

BIG HORN COUNTY UPPER ROAD AND RANDALL ROAD BRIDGE PROJECT



BIG HORN COUNTY
MONTANA

The Problem

Big Horn County two bridges in need of replacement due to their poor condition. Upper Road Bridge is eight miles NW of Hardin and Randall Road Bridge is three miles SW of Hardin. Both cross Two Leggings Irrigation Canal in areas of the county where residents and agricultural operations utilize the bridges. Upper Road Bridge, with a posted weight limit of 10 tons, has a severe skew in the structure which has caused a lack of support for exterior steel girders. Randall Road Bridge, also posted with a 10-ton limit, has a severe skew angle and timber pilings that are severely decayed and split.

The Solution

Replace Upper Road Bridge with a concrete tri-deck beam superstructure with a steel pile foundation and Randall Road Bridge with a concrete bulb-tee beam superstructure with steel pile foundations so that the bridges can carry legal load limits to provide connectivity for residents and agricultural businesses.

The Cost

Current Combined Projects Estimate:
\$1,439,081

Funding Applied For (to date):

- MCEP (ranked #4) \$500,000

The Need

Big Horn County is financially responsible for 28 bridges over 20-ft in length and six bridges under 20 feet. With a minimal tax base, and a project estimated over \$1 million, the County



is depending on grant funding to assist with this bridge replacement project.

The Importance

Upper Road and Randall Road Bridges serve as access for residents, recreationists, and multiple agricultural businesses. Both bridges are estimated to receive Average Daily Traffic counts of 100 vehicles per day. New bridges will allow the residents to safely perform agricultural operations more efficiently and will maintain the route for recreational and residential access.

Your Support for the MCEP Program and other infrastructure funding is critical for the success of the Big Horn County Bridge projects.

April 25, 2022

Stahly Engineering & Associates, Inc.
Attn: Kathy Thompson
851 Bridger Drive, Suite 1
Bozeman, MT 59715

Subject: Support for Big Horn County Bridge projects

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a user of the bridge located Upper Road over the Two Leggin's Irrigation Canal. I would like to take this opportunity to voice my support of the bridge improvement projects currently being planned by Big Horn County for the previously mentioned bridge location.

I am concerned about the problems that have been identified with the existing structures. The construction of new bridges on Randall Road and Upper Road, with the capacity to handle heavier loads, would make transporting farm-to-market loads and emergency vehicles access much easier and less costly than pursuing alternate routes.

Grant funding will serve to make the projects affordable for the County. Furthermore, it will allow for future economic growth of agriculture and development in the area.

We own land on both sides of the Two Leggin's Irrigation Canal right where the bridge is located so ensuring safe passage of beet trucks to the beet dump that is less than a quarter of a mile away is very important to us as well as safe passage for grain and hay trucks. We also utilize this bridge to haul our cattle out to pasture and when shipping calves in the fall. With the increased costs of fuel; utilizing the shortest route is extremely important. The integrity of these bridges has been of concern for quite some time and we are very pleased that they are being considered for upgrade.

Thank you for undertaking this important project for our community,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Atkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Doug Atkins

BEARTOOTH

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AREA, INC

April 13, 2022

Stahly Engineering & Associates, Inc.
Attn: Kathy Thompson
851 Bridger Drive, Suite 1
Bozeman, MT 59715

Subject: Support for Big Horn County Bridge projects

To Whom it May Concern:

As a regional economic development organization we would like to take this opportunity to voice our support for the Two Leggin's Irrigation Canal and the bridge improvement projects currently being planned by Big Horn County for the previously mentioned bridge locations. The need to invest in regional infrastructure has been identified in our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Big Horn County.

We are concerned about the problems that have been identified with the existing structures. The construction of new bridges on Randall Road and Upper Road, with the capacity to handle heavier loads, would make transporting farm-to-market loads and emergency vehicle access much easier and less costly than pursuing alternate routes. The failure of this bridge would not only endanger county residents but halt any economic activity in the area that relies on transporting goods along this route.

Grant funding will serve to make the projects affordable for the County. Furthermore, it will allow for future economic growth of agriculture and development in the area.

Thank you for undertaking this important project for our community.

Sincerely,



Joel Bertolino
Beatooth RC&D
Executive Director/Food and Ag Center Director
jbertolino@beartooth.org



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