

Replacement of Bridge on MD 261 (Bayside Road) over Fishing Creek

What is the purpose of this project?

The main purpose of this project is to replace the deteriorating bridge on MD 261 over Fishing Creek with a new prestressed concrete girder bridge, improve the opening underneath the bridge, and increase the width of the bridge to provide a safer travel area. The proposed bridge will provide a 12'-0" turn lane and 5'-0" minimum shoulders where none currently exists. The proposed bridge will be 4'-0" higher than the current bridge to provide a larger underclearance for boat traffic underneath the bridge. The project will also include a walking path for pedestrians under the bridge.

Why is the work necessary?

While the bridge is structurally safe, MD 261 (Bayside Road) over Fishing Creek, constructed in 1940, is showing signs of deterioration. This project is part of SHA's bridge preservation and replacement program.

How will traffic be impacted by construction activities?

Both lanes of traffic along MD 261 will be maintained during construction, as replacement of the bridge will be performed in multiple stages with a shift in the roadway alignment toward the Chesapeake Bay (east) side and the construction of an additional lane for traffic turning at the nearby intersection with Harbor Road and Mears Avenue. The minimal impacts to traffic will be limited to times when the contractor is required to tie the new roadway into the existing alignment.

Have any other alternatives been considered?

Several alternates for maintaining traffic along MD 261 during construction were considered, including a complete detour of MD 261 and one alternating lane of traffic across the bridge controlled by a system of temporary traffic signals. Due to the volume of traffic on this structure, it was determined that maintaining both lanes of traffic was the only viable option to meet the existing traffic demands.

When will work be completed?

Pending acquisition of required environmental permits and the relocation of impacted utilities, construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2014. SHA will make every effort to complete this project as quickly as possible while minimizing impacts to local residents and motorists. Based on the scope of the work and experience on similar projects, it is anticipated the project will take up to two years to complete, weather permitting.

