Historic Bridge Adoption
Information Packet

Atascosa County
US 281A
Atascosa River
June 21, 2023
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Announcement

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) seeks adopters for the historic bridge detailed below for reuse according to federal transportation and historic preservation laws. The bridge is located in Atascosa County, on US 281A crossing the Atascosa River.

Letters of interest and/or reuse proposals will be accepted until 5 p.m. on September 29, 2023. TxDOT is currently undergoing alternatives analysis for this project. The outcome of the analysis may impact the availability of this bridge. Priority for assistance will be given to public entities seeking to reuse the bridge in a public or publicly visible space. Bridges available through this program are not suitable for vehicular service. All rehabilitation work must conform to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation in consultation with the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

Interested parties may request additional information, indicate an interest, or submit a reuse proposal by contacting:

Brian Witherell, Environmental Coordinator
TxDOT San Antonio District
4615 Northwest Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78229
Phone Number: (210) 615-5846
Email address: brian.witherell@txdot.gov
**Bridge Location**

- **County:** Atascosa County
- **Highway or Facility:** US 281A
- **Feature Crossed:** Atascosa River
- **GIS Locational Information:** [https://arcg.is/0bzurP0](https://arcg.is/0bzurP0)

**Bridge Information**

- **Bridge Owner:** Texas Department of Transportation
- **Main-span Type:** Warren Pony Truss
- **Main-span Length:** 80 feet
- **Roadway Width:** 28 feet
- **Year Built:** 1925, widened 1953
- **Builder:** Texas Highway Department

**Bridge Condition and Load Rating**

The bridge does not meet current load rating requirements to remain in continued vehicular service. The truss span is in overall poor condition due to advanced section loss, pitting, and pack rust throughout the lower chord. Floorbeams are cracked and heavily corroded and there is moderate spalling and exposed rebar on the deck underside. The deck surface also has widespread cracks and spalling. The steel railing has widespread paint failure and moderate rust.

**Historic Significance of the Bridge**

In 2014, the Texas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) determined all extant metal truss bridges in Texas historically significant at the local level as rare surviving examples of their type. This 80-foot-long Warren pony truss retains the essential physical features that enable it to convey the historic character of metal truss bridges from the early- to mid-20th century.
**TxDOT Estimated Work Items and Costs**

Costs to rehabilitate and relocate the bridge for pedestrian use are estimated by TxDOT bridge engineers based on TxDOT expenditures for similar items on other bridges. All prospective owners should have access to a structural engineer to assist in determining the appropriate work to be completed as well as appropriate estimates. Costs may vary outside the TxDOT system.

The following construction items may be phased.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remove and Relocate Truss span:</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Abutments:</td>
<td>$109,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair damaged floor beams, bottom chord, and gusset plates:</td>
<td>$238,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Install pedestrian railing:</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean and paint existing structure:</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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</tbody>
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**Total Costs** $759,800
Bridge Photographs