



WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Division of Highways

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • (304) 558-3505

Jim Justice
Governor

Thomas J. Smith, P. E.
Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Senator Jeffrey Kessler
602 Washington Ave.
Glen Dale, WV 26038

Dear Senator Kessler:

State Project Bridge # S343-31-9.82
Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

Please be advised the West Virginia Division of Highways has initiated NEPA studies for the above referenced project. As we begin this process, we request your early input as to any concerns your agency may have regarding this project.

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5. Rehabilitate the existing bridge.
6. A new bridge will be constructed downstream, allowing traffic to be maintained on the existing bridge during construction.
7. No Build

An Informational Workshop Public Meeting was held on Monday, December 5, 2016 at the Cairo Community Building, Ritchie County, West Virginia (See attached handout). Twenty-six people attended the meeting.

Should you require additional information, please contact Sondra Mullins of our Environmental Section at (304) 558-9487 or Sondra.L.Mullins@wv.gov.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben L. Hark".

Ben L. Hark
Environmental Section Head
Engineering Division

H:h
Attachments
bcc: DDE(SM)



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Thomas J. Smith, P. E.
Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Senator Kent Leonhardt
616 Happy Lane
Fairview, WV 26570

Dear Senator Leonhardt:

State Project Bridge # S343-31-9.82
Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

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Jim Justice
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Thomas J. Smith, P. E.
Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Delegate Lynwood Ireland
342 Ireland Road
Pullman, WV 26421

Dear Delegate Ireland:

State Project Bridge # S343-31-9.82
Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

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Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Rusty Roten
District Engineer/Manager
West Virginia Division of Highways
624 Depot Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101

Dear Mr. Roten:

State Project Bridge # S343-31-9.82
Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

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March 2, 2017

Wilma Reip
Water Resources Section
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th Street
Charleston, WV 25304

Dear Ms. Reip:

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Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

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March 2, 2017

William Durham
Division Director
Air Quality
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th Street
Charleston, WV 25304

Dear Director Durham:

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Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

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Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Patty Hickman
Interim Director
Land Restoration
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th street
Charleston, WV 25304

Dear Director Hickman:

State Project Bridge # S343-31-9.82
Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

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March 2, 2017

Scott Mandirola
Division Director
Water and Waste Management
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th Street
Charleston, WV 25304

Dear Director Mandirola:

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Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

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Thomas J. Smith, P. E.
Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Anne Wakeford
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
Post Office Box 67
Elkins, WV 26241

Dear Ms. Wakeford:

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Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

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Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Danney Bennett
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
Post Office Box 67
Elkins, WV 26241

Dear Mr. Bennett:

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Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
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Thomas J. Smith, P. E.
Secretary of Transportation
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March 2, 2017

Stephen McDaniel
Director
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
Building 74
324 Fourth Avenue
South Charleston, WV 25303

Dear Director McDaniel:

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Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

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Thomas J. Smith, P. E.
Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Susan Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
West Virginia Division of Culture and History
1900 Kanawha Blvd E
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Ms. Pierce

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Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

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March 2, 2017

Willie R. Taylor
Director
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C. Street, NW (MS 2462)
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Taylor:

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Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
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March 2, 2017

John Scmidt
Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
West Virginia Field Office
694 Beverly Pike
Elkins, WV 26241

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

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Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
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March 2, 2017

Bill O'Donnell
Assistant State Conservationist-Programs
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1650 Earl L. Core Road
Suite 200
Morgantown, WV 26505

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Thomas J. Smith, P. E.
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March 2, 2017

Mary Ann Tierney
Regional Director
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Region III
615 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

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4. Replace with a three span bridge upstream of the existing bridge. Traffic will be maintained on the existing bridge during construction.
5. Rehabilitate the existing bridge.
6. A new bridge will be constructed downstream, allowing traffic to be maintained on the existing bridge during construction.
7. No Build

An Informational Workshop Public Meeting was held on Monday, December 5, 2016 at the Cairo Community Building, Ritchie County, West Virginia (See attached handout). Twenty-six people attended the meeting.

Should you require additional information, please contact Sondra Mullins of our Environmental Section at (304) 558-9487 or Sondra.L.Mullins@wv.gov.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben L. Hark".

Ben L. Hark
Environmental Section Head
Engineering Division

H:h
Attachments



WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • (304) 558-3505

Jim Justice
Governor

Thomas J. Smith, P. E.
Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Michael Hatton
Chief, Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Huntington District
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701

Dear Mr. Hatton:

State Project Bridge # S343-31-9.82
Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

Please be advised the West Virginia Division of Highways has initiated NEPA studies for the above referenced project. As we begin this process, we request your early input as to any concerns your agency may have regarding this project.

This project consists of replacing the existing Cairo Bridge. At this time the alternatives are as follows:

1. Replace with a single span bridge on existing location using a temporary detour upstream to maintain traffic.
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Ben L. Hark
Environmental Section Head
Engineering Division

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WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • (304) 558-3505

Jim Justice
Governor

Thomas J. Smith, P. E.
Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Jeffrey Lapp
Associate Director
Office of Environmental Programs (E3A3O)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Mr. Lapp:

State Project Bridge # S343-31-9.82
Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

Please be advised the West Virginia Division of Highways has initiated NEPA studies for the above referenced project. As we begin this process, we request your early input as to any concerns your agency may have regarding this project.

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Should you require additional information, please contact Sondra Mullins of our Environmental Section at (304) 558-9487 or Sondra.L.Mullins@wv.gov.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben L. Hark".

Ben L. Hark
Environmental Section Head
Engineering Division

H:h
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WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Division of Highways

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • (304) 558-3505

Jim Justice
Governor

Thomas J. Smith, P. E.
Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

March 2, 2017

Jessica Martinsen
Team Leader
Office of Environmental Programs (E3A3O)
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Ms. Martinsen:

State Project Bridge # S343-31-9.82
Federal Project # STP-0031(037)D
Cairo Bridge
Ritchie County

Please be advised the West Virginia Division of Highways has initiated NEPA studies for the above referenced project. As we begin this process, we request your early input as to any concerns your agency may have regarding this project.

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Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben L. Hark".

Ben L. Hark
Environmental Section Head
Engineering Division

H:h
Attachments



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**



Welcome!

Cairo Bridge Project Public Informational Workshop State Project: S343-31-9.82 Federal Project: STP-0031(037)D

*Monday, December 5, 2016 / 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Cairo Community Building
2 Town Square
Cairo, West Virginia*

The West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) is conducting this public informational workshop for the proposed Cairo Bridge replacement project to answer your questions and listen to your ideas or concerns. This meeting complies with the public involvement requirements of the *National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)* and Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act*.

Project maps and other information are on display for your review here today. They are also available online for your convenience. You are encouraged to examine these materials and discuss the project with members of the study team.

Project Purpose and Need

WVDOH proposes to construct a new bridge on WV 31 over the North Fork of Hughes River. The existing Cairo Bridge was built in 1925 and is a contributing structure to the Cairo Historic District. Approximately 750 vehicles use the bridge daily. Construction of a new bridge will improve safety and mobility for the traveling public.

Although the bridge has been rehabilitated twice, it is showing deterioration and is considered functionally obsolete. Its current condition requires posting of a 16-ton weight limit. The weight

limit is likely to be further reduced due to the bridge's continued deterioration. The bridge roadway width 18.5 feet, less than what is commonly found on more modern bridges.

Alternatives

A new bridge will have two 11-foot travel lanes and a 5-foot sidewalk. Several alternatives have been studied to replace or rehabilitate the existing bridge. All alternatives are on the existing alignment or immediately adjacent. At this point in the project development process, two alternatives have been identified as possible preferred alternatives they are Alternatives 1B and 2B. The alternatives are described below and are shown on the attached figures.

