

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ARDOT.gov IDriveArkansas.com Lorie H. Tudor, P.E., Director

ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

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December 31, 2024

RE: Historic Bridge 01984 Job 101119 Spring River Str. & Apprs. (Imboden) (S) Lawrence County Historic Bridge Marketing Request

To Whom It May Concern:

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) is planning to replace Bridge Number 01984 (Imboden Overpass or St. Louis-San Francisco Overpass) on Highway 62 over the Spring River in Lawrence County. This bridge was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1990. A location map and further information about the bridge is enclosed.

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, 23 USC § 144 (g)(5) states: "Any State which proposes to demolish a historic bridge for a replacement project ... shall first make the bridge available for donation to a State, locality, or responsible private entity..." As part of the mitigation process, ARDOT is offering to donate Bridge Number 01984 to any government or entity that demonstrates a willingness to accept its title, relocate it for use at another site, preserve the historic features, and assume the financial responsibility for the continued maintenance on the structure.

Normally, ARDOT, through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), can reimburse costs associated with preservation up to the demolition estimate expense. However, the reimbursement funds allocated to this bridge will be exhausted during the dismantling and relocation process

If you are interested in acquiring this bridge, please respond with a letter of interest addressed to me within 45 days from this letter's date. Such letter submission does not commit an entity to accept the bridge. Following its receipt, ARDOT's Historic Bridge Analysis Committee will request a preservation plan, including the required information for consideration, before a preferred recipient is selected. For further information, contact Nikki Senn at (501) 569-2979 or <u>Nikki.Senn@ardot.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Kustu Boylen

Josh Seagraves Division Head Environmental Division

Enclosures

JS:NS:zh



ARDOT Bridge Number 01984 currently carries State Highway 62 over the Spring River and BNSF Railroad north of Imboden. C.F. Lytle, of Sioux City, Iowa, constructed the bridge in 1937. It has six main spans: three Parker pony truss spans and three Pratt deck truss spans. Each truss span is approximately 112 feet long (for a total length of 672 feet) and 24 feet wide.

The bridge was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1990 and is known as the Imboden Overpass or the St. Louis-San Francisco Overpass. This bridge is significant for its construction as part of the U.S. Work Programs Grade Crossing Project, which created safer railroad crossings. It is also significant for its design and association with the context of Arkansas Historic Bridges, Arkansas Highway and Transportation Era (1923-1939), which included truss bridges.

The Imboden Overpass has a combination of truss designs. Six other bridges on Arkansas public roadways exhibit the Parker pony truss design. The Parker design includes a polygonal top chord, with varying vertical lengths shortening from the center outward and inclined end posts. This bridge also displays the Pratt deck truss design and is the last one in vehicular use in Arkansas. The Pratt design is recognized by its parallel top and bottom chords with diagonals slanting down and inward.

