Documentation of Public Hearing

Project Location
Brazoria County, Texas

SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
CSJ: 1524-01-076

Project Limits
SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River

Hearing Location
West Brazos Jr. High School Cafeteria
111 Roustabout Dr. Brazoria, TX 77422

Hearing Date and Time
August 30, 2018 at 5:30pm

Translation Services
Spanish, upon request

Presenters
Christine Bergren
Michelle Milliard, P.E.
Maryellen Russo

Elected Officials in Attendance
Roger Shugart, Brazoria City Mayor
David Lincker, Brazoria County Commissioner Precinct 4
Roschelle Hicks, Councilwomen Position 4
Laurie Millsap (On behalf of Senator Joan Huffman District 17)

Total Number of Attendees (approx.)
19

Total Number of Commenters
8

Contents

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B. Public Hearing Officer Certification
C. Notices
D. Sign-in sheets
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Attachment A

Comment/Response Matrix

Comment/Response Matrix, SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River

Comment Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Comment	Response
1	Roschelle Hicks - City Council	8/30/18	Written comment submitted during Public Hearing	Would TxDOT Consider On The Brazoria City Side Building a Historic Park Honoring The Bridges History	If the demolition alternative is chosen for the historic bridge, TxDOT would be required to complete mitigation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This mitigation would be determined in coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Section 106 consulting parties. This comment will be considered during that Section 106 coordination.
2	Roy and Jan Edwards	8/30/18	Written comment submitted during Public Hearing	This could be an intriguing Win-win project- See attached letter To: Brazoria County Commissioners Court Subject: Texas Offshore/Near Shore Reefing Program July 24, 2018 Dear Sirs, The July 2018 issue of the Texas Parks and Wildlife magazine contains several articles about the Texas Offshore/Near Shore Reef and their benefits to the ecology and the economy. The article, "Building More Reefs" on page 41, explains the Texas Near Shore Reefing Program. This program is wholly funded by Texas Parks and Wildlife. Once such reef currently under construction is just inside the Texas 9 mile territorial boundary, off the mouth of the San Bernard River. When completed, this reef will cover 160 acres, Included in the materials used to build these reefs are "discarded bridge materials". Brazoria County has two large bridges scheduled for dismantling in the near future. One is the Hwy. 521 bridge over the Brazos River on the northeast side of Brazoria - that bridge has deteriorated to the point that it cannot be saved. TxDOT stated that the bridge is scheduled for demolition in about 18 months, pending an environmental survey. The second bridge, known as Sportman Span on FM 2611 over the San Bernard, is scheduled for demolition after a replacement bridge is built. The new bridge is to let for bids no later than February 2019, pending a U.S. Coast Guard permit. Construction of the new bridge will take about two years, but information concerning the removal of the existing bridge must be included on the bid request. Both these projects are time sensitive. Both bridges are barge accessible. Using barges to remove discarded bridge materials would keep thousands of tons of scrap steel and concrete riprap off Brazoria County roads. The barges could take the reefing materials from demolition directly to the reef site. Materials from these two bridges would quickly increase the current size of the Brazoria County Reef. As the reef expands, it will attract marine growth and sportfish. Because it is within nine mile of the San Bernard, it will also attract fisherman and divers. These people will be spending tourist dollars on launches, bait, ice, groceries, gas, lodging, etc. to the benefit of our coastal industries. With no monetary outlay, and incoming tourist dollars, this would be a win-win situation for Brazoria County. One of the great ladies of Brazoria County has lobbied long and hard to save the 521 Bridge. Per TxDOT, the bridge cannot be saved. I ask the Brazoria County Commissioner's Court to honor her by requesting the reef off Brazoria County be named the Mary Ruth Rhodenbaugh Reef if 521 bridge materials are used in that project. I would ask that Brazoria County Commissioner's Court contact both TxDOT and Texas Parks and Wildlife to investigate the implementation of this plan. Thank you for your time and attention. Regards- Roy and Jan Edwards	If the demolition alternative is chosen for the historic bridge, TxDOT will consider this suggestion and work with the appropriate members of the Texas Parks and Wildlife staff as needed.
3	Sunshine Charrier	9/14/18	Written comment submitted during the Public Hearing comment period	To Whom it may concern, I'm writing in regards to the "Bridge to Nowhere". (the bridge on Hwy 332 going to Brazoria). I realize it is old and rusty and technically no longer needed but I think it would make a lovely pedestrian bridge. There is already a park/rest area near by. Why not use the bridge & enhance the park. You could keep it simple if you need to avoid excessive costs. However if you decided to go all out perhaps add a small walking trail some play ground equipment that would be wonderful too. I know a lot of other parents who would be thrilled too. To sum it up, let's keep the bridge & walk on it! Thank you for your consideration in this matter & thank you for your time. Sunshine Charrier P.S. I realize my return address indicates I live in Clute. Perhaps you think that's not close enough to get a say but I'm building on [redacted] & will be moving in less than a year. What neighborhood is closer than that?	As noted at the Public Hearing, TxDOT could not find a recipient to take ownership of the historic bridge to keep it in pedestrian use. Since TxDOT does not have federal funding to keep and maintain a bridge that is not in vehicular use, TxDOT cannot keep the historic bridge under its ownership as a pedestrian-only structure.
4	Roy Edwards	8/30/18	Verbal comment submitted during Public Hearing	My name is Roy Edwards, and I live at [redacted], down at the end of the San Bernard River. I'm a stakeholder. Apparently, the decision has been made, unfortunately, to demolish the bridge. If the bridge is demolished, I would like for you to consider getting in touch with Dale Shively, Texas Parks and Wildlife project manager for the Texas Nearshore Reefing Program. TXDOT -- Texas Parks and Wildlife is currently building a 160-acre reef nine miles from the shoreline off the mouth of the San Bernard River. A wonderful thing that they can use in building this reef are bridge pieces. So a structure, metal structure, as well as concrete structure, big and heavy so it won't move in the currents, are their requirements. Also, the paper that I gave you was a presentation that I made to the Brazoria Commissioner's Court. The bridge over -- the 2611 bridge over the San Bernard River, when the new bridge is built, the old bridge will be destroyed. I would also like TXDOT to consider taking that bridge. As both bridges are barge accessible from the Brazos and San Bernard, it will be easy to put discarded bridge material onto barges, taking it nine miles offshore and dunking it as part of the reef structure. Thank you.	See response to comment #2.

Comment/Response Matrix, SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River

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5	Mary Ruth Rhodenbaugh	8/30/18	Verbal comment submitted during Public Hearing	For the last seven years, I've done a lot of research, and I know that a farm-to-market road has to be connected to a State highway. And 531 is -- Farm-to-Market 521 connects to State Highway 35 and State Highway 36. That makes it a farm-to-market road. It was one of the first in the state of Texas. My grandfather worked on this bridge. It has always been very dear to me, but I'm not going to be bitter. I told Michelle already, I'm not going to be bitter about it. She asked me, "What do you think your grandfather would say?" And I said, "I think he would say it has served its purpose." Thank you.	Thank you for your comment.
6	Jan Edwards	8/30/18	Verbal comment submitted during Public Hearing	I'm Jan Edwards. And I'm just a stakeholder, but I have rights. And my editor gave me an assignment three years ago to write about this bridge. I did the research. I have a whole bunch of stuff sitting in a box here at the house, and -- and I started writing a story, and I couldn't finish it. So I called my editor and I said, "This story is not finished." And then I started going to the stakeholder meetings and things were changing, but this is -- this bridge's story is not finished. This may be the final hurrah, but I couldn't write the story until it's finished; and it's not finished yet, and there's something about trying to write this thing, I can't do. I start writing it, and I went, no, because I don't know how it's going to end up. And I -- I tell stories. I like to know the end of the story when I start. But I don't know the end. So this is just something to consider. This story is not played out yet. This may be the last play, but it's not played out yet.	Thank you for your comment.
7	David Linder	8/30/18	Verbal comment submitted during Public Hearing	I'm David Linder. I am Brazoria County Commissioner, Precinct 4, and I'd like to thank TxDOT, I'd like to thank Michelle, I'd like to thank all involved for -- I can see you did your due diligence to give everyone an opportunity to speak about this over the past several years and address their concerns. And I thank you for your -- for what y'all have done. But I think the citizens of Brazoria would love to see the bridge stay. I think it would be a great thing to do. I've heard lots of comments. But like Mary Ruth said, I think -- you know, I think the bridge -- you know, it served its purpose, served the citizens for many years; and unfortunately, I just -- I'd love to see the County do something, but of course, the County is not able to do that. There's some other needs. But I just wanted to say, basically, thank you for what y'all have done, and I think Mary Ruth said it best when she said, you know -- I honestly do. I think you said it best for all the citizens of the county, and I thank you for not being bitter, because we would all love to see a different -- we would love to see a different ending to this; but anyway, that's all I have. Thank you.	Thank you for your comment.
8	Phyllis Kowalik	10/1/18	Written comment submitted during the Public Hearing comment period	Dear Mr. Allen, I am writing to put forth an idea of what to do with the Brazos River Bridge in Brazoria, Texas. I support the idea that if the bridge is to be demolished, that the materials be used to construct playground equipment and structures in Brazoria, Texas parks. As I drove by it the other day, I had an idea that the metal beams could be sold to individuals wishing to repurpose them in their own new or existing structures. I put forth this idea because when I was looking at them last week, I wondered how I could purchase some of them to incorporate into our new home. Thank you, Phyllis Kowalik [redacted] Angleton, TX 77515	If the demolition alternative is chosen for the historic bridge, TxDOT would be required to complete mitigation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This mitigation would be determined in coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Section 106 consulting parties. Future reuse of bridge components for public use would require the removal of lead paint, which may be cost prohibitive. This comment will be considered during the Section 106 coordination.

Attachment B

Public Hearing Officer Certification

Public Hearing Certification

Project Name: SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
County Name: Brazoria County, Texas
Control Section Job Numbers (CSJ): 1524-01-076
Project Limits From: SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
Project Limits To: SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River

I certify that the following statements are true and apply to the project identified above.

A. A public hearing was held on August 30, 2018 at West Brazos Jr. High School in Brazoria, Texas.

B. The economic and social effects of the project location and design and its impacts on the environment have been considered.

