Open House Public Meeting for

LA 12/TX 12 SABINE RIVER BRIDGE

Calcasieu Parish, LA / Newton County, TX

LADOTD State Project No. H.000425

Federal Aid Project No. H000425

Deweyville High School, Cafetorium
171 TX-12
Orange, TX

July 31, 2018
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Objectives of this Public Meeting

- Provide information about the proposed project, including the alternatives currently proposed and the preliminary purpose and need for the project
- Solicit comments about the project from the public and other interested parties
- Provide an opportunity for attendees to request to be Consulting Parties for the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act process for this project

Meeting Stations

In addition to this presentation, the following stations are available:

- A Sign-in and Handout Station
- An Exhibit Station to review layouts of the proposed alternatives and ask questions to project staff
- A Comment Station for giving written and/or verbal comments (Written comments postmarked within 15 calendar days of meeting will also be included in the transcript)
- A Real Estate Station where an agent can explain LADOTD's and TxDOT's right of way acquisition procedures

Project team members are available to assist you.

Proposed Project Description

- The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), in conjunction with Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is proposing improvements to the existing Louisiana Highway 12 (LA 12) and Texas Highway 12 (TX 12) Sabine River Bridge located between Deweyville, Texas (Newton County) and Starks, Louisiana (Calcasieu Parish) at the Texas/Louisiana state line.

Proposed Project Description (continued)

- Five (5) build alternatives and one (1) no build alternative from the Feasibility Study prepared by LADOTD dated January 2017 are currently being considered. *More information on each alternative is included in the handout*.
- Dependent upon the alternative, a detour bridge and temporary traffic control devices are anticipated for this project.
- The bridge is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A and C. It is anticipated that wetland resources will be impacted by the proposed project.
- It is anticipated that this project will be environmentally processed as a Categorical Exclusion.

Project Location

Project Purpose and Need

- The preliminary purpose of the project is to provide a structurally sound river crossing that improves the functionality of and vehicular mobility on the structure carrying LA 12 / TX 12 over the Sabine River between Calcasieu Parish and Newton County.

Alternative 1
Bridge Rehabilitation/Widening by 4 Feet

- This alternative is 0.416 miles in total length and begins just west of the Sabine River Relief Bridge and terminates approximately 700 feet east of the existing Sabine River Bridge.
- A majority of the roadway within the construction limits would remain with minimal overlay necessary to tie into the proposed crossing improvements.
- The approach to the Sabine River Bridge maintains the existing LA 12 vertical grade of 2.53% west of the bridge and -2.00% east of the bridge.
- The proposed bridge would provide two 12-foot wide travel lanes and two-foot outside shoulders increasing the clear roadway width from 24 feet to 28 feet.
- The existing profile of the bridge is maintained.
- Crossing improvements in this alternative include replacing the approach slab, guardrail, approach spans, main span deck, and bridge rail.
- Alternative 1 represents the minimal effort necessary to reuse the bridge and would require exceptions to the design guidelines due to inadequate shoulders on the bridge.
- Due to this, Alternative 1 does not fulfill all of the project's preliminary need to address the geometric deficiency of the existing structure.

Alternative 2
Bridge Rehabilitation/Widening by 16 Feet

- This alternative is 0.568 miles in total length and begins just west of the Sabine River Relief Bridge and terminates approximately 1,600 feet east of the existing Sabine River Bridge.
- A majority of the roadway within the construction limits would be milled and overlaid with minimal widening to achieve a 5 foot centerline shift to tie into the widened structure.
- A design exception would be needed for the two, short curves needed for the shift between the Texas Bridge and the Sabine River Bridge.
- The approach to the Sabine River Bridge maintains the existing LA 12 vertical grade of 2.53% west of the bridge and -2.00% east of the bridge.
- The proposed bridge would provide two 12-foot wide travel lanes and eight-foot outside shoulders increasing the clear roadway width from 24 feet to 40 feet.
- The existing vertical grades of the bridge are maintained. Crossing improvements in this alternative would include replacing the approach slab, guardrail, approach spans, main span deck, and bridge rail.
- The bridge would be widened to the north to avoid impacts to the Deweyville Boat Launch.

