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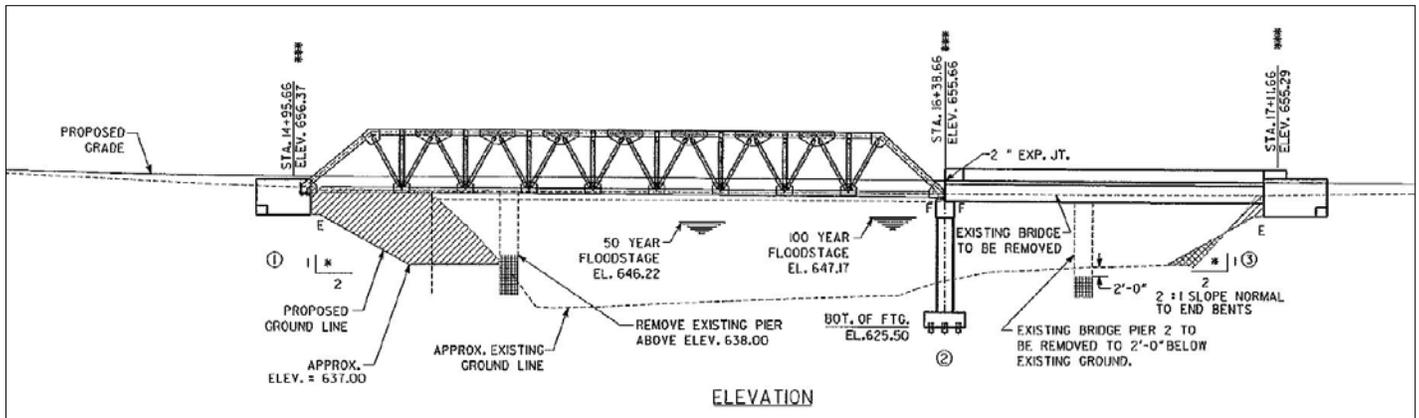
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Troup County, Georgia
Government

Press Release

September 30, 2013, LaGrange, GA
For Immediate Release:



County seeks input as Salem Road Bridge Project moves forward

Meeting scheduled October 14, 2013 at Pleasant Grove Church

At a recent meeting, the Troup County Board of Commissioners heard an update from County Engineer James Emery on the status of the Salem Road Steel Truss Bridge replacement project. Replacement is necessary due to height restrictions, narrow width, poor ride quality, and the 5 ton load rating which prohibits school buses and emergency vehicles from crossing. The bridge over Flat Shoals Creek, built in 1929, is Troup County's last remaining steel truss bridge. The main span is 126 feet long.

At an earlier public meeting in March, various design concepts for the replacement were reviewed and public consensus was reached on the concept of replacing the existing steel truss bridge with a new steel truss bridge of a similar design. "We were very pleasantly surprised that we actually ended up with a unanimous vote of all in attendance", said Emery. Since that time, all of the design work has continued and we now have a complete set of construction plans.

One remaining detail to decide is how to dispose of the old steel truss bridge. Emery reported that the design team and County staff, with input from local residents and County staff had come up with a long list of options during brainstorming sessions. Rather than review all of the ideas during the Board's regular meeting, Commissioners suggested scheduling another community meeting to seek input.

A public meeting to discuss the final design of the Salem Road bridge over Flat Shoals Creek has been scheduled October 14, 2013, at 5:30 pm at Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church, located at 3704 Hamilton Road, LaGrange, Georgia. Some of the ideas that are on the list to be considered include:

- Standard demolition - steel would be sold for recycling
- Display a small piece of the old steel as a commemoration
- Offer the bridge up for sale to the public - would allow for use on private property
- Disassemble the bridge and store the materials for a future use
- Disassemble the bridge and reassemble it as a pedestrian bridge on County-owned property

These are just a few examples of the possibilities. Any and all ideas are welcomed. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend the meeting and offer ideas and comments. This subject is also posted the Troup County website at

www.troupcountyga.org/salembridgedesignsuggestions.html to provide an opportunity for comment.

You may also send written comments via email to commission@troupc.org or via letter to Troup County Board of Commissioners 100 Ridley Avenue, LaGrange, GA 30240.

About Troup County, Georgia

Troup County is a great place to live, work and play. Situated with great transportation access on I-85 between Atlanta and Montgomery with Columbus just down I-185, the area is ideal for regional business. Kia Motors thought so and opened its first North American plant here. The County has implemented smart growth development guidelines and is also working to attract 'green industry'. Three beautiful towns – Hogansville, West Point and LaGrange, the county seat - offer great hometowns for families. The 26,000 square mile West Point Lake and beautiful parks round out an idyllic lifestyle for Troup County residents and our welcomed guests.