

CTH D Bridge Replacement, Lafayette County Public Meeting Notes - 09/09/20

Attendees:

Brian Lund – Republican Journal

Lee Gill – Lafayette Co. Committee

Tom Jean – Lafayette Co. Highway Commissioner

Bob Doyle – Lafayette Co. Committee Chair

Carmen McDonald – Lafayette Co. Committee

Abby Locks – Lafayette Co. Highway Dept.

Local Resident – Mary McKnight – South Wayne

Jaime Kurten - MSA

Chase Kieler - MSA

Josh Sweno – MSA

Comments:

- **Q:** What is haunched slab?
R: *A haunched slab bridge is a structure type that rather than having the beams or girders underneath, it is just a slab of concrete reducing the overall depth of the superstructure and thus making it so that the roadway vertical profile grade does not have to be raised as high.*
- **Q:** There is a long detour for this project, locals have had to go around 25 miles when making hay. How will this be handled in construction?
R: *The old bridge will be maintained for traffic use during construction while the new bridge is being constructed on a new alignment. There will still be short term closures to make the connections between the new roadway and the existing, but it will not be as substantial as the full duration of the project. Once the new bridge is in place with traffic, the existing bridge will then be removed.*
- **Comment:** Tremendous job to get \$1.6 million in funding – and to keep the existing bridge open during construction.
- **Q:** Hopefully keeping bridge open during construction – long detour.
R: *Yes, it will be kept open to handle traffic during construction.*
- **Q:** Discuss the funding and the limits of what is included in the funding.
R: *As part of the Federal/State funding local bridge program, this includes the bridge in addition to approximately 100-feet of roadway approaches. The additional roadway reconstruction will be funding 100% locally. The goal is to maintain the use of the existing bridge during construction and make some geometric improvements along CTH D and to the intersection with CTH N.*
- **Q:** Can you describe the environmental process and what goes into that?

R: In the case of the is project, we are following the NEPA/WEPA standards due to the Federal/State funding. This process ensures that we are properly evaluating the impacts of the alternatives and ultimately recommending a preferred option that minimized and mitigates the environmental impacts. This process encompasses a series of environmental surveys including wetland delineations and archeological and historical evaluations to ensure there are not any unknown impacts of resources of this type. We coordinate with a number of agencies including the DNR, Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Services. These agency help ensure that if there are any other protected species or other items that we can ensure that we are responding appropriately during design and construction. Finally, coordination with the public is a part of that process to ensure that we are getting the necessary feedback from the public to finalize our recommendation.

- **Comment:** It was discussed that there would be real estate acquisition on this project. MSA will be working to finalize design and layout right of way needs in the Fall of 2020. The goal would be to try to have a plat finalized by December such that acquisition could begin early 2021.