

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

**OFFICE OF DESIGN POLICY & SUPPORT
INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE**

FILE P.I. #0007128 **OFFICE** Design Policy & Support
CSBRG-0007-00(128)
Chatham County
GDOT District 5 - Jesup **DATE** 06/19/2015
Bridge Replacement - CR787/Islands Expressway
@ Wilmington River/Bascule Bridge

FROM *for*  Brent Story, State Design Policy Engineer

TO SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT APPROVED LOCATION & DESIGN REPORT

Attached is the approved Location and Design Report with Notice of Location & Design Approval for the above subject project.

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION:

Glenn Bowman, Director of Engineering
Joe Carpenter, Director of P3/Program Delivery
Genetha Rice-Singleton, Assistant Director of P3/Program Delivery
Albert Shelby, State Program Delivery Engineer
Darryl VanMeter, State Innovative Delivery Engineer
Bobby Hilliard, Program Control Administrator
Cindy VanDyke, State Transportation Planning Administrator
Hiral Patel, State Environmental Administrator
Ben Rabun, State Bridge Engineer
Andrew Heath, State Traffic Engineer
Angela Robinson, Financial Management Administrator
Lisa Myers, State Project Review Engineer
Richard Cobb, Location Bureau Chief
Karon Ivery, District Engineer
Will Murphy, District Preconstruction Engineer
Derek Edenfield, District Planning & Programming Engineer
Joseph Capello, Area Engineer - D5, A5
David Moyer, Project Manager
BOARD MEMBER - 1st Congressional District

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

**INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE
LOCATION AND DESIGN REPORT**

FILE: P.I. No. 0007128
CSBRG-0007-00(128), Chatham County
C.R. 787/Islands Expressway over the
Wilmington River Bridge Replacement

OFFICE: Program Delivery

DATE: June 10, 2015

Albert Shelby

FROM: Albert V. Shelby III, State Program Delivery Engineer

TO: Brent A. Story, P.E., State Design Policy Engineer
Attn: Dave Peters, State Conceptual Design Group Manager

SUBJECT: Request for Location and Design Approval

Description and Project Proposal: Project CSBRG-0007-00(128) represents the construction of two new, high level, fixed span, multi-lane bridges over the Wilmington River (Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway) approximately 0.3 mile east of the city limit of Savannah along Islands Expressway (CR 787) in Chatham County. The Project will replace the double bascule bridges that currently exist at this location, which are considered to be functionally obsolete. The Project will begin at a point approximately 0.6 mile west of the Wilmington River (mile log 3.71) and extend eastward to a point approximately 0.6 mile east of the Wilmington River (mile log 4.91). Project length is approximately 1.2 miles. The minimum vertical clearance under the new bridges at the Wilmington River channel will be approximately 65-ft above mean high water for vessels using the waterway. The horizontal clearance in the channel below the bridge will be increased from its current 100-ft in width to 195-ft in width between the proposed new fender system. The total length of the proposed new bridges is approximately 1970-ft each. The new westbound bridge will be 40 feet wide between the side barriers providing for two 12-ft lanes with an 8-ft wide outside shoulder and an 8-ft wide inside shoulder. The new eastbound bridge will be 36-ft wide between the side barriers providing for two 12-ft lanes with an 8-ft wide outside shoulder and 4-ft wide inside shoulder. The roadway approaches will be reconstructed to provide two 12-ft wide lanes in each direction separated by a 44-ft wide median transitioning to a 30-ft wide median near each end of the project to match the existing roadway. The new roadway will provide 10-ft wide outside shoulders with 6.5-ft paved for pedestrian and bicycle use and 6-ft inside shoulders with 2-ft paved. The intersection at Woodhull Road/ Causton Harbor Drive and Frank W. Spencer boat ramp Park will be reconstructed to meet current GDOT design guidelines. The concrete pipe culverts west of Woodhull Road/ Causton Harbor Drive intersection will be extended to accommodate the widening of the roadway at that location.

P.I. No. 0007128

Request for Location & Design Approval

Concept Approval Date: ~~April 26, 2007~~ ^{KLP} March 13, 2012

Concept Update: N/A

Environmental Document:

Document Type: Categorical Exclusion

Approval Date: May 26, 2015

Temporary State Route Needed:

No

Yes

Undetermined

Public Involvement:

A Public Information Open House (PIOH) was held April 12, 2011.