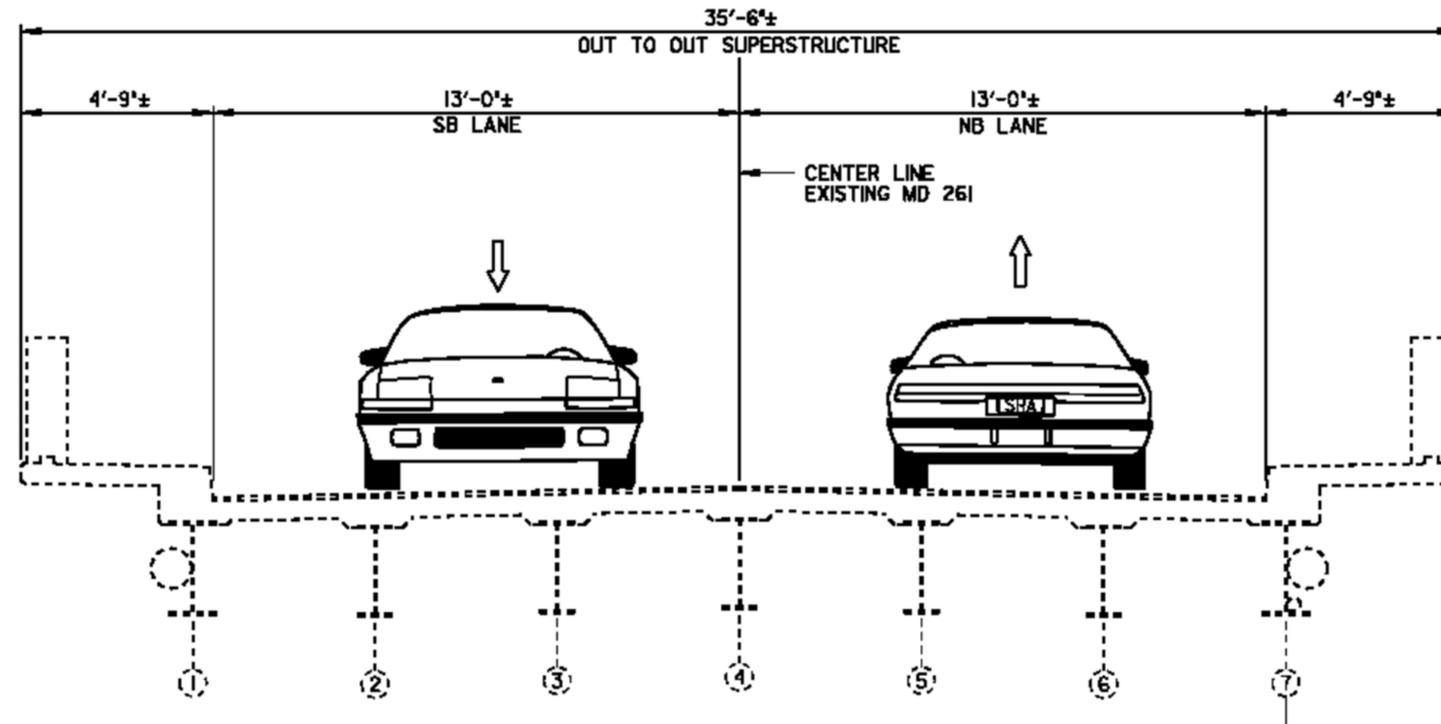
Questions & Answers

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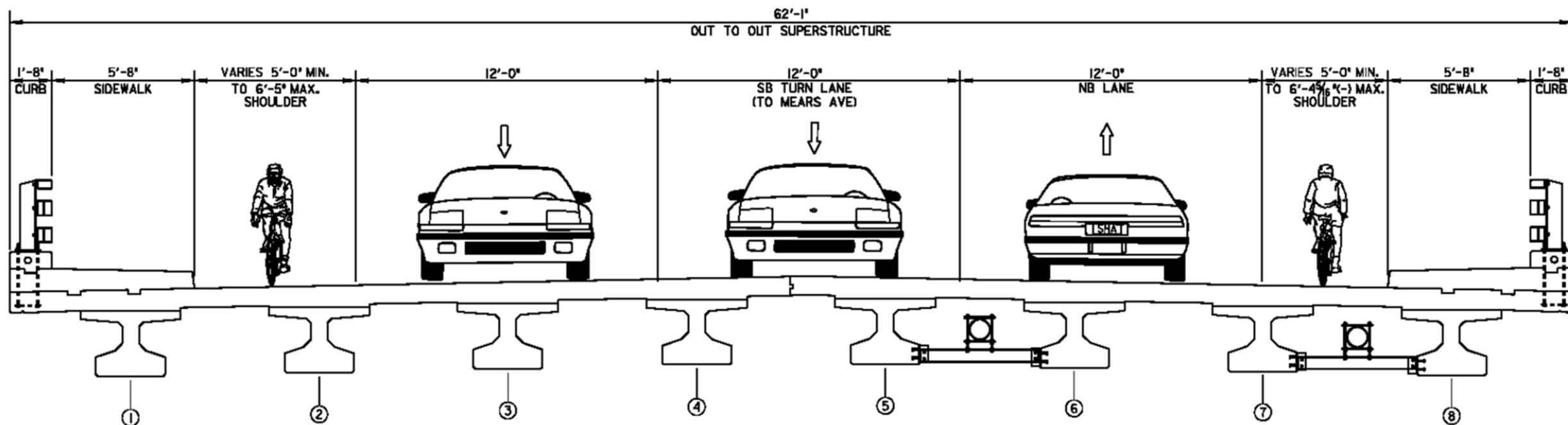


Aerial View

Replacement of Bridge on MD 261 (Bayside Road) over Fishing Creek



Bridge Typical Section - Existing



Bridge Typical Section - Proposed

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Existing Bridge East Elevation



Existing MD 261 Typical Section Looking South

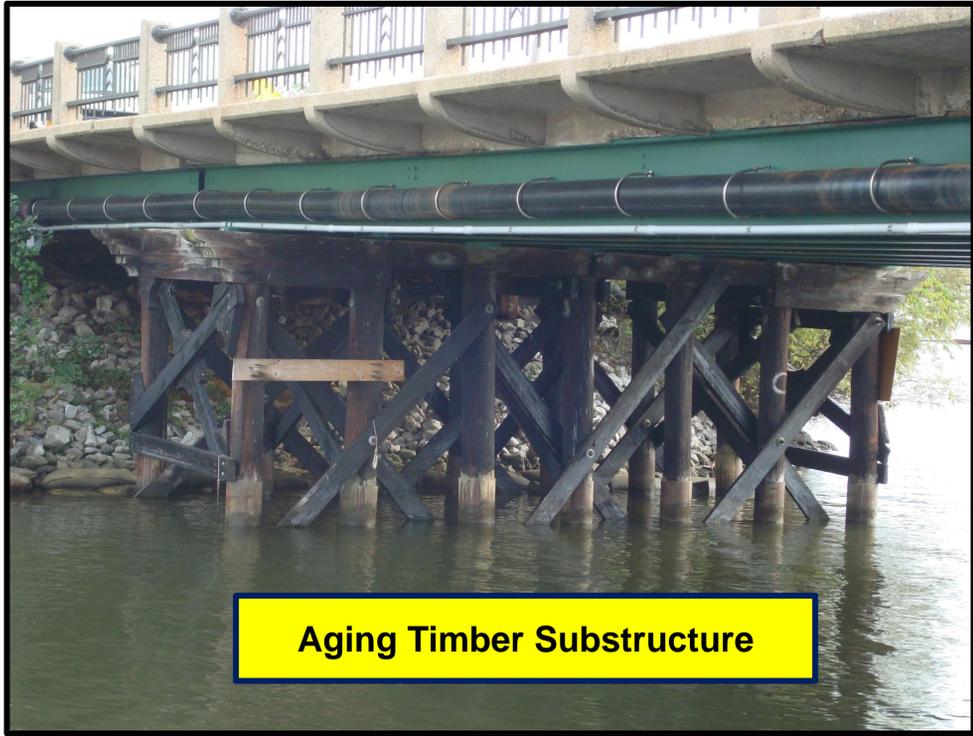


Existing Bridge West Elevation



Existing MD 261 Typical Section Looking North

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Photos Showing Areas of Concern