C. In determining economic, social, and environmental effects, the statutory provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 have been considered.

D. The project consistency with the goals and objectives of urban planning, as dictated by the community has been considered. ◉

E. Requirements of Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter E, Section 2.107 have been met.

◉ Select if assigned under NEPA Assignment MOU.

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

TxDOT Representative Name

9/25/18
Date

Form
TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division
Effective Date: July 2018

Version 3
760.01 FRM
Page 1 of 1

Attachment C

Notices

Texas Department of Transportation

Notice

Public Hearing

Historic SH 332 Truss Bridge at the Brazos River

CSJs: 1524-01-076

Brazoria County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), as the lead agency, will conduct a public hearing regarding the State Highway (SH) 332 Historic Truss bridge over the Brazos River in Brazoria County, Texas. The hearing will be held on August 30, 2018 at West Brazos Junior High School, located at 111 Roustabout Drive, Brazoria, Texas 77422. Information will be available for viewing at 5:30 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the proposed project to the public and to receive public comments. This hearing will be conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code.

In 2003, TxDOT, Brazoria County and the City of Brazoria signed an agreement authorizing the local governments to take ownership of the Historic Truss Bridge for rehabilitation upon completion of the new SH 332 bridge. The environmental document for the widening of SH 332 was approved by the Federal Highway Administration in 2004 with the rehabilitation agreement in place. In 2010, the construction of the new SH 332 bridge was complete and the historic SH 332 truss bridge was removed from service. However, in 2012 the agreement between TxDOT, the City of Brazoria, and Brazoria County was terminated at the request of the local governments. Since that time, TxDOT has conducted an alternatives analysis to determine options for the historic SH 332 truss bridge based on the bridge's current condition and setting. The six alternatives will be presented at this hearing and the recommended alternative will be discussed.

Information presented at the hearing regarding this project is also on file and can be viewed by appointment, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., at the TxDOT Brazoria Area Office located at 1033 East Orange, Angleton, Texas 77515 For an appointment please call 979-864-8500. Information is also available online at https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/houston/sh-332-truss-bridge.html . Comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented verbally or in writing at the hearing, or submitted in person or by mail to the Director of Project Development at the TxDOT Houston District Office. Comments must be received on or before September 14, 2018 to be part of the official hearing record.

The hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact the District Public Information Officer: (713) 802-5076. Requests should be made at least five days prior to the hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

If you have questions regarding the proposed project, please contact Michelle Milliard at (979) 864-8500.

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

Aviso de Audiencia Pública

SH 332 Puente Histórico de Acero sobre el Río Brazos

CSJs: 1524-01-076

Condado de Brazoria, Texas

El Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT), como la agencia principal proponente, llevará a cabo una Audiencia Pública en relación al proyecto propuesto de puente histórico de armadura de la State Highway (SH) 332 sobre el río Brazos en el condado de Brazoria, Texas. La audiencia se llevará a cabo el 30 de agosto de 2018 en la escuela West Brazos Junior High School, ubicada en 111 Roustabout Drive, Brazoria, Texas 77422. La información estará disponible para su observación a las 5:30 p.m. con la audiencia formal comenzando a las 6:30 p.m. El propósito de la audiencia es presentar el proyecto propuesto al público y recibir comentarios públicos. Esta audiencia se llevará a cabo de conformidad con la Sección 106 de la Ley Nacional de Preservación Histórica y el Capítulo 26 del Código de Parques y Vida Silvestre de Texas.

En 2003, TxDOT, el condado de Brazoria y la ciudad de Brazoria firmaron un acuerdo que autoriza a los gobiernos locales a hacerse cargo del puente histórico de acero para su rehabilitación después de la finalización del nuevo puente en la SH 332. El documento ambiental para la ampliación de la SH 332 fue aprobado por la Administración Federal de Carreteras en 2004 con el acuerdo de rehabilitación vigente. En 2010, la construcción del nuevo puente de la SH 332 se completó y el histórico puente de acero de la SH 332 se retiró del servicio. Sin embargo, en 2012 el acuerdo entre TxDOT, la Ciudad de Brazoria y el Condado de Brazoria se dio por terminado a petición de los gobiernos locales. Desde ese tiempo, TxDOT ha conducido un análisis de alternativas para determinar las opciones para el puente histórico de acero de la SH 332 basado en la condición y configuración actual del puente. Las seis alternativas se presentarán en esta audiencia y se analizará la alternativa recomendada.

La información presentada en la audiencia sobre este proyecto también está archivada y se puede ver por cita, de lunes a viernes entre las 8:00 a.m. y las 5:00 p.m., en la Oficina TxDOT del Área Brazoria ubicada en 1033 East Orange, Angleton, Texas 77515. Para una cita, llame al 979-864-8500. La información también está disponible en línea en https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/houston/sh-332-truss-bridge.html
Se solicitan comentarios del público sobre el proyecto y pueden presentarse verbalmente o por escrito en la audiencia, o entregar en persona o por correo postal al Director of Project Development de la Oficina del Distrito de Houston de TxDOT. Los comentarios deben recibirse en o antes del 14 de septiembre de 2018 para ser parte del registro oficial de la audiencia.

La audiencia se llevará a cabo en inglés. A las personas interesadas en asistir a la audiencia que tienen necesidades especiales de comunicación o acomodación, como la necesidad de un intérprete, se les recomienda ponerse en contacto con el Oficial de Información Pública del Distrito: (713) 802-5076. Las solicitudes deben hacerse al menos cinco días antes de la audiencia. Se harán todos los esfuerzos razonables para satisfacer estas necesidades.

Si tiene preguntas sobre el proyecto propuesto, comuníquese con Michelle Milliard al (979) 864-8500.

La revisión ambiental, la consulta y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales federales aplicables para este proyecto están siendo, o han sido, llevadas a cabo por TxDOT de conformidad con la norma 23 U.S.C. 327 y un Memorando de entendimiento del 16 de diciembre de 2014, y ejecutados por la Administración Federal de Carreteras (FHWA) y TxDOT.

N

2000 Feet

Historic Truss Bridge over the Brazos River

Texas Department of Transportation

SH 332
Historic Truss bridge over the Brazos River
Brazoria, Texas

CSJ: 1524-01-076

William Long : [redacted]
Consultant

AFFP

NOTICEPublic HearingHistoric S

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF TEXAS }
COUNTY OF BRAZORIA } SS

Cindy Cornette, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Advertising Director of the The Facts, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Clute, Brazoria County, Texas; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

July 30, 2018, August 06, 2018, August 17, 2018

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

SIGNED:

Advertising Director

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 17th day of August 2018.

Jamie Glockzin, , Brazoria County, Texas

My commission expires: June 01, 2019

JAMIE GLOCKZIN
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION EXPIRES
06-01-2019

00014753 00084315 210-340-5664

RJ Rivera Associates Inc.
8023 Vantage Dr., Ste 1100
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78230

NOTICE
Public Hearing
Historic SH 332 Truss Bridge
at the Brazos River
CSJs: 1524-01-076
Brazoria County, Texas

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HC MEDIA GROUP
HEARST corporation

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS:

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared, the Newspaper Representative at the HOUSTON CHRONICLE, a daily newspaper published in Harris County, Texas, and generally circulated in the Counties of: HARRIS, TRINITY, WALKER, GRIMES, POLK, SAN JACINTO, WASHINGTON, MONTGOMERY, LIBERTY, AUSTIN, WALLER, CHAMBERS, COLORADO, BRAZORIA, FORT BEND, GALVESTON, WHARTON, JACKSON, and MATAGORDA and that the publication, of which the annexed herein, or attached to, is a true and correct copy, was published to-wit:

RJ RIVERA ASSOCIATES, INC. 0000174843 HC059851326
RAN A LEGAL NOTICE
SIZE BEING: 4 x53 L

Product	Date	Class	Page
LaVoz	Aug 5 2018	Legal Notices	V 7
LaVoz	Aug 12 2018	Legal Notices	V 9
LaVoz	Aug 19 2018	Legal Notices	V 6

Victoria Bond A/R Clerk
NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 19th Day of August A.D. 2018

CHARLES E WALICHOWSKI
129823547
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF TEXAS
EXPIRES
MAY 19, 2022

Charles E Walichowski
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

0000174843 RJ RIVERA ASSOCIATES, INC. Page 2 of 2 Houston Chronicle CLASSIFIEDS

Aviso de Audiencia Pública

SH 332 Puente Histórico de Acero sobre el Río Brazos

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0000174842 RJ RIVERA ASSOCIATES, INC. Page 1 of 2 Houston Chronicle CLASSIFIEDS

HC MEDIA GROUP
HEARST corporation

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS:

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared, the Newspaper Representative at the HOUSTON CHRONICLE, a daily newspaper published in Harris County, Texas, and generally circulated in the Counties of: HARRIS, TRINITY, WALKER, GRIMES, POLK, SAN JACINTO, WASHINGTON, MONTGOMERY, LIBERTY, AUSTIN, WALLER, CHAMBERS, COLORADO, BRAZORIA, FORT BEND, GALVESTON, WHARTON, JACKSON, and MATAGORDA and that the publication, of which the annexed herein, or attached to, is a true and correct copy, was published to-wit:

RJ RIVERA ASSOCIATES, INC. 0000174842 HC059851326
RAN A LEGAL NOTICE
SIZE BEING: 3 x62 L

Product	Date	Class	Page
Houston Chronicle	Jul 30 2018	Legal Notices	B 4
Houston Chronicle	Aug 6 2018	Legal Notices	B 4
Houston Chronicle	Aug 17 2018	Legal Notices	B 4

Victoria Bond AR Clerk
NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 17th Day of August A.D. 2018

CHARLES E WALICHOWSKI
12982364
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF TEXAS
EXPIRES
MAY 19, 2022

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

0000174842 RJ RIVERA ASSOCIATES, INC. Page 2 of 2 Houston Chronicle CLASSIFIEDS

Notice

Public Hearing

Historic SH 332 Truss Bridge at the Brazos River

CSJs: 1524-01-076

Brazoria County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), as the lead agency, will conduct a public hearing regarding the State Highway (SH) 332 Historic Truss bridge over the Brazos River in Brazoria County, Texas. The hearing will be held on August 30, 2018 at West Brazos Junior High School, located at 111 Roustabout Drive, Brazoria, Texas 77422. Information will be available for viewing at 5:30 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the proposed project to the public and to receive public comments. This hearing will be conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code.