- A total of 133 people attended
- The Department in conjunction with Chatham County received nineteen written comments and four verbal statements during the meeting. One additional comment was mailed to the Department during the 10-day comment period, for a total of twenty-four comments. Of the twenty-four comments received, sixteen were in support of the proposed project, four individuals provided conditional support, three of those providing comments were uncommitted, and one individual was opposed to the proposed project. The major concerns raised at the above PIOH were:
 1. *I'm concerned that the project could run out of funding during implementation and only the north bridge would be completed.*
 2. *I'm concerned with the proposed new bridge foundations.*
 3. *Landscaping should be added to the project to help reduce noise impacts to the Causton Bluff subdivision, since the roadway will be shifted approximately 18 feet closer those residents.*
 4. *A traffic signal needs to be installed at the Causton Harbor Drive / Woodhull Road intersection during and after the construction phase of the project.*
 5. *A plan needs to be implemented that will help direct Tybee Island traffic to Victory Drive / Truman Parkway during construction.*
 6. *Who will have access underneath the bridge once the project is completed? The existing utility access road on the south side of the west approach needs to be closed to the public to protect home owners in The Bluff subdivision.*
 7. *The extra width on the proposed northern bridge should be used to erect a 3-foot high concrete barrier to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians once the bridge becomes two lanes.*
 8. *The schedule for this project needs to be condensed, as the project is needed as soon as possible. Can the project be funded as a toll bridge to help expedite the project?*
 9. *The final design should include a minimum of 6.5 feet paved of outside shoulder to accommodate bicycle traffic. Please install any rumble strip inside the outside stripe instead of outside. Also, please provide gaps in the rumble strip for bicycle movement in and out of the shoulder.*
 10. *Please provide a more definitive schedule for the construction of this project.*
 11. *An acceleration lane is needed traveling westbound from the "Causton Bluff" subdivision.*
- No major changes were made as a result of the PIOH.

P.I. No. 0007128
Request for Location & Design Approval

Consistency with Approval Planning: The design description as presented herein and submitted for approval is consistent with the approved Concept Report.

Recommendations: Recommend that the Location and Design for the project be approved and that the attached Notice be approved for advertising.

CONCUR: 
GDOT Director of Engineering

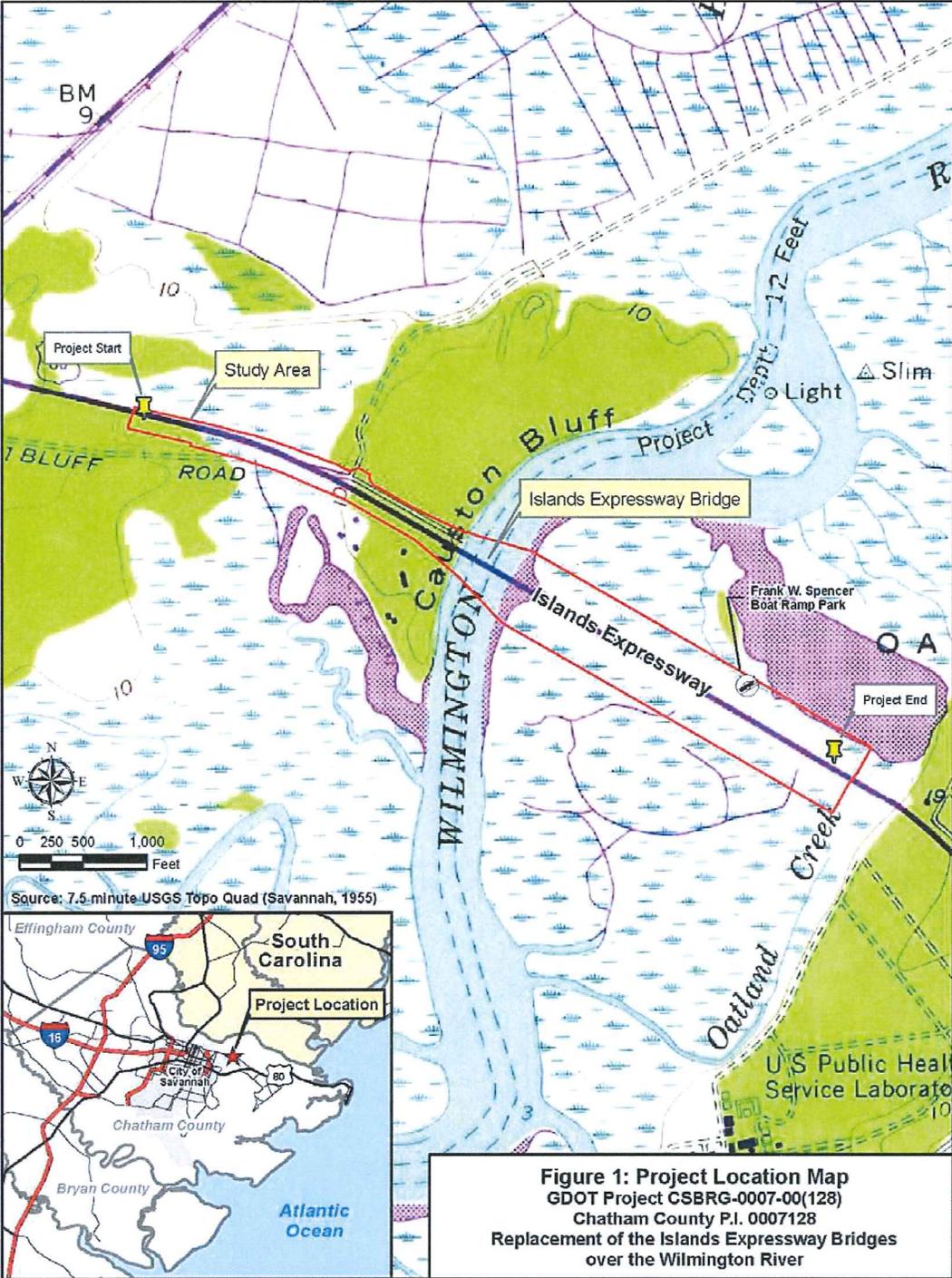
APPROVE:  6.16.15
GDOT Chief Engineer Date