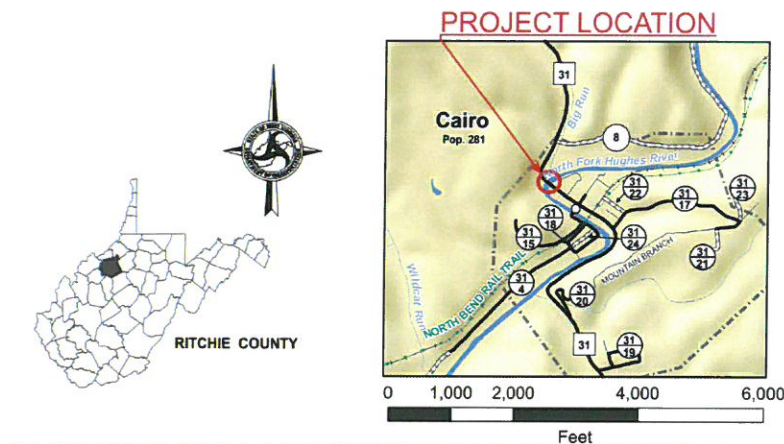
- **No-Build:** Under this alternative some minor repairs may be undertaken to preserve the existing bridge and maintain traffic. If this alternative were chosen, additional weight restrictions will likely be placed on the bridge and it will eventually need to be closed to traffic. The WVDOH believes this alternative is not feasible.
- **Alternative 1A, Single Span Replacement on Existing Alignment:** To maintain traffic during construction, a temporary bridge would be installed upstream of the existing bridge. Although the temporary will have a sidewalk, the travelway will only be one-lane wide. A temporary traffic signal will control alternating lanes of traffic during construction. Alternative 1A has an estimated construction cost of \$3,362,000.
- **Alternative 1B, Three Span Replacement on Existing Alignment:** Similar to the first alternative, Alternative 1B uses a temporary bridge upstream of the existing bridge. The temporary bridge also has a sidewalk and a one-lane travelway. A temporary traffic signal controls alternating lanes of traffic during construction. Alternative 1B has an estimated construction cost of \$3,112,000. The WVDOH believes this is one of the two preferred alternatives for the project.
- **Alternative 2A, Single Span Replacement Upstream:** A new bridge will be constructed upstream of the existing bridge. Traffic is maintained on the existing bridge during construction of the new bridge. Alternative 2A has an estimated construction cost of \$2,839,000.
- **Alternative 2B, Three Span Replacement Upstream:** Similar to Alternative 2A, a new bridge upstream of the existing bridge. Traffic is maintained on the existing bridge during construction activities. Alternative 2B has an estimated construction cost of \$2,805,000. The WVDOH believes this is the other preferred alternative for the project.

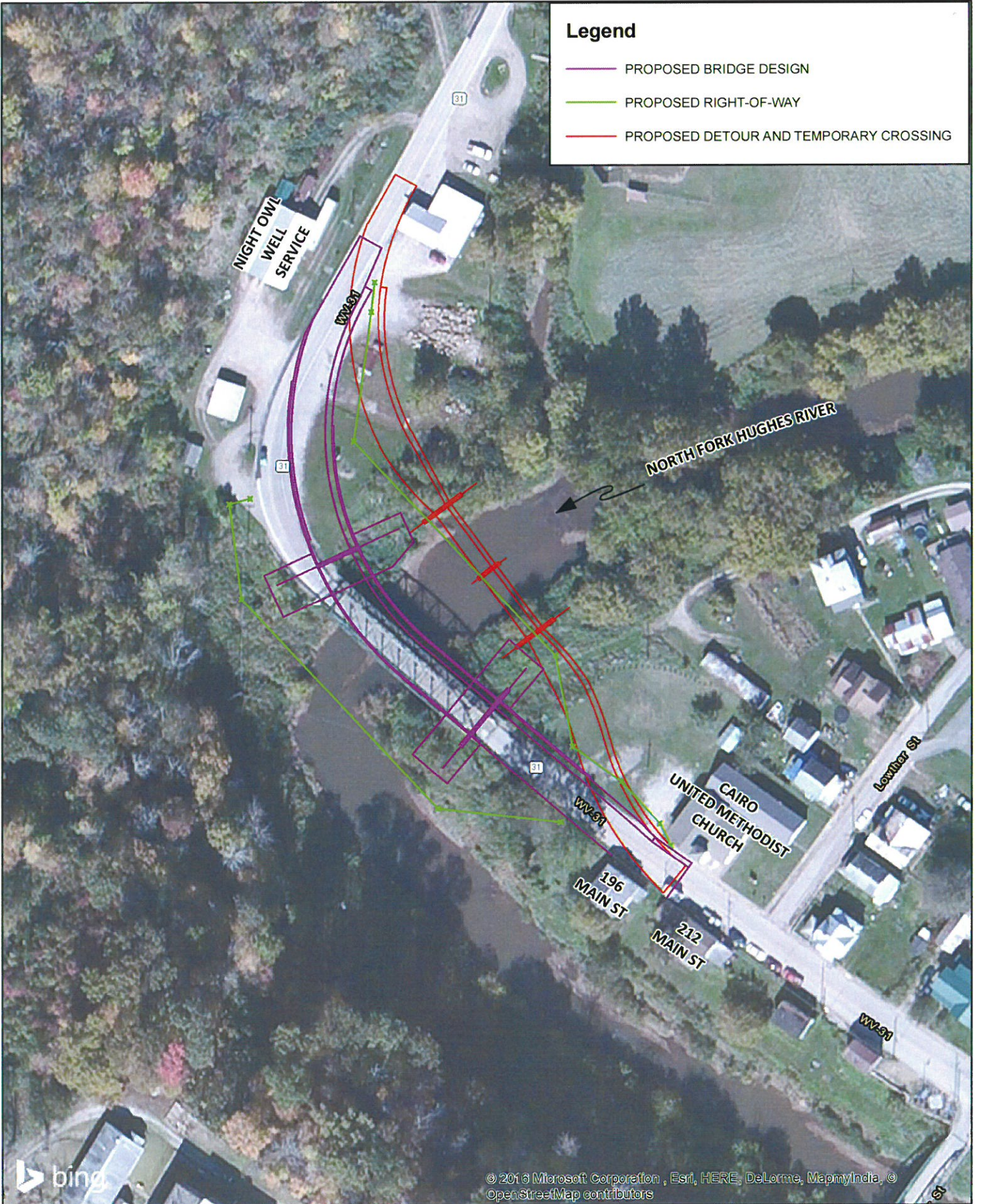
- **Alternative 3, Rehabilitate Existing Bridge:** Due to the continued deterioration of the truss and the movement of the abutments that has been experienced rehabilitation is no longer feasible. Only a full reconstruction of the truss with new abutments and deck is feasible but is cost prohibitive. The WVDOH believes this alternative is not feasible.
- **Alternative 4, Downstream Replacement:** A new bridge could be constructed downstream, allowing traffic to be maintained on the existing bridge during construction. A downstream location has more impacts than any of the other alternative that has been studied. No cost estimates have been developed.

Potential Impacts

Preliminary Analysis Factor	Alternative 1A, Single Span Replacement on Existing Alignment	Alternative 1B, Three Span Replacement on Existing Alignment	Alternative 2A, Single Span Replacement Upstream	Alternative 2B, Three Span Replacement Upstream
Property Impacts	Least, but the same as 1B	Least, but the same as 1A	Most of all four alternatives	More than 1A & 1B, but less than 2A
Businesses	3	3	3	3
History	Falls within Cairo Historic District	Falls within Cairo Historic District	Falls within Cairo Historic District	Falls within Cairo Historic District
River	Permanent: 2,960 SF Temporary: 1,490 SF	Permanent: 2,960 SF Temporary: 1,490 SF	Permanent: 2,750 SF Temporary: 0	Permanent: 2,750 SF Temporary: 0
Cost	\$3,362,000	\$3,112,000	\$2,839,000	\$2,805,000

Regional Setting





Legend

- PROPOSED BRIDGE DESIGN
- PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY
- PROPOSED DETOUR AND TEMPORARY CROSSING

NIGHT OWL
WELL
SERVICE

NORTH FORK HUGHES RIVER

CAIRO
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

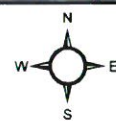
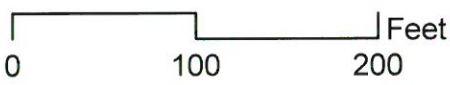
196
MAIN ST

212
MAIN ST

Lowther St



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**ALTERNATIVE 1A
SINGLE SPAN REPLACEMENT
ON EXISTING ALIGNMENT**

Legend

- PROPOSED BRIDGE DESIGN
- PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY
- PROPOSED DETOUR AND TEMPORARY CROSSING