In 2003, TxDOT, Brazoria County and the City of Brazoria signed an agreement authorizing the local governments to take ownership of the Historic Truss Bridge for rehabilitation upon completion of the new SH 332 bridge. The environmental document for the widening of SH 332 was approved by the Federal Highway Administration in 2004 with the rehabilitation agreement in place. In 2010, the construction of the new SH 332 bridge was complete and the historic SH 332 truss bridge was removed from service. However, in 2012 the agreement between TxDOT, the City of Brazoria, and Brazoria County was terminated at the request of the local governments. Since that time, TxDOT has conducted an alternatives analysis to determine options for the historic SH 332 truss bridge based on the bridge's current condition and setting. The six alternatives will be presented at this hearing and the recommended alternative will be discussed.

Information presented at the hearing regarding this project is also on file and can be viewed by appointment, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., at the TxDOT Brazoria Area Office located at 1033 East Orange, Angleton, Texas 77515 For an appointment please call 979-864-8500. Information is also available online at https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/houston/sh-332-truss-bridge.html . Comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented verbally or in writing at the hearing, or submitted in person or by mail to the Director of Project Development at the TxDOT Houston District Office. Comments must be received on or before September 14, 2018 to be part of the official hearing record.

The hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact the District Public Information Officer: (713) 802-5076. Requests should be made at least five days prior to the hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

If you have questions regarding the proposed project, please contact Michelle Milliard at (979) 864-8500.

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

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D223	Damon Knight	Household Items
A103	Shaunda Kenner	Household Items
C039	James Ray	Household Items
B231	Daniel Burchett	Household Items
B208	Daniel Burchett	Household Items
D021	Dawn Williams	Household Items

Property #0465
807 Brazos Park Drive
Clute, TX 77531 / 979.799.5436

F52	Stacie Cox	Household Items
C24	Alejandro Avalos	Household Items
C56	Cindy Schmidt	Household Items
A10	Margret Mullins	Household Items
A22	Amelia Gonzales	Household Items
C16	Kassandra Villanueva	Household Items
C9	Mable Wilson	Household Items
A41	Steve Solis	Household Items
D78	Earl Sidbury	Household Items

NOTICE
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Attachment D

Sign-in Sheets

Texas Department of Transportation

ELECTED OFFICIALS (FUNCIONARIOS ELECTOS)

SIGN-IN SHEET (HOJA DE REGISTRACIÓN)

SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
CSJ 1524-01-076
Public Hearing / Audiencia Pública
Thursday, August 30, 2018
West Brazos Jr. High School
Brazoria, TX

NO.	NAME (PLEASE PRINT) Nombre (Letra de Molde)	ELECTED OFFICE Oficio (Cargo Oficial)	MAILING ADDRESS / CITY / STATE / ZIP Dirección Postal / Ciudad / Estado / Código Postal
1	Roger Shugart	Mayor, Brazoria	[redacted]
2	Rochelle Hicks	City Council Pct 1 Brazoria	
3	David Linder	Brazoria County Commissioner Pct 2	
4	Gloria Millsap on behalf of Senator Joan Huffman		
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The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

(La revisión ambiental, consultas y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales federales aplicables para este proyecto están siendo o han sido, llevado a cabo por TxDOT - en virtud de 23 USC 327 y un Memorando de Entendimiento fechado el 16 de diciembre del 2014, y ejecutado por la FHWA y el TxDOT.)

PAGE____ OF____

Texas Department of Transportation

MEDIA (MEDIOS DE COMUNICACIÓN)

SIGN-IN SHEET (HOJA DE REGISTRACIÓN)

SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
CSJ 1524-01-076
Public Hearing / Audiencia Pública
Thursday, August 30, 2018
West Brazos Jr. High School
Brazoria, TX

NO.	NAME (PLEASE PRINT) Nombre (Letra de Molde)	REPRESENTING Representando	MAILING ADDRESS / CITY / STATE / ZIP Dirección Postal / Ciudad / Estado / Código Postal	EMAIL ADDRESS Dirección de Correo Electrónico
1	ANTHONY MARUZA	THE COUNTY NEWS	[redacted]	[redacted]
2				
3				
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Page 1

Texas Department of Transportation

PUBLIC (PÚBLICO)

SIGN-IN SHEET (HOJA DE REGISTRACIÓN)

SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
CSJ 1524-01-076
Public Hearing / Audiencia Pública
Thursday, August 30, 2018
West Brazos Jr. High School
Brazoria, TX

NO.	NAME (PLEASE PRINT) Nombre (Letra de Molde)	MAILING ADDRESS / CITY / STATE / ZIP Dirección Postal / Ciudad / Estado / Código Postal
1	Mary Ruth Rhodenbaugh	[redacted]
2	Katharine Reed	
3	Charlotte Hopkins	
4	Bob Schroeder	
5	Hy Schutte	
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Texas Department of Transportation

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SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
CSJ 1524-01-076
Public Hearing / Audiencia Pública
Thursday, August 30, 2018
West Brazos Jr. High School
Brazoria, TX

NO.	NAME (PLEASE PRINT) Nombre (Letra de Molde)	MAILING ADDRESS / CITY / STATE / ZIP Dirección Postal / Ciudad / Estado / Código Postal
1	Rhonda G. Quinty	[redacted]
2	Frank L. Quinty	
3	Mildred Taylor	
4	Roberto Gil	
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Brazoria, TX

NO.	NAME (PLEASE PRINT) Nombre (Letra de Molde)	MAILING ADDRESS / CITY / STATE / ZIP Dirección Postal / Ciudad / Estado / Código Postal
1	Roy + Jan Edwards	[redacted]
2	~~Roger Shugart~~	
3	Darrell & Gloria Pomele	
4	Carol Davis	
5	Essie Schmidt	
6	Mary Coddou	
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PAGE____ OF____

Texas Department of Transportation

STAFF SIGN-IN

SIGN-IN SHEET (HOJA DE REGISTRACIÓN)

SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
CSJ 1524-01-076
Public Hearing / Audiencia Pública
Thursday, August 30, 2018
West Brazos Jr. High School
Brazoria, TX

NO.	NAME (PLEASE PRINT) Nombre (Letra de Molde)	MAILING ADDRESS / CITY / STATE / ZIP Dirección Postal / Ciudad / Estado / Código Postal
1	John Baird	5 Lakeway Centre Ct #200, Lakeway Tx
2	Randy Wilson	5 Lakeway Ctr Ct. Suite 200, Lakeway TX 78734
3	Michael Wilkins	TxDOT
4	Sarah Wyckoff	TXDOT
5	William Long	RJRA
6	Dean Tesmer	5 Lakeway Centre Ct, Suite 200, Austin TX 78734
7	Maryellen Russo	5 Lakeway Centre Ct, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78734
8	Michelle Milliard	TxDOT
9	Yuvisela Chavez	TxDOT
10	Carlos Zepeda	TxDOT

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Texas Department of Transportation

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CSJ 1524-01-076
Public Hearing / Audiencia Pública
Thursday, August 30, 2018
West Brazos Jr. High School
Brazoria, TX

NO.	NAME (PLEASE PRINT) Nombre (Letra de Molde)	MAILING ADDRESS / CITY / STATE / ZIP Dirección Postal / Ciudad / Estado / Código Postal
1	Danny Perez	~~2719~~ TxDOT S. [redacted]
2	Terri Dedhia	TxDOT [redacted]
3	Christine Bergren	TxDOT / [redacted]
4	Denotia Robinson	TxDOT / [redacted]
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PAGE____ OF____

Attachment E

Transcript

8/30/2018

1

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC HEARING

August 30, 2018

5:30 to 7:03 p.m.

RE: SH 332 HISTORIC TRUSS BRIDGE AT THE BRAZOS RIVER

Held at West Brazos Junior High School

111 Roustabout Drive

Brazoria, Texas 77422

VINSON REPORTING & VIDEO SERVICE
(281) 980-8233 FAX (281) 980-0832

MS. BERGREN: Good evening, everyone. My name is Christine Bergren, and I'm the Environmental Specialist with the Texas Department of Transportation, Environmental Division, out of Austin.

Before we get started with tonight's hearing, I would like to ask everybody to please turn off or silence your cell phone so that we have minimal interruption.

Today is Thursday, August 30th, 2018, and the time is 6:30 p.m. And on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration and the Texas Department of Transportation, we would like to thank you for your interest and participation in this hearing. And I would also like to thank West Brazos Junior High School for the use of this very nice facility.

As you entered tonight, you were asked to register at one of our sign-in tables. If you have not already done so, please register before you leave tonight so that we have a record of your participation in the public hearing. By registering, you will also be added to the mailing list for any future project updates.

Also available at the sign-in table are comment forms for your written comments. For those of you who wish to make a verbal comment during the formal public

comment session, speaker registration cards are also available at the sign-in table.

Please feel free to view the exhibits in the open house area. They will be available until we adjourn tonight.

The public comment session will begin following the presentation. This official public hearing will adjourn after all verbal comments have been heard. This public hearing is being transcribed by a certified court reporter for the formal public record.

We would like to welcome and recognize the elected officials who are in attendance tonight. We have David Linder, who is Brazoria County Commissioner, Precinct 4. Thank you, Commissioner.

We have Roger Shugart, who is the Mayor of Brazoria. Thank you, sir.

And we have Roschelle Hicks, City Council Position 4, Brazoria.

If there are any other elected officials who are present tonight, I'd like to ask that you please raise your hand and introduce yourself.

(None noted.)

MS. BERGREN: Prior to December 16, 2014, the Federal Highway Administration reviewed and approved documents prepared under the National Environmental

Policy Act, also known as NEPA; however, on December 16th, 2014, TxDOT assumed responsibility from FHWA for reviewing and approving certain assigned NEPA documents.

Notices for this public hearing were advertised in the Houston Chronicle, LaVoz, The Facts, and on TxDOT's website in accordance with federal requirements and Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. Notices were also mailed to elected officials, adjacent property owners, and interested civic associations.

