



US 51 PROJECT TEAM UPDATE

August 2023

What's New with the US 51 Bridge Project?

Thank you for your continued interest in the US 51 Bridge Replacement project! Our team is excited to move full steam ahead to bring a replacement bridge to the region. In particular, our team is getting ready to work on a mussel survey and geotechnical data collection.

Through a series of laws created over the last century, Americans have declared that we need to collectively protect landscapes, fish, wildlife, and plants. This means we must find out if any federally listed threatened or endangered mussels are found in the waterway where we will be constructing the replacement bridge. You'll likely see members of our field team searching in the river and shoreline for mussels in the coming weeks and months.

Our team is also continuing their work later this fall on the geotechnical fieldwork study. This time, the team will be collecting data in the river itself from barges. This study determines the existing conditions and assesses the potential impacts within the corridor for the design of the bridge. This information is important to the design process and will be used to advance the bridge into the final design.

Recent Accomplishments

- Collected and analyzed soil data for the portion of the structure that will be on land;
- Determined the most cost-effective bridge design through a Value Engineering Study;
- Studied the advantages and disadvantages of the potential bridge types;
- Completed preliminary hydraulics "no-rise" analysis to show flood levels near the bridge likely won't increase.

Currently, the project team is:

- Preparing for mussel survey fieldwork;
- Preparing for river geotechnical data collection;
- Investigating and analyzing flooding conditions and impacts on the bridge during construction activities;
- Determining appropriate seismic design criteria for the US 51 bridge;
- Beginning preliminary design on different components of the bridge.



Please help us by sharing this information and update with your family, friends, and interested members of the public. Also, we are sharing this update via our social media outreach:



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If you are interested in learning more about the US 51 Bridge Replacement project or would like to comment on the project, please contact us.

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