DATE OF LOCATION AND DESIGN APPROVAL: June 19, 2015
(To be entered by State Conceptual Design Group Manager)

BnB
AVS:BWS:JMB:DM

- Attachments:
 - Location Map
 - ~~Construction Cost Estimate~~
 - ~~Utility Estimate~~ Cost Estimates updated Nov. 2014
 - ~~Right of Way Estimate~~
 - Notice of Location and Design Approval

Project Location Map Project No. CSBRG-0007-00(128)



NOTICE OF LOCATION AND DESIGN APPROVAL

CSBRG-0007-00(128), CHATHAM COUNTY

P. I. NO. 0007128

Notice is hereby given in compliance with Georgia Code 22-2-109 and 32-3-5 that the Georgia Department of Transportation has approved the Location and Design of this project.

The date of location and design approval is: June 19, 2015

The project is located in Chatham County approximately 1/3 of a mile east of the city limit of Savannah. The project is located 100% within Chatham County and G.M.D. 5 and 100% within Congressional District 1.

Project with P.I. No. 0007128 in Chatham County represents the construction of two new, high level, fixed span, multi-lane bridges over the Wilmington River (Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway) approximately 0.3 mile east of the city limit of Savannah along Islands Expressway (CR 787) in Chatham County. The Project will replace the double bascule bridges that currently exist at this location, which are considered to be functionally obsolete. The Project will begin at a point approximately 0.6 mile west of the Wilmington River (mile log 3.71) and extend eastward to a point approximately 0.6 mile east of the Wilmington River (mile log 4.91). Project length is approximately 1.2 miles. The minimum vertical clearance under the new bridges at the Wilmington River channel will be approximately 65-ft above mean high water for vessels using the waterway. The total length of the proposed new bridges is approximately 1836-ft each.

Drawings or maps or plats of the proposed project, as approved, are on file and are available for public inspection at the Georgia Department of Transportation:

Joseph Capello, Area Engineer
icapello@dot.ga.gov
Georgia Department of Transportation
630 W. Boundary Street
Savannah, GA 31401
Telephone (912) 651-2144

Any interested party may obtain a copy of the drawings or maps or portions thereof by paying a nominal fee and requesting in writing to:

Albert V. Shelby III
ashelby@dot.ga.gov
Attn: David Moyer
dmoyer@dot.ga.gov
Office of Program Delivery
Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree St, 25th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Telephone (404) 631-1758

Any written request or communication in reference to this project or notice SHOULD include the Project and P.I. Numbers as noted at the top of this notice.