The purpose of tonight's public hearing is to present the alternatives considered for the SH 332 historic truss bridge, which will be referred to as the historic bridge in this presentation moving forward, and also to gather comments from the public on this bridge.

Since the historic bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, certain state and federal regulations must be followed to evaluate and to document each alternative as it is proposed. These regulations include Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, and Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is a federal regulation that requires

federal projects to take into account the effect of their undertakings on historic properties. Public involvement is a key ingredient in a successful Section 106 consultation process.

Section 4(f) is the federal regulation mandating a process that identifies impacts to parks, recreational areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites for projects under development for the United States Department of Transportation. Before FHWA determines that a project may use a Section 4(f) property, an alternatives analysis must be completed to determine if there is a feasible and prudent alternative that will avoid impact to the Section 4(f) resource, and that the action includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the property.

Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code is a state regulation that applies whenever TxDOT proposes to use or obtain any public land designated and used as park, recreational area, scientific area, wildlife refuge, or historic site. This regulation requires the determination that there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the acquisition or use of the site; and all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the site as a result of the use or the acquisition.

I will now turn the presentation over to

Maryellen Russo to discuss some details of the historic bridge and the alternatives.

MS. RUSSO: Hello. I'm Maryellen Russo, a historian with Blanton & Associates. I will be discussing the project's history, current status, and next steps. First, however, there's some things you should know about the historic bridge.

The bridge was constructed in 1939 with funding from the County and the U.S. Government's Public Works Administration during the Great Depression.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Could you get that mic closer? I can't hear you.

MS. RUSSO: Closer? Sure.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

MS. RUSSO: It consists of three Parker through truss spans and 14 steel I-beam approach spans. This bridge is one of five known Parker through truss bridges built on the Brazos River.

In 1991, the bridge was listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and it was subsequently listed as a State Antiquities Landmark. The bridge's National Register nomination noted that the Parker through truss spans are the character-defining features of the bridge, and approach spans are considered contributing historic elements to the bridge.

In 2004, TxDOT completed an Environmental Assessment evaluating potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed widening of the SH 332 roadway from SH 36 to FM 521, which also included the decommissioning of the historic bridge. To orient you with the bridges at the Brazos River, here's a map of the crossing.

The historic bridge is shown near my pointer. The SH 332 current bridge that's carrying people and traffic now is being shown, and there's a railroad bridge located downstream, which is shown here.

An agreement was signed between TxDOT and the local entities that would transfer ownership of the bridge from the state to the local governments, with the intention of the local entities rehabilitating the bridge for pedestrian use.

With an agreement in place for rehabilitation of the bridge, the Federal Highway Administration issued a Finding of No Significant Impact, also known as a FONSI, for the project on September 23rd, 2004.

Upon completion of the new SH 332 bridge in 2010, all traffic was transferred onto the new SH 332 bridge and the historic bridge was taken out of service.

However, in 2011, the agreement between TxDOT and the local entities was terminated, prompting TxDOT

to initiate a new analysis to determine alternatives for the historic bridge.

As part of the re-analysis, TxDOT began by revisiting the original Need and Purpose of the SH 332 Roadway Project.

The 2004 Environmental Assessment stated the following needs for the project: Deterioration of the existing roadway and historic bridge; structural deficiency of the existing historic bridge; maintenance of the existing historic bridge; insufficient transitioning of traffic at the existing FM 221 intersection; hurricane evacuation; safety.

The purpose included improving roadway conditions, reducing maintenance, and improving mobility by widening SH 332, constructing a bridge at the Brazos River, and redesigning the FM 521 intersection.

TxDOT then took a look at which Need and Purpose statements had been fulfilled with the completion of the 2010 roadway project and the new bridge.

These included: Deterioration of the existing roadway and bridge; insufficient transitioning of traffic at the existing FM 521 intersection; hurricane evacuation; and safety.

Which left the needs that had yet to be

addressed, including: Maintenance of the historic bridge; structural deficiencies of the historic bridge; and safety associated with the historic bridge.

Additionally, the functional issues of the historic bridge in its current condition and location needed to be addressed.

The historic bridge currently fails to meet TxDOT's minimum design criteria for its vertical clearance over the access road where it crosses under one of the bridge's north approaches. This north approach span has a vertical clearance of only 14 feet over the access road. However, as outlined in the TxDOT Roadway Design Manual, TxDOT's minimal clearance over the roadway is currently 16.5 feet between the roadway and the bottom of the bridge's superstructure. This insufficient vertical clearance presents a safety issue for traffic using the access roads -- access road, and the vehicles have hit the bridge at this location. Routine bridge inspections have documented impact damage at the approach span over the access road for the last few decades; therefore, the Need and Purpose had to be amended.

This slide lists the current needs of the project. First, maintenance of the historic bridge is a current need. The historic bridge has had minimal

1 maintenance since it closed to traffic in 2010. The
2 Federal Highway Administration does not allow federal
3 funds to be spent on bridges that do not carry vehicular
4 traffic; therefore, no federal funding -- there is no
5 federal funding to cover expenses on maintaining the
6 bridge.
7 Second, structural deficiencies of the historic
8 bridge is another need. The historic bridge has
9 multiple structural deficiencies, including section loss
10 on steel truss members, severe rusting, paint failure,
11 and impact damage from when the bridge was open to
12 traffic.
13 Michelle Milliard, TxDOT's Brazoria Area
14 Engineer, will discuss details of the bridge's condition
15 in a few minutes.
16 The third need of the project is safety
17 associated with the historic bridge. The historic
18 bridge presents a safety hazard due to its current
19 structural deficiencies, its condition, and its lack of
20 maintenance. Being upstream from the new SH 332 bridge
21 and a railroad bridge, the historic bridge presents a
22 hazard to the new bridge if large sections of the
23 historic bridge are dislodged during a flood or other
24 natural event. Additionally, there's concerns that
25 individuals will try to get on the historic bridge,

which is a safety concern in the bridge's current state.

Given all these factors, the purpose of this project has been amended to determine a long-term and appropriate disposition and maintenance plan for the historic bridge.

Now, I will hand the presentation over to Ms. Michelle Milliard to discuss the deficiencies in the bridge.

MS. MILLIARD: Good evening. My name is Michelle Milliard. I am the TxDOT Area Engineer for Brazoria County.

The historic bridge's last routine inspection was conducted on December 14th, 2008, while the bridge was still in vehicular service. To help TxDOT assess the bridge's condition following its closure, TxDOT conducted a bridge condition assessment on January 6th, 2015.

These photographs show deterioration, also known as section loss, of the steel members of the bridge in the last several years. Paint is very important on a steel truss bridge because it keeps the steel protected and reduces rust and deterioration, like the section loss shown here.

The photograph on the left shows the paint failure and rust deterioration -- paint failure and

1 section loss in the truss's bottom chord.
2 The photograph on the right shows the steel
3 beam that is under the truss and supports the bridge.
4 As you can see here, there's significant section loss in
5 these members, including a hole that is in the upper
6 portion of the beam.
7 These photographs show previous impact damage
8 that occurred when the bridge was open to traffic. The
9 photograph on the left shows the sway bracing on the
10 overhead portion of the truss, which was previously
11 impacted by vehicles that were too tall to use the
12 bridge.
13 The photograph on the right shows a vertical
14 member that was previously impacted by traffic on the
15 bridge. While vehicular traffic is no longer on the
16 bridge, the damage is still present.
17 Current traffic on the access road under the
18 bridge's north approach also has impact damage to the
19 bridge as seen in this slide. As Maryellen mentioned,
20 this span has repeatedly been impacted by vehicles
21 passing under the bridge. TxDOT has repaired the
22 impacted steel members by heat-straightening them, which
23 is standard practice for repairing impacted steel
24 members; however, we have heat-straightened these beams
25 so many times that the repair itself is also causing

damage to the members.

This photograph shows the separation between the truss and one of the adjacent north approach spans. This separation indicates that there may be foundation problems at this location, which may require a significant repair of the bridge's foundation.

In summary, the historic bridge is currently in poor condition due to paint failure, deterioration of steel members, impact damage from previous traffic on the bridge, and impact damage from current traffic under the bridge. Based on the bridge's existing condition, TxDOT considered several alternatives in determining what to do with the historic bridge.

I will now turn it back over to Maryellen to discuss the alternatives that were considered.

MS. RUSSO: Thank you, Michelle.

Since the historic bridge is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, federal law requires that TxDOT evaluate several alternatives to determine the most appropriate option for the historic bridge, the traveling public, and the taxpayers.

Per federal requirements, TxDOT reviewed the following alternatives for the historic bridge. These were: The no-build alternative, also known as the do-nothing alternative. Rehabilitate the historic

bridge for two-way vehicular traffic. Rehabilitate the historic bridge to be used as a one-way pair with the new SH 332 bridge. Rehabilitate the historic bridge for pedestrian use. Stabilize the historic bridge. Demolish the bridge.

Since the new SH 332 bridge was already built in 2010 with federal bridge replacement funding, the federal money -- federal money available for the historic bridge was $490,000.

After analyzing all six alternatives, TxDOT met with the stakeholders listed here in November 2017 to discuss the alternatives. Since the new SH 332 bridge carries vehicular traffic, the group focused on options for keeping the historic bridge in place as a pedestrian structure. TxDOT was asked to research other historic bridges in the state to see if any situations were similar to the historic bridge and could be used as an example.

Between November 2017 and May 2018, TxDOT researched this possibility and found that the age -- agency does not have the provision to rehabilitate, maintain, or own a bridge that will not be used for vehicular traffic. TxDOT met again with the stakeholders in May 2018 to share these findings. Summaries of both Stakeholder Meetings can be found on

the project web page noted in your handout.

The group also discussed finding a new owner that could encumber the cost of rehabilitating and maintaining the historic bridge. The historic bridge was marketed online at TxDOT's Historic Bridge Legacy Program website beginning in April of 2018. The marketing notice remained on TxDOT's website until August 2018. TxDOT also solicited the historic bridge to known potential bridge owners throughout the state of Texas. No entity or individual came forward with a proposal to take over ownership of the historic bridge or to relocate one or more of its truss spans.

Therefore the engineering analysis and Section 4(f) evaluation, because of the -- excuse me. Based on the engineering analysis and Section 4(f) evaluation, TxDOT recommends demolishing the historic bridge.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act provides opportunities for the public to comment on projects that can affect historic properties, such as the historic bridge. This flowchart outlines the Section 106 process. As you can see from this flow chart, TxDOT has been and is continuing to solicit comments from stakeholders and the public. As I discussed, TxDOT solicited input from stakeholders and continues to seek comments from the general public.

In the next steps of the environmental process, all comments received tonight, as well as written comments received during the comment period, will be documented and included in the official public hearing record. These comments will be addressed in the Public Hearing Summary Report. Once this report is complete, the document will be available for public and agency review on the project website listed in your handout.

Next, TxDOT will complete a final alternatives analysis and coordinate a chosen preferred alternative with the applicable resource agencies. Last, TxDOT will prepare documentation for the chosen alternative for environmental approval.

Thank you for your attention. I will now turn it -- turn back the program to Miss Bergren.

MS. BERGREN: We did have an additional elected official representative join us tonight, and I do want to recognize Gloria Millsap on behalf of Senator Joan Huffman.

That concludes the presentation portion of the hearing, and we will now move on to the comment session. There are several ways you may comment on the proposed project.

You may present your comment tonight by speaking during the public comment session. Please

raise your hand if you have not already completed a speaker registration card and want to speak tonight. A member of the project team will bring a speaker card to you.

Speakers will be called in the order in which they signed up. Each commenter will be given three minutes to make their remarks. We are unable to answer questions during this time; however, we will be available to answer your questions following the comment period.

If you would like to comment but do not wish to comment verbally tonight, or if you wish to comment in more detail, you may submit your comments in writing. We have provided comment boxes if you choose to leave your completed comment form tonight. Written comments may also be mailed to the addresses listed here and on your handout. Your comments may also be sent electronically to the e-mail address shown in the slide and provided to you in your handout.

The comments must be submitted or postmarked by September 14th, 2018.

Both written and verbal comments will be considered equally. If you submit your comments in writing, it is not necessary to repeat your comments verbally.

I do want to check one more time that we do not have any elected officials or elected official representatives that would like to speak tonight.

(None noted.)

MS. BERGREN: Now I will begin to call individuals who registered to speak here tonight. You will have three minutes to make your comments. When I announce your name, please come to the microphone and clearly state your name and whom you may represent.

A timer, located on the screen, will indicate the beginning of your three minutes. After three minutes, you will be asked to be seated so the next speaker can make his or her comments. If you have additional comments, please complete the written form that was provided to you.

As mentioned earlier, we will not answer questions during the public comment session; however, we will be available to answer your questions following the close of the hearing.

The first speaker that we have registered tonight is Roy Edwards. Mr. Edwards?

MR. EDWARDS: My name is Roy Edwards, and I live at 162 Fisherman's Isle, Brazoria, down at the end of the San Bernard River. I'm a stakeholder. Apparently, the decision has been made, unfortunately,

to demolish the bridge.

If the bridge is demolished, I would like for you to consider getting in touch with Dale Shively, Texas Parks and Wildlife project manager for the Texas Nearshore Reefing Program. TXDOT -- Texas Parks and Wildlife is currently building a 160-acre reef nine miles from the shoreline off the mouth of the San Bernard River. A wonderful thing that they can use in building this reef are bridge pieces. So a structure, metal structure, as well as concrete structure, big and heavy so it won't move in the currents, are their requirements.

Also, the paper that I gave you was a presentation that I made to the Brazoria Commissioner's Court. The bridge over -- the 2611 bridge over the San Bernard River, when the new bridge is built, the old bridge will be destroyed. I would also like TXDOT to consider taking that bridge. As both bridges are barge accessible from the Brazos and San Bernard, it will be easy to put discarded bridge material onto barges, taking it nine miles offshore and dunking it as part of the reef structure. Thank you.

MS. BERGREN: Our next and last speaker is Mary Ruth Rhodenbaugh.

MS. RHODENBAUGH: For the last seven

years, I've done a lot of research, and I know that a farm-to-market road has to be connected to a State highway. And 531 is --

(Reporter requests pause to relocate for better acoustics.)

MS. RHODENBAUGH: Farm-to-Market 521 connects to State Highway 35 and State Highway 36. That makes it a farm-to-market road. It was one of the first in the state of Texas.

My grandfather worked on this bridge. It has always been very dear to me, but I'm not going to be bitter. I told Michelle already, I'm not going to be bitter about it. She asked me, "What do you think your grandfather would say?"

And I said, "I think he would say it has served its purpose."

Thank you.

MS. BERGREN: Thank you, ma'am.

Those are our last speakers signed up for tonight. I do see that another individual has indicated that they would like to make verbal comments. And if you have not filled out a speaker form, after making your comments, if you'll please fill that out for us. When you get to the mic, please state your name and whom you may represent so we have it for the record.

MS. EDWARDS: I'm Jan Edwards. And I'm just a stakeholder, but I have rights. And my editor gave me an assignment three years ago to write about this bridge. I did the research. I have a whole bunch of stuff sitting in a box here at the house, and -- and I started writing a story, and I couldn't finish it. So I called my editor and I said, "This story is not finished."

And then I started going to the stakeholder meetings and things were changing, but this is -- this bridge's story is not finished. This may be the final hurrah, but I couldn't write the story until it's finished; and it's not finished yet, and there's something about trying to write this thing, I can't do. I start writing it, and I went, no, because I don't know how it's going to end up.

And I -- I tell stories. I like to know the end of the story when I start. But I don't know the end. So this is just something to consider. This story is not played out yet. This may be the last play, but it's not played out yet.

MS. BERGREN: Thank you.

Do I have anybody else who would like to make a verbal comment tonight?

MR. LINDER: I'm David Linder. I am

Brazoria County Commissioner, Precinct 4, and I'd like to thank TxDOT, I'd like to thank Michelle, I'd like to thank all involved for -- I can see you did your due diligence to give everyone an opportunity to speak about this over the past several years and address their concerns. And I thank you for your -- for what y'all have done.

But I think the citizens of Brazoria would love to see the bridge stay. I think it would be a great thing to do. I've heard lots of comments. But like Mary Ruth said, I think -- you know, I think the bridge -- you know, it served its purpose, served the citizens for many years; and unfortunately, I just -- I'd love to see the County do something, but of course, the County is not able to do that. There's some other needs.

But I just wanted to say, basically, thank you for what y'all have done, and I think Mary Ruth said it best when she said, you know -- I honestly do. I think you said it best for all the citizens of the county, and I thank you for not being bitter, because we would all love to see a different -- we would love to see a different ending to this; but anyway, that's all I have. Thank you.

MS. BERGREN: Do we have anybody else who

would like to speak?

All right. That concludes -- thank you all for your participation tonight, and this completes the verbal comment portion, and we will close this public hearing. It is exactly 7:03 p.m., and the hearing is adjourned.

Please drive safely.

(Off the record at 7:03 p.m.)

THE STATE OF TEXAS)
COUNTY OF HARRIS)

I, Susan T. Baker, Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, certify that the foregoing proceedings were reported by me and accurately reduced to a full, true, and accurate computer-assisted transcript under my supervision.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE on this 10th day of September, 2018.

Susan T. Baker, CSR, RMR, RDR
Notary Public, State of Texas
Commission Expires: 1/7/22
CSR No. 1561
Expiration Date: 12/31/2019

Vinson Reporting & Video Service
Firm Registration #288
3018 Colony Crossing Drive
Sugar Land, Texas 77479
(281)980-8233
Fax (281)980-0832
Firm No. 288

Attachment F

Comments Received

COMMENT FORM
(FORMULARIO DE COMENTARIOS)

Public Hearing – SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
Audiencia Pública – Puente Histórico del Banguero SH 332 al Río Brazos

CSJ No. 1524-01-076 (TD)

August 30, 2018
(el 30, de agosto de 2018)

✓ **I am an Elected Official** (Soy un Funcionario electo) **Position** (Posición): Brazoria City Council Pos 4

Name and Mailing Address (Optional) (Nombre y Dirección [Opcional]):
Name (Nombre) Roschelle Hicks
Address (Dirección) [redacted]
Telephone (Teléfono) [redacted]

PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE ITEMS BELOW: (Favor de marcar la que le aplique)

I am primarily interested in the project from the standpoint of a: (Me interesa el proyecto desde el punto de vista de:)
✓ **Residential property owner or renter** (Propietario o inquilino residencial)
✓ **Business property owner or lessee** (Propietario o inquilino de negocio)
✓ **Other (Please explain)** (Otro [Favor de explicar]) Citizen

Per Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5): check each of the following boxes that apply to you: (Por el Código de Transportación de Texas, §201.811(a)(5): marcar siguientes casillas que se apliquen:)

__I am employed by TxDOT (Soy empleado de TxDOT)
__I do business with TxDOT (Hago negocios con TxDOT)
__I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting (Podría beneficiarme económicamante con este proyecto u otro asunto del cual estoy comentando)

How did you learn about this hearing? (¿Como se enteró de esta audiencia?)

__ **Newspaper** (Periódico) __ **Notice in the Mail** (Aviso por Correo)
✓ **Other** (Please explain) (Otro [Favor de explicar]) word of mouth

Do you support the proposed project? (¿Apoya el proyecto que se propone?) ✓ **Yes** (Sí) __ **No** (No) __ **Undecided** (Indeciso)

COMMENTS (COMENTARIOS): Would TxDot consider on the Brazoria City side building a historic park honoring the bridge history

Please make additional comments on the back. (Favor de hacer comentarios adicionales al dorso de esta forma.)