NIGHT OWL
WELL
SERVICE

NORTH FORK HUGHES RIVER

CAIRO
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

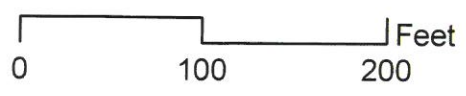
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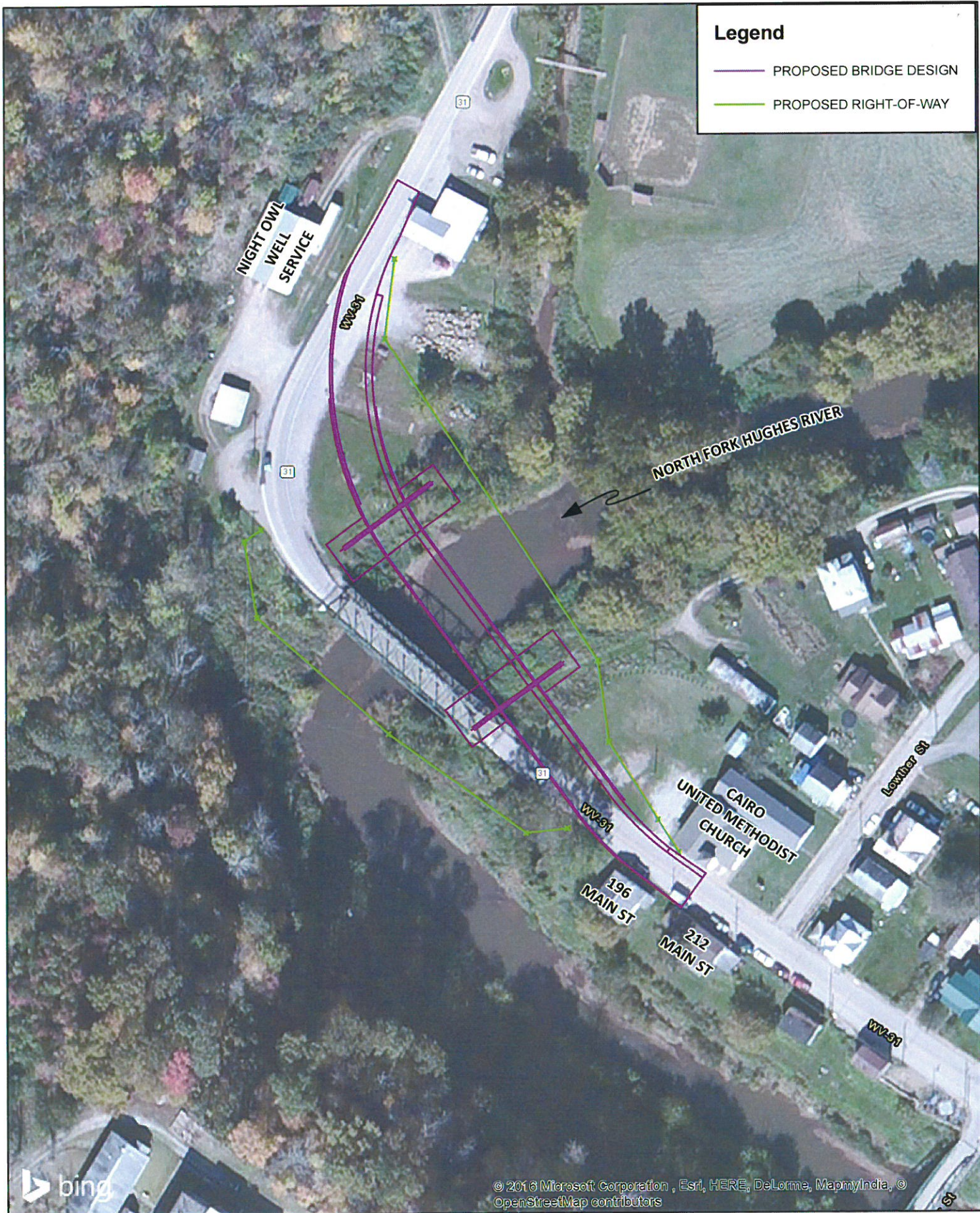
Lowther St



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ALTERNATIVE 1B
3 SPAN REPLACEMENT
ON EXISTING ALIGNMENT



Legend

- PROPOSED BRIDGE DESIGN
- PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY

NIGHT OWL
WELL
SERVICE

NORTH FORK HUGHES RIVER

CAIRO
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

196
MAIN ST

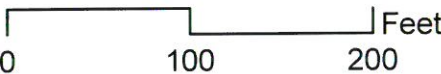
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MAIN ST

Leather St

196
MAIN ST



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**ALTERNATIVE 2A
SINGLE SPAN REPLACEMENT
ON UPSTREAM ALIGNMENT**

Legend

- PROPOSED BRIDGE DESIGN
- PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY

NIGHT OWL
WELL
SERVICE

NORTH FORK HUGHES RIVER

CAIRO
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

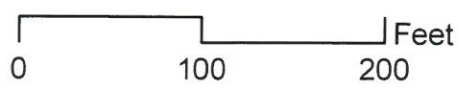
196
MAIN ST

212
MAIN ST

Leslie St



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**ALTERNATIVE 2B
THREE SPAN REPLACEMENT
ON UPSTREAM ALIGNMENT**

Tentative Project Schedule

Public Scoping Meeting.....December 5, 2016
Comments DueJanuary 5, 2017
Environmental Document.....July 2017
Informational Workshop/Public Hearing.....August 2017
Comments Due.....September 2017
Final Environmental Document.....November 2017
Right-of-Way Acquisition.....October 2018
Construction.....October 2020

***Comments following tonight's meeting
are due on January 5, 2017.***

There are three ways to comment.

Through our website: <http://go.wv.gov/dotcomment>

By Email: Sondra.L.Mullins@wv.gov

Or by regular mail by writing to:

Mr. RJ Scites, P.E.
Director, Engineering Division
West Virginia Department of Transportation
1334 Smith Street
Charleston, WV 25301

***Thank you for attending our meeting! Your
interest in the project is greatly appreciated.***

DATE:

Mr. RJ Scites, P.E.
Director, Engineering Division
West Virginia Division of Highways
1334 Smith Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

DATE: Monday, December 5, 2016
LOCATION: Cairo Community Building
SUBJECT: INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP PUBLIC MEETING
PROJECT: Cairo Bridge Replacement Project
S343-31-9.82
STP-0031(037)D
Ritchie County

COMMENTS DUE BY Thursday, January 5, 2017

Please consider the following comments:

(Please print the following information)

NAME:

ADDRESS:

ORGANIZATION (IF ANY):

How did you hear about the Informational Workshop Public Meeting?

Project Information and Comment Sheets

Can be found online at our WVDOH Website at <http://go.wv.gov/dotcomment>.

Under Engineering Projects, Open, and then click Cairo Bridge.

Distribution List

Federal Agencies

Jessica Martinsen

Team Leader
Office of Environmental Programs (E3A3O)
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Jeffrey Lapp

Associate Director
Office of Environmental Programs (E3A3O)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

~~Ginger Mullins~~ Michael Hatton

Chief, Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Mary Ann Tierney

Regional Director
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Region III
615 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Bill O'Donnell

Assistant State Conservationist-Programs
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1550 Earl L. Core Road
Suite 200
Morgantown, WV 26505

John Schmidt

Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
West Virginia Field Office
694 Beverly Pike
Elkins, WV 26241

Willie R. Taylor

Director, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C. Street, NW (MS 2462)
Washington, D.C. 20240

State Agencies

Susan Pierce

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
West Virginia Division of Culture and History
1900 Kanawha Blvd E
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

Stephen McDaniel

Director
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
Building 74
324 Fourth Avenue
South Charleston, WV 25303

Roger Anderson *Danny Bennett*

WV Division of Natural Resources
PO Box 67
Elkins, WV 26241

Anne Wakeford

WV Division of Natural Resources
PO Box 67
Elkins, WV 26241

Scott Mandirola

Division Director
Water and Waste Management
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th Street
Charleston, WV 25304

Patty Hickman

Interim Director
Land Restoration
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th Street
Charleston, WV 25304

William Durham

Division Director
Air Quality
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th Street
Charleston, WV 25304

Wilma Reip ?