Alternative 3
Couplet with Construction of an Adjacent New Bridge

- This alternative is 1.326 miles in total length and begins just west of County Road 4156 and terminates approximately 2,100 feet east of the existing Sabine River Bridge.
- The proposed roadway would be a two-lane divided roadway with 12-foot wide travel lanes, eight-foot wide shoulders, 42-foot median, and open ditch drainage.
- The existing LA 12 would be converted to one-way eastbound traffic only. The new 42-foot median and the westbound roadway would be constructed at full depth north of the existing roadway.
- Full access median openings are provided at minor roads to maintain access along LA 12. Drivers will be able to make U-turns at these median openings in order to access businesses and residences along TX 12.
- Minor roads where full access median openings are provided would be realigned to minimize skew at the intersection and provide a perpendicular connection at LA 12 in accordance with LADOTD local road (RL-1) design guidelines. A majority of the roadway in the eastbound direction would be milled and overlain.
- The eastbound approach to the Sabine River Bridge would maintain the existing LA 12 vertical grade of 2.53% west of the bridge and -2.00% east of the bridge. The new westbound approach would provide a vertical grade of 2.06% west of the new bridge and -2.81% east of the new bridge.

Alternative 3 (Continued)
Couplet with Construction of an Adjacent New Bridge

- A new one-way bridge would be constructed parallel to the north of the existing bridge to form a couplet and accommodate the westbound traffic.
- The new bridge would provide a 12-foot wide travel lane, 12-foot outside shoulder, four-foot inside shoulder, and steel crash rated rail.
- The new bridge features a finished grade elevation of 36.5’.
- Crossing improvements in this alternative include replacing the approach slab, guardrail, approach spans, main span deck, and bridge rail.
- Additionally, Alternative 3 requires the addition of a parallel bridge structure at the Sabine River Relief Canal on the Texas side.
- The existing bridge would be rehabilitated and converted to one-way eastbound traffic only and provide a 12-foot wide travel lane, 12-foot wide outside shoulder, and four-foot wide inside shoulder increasing the clear roadway width from 24 feet to 28 feet.
- The existing profile of the bridge would be maintained.

Alternative 4
Bridge Replacement

- This alternative is 0.391 miles in total length and begins just west of the Sabine River Relief Bridge and terminates approximately 1,100 feet east of the existing Sabine River Bridge.
- The proposed roadway is a two-lane undivided roadway with 12-foot wide travel lanes, eight-foot wide shoulders, and open ditch drainage.
- A majority of the roadway within the construction limits would remain and would be milled and overlaid.
- Near the bridge, full depth construction will be utilized for approach slab replacement and to raise the finished grade to the necessary elevation for the main span bridge replacement.
- The approach to the Sabine River Bridge does not maintain the existing grade of LA 12, featuring a 3.5% grade on the Texas side and a 3% grade on the Louisiana side.

Alternative 5
Construct bridge on new alignment

- This alternative proposes to provide a new bridge to tie in to LA 12/TX 12 with new curvature and parallel to the north of the existing Sabine River Bridge that would no longer be used for vehicular traffic.
- The existing bridge could remain in place by transfer to another entity for alternative use.