This comment form may be turned in tonight, mailed, or emailed by September 14, 2018 to the address below:
(Esta formulario de comentarios puede ser entregado esta noche, por correo, o por correo electrónico a más tardar el 14 de septiembre, de 2018 a la siguiente dirección:)

Director of Project Development
Texas Department of Transportation – Houston District
P.O. Box 1386
Houston, Texas 77251-1386
Email: hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov

COMMENT FORM
(FORMULARIO DE COMENTARIOS)

Public Hearing – SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
Audiencia Pública – Puente Histórico del Banguero SH 332 al Río Brazos

CSJ No. 1524-01-076 (TD)

August 30, 2018
(el 30, de agosto de 2018)

__**I am an Elected Official** (Soy un Funcionario electo) **Position** (Posición):_____

Name and Mailing Address (Optional) (Nombre y Dirección [Opcional]):
Name (Nombre) Roy + Jan Edwards
Address (Dirección) [redacted]
Telephone (Teléfono) [redacted]

PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE ITEMS BELOW: (Favor de marcar la que le aplique)

I am primarily interested in the project from the standpoint of a: (Me interesa el proyecto desde el punto de vista de:)
__**Residential property owner or renter** (Propietario o inquilino residencial) __**Business property owner or lessee** (Propietario o inquilino de negocio)
✓**Other (Please explain)** (Otro [Favor de explicar]) Historian / Advocate / Writer

Per Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5): check each of the following boxes that apply to you: (Por el Código de Transportación de Texas, §201.811(a)(5): marcar siguientes casillas que se apliquen:)

__I am employed by TxDOT (Soy empleado de TxDOT)
__I do business with TxDOT (Hago negocios con TxDOT)
__I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting (Podría beneficiarme económicamante con este proyecto u otro asunto del cual estoy comentando)

How did you learn about this hearing? (¿Como se enteró de esta audiencia?)

__**Newspaper** (Periódico) __**Notice in the Mail** (Aviso por Correo)
✓**Other** (Please explain) (Otro [Favor de explicar]) E-Mail

Do you support the proposed project? (¿Apoya el proyecto que se propone?) ___ **Yes** (Sí) ___ **No** (No) ___**Undecided** (Indeciso)

COMMENTS (COMENTARIOS): This can be an interagency win-win project - See attached letter

Please make additional comments on the back. (Favor de hacer comentarios adicionales al dorso de esta forma.)

This comment form may be turned in tonight, mailed, or emailed by September 14, 2018 to the address below:
(Esta formulario de comentarios puede ser entregado esta noche, por correo, o por correo electrónico a más tardar el 14 de septiembre, de 2018 a la siguiente dirección:)

Director of Project Development
Texas Department of Transportation – Houston District
P.O. Box 1386
Houston, Texas 77251-1386
[redacted]

Roy and Jan Edwards
[redacted]

To: Brazoria County Commissioners Court
Subject: Texas Offshore/Near Shore Reefing Program

July 24, 2018

Dear Sirs:

The July 2018 issue of the *Texas Parks and Wildlife* magazine contains several articles about the Texas Offshore/Near Shore Reefs and their benefits to the ecology and the economy. The article, "Building More Reefs" on page 41, explains the Texas Near Shore Reefing Program. This program is wholly funded by Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Once such reef currently under construction is just inside the Texas 9-mile territorial boundary, off the mouth of the San Bernard River. When completed, this reef will cover 160 acres. Included in the materials used to build these reefs are "discarded bridge materials".

Brazoria County has two large bridges scheduled for dismantling in the near future. One is the Hwy. 521 bridge over the Brazos River on the northeast side of Brazoria - that bridge has deteriorated to the point that it cannot be saved. TxDOT stated that the bridge is scheduled for demolition in about 18 months, pending an environmental survey. The second bridge, known as Sportsman Span on FM 2611 over the San Bernard, is scheduled for demolition after a replacement bridge is built. The new bridge is to let for bids no later than February 2019, pending a U.S. Coast Guard permit. Construction of the new bridge will take about two years, but information concerning the removal of the existing bridge must be included on the bid request. Both these projects are time sensitive.

Both bridges are barge accessible. Using barges to remove discarded bridge materials would keep thousands of tons of scrap steel and concrete riprap off Brazoria County roads. The barges could take the reefing materials from demolition directly to the reef site. Materials from these two bridges would quickly increase the current size of the Brazoria County Reef. As the reef expands, it will attract marine growth and sportfish. Because it is within nine miles of the San Bernard, it will also attract fishermen and divers. These people will be spending tourist dollars on launches, bait, ice, groceries, gas, lodging, etc. to the benefit of our coastal industries. With no monetary outlay, and incoming tourist dollars, this would be a win-win situation for Brazoria County.

One of the great ladies of Brazoria County has lobbied long and hard to save the 521 Bridge. Per TxDOT, the bridge cannot be saved. I ask the Brazoria County

Commissioner's Court to honor her by requesting the reef off Brazoria County be named the Mary Ruth Rhodenbaugh Reef if 521 bridge materials are used in that project.

I would ask that Brazoria County Commissioner's Court contact both TxDOT and Texas Parks and Wildlife to investigate the implementation of this plan.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Regards –

Roy and Jan Edwards

To Whom it may concern,

I'm writing in regards to the "Bridge to Nowhere." (the bridge on Hwy 332 going into Brazoria). I realize it is old and rusty and technically no longer needed but I think it would make a lovely pedestrian bridge. There is already a park/rest area near by. We not use the bridge & enhance the park. You could keep it simple if you need to avoid excessive costs. However if you decided to go all out & perhaps add a small ~~[illegible]~~ walking trail & some play ground equipment that would be wonderful too. I know a lot of other parents who would be thrilled too. To sum it up, let's keep the bridge & walk on it!

Thank you for your consideration in this matter & thank you for your time.

Josephine Harrier

P.S. I realize my return address indicates I live in Clute. Perhaps you think that's not close enough to get a say but I'm building on [redacted] & will be moving in less than a year. What neighborhood is closer than that?

(Bridge)

September 14, 2018

Texas Department of Transportation

Director of Project Development

Quincy Allen, P.E.

P.O. Box 1386

Houston, Texas 77251

Re: Brazos River Bridge, Brazoria, Texas

Dear Mr. Allen,

I am writing to put forth an idea of what to do with the Brazos River Bridge in Brazoria, Texas. I support the idea that if the bridge is to be demolished, that the materials be used to construct playground equipment and structures in Brazoria, Texas parks. As I drove by it the other day, I had an idea that the metal beams could be sold to individuals wishing to repurpose them in their own new or existing structures.

I put forth this idea because when I was looking at them last week, I wondered how I could purchase some of them to incorporate into our new home.

Thank you,

Phyllis Kowalik

Phyllis Kowalik

[redacted]

Angleton, Tx 77515

Attachment G

Handouts

Number_____

SPEAKER REGISTRATION

SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
CSJ: 1524-01-076

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS CARD IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE VERBAL COMMENTS AT TONIGHT'S HEARING.
Please note: speakers will have 3 minutes to complete their comments.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT) DATE

REPRESENTING (ie: HOA/ Neighborhood Group / Business)

Per 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

Texas Department of Transportation

Number _____

REGISTRO de ORADOR

SH 332 Puente Histórico de Acero sobre el Río Brazos

CSJ: 1524-01-076

FAVOR DE LLENAR ESTA TARJETA SI DESEA REALIZAR COMENTARIOS VERBALES EN LA AUDIENCIA DE ESTA NOCHE. *El orador estará limitado a 3 minutos para comentarios.*

NOMBRE (FAVOR USAR LETRA DE MOLDE) FECHA

REPRESENTANDO A: (ie HOA/ Neighborhood Group / Business)

Por Código de Transportación de Texas, §201.811(a)(5): favor de marcar la que le aplique:

__ Soy empleado de TxDOT
__ Hago negocios con TxDOT
__ Pudiera beneficiarme económicamante con este proyecto u otro asunto del cual estoy comentando

Texas Department of Transportation

COMMENT FORM
(FORMULARIO DE COMENTARIOS)

Public Hearing – SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River
Audiencia Pública – Puente Histórico del Banguero SH 332 al Río Brazos

CSJ No. 1524-01-076 (TD)

August 30, 2018
(el 30, de agosto de 2018)

__**I am an Elected Official** (Soy un Funcionario electo) **Position** (Posición):_____

Name and Mailing Address (Optional) (Nombre y Dirección [Opcional]):
Name (Nombre)_____
Address (Dirección)_____
Telephone (Teléfono)_____

PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE ITEMS BELOW: (Favor de marcar la que le aplique)

I am primarily interested in the project from the standpoint of a: (Me interesa el proyecto desde el punto de vista de:)
__**Residential property owner or renter** (Propietario o inquilino residencial)
__**Business property owner or lessee** (Propietario o inquilino de negocio)

__**Other (Please explain)** (Otro [Favor de explicar]) _____

Per Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5): check each of the following boxes that apply to you: (Por el Código de Transportación de Texas, §201.811(a)(5): marcar siguientes casillas que se apliquen:)

__I am employed by TxDOT (Soy empleado de TxDOT)
__I do business with TxDOT (Hago negocios con TxDOT)
__I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting (Podría beneficiarme económicamante con este proyecto u otro asunto del cual estoy comentando)

How did you learn about this hearing? (¿Como se enteró de esta audiencia?)

__**Newspaper** (Periódico) __**Notice in the Mail** (Aviso por Correo)
__**Other** (Please explain) (Otro [Favor de explicar]) _____

Do you support the proposed project? (¿Apoya el proyecto que se propone?) ___ **Yes** (Sí) ___ **No** (No) ___**Undecided** (Indeciso)

COMMENTS (COMENTARIOS): _____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Please make additional comments on the back. (Favor de hacer comentarios adicionales al dorso de esta forma.)

This comment form may be turned in tonight, mailed, or emailed by September 14, 2018 to the address below:
(Esta formulario de comentarios puede ser entregado esta noche, por correo, o por correo electrónico a más tardar el 14 de septiembre, de 2018 a la siguiente dirección:)

Director of Project Development
Texas Department of Transportation – Houston District
P.O. Box 1386
Houston, Texas 77251-1386
Email: hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov

Director of Project Development
Texas Department of Transportation – Houston District
P.O. Box 1386
Houston, Texas 77251-1386

Director of Project Development
Texas Department of Transportation – Houston District
P.O. Box 1386
Houston, Texas 77251-1386

(TD: CSJ No. 1524-01-076)

Texas Department of Transportation

CSJ 1524-01-076

WELCOME TO THE PUBLIC HEARING

SH 332 HISTORIC TRUSS BRIDGE AT THE BRAZOS RIVER

AUGUST 30, 2018

PURPOSE OF PROPOSED PROJECT

The purpose of the project is to determine an appropriate alternative for the National Register of Historic Places-listed SH 332 historic truss bridge considering its current condition and setting.

