



# SAN ANTONIO STREET BRIDGE AT COMAL RIVER

Open House





# SAN ANTONIO STREET BRIDGE AT COMAL RIVER, NEW BRAUNFELS



## COMAL COUNTY

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OPEN HOUSE

MAY 1, 2018

5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center

375 South Castell Avenue

New Braunfels, TX 78130

# Proposed Action

TxDOT is proposing to rehabilitate the San Antonio Street Bridge over the Comal River. The proposed improvements include:

- Widening the existing bridge to accommodate wider travel lanes and sidewalks.
- Increasing the load capacity of the bridge to accommodate heavier vehicles, including emergency service vehicles.





# Project Location Map



## Purpose

The purpose of the proposed project is to address current vehicle and pedestrian safety issues.

## Need

The project is needed because the bridge does not meet current structural and functional standards. The lack of shoulder and narrow sidewalks pose a safety risk for pedestrians and bicycles, the weight limit cannot support heavier vehicles, including emergency response vehicles impacting response times, and the travel lanes are not wide enough for large vehicles and bicycle users.

# Project Alternatives

## ■ No Build or Do Nothing

- The San Antonio Street Bridge remaining in its existing condition and on its existing alignment.
- The structural and functional deficiencies of the existing bridge would not be resolved. Safety concerns for pedestrians and bicyclists would not be resolved.

## ■ Preferred Alternative (Reconstruction in current location)

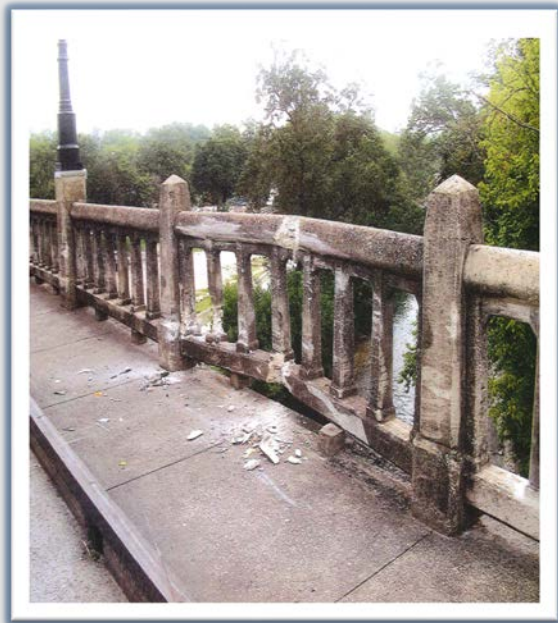
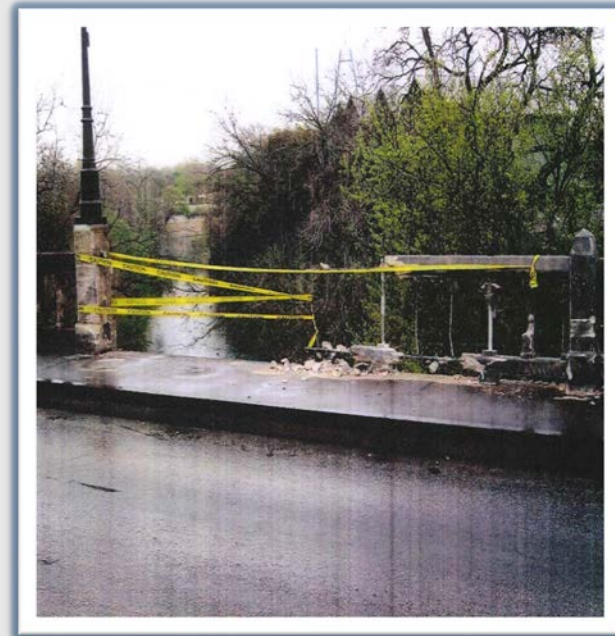
- Proposed bridge improvements would include replacing the upper portion (superstructure) of the bridge with a wider bridge section.
- Arches, spandrel columns and piers (substructure) of the bridge would remain in place and supported by concrete box beams added to the existing substructure.
- Existing piers would be preserved but modified to support the wider superstructure.
- The bridge superstructure would be widened beyond the existing arches and spandrel columns to accommodate a 30-ft wide roadway with 15-ft wide shared use lanes and 8-ft wide sidewalks.

# Project Alternatives

- **Replacement of Project Bridge**
  - Demolish existing project bridge and replace with a wider structure.
  - This alternative does not retain the historic bridge.
  
- **Bypass of Project Bridge with new Bridge Structure**
  - Build a bridge on new location for vehicles, leave current bridge in place perhaps for pedestrians only.
  - This alternative is not prudent due to costs caused by purchase of right-of-way to build a new bridge (to be borne by City of New Braunfels).



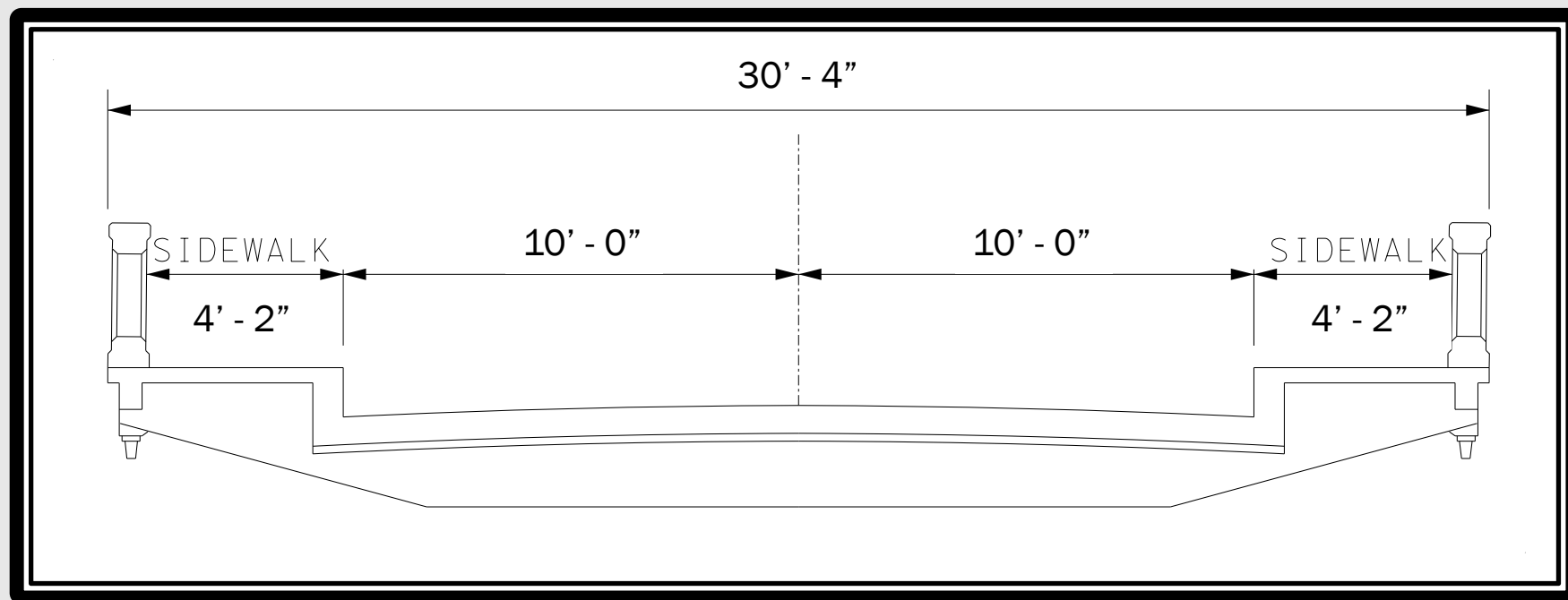
# Current Issues





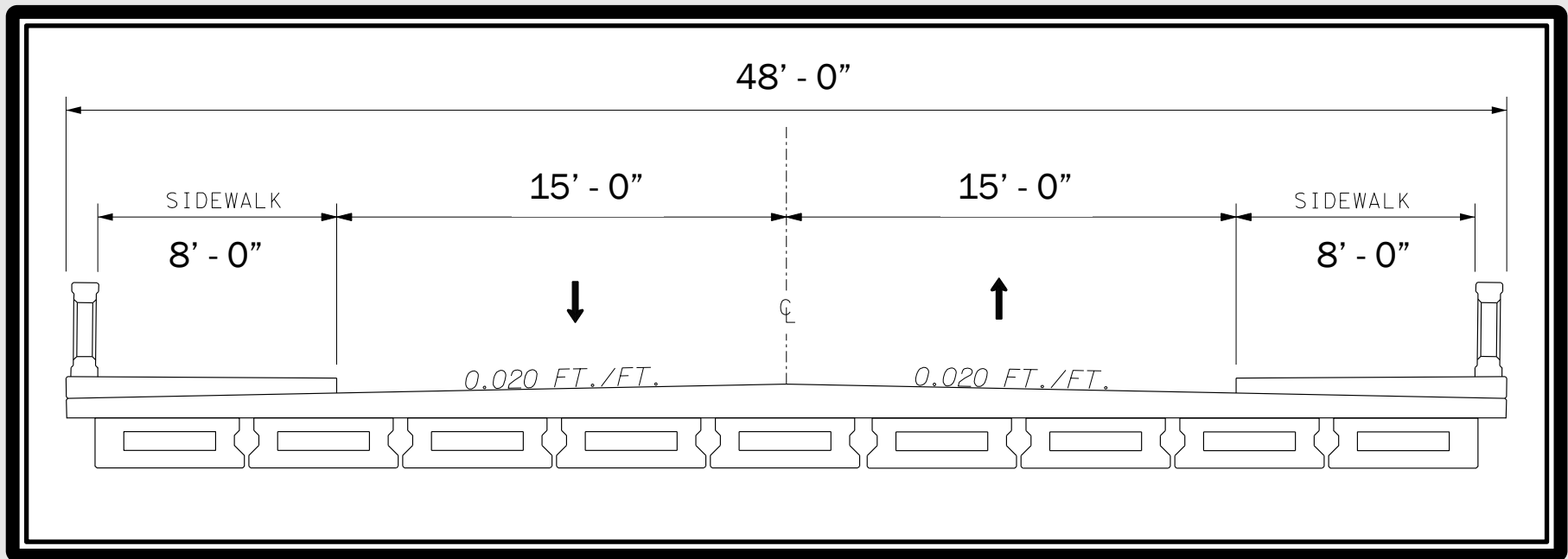
# Existing Bridge

- Built in 1923
- 7 spans and 410 feet in total length
- 10-foot travel lanes and 4-foot sidewalks, no shoulder



# Proposed Bridge

- Would Expand Upper Portion of Existing Bridge (Superstructure)
  - Widen Travel Lanes
  - Widen Sidewalk
- Would Retain Current Arches, Columns and Piers (Substructure) of Historic Bridge



# Proposed Bridge



# On-going Environmental Studies

Studies are underway to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on social, cultural and natural resources including:

- Historic and Archeological Resources including Section 106 Consultation
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Water Resources
- Hazardous Materials
- Section 4(f) Properties

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.



# Project Schedule and Funding

- **Anticipated Let Date – Summer 2019**
- **Construction Duration – Approximately 9-15 months**
- **Funding – Highway Bridge Program**
- **Estimated Project Cost - \$4.5 million;**
  - 80% Federal, 10% State, 10% Local Funding



# Provide Your Comments

## Options for Commenting

1. Place comment card in comment box
2. Provide comments to onsite court reporter
3. Mail comments to: Blanton and Associates, Inc.  
Attn: San Antonio Street Bridge  
5 Lakeway Centre Court, Suite 200  
Austin, TX 78734
4. Email comments to:  
[Tricia.larue@blantonassociates.com](mailto:Tricia.larue@blantonassociates.com) with 'San Antonio Street Bridge' in subject line

## Deadline for comments: May 15, 2018

- Open House Summary Report will be posted at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) when complete

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

