



prince  
George's  
county

Rushern L. Baker, III  
County Executive

Department of Public Works and Transportation



October 17, 2018

Gwendolyn T. Clerkley  
Acting Director

# GOVERNORS BRIDGE ROAD BRIDGE OVER THE PATUXENT RIVER





# LOCATION MAP





## Governors Bridge

- Built around 1910
- Designated as a Historic Structure by Maryland Historic Trust
- Single Span 114 feet long
- Single Lane 12'-3" wide
- Pratt Through-Truss Bridge

# PROJECT BACKGROUND



NORTH ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION

# PROJECT BACKGROUND



West Approach Road from  
Prince George's County side

Bottom of the  
Bridge



East Approach Road  
from Anne Arundel  
County side

## ◆ Major Rehabilitation Performed in 1995 & 2014

### ➤ 1995 Repairs include:

- Replaced damaged end post and vertical members of bridge truss members
- Replaced damaged stringers , floor beams & steel grid deck
- Repaired and replaced traffic railing

### ➤ 2014 Repairs include:

- Removed and reset existing steel grid deck
- Replaced defective stringers
- Repaired structural steel members throughout bridge
- Repaired and replaced traffic railing
- Bridge was opened to lightweight vehicular traffic (Cars and Ambulances)

- **2015 Bridge Inspection Report Discovered Significant Deterioration of Critical Steel Members.**
- **Bridge was closed to all vehicular traffic in April 2015.**
  - Excessive section loss of bottom chord members
  - Gusset plates exhibit severe section loss
  - Diagonal inclined end posts of the truss exhibits severe corrosion and section loss



**Deteriorated Bottom Steel Chords, Bottom Sway Brace and Gusset Plates**

# PROJECT TIMELINE AND GOALS

- **January 2016: Prince George's County & Anne Arundel County DPWT staff met and discussed need for Rehabilitation/Replacement of the Governors Bridge Road Bridge**
  - Met with MDSHA to secure Federal funding for Feasibility Report/ Alternate Study and 30% Plans.
  - KCI Technologies' engineers reviewed existing bridge inspection reports and initiated design.
  - Met with Maryland Historic Trust, Maryland Department of Environment & Army Corp of Engineers to discuss required preliminary environmental, archeological and permitting requirements.
  - Performed topographic survey.
  - Performed detailed environmental study & prepared Wetland Assessment & Delineation Report.
  - Performed detailed archeological study.
  - Prepared Hydrology & Hydraulic Report for various bridge alternates.
  - Prepared feasibility/ alternate analysis report for six alternates with plans and cost.
- **The primary objectives of this initiative are to address the:**
  - Structurally deficient historic structure while maintaining historic elements.
  - Frequent flooding on the Prince George's County approach road.
  - Horizontal and vertical sight distance deficiencies on the approach roads.

# BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES

- Alternative 1 – No-Build Alternative
- Alternative 2 – Rehabilitation of the Existing Bridge
- Alternative 3 – Existing Alignment – New 1 Lane Bridge
- Alternative 4 – Existing Alignment – New 2 Lane Bridge
- Alternative 5 – Shifted Alignment – New 1 Lane Bridge
- Alternative 6 – Shifted Alignment – New 2 Lane Bridge