Section 106 Consulting Parties

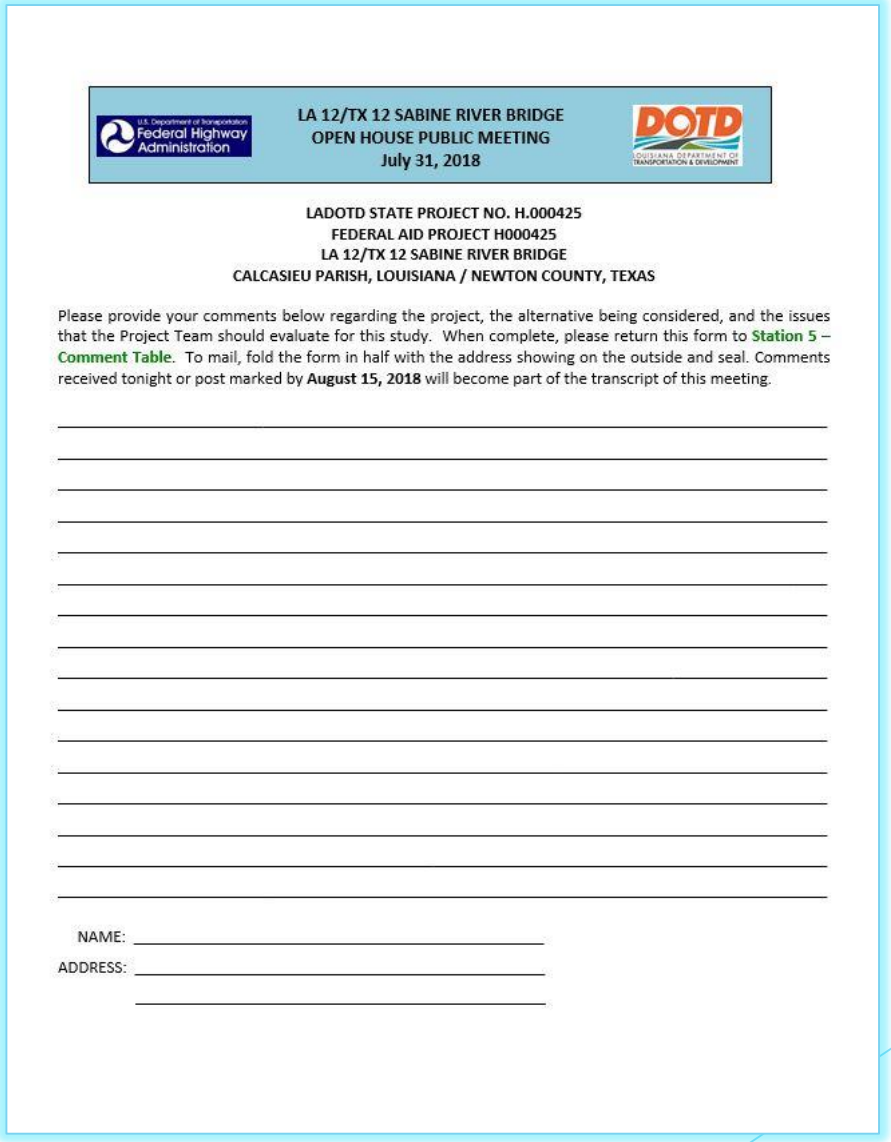
- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) calls for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in consultation with the Louisiana and Texas State Historic Preservation Officers, to identify consulting parties and invite them to participate in the Section 106 process for the proposed project. This consultation is being initiated to identify and assess effects on properties that are listed or may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) that may be impacted by the proposed project, including the LA 12/TX 12 Sabine River Bridge, listed on the NRHP.
- **A sign-up sheet will be available at Station 5 to request to be a consulting party for this project.** To request to be a consulting party for this project by mail, please send a written request to LADOTD, Environmental Engineer Administrator, P.O. Box 94245, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245 or email to kreg.ellzey@la.gov. Please include your reasons for requesting to be a consulting party. **Any mailed requests to be a consulting party outside tonight's meeting would be appreciated by August 15, 2018.**

How You Can Help

- Sign-in tonight and review all materials.
- Speak with a team member about your property location and concerns.
- Provide us with your written or recorded comments.

Why Comment?

- Community input, including concerns and preferences, are factors that are considered
- All comments are considered in the Environmental and Section 106 Processes
- To find out if there are any issues or opportunities with the project.



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OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING
July 31, 2018

LADOTD STATE PROJECT NO. H.000425
FEDERAL AID PROJECT H000425
LA 12/TX 12 SABINE RIVER BRIDGE
CALCASIEU PARISH, LOUISIANA / NEWTON COUNTY, TEXAS

Please provide your comments below regarding the project, the alternative being considered, and the issues that the Project Team should evaluate for this study. When complete, please return this form to **Station 5 – Comment Table**. To mail, fold the form in half with the address showing on the outside and seal. Comments received tonight or post marked by **August 15, 2018** will become part of the transcript of this meeting.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

This is the end of the presentation.

Thank you for you time. Please visit the remaining stations to view the exhibits and provide comments.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

Welcome

The presentation will be repeated throughout tonight's meeting and will begin shortly.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT