

CITY OF AUSTIN PUBLIC WORKS

Barton Springs Road Bridge

MOBILITY COMMITTEE

November 10, 2022



PUBLIC WORKS

*Well-Built
Well-Maintained
Well-Being For All*





PICTURE OF SUCCESS

Mobility Committee leaves with an understanding of the current state and proposed next steps for the Barton Springs Road Bridge.

AGENDA

- A. Briefing on the current condition of the existing bridge
- B. Outline of alternatives for rehabilitation or replacement
- C. Recommendation for the path forward



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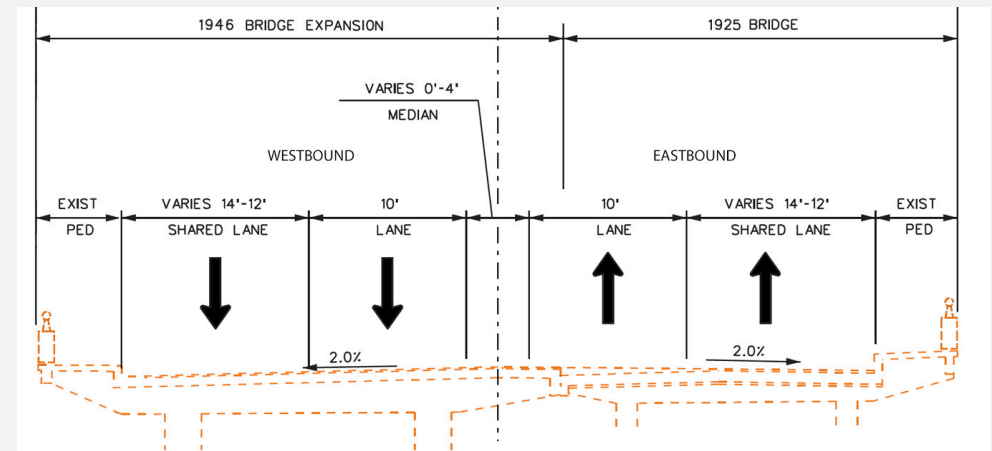
Bridge Background

History:

- Originally Built with two lanes in 1925
- Expanded to four lanes in 1946

Current State:

- Existing bridge is in fair condition structurally
- It requires rehabilitation or replacement to ensure safety and longevity
- Bridge is a bottleneck: congestion for all modes of travel along Barton Springs Road at Azie Morton
- In November 2020, Austin voters approved funding to continue to evaluate and address the Barton Springs Bridge



Existing Barton Springs Road Bridge