Water Resources Section
WV Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th Street
Charleston, WV 25304

District Engineer/Manager

WV Division of Highways
District Address

Senators and Delegates

Senator Jeffrey Kessler
602 Washington Ave.
Glen Dale, WV 26038

Senator Kent Leonhardt
616 Happy Lane
Fairview, WV 26570

Delegate Lynwood Ireland
342 Ireland Road
Pullman, WV 26421



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

West Virginia Division

March 21, 2017

154 Court Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
Phone (304) 347-5928
Fax (304) 347-5103

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Federal Project STP-0031(037)D
State Project U343-31-9.82
Cairo Bridge Replacement
Ritchie County

Ms. Mary Ann Naber
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
401 F Street NW., Suite 308
Washington, DC 20001-2637

Dear Ms. Naber:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in consultation with the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has determined that the above referenced undertaking could have an adverse effect to the Cairo Bridge located in Ritchie County, West Virginia. This correspondence is intended to serve as the notification of an adverse effect finding as required under 36 CFR 800.6(a)(1). Supporting documentation prepared in accordance with 36 CFR 800.11(e) has been enclosed to assist in your review of this undertaking.

Please advise the FHWA within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this notice whether or not the Council wishes to enter the Section 106 process for this undertaking. Should you have any questions regarding the accompanying information, please contact me at (304) 347-5436 or via e-mail at alison.rogers@dot.gov. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Alison M. Rogers
Environmental Protection Specialist

Enclosures



WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Division of Highways

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • (304) 558-3505

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

Paul A. Mattox, Jr., P. E.
Secretary of Transportation/
Commissioner of Highways

September 1, 2015

Ms. Susan Pierce, Deputy State
Historic Preservation Officer
Division of Culture and History
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430

Dear Ms. Pierce:

State Project: S243-31-9.82
Federal Project: BR-0031-038(D)
Phase I Archaeological Survey
Cairo Bridge Replacement
Ritchie County, West Virginia

Enclosed for your review is the Phase I Archaeological Survey for the Cairo Bridge Replacement project, Ritchie County, West Virginia.

The Phase I Archaeological Survey was conducted to determine the effects of the proposed 2.8 acre proposed bridge replacement project. A total of 28 shovel test pits were excavated resulting in one previously unrecorded historic site (46RT142). Site 46RT142 is considered to have poor research value and is recommended as ineligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). No prehistoric cultural material was recovered. No further investigation of the project area is recommended.

This report was reviewed by archaeologist Ms. Rachel Crawford.

Should you have any questions, please contact Rachel Crawford at (304) 558-9674.

Very truly yours,

Ben L. Hark
Environmental Section Head
Engineering Division

BH:h

Attachments

bcc: DDE



RECEIVED
OCT 05 2015
ENGINEERING
DIVISION

The Culture Center
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner

Phone 304.558.0220 • www.wvculture.org
Fax 304.558.2779 • TDD 304.558.3562

EEO/AA Employer

September 30, 2015

Mr. Ben Hark
Environmental Section Head
WV Division of Highways
1334 Smith Street
Charleston, WV 25301

RE: Cairo Bridge Replacement
State Project S243-31-9.82; Federal Project BR-0031-038(D)
FR#: 15-986-RT

Dear Mr. Hark;

We have reviewed the Phase I archaeological survey report that was submitted for the above referenced project to determine potential effects to cultural resources. As required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800: "Protection of Historic Properties," we submit our comments.

According to submitted information, the WV Division of Highways proposes to replace the existing Cairo Bridge, which carries State Route 31 over the North Fork of the Hughes River in Cairo, Ritchie County, WV, with a new bridge in the same location. It is our understanding that the proposed project area consists of 2.8 acres of land located on the western and eastern banks of the river

Architectural Resources:

The submitted project materials do not address the proposed project's potential to affect architectural historic resources. We will provide comment upon receipt of that information.

Archeological Resources:

According to the archaeological report, the proposed project area was divided into two survey areas. Survey Area 1 is located on the eastern bank of the river, while Survey Area 2 is on the western bank. Archaeological investigation of the project area included pedestrian reconnaissance and shovel probe excavation. Although portions of the project area were determined to be previously disturbed, one new archaeological site, 46RT142, was discovered. The site consists of a scatter of historic period and modern refuse and is located on the western and eastern banks of the river. It is our understanding that all of the historic artifacts were recovered from fill and alluvial deposits and intermixed with modern debris. Although the artifacts may be associated with historic use of the area, the site lacks integrity. As a result, we concur that site 46RT142 is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places and that no further archaeological investigations are necessary for the proposed project as currently designed.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. *If you have any questions regarding our comments or the Section 106 process, please contact Lora A Lamarre-DeMott, Senior Archaeologist, at 304-558-0240.*

Sincerely,

Susan M. Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Office

SMP/LLD



WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Division of Highways

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • (304) 558-3505

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

Paul A. Mattox, Jr., P. E.
Secretary of Transportation/
Commissioner of Highways

February 8, 2016

Ms. Susan Pierce, Deputy State
Historic Preservation Officer
Division of Culture and History
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Ms. Pierce:

State Project S243-31-9.82
Federal Project BR-0031-038(D)
Cairo Bridge Replacement Project
Ritchie County

Enclosed for your review is the Architectural Survey and National Register Evaluation Report for the Cairo Bridge Replacement Project. Included in this report are maps of the project area, photographs, and detailed information of historic resources. The project consists of replacing the existing bridge located on West Virginia State Route 31 over the North Fork of the Hughes River in Cairo, West Virginia.

If you have any questions please you may contact Sondra Mullins of our Environmental Section by writing to the above address, by calling (304)558-9487, or via e-mail at Sondra.L.Mullins@wv.gov.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben L. Hark".

Ben L. Hark
Environmental Section Head
Engineering Division

H:h
Attachments
Bcc: DDE(SM)



The Culture Center
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner

Phone 304.558.0220 • www.wvculture.org
Fax 304.558.2779 • TDD 304.558.3562

EEO/AA Employer

March 1, 2016

Mr. Ben L. Hark
Environmental Section Head
Engineering Division
West Virginia Division of Highways
1334 Smith Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

RE: Cairo Bridge Replacement; Cairo, Ritchie County, West Virginia
State Project #: S243-31-9.82
Federal Project #: BR-0031-038(D)
FR#: 15-986-RT-1

Dear Mr. Hark:

We have reviewed the report titled *Architectural Survey and National Register Evaluation, Cairo Bridge Replacement Project, Ritchie County, West Virginia* that was submitted for the above-referenced project to determine potential effects to cultural resources. As required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800: "Protection of Historic Properties," we submit our comments.

According to submitted information, the West Virginia Division of Highways proposes to replace the existing Cairo Bridge—which carries State Route 31 over the North Fork of the Hughes River in Cairo, Ritchie County, West Virginia—with a new bridge in the same location. It is our understanding that the proposed project area consists of 2.8 acres of land located on the western and eastern banks of the river.

Architectural and Bridge Resources:

Thank you for the survey and evaluation report. Between July and October 2015, TRC Environmental Corp (TRC) surveyed architectural and bridge resources located within and surrounding the City of Cairo, Ritchie County, West Virginia, and considered their eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places as an historic district. TRC's report identified fourteen (14) previously surveyed properties and identified an additional sixty-three (63) resources within the boundaries of the potential historic district.

Two individually properties eligible for or included in the National Register are located within the district: the Bank of Cairo (RT-0048) was included in the National Register in 1996, and the 2015 West Virginia Statewide Bridge Survey conducted by KCI and Mead & Hunt determined the Cairo Pony Truss Bridge (RT-0292) as individually eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C.

March 1, 2016

Mr. Hark

15-986-RT-1

Page 2

Of the remaining seventy-five (75) resources, TRC identified one (1), RT-0052, as having been demolished. TRC also recommended six (6) as neither individually eligible nor contributing to the historic district (RT-0486, RT-0496, RT-0535, RT-0537, RT-0539, and RT-0542). TRC recommended the remaining sixty-eight (68) resources as contributing to the Cairo Historic District, including the Cairo Bridge (RT-0293). Finally, TRC recommended the Cairo Historic District as eligible for inclusion in the National Register under Criteria A and C.