Welcome

The Texas Department of Transportation **(TxDOT)** welcomes you to the Public Hearing **for** the State Highway 332 (SH 332) Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River. The purpose of tonight's public hearing is **to** afford the public an opportunity to review and provide comments on the proposed project.

Agenda

This public hearing is being held on August 30, 2018 at the West Brazos Junior High School in Brazoria, Texas.

The hearing will begin with an open house format from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Representatives from TxDOT and the study team are available to answer individual questions. **A formal presentation will begin at 6:30 pm, followed by a comment session.** Public comments are encouraged.

Project Summary

Since the City of Brazoria and Brazoria County's original plan to rehabilitate the SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge for pedestrian use was dissolved in 2011, TxDOT has performed an Alternatives Analysis to determine the most appropriate outcome for the bridge in the current situation and setting.

TxDOT invited local governments, state agencies, and local citizens to participate in the Alternatives Analysis process and to provide input on additional options. Two Stakeholder Meetings were held in November 2017 and May 2018 at Barrow Elementary School in Brazoria. Six alternatives were studied in depth and discussed at the Stakeholder Meetings. Summaries of these meetings can be found on the TxDOT project page at https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/houston/sh-332-truss-bridge.html.

The SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge has also been advertised on the Historic Bridge Legacy Program website since April 2018 in an attempt to find an individual, program, or entity that would be willing and able to adopt the large truss bridge. The notice was posted for more than three months with no potential adopters expressing an interest.

At the conclusion of the Alternatives Analysis process, TxDOT recommends the demolition of the SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge.

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

Timeline

2003 As part of the original SH 332 project, TxDOT, Brazoria County and the City of Brazoria sign an agreement authorizing the local governments to take ownership of the Historic Truss Bridge for rehabilitation after it is removed from service.

2004 Federal Highway Administration approves the Environmental Assessment (EA) with the rehabilitation agreement in place.

2010 Construction of the new SH 332 bridge is completed and the historic SH 332 truss bridge was removed from service.

2011 At the request of the local governments, the agreement between City of Brazoria, Brazoria County, and TxDOT is terminated.

2016 TxDOT conducts an alternatives analysis to determine options for the historic SH 332 truss bridge.

2017-2018 TxDOT holds stakeholder meetings in November 2017 and May 2018.

Next Steps

- Consider public hearing comments.
- Finalize alternatives analysis.
- Coordinate with applicable resource agencies.
- Prepare documentation of chosen alternative for Environmental approval.

How to Get Involved in the Proposed Project

The public is invited to participate in the project by attending the public hearing and asking questions. You may also provide written comments at the hearing on the provided comment cards. Comment cards may be turned in at the Public Hearing on August 30, 2018, or you may mail or email the comment card to TxDOT.

Written comments may be submitted via U.S. Mail or email. Comments may be submitted in English or Spanish.

Submit comment to:
TxDOT Houston District
Director of Project Development
Texas Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1386
Houston, Texas 77251-1386

All mailed comments must be postmarked by September 14, 2018. Comments may also be emailed on or before September 14, 2018, to:
Hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov

Bienvenidos a la Audiencia Pública

SH 332

Puente Histórico sobre el Rio Brazos

CSJ 1524-01-076

30 de Agosto de 2018

PROPÓSITO DEL PROYECTO PROPUESTO

El objetivo del proyecto es determinar una alternativa adecuada para el SH 332 puente histórico del Registro Nacional de Lugares-teniendo en cuenta su estado y configuración actuales.

Bienvenidos

El Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT, por sus siglas en inglés) le da la bienvenida por asistir a la Audiencia Pública para la SH 332 en el puente histórico sobre el Río Brazos. **El propósito de esta audiencia pública es** para presentar el proyecto al público y recibir comentarios del público sobre el proyecto que se está proponiendo.

Agenda

La audiencia pública se llevará a cabo el dia 30 de agosto de 2018, en la escuela West Brazos Junior High en Brazoria, Texas.

La audiencia comenzará con un foro informativo de 5:30 pm a 6:30 pm. Representantes de TXDOT y el equipo de estudio están disponibles para responder preguntas individuales. La presentación formal comenzará a las 6:30 pm **y despues seguiremos con una sesión de comentarios. Se solicita comentarios del público.**

Resumen del Proyecto

La ciudad de Brazoria y los planes previos del Condado de Brazoria para rehabilitar el SH 332 puente histórico para uso peatonal se cancelaron en el año 2011. TxDOT ha realizado un Análisis de Alternativas para determinar el resultado más apropiado para el puente en la situación y configuración actual.

TxDOT invitó a los gobiernos locales, agencias estatales y ciudadanos locales a participar en el proceso de análisis de alternativas y a proporcionar información sobre opciones adicionales. Se celebraron dos reuniones con las partes interesadas en noviembre de 2017 y en mayo de 2018 en la escuela Barrow Elementary School en Brazoria. Se estudiaron seis alternativas en profundidad y se discutieron en las reuniones de las partes interesadas. Los resúmenes de estas reuniones se pueden encontrar en la página del proyecto TxDOT en https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/houston/sh-332-truss-bridge.html

La SH 332 sobre el puente histórico también se ha anunciado en el sitio web del Historic Bridge Legacy Program desde abril de 2018 en un intento de encontrar un individuo, programa o entidad que esté dispuesto y sea capaz de adoptar el puente historico. El aviso fue publicado por más de tres meses sin que ningún posible adoptante exprese su interés.

Al finalizar el proceso de análisis de alternativas, TxDOT recomienda la demolición del Puente histórico sobre la SH 332.

La revisión ambiental, consulta, y otras acciones requeridas por las Leyes Ambientales Federales aplicables para este Proyecto están siendo o han sido llevado a cabo por TXDOT en virtud de 23 USC 327 y un Memorando de Entendimiento de Diciembre 16, 2014, y ejecutado por la FHWA Y TXDOT.

Cronograma

2003 Como parte del proyecto original de la SH 332, TxDOT, el condado de Brazoria y la ciudad de Brazoria firman un acuerdo que autoriza a los gobiernos locales a hacerse cargo del puente histórico para la rehabilitación después de que se retire del servicio.

2004 La Administración Federal de Carreteras aprueba la Evaluación Ambiental (EA) con el acuerdo de rehabilitación vigente.

2010 La construcción del nuevo puente SH 332 se completa y el puente histórico se retiró del servicio.

2011 A solicitud de los gobiernos locales, se rescinde el acuerdo entre la Ciudad de Brazoria, el Condado de Brazoria y TxDOT.

2016 TxDOT realiza un análisis de alternativas para determinar las opciones para el SH 332 puente histórico.

2017-2018 TxDOT celebra reuniones con partes interesadas en noviembre de 2017 y mayo de 2018.

Próximos Pasos

- Considerar los comentarios de la audiencia publica.
- Finalizar Análisis de Alternativas
- Coordinar con las agencias de recursos aplicables.
- Preparar la documentación de la alternativa elegida para aprobación ambiental.

Cómo participar en el proyecto que se propone

El público está invitado a asistir a la audiencia para participar y hacer preguntas. También puede proporcionar comentarios por escrito en la audiencia en las tarjetas de comentario. Las tarjetas de comentarios pueden ser entregadas en la audiencia pública el 30 de agosto de 2018, o pueden ser enviadas por correo o por correo electrónico a TxDOT.

Los comentarios escritos pueden ser enviados por correo o correo electrónico. Los comentarios pueden ser enviados en inglés o español.

Enviar comentario a:
TxDOT Houston District
Director of Project Development
Texas Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1386
Houston, Texas 77251-1386

Todos los comentarios enviados por correo deben ser sellados antes del 14 de septiembre de 2018. Los comentarios también pueden ser enviados por correo electrónico para la fecha indicada o antes la fecha indicada a:
Hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov

Attachment H

Display Boards

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Welcome

Public Hearing

SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River, Brazoria County

August 30, 2018

Open House: 5:30 p.m.

Formal Presentation Begins at 6:30 p.m.

Purpose of the Hearing

- Present Alternatives Evaluated for the SH 332 Historic Bridge
- Seek Comments and Answer Questions
- Open House 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
  - Our Team is Available to Answer Questions during the Open House
- Formal Presentation Begins at 6:30 p.m.

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

La revisión ambiental, consultas, y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales federales aplicables para este proyecto están siendo o han sido, llevadas a cabo por TxDOT en virtud de 3 U.S.C. 327 y un Memorándum de Entendimiento con fecha de 16 de diciembre de 2014, y ejecutado por la FHWA y el TxDOT.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Project Location

SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River

- Listed on the National Register of Historic Places
- Designated as a State Antiquities Landmark

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Purpose and Need

NEED

The project is needed to address:

- Maintenance of the SH 332 historic truss bridge
- Structural deficiency of the SH 332 historic truss bridge
- Safety

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project is to determine a long-term and appropriate disposition and maintenance plan for the SH 332 historic truss bridge.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Structural Deficiencies

Photo date: January 2016

Photo date: January 2016

Photo date: January 2015

Section loss (deterioration) of bridge members

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Structural Deficiencies

Photo date: January 2016

Photo date: January 2016

Impact damage from previous traffic on the historic bridge

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Structural Deficiencies

Photo date: January 2016

Photo date: January 2016

Impact damage from current traffic under the historic bridge
(lack of vertical clearance under the bridge)

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Regulatory Requirements

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
Federal regulation (36 CFR Part 800) requiring federal projects to take into account the effect of their undertakings on historic properties, and provide the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Regulatory Requirements

Chapter 26 of Texas Parks and Wildlife Code

State regulation (Parks and Wildlife Code, Title 3, Chapter 26, Section 26.001) requiring that a state agency may not approve a project if it requires the use or taking of any public land designated as a park, recreation area, scientific area, wildlife refuge, or historic site, unless the agency determines that:

(1) There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the acquisition or use of such land; and
(2) All reasonable planning to minimize harm to public lands or historic sites as a result of the use or acquisition.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Regulatory Requirements

Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966

Federal regulation (23 CFR Part 774) mandating a process that identifies impacts to parks, recreational areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites for projects under development by the US DOT.

When FHWA determines that a project may use a Section 4(f) property, an alternatives analysis must be completed to determine if there is a feasible and prudent alternative that will avoid impact to the Section 4(f) resource, and that the action includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the property.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Project Alternatives

Because the bridge structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, TxDOT examined six alternatives to determine the most appropriate option for the SH 332 historic truss bridge, the traveling public, and tax payers. These included:

- No Build (Do Nothing)
- Rehabilitate the SH 332 historic truss bridge for two-way vehicular traffic
- Rehabilitate the SH 332 historic truss bridge to be used as a one-way pair
- Rehabilitate the SH 332 historic truss bridge for pedestrian use
- Stabilize the SH 332 historic truss bridge
- Demolish the SH 332 historic truss bridge

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Section 4(f) Determination

Based on the engineering analysis and the Section 4(f) evaluation, TxDOT recommends demolishing the SH 332 historic truss bridge.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act provides opportunities for the public to comment on the projects that can affect historic properties. TxDOT has been and is continuing to solicit comments from stakeholders and the public.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

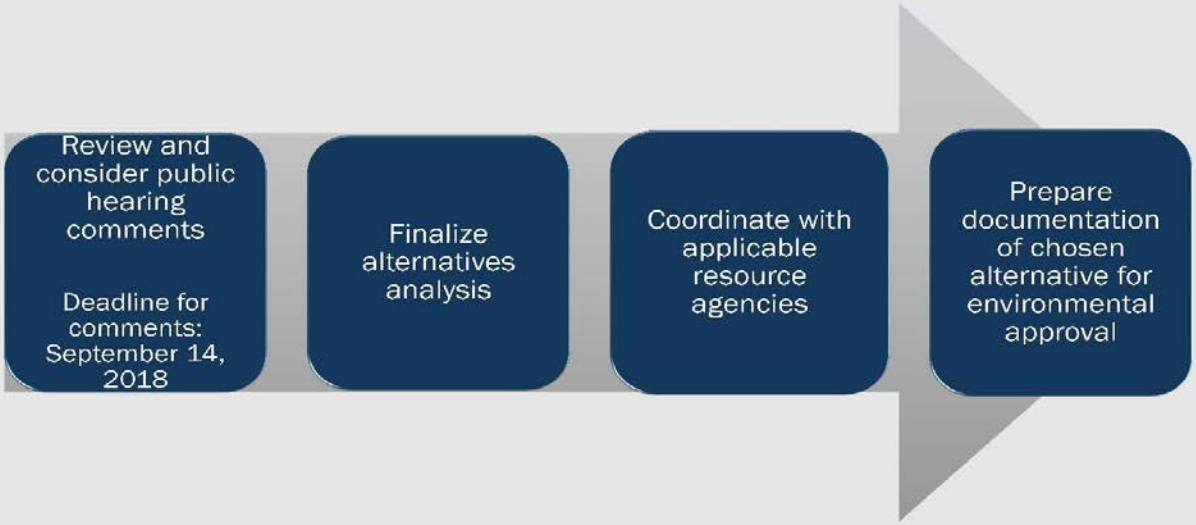
Historic Bridge Marketing

Federally funded projects that propose to demolish a historic bridge are required to make the historic bridge available to a new owner. To comply with this federal law (23 USC 144), TxDOT markets historic bridges on the TxDOT website for at least 30 days.

TxDOT marketed the SH 332 historic truss bridge from April 2018 to August 2018. TxDOT also solicited the historic truss bridge to known potential bridge owners throughout Texas. TxDOT received no proposals from potential new owners.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Next Steps



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Public Hearing Comments

All comments must be submitted by September 14, 2018.
Comments may be provided tonight at this Public Hearing
by mail, by email, or online.

Submit Comments TONIGHT:
In the Comment Box

Submit Comments by MAIL to:
TxDOT Houston District
Attn: Director of Project Development
P.O. Box 1386
Houston, Texas 77251-1386

Submit Comments ELECTRONICALLY at:
https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/houston/sh-332-truss-bridge.html
(*or go to www.txdot.gov and search keyword SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge*)
OR
EMAIL to:
HOU-PIOwebmail@txdot.gov

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Attachment I

Presentation Slides

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SECTION 106, SECTION 4(f) AND CHAPTER 26 PUBLIC HEARING

332
TEXAS

SH 332 Historic Truss Bridge at the Brazos River

August 30, 2018

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

AGENDA

- Exhibit Viewing and Registration
- Public Hearing Presentation
- Public Comment Session
- Adjourn

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Introductions

Elected Officials

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Published Hearing Notices

- ***Houston Chronicle:***
  July 30st, August 6th, & August 17th
- ***La Voz:***
  August 5th, & August 12th, & August 19th
- ***The Facts:***
  July 30st, August 6th, & August 17th
- **On the Web:**
  http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/get-involved/about/hearings-meetings.html

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Purpose of Tonight's Public Hearing

- Present alternatives considered for the SH 332 historic truss bridge
- Provide the opportunity for comment
- Comply with State and Federal Requirements, such as:
  - Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
  - Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966
  - Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bridge Features and Background

- SH 332 historic truss bridge
  - Built in 1939
  - Includes three Parker through truss spans and 14 steel I-beam approach spans
  - Listed on the National Register of Historic Places and listed as a State Antiquities Landmark in 1991

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Project Background

- A 2004 Environmental Assessment included an agreement that the city and county would preserve the SH 332 historic truss bridge
- In 2010, TxDOT completed the new SH 332 vehicular bridge and took the SH 332 historic truss bridge out of service.
- The agreement regarding the SH 332 historic truss bridge terminated in 2011.
- TxDOT initiated new alternatives analysis for the SH 332 historic truss bridge.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Need and Purpose (2004)

Need:

- Deterioration of the existing roadway and historic truss bridge
- Structural deficiency of the existing historic truss bridge
- Maintenance of the existing historic truss bridge
- Inefficient transitioning of traffic at the existing FM 521 intersection
- Hurricane evacuation
- Safety

Purpose:

- To improve roadway conditions, reduce maintenance, and improve mobility by widening SH 332, constructing a new bridge at the Brazos River, and redesigning the FM 521 intersection.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2016 Amended Need and Purpose

Amended Need:

- Maintenance of the SH 332 historic truss bridge
- Structural deficiency of the SH 332 historic truss bridge
- Safety

Amended Purpose:

The purpose of the project is to determine a long-term and appropriate disposition and maintenance plan for the SH 332 historic truss bridge.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Section loss and paint failure

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Impact damage from previous traffic on the bridge

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Impact damage from current traffic under the bridge's north approach span

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Separation between the truss and adjacent north approach span

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Section 4(f) Determination

Six alternatives were examined to determine the most appropriate option for the SH 332 historic truss bridge

- No Build (Do Nothing)
- Rehabilitate the SH 332 historic truss bridge for two-way vehicular traffic
- Rehabilitate the SH 332 historic truss bridge to be used as a one-way pair
- Rehabilitate the SH 332 historic truss bridge for pedestrian use
- Stabilize the SH 332 historic truss bridge
- Demolish the SH 332 historic truss bridge

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Stakeholder Meetings & Adoption Options

In November 2017 and May 2018, TxDOT met with:

- County officials
- City officials
- Brazoria Heritage Foundation
- Historic Bridge Foundation
- State Historic Preservation Office staff

In April 2018, the bridge was marketed on the Historic Bridge Legacy Program in an attempt to locate a new owner for the bridge

No entities or individuals have come forward to adopt the bridge

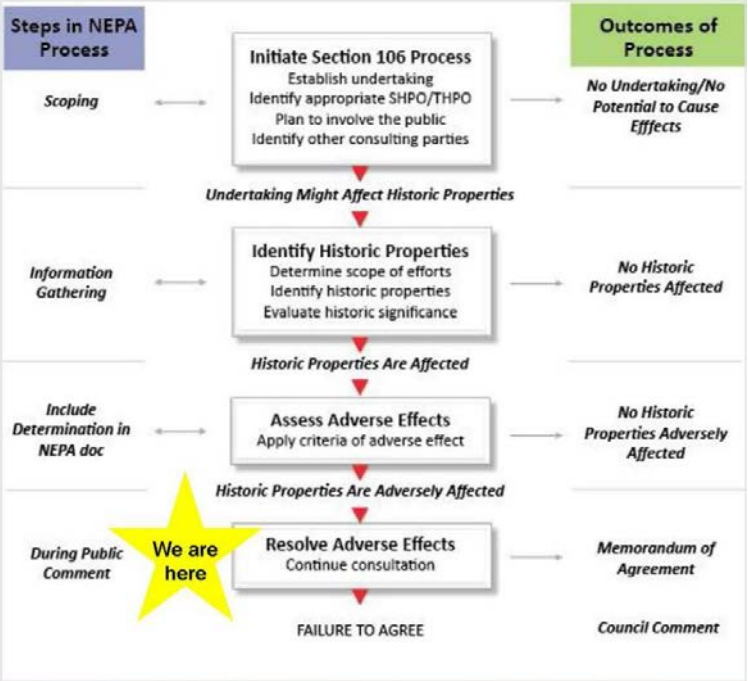
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Section 4(f) Determination

Based on the evaluation, TxDOT recommends demolishing the SH 332 historic truss bridge.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SECTION 106 PROCESS



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Next Steps

- Review Public Comments Received
- Prepare Public Hearing Summary Report
- Let Construction Contracts: Spring 2019
- Demolition Start Date: Late 2019
- Estimated Demolition Cost: $490,000

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

All comments must be submitted by September 14, 2018.

Submit Comments **TONIGHT** by:
Verbal Comments: Complete a speaker card to speak during the public hearing
Written Comments: Place in the comment box

Submit Comments by **MAIL** to:
TxDOT Houston District
Attn: Director of Project Development
P.O. Box 1386
Houston, Texas 77251-1386

Submit Comments **ELECTRONICALLY** by:
EMAIL at HOU-piowebmail@txdot.gov
Or Online at: https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/houston/sh-332-truss-bridge.html

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ELECTED OFFICIALS COMMENT SESSION

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ORAL COMMENTS

- Submit Speaker Registration Card
- Limited to three minutes
- Use microphone and face court reporter
- State your name and whom you represent (i.e. neighborhood or group)
- Unused time may not be given to another speaker

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

We welcome your comments.

Thank you for attending.

BE SAFE.
DRIVE SMART.