# ALTERNATE 1 – NO BUILD ALTERNATE



**PROJECT LOCATION  
GOVERNORS BRIDGE ROAD**

-  POLICE STATION
-  FIRE DEPARTMENT

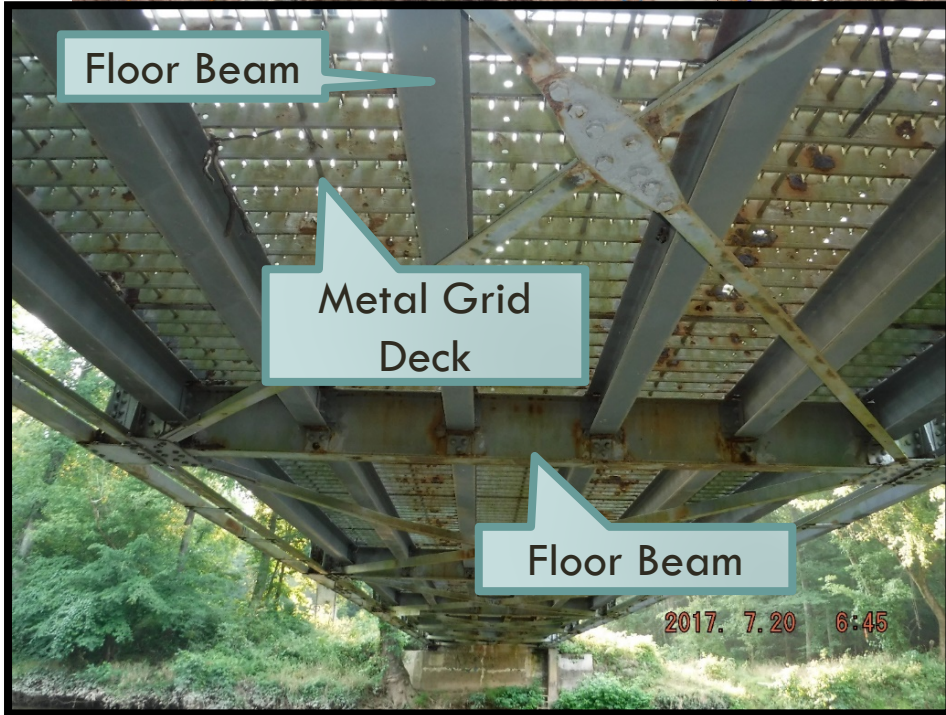
## ESTIMATED COST \$200,000

### ◆ Advantages

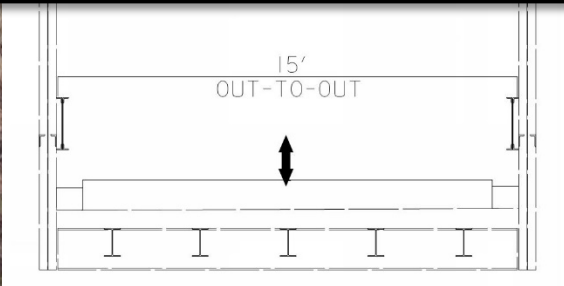
- Low cost.
- Existing historic structure would not be impacted.
- No impacts to the surrounding parks, historic or environmental site features.
- No impacts to the Patuxent River.
- Existing structure could be used by pedestrians, bikers, fisherman, and other non- vehicle based users with minimum repair of the structure.
- No additional right-of-way required.
- No utility impacts.

### ◆ Disadvantages

- Bridge will remain structurally deficient, will not be opened to vehicular traffic.
- Roadway remains closed and detour route stays in effect.
- The Prince George's County approach would still be subject to frequent closings due to flooding.

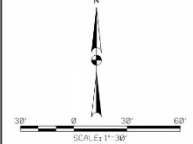


EXISTING BRIDGE  
TO BE REHABILITATED



**LEGEND:**

- PROPOSED FULL DEPTH PAVEMENT
- PROPOSED 15' SINGLE LANE BRIDGE
- EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
- WETLAND BOUNDARY
- WETLAND BUFFER
- LIMIT OF DISTURBANCE
- 100 YEAR FLOOD PLAN



SCALE: 1" = 50'

## ESTIMATED COST \$2,000,000

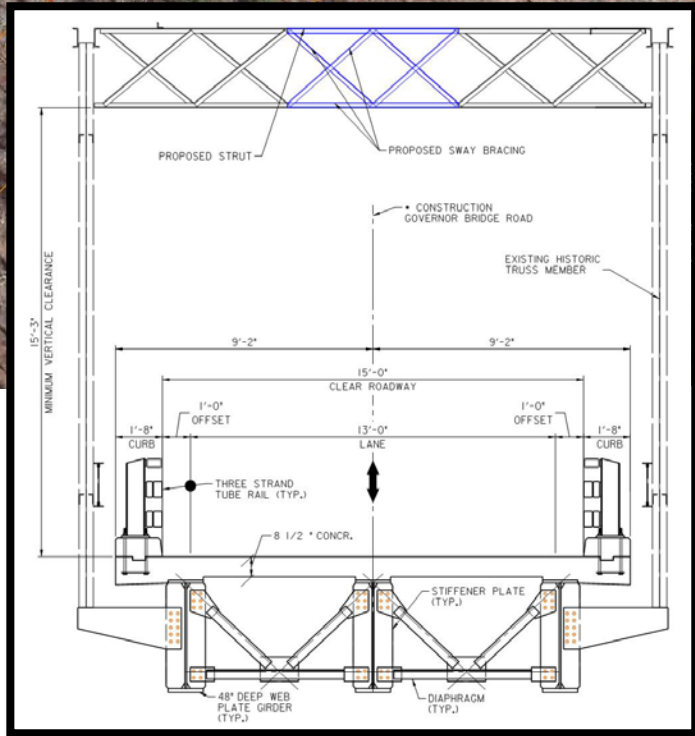
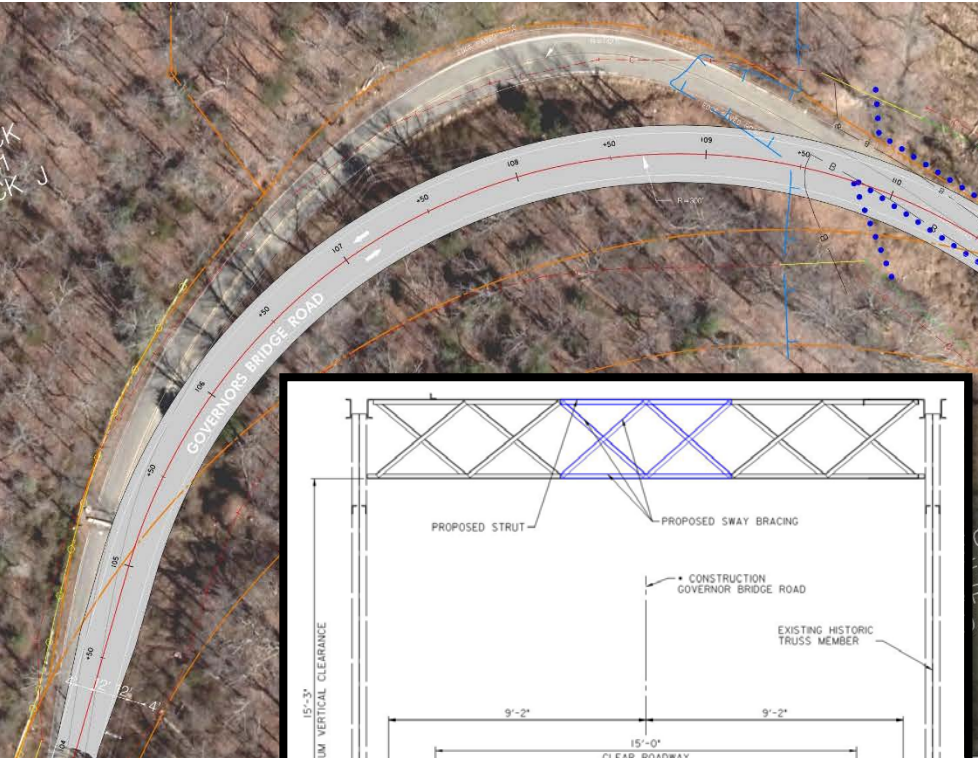
### ◆ Advantages

- Structure retains its historic integrity.
- Least expensive “build” alternate.
- No additional right-of-way is required.
- No impacts to the Patuxent River.
- No impacts to the surrounding parks, historic or environmental site features.
- No utility impacts.

### ◆ Disadvantages

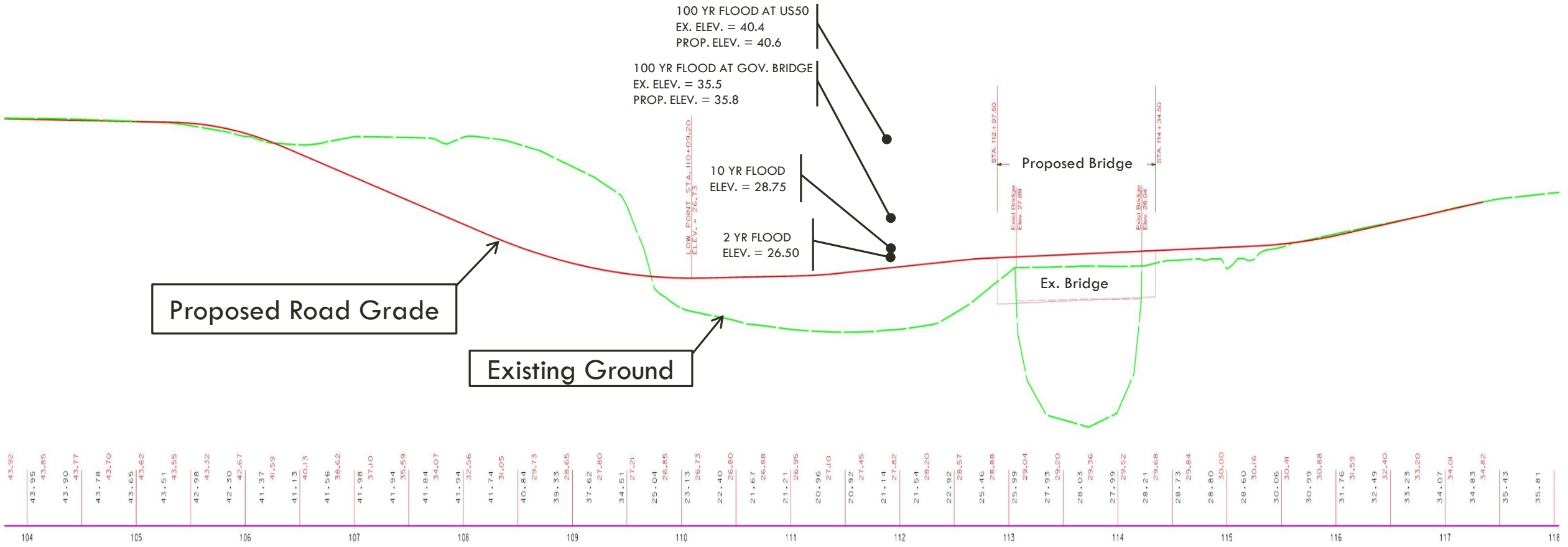
- Does not improve the horizontal or vertical alignment of the roadway.
- The Prince George’s County approach would still be subject to frequent closings due to flooding.
- Structure would be posted for load restrictions and limited to light weight vehicles.
- Continual maintenance of bridge structure due to continuing deterioration.

# ALTERNATE 3 – EXISTING ALIGNMENT – 1 LANE BRIDGE OPTION



STATE OF MARYLAND  
HIGHWAY ADMIN  
LIBER 5011 E

# ALTERNATE 3, 4, 5, AND 6: ROADWAY PROFILE CHANGES



## ESTIMATED COST \$6,000,000

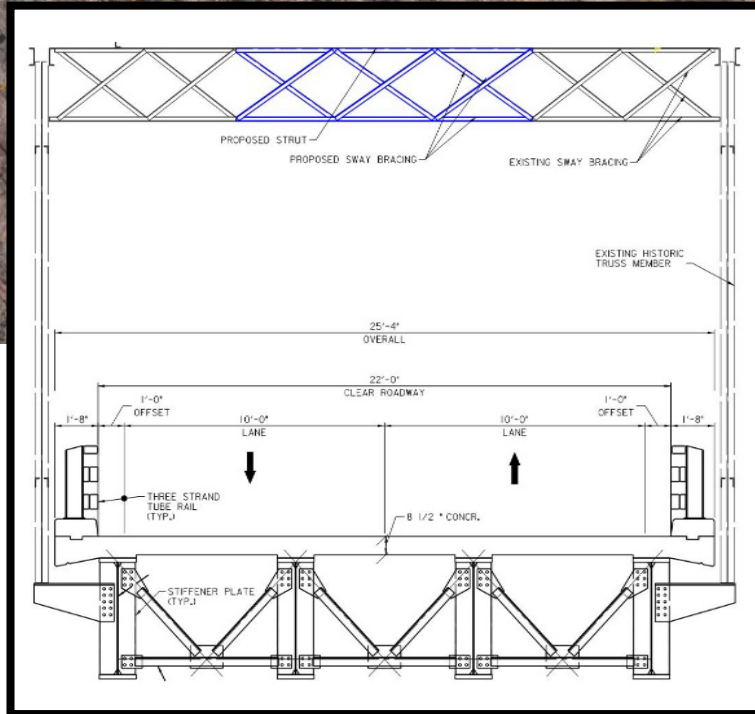
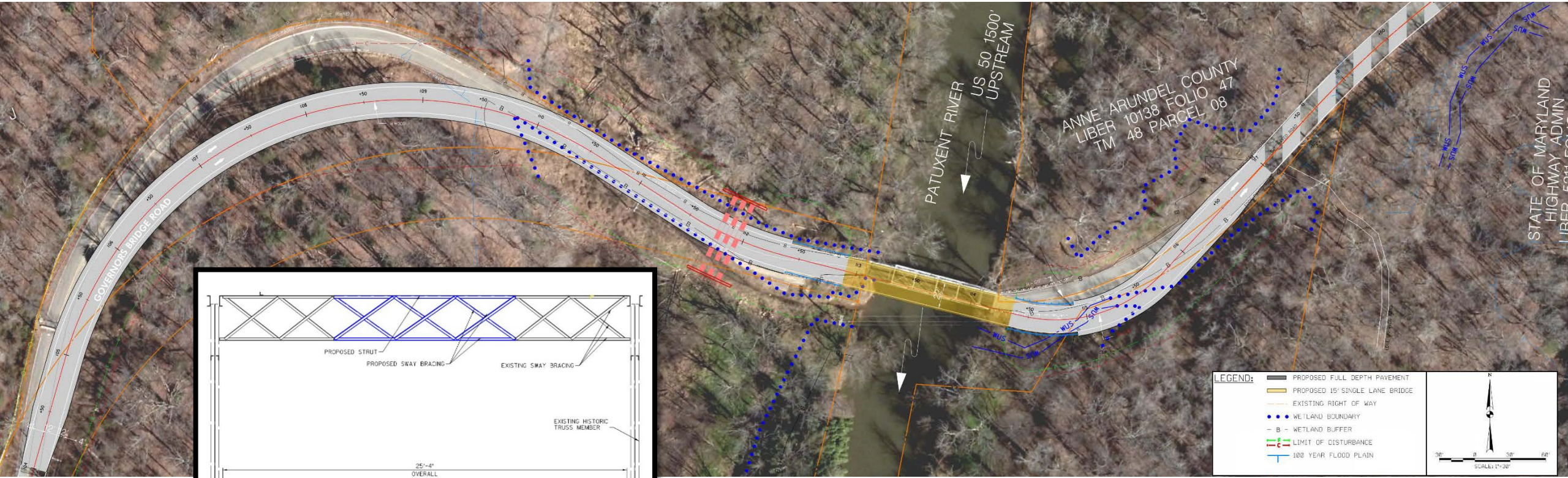
### ◆ Advantages

- Installation of 15-foot wide one-lane bridge would replace one-lane bridge and would allow one lane of traffic.
- No loading restrictions on the bridge for light weight or heavy weight vehicles.
- Portions of existing bridge would be retained for historical context.
- Improved horizontal & vertical sight distance on the Prince George's County approach.
- Reduced frequency of flooding during minimal storm event.
- Least expensive new bridge alternative.
- Minimal impacts to the Patuxent River compared to Alternates 4, 5 and 6.
- Less right-of-way impacts compared to Alternates 4,5 and 6 due to improved horizontal & vertical sight distance on west approach road and two-lane bridge structure.

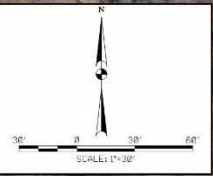
### ◆ Disadvantages

- Impacts to parks, historic, and environmental site features due to Prince George's County approach roadway's horizontal and vertical sight distance improvements.
- Right-of-way is required to improve the roadway alignment.
- Aerial utility pole impacts adding time and cost.
- Prince George's County approach roadway would flood during higher storm events.

# ALTERNATE 4 – EXISTING ALIGNMENT – 2 LANE BRIDGE OPTION



- LEGEND:**
- PROPOSED FULL DEPTH PAVEMENT
  - PROPOSED 15' SINGLE LANE BRIDGE
  - EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
  - WETLAND BOUNDARY
  - WETLAND BUFFER
  - LIMIT OF DISTURBANCE
  - 100 YEAR FLOOD PLAIN



# ALTERNATE 4 – EXISTING ALIGNMENT – 2 LANE BRIDGE OPTION

## ESTIMATED COST \$6,800,000

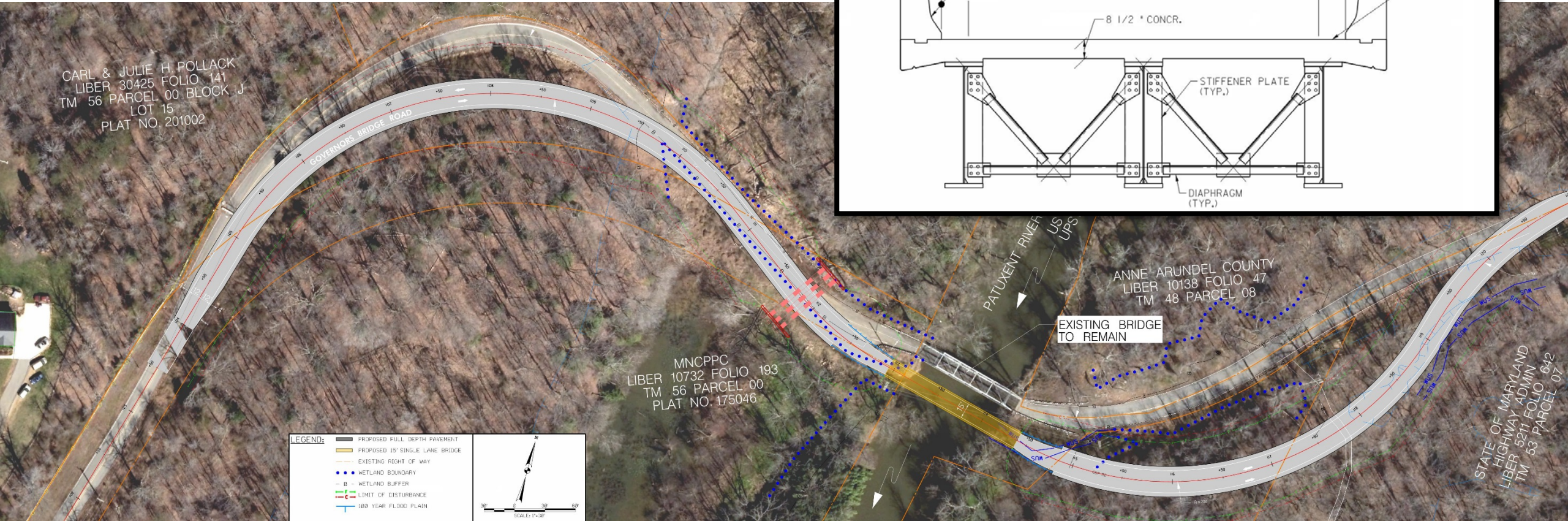
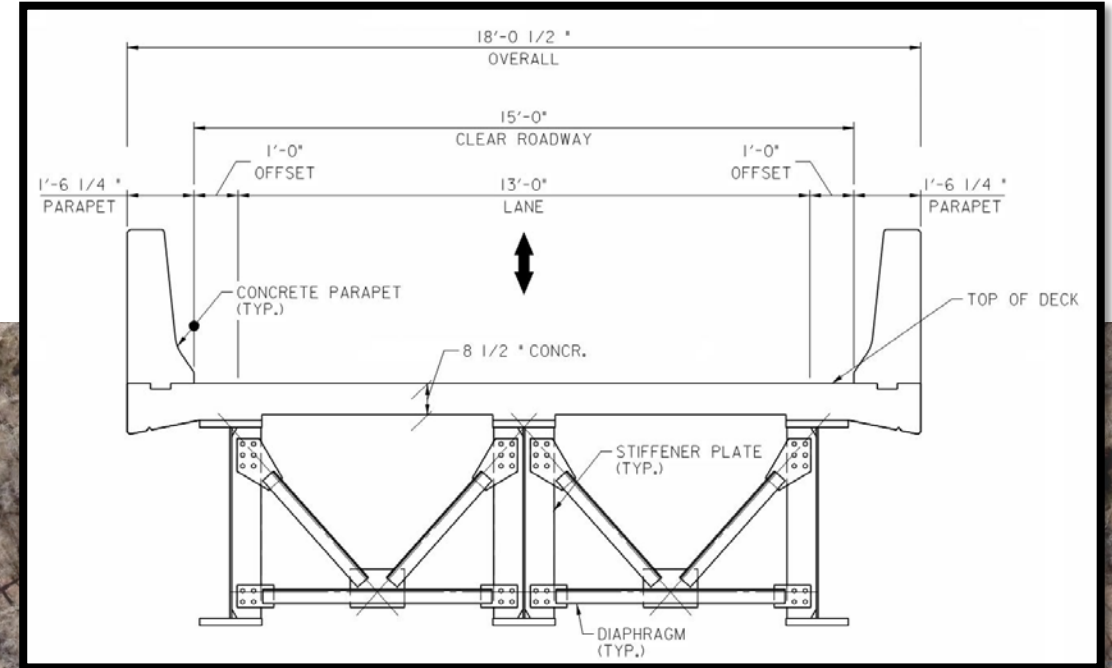
### ◆ Advantages

- Installation of 22-foot wide two-lane bridge would replace one-lane bridge and would allow two lanes of traffic.
- No loading restrictions on the bridge for light weight or heavy weight vehicles.
- Improved horizontal & vertical sight distance on Prince George's County approach.
- Reduced frequency of flooding during minimal storm event.

### ◆ Disadvantages

- Modification of the bridge to accommodate two traffic lanes would modify the historic context of the existing historic structure.
- Increased impacts to the Patuxent River compared to Alternate 3 due to roadway horizontal and vertical sight distance improvements and two-lane bridge structure.
- Increased right-of-way impacts compared to Alternate 3 due to improved horizontal & vertical sight distance on west approach road and two-lane bridge structure.
- Aerial utility pole impacts adding time and cost.
- Prince George's County approach roadway would flood during higher storm events.

# ALTERNATE 5 – SHIFTED ALIGNMENT – 1 LANE BRIDGE OPTION



## ESTIMATED COST \$6,900,000

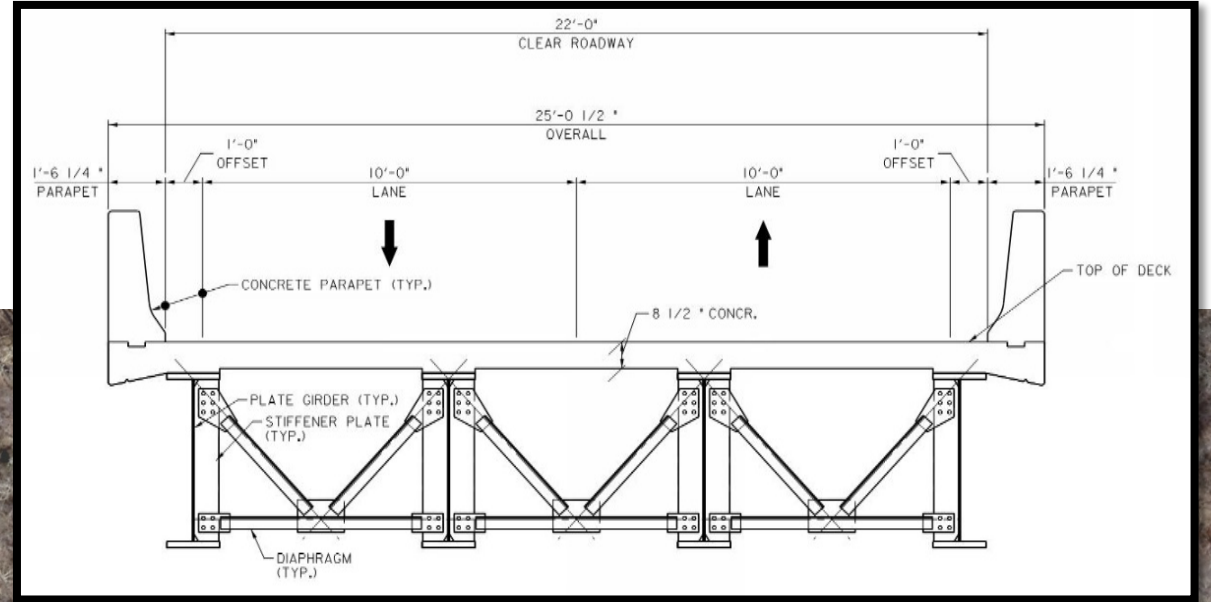
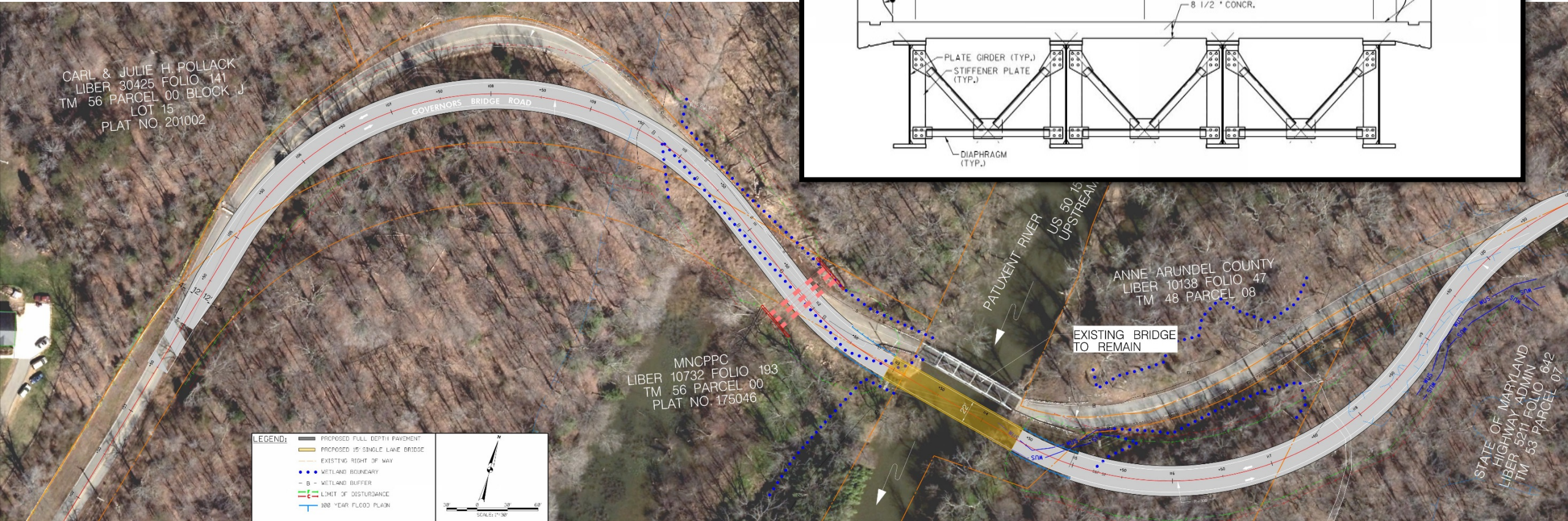
### ◆ Advantages

- New 15-foot clear roadway width one-lane bridge to the south of existing bridge on shifted road alignment to avoid impact on exiting historic bridge.
- No loading restrictions on the bridge for light weight or heavy weight vehicles.
- Existing historic bridge would remain in place for historical context.
- Improved horizontal & vertical sight distance on Prince George's County's and Anne Arundel County's approach roadways.
- Reduced frequency of flooding during minimal storm event.

### ◆ Disadvantages

- Increased impacts to parks, historic and environmental site features compared to Alternates 3 & 4 due to improved horizontal & vertical sight distance on Prince George's and Anne Arundel County approach road on shifted alignment.
- Additional impacts to the Patuxent River due to construction of new bridge abutments for the shifted alignment.
- Prince George's County approach roadway would flood during higher storm events.
- Increased right-of-way impacts compared to Alternates 3 & 4 due to shifted alignments and roadway geometric improvements.
- Aerial utility pole impacts adding time and cost.
- Highest cost of all alternates.
- Permitting would be more difficult than Alternates 3 & 4.

# ALTERNATE 6 – SHIFTED ALIGNMENT – 2 LANE BRIDGE OPTION



## ESTIMATED COST \$7,700,000

### ◆ Advantages

- New 22-foot clear roadway width Two Lane Bridge to the south of existing bridge on shifted road alignment to avoid impact on exiting historic bridge.
- No loading restrictions on the bridge.
- Existing historic bridge will be retained in place for historical context.
- Improved horizontal & vertical sight distance on east and west approach roads (Anne Arundel County & Prince George's County sides).
- Minimize frequency of flooding during low storm event (2 Year storm event) on west approach road (Prince George's County side).

### ◆ Disadvantages

- Increased environmental impacts compared to Alternatives 3, 4 & 5 due to improved horizontal & vertical sight distance on east and west approach roads on shifted alignment.
- Class I Stream impacts due to construction of new bridge abutments on the banks of the Patuxent River on shifted alignment.
- Increased Right-of-Way impacts compared to Alternatives 3, 4 & 5 due to shifted alignments and roadway geometric improvements.
- Aerial utility pole impacts adding time and cost.
- Existing bridge will have to be maintained for historic context.
- Higher cost than Alternatives 3, 4 & 5.
- Permitting will be more difficult than Alternatives 3, 4 & 5.
- US50 will be impacted by 0.17 feet increase in the 100-year storm.

# ALTERNATIVES SUMMARY

ALTERNATIVE	DESCRIPTION	COST	NUMBER OF LANES	BRIDGE WIDTH	RETAINS BRIDGE HISTORIC INTEGRITY	FLOODING REDUCED	ROADWAY GEOMETRY IMPROVEMENTS
1	NO-BUILD	\$ 0.2 M	0	12.25'	YES	NO	NO
2	BRIDGE REHABILITATION	\$2.0 M	1	12.25'	YES	NO	NO
3	NEW BRIDGE - EXISTING ALIGNMENT	\$6.0 M	1	15'	YES	SLIGHTLY	WEST APPR ONLY
4	NEW BRIDGE - EXISTING ALIGNMENT	\$6.8 M	2	22'	YES	SLIGHTLY	WEST APPR ONLY
5	NEW BRIDGE - SHIFTED ALIGNMENT	\$6.9 M	1	15'	NO	SLIGHTLY	YES
6	NEW BRIDGE - SHIFTED ALIGNMENT	\$7.7 M	2	22'	NO	SLIGHTLY	YES

## ◆ Since the Bridge Closed:

- Perform Structural Evaluation
- Environmental Delineation
- Complete Field Surveys
- Develop Archaeological Report and Evaluation
- Develop Alternatives Concepts and Cost Estimates
- Public Information Meeting

1995-Bridge Repairs

2014-Bridge Repairs

2015-Critical Deterioration

3/2015- Bridge Closed

3/2017 - Developed  
Alternative Analysis Report

10/2018- Public Meeting

12/3/2018 –

Early 2019 – **Comment Period Ends**

Mid 2019 - **Submit to MHT and MDE**

Late 2019 – **Select Alternative**

Late 2019 – **Prepare and Submit 30% Plans**

Late 2019 – **MDE Permit Applications**

Late 2019 – **NEPA & MHT Coordination of Final Plans**

# CONTACT INFORMATION

Prince George's County DPW&T		
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Anne Arundel County DPW		
<p><u>Dan Anderson</u> Engineer Manager Anne Arundel County DPW <a href="mailto:Pwande85@aacounty.org">Pwande85@aacounty.org</a></p>		

**Please Submit all Comments by Monday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018**

**<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3010/Governors-Bridge-Road-Bridge>**

# GOVERNORS BRIDGE ROAD BRIDGE



Prince  
Georges  
county MARYLAND

Department of Public Works and Transportation



Rushern L. Baker, III  
*County Executive*

# Thank You!

Gwendolyn T. Clerkley  
*Acting Director*