After reviewing the submitted survey report we have determined that the Bank of Cairo (RT-0048) is listed on the National Register. We concur with KCI and Mead & Hunt's determination that the Cairo Pony Truss Bridge is eligible for inclusion in the National Register under Criterion C. We acknowledge that the property previously identified as RT-0052 has been demolished, and concur with TRC's recommendation that the properties identified with site numbers RT-0486, RT-0496, RT-0535, RT-0537, RT-0539, and RT-0542 are neither individually eligible for inclusion in the National Register nor are they contributing elements within the potential historic district. We concur with TRC's recommendations that the remaining sixty-eight (68) resources are contributing to the potential Cairo Historic District except for the following four (4) resources, which in our opinion are neither individually eligible for the National Register nor are they contributing to the potential historic district: RT-0494, RT-0507, RT-0508 and RT-0519. Finally, we concur with TRC's recommendation that the Cairo Bridge (RT-0293) is a contributing element within the potential Cairo Historic District, and that said district is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. Please see the attached *Table 1. Individual Resources within the Cairo Historic District with West Virginia SHPO Determinations of Eligibility*, which lists our specific determinations for each resource.

In accordance with 36 CFR § 800.5, we request your office assess the effects of the proposed project on the Cairo Historic District. We will provide additional comments upon receipt of the requested information.

Public Comments:

We note that your office sent letters about the proposed project to Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, the Town of Cairo, the Ritchie County Historical Society, and the Ritchie County Historical Museum Association on September 28, 2015. We request you also provide the same information to David Scott, Chairman of the Ritchie County Historic Landmark Commission, at the following address:

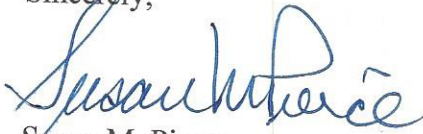
David M. Scott, Chairman
Ritchie County Historic Landmark Commission
115 East Main Street, Room 201
Harrisville, West Virginia 26362

We understand that copies of any further correspondence or comments will be sent to our office.

March 1, 2016
Mr. Hark
15-986-RT-1
Page 3

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. *If you have questions regarding our comments or the Section 106 process, please contact Mitchell K. Schaefer, Structural Historian, at (304) 558-0240.*

Sincerely,



Susan M. Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

SMP/MKS

CC: David M. Scott, Chairman
Ritchie County Historic Landmark Commission
115 East Main Street, Room 201
Harrisville, West Virginia 26362

**Table 1. Individual Resources within the Cairo Historic District
with West Virginia SHPO Determination of Eligibility**

Site Number	Property	Location/Address	Date	Previous Determination (Year)	TRC Determination (2016)	WV SHPO Determination (2016)
—	Cairo Historic District	Main, Lowther, MacGregor, Railroad, Tetrick, and Carroll Streets	1856-1940	—	Eligible under Criteria A and C	Eligible
<i>Previously Surveyed Properties</i>						
RT-0041	R.C. Marshall Hardware	273 Main Street	1902	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0042	Cairo Theatre	281 Main Street	Ca. 1920	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0043	IOOF Hall (Town Hall)	285 Main Street	1890	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0044	Cairo Mercantile Company	Railroad Street	Ca. 1890	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0045	Ramsey's Mercantile	286 Main Street	1917	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0046	Village Inn Restaurant and Gallery	296 Main Street	Ca. 1920	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0047	B&O Railroad Bridge	Railroad Street	Ca. 1940	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0048	Bank of Cairo	Main Street	1896	Listed in NRHP (1996)	Listed; Contributing	Listed; Contributing
RT-0049	Haddox Block	233 Railroad Street	1913	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0050	Commercial Building	172 Railroad Street	Ca. 1915	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0051	Cairo Supply Company	37422 Railroad Street	Ca. 1910	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0052		Main Street	No Date	Not Evaluated	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0292	Cairo Pony Truss Bridge	McGregor and Water Streets (39.208620 N, 81.157417 W)	1937	Individually Eligible, Criterion C (2013)	Individually Eligible under Criterion C; Contributing	Individually Eligible under Criterion C; Contributing
RT-0293	Cairo Bridge	Main Street (39.209844 N, 81.158983 W)	1925	Not Individually Eligible under Criterion C (2011)	Not Individually Eligible; Contributing	Not Individually Eligible; Contributing
<i>Additional Properties Surveyed by ACP (2016)</i>						
RT-0480	House	196 Main Street	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0481	Cairo United Methodist Church	150 Main Street	1870	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0482	House	41 Lowther Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0483	House	53 Lowther Street	Ca. 1930	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0484	House	119 Lowther Street	Ca. 1920	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0485	House	Lowther Street	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0486	House	244 Railroad Street	Ca. 1920	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0487	House	26 Lowther Street	Ca. 1890	—	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing
RT-0488	House	18 Lowther Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0489	House	Corner of Main and Lowther Streets	Ca. 1910	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0490	House	212 Main Street	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0491	House	Main Street	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0492	House	Main Street	Ca. 1920	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0493	House	253 Main Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0494	House	Main Street	Ca. 1920	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0495	House	45 McGregor Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing
RT-0496	McCullough-Raiguel Funeral Home	McGregor Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0497	House	95 McGregor Street	Ca. 1890	—	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing
RT-0498	House	109 McGregor Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0499	House	121 McGregor Street	Ca. 1880	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0500	House	37322 East Street	Ca. 1910	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0501	J. B. Hill House	82 McGregor Street	Ca. 1880	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0502	House	74 McGregor Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0503	House	62 McGregor Street	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0504	House	Railroad Street	Ca. 1880	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0505	House	233 Railroad Street	Ca. 1910	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0506	House	243 Railroad Street	Ca. 1910	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0507	Railroad Warehouse	Railroad Street	Ca. 1920	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0508	Cairo Oil Well Supply Company Office	Railroad Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing
RT-0509	House	Tetrick Street	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing
RT-0510	House	32 Tetrick Street	Ca. 1910	—	Contributing	Contributing

Table 1
FR#: 15-986-RT-1
Page 2 of 2

RT-0511	House	Tetrick Street	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0512	House	Corner of Tetrick and Hill Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0513	House	7 Thorn Avenue	Ca. 1910	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0514	House	96 Hill Street	Ca. 1920	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0515	House	Main Street	Ca. 1910	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0516	House	417 Main Street	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0517	House	423 Main Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0518	House	353 Main Street	Ca. 1940	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0519	House	Main Street	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing
RT-0520	House	35 Railroad Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0521	House	150 Railroad Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0522	House	19 Railroad Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0523	House	129 Railroad Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0524	House	8 Carroll Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0525	House	22 Carroll Street	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0526	House	54 Carroll Street	Ca. 1920	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0527	House	64 Carroll Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0528	House	Carroll Street	Ca. 1880	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0529	House	43 Carroll Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0530	House	23 Carroll Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0531	House	7 Carroll Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0532	Cairo High School	School Hill Road	1913	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0533	House	Water Street/School Hill Road	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0534	Outbuilding	Alley off Carroll Street	Ca. 1890	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0535	Town Water Treatment Plant	At the end of Lowther Street	1963	—	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing
RT-0536	Filling Station	59 Main Street	Ca. 1930	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0537	Cairo Town Building	1006 Thorn Avenue	Ca. 1950	—	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing
RT-0538	House	245 School Hill Road	Ca. 1900	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0539	House	88 McGregor Street	Ca. 1965	—	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing
RT-0540	Industrial Arts Building	School Hill Road	Ca. 1940	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0541	Gymnasium	School Hill Road	1921	—	Contributing	Contributing
RT-0542	Shop Building	School Hill Road	1953	—	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing	Not Eligible; Non-Contributing



WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Division of Highways

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • (304) 558-3505

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

Paul A. Mattox, Jr., P. E.
Secretary of Transportation/
Commissioner of Highways

January 11, 2017

Ms. Susan Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office
WV Division of Culture and History
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston WV 25305-0300

Dear Ms. Pierce:

Cairo Bridge Replacement Project
State Project# S243-31-9.82
Federal Project# BR-0031-038(D)
Ritchie County
FR# 15-986-RT

The purpose of this letter is to address the effects to the Cairo Bridge and the Cairo Historic District. Your office previously reviewed the Architectural Survey and National Register Evaluation Report and provided comments March 1, 2016 (FR#15-986-Rt-1). Since submission of this report, the WVDOH has held a public meeting and coordinated with local officials and interested parties. In addition the condition of the existing bridge has worsened.

A Routine Bridge Inspection Report dated September 9, 2016, rates the deck and superstructure in poor condition and in need of replacement. An additional inspection in October 2016 noted new deterioration in the stringers, floorbeams, and abutments. Originally noted in the September 2016 report that there is out of plane bending of the floorbeams and stringers. Surveyed again one month later additional out of plane bending was examined. Stringer two is twisting at floorbeam three. The deck at this location has lifted 2" off the stringer and the stringer appears to be in extreme compression. The interior lower chords are moving downstream. Abutment two is rotating forward and breaking off the backwall and pushing the entire lower chord (including stringers) in compression. The bridge is being inspected every three months to evaluate any additional deterioration. The Cairo Bridge is currently considered functionally obsolete in need of immediate replacement. Any future deterioration will result in the immediate closure of the bridge.

The report *Architectural Survey and National Register Evaluation, Cairo Bridge Replacement Project, Ritchie County, West Virginia* was submitted to your agency in February 2016 describing the finding of the architectural survey. In the report, it was recommended that the Cairo Historic District is eligible for inclusion in the National

Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A and C with a period of significance of 1856-1940. Further, it was recommended that the Cairo Bridge was not individually eligible for the NRHP, but is a contributing resource to the Cairo Historic District. In a March 1, 2016 letter, your agency concurred with the recommendations and requested that further information regarding the effects of this project be submitted for your review and comment.

On January 9, 2017, a revised Final Design Study Report for the Cairo Bridge Replacement Project was completed (Attachment B). The purpose of the Design Study Report is to compare various alternatives for replacement or rehabilitation of the existing Cairo Bridge. Temporary traffic control during construction is a primary concern, as no reasonable detour appear to be available for vehicular or pedestrian traffic. The goal of the design study is to select an alternative that meets the following criteria:

- Minimizes impact to traffic during construction;
- Economically feasible to construct;
- Minimizes impact to the federal mussels;
- Maintains hydraulic performance;
- Addresses the historical significance;
- Accommodate pedestrians and bicycles;
- Creates a long-term, durable solution; and
- Provides acceptable level of aesthetics.

Seven alternatives were examined for the Cairo Bridge Replacement Project. These alternatives are outlined in Table 1 and five of the seven alternatives are shown in in Figures 2 through 6. Five of the seven alternatives will involve demolishing the Cairo Bridge (RT-0293). Two alternatives, No-Build and Alternative 3, will allow the Cairo Bridge to remain in place. The No-Build option is not considered viable because it will lead to the eventual closure of the bridge. Rehabilitation Alternative 3 will rehabilitate the Cairo Bridge and use an upstream detour during construction.

Rehabilitation Alternative 3 will replace the stringers and the reinforced concrete deck and maintain the current configuration of two roughly nine-foot lanes. Various structural repairs will be made to the corroded steel members prior to abrasively cleaning and painting of the entire structure. The existing substructures and remaining portions of the existing superstructure will be rehabilitated and re-used. The chloride contaminated concrete of the substructure units will need to have the chlorides extracted. Visible existing and proposed concrete will be coated for protection. Over the last 90 years, Abutment 1 has rotated toward the river. Horizontal cracks are present in the seat and back wall. A new concrete slab will have to be anchored to the bedrock through micropiles behind the abutment. In addition, the superstructure of the bridge will have to be elevated, temporarily supported, and the steel rocker bearings replaced.

Though a custom repair solution for the deterioration of Abutment 1 and the rocker bearings has been proposed, no additional lane width, height, or load bearing capacity will result from Rehabilitation Alternative 3. Significant ongoing maintenance costs will also occur. The functionally obsolete bridge is hindering substantial economic development of the oil and gas industry and WVDOH predicts that the average daily traffic (ADT) and average daily truck traffic (ADTT) will increase if the bridge crossing is improved to current standards. Rehabilitation Alternative 3 does not meet the purpose and need of the project.

On December 5, 2016, the WVDOH held a public meeting in the town of Cairo to discuss the bridge replacement project. Twenty-seven citizens attended the public meeting and eight comments were received on the project (Attachment C). All the comments received are in favor of the bridge replacement and Preferred Alternative 1B. One of the comments received is from the Ritchie County Historic Landmarks Commission. In

their letter they support the project along with mitigation recommendations for the town. All of these suggestions will be taken into account as mitigation is developed to address the adverse effects.

Based on the conclusions of the attached Revised Final Design Study Report dated January 9, 2017, **Alternative 1B is the preferred alternative.** The existing Cairo Bridge will be demolished and replaced with a three span replacement bridge on the same alignment. Traffic will be maintained on an upstream temporary detour bridge.

Preferred Alternative 1B will result in the demolition of Cairo Bridge (RT-0293), which is a contributing resource to the NRHP eligible-Cairo Historic District. Figure 1 shows the location of the Cairo Bridge within the Cairo Historic District. Figures 7 & 8 present photos of Cairo Bridge from both sides of the North Fork of the Hughes River and show the general position of the upstream detour for the new bridge. Figure 9 shows the view of the Cairo Bridge from the intersection of Main and Railroad streets in Cairo demonstrating how the view of the historic truss bridge is a part of the town's landscape.

Preferred Alternative 1B will have an adverse effect on the Cairo Bridge and the Cairo Historic District. WVDOH will continue to work with the Town of Cairo and the Ritchie County Historic Landmarks Commission on a Memorandum of Agreement to address the adverse effects which will be submitted to your office at a later date.

If you have any questions please contact Sondra Mullins of our Environmental Section by writing to the above address, by calling (304) 558-9487, or via e-mail at Sondra.L.Mullins@wv.gov.

Yours very truly,



Ben L. Hark
Environmental Section Head
Engineering Division

H:h
Attachments
Bcc: DDE(SM)



The Culture Center
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner

Phone 304.558.0220 • www.wvculture.org
Fax 304.558.2779 • TDD 304.558.3562

EEO/AA Employer

February 7, 2017



Mr. Ben L. Hark
Environmental Section Head
Engineering Division
West Virginia Division of Highways
1334 Smith Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

RE: Cairo Bridge Replacement; Cairo, Ritchie County, West Virginia
State Project #: S243-31-9.82
Federal Project #: BR-0031-038(D)
FR#: 15-986-RT-2

Dear Mr. Hark:

We have reviewed the "Effects Report" prepared for the aforementioned project to determine potential effects to cultural resources. As required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800: "Protection of Historic Properties," we submit our comments.

According to submitted information, the West Virginia Division of Highways (WV DOH) proposes to replace the existing Cairo Bridge that carries State Route 31 over the North Fork of the Hughes River in Cairo, Ritchie County, West Virginia. It is our understanding that the proposed project area consists of 2.8 acres of land located on the western and eastern banks of the river. WV DOH has evaluated seven different alternatives for the project, including a No-Build option. Alternative 1B, which will require demolition of the existing bridge, is the preferred alternative.

Architectural and Bridge Resources:

Thank you for the effects report. In our previous letter dated March 1, 2016, we concurred with KCI and Mead & Hunt's determination that the Cairo Pony Truss Bridge (RT-0292) was eligible for inclusion in the National Register under Criterion C. We also concurred with TRC's recommendations that the Cairo Historic District was eligible for inclusion in the National Register under Criteria A and C. Nearly seventy resources, including the Cairo Bridge (RT-0293), contributed to that district.

The aforementioned report indicated that it was WV DOH's intention to demolish the existing bridge as Alternative 1B was preferred for the project. The report argued that "Cairo Bridge is currently considered functionally obsolete in need of immediate replacement" and Rehabilitation Alternative 3 "does not meet the purpose and need of the project." It is our opinion, therefore, that the proposed undertaking will have an *adverse effect* on the Cairo Bridge (RT-0293) because it will lead to the existing bridge's physical destruction. Since attempts to avoid and minimize the effects of the project have been considered but have proven ineffective for the intended undertaking, it is our opinion

February 7, 2017
Mr. B. Hark
15-986-RT-2
Page 2

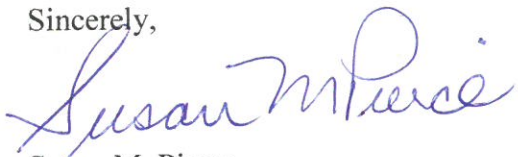
mitigation will be necessary before proceeding with construction work. According to the report, WV DOH is currently working with the Town of Cairo and the Ritchie County Historic Landmarks Commission to consider adequate mitigation plans that will be enumerated in a memorandum of agreement (MOA). Once a draft MOA is available, please submit it to our office for review. We will provide additional comments upon receipt of that information.

Public Comments:

We again note that your office sent letters about the proposed project to Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, the Town of Cairo, the Ritchie County Historical Society, and the Ritchie County Historical Museum Association on September 28, 2015. On December 5, 2016, representatives from your office held a public meeting in Cairo to allow residents the opportunity to comment on the project. 27 individuals attended and WV DOH received 8 comments regarding the undertaking, all of which voiced approval of the bridge's replacement. We also note that the Town of Cairo and the Ritchie County Historic Landmarks Commission are currently being involved in the consultation process to prepare the MOA. We understand that copies of any further correspondence or comments will be sent to our office.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. *If you have questions regarding our comments or the Section 106 process, please contact Mitchell K. Schaefer, Structural Historian, at (304) 558-0240.*

Sincerely,



Susan M. Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

SMP/MKS

CC: Ritchie County Historic Landmark Commission
c/o David M. Scott, Chairman
45 Skyline Drive
Harrisville, West Virginia 26362



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

West Virginia Division

March 21, 2017

154 Court Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
Phone (304) 347-5928
Fax (304) 347-5103

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Federal Project STP-0031(037)D
State Project U343-31-9.82
Cairo Bridge Replacement
Ritchie County

Ms. Mary Ann Naber
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
401 F Street NW., Suite 308
Washington, DC 20001-2637

Dear Ms. Naber:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in consultation with the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has determined that the above referenced undertaking could have an adverse effect to the Cairo Bridge located in Ritchie County, West Virginia. This correspondence is intended to serve as the notification of an adverse effect finding as required under 36 CFR 800.6(a)(1). Supporting documentation prepared in accordance with 36 CFR 800.11(e) has been enclosed to assist in your review of this undertaking.

Please advise the FHWA within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this notice whether or not the Council wishes to enter the Section 106 process for this undertaking. Should you have any questions regarding the accompanying information, please contact me at (304) 347-5436 or via e-mail at alison.rogers@dot.gov. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Alison M. Rogers
Environmental Protection Specialist

Enclosures



Preserving America's Heritage

March 30, 2017

Ms. Alison M. Rogers
Environmental Protection Specialist
Federal Highway Administration
West Virginia Division
154 Court Street
Charleston, WV 25301

Ref: *Proposed Cairo Bridge Replacement Project*
Federal Project STP-0031(037)D; State Project U343-31-9.82
Ritchie County, West Virginia

Dear Ms. Rogers:

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has received your notification and supporting documentation regarding the adverse effects of the referenced undertaking on a property or properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Based upon the information provided, we have concluded that Appendix A, *Criteria for Council Involvement in Reviewing Individual Section 106 Cases*, of our regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800), does not apply to this undertaking. Accordingly, we do not believe that our participation in the consultation to resolve adverse effects is needed. However, if we receive a request for participation from the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), affected Indian tribe, a consulting party, or other party, we may reconsider this decision. Additionally, should circumstances change, and it is determined that our participation is needed to conclude the consultation process, please notify us.

Pursuant to 36 CFR §800.6(b)(1)(iv), you will need to file the final Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), developed in consultation with the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and any other consulting parties, and related documentation with the ACHP at the conclusion of the consultation process. The filing of the MOA, and supporting documentation with the ACHP is required in order to complete the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Thank you for providing us with the notification of adverse effect. If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact MaryAnn Naber at 202-517-0218 or via e-mail at mnaber@achp.gov.

Sincerely,

LaShavio Johnson
Historic Preservation Technician
Office of Federal Agency Programs

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

401 F Street NW, Suite 308 • Washington, DC 20001-2637
Phone: 202-517-0200 • Fax: 202-517-6381 • achp@achp.gov • www.achp.gov

From: [Mullins, Sondra L](#)
To: [Romano, Joe](#)
Cc: [Hark, Ben L](#); [Tolaymat, Feras](#); [Priddy, Timothy R](#); [Ahmad, Dirar M](#)
Subject: FW: S343-31-9.82 Cairo Bridge, North Fork of Hughes River, Ritchie County
Date: Wednesday, March 08, 2017 3:22:02 PM

See email below from the DNR.

From: Wakeford, Anne M
Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2017 3:17 PM
To: Mullins, Sondra L <Sondra.L.Mullins@wv.gov>; Cummings, Traci L <Traci.L.Cummings@wv.gov>
Cc: Clayton, Janet L <Janet.L.Clayton@wv.gov>; Morrison, Scott F <Scott.F.Morrison@wv.gov>; Bennett, Danny A <Danny.A.Bennett@wv.gov>
Subject: FW: S343-31-9.82 Cairo Bridge, North Fork of Hughes River, Ritchie County

Dear Sondra Mullens,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the Cairo bridge replacement project NEPA study located at 39.209855, -81.158956

Note a mussel survey was conducted in 2015, section 7 consultation is ongoing with USFWS and mussel salvage will be conducted sometime in 2017.

Therefore I am ccing Janet Clayton WVDNR malacologist.

Also, instream work is prohibited April 1-June 30 due to warm water fish spawning.

Also according to Scott Morrison WVDNR district 6 fisheries biologist Alternatives 2a and 2b look the best (I'm not sure which is the most preferred alternative 1B or 2B).

We would also like to request fisherman access as follows:

1. Walk down path along the Left descending bank;
2. Parking area at the location of the current bridge approach on Left descending bank also for about 4 vehicles.

I look forward to providing more comments when the environmental document is available for review July 2017.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Anne

Anne M. Wakeford

Anne M. Wakeford
Coordination Biologist
WV DNR Elkins Operation Center
PO Box 67 Ward Rd
Elkins WV 26241
Email: Anne.M.Wakeford@wv.gov
Phone 304-637-0245 ex 2035
Fax 304-637-0250



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ENGINEERING
DIVISION

DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Wildlife Resources Section
Operations Center
P.O. Box 67
Elkins, West Virginia 26241-3235
Telephone (304) 637-0245
Fax (304) 637-0250

Jim Justice
Governor

Stephen S. McDaniel
Director

June 2, 2017

Mr. Ben Hark
Division of Highways
Engineering Division
1334 Smith Street
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Mr. Hark:

We have reviewed Natural Heritage Program files for information on rare, threatened and endangered (RTE) species and natural trout streams for the areas of the proposed highway projects:

TBM	State Project S335-70-0.01 Federal Project NHPP-0701(215)D Forty Henry Bridge Ohio County	We have no known occurrences of any RTE species or natural trout streams within the project area.
RC	State Project 41-19/2-0.79 Oswald Box Culvert Raleigh County	We have no known occurrences of any RTE species within the project area. Dunloup Creek could potentially be a natural trout stream, and this project should be coordinated with the WVDNR District Fisheries Biologist.
SM/TU	State Project S343-31-7.96 Cairo Road Resurfacing and Structure Replacement Ritchie County	We have no known occurrences of any RTE species or natural trout streams within the project area.
SB	State Project E334-7-623.16 Federal Project FEMA-4273(000) Oakford Avenue Nicholas County	We have no known occurrences of any RTE species or natural trout streams within the project area.
SB	State Project 12-42-11.13 to 11.36 Bank Stabilization Grant County	This project is within a habitat buffer for the Virginia big-eared bat; however, negative impacts are not expected. There are no natural trout streams at this site.

