Leesville, LA 71446

The Honorable James Armes
Representative District 30
Louisiana House of Representatives
2255 University Parkway
Leesville, LA 71446

The Honorable Frank Howard
Representative District 24
Louisiana House of Representatives
1601 Texas Highway
Many, LA 71449

The Honorable John Smith
Senator District 30, Louisiana State Senate
611-B South 5th Street
Leesville, LA 71446

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Congressman District 4
United States House of Representatives
P.O. Box 6075
Bossier City, LA 71171

The Honorable Bill Cassidy
Senator, United States Senate
5555 Hilton Ave, Ste. 100
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

The Honorable John Kennedy
Senator, United States Senate
P.O. Box 80418
Baton Rouge, LA 70898

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM FULLER
NEWTON COUNTY, COUNTY COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1
129 CR 3073
KIRBYVILLE, TX 75956

THE HONORABLE GARY FOMBY
NEWTON COUNTY, COUNTY COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3
PO BOX 188
BURKEVILLE, TX 75932

THE HONORABLE PAUL PRICE
NEWTON COUNTY, NEWTON COUNTY JUDGE
110 COURT STREET, PO DRAWER 1380
NEWTON, TX 75966

MR. BRANT GRAHAM
BURKEVILLE ISD, SUPERINTENDENT
231 CR 2099, PO BOX 218
BURKEVILLE, TX 75932

THE HONORABLE ROBERT NICHOLS
TEXAS STATE SENATE, SENATOR DISTRICT 3
2915 ATKINSON DRIVE
LUFKIN, TX 75901

THE HONORABLE JOHN CORNYN
UNITED STATES SENATE, SENATOR
1500 BROADWAY, STE. 1230
LUBBOCK, TX 79401

MR. KLAUS GEHR
TOLEDO BEND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, FIRE CHIEF
269 LAKEVIEW
BURKEVILLE, TX 75932

THE HONORABLE THOMAS GILL
NEWTON COUNTY, COUNTY COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2
210 CR 2094
BURKEVILLE, TX 75932

THE HONORABLE WESLEY THOMPSON
NEWTON COUNTY, COUNTY COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4
PO BOX 1205
DEWEYVILLE, TX 77614

SHERIFF BILLY ROWLES
NEWTON COUNTY, NEWTON COUNTY SHERIFF
110 EAST COURT STREET
NEWTON, TX 75966

THE HONORABLE JAMES WHITE
TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, REP. DISTRICT 19
PO BOX 395
WOODVILLE, TX 75979

THE HONORABLE BRIAN BABIN
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONGRESSMAN DISTRICT 36
TYLER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 100 W. BLUFF DRIVE
WOODVILLE, TX 75979

THE HONORABLE TED CRUZ
UNITED STATES SENATE, SENATOR
300 E. 8TH ST., STE. 96
AUSTIN, TX 78701

MR. JOHN JEFFERSON
NEWTON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION, CHAIRMAN
213 COURT STREET
NEWTON, TX 75966

Abbie Jewel Mitcham

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Arthur Richmond

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Charles Wasson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Donald & Patty Small

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Grady Arnold Kennedy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Imelda Jeane Shell, Etal

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

James Allen Watson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jerry W. Brittain

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jimmy Ray Fleniken

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

John Fountain

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Alex & Jeanine Lyons

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bryan Kennedy and James Kennedy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Crown Pine Timber 1 LP

c/o Forest Resource Consultants

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Douglas L & Jutina Singletary

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hancock Timber Resource Group

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

James A. Perkins

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

James and Angela Blakeney

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jimmy C Waller

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

John C. Ford Etal

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jones Enterprises

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Joy F Castevens

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Karl Grevemberg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Kevin Allen Grevemberg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Linda S. Lejeune

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Maude Brown Burris

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Norma J Richmond Kerr

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Peggy M Gooch

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Raymond Miller

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ronald Scott & Mary Broadway

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Runyan Rock Incorporated

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Karl Edwin Grevemberg Etux

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Kevin & Anna Lisenby

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lance E. Mitcham

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Martin Timberlands, LLC

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Newton County

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Oak Grove Methodist Church

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Penny McCoy & Patricia Greer

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Roger & Lillian Chandler

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Roy L. Blackmon Etux

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sondra Yancey
c/o Lee Pitts

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sycamore Community Church

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Zach Frazier

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mr. Evan Thompson
Preservation Texas, Executive Director

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

System Global Timberlands

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ms. Kitty Henderson
Historic Bridge Foundation, Executive Director

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [TxDOT](#)
To: [Joshua Hunter](#); [Annie Sikes](#); [Shawn Lloyd](#); [Julie Beaubien](#)
Subject: Courtesy Copy: You're Invited: SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River Public Meeting Next Week - Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018
Date: Tuesday, December 4, 2018 8:24:03 AM

This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This is a courtesy copy of an email bulletin sent by Julie Beaubien.

This bulletin was sent to the following groups of people:

Subscribers of SH 63 Sabine River Bridge Replacement Project (601 recipients)



SH 63/LA 8 BRIDGE AT SABINE RIVER PUBLIC MEETING

Please forward this email to share this invitation with others

Where:

Leesville High School, Cafeteria
502 Berry Drive
Leesville, LA 71446 ([Map](#))

When:

Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018
Open House: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

The purpose of the public meeting is to gather public input on the existing bridge over the Sabine River on SH 63 in Texas and LA 8 in Louisiana, potential new bridge options, and potential SH 63/LA 8 route alternative options. The meeting will be an open house format so the public may come and go at their convenience, and staff will be available to answer questions; no formal presentation is planned.

Take Our Survey – We Need Your Input

Provide your input about the existing historic bridge and potential replacement options by taking this [quick and interactive online survey](#). We also invite you to share the survey link with others by email or social media, so that we can obtain as much feedback as possible.

For more information about this project, visit the [SH 63/LA 8 project page](#). In addition, please view the online meeting notice in [English](#) and in [Korean](#) (한국어).

Special accommodations: The public meeting will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending who have special communication or accommodation needs, or require an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Sarah Dupre, TxDOT's Public Information Office, at (409) 898-5745. Requests should be made at least five days before the event.

Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

Comments must be submitted at the meeting, emailed or mailed to the Beaumont District office on or before **Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019**, to be part of the official meeting record. You can mail comments to the following address:

TxDOT Beaumont District Office
Project Manager: Andrew Lee (SH 63)
8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77708

Contact Information

Please note: This email is an automated notification, which is unable to be monitored. We're happy to help you with any questions or concerns you may have. Please contact the Beaumont District Office at (409) 892-7311 at any time about this project, or send your reply to this email: SH63-LA8bridge@blantonassociates.com.



[Texas Department of Transportation](#)
125 East 11th Street • Austin, Texas, 78701
(800) 558-9368 • AskTxDOT@txdot.gov



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From: [TxDOT](#)
To: [Shawn Lloyd](#); [Joshua Hunter](#); [Annie Sikes](#); [Julie Beaubien](#)
Subject: Courtesy Copy: Final Reminder: Take the SH 63/LA 8 Bridge Online Survey Before Comment Deadline on Jan. 2, 2019
Date: Thursday, December 27, 2018 7:30:20 AM

This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This is a courtesy copy of an email bulletin sent by Julie Beaubien.

This bulletin was sent to the following groups of people:

Subscribers of SH 63 Sabine River Bridge Replacement Project (647 recipients)



SH 63/LA 8 BRIDGE AT SABINE RIVER PROJECT INTERACTIVE ONLINE SURVEY REMINDER

Please forward this email to others that may be interested in providing feedback

The Texas Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), hosted a public meeting about the SH 63/LA 8 project on Dec. 11, 2018. This email serves as a final reminder to take a quick online interactive survey. Please provide your feedback about the existing bridge over the Sabine River on SH 63 in Texas and LA 8 in Louisiana, potential new bridge options and potential route alternative options before the comment deadline on **Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019**.

We Need Your Input



Provide your input about the existing historic bridge and potential replacement options by taking this [quick and interactive online survey](#). We also invite you to share the survey link with others by email or social media, so that we can obtain as much feedback as possible.

For more information about this project and to see the meeting materials, visit the [SH 63/LA 8 project page](#). In addition, please view the online meeting notice in [English](#) and in [Korean](#) (한국어).

Comments must be submitted on or before **Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019**, to be part of the official meeting record. You can mail comments to the following address:

TxDOT Beaumont District Office
Attn: Andrew Lee
8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77708

Contact Information

Please note: This email is an automated notification, which is unable to be monitored. We're happy to help you with any questions or concerns you may have. Please contact the Beaumont District Office at (409) 892-7311 at any time about this project, or send your reply to this email: SH63-LA8bridge@blantonassociates.com.

[Texas Department of Transportation](#)
125 East 11th Street • Austin, Texas, 78701
(800) 558-9368 • AskTxDOT@txdot.gov



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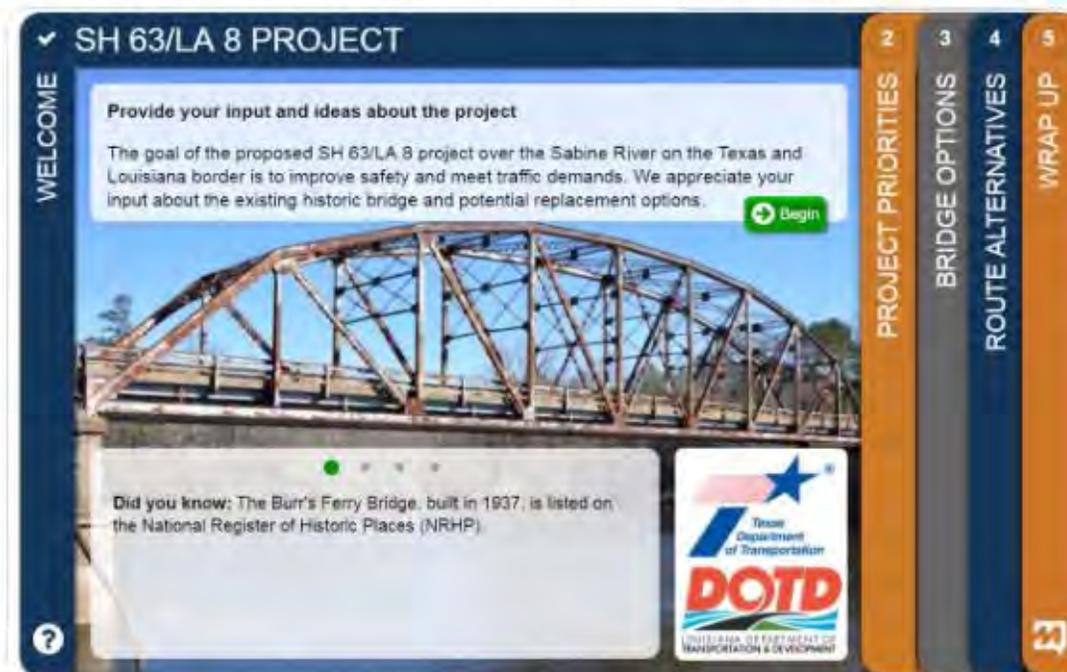
TxDOT-Beaumont

@TxDOTBeaumont

Follow



Come out and attend the public meeting for the upcoming SH 63/LA 8 bridge project. We'll be at Leesville High School in Leesville, LA on Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018. Can't make it? Take a quick online interactive survey. sh63-la8bridge.metroquest.com @La_DOTD



9:40 AM - 4 Dec 2018

1 Retweet 2 Likes



1



2



TxDOT-Beaumont

@TxDOTBeaumont

Follow



Attend the SH 63/LA 8 bridge at Sabine River public meeting tomorrow at Leesville High School in Leesville, LA. Can't make it? Take a quick online interactive survey. sh63-la8bridge.metroquest.com @La_DOTD

SH 63/LA 8 PROJECT

WELCOME

Provide your input and ideas about the project

The goal of the proposed SH 63/LA 8 project over the Sabine River on the Texas and Louisiana border is to improve safety and meet traffic demands. We appreciate your input about the existing historic bridge and potential replacement options.

[Begin](#)

Did you know: The Burr's Ferry Bridge, built in 1937, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Navigation: PROJECT PRIORITIES, BRIDGE OPTIONS, ROUTE ALTERNATIVES, WRAP UP

Logos: Texas Department of Transportation (DOTD), Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development

1:18 PM - 10 Dec 2018

3 Retweets 4 Likes



3



4



TxDOT-Beaumont

@TxDOTBeaumont

Follow

Stop by the public meeting tonight for the SH 63/LA 8 bridge at Sabine River project. We're at Leesville High School in Leesville, LA. Can't make it? Take a quick online interactive survey. sh63-la8bridge.metroquest.com
@La_DOTD



2:19 PM - 11 Dec 2018



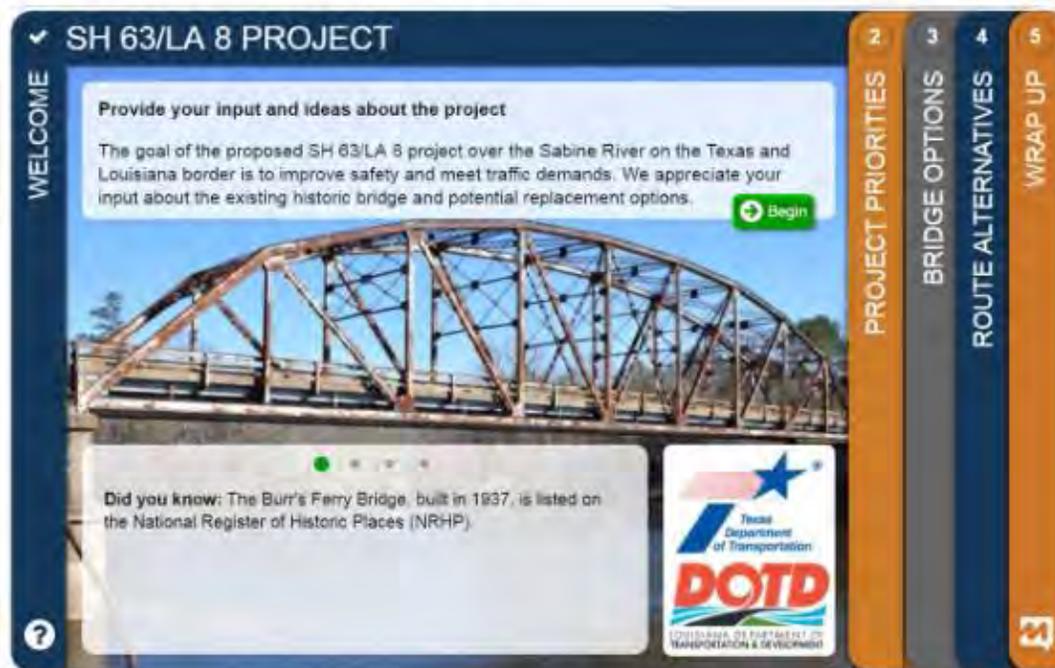


TxDOT-Beaumont

@TxDOTBeaumont

Follow

Missed the SH 63/LA 8 bridge public meeting? Learn more about potential bridge options and choose your preferred alternative by taking a quick online interactive survey at bit.ly/sh63-LA8bridge.



7:30 AM - 12 Dec 2018

1 Retweet





Attachment C

Sign-in Sheets

Attendance

Total Attendance: 89

Elected Officials: 6

Members of the Public: 58

Media: 1

LaDOTD personnel: 7

TxDOT personnel: 8

FHWA personnel: 1

Project Consultants: 8

Contents

1. Sign-in Sheets



PUBLIC MEETING
SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine
River

Leesville High School
502 Berry Drive
Leesville, LA 71446
Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)

NAME	AGENCY
Mayor Rick Allen	City of Leesville
Gary Fomby	Commissioner Pct 3 Newton Co. TX
Tom Gill	Comm. Pct 2 Newton Co. TX
Phillip White	Comm. Elect Pct 2 Newton Co. TX
Kenneth Weeks	Co. Judge Elect Newton Co. TX
Chris Robertson	City of Leesville



PUBLIC MEETING
SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at
Sabine River

Leesville High School
502 Berry Drive
Leesville, LA 71446
Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)

NAME	REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)	HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE?
Paul Randall	Leesville HS	walked in
MATT ROGERS	my SELF	sign on West Side Bridge
GREG MONROE	Self	VA E MAIL
William Cudd	self	Dot Letter
UOM E. Kay	Self	dot Letter
Corinne Bronson	self	FB & sign @ Bridge
John Zobl	"	DOTD Letter
MAAS, DEAN	"	news
Blat Stankowski	Self	Sign at Bridge



PUBLIC MEETING
SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at
Sabine River

Leesville High School
502 Berry Drive
Leesville, LA 71446
Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)

NAME	REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)	HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE?
Therman Nash	Fourty Community (Resident)	Newspaper
ERIN BULLANAN	DOTD	Signed-in as staff
Jonald BELTZ	RETIRED	VISITOR
David Haymon	State Farm Ins	Chamby email
Stephen Dye	Roy O Martin	e-mail
Nelda Miller	Self	Sign at Bridge
McEverett Miller	Self	Sign at Bridge
Jim Waller	self	Letter
Anne Causey	Vernon Chamber of Commerce	



PUBLIC MEETING
SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at
Sabine River

Leesville High School
502 Berry Drive
Leesville, LA 71446
Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)		
NAME	REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)	HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE?
Don Walker	Few Ready Mix	JEDCO - Jasper
JOHN JEFFERSON	NEWTON Co HISTORICAL	E-MAIL
Alissa Cruse	self	Sign @ Bridge
Carl Thompson	VPPJ	Parish manager
JOHN BELTZ		SIGN ON TEXAS BRIDGE
Raymond Dawden		News
Billy Cuff	PUBLIC	NEWS
John Hammond	Hammond's Trucking Co	Sign at the Bridge
Douglas Singleton		Letter



PUBLIC MEETING
SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at
Sabine River

Leesville High School
502 Berry Drive
Leesville, LA 71446
Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)

NAME	REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)	HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE?
Chals E Butts	self	mouth word
Olen Bean	Newton Co.	News
Suzanne Puz	Newton Co.	News
Sharon Wilhelm	Vernon	sign at bridge
Beryl Ford	B. self	letter
Noah Parker	Vernon	News
Joe McKee	Vernon	Chamber of Commerce
BRIAN J. FREDERICK	VERNON	NEWS/SIGN



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PUBLIC SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)		
NAME	REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)	HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE?
Richard Clowse	Jasper EDC	Radio News.
Shawna Kay	Self	sgn@bridge
Jerry Brittain	Self	" "
Teresa Farrell	self	sign @ bridge
Chad Perkins	Self	Sign on bridge
SCOTTY GOINS	FOOT ROCK DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS	EMAIL
Donna Barrow	Self	Sign @ Bridge
Mayor Rick Allen		



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NAME	REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)	HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE?
Pat Beach		Sign
Howell King		Email
James H. Anderson, Jr		Sign
Rochy Schmechor		Email
Justin Kockritz	Texas Historical Commission	TxDOT staff



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PUBLIC SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)		
NAME	REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)	HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE?
Andrew A Addison	Local Business	Road Sign
Brenda Addison	Local Business / Family in TX & LA	Road Sign on 63 @ River Bridge
Rachel Sackett	Southland Holdings	Website
Kedrick Hardy	Self	Road Signs
Bennie Carroll		Sign
Uckyanol	Self	Sign



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PUBLIC SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)

NAME	REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)	HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE?
Jared Craft		Sign at Bridge
Johnny Fountain		" "
Eugen Boyson		" "
Jeremy Parker		Newspaper
Shirley Menis		Sign -
Al Kelly		



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PUBLIC SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)		
NAME	REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)	HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE?
<i>Steven Dougherty</i>	<i>SRA-TX</i>	<i>email + mela</i>



PUBLIC MEETING
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MEDIA SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)

NAME	STATION/PUBLICATION
Micha Pickering	Leesville Daily Leader



PUBLIC MEETING
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STAFF SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)

NAME	AGENCY/COMPANY
MAYELLEN RUSSO	Blanton & Associates
SHARON BECCA	HUITT-ZOLLARS
Andrew Lee	TXDOT
DAVID J. THOMPSON	HUITT-ZOLLARS
Leanna Sheppard	TXDOT-Beaumont
Lance Broom	Dist. 08 - LA DOTD
R. Hett A. Desselic	LA DOTD Dist. 08
Jena Milliner	LA DOTD HQ / Environmental
Elwin Musa	LA DOTD HQ / Project Management



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STAFF SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)

NAME	AGENCY/COMPANY
Steve Woodruff	Huitt-Zollars
Russell Parr	Huitt-Zollars
Obi Efochie	Huitt-Zollars
Justin Kockritz	Interstate Commission (signed in as public)
John Rogers	FITWA - LA Div.
Mike DeSelle	LA DOTD
Mark [unclear]	GREATER VERNON ^{TRANSPORTATION} CAMPER
LADA BYFORD	JAO - Tx DOT



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 Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018
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STAFF SIGN-IN SHEET (please print)

NAME	AGENCY/COMPANY
Megan Luschen	Blanton & Associates
Renee Bean	TXDOT ENV History
Julie Beaubien	TXDOT TPP/Public Involvement Secto.
Kim JOHNSON	BLANTON
ADAM JACK	TXDOT - BMT
PAUL ROLLINS	TXDOT - BRG
SARAH DUPRE	TXDOT - BMT
ERIN BUCHANAN	LA DOTD



Attachment D

Comments Received*

Comments submitted in writing at the meeting

8

Comments submitted by mail

3

Comments submitted by email

0

Contents

1. Comments Received on Comment Form

*See **Attachment F** for comments made through the MetroQuest survey by MetroQuest page and **Attachment G** for comments made following receipt of the LADOTD Solicitation of View letters.



PUBLIC MEETING

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River

TxDOT CSJs: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035, 0214-03-037

Tuesday, December 11, 2018
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(PLEASE PRINT)

COMMENTS: MUST BE 4 LANE & I14 Compatible

NAME: Gene Causey

ADDRESS: Vernon Parish of Commerce

REPRESENTING: [REDACTED]

- 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

Written comments submitted by mail must be received and/or postmarked by Wednesday, January 2, 2019 and sent to:

Andrew Lee, District Bridge Engineer
TxDOT Beaumont District
8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77708



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SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River

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(PLEASE PRINT)

COMMENTS: THIS PROJECT IS "WAY" PAST DUE!! WHY WOULD TXDOT &
LA DOTD NOT PUT IN A 4 LANE BRIDGE WITH THE PROPOSED I-14?
THE COST TODAY MAY BE HIGH BUT NOT NEAR AS HIGH AS THE
FUTURE COST OF AN ADDITIONAL BRIDGE PROJECT. FORWARD THINKING.
EITHER "A" OR "E" LOOK TO BE THE BEST PROPOSED
ROUTES. "A" BEING CLOSER TO TOLEDO FEND MAY NOT BE THE
BEST ROUTE DUE TO WATER PRESSURE ^{WITH} A MAJOR WATER RELEASE.

NAME: BRIAN J. FREDERICK

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: MYSELF

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

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(PLEASE PRINT)

COMMENTS: Prefer option D. Recommend demolition of bridge to prevent future ~~is~~ issues with maintenance costs.

Preparing for future interstate is highest priority for me.

NAME: David Haymon

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: Owner of State Farm Insurance Agency

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(PLEASE PRINT)

COMMENTS: 1. I recommend to close + build new bridge + rd.
2. Leave old bridge (historical)
3. I recommend alternative c (purple)

NAME: Thermer Nash

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: My family

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(PLEASE PRINT)

COMMENTS: *Regardless of planned route... I feel very strongly about a 4 lane bridge minimum to permit expansion of road servicing it to be upgraded to four lanes... saving future highway dollars of conversion. Many transports (large) have to be currently re-routed as the 2 lane does not adequately serve such needs.*

NAME: *Jeremy Parker*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: *Morris Realty, Acquisitions Investment Group LLC*

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(PLEASE PRINT)

COMMENTS: I like the idea of the black route, however erosion is a problem that may make the route more expensive over time. I purpose at a minamium of the economic growth potential of the decision. If the black route is choosen create a 4 lane highway with a 4 lane bridge across the span of orange over time. A bridge and control this erosion b/c you cannot control this erosion tax Gas & Industry that uses it.

NAME: Noah Parker

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: Vernon Parish

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tax the city of leesville on proper benefiting from the improve

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(PLEASE PRINT)

COMMENTS: The existing bridge needs to be replaced. A
replacement needs to be designed and constructed to
meet requirements for I14.

The new bridge site needs to be located in the site that is
most suitable for bridge construction. Option D seems
to be the most reasonable.

NAME: Dan Walker

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: JFOCO in Jasper & Few Ready Mix Concrete Co.

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

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(PLEASE PRINT)

COMMENTS: I own property on Right side going into Texas. When will property owners know of Right AREA for New Bridge

NAME: Jim Waller

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: myself

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Gulf Coast Strategic Highway Coalition

Connecting U.S. Army Facilities and Texas Strategic Ports

December 28, 2018

Tucker Ferguson
District Engineer, Beaumont District
Texas Department of Transportation
8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, Texas 77708

REF: SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River

On behalf of the board of directors of the Gulf Coast Strategic Highway Coalition (GCSHC), allow me to thank you for the opportunity to provide a public comment for the record on potential new bridge options and potential SH63/LA 8 route alternative options for the Sabine River crossing known as the Burr's Ferry Bridge. Our Coalition has been supporting TxDOT efforts to plan and upgrade this crossing for almost two decades.

A crossing at or near this location is part of the Central Texas Corridor. The U.S. Congress officially identified the Central Texas Corridor as a high priority east-west corridor in federal highway legislation (FAST Act) passed in 2015 and specified that it will be Interstate Highway 14 in the future. Further, our Coalition and congressional delegations from Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi are pursuing additional federal legislation that would extend this future interstate route across Central Louisiana and Central Mississippi, connecting to I-49, I-55 and I-59. Future I-14 across these three states will provide an important upland alternative to coastal Interstate 10.

We are confident TxDOT, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and FHWA will find the best engineering solution to the question of new bridge location.

We recognize that improvements to SH 63 and LA 8 will be incremental and based on traffic demand, safety considerations and available funding. The Sabine River bridge crossing and highway approaches should be positioned and engineered with eventual upgrade to interstate highway standards as an essential guiding design criterion. The new bridge should be engineered so that it will fit into future improvements without further modification.

We appreciate TxDOT's work to resolve the challenging issues associated with the Sabine River crossing and look forward to seeing the replacement bridge completed.

John P. Thompson
Chairman, Gulf Coast Strategic Highway Coalition
Former County Judge, Polk County





PUBLIC MEETING

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River

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(PLEASE PRINT)

COMMENTS: First, I would like to thank everybody from Texas
for the people, time and money involved in this meeting.
It was very informative. My first choice would be
Alternate D with Alternate C close behind. I would like to
thank you for keeping the old bridge open as much as
possible for us, but I'll be looking forward to a new bridge.

NAME: John M. Hammond
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
REPRESENTING: Hammond's Trucking Co.

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

COMMENTS: I AM A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF THE BURR FERRY
COMMUNITY - 82 YRS - I LIVE RIGHT NEAR THE SABINE RIVER
BRIDGE, IN FACT FROM MY DRIVE WAY I CAN SEE
THE RIVER BRIDGE - MY COMMENTS ARE DEMOLISH AND
BUILD NEW ALTERNATIVE B (ORANGE)
ESTIMATED COST (\$25 MILLION)

NAME: Donice K. Smith Shaw

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING: The Burr Ferry Community

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TxDOT Beaumont District
8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77708



Attachment E

Figures

Handouts

Comment Form
Project Fact Sheet Handout

Displays Available at the Public Meeting

Welcome Board
Project Purpose and Need
Engage Station (Onsite MetroQuest Survey)
Public Comments Board
Thank You Board
Environmental Constraints Map
Conceptual Route Alternatives A through G
Proposed Conceptual Route Alternatives Evaluation Matrix
Proposed Bridge Options Evaluation Matrix
Looping PowerPoint Presentation (no script)

Photographs

Contents

1. Meeting Handouts
2. Display Materials
3. PowerPoint Presentation
4. Photographs



PUBLIC MEETING

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(PLEASE PRINT)

COMMENTS: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

REPRESENTING: _____

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

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8350 Eastex Freeway
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Texas Department of Transportation – Beaumont District

8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77708



Texas Department of Transportation

Attn: Project Manager, Andrew Lee

**8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77708**

(AL: CSJ Numbers: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035, 0214-03-037)



PUBLIC MEETING

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River
TxDOT CSJs: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035, 0214-03-037
LADOTD State Project Number: H.000986

Tuesday, December 11, 2018
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Leesville High School
502 Berry Drive
Leesville, LA 71446

Project Overview

Thank you for attending the public meeting. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in conjunction with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes improvements to the SH 63/LA 8 bridge at the Sabine River on the Texas/Louisiana border (see **Figure 1**). The bridge carries two-way vehicular traffic on SH 63 in Texas and LA 8 in Louisiana. TxDOT and LADOTD own the bridge equally.

Need for the Proposed Project

The project is needed because of the existing bridge's current condition, dimensions, and location. Some of the issues relating to the bridge are provided below:

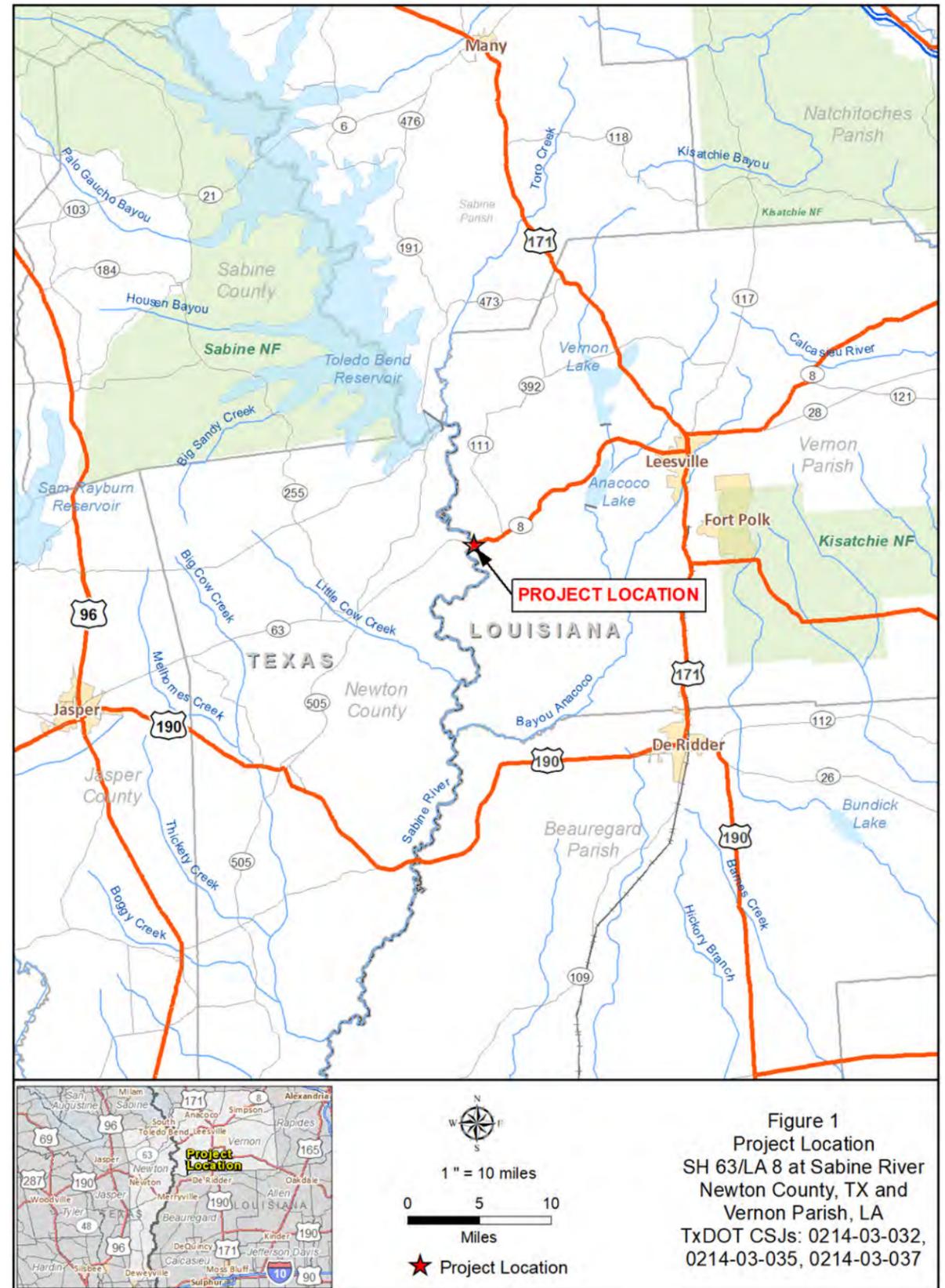
- Sabine River is changing course
- Bridge foundation problems
- Vehicles hitting overhead portions of the bridge
- Bridge is too narrow
- Bridge deterioration
- Outdated railing for modern vehicles

Purpose of the Proposed Project

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a structurally sound bridge that allows Texas and Louisiana motorists to cross the Sabine River.

Bridge Significance and Facts

The existing SH 63/LA 8 bridge over the Sabine River is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as Burr's Ferry Bridge and is designated as a Texas State Antiquities Landmark. The bridge was constructed in 1937-1938 by the Louisiana Highway Commission, the Texas Highway Department, and U.S. Bureau of Public Roads as a part of the U.S. Works Program Highway Project during the Depression. The bridge has three Parker Through Truss spans over the river and 34 Concrete T-beam spans over land.



Preliminary Bridge Options

Repair for Continued Use

Repair the SH 63/LA 8 bridge, paint the steel truss, and fix potholes. Keep the bridge open for all vehicle types. Estimated project costs is \$2.2 million.

Convert to Pedestrian Bridge

Close the SH 63/LA 8 bridge. If a new owner is identified, the owner may make repairs and install pedestrian features. Reopen the bridge for pedestrians/cyclists. Build a new road and bridge. Estimated project costs range from \$22-70 million, depending on location (includes cost of new road and bridge).

Convert to Scenic Bypass

Repair the SH 63/LA 8 bridge, and restrict traffic to only passenger vehicles traveling in one direction. Build a new road and bridge for all vehicle types. Estimated project costs range from \$22-70 million, depending on the location (includes cost of new road and bridge).

Close and Build New

Close the SH 63/LA 8 bridge, and build cul-de-sacs on SH 63 and LA 8. Keep the existing historic truss and prohibit access. Build a new road and bridge. Estimated project costs range from \$20-68 million, depending on the location (includes cost of new road and bridge).

Demolish and Build New

Demolish the SH 63/LA 8 bridge including the historic truss, and build cul-de-sacs on SH 63 and LA 8. Build a new road and bridge. Estimated project costs range from \$20-68 million, depending on the location (includes cost of new road and bridge).

Conceptual Route Alternatives

If construction of a new bridge is selected, TxDOT and LADOTD will investigate relocating a segment of SH 63 and LA 8. During construction, the SH 63/LA 8 bridge would remain open. TxDOT has identified five conceptual route build alternatives for the public to review. The no build alternative will also be assessed throughout the environmental analysis. A figure showing the conceptual alternatives is included as **Figure 2** below.

No Build/Existing Roadway (Black)

The no build alternative keeps vehicular traffic on the existing SH 63/LA 8 road and bridge. It does not require new right of way and has no impact to stream crossings, floodplains, or properties. Bank erosion is a concern. There is no estimated construction cost; however, maintenance costs will be ongoing. Estimated Cost: \$0 Million

Alternative A (Green)

The green alternative is approximately 5.5 miles long, requires 268 acres of new right of way, and could impact four stream crossings, 107 acres of floodplains, and 27 properties. Bank erosion is not a concern for this alternative. Estimated Cost: \$70 Million

Alternative B (Orange)

The orange alternative is approximately 1.6 miles long, requires 19.5 acres of new right of way, and could impact one stream crossing, one acre of floodplains, and 11 properties. Bank erosion is a concern for this alternative. Estimated Cost: \$25 Million

Alternative C (Purple)

The purple alternative is approximately 3.7 miles long, requires 99 acres of new right of way, and could impact two stream crossings, 22 acres of floodplains, and 20 properties. Bank erosion is not a concern for this alternative. Estimated Cost: \$40 Million

Alternative D (Yellow)

The yellow alternative is approximately 4.5 miles long, requires 142 acres of new right of way, and could impact two stream crossings, 26 acres of floodplains, and 13 properties. Bank erosion is not a concern for this alternative. Estimated Cost: \$45 Million

Alternative E (Red)

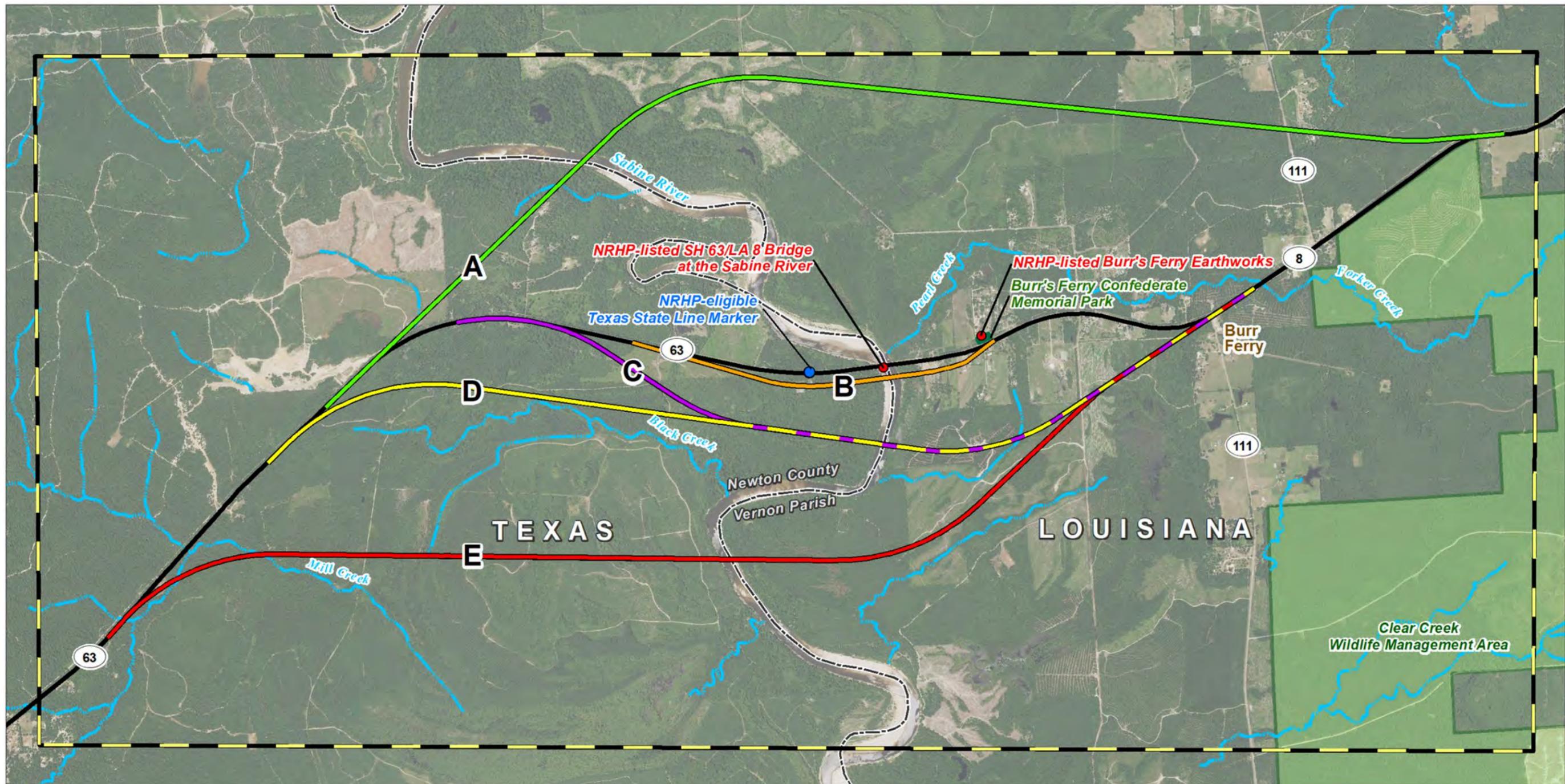
The red alternative is approximately 5.3 miles long, requires 142 acres of new right of way, and could impact five stream crossings, 47 acres of floodplains, and 19 properties. Bank erosion is not a concern for this alternative. Estimated Cost: \$60 Million

How to Stay Involved

At the sign-in table there is a sheet to sign-up with your email address to receive notifications about the project. TxDOT, in partnership with LADOTD, encourages the public to take a quick interactive online survey to provide input on potential bridge options and route alternatives. Submit your survey by **Wednesday, January 2, 2019** by visiting the project's online project page at bit.ly/sh63-LA8bridge, or scan the following Quick Response (QR) code with your smartphone or tablet:



Written comments may be submitted at the meeting. Written comments may also be submitted by mail to **Andrew Lee, TxDOT Beaumont District Office, 8350 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77708** or emailed to SH63-LA8bridge@blantonassociates.com. Comments must be received or postmarked by **Wednesday, January 2, 2019** to be included in the official public meeting record.



- Study Area
- State Boundary
- ~ Stream / River
- Wildlife Management Area (WMA)
- Burr's Ferry Confederate Memorial Park
- National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-listed Property
- NRHP-eligible Texas State Line Marker
- Route Alternative A
- Route Alternative B
- Route Alternative C
- Route Alternative D
- Route Alternative E

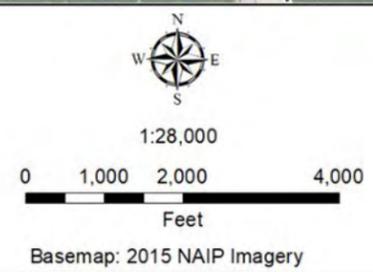


Figure 2
 Conceptual Route Alternatives
 on Aerial Base Map
 SH 63/LA 8 at the Sabine River
 Newton County, TX and Vernon Parish, LA
 TxDOT CSJs: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035
 0214-03-037

WELCOME

Public Meeting

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River

December 11, 2018

Why am I here?

- Review proposed project details
- Learn and ask questions about the proposed project
- Provide comments on proposed bridge options and route alternatives

Project Purpose and Need

What is the project purpose?

- The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a structurally sound bridge that allows Texas and Louisiana motorists to cross the Sabine River.

What is the project need?

- The project is needed because of the existing bridge's current condition, dimensions, and location.

ENGAGE STATION Provide Your Feedback

METROQUEST

TxDOT, in partnership with LADOTD, encourages the public to take a quick interactive online survey to provide input about the existing bridge and potential route alternatives. Submit your survey by **Wednesday, January 2, 2019**, by visiting the SH 63/LA 8 online project page at bit.ly/sh63-LA8bridge, or scan the following Quick Response (QR) code with your smartphone or tablet:



Visit Webpage: www.TxDOT.gov, keyword search “SH 63/LA 8 Bridge,” and sign up for project updates online or at the meeting

Public Comments

Comments must be submitted on or before **Wednesday, January 2, 2019**, to be part of the meeting record.

How to provide comments:

- ✓ Turn in a comment card tonight
- ✓ Email comments to Andrew Lee, PE at:
SH63-LA8bridge@blantonassociates.com
- ✓ Mail or hand deliver comment card to:
Andrew Lee, PE
TxDOT Beaumont District
8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77708
- ✓ Submit comments online at www.TxDOT.gov,
keyword search “SH 63/LA 8 Bridge”



THANK YOU!

We appreciate you taking time out of your busy
schedule to join us tonight.

Please travel safely!



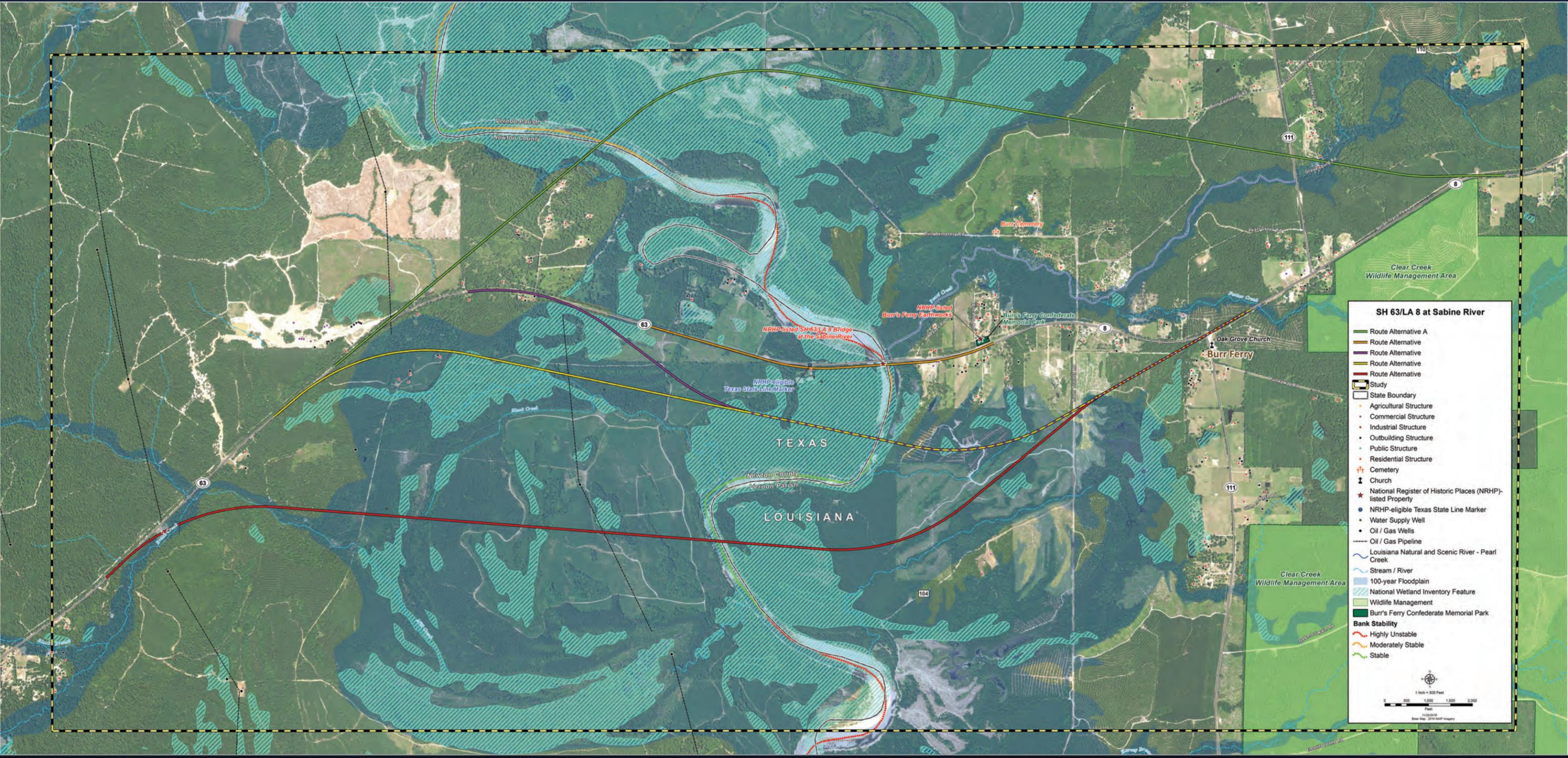
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

DOTD
 LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
 TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

Environmental Constraints

SH 63/LA 8 at the Sabine River

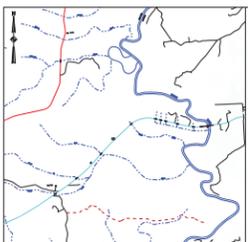
Newton County, Texas and Vernon Parish, Louisiana
 TxDOT CSJs: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035, 0214-03-037



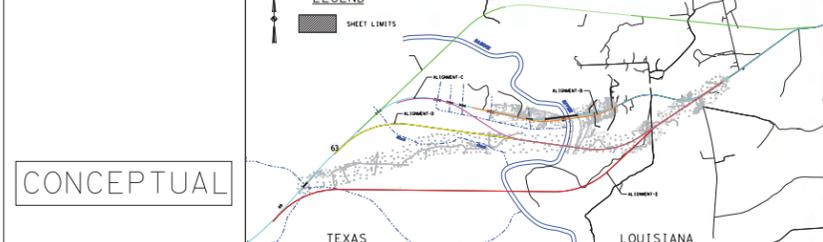
SH 63/LA 8 at Sabine River

- Route Alternative A
- Route Alternative B
- Route Alternative C
- Route Alternative D
- Route Alternative E
- Study
- State Boundary
- Agricultural Structure
- Commercial Structure
- Industrial Structure
- Outbuilding Structure
- Public Structure
- Residential Structure
- Cemetery
- Church
- National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-listed Property
- NRHP-eligible Texas State Line Marker
- Water Supply Well
- Oil / Gas Wells
- Oil / Gas Pipeline
- Louisiana Natural and Scenic River - Pearl Creek
- Stream / River
- 100-year Floodplain
- National Wetland Inventory Feature
- Wildlife Management
- Burr's Ferry Confederate Memorial Park
- Bank Stability**
- Highly Unstable
- Moderately Stable
- Stable

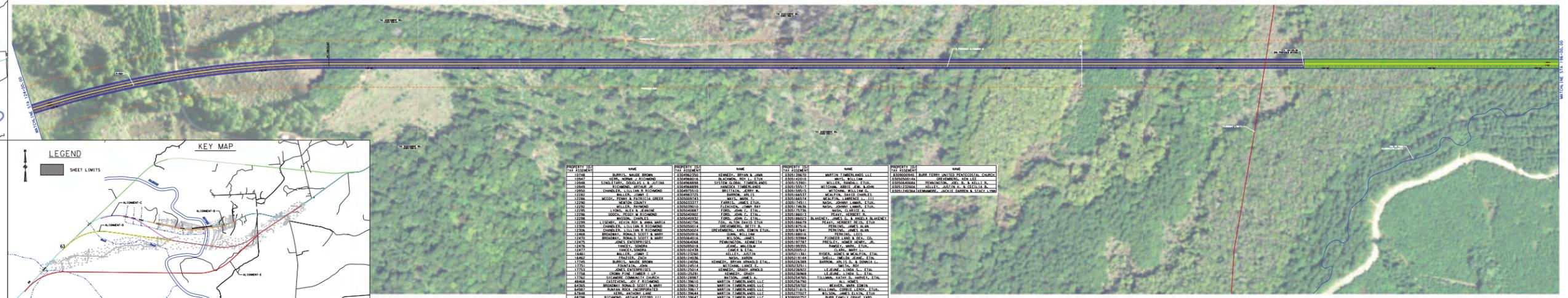
1 inch = 500 Feet
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 11/20/2018
 Base Map: 2018 NAIP Imagery



LOCATION MAP (NTS)



CONCEPTUAL

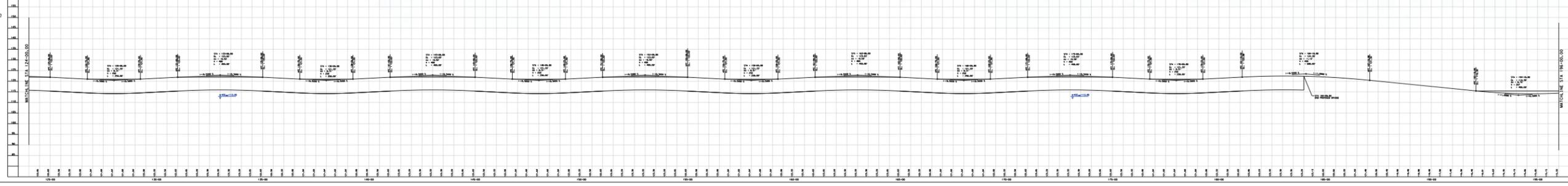


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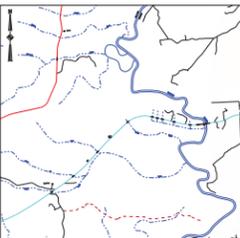


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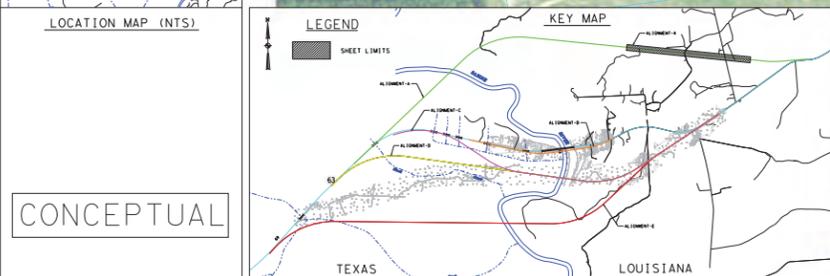
Texas Department of Transportation
 BEAUMONT DISTRICT DESIGN SCHEMATIC
 TUCKER FERGOUSON, P.E., DISTRICT ENGINEER
 SH 63/LA 8
 ALIGNMENT A
 NEWTON COUNTY/VERNON PARISH
 FROM 2.20 MILES WEST OF CR 2115
 TO 528 FEET WEST OF SAND RD.
 PROJECT LENGTH 5.53 MILES
 FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION:
 RURAL HIGHWAY
 CSJ1
 0214-03-032 TEXAS APPROACH
 0214-03-035 SABINE RIVER BRIDGE
 0214-03-037 LOUISIANA APPROACH



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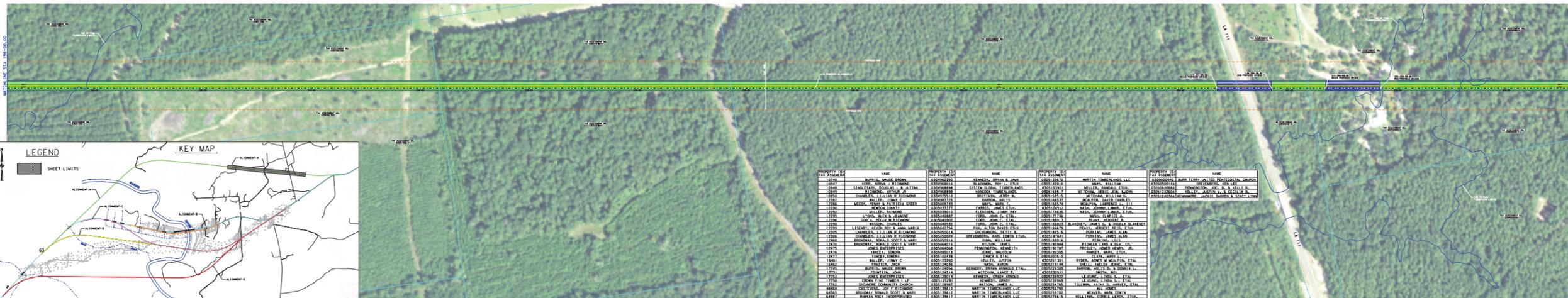
LOCATION MAP (NTS)



KEY MAP

CONCEPTUAL

Texas Department of Transportation
 BEAUMONT DISTRICT DESIGN SCHEMATIC
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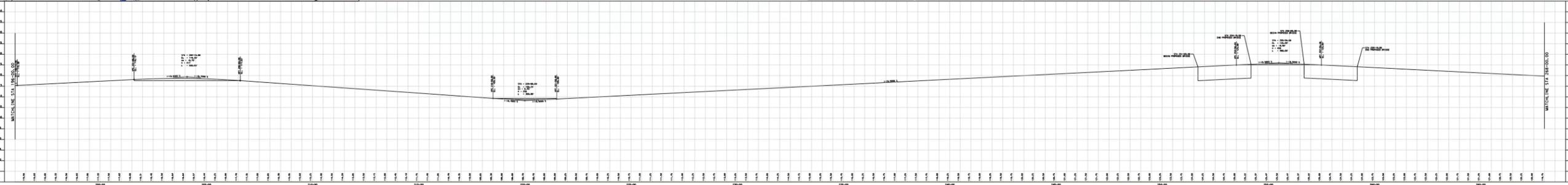


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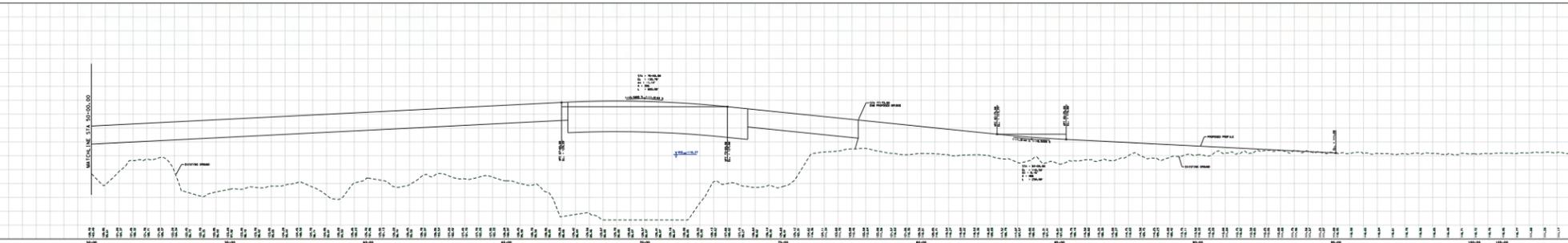
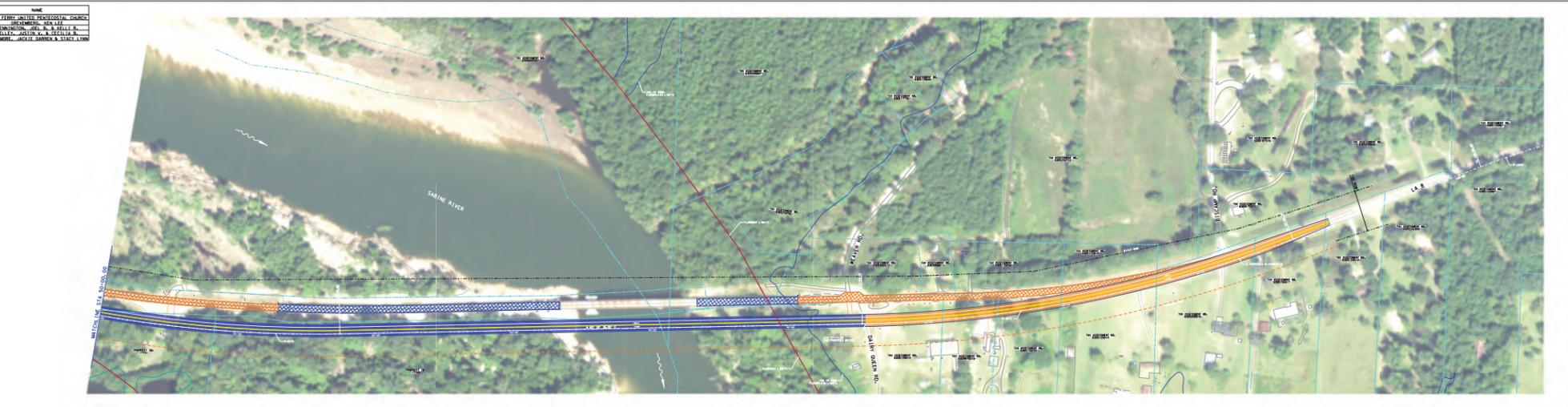
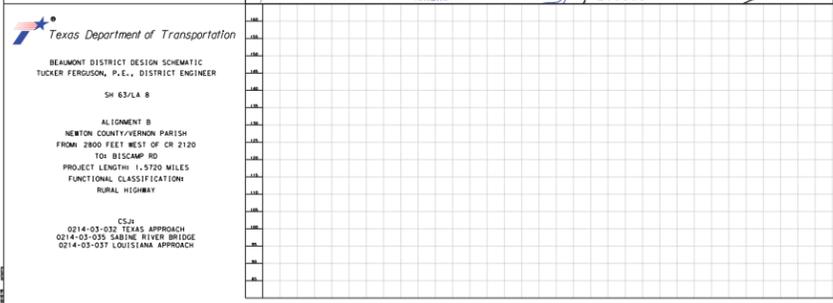
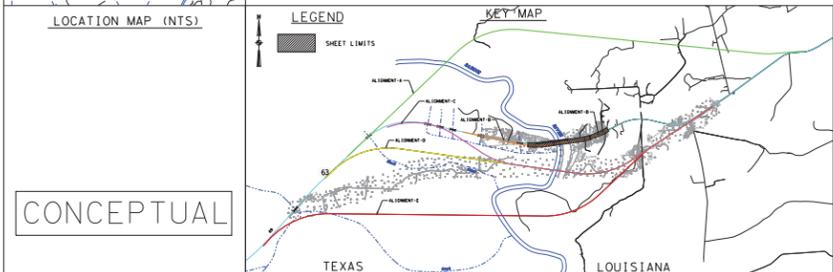


