

Wabash County Bridge No. 645 Public Hearing

Des. No.: 0710686

**Rehabilitation of Wabash County Bridge No. 645
Carrying Mill Street over the Eel River
Wabash County, Indiana**

Information Packet

Thursday, January 26, 2012

**Public Safety Building
North Manchester, Indiana**

6:00 p.m.

January 26, 2012

Dear Resident:

Welcome to the public hearing regarding the rehabilitation of Wabash County Bridge No. 645. The proposed project includes the rehabilitation of Indiana Structure No. 8500685 (Wabash County Bridge No. 645), South Mill Street over the Eel River. The project limits will include 160 feet of approach milling and resurfacing at both ends of the bridge resulting in a total project length of approximately 350 feet.

The purpose of the public hearing is to explain the project and receive comments. There are several ways that your comments may be presented.

1. You may present comments verbally during the public statement session, which follows the presentation. You may do this by signing up on the Speaker's Schedule located on the table with the handout materials.
2. You may complete a comment sheet and return it to a United Consulting representative. A comment sheet is attached to this packet and extra copies are available on the table with the other handout materials.
3. You may mail your comments to United Consulting within the next two weeks. All written comments received by February 10, 2012 will become part of the transcript.
4. You may also e-mail your comments to mikeo@ucindy.com

All comments that United Consulting receives will be evaluated and answered in the public hearing transcript report for this project. This report will address all concerns raised during the public involvement process. Every comment received as part of this process will be addressed.

Presentation Agenda

1. Meeting called to order – 6:00 pm Jon E. Clodfelter, P.E.
United Consulting
 - Explanation of the meeting purpose and process
 - Introduction of the hearing panel
2. Description of the project
3. Description of the environmental document
4. Description of land acquisition process
5. Explanation of comment addressing process
6. Public statement session
7. Adjournment
8. Question and Answer - Engineers will be available in the display area to answer additional questions (Please note that these conversations are not part of the official comment).

Location and Description:

The preferred alternative is to rehabilitate Wabash County Bridge No. 645 for continued vehicular traffic. The bridge approaches will remain unchanged except for asphalt resurfacing to provide a smooth transition to the bridge roadway. The project limits will include 160' of approach milling and resurface resulting in a total project length of approximately 350'. The existing alignment is straight across the bridge with a stop condition at the west end. The bridge will remain posted for one lane, restricted height and load capacity. Based on the structure's current condition the project will include the following rehabilitation items:

1. Remove the roof including rafters, all siding, sidewalk rail including curbs and posts, deck timbers and all approach guard rail. Save adequate materials and signs for reuse.
2. Remove all floor beam bracing and replace with timber bridging.
3. Repair the tie rod bracing at the portals and the interior bents.
4. Replace or repair the damaged sections of the truss.
5. Clean and paint all steel in both bents.
6. Remove and replace damaged areas of concrete on the abutments.
7. Construct new roof system including rafters, sheathing, and cedar shake shingles.
8. Install floor system similar to the old floor system. Reuse acceptable members from the existing floor.
9. Replace the interior sidewalk using salvaged posts, curbs, and rails.
10. Install siding using salvaged and new members as required. Include windows and siding on the portals. Install a repaired vertical clearance restriction device at each portal. Recommended clearance is 8.0 feet.
11. Apply fire retardant treatment to the timbers.
12. Install new timber guard rail to protect the approaches.
13. Install new signs for vertical clearance, and "No Trucks".

Purpose and Need:

The purpose of this project is to provide safe and adequate infrastructure over the Eel River for the residents of Wabash County and the Town of North Manchester. The need for improvements at Mill Street over the Eel River is based on the current condition of the bridge. The paragraphs below describe the current condition of the bridge.

Existing Conditions:

Wabash County Bridge No. 645 was built in 1872 with a significant non-historic rehabilitation completed in 1972. Intermediate support structures were constructed at the quarter points of the truss to alleviate extensive sagging of the structure. The timber siding was repaired and repainted and the timber shake roof was replaced with asphalt shingles. The bridge deck was repaired by replacing some damaged floor beams and installing a new timber deck. The external timber covered walkway was removed, presumably in 1972, and moved inside the main structure.

The bridge is a single span Smith #4 Patented Truss structure with a length of 174' including the 12' overhang at each end, is 18' wide and 12' high. Built in 1872 by the Smith Bridge Company, the structure originally cost \$3515, which did not include the expense of the abutments. The Average Daily Traffic on South Mill Street is estimated at 460 vehicles per day. The bridge is currently posted for one lane and a 3 ton load limit.

The bridge opening includes a 12'-6" wide single lane, a 1'-2" curb and rail, and a 4' wide sidewalk. There is 2" timber rail attached to the truss on each side. The deck consists of 2½" x 10" hardwood timbers placed longitudinally over transverse 3" x 12" floor beams supported by the bottom chord of the truss. The deck timbers are well anchored but show considerable wear on the top surface. Knots in the wood have not worn as much as the surrounding wood leaving numerous small bumps at the knots. Many of the deck planks and floor beams are loose, warped and splitting. The deck planks and some floor beams need to be replaced. The timber siding and roof system are deteriorated, leaking and need to be replaced. The timber truss is currently braced with cables to the intermediate supports in an attempt to keep the structure from leaning. Some truss members need to be replaced and the truss realigned so these cables may be removed.

Design Data:

Project Design Criteria:	3R (Non-Freeway)
INDOT Functional Classification:	Local Road
Terrain:	Level
Design Speed:	15 mph
Access Control:	None
Number of Lanes & Width:	1 @ 12'
Shoulders:	None

Sidewalk:	4'
Vertical Clearance	8'
Clear Roadway Width	12'

Traffic Data:

	<u>Current (2012)</u>	<u>Future (2028)</u>
Mill Street:	460 ADT	580 ADT
DHV:		35 VPH
Directional Distribution:	50%	50%

Right of Way:

The construction of this project will not involve the acquisition of permanent right-of-way. The rehabilitation of this structure will not necessitate the acquisition of any structures and will, therefore, not have a significant negative impact on any businesses or residents in the area. The project will require the acquisition of 0.029 acres of temporary right-of-way for construction access under the bridge.

Maintenance of Traffic:

South Mill Street will be closed during construction. Traffic will be detoured using South River Road and East Main Street. The detour is not expected to result in substantial impacts on health and educational facilities, public utilities, fire, police, emergency services, religious institutions, public transportation or pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Any impacts will be temporary and will cease upon completion of the project.

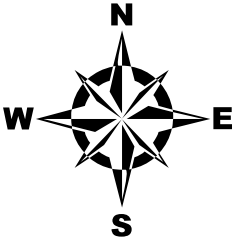
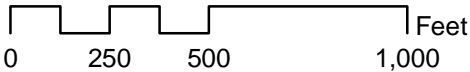
Historic Resources:

Wabash County Bridge No. 645 (North Manchester Covered Bridge) was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1982 under Criteria A and C for its association with the settlement of North Manchester and is one of only six Smith Truss covered bridges in Indiana (as of 1982). The Federal Highway Administration issued an Adverse Effect finding for this project on September 28, 2011. The criteria of adverse effect apply because the proposed undertaking will alter, directly or indirectly, the characteristics that qualify the property for inclusion in the NRHP. The undertaking will not physically destroy or damage Wabash County Bridge No. 645. The undertaking will alter the bridge through removal and replacement of some the original material, including beams, rafters, siding, and flooring. The alteration of the bridge through rehabilitation has the potential to diminish the integrity of the bridge materials. Therefore, the finding was Adverse Effect.

Rehabilitation of Wabash County Bridge No. 645



2005 Aerial Photograph





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Be assured your comments will be included in the official project file if forwarded within two weeks of the hearing date.

Hearing Date: Thursday, January 26, 2012

Project: Wabash County Bridge No. 645

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Name (please print): _____

Address: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Signature: _____