The Wildlife Resources Section knows of no surveys that have been conducted in these areas for rare species or rare species habitat. Consequently, this response is based on information currently available and should not be considered a comprehensive survey of the areas under review.

JUN 02 2017

Thank you for your inquiry, and should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the above number, extension 2048.

Sincerely,



Barbara Sargent
Environmental Resources Specialist
Environmental Coordination
Operations Unit



DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 Wildlife Resources Section
 Operations Center
 P.O. Box 67
 Elkins, West Virginia 26241-3235
 Telephone (304) 637-0245
 Fax (304) 637-0250

RECEIVED
 JUL 27 2017
 ENGINEERING
 DIVISION

Jim Justice
 Governor

Stephen S. McDaniel
 Director

July 18, 2017

Mr. Ben Hark
 Division of Highways
 Engineering Division
 1334 Smith Street
 Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Mr. Hark:

We have reviewed Natural Heritage Program files for information on rare, threatened and endangered (RTE) species and natural trout streams for the areas of the proposed highway projects:

SM	State Project S321-48/6-0.01 00 Crawford Deck Arch Bridge Lewis County	A 2015 mussel survey found mussels at the project site. Any salvage and relocation efforts should be coordinated with the WVDNR. There are no natural trout streams within the project area.
SM	State Project S306-527-2.00 Federal Project STP-0527(005)D 5 th Street Ritter Park Bridge Cabell County	There are no known occurrences of any RTE species or natural trout streams within the project area.
SM	State Project S306-527-2.00 Federal Project STP-0527(005)D 8 th Street Ritter Park Bridge Cabell County	There are no known occurrences of any RTE species or natural trout streams within the project area.
SM	State Project S335-40-6.65 Federal Project BR-0040(049)E Monument Place Bridge (aka Elk Grove Bridge) Ohio County	There are no known occurrences of any RTE species or natural trout streams within the project area. A mussel survey is required.
SM	State Project S320-52-3.63 Federal Project STP-0052(249)D Blue Creek Twin Creek Arch Bridge Kanawha County	There are no known occurrences of any RTE species or natural trout streams within the project area. A mussel survey is required.

JUL 18 2017

SM State Project S343-31-9.82 Federal Project STP-0031(037)D Cairo Bridge Ritchie County	A 2015 mussel survey found mussels at the project site. Any salvage and relocation efforts should be coordinated with the WVDNR. There are no natural trout streams within the project area.
SM State Project S313-60-41.35 Federal Project STP-0060(326)D Dry Creek Bridge (aka Clifford Family Memorial Bridge) Greenbrier County	There are no known occurrences of any RTE species or natural trout streams within the project area.
SM State Project S323-119/26-0.42 Federal Project STP-1192(050)D Mount Gay Deck Arch Bridge Logan County	There are no known occurrences of any RTE species or natural trout streams within the project area.
SM State Project S323-119/26-0.33 North White's Addition Bridge Logan County	There are no known occurrences of any RTE species or natural trout streams within the project area. A survey for the Guyandotte River crayfish is required.

The Wildlife Resources Section knows of no surveys that have been conducted in these areas for rare species or rare species habitat. Consequently, this response is based on information currently available and should not be considered a comprehensive survey of the areas under review.

Thank you for your inquiry, and should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the above number, extension 2048.

Sincerely,



Barbara Sargent
Environmental Resources Specialist
Environmental Coordination
Operations Unit



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

West Virginia Division

May 22, 2017

154 Court Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
Phone (304) 347-5928
Fax (304) 347-5103

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Federal Project STP-0031(037)D
State Project S343-31-9.82 00
Cairo Bridge Replacement
Ritchie County
Section 7 – Formal Consultation

John Schmidt
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
West Virginia Field Office
694 Beverly Pike
Elkins, West Virginia 26241

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

With this letter, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is requesting the initiation of formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding the potential effects from the replacement and demolition of the Cairo Bridge on the endangered snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*).

Please find enclosed a copy of the Final Biological Assessment dated May 2017, which has been prepared to address the requirement of your regulations (50 CFR 402.1499(c)).

The initiation package provides a detailed description of the action proposed by WVDOH in conjunction with FHWA, a description of the area potentially affected by the action, a description of listed species and/or critical habitat and an analysis of direct, indirect and cumulative effects. In addition, the information and data in the enclosed report has been revised to address your office's comments on previous drafts of the document.

In accordance with USFWS guidance, the FHWA is requesting an acknowledgement letter and/or email within 30 working days of receipt of the initiation package to indicate the actual initiation date for formal consultation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Alison Rogers at (304) 347-5436 or via email at alison.rogers@dot.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Jason E. Workman
Director, Program Development

Enclosure



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

West Virginia Field Office
694 Beverly Pike
Elkins, West Virginia 26241



June 15, 2017

Mr. Jason Workman
Federal Highway Administration
700 Washington Street, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

Re: West Virginia Division of Highways, Cairo Bridge Replacement and Demolition Project, Ritchie County, West Virginia (FWS File #2016-F-0137)

Dear Mr. Workman:

This letter acknowledges the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) receipt of your May 22, 2017, package providing information needed to initiate formal section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) for the proposed replacement and demolition of Cairo Bridge over the North Fork Hughes River in Ritchie County, West Virginia. Formal consultation was requested for one federally endangered species, the snuffbox mussel (*Epioblasma triquetra*).

Formal consultation is initiated on the date that the Service receives a federal agency's initiation request and all relevant data has been provided to the action agency pursuant to section 7 of the ESA. Section 7 allows the Service up to 90 days to conclude formal consultation with your agency and an additional 45 days to prepare our Biological Opinion (BO), unless we mutually agree to an extension. While additional coordination may be required to address specific project details, the Service has received all the information required to initiate consultation. Therefore, based on an initiation date of May 22, 2017, we expect to provide you with our BO on or before October 4, 2017.

The Service will continue to coordinate with your office throughout the formal consultation process, and appreciates the cooperative efforts that you and your staff have provided to address these issues. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Liz Stout of my staff at (304) 636-6586, Ext. 15, or at the letterhead address.

Sincerely,

John E. Schmidt
Field Supervisor



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

West Virginia Division

October 3, 2017

154 Court Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
Phone (304) 347-5928
Fax (304) 347-5103

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Federal Project STP-0031(037)D
State Project S343-31-9.82 00
Cairo Bridge Replacement
Ritchie County
Section 7 – Biological Opinion

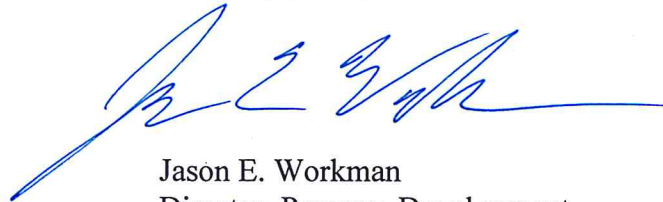
John Schmidt
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
West Virginia Field Office
694 Beverly Pike
Elkins, West Virginia 26241

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the West Virginia Division of Highways, has completed review of the final biological opinion (BO), transmitted by email on September 28, 2017, for the above referenced project. We have no further comments on the document and agree to implement the reasonable, and prudent measures.

To conclude Section 7 consultation on this project, FHWA requests that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife confirm our acceptance of the final BO. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Alison Rogers at (304) 347-5436 or via email at alison.rogers@dot.gov.

Sincerely yours,



Jason E. Workman
Director, Program Development



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

West Virginia Division

October 3, 2017

154 Court Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
Phone (304) 347-5928
Fax (304) 347-5103

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Federal Project STP-0031(037)D
State Project S343-31-9.82 00
Cairo Bridge Replacement
Ritchie County
Section 7 – Biological Opinion

R.J. Scites, P.E.
Director, Engineering Division
West Virginia Division of Highways
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Mr. Scites:

Please find enclosed a copy of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Services' Final Biological Opinion (BO) for the above referenced project. Our acceptance of the BO concludes the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 Formal Consultation process. Should you have any questions regarding the enclosed information, please contact me at (304) 347-5436 or via email at alison.rogers@dot.gov.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Workman", written over a horizontal line.

Jason Workman
Director, Program Development