



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

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May 30, 2024

RE: Historic Bridge Marketing Request
Historic Bridge 02271
I-55 Mississippi River Bridge
(Memphis and Arkansas Bridge)
Crittenden County, Arkansas
Shelby County, Tennessee

To Whom It May Concern:

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) in coordination with the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) is planning to replace the Interstate 55 bridge over the Mississippi River in Crittenden County, AR, and Shelby County, TN, also known as the Memphis and Arkansas Bridge (ARDOT Bridge Number 02271). This bridge was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2001. 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, TDOT and ARDOT are offering Bridge 02271 to any government or entity that demonstrates a willingness to accept title for, relocate it for use at another site, preserve the historic features of, and assume the financial responsibility for the continued maintenance on the structure. TDOT and ARDOT, through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), can reimburse costs associated with relocation and preservation up to the estimated demolition cost.

If you are interested in acquiring this bridge, please respond with a letter of interest within 45 days from this letter's date. Interested parties can contact TDOT for additional information regarding detailed bridge structural information, feasibility of moving the bridge, and estimated demolition cost, as well as further steps for putting forward an offer for the bridge. A letter submission does not commit an entity to accept the bridge. Following its receipt, a preservation plan will be requested. TDOT and ARDOT will jointly review the plan before a preferred recipient is selected. For further information, contact Haley Seger at haley.seger@tn.gov or Nikki Senn at Nikki.Senn@ardot.gov.

Sincerely,

Josh Seagraves
Division Head
Environmental Division

Enclosures

JS:NS:zh

c: Haley Seger, TDOT

I-55 Mississippi River Bridge (Memphis and Arkansas Bridge) Historic Bridge Marketing Description



Located in Crittenden County, Arkansas and Shelby County, Tennessee, the Memphis and Arkansas Bridge (ARDOT Bridge Number 02271), carrying Interstate 55 across the Mississippi River, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2001.

Modjeski & Masters designed the bridge, and Harris Structural Steel Company of New York built the bridge, which opened to traffic in 1949. The five main cantilever truss spans equal a total length of approximately 3,695 feet with a clear roadway width of approximately 50 feet. The bridge's total length, including approach spans, is approximately 5,222 feet.

The Merritt-Chapman and Scott Corporation of New York and the Virginia Bridge Company of Roanoke, Virginia, built the Arkansas approach spans. These approach spans consist of 19 reinforced concrete deck girder spans of varying lengths, two Warren (with verticals) through truss spans, each approximately 431 feet long, and two Warren (with verticals) deck truss spans, measuring about 174 feet and about 176 feet long. The total length of the approach spans is 1,527 feet.

The Memphis and Arkansas Bridge is significant for its cantilever through truss main spans. This bridge is one of three displaying the cantilever through truss design still in use on the Arkansas highway system.



Bridge 02271

West Memphis

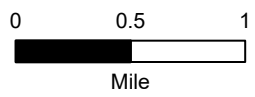
Memphis

Crittenden County, Arkansas
Shelby County, Tennessee

BNSF Railway

Union Pacific Railroad

Mississippi River



Historic Bridge Crittenden County