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PROPERTY ID	OWNER	PROPERTY ID	OWNER	PROPERTY ID	OWNER	PROPERTY ID	OWNER
10081	BURKIN, WALTER BOON	10082	LEWIS, WYLLA & JANA	10083	MARTIN INVESTMENTS LLC	10084	BEAUMONT RIVER FERRY SERVICE/ST. JOHNS CHURCH
10085	WILSON, WALTER P. JR.	10086	BLANCHARD, RICHARD L. ET AL	10087	WILLIAMS, WILLIAM	10088	DELMONTE, PAUL LEE
10089	LINDSEY, CHARLES A. & JILLIAN	10090	STOLIN, JONATHAN LINDSEY	10091	WILLIAMS, JAMES W. JR.	10092	STONEMAN, JOHN W. JR. & SUELLA B.
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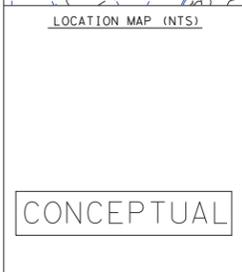
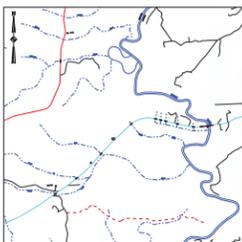
LEGEND

- TRAFFIC FLOW
- PROPERTY LINE
- EXIST ROW
- PROPOSED ROW
- PROPOSED ROADWAY
- ROADWAY REMOVAL
- PROPOSED BRIDGE
- BRIDGE REMOVAL

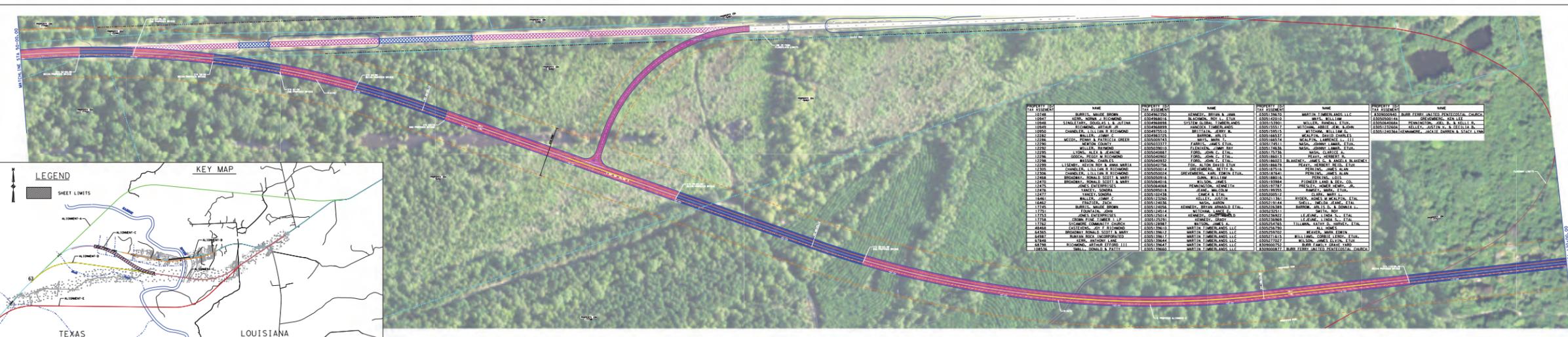
CONCEPTUAL

Texas Department of Transportation
 BEAUMONT DISTRICT DESIGN SCHEMATIC
 TUCKER FERGUSON, P.E., DISTRICT ENGINEER
 SH 63/LA 8
 ALIGNMENT B
 NEWTON COUNTY/VERNON PARISH
 FROM 2800 FEET WEST OF CR 2120
 TO: 815 CAMP RD
 PROJECT LENGTH: 1.5720 MILES
 FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION:
 RURAL HIGHWAY
 CSJ1
 0214-03-032 TEXAS APPROACH
 0214-03-035 SABINE RIVER BRIDGE
 0214-03-037 LOUISIANA APPROACH

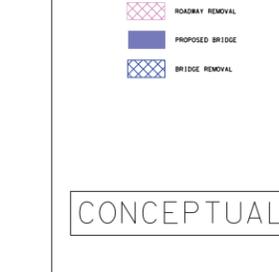
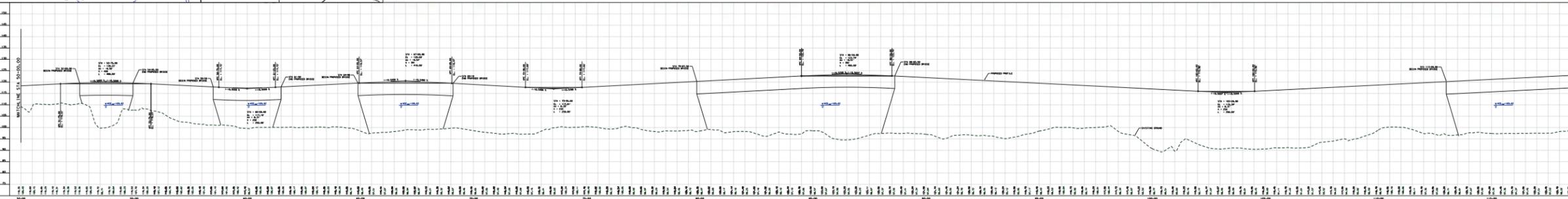
ROLL 2 OF 2



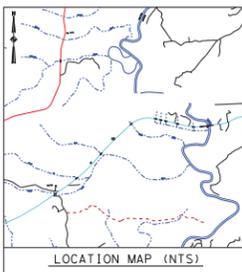
CONCEPTUAL
 Texas Department of Transportation
 BEAUMONT DISTRICT DESIGN SCHEMATIC
 TUCKER FERGUSON, P.E., DISTRICT ENGINEER
 SH 63/LA 8
 ALIGNMENT C
 NEWTON COUNTY/VERNON PARISH
 FROM 1550 FEET WEST OF CR 2118
 TO 1150 FEET EAST OF LA 111
 PROJECT LENGTH: 3.693 MILES
 FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION:
 RURAL HIGHWAY
 CSJ1
 0214-03-032 TEXAS APPROACH
 0214-03-035 SABINE RIVER BRIDGE
 0214-03-037 LOUISIANA APPROACH



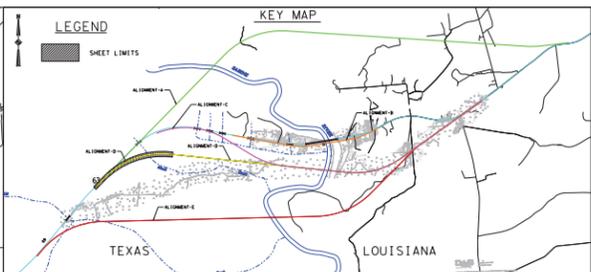
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CONCEPTUAL
 Texas Department of Transportation
 BEAUMONT DISTRICT DESIGN SCHEMATIC
 TUCKER FERGUSON, P.E., DISTRICT ENGINEER
 SH 63/LA 8
 ALIGNMENT C
 NEWTON COUNTY/VERNON PARISH
 FROM 1550 FEET WEST OF CR 2118
 TO 1150 FEET EAST OF LA 111
 PROJECT LENGTH: 3.693 MILES
 FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION:
 RURAL HIGHWAY
 CSJ1
 0214-03-032 TEXAS APPROACH
 0214-03-035 SABINE RIVER BRIDGE
 0214-03-037 LOUISIANA APPROACH



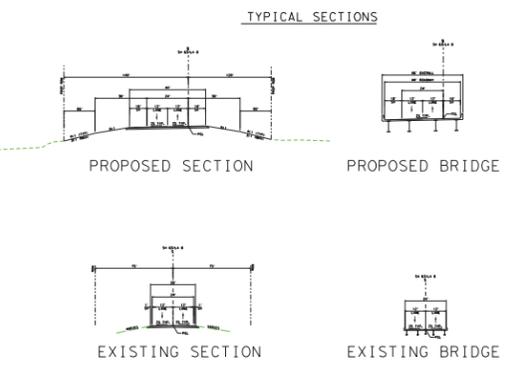
LOCATION MAP (NTS)



KEY MAP

CONCEPTUAL

Texas Department of Transportation
 BEAUMONT DISTRICT DESIGN SCHEMATIC
 TUCKER FERGOUSON, P.E., DISTRICT ENGINEER
 SH 63/LA 8
 ALIGNMENT D
 NEWTON COUNTY/VERNON PARISH
 FROM 1.85 MILES WEST OF CR 2115
 TO 1100 FEET EAST OF LA 111
 PROJECT LENGTH: 4.489 MILES
 FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION
 RURAL HIGHWAY
 CS-1
 0214-03-032 TEXAS APPROACH
 0214-03-035 SABINE RIVER BRIDGE
 0214-03-037 LOUISIANA APPROACH



PROPOSED SECTION

PROPOSED BRIDGE

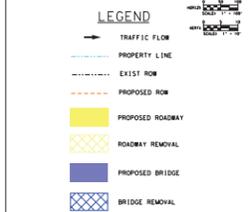
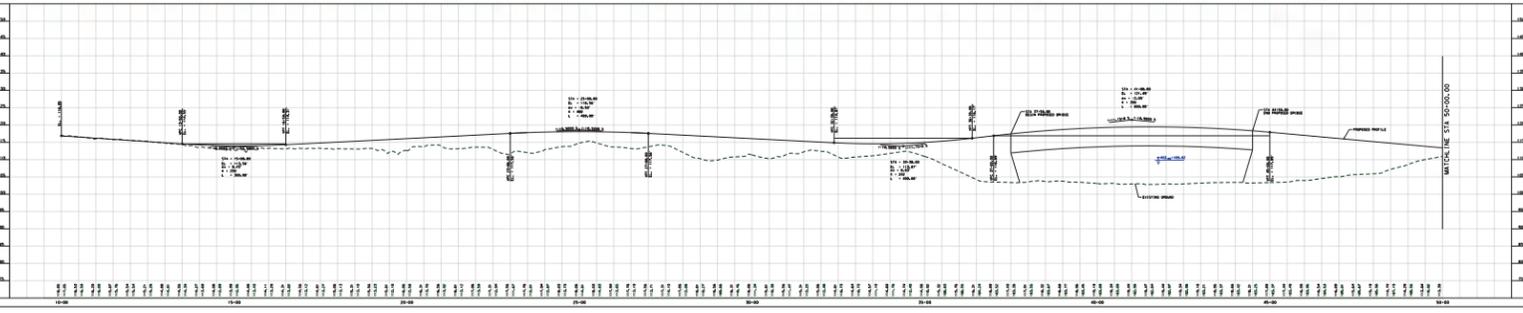
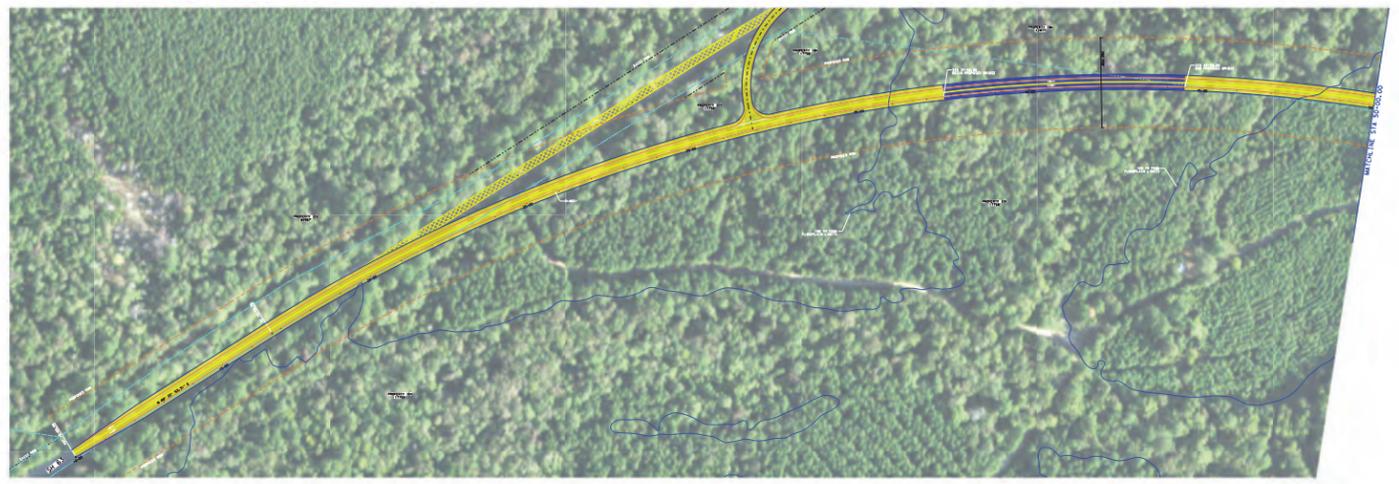
EXISTING SECTION

EXISTING BRIDGE

SUPER ELEVATION DATA

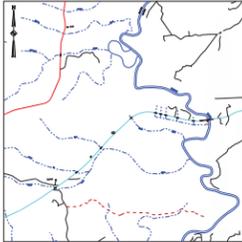
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1150+00	2-0-00	End Transition/Normal Crown
1150+00	2-0-00	Proposed Transition
1150+00	2-0-00	End Transition/Normal Crown
1150+00	2-0-00	Proposed Transition
1150+00	2-0-00	End Transition/Normal Crown
1150+00	2-0-00	Proposed Transition
1150+00	2-0-00	End Transition/Normal Crown
1150+00	2-0-00	Proposed Transition
1150+00	2-0-00	End Transition/Normal Crown

ALIGNMENT	DATE	BY	REVISION	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	REVISION	DESCRIPTION
D	11-11-03	WJ	1	INITIAL DESIGN	11-11-03	WJ	1	INITIAL DESIGN
D	11-11-03	WJ	2	REVISED DESIGN	11-11-03	WJ	2	REVISED DESIGN

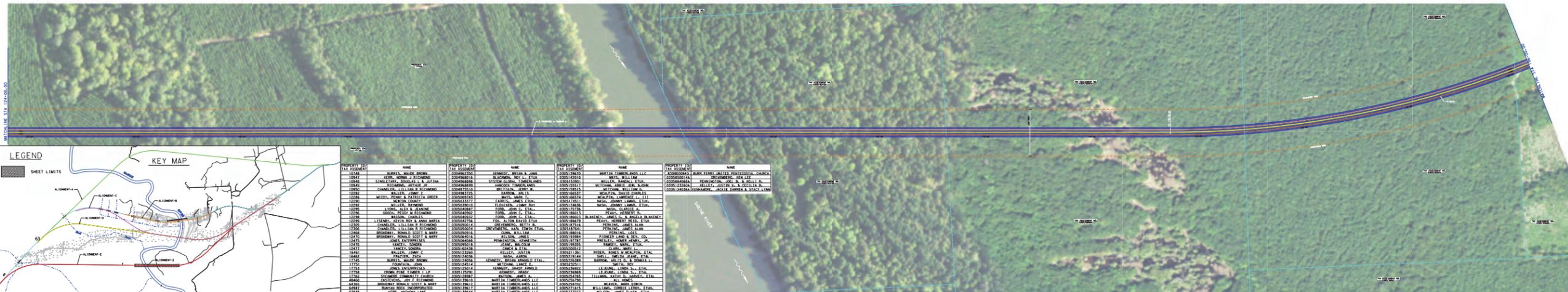


CONCEPTUAL

Texas Department of Transportation
 BEAUMONT DISTRICT DESIGN SCHEMATIC
 TUCKER FERGOUSON, P.E., DISTRICT ENGINEER
 SH 63/LA 8
 ALIGNMENT D
 NEWTON COUNTY/VERNON PARISH
 FROM 1500 FEET WEST OF BLACK CREEK
 TO 1100 FEET EAST OF LA 111
 PROJECT LENGTH: 4.489 MILES
 FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION
 RURAL HIGHWAY
 CS-1
 0214-03-032 TEXAS APPROACH
 0214-03-035 SABINE RIVER BRIDGE
 0214-03-037 LOUISIANA APPROACH



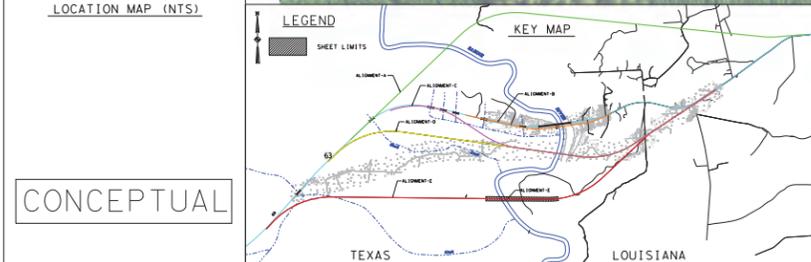
LOCATION MAP (NTS)



LEGEND

- TRAFFIC FLOW
- PROPERTY LINE
- EXIST ROW
- PROPOSED ROW
- PROPOSED ROADWAY
- ROADWAY REMOVAL
- PROPOSED BRIDGE
- BRIDGE REMOVAL

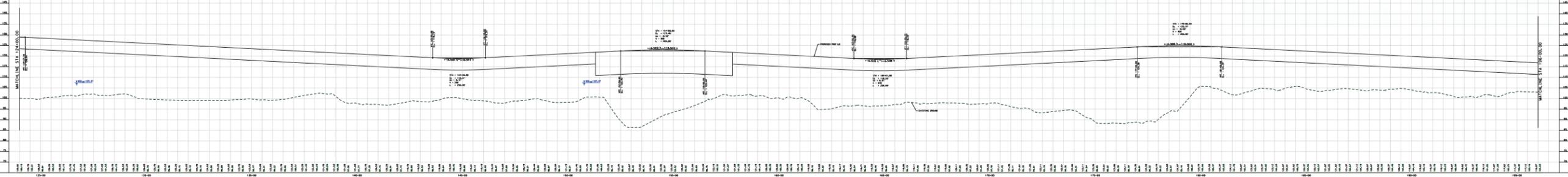
CONCEPTUAL



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1097	SMITH, WALTER	1098	SMITH, WALTER	1099	SMITH, WALTER	1100	SMITH, WALTER

Texas Department of Transportation

BEAUMONT DISTRICT DESIGN SCHEMATIC
TUCKER FERGUSON, P.E., DISTRICT ENGINEER
SH 63/LA 8
ALIGNMENT E
NEWTON COUNTY/VERNON PARISH
FROM 0.85 MILES WEST OF CR 2115
TO 900 FEET EAST OF LA 111
PROJECT LENGTH 5.30 MILES
FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION:
RURAL HIGHWAY
CSJ1
0214-03-032 TEXAS APPROACH
0214-03-035 SABINE RIVER BRIDGE
0214-03-037 LOUISIANA APPROACH



Texas Department of Transportation

BEAUMONT DISTRICT DESIGN SCHEMATIC
TUCKER FERGUSON, P.E., DISTRICT ENGINEER
SH 63/LA 8
ALIGNMENT E
NEWTON COUNTY/VERNON PARISH
FROM 1250 FEET WEST OF BRACK CREEK
TO 900 FEET EAST OF LA 111
PROJECT LENGTH 5.30 MILES
FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION:
RURAL HIGHWAY
CSJ1
0214-03-032 TEXAS APPROACH
0214-03-035 SABINE RIVER BRIDGE
0214-03-037 LOUISIANA APPROACH

PROPOSED CONCEPTUAL ROUTE ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION MATRIX

	Study Parameter	Unit of Measurement	Alternative A (Green)	Alternative B (Orange)	Alternative C (Purple)	Alternative D (Yellow)	Alternative E (White)
Engineering Considerations	Meets study objectives	Yes/No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Length	Miles	5.5	1.6	3.7	4.5	5.3
	Proposed ROW Requirements	Acres (ac)	268	19.5	99	142.4	142.1
	Estimated Construction Cost	\$ (Millions)	\$70M	\$25M	\$40M	\$45M	\$60M
	River Migration/ Bank Stability at Bridge Crossing	Highly Unstable/ Moderately Stable/ Stable/ Stable	Moderately Stable	Highly Unstable	Stable	Stable	Stable
	Stream Mitigation Risk	Low/ Medium/ High	Medium ⁽¹⁾	High ⁽²⁾	Low	Low	Low
	Utility and Drainage Easement Crossings	Number (No.)	1	0	0	1	1
	Transmission/ Pipeline Crossings	No.	1	0	1	1	1
Community Impacts	Parcels Impacted	No.	27	11	20	13	19
	Potential Impacted Properties	No.	0	3 (residential)	0	0	1 (residential)
	Potential Hazardous Materials Sites (Recorded)	No.	0	0	1	1	1
Cultural Resources	Historic Resources ⁽³⁾	No.	1	1	1	1	1
	Probability to encounter Archeological Sites	Low/ Medium/ High	High	High	High	High	High
Natural Resources	Threatened/Endangered Species Potential Habitat	Low/ Medium/ High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
	100-Year Floodplains	ac	107	1	22	26	47
	National Wetlands Inventory Features	ac/ LF	72.3/ 7,702	3.5/ 1,472	26.1/ 5,346	30.6/ 5,539	11.9/ 2,303
	Potential Impacts to Louisiana Natural & Scenic River (Pearl Creek)	Yes/ No	Yes	No	No	No	No

The No-Build Alternative does not meet the goals of the study, and therefore was not included in this table. However, it will be carried forward to the NEPA process and will be evaluated as a baseline comparison for the proposed build alternatives.

Note:

- 1) Proposed alignment crosses Sabine River at location where historically the river banks are moderately stable
- 2) Proposed alignment crosses Sabine River at location where historically the river banks are unstable
- 3) The Burr's Ferry Bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places

PROPOSED BRIDGE OPTIONS EVALUATION MATRIX

Study Parameter	No Build (do nothing)	Repair for continued use	Repair for use as a one-way scenic bypass and construct new structure on new alignment	Repair for one-way use and construct new adjacent one-way structure	Find a new owner, convert to a pedestrian bridge and construct new structure on new alignment	Close and convert to a monument and build new structure on new alignment	Demolish and construct new structure on existing alignment	Demolish and build new structure on new alignment
Construction Cost	N/A ⁽¹⁾ (ongoing maintenance costs)	\$2,135,780	\$22-\$70 million	\$22-\$70 million	\$22-\$70 million	\$20-\$68 million	\$20-\$68 million	\$20-\$68 million
Existing Bridge Remains "On System"	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
New Vehicular River Crossing	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Length of New Alignment (miles)	N/A ⁽¹⁾	N/A ⁽¹⁾	4.0	1.5	4.0	4.0	0	4.0
Stream Migration Risk	High ⁽²⁾	High ⁽²⁾	High ⁽²⁾	High ⁽²⁾	High ⁽²⁾	Low	High ⁽²⁾	Low
Functionally Obsolete	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Structurally Deficient	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Construction-related Impacts	N/A ⁽¹⁾ (requires bridge closure and temporary detour during repairs)	N/A ⁽¹⁾ (requires bridge closure and temporary detour during repairs)	Temporary delays to roadways at tie-in points	Temporary delays to roadways at tie-in points	Temporary delays to roadways at tie-in points	Temporary delays to roadways at tie-in points	Requires bridge closure and temporary detour (42 miles)	Temporary delays to roadways at tie-in points

Note:

1) N/A means "not applicable"

2) River migration model estimates that the western bank of Sabine River will be within the limits of the existing bridge for the next 25 years. After this period, it is estimated the western bank will migrate beyond the western abutment.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

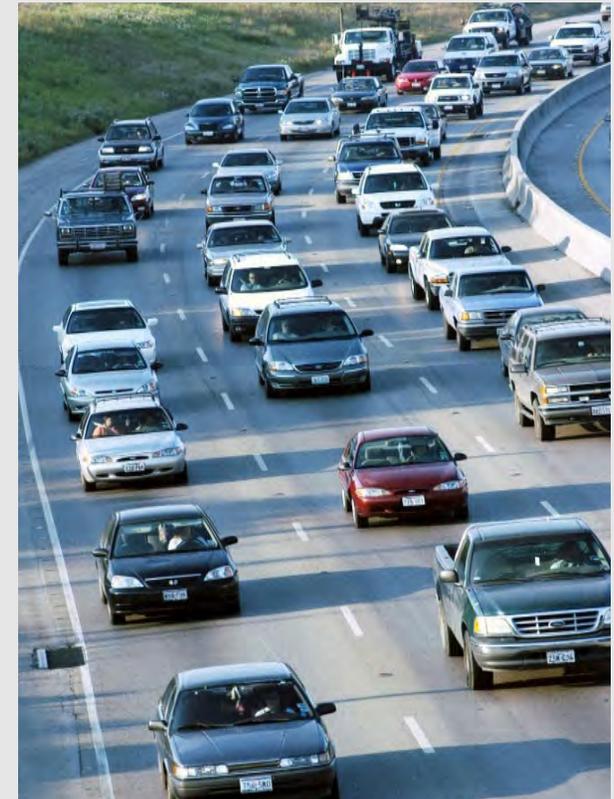


SH 63/LA 8 BRIDGE AT THE SABINE RIVER

Public Meeting

December 11, 2018

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.



Need for the Proposed Project:

The project is needed because of the existing bridge's condition, dimensions, and location. Some of the issues relating to the bridge are provided below:

- Sabine River is changing course
- Bridge foundation problems
- Vehicles hitting overhead portions of the bridge
- Bridge is too narrow
- Bridge deterioration
- Outdated railing for modern vehicles

Purpose of the Proposed Project:

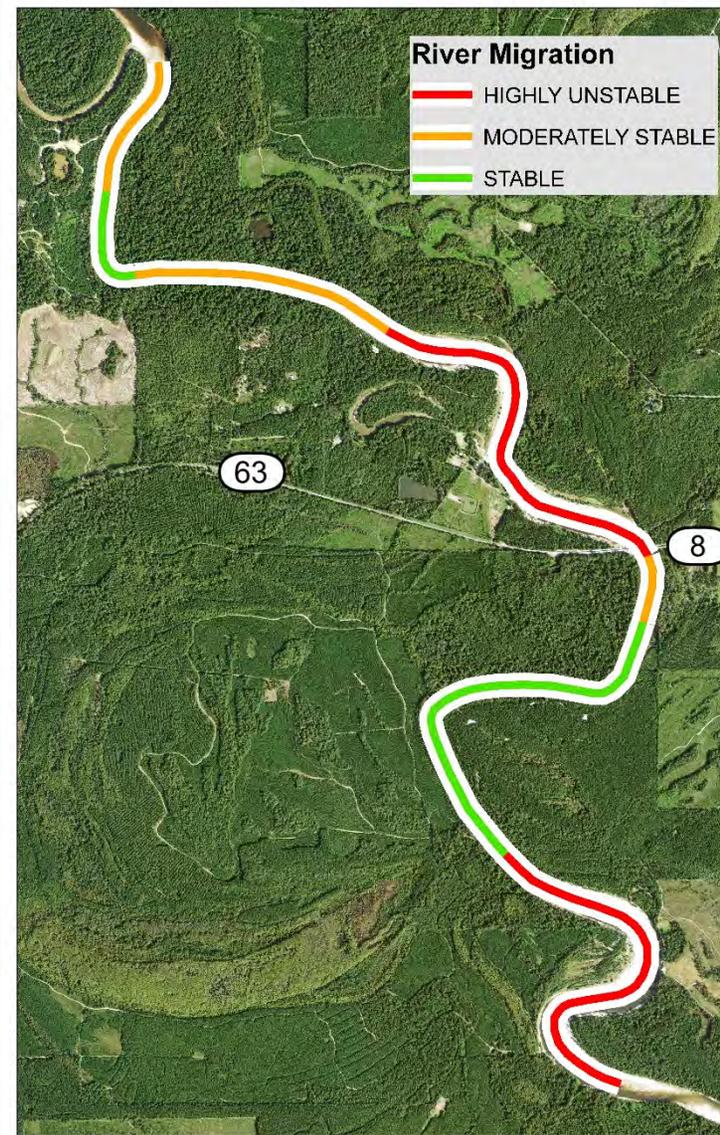
The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a structurally sound bridge that allows Texas and Louisiana motorists to cross the Sabine River.



EXISTING BRIDGE ISSUES

Video

Existing Bridge Issues: Sabine River is changing course



Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge foundation problems



Storm event damage

March 2016

Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge foundation problems



Pier repairs due to soil erosion

February 2017

Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge foundation problems



Pier repair due to soil erosion

September 2017

Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge foundation problems



Pier repair due to soil erosion

September 2017

Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge foundation problems



Pier repair due to soil erosion

September 2017

Existing Bridge Issues: Vehicles hitting overhead portions of the bridge



Vertical clearance less than required 15'

Existing Bridge Issues: Vehicles hitting overhead portions of the bridge



Vehicle impact twisting steel members

Existing Bridge Issues: Vehicles hitting overhead portions of the bridge



Vehicle impact breaking steel members

Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge is too narrow



Bridge width less than required 24'

Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge is too narrow



Vehicle impact bending steel members

Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge is too narrow



Vehicle impact breaking off portions of concrete posts

Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge deterioration



General rust and corrosion on steel truss members

Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge deterioration



Paint peeling & steel rusting



Rust reducing member size

Existing Bridge Issues: Bridge deterioration



Existing Bridge Issues: Outdated Railing for Modern Vehicles



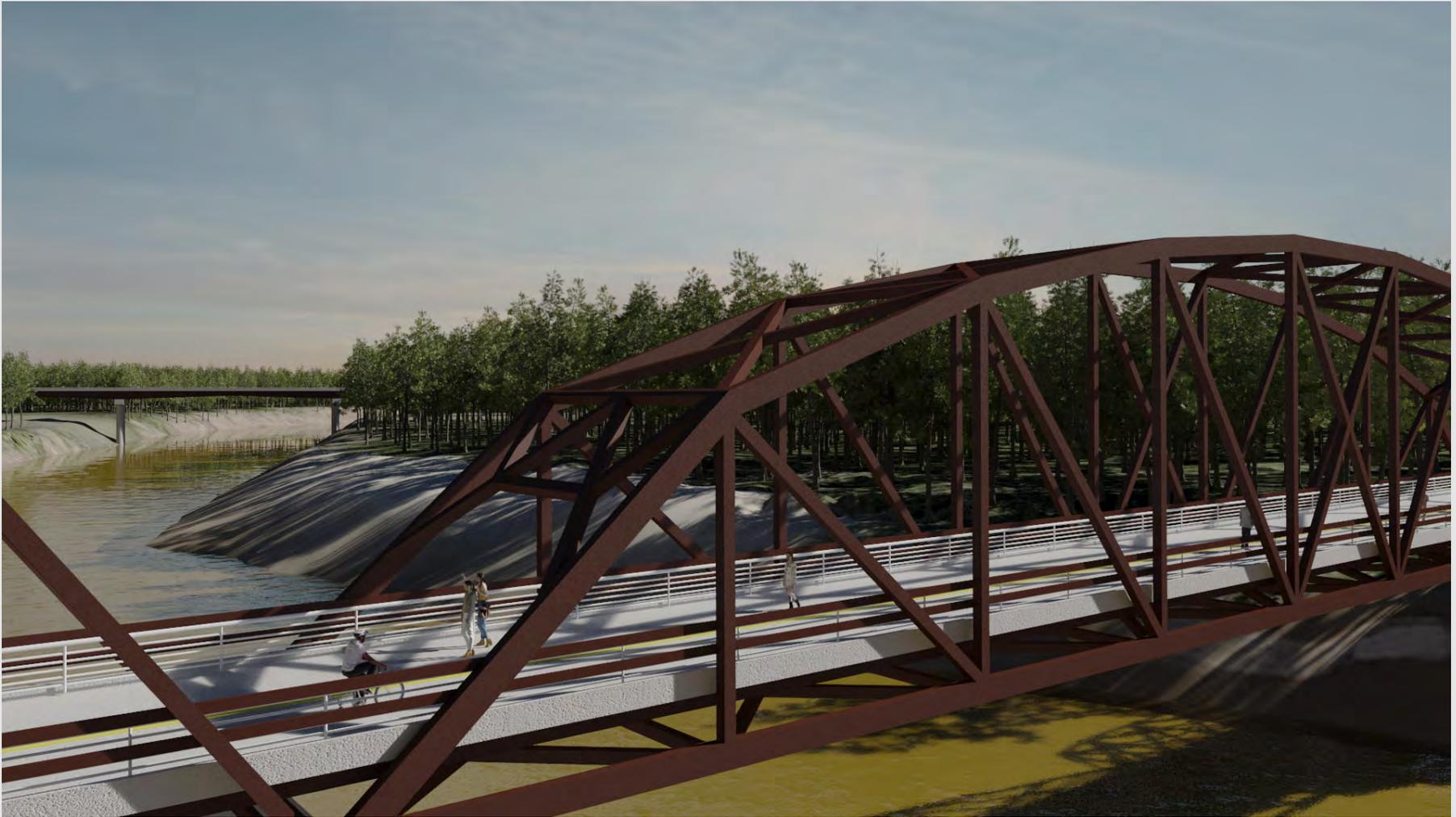


PRELIMINARY BRIDGE OPTIONS

Preliminary Bridge Options: Repair for Continued Use



Preliminary Bridge Options: Convert to Pedestrian Bridge



Preliminary Bridge Options: Convert to Pedestrian Bridge



Preliminary Bridge Options: Convert to Scenic Bypass



Preliminary Bridge Options: Close and Build New



Preliminary Bridge Options: Demolish and Build New

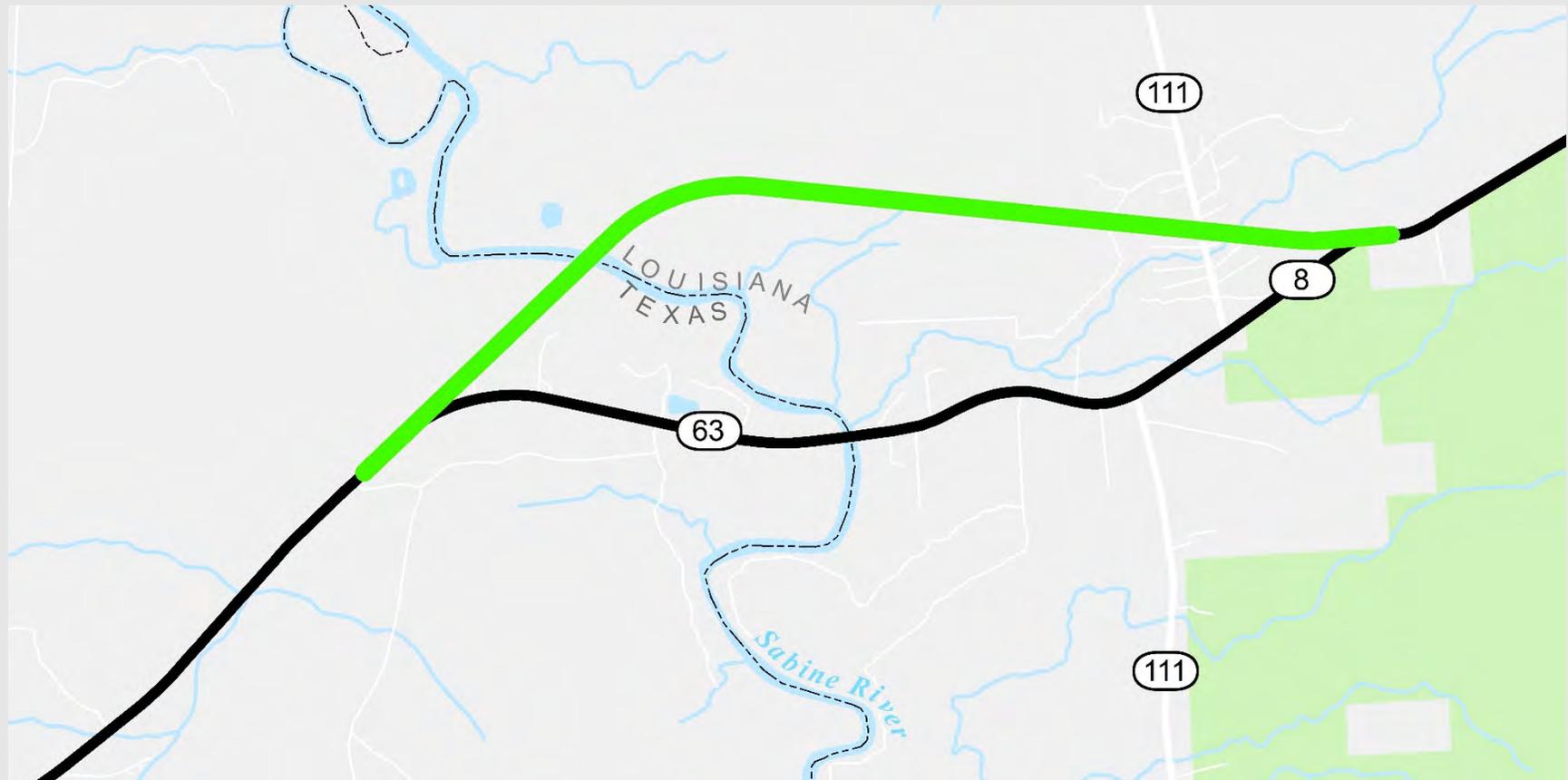


SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at the Sabine River



CONCEPTUAL ROUTE ALTERNATIVES

Conceptual Route Alternatives: Alternative A (Green)

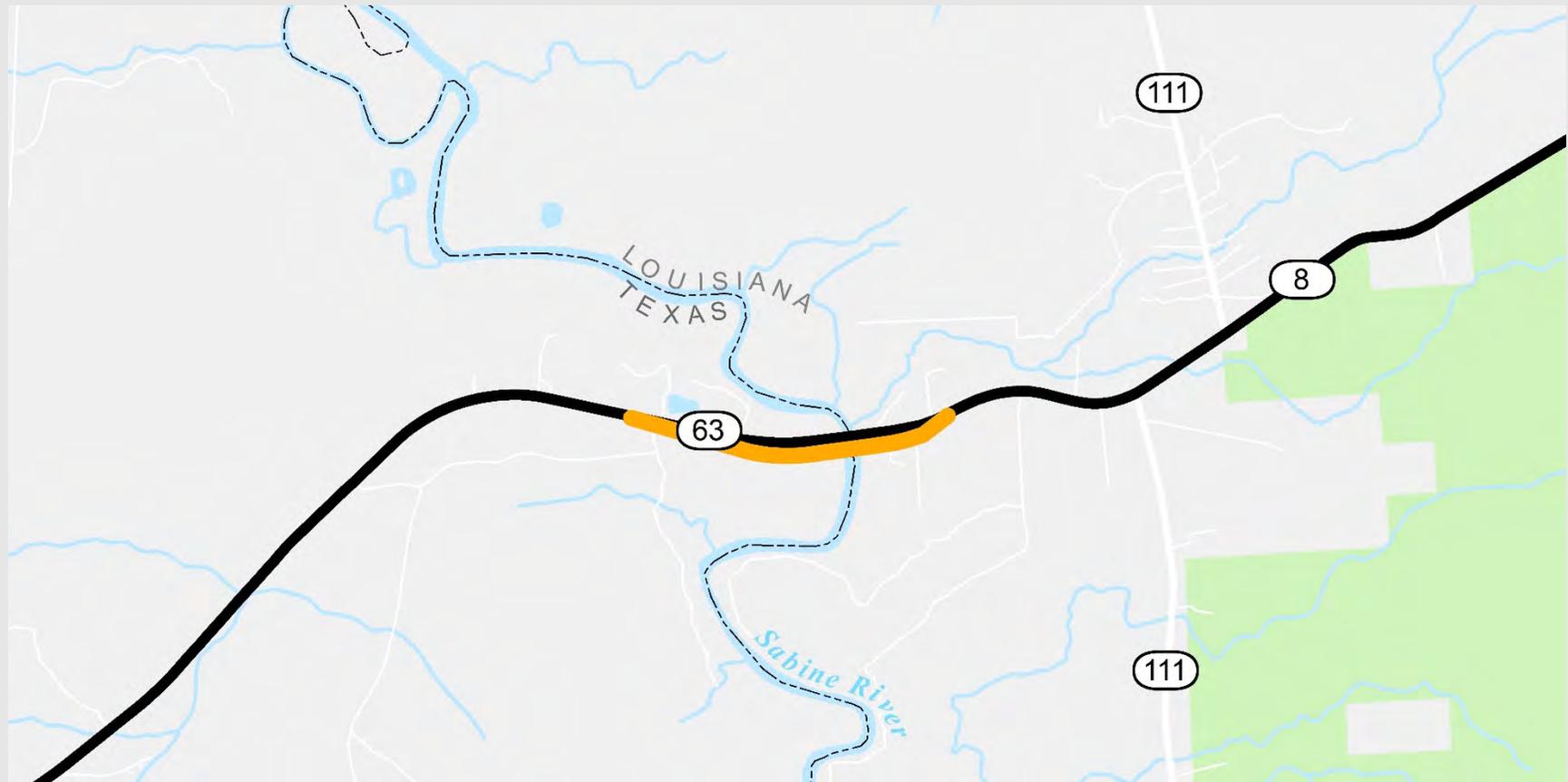


Alternative A (Green)

Combine with Preliminary Bridge Options:

- Convert to Pedestrian Bridge
- Convert to Scenic Bypass
- Close and Build New
- Demolish and Build New

Conceptual Route Alternatives: Alternative B (Orange)

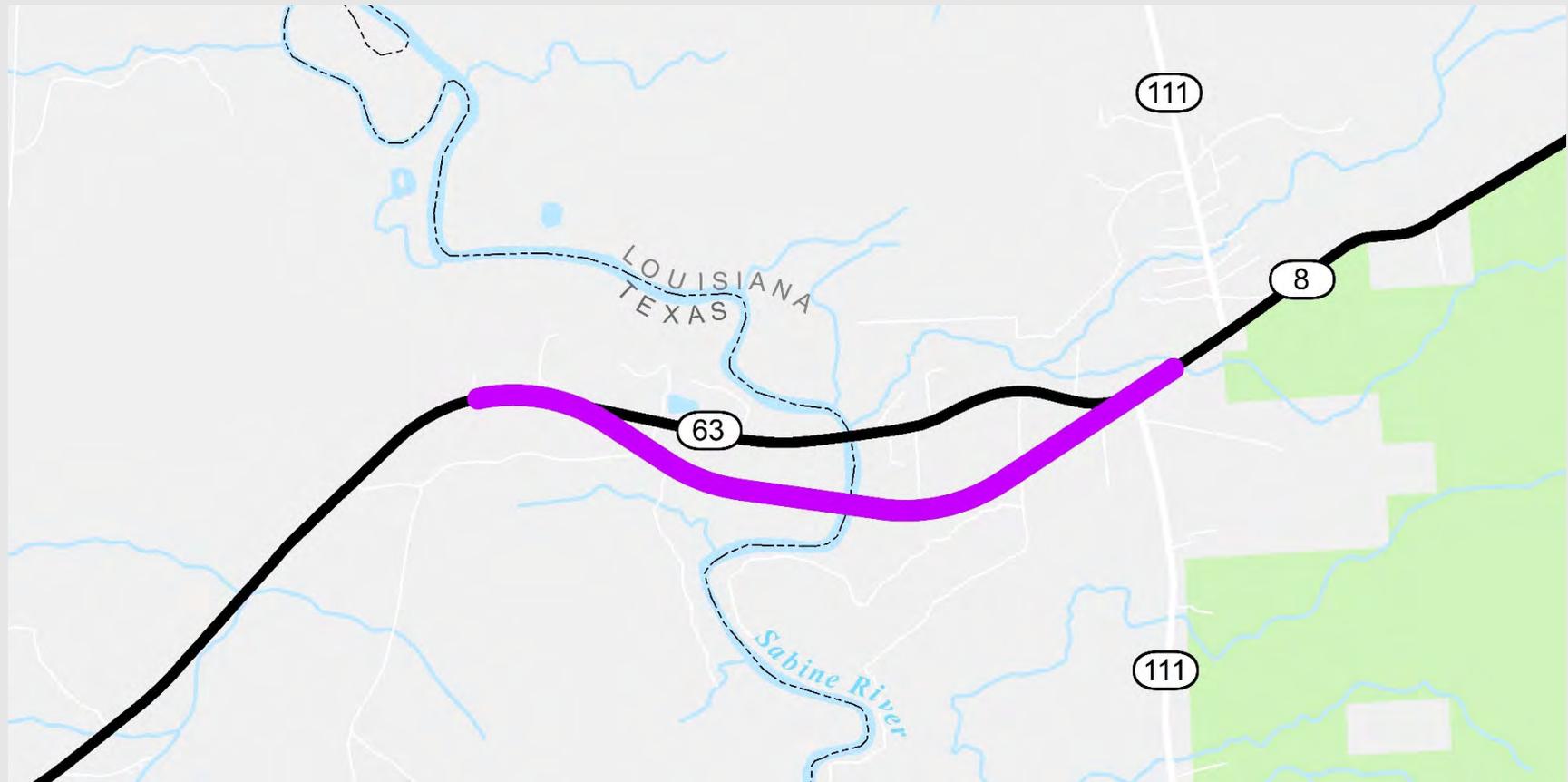


Alternative B (Orange)

Combine with Preliminary Bridge Options:

- Convert to Pedestrian Bridge
- Convert to Scenic Bypass
- Close and Build New
- Demolish and Build New

Conceptual Route Alternatives: Alternative C (Purple)

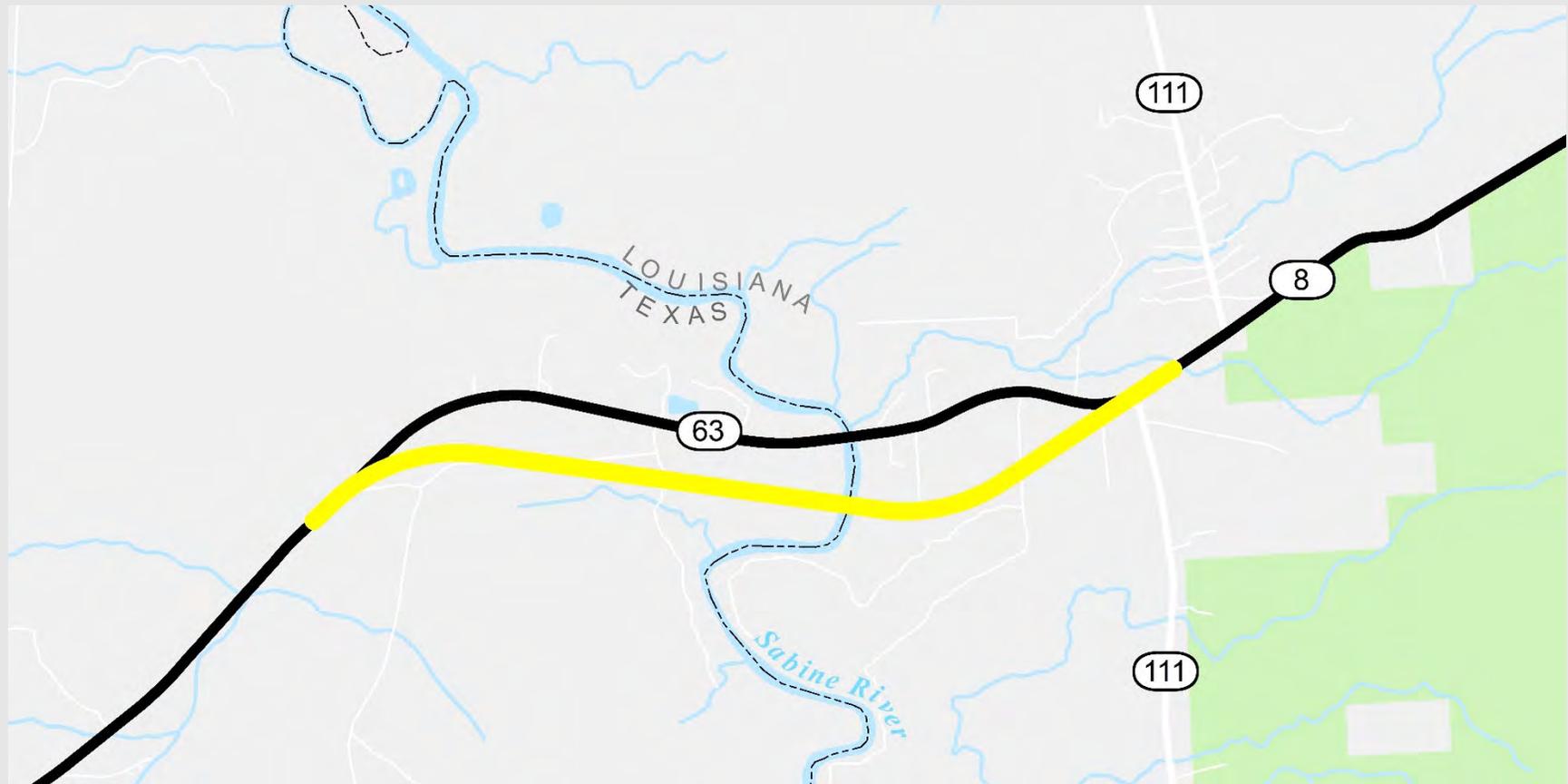


Alternative C (Purple)

Combine with Preliminary Bridge Options:

- Convert to Pedestrian Bridge
- Convert to Scenic Bypass
- Close and Build New
- Demolish and Build New

Conceptual Route Alternatives: Alternative D (Yellow)



Alternative D (Yellow)

Combine with Preliminary Bridge Options:

- Convert to Pedestrian Bridge
- Convert to Scenic Bypass
- Close and Build New
- Demolish and Build New

Conceptual Route Alternatives: Alternative E (Red)



Alternative E (Red)

Combine with Preliminary Bridge Options:

- Convert to Pedestrian Bridge
- Convert to Scenic Bypass
- Close and Build New
- Demolish and Build New

Conceptual Route Alternatives





PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments

Comments must be submitted on or before **Wednesday, January 2, 2019**, to be part of the meeting record.

How to provide comments:

- ✓ Turn in a comment card tonight
- ✓ Email comments to Andrew Lee, PE at:
SH63-LA8bridge@blantonassociates.com
- ✓ Mail or hand deliver comment card to:
Andrew Lee, PE
TxDOT Beaumont District
8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77708
- ✓ Submit comments online at www.TxDOT.gov
keyword search “SH 63/LA 8 Bridge

***Thank You for Your
Participation!***





Schematic
Route Alternative A
(Green)













Attachment F

Online Engagement Report (MetroQuest Survey Results)



Online Engagement Report: MetroQuest Summary Results

SH 63/LA 8 Bridge at the Sabine River

Beaumont District

December 11, 2018 Public Meeting

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Survey Results Summary.....	3
Screen 1: Welcome.....	4
Screen 2: Project Priorities.....	4
Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options.....	6
Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives	9

Introduction

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) propose a project to address the bridge that carries Louisiana Highway (LA) 8 and Texas State Highway (SH) 63 over the Sabine River at the Louisiana/Texas state line. The bridge is a historically significant bridge that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

From November 2, 2018 to January 4, 2019, TxDOT Beaumont District solicited public input on the various options being considered for the bridge project via an online engagement tool called MetroQuest. TxDOT also had an Online Engagement Station at the December 11, 2018 public meeting at Leesville High School (Leesville, LA) from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. At that public meeting, attendees could also complete the MetroQuest survey with technical assistance from staff. This report presents all results of the MetroQuest Survey.

The MetroQuest site was developed in English and composed of the following screens:

- Screen 1: Welcome
- Screen 2: Project Priorities
- Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options, included eight smaller screens - five Existing Bridge Option screens and three New Bridge Option screens:
 - Existing Bridge Options: Repair for Continued Use, Convert to Ped Bridge, Convert to Scenic Bypass, Close and Build New, and Demolish
 - New Bridge Options: Concrete Design, Segmental Design, and Steel Design
- Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives, showed a map of the five conceptual route alternatives (differentiated by alpha character and color) being considered if one of the above bridge options with a new bridge is selected.
- Screen 5: Stay Involved

It should be noted that the same bridge options and conceptual route alternatives were also presented at the public meeting via the displays and schematics at Leesville High School on December 11, 2018 (see the **January 2019 Public Meeting Summary - Attachment E**).

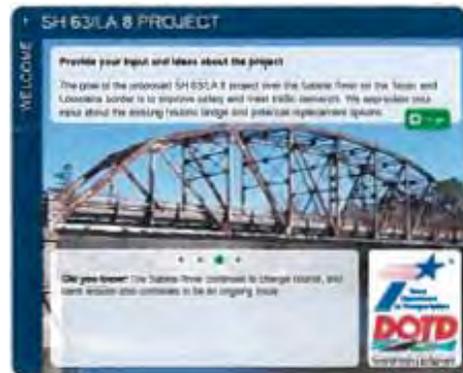
Survey Results Summary

A total of 159 participants completed the MetroQuest survey. The majority of the participants (105 participants) completed the survey via computer and 54 participants completed the survey on mobile applications. In addition to the prescribed answers

outlined in the survey, participants could write comments on Screens 2 through 5, in relation to each option and alternative. In sum, participants left a total of 92 comments, all of which are included in the **January 2019 Public Meeting Summary - Attachment A (Comment / Response Matrix)**.

- **Screen 1: Welcome**

The Welcome screen introduced the project and provided a general description of the project. No interactive activities were available on this page.



- **Screen 2: Project Priorities**

This screen asked participants to order the top three priority issues to consider in the selection of the Bridge Options and Conceptual Route Alternative. The priority choices were:

- Improve Safety
- Address Future Needs
- Reduce Road Closures
- Protect the Environment
- Limit Right-of-Way Impacts
- Preserve Existing Bridge
- Enhance Connectivity

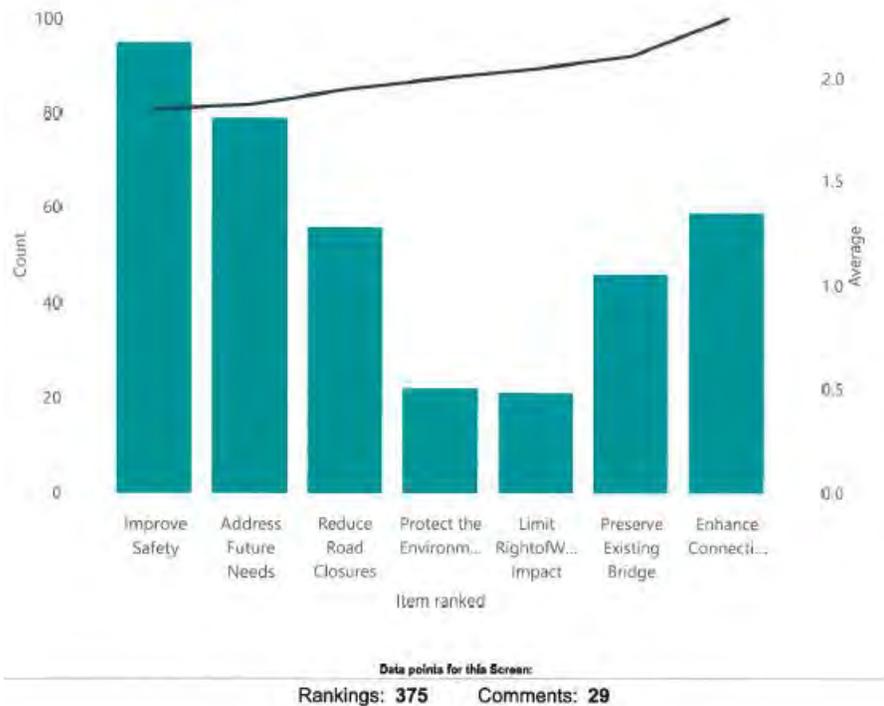


The table below shows each ranking item, showing how often each item was ranked in each position, ordered by average (priority position 1 was the highest ranking). Participants in the survey ranked Improved Safety as their top priority. The second item that participants ranked as most important was Address Future Needs, and the third priority ranked as most important was Reduce Road Closures.

Below: Each ranking item, showing how often each item was ranked in each position, ordered by average. Note that 1 is the highest rank.



The table below shows all rankings by popularity and average rank with Improved Safety receiving the most votes, Address Future Needs as second, and Enhance Connectivity as third. The lowest area of concern was Limiting the Right-of-Way Impact.



- **Screen 3: Preliminary Bridge Options**

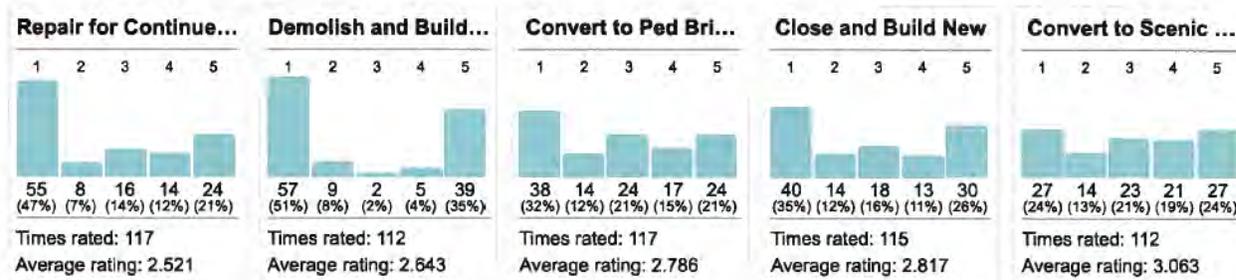
This screen included two different sets of options, including options for the existing bridge and, if a new bridge is constructed, options for the new bridge type. Survey participants were asked to rank their preference from 1 to 5 with one being the highest ranking. Each option also included general cost estimates. The following preliminary bridge options were:

- Repair for Continued Use
- Covert to Ped Bridge
- Close and Build New
- Convert to Scenic Bypass
- Demolish and Build New

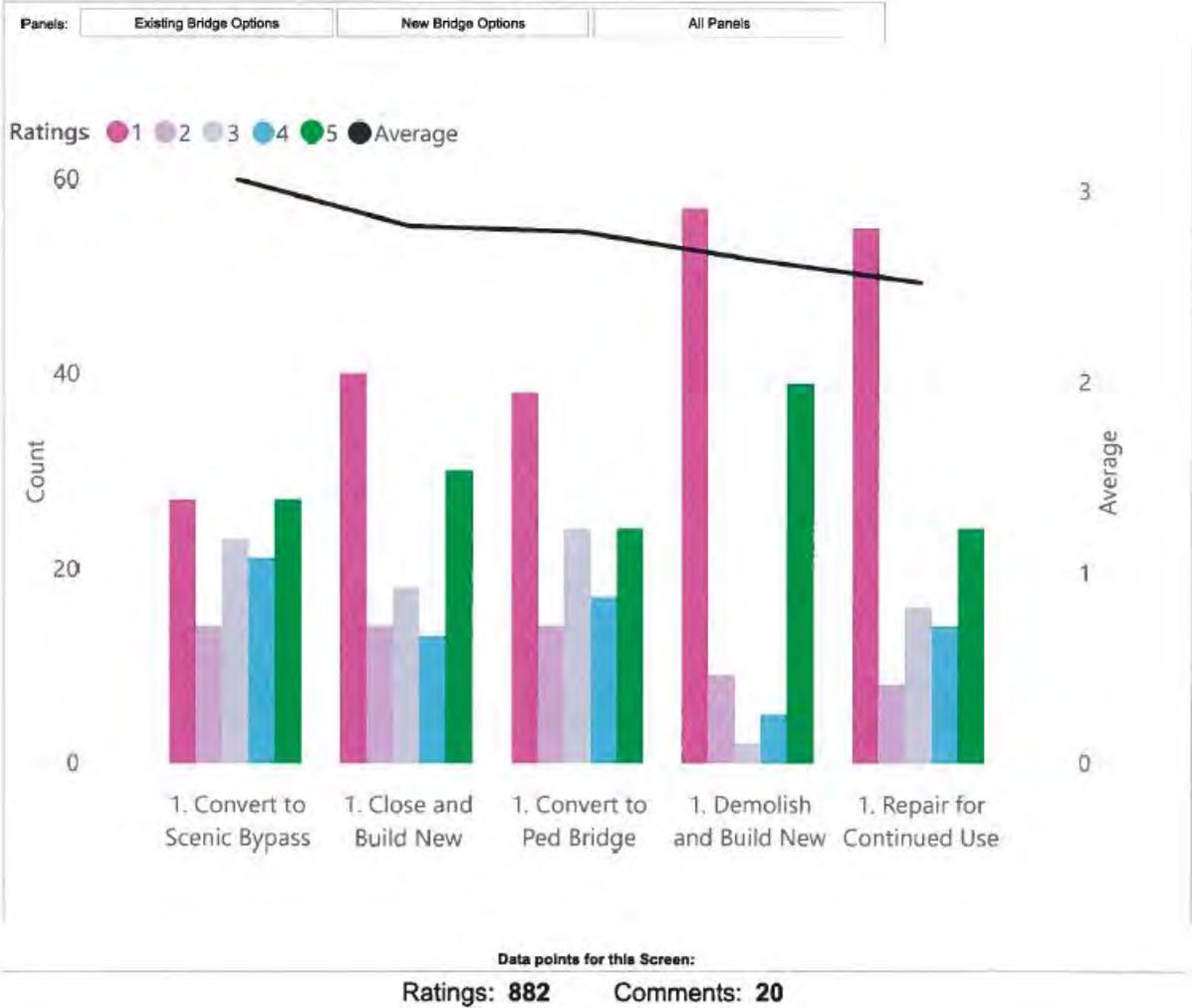


As shown in the table below, the Demolish and Build New Bridge option received the most number 1 rankings, with Repair for Continued Use received the second most. The Close and Build New option ranked third highest. The option that received the least amount of number 1 rankings was the Convert to Scenic Bypass option.

Existing Bridge Options



Illustrated in another way, the bar graph below shows the rating distributions and averages for each option for the existing bridge.



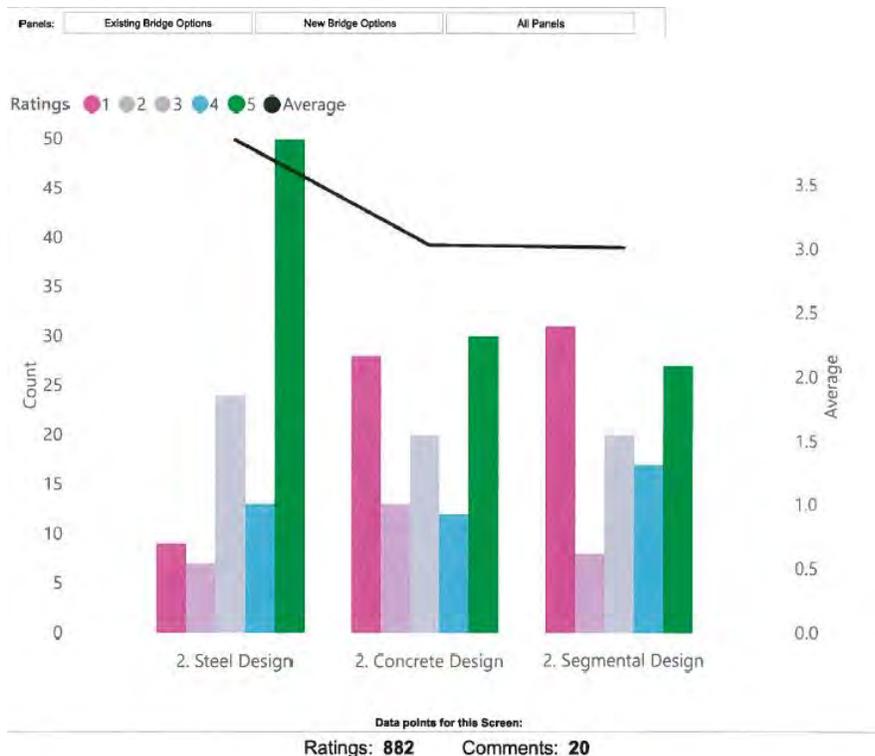
Then, survey participants were asked on the next panel to rank their preference on one of the new bridge types:

- Segmental Design
- Concrete Design
- Steel Design

The table below shows, that for the new bridge options, MetroQuest participants ranked the Segmental Design highest, Concrete Design second, and Steel Design third.



The bar graph below shows the rating distributions and averages by new bridge type option.



- **Screen 4: Conceptual Route Alternatives**

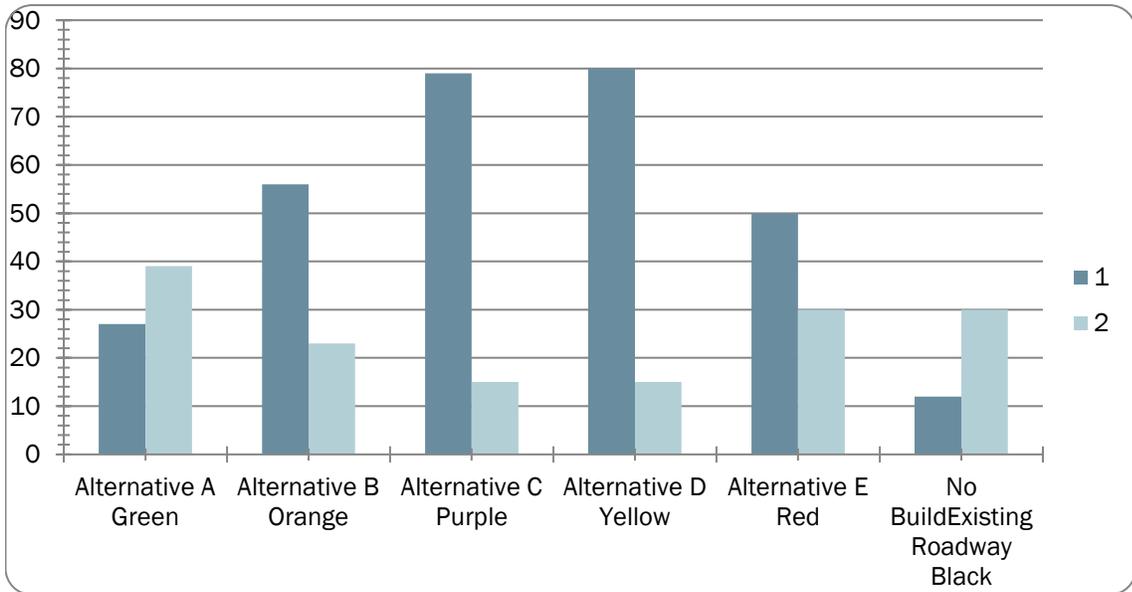
The next screen asked each participant to rank their preferred route alternative if a bridge option is selected that requires a new bridge. Six conceptual alternative route alternatives were shown as follows from north to south:

- Alternative A (Green)
- Alternative B (Orange)
- Alternative C (Purple)
- Alternative D (Yellow)
- Alternative E (Red)
- No Build Existing Road (Black)

As shown in the next two tables, the MetroQuest ranked Alternative D Yellow (with 80 votes) and Alternative C Purple (with 79 votes) as their top two choices, with Alternative B Orange as third most popular.

↓ Below: Each rating item, showing how many times each item was given each rating, sorted by average rating.







Attachment G

LADOTD Solicitation of Views (SOV) Letter Responses*

Contents

1. Letter Package Sent
2. SOV Mailing List (provided by LADOTD)
3. Email Correspondence
4. SOV Letter Responses

*The SOV letter outreach is a required public involvement component for LADOTD projects. The SOV letter mailing list was provided by LADOTD. Staff at LADOTD reviewed the letter package and final mailing lists before the letters were sent. Responses to the SOV letters are outlined in the overall comment response matrix (see **Attachment A**) and copies of the responses are included herein.

November 16, 2018

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000986**FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H00986****NAME: LA 8/SH 63 BRIDGE AT THE SABINE RIVER****ROUTE: LA 8/SH 63****PARISH/COUNTY: VERNON/NEWTON**

SUBJECT: Solicitation of Views (SOV) – LA 8/SH 63 Bridge over the Sabine River

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), in conjunction with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes a project to address the bridge that carries Louisiana Highway (LA) 8 and Texas State Highway (SH) 63 over the Sabine River at the Louisiana/Texas state line. The bridge is a historically significant bridge that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This project is in the planning stages and your input and comments are being solicited for the project. We have attached a map showing the location of the existing LA 8/SH 63 Bridge over the Sabine River (see **Figure 1** attached) and the project's purpose and need statement.

Currently, there are several proposed bridge options being considered for the project as part compliance with the Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act. These proposed bridge options include the following:

- Rehabilitate the existing historic bridge for continued two-way vehicular use.
- Rehabilitate the existing historic bridge to carry one-way traffic with an adjacent new bridge carrying one-way traffic in the opposite direction.
- Rehabilitate the existing historic bridge to be used as a pedestrian-only structure with a new bridge carrying two-way vehicular traffic.
- Rehabilitate the existing historic bridge to be used as a scenic bypass to carry one-way traffic and a new bridge to carry two-way vehicular traffic.
- Close the existing historic bridge to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic, leave it as a monument, and build a new to carry all traffic.
- Demolish the existing historic bridge and build a new bridge to carry all traffic.

If one of the above bridge options with a new bridge is selected, various proposed route alternatives will be investigated. These proposed route alternatives are shown on **Figure 2**, attached.

The proposed bridge options and route alternatives are being presented to the public on December 11, 2018 during a formal public meeting. This meeting will take place at the Leesville High School in Leesville, Louisiana from 5pm to 7pm. Following the receipt of comments from the December 11th public meeting and SOV outreach, a recommended preferred alternative will be selected.

It is requested that you review the attached information and furnish us with your views and comments by December 21, 2018 (30 days). Replies should be addressed to **Blanton & Associates, Inc., 5 Lakeway Center Court, Austin, Texas 78734**. Please reference the state project numbers in your reply.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at kjohnson@blantonassociates.com or (512) 264-1095.

Sincerely,



Kim Jenkins Johnson
Environmental Project Manager

KJ/mr
Attachments

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.00986
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H00986
NAME: LA 8/SH 63 BRIDGE AT THE SABINE RIVER
ROUTE: LA 8/SH 63
PARISH/COUNTY: VERNON/NEWTON

Introduction

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LaDOTD), Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) propose improvements to the State Highway (SH) 63/Louisiana Highway (LA) 8 bridge over the Sabine River at the Texas/Louisiana border. The subject bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and carries two-way vehicular traffic on SH 63 in Texas and LA 8 in Louisiana at the Sabine River. The bridge has three simple Parker through truss spans (one 250-foot and two 120-foot spans) with riveted gusset plate connections and 34 simple reinforced concrete T-beam spans (each 40.75 feet). The bridge had an Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 1,040 vehicles per day (vpd) in 2013 and is anticipated to have an ADT of 1,460 vpd by 2033. The bridge is currently load posted for a weight limit of 49,000 pounds gross and 29,000 pounds tandem. It was built in 1937 with LaDOTD standard plans. TxDOT and LaDOTD currently own the bridge equally.

From March 2016 to January 2017, the bridge was closed for repairs due to flood damage. The detour route around the SH 63 bridge at the Sabine River is 42 miles long. Currently, the SH 63 bridge serves local traffic from western Louisiana and eastern Texas. Oversized vehicles also use the bridge including local logging industry's trucks and recreational vehicles (RVs) traveling to the nearby recreational facilities (such as Clear Creek Wildlife Management Area and South Toledo Bend State Park). Additionally, the SH 63/LA 8 roadways are listed as National Highway System routes, which is a federal designation for roads that "serve major population centers...meet national defense requirements; and serve interstate and interregional travel" (23 CFR 470.107(b)). The SH 63 roadway is a designated Texas Highway Freight Network route. Current traffic on the bridge includes 13 percent truck traffic.

Purpose and Need

Based on the bridge's current condition, dimensions, and location, the project is needed because the bridge has a current sufficiency rating of 45.3 out of 100. As of June 2018, the bridge has the following structural and functional issues:

- Deterioration on the truss and approach spans
- Impact damage on the truss and approach spans
- Railing system is not crash-rated
- Degradation of the bridge's foundations
- Horizontal and vertical clearance restrictions
- Stream migration causing severe scour at the bridge piers exposing the foundations

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a structurally sound bridge-crossing that allows access for Texas and Louisiana motorists across the Sabine River. The project will focus on providing a bridge with adequate width and height to safely accommodate existing and foreseeable future transportation needs.

A more detailed description of each of these issues can be provided upon request.

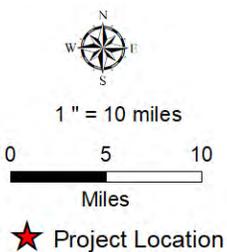
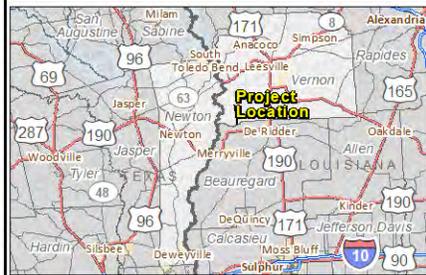
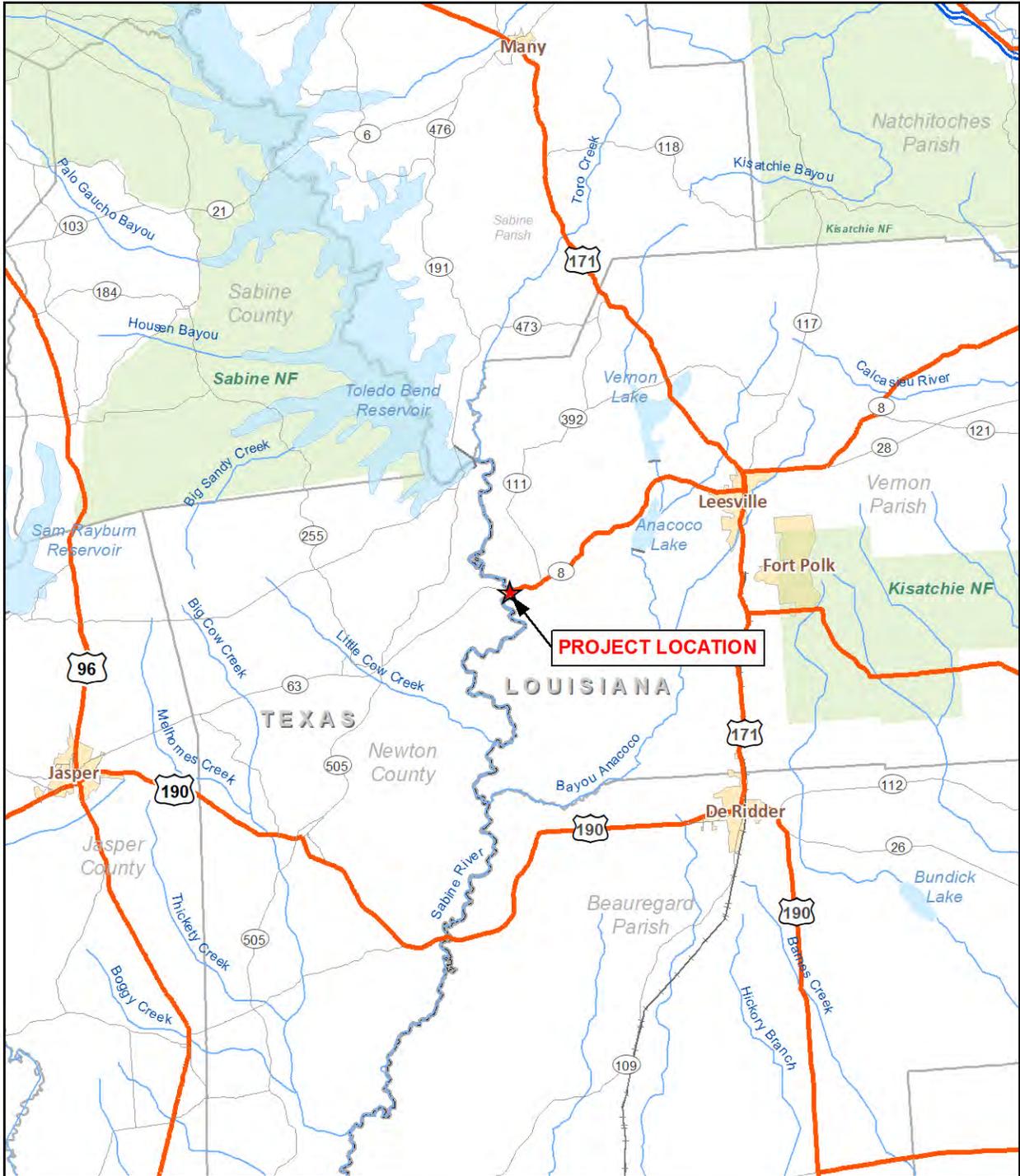
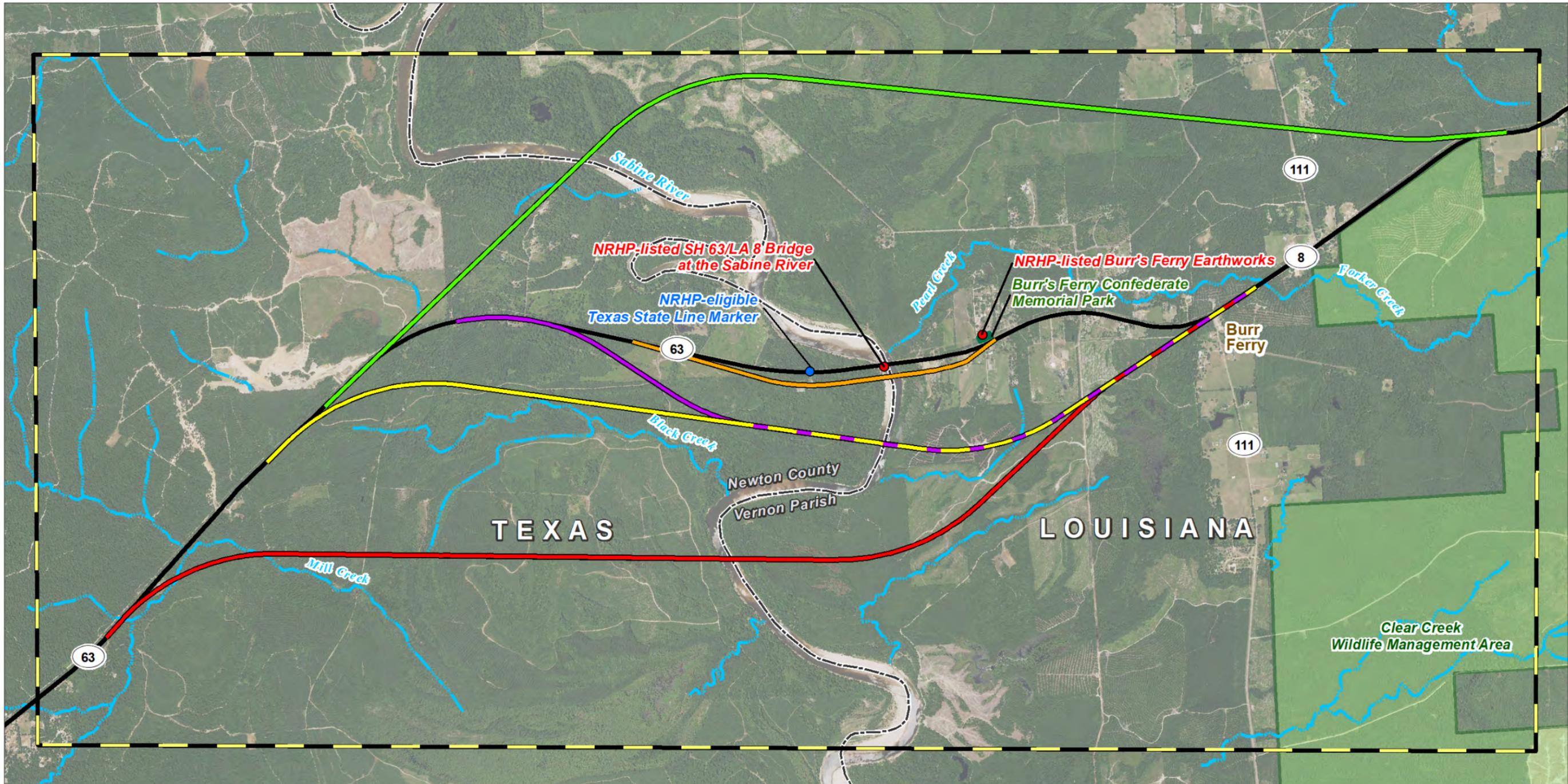


Figure 1
 Project Location
 SH 63/LA 8 at Sabine River
 Newton County, TX and
 Vernon Parish, LA
 TxDOT CSJs: 0214-03-032,
 0214-03-035, 0214-03-037



- Study Area
- Route Alternative A
- Route Alternative B
- Route Alternative C
- Route Alternative D
- Route Alternative E
- State Boundary
- ~ Stream / River
- Wildlife Management Area (WMA)
- Burr's Ferry Confederate Memorial Park
- National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-listed Property
- NRHP-eligible Texas State Line Marker

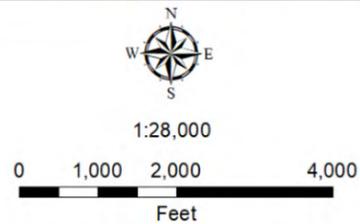


Figure 2
 Conceptual Route Alternatives
 on Aerial Base Map
 SH 63/LA 8 at the Sabine River
 Newton County, TX and Vernon Parish, LA
 TxDOT CSJs: 0214-03-032, 0214-03-035
 0214-03-037

COALITION TO RESTORE COASTAL LOUISIANA
KIMBERLY REYHER, EXEC. DIR.
1110 RIVER ROAD S, SUITE 222
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
OFFICE OF FORESTRY
5825 FLORIDA BLVD., SUITE 6000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70806

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE RECREATION AND TOURISM
DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY
P O BOX 44247
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
P O BOX 94185
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS
OPH ENGINEERING SERVICES (BIN 10)
ATTN: YUANDA ZHU
628 NORTH 4TH STREET
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION
FACILITY PLANNING AND CONTROL
P O BOX 94095
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
DOTD SECTION 64
P O BOX 94245
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

USEPA
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, STE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
REGION 6
819 TAYLOR STREET, ROOM 14A02
FORT WORTH, TX 76102

LA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION
P O BOX 94275
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

CALCASIEU SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF LA
205 N 5TH STREET
LEESVILLE, LA 71446

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
OFFICE OF SOIL/WATER CONSERVATION
5825 FLORIDA BLVD., SUITE 7000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70806

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE RECREATION AND TOURISM
OFFICE OF STATE PARKS
P O BOX 44426
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS
ATTN: CHIEF SANITARIAN DIRECTOR
P O BOX 629
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
P O BOX 66336
BATON ROUGE, LA 70896

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION
STATE LAND OFFICE
P O BOX 44124
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
SOURCE WATER PROTECTION (6WQ-SG)
1445 ROSS AVENUE
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

FEMA
REGION VI
FRC 800 NORTH LOOP 288
DENTON, TX 76209

KISATCHIE-DELTA REGIONAL
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
DIRECTOR
3516 PARLIAMENT COURT
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71303

LA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF MINERAL RESOURCES
P O BOX 2827
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

LA GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION
P O BOX 3713
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
LEESVILLE-VERNON
P O BOX 1228
LEESVILLE, LA 71496

HON. JAMES ARMES
LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT 30)
2255 UNIVERSITY PARKWAY
LEESVILLE, LA 71446

HON. FRANK HOWARD
LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT 24)
1601 TEXAS HIGHWAY
MANY, LA 71449

HON. JOHN SMITH
LOUISIANA STATE SENATE
(DISTRICT 30)
611-B SOUTH 5TH STREET
LEESVILLE, LA 71446

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SOUTHEAST REGION
ATTN: ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE
100 ALABAMA ST., SW, 1924 BLDG.
ATLANTA, GA 30303

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
3535 S SHERWOOD FOREST, STE 120
BATON ROUGE, LA 70806

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HON. CEDRIC RICHMOND
(DISTRICT 2)
2021 LAKESHORE DR., STE 309
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70122

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HON. GARRET GRAVES
(DISTRICT 6)
2351 ENERGY DRIVE, STE 1200
BATON ROUGE, LA 70808

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HON. RALPH ABRAHAM
(DISTRICT 5)
426 DESIARD ST
MONROE, LA 71201

CAROLYN MICHON
LA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM
DEPT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
P O BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

LOUISIANA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION
ATTN: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
P O BOX 5067
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71307

HON. BOB HENSGENS
LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT 47)
407 CHARITY STREET
ABBEVILLE, LA 70510

LOUISIANA STATE POLICE
TROOP E
1710 ODOM STREET
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71301

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
SEA GRANT LEGAL ADVISORY SVC.
ATTN: DIRECTOR LOUISIANA SEA GRANT
227B SEA GRANT BUILDING
BATON ROUGE, LA 70803

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION
ATTN: STATE CONSERVATIONIST
3737 GOVERNMENT ST
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71302

8TH COAST GUARD DISTRICT (NO)
DISTRICT COMMANDER
HALE BOGGS FEDERAL BUILDING
500 POYDRAS STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HON. CLAY HIGGINS
(DISTRICT 3)
600 JEFFERSON STREET, SUITE 808
LAFAYETTE, LA 70506

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HON. MIKE JOHNSON
(DISTRICT 4)
P O BOX 6075
BOSSIER CITY, LA 71171

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HON. STEVE J. SCALISE
(DISTRICT 1)
110 VETERANS BLVD., STE 500
METAIRE, LA 70005

UNITED STATES SENATE
SENATOR BILL CASSIDY M.D.
5555 HILTON AVE, STE. 100
BATON ROUGE, LA 70808

USDA, FOREST SERVICE
KISATCHIE NATIONAL FOREST
SUPERVISOR
2500 SHREVEPORT HIGHWAY
PINEVILLE, LA 71360

VERNON PARISH
POLICE JURY
P O BOX 1548
LEESVILLE, LA 71496

VERNON PARISH
SHERIFF
P O BOX 649
LEESVILLE, LA 71446

UNITED STATES SENATE
SENATOR JOHN KENNEDY
P O BOX 80418
BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

VERNON PARISH
FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR
P O BOX 1548
LEESVILLE, LA 71496

VERNON PARISH
SCHOOL BOARD
201 BELVIEW ROAD
LEESVILLE, LA 71446

Maryellen Russo

From: Kim Johnson
Sent: Friday, November 16, 2018 2:30 PM
To: stephen.d.pfeffer@usace.army.mil; linda.harvey@la.gov
Cc: Maryellen Russo; Megan Luschen; Jena.Milliner@la.gov
Subject: FW: LA 8/SH 63 Bridge at Sabine River (State Project No. H.000986)
Attachments: SH 63-LA 8 Bridge at Sabine River SOV Letter.pdf

On behalf of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), please see the attached Solicitation of Views (SOV) letter for the LA 8/SH 63 bridge over the Sabine River. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Thank you,
Kim Johnson

Blanton & Associates, Inc.

kjohnson@blantonassociates.com

5 Lakeway Centre Court, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78734

T: 512.264.1095 x120 | M: 512.567.9270



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 Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
MIKE STRAIN DVM
COMMISSIONER



SOV Letter Comment A

November 21, 2018

**Agricultural &
Environmental
Sciences**
Suite 3000
(225) 925-3770
Fax: 925-3760

Blanton & Associates, Inc.
5 Lakeway Center Court
Austin, Texas 78734

**Agro-Consumer
Services**
Suite 5000
(225) 922-1341
Fax: 923-4877

**Animal Health
& Food Safety**
Suite 4000
(225) 925-3962
Fax: 925-4103

RE: State Project NO.: H.000986
Federal Aid Project No.: H00986
LA 8/SH 63 Bridge at the Sabine River
Route: LA 8/SH 63
Vernon Parish/Newton County

Forestry
Suite 6000
(225) 925-4500
Fax: 922-1356

**Management
& Finance**
Suite 1000
(225) 922-1255
Fax: 925-8012

Dear Blanton & Associates, Inc.,

I have no comment at this time regarding the above referenced project.

**Soil & Water
Conservation**
Suite 7000
(225) 922-1269
Fax: 922-2577

Sincerely,

Bradley Spicer

Assistant Commissioner

BES: CB



SOV Letter Comment B

BILLY NUNGESSER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF STATE PARKS

RICHARD H. HARTLEY
DEPUTY SECRETARY

GENE REYNOLDS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

November 26, 2018

Blanton & Associates, Inc.
5 Lakeway Centre Court, Suite 200
Austin, Tx 78734

Re: State Project No. H.000986

Dear Kim Johnson:

The Office of State Parks has reviewed your proposed project to make improvements to the SH 63/LA 8 bridge over the Sabine River in Vernon Parish.

We have no parks, sites or other recreational areas located near this project and have no objections or concerns.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Britt Evans".

Britt Evans
Natural Resources Manager

BE: be

From the Desk of:

SOV Letter Comment C



John Smith
State Senator
District 30

Rehab existing bridge
one way traffic —
new bridge to carry
one way traffic.

November 16, 2018

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000986
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H00986
NAME: LA 8/SH 63 BRIDGE AT THE SABINE RIVER
ROUTE: LA 8/SH 63
PARISH/COUNTY: VERNON/NEWTON

SUBJECT: Solicitation of Views (SOV) – LA 8/SH 63 Bridge over the Sabine River

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), in conjunction with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes a project to address the bridge that carries Louisiana Highway (LA) 8 and Texas State Highway (SH) 63 over the Sabine River at the Louisiana/Texas state line. The bridge is a historically significant bridge that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This project is in the planning stages and your input and comments are being solicited for the project. We have attached a map showing the location of the existing LA 8/SH 63 Bridge over the Sabine River (see **Figure 1** attached) and the project's purpose and need statement.

Currently, there are several proposed bridge options being considered for the project as part compliance with the Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act. These proposed bridge options include the following:

- 
- Rehabilitate the existing historic bridge for continued two-way vehicular use.
 - Rehabilitate the existing historic bridge to carry one-way traffic with an adjacent new bridge carrying one-way traffic in the opposite direction.
 - Rehabilitate the existing historic bridge to be used as a pedestrian-only structure with a new bridge carrying two-way vehicular traffic.
 - Rehabilitate the existing historic bridge to be used as a scenic bypass to carry one-way traffic and a new bridge to carry two-way vehicular traffic.
 - Close the existing historic bridge to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic, leave it as a monument, and build a new to carry all traffic.
 - Demolish the existing historic bridge and build a new bridge to carry all traffic.

If one of the above bridge options with a new bridge is selected, various proposed route alternatives will be investigated. These proposed route alternatives are shown on **Figure 2**, attached.

The proposed bridge options and route alternatives are being presented to the public on December 11, 2018 during a formal public meeting. This meeting will take place at the Leesville High School in Leesville, Louisiana from 5pm to 7pm. Following the receipt of comments from the December 11th public meeting and SOV outreach, a recommended preferred alternative will be selected.

It is requested that you review the attached information and furnish us with your views and comments by December 21, 2018 (30 days). Replies should be addressed to **Blanton & Associates, Inc., 5 Lakeway Center Court, Austin, Texas 78734**. Please reference the state project numbers in your reply.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at kjohnson@blantonassociates.com or (512) 264-1095.

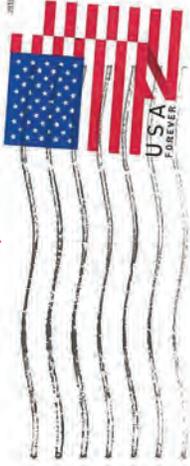
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kim Jenkins Johnson', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kim Jenkins Johnson
Environmental Project Manager

KJ/mr
Attachments

SOV Letter Comment C, continued





 JOHN SMITH

 STATE SENATOR

 DISTRICT 30

 218 E. Fourth Street

 DeQuincy, LA 70633

Leesville Jr.

71446

Langdon & Associates, Inc.

5 Zabeaway Condo Court, Suite 200

Leesville, LA 71446

HON. JOHN SMITH

 LOUISIANA STATE SENATE

 (DISTRICT 30)

 611-B SOUTH 5TH STREET

 LEESVILLE, LA 71446

157 C



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

December 5, 2018

Blanton Associates, Inc.
5 Lakeway Centre Court, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78734

Re: Solicitation of Views; State Project Number H.000986; F.A.P. No.: H000986
Name: LA 8/SH 63 Bridge At the Sabine River
Route: LA 8/SH 63
Parish/County: Vernon Parish/Newton County

This office is in receipt of a Solicitation of Views regarding the above referenced project(s).

Based upon the information received from your office we have no objection to the referenced project(s) at this time. The applicant shall be aware of and comply with any and all applicable Louisiana State Sanitary Code regulations (LAC 51, as applicable). Furthermore, should additional project data become available to this office that in any way amend the information upon which this office's response has been based, we reserve the right of additional comments on the referenced project(s).

In the event of any future discovery of evidence of non-compliance with the Louisiana Administrative Code Title 51 (Public Health-Sanitary Code) and the Title 48 (Public Health-General) regulations or any applicable public health laws or statutes which may have escaped our awareness during the course of this cursory review, please be advised that this office's preliminary determination on this Solicitation of View of the project(s) shall not be construed as absolving the applicant of responsibility, if any, with respect to compliance with the Louisiana Administrative Code Title 51 (Public Health-Sanitary Code) and the Title 48 (Public Health-General) regulations or any other applicable public health laws or statutes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Yuanda".

Yuanda Zhu, P.G., Ph.D.
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health Engineering Services
Telephone: (225) 342-7432
Electronic mail: yuanda.zhu@la.gov

SOV Letter Comment E

From: [Kim Johnson](#)
To: [Megan Luschen](#); [Maryellen Russo](#)
Subject: FW: SOV on State Project No.: H.000986
Date: Thursday, December 13, 2018 9:51:55 AM

fyi

From: Plaskon, Terence (FTA) <Terence.Plaskon@dot.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2018 9:33 AM
To: Kim Johnson <kjohnson@blantonassociates.com>
Subject: SOV on State Project No.: H.000986

Ms. Johnson,
The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) received your Solicitation of Views for the LA 8/ SH 63 Bridge over the Sabine River (State Project No.: H.000986). We reviewed the information you provided. It doesn't appear we have any impacted services, projects, or grantees. Therefore, FTA has no comments on the proposed project.

Thank you

Terence Plaskon
Federal Transit Administration, Region 6
819 Taylor St. Fort Worth, TX 76102
(817) 978-0573 | terence.plaskon@dot.gov



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT
7400 LEAKE AVENUE
NEW ORLEANS LA 70118-3651

12/19/2018

Operations Division
Regulatory Branch

Ms. Kim Jenkins Johnson
Blanton & Associates, Inc.
5 Lakeway Centre Court, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78734

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Reference is made to your solicitation of views request for the improvement of an existing bridge crossing, **State Project No. H.000986**, located in Vernon Parish, Louisiana and Newton County, Texas (enclosed map). More specifically, the project proposes to improve an existing crossing of the Sabine River located along LA 8 in Louisiana and State Highway 63 in Texas.

Information and signatures obtained from recent maps, aerial photography, information provided with your request, and local soil surveys concerning this site are indicative of the occurrence of waters of the United States, including wetlands. Department of the Army (DA) permits are required prior to the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material into jurisdictional wetlands or waters. If an approved delineation is needed, please furnish us with the detailed field data concerning vegetation, soils, and hydrology that we require for all jurisdictional decisions. The fact that a field wetland delineation/determination has not been completed does not alleviate your responsibility to obtain the proper DA permits prior to working in jurisdictional wetlands or waters occurring on this property. Additionally, waters that may be subject to Corps' jurisdiction under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) are located in the project area. A DA permit will be required prior to any work in waters subject to Corps' jurisdiction under Section 10 of the RHA.

Should there be any questions concerning these matters or questions specific to the regulatory permit process, please contact Mr. Stephen Pfeffer at (504) 862-2099 and reference our Account No. MVN 2018-01470-MS.

Sincerely,

Stephen Pfeffer
Environmental Resources Specialist

Enclosure



PO BOX 98000 | BATON ROUGE LA | 70898

Date December 28, 2018

Name Kim Johnson

Company Blanton & associates, Inc.

Street Address 5 Lakeway Center Court

City, State, Zip Austin, TX 78734

Project LA 8/SH 63 Bridge over the Sabine River

Project ID 802018

Invoice Number 18122803

Personnel of the Coastal & Nongame Resources Division have reviewed the preliminary data for the captioned project.

Pearl Creek, which is designated as a Scenic River, is located within a ¼ mile of the proposed project. Contact Chris Davis with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries at 225-765-2642 concerning this Scenic River.

The follow comments are regarding routes B, C & D:

Our records indicate the fresh water mussel Texas heelsplitter (*Potamilus amphichaenus*) occur within a mile of the project area. This species has an S3 state rank and is considered rare in Louisiana. Habitat protection is recommended for this species by avoiding disturbances such as water pollution, siltation, and the construction of dams. In addition, it is important to avoid disturbances of the soil / stream bottoms and existing mussel beds. If you have any questions, please contact Keri Lejeune at 337-735-8676.

The Suckermouth minnow (*Phenacobius mirabilis*) occurs within the Sabine River and Toledo Bend reservoir. The Suckermouth minnow (*Phenacobius mirabilis*) is considered critically imperiled in Louisiana due to its rarity. This species is a benthic organism, and occurs in runs and riffles of creeks and small to medium (sometimes large) rivers with substrates ranging from sand and gravel to large boulders. We recommend protecting habitat for the Suckermouth minnow by keeping sandy-bottomed streams clean and free of silt.

Our records also indicate Western Sand darter (*Ammocrypta clara*) may occur in water bodies within the project area. This species is considered imperilled in Louisiana with an S2 state rank due to its rarity. Cited causes of decline include siltation, poor water quality caused by pollution and agricultural runoff, and interruption of migrations by dams. If you have any questions, please contact Keri Lejeune at 337-735-8676.

Our records indicate Gulf Coast Waterdog (*Necturus beyeri*) may occur in water bodies within the project area. This amphibian species is considered rare in Louisiana. This species is a bottom dweller closely associated with leaf litter deposits in sandy streams. If you have any questions, please contact Keri Lejeune at 337-735-8676.

After careful review of our database, no other impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project. The Wildlife Diversity Program (WDP) has compiled data on rare, endangered, or otherwise significant plant and animal species, plant communities, and other natural features throughout the state of Louisiana. WDP reports summarize the existing information known at the time of the request regarding the location in

question. The quantity and quality of data collected by the WDP are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals. In most cases, this information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys; many natural areas in Louisiana have not been surveyed. This report does not address the occurrence of wetlands at the site in question. WDP reports should not be considered final statements on the biological elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. WDP requires that this office be acknowledged in all reports as the source of all data provided here. If at any time WDP tracked species are encountered within the project area, please contact the WDP Data Manager at 225-765-2643. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please call 225-765-2357.

Sincerely,


Amity Bass, Biologist Director
Wildlife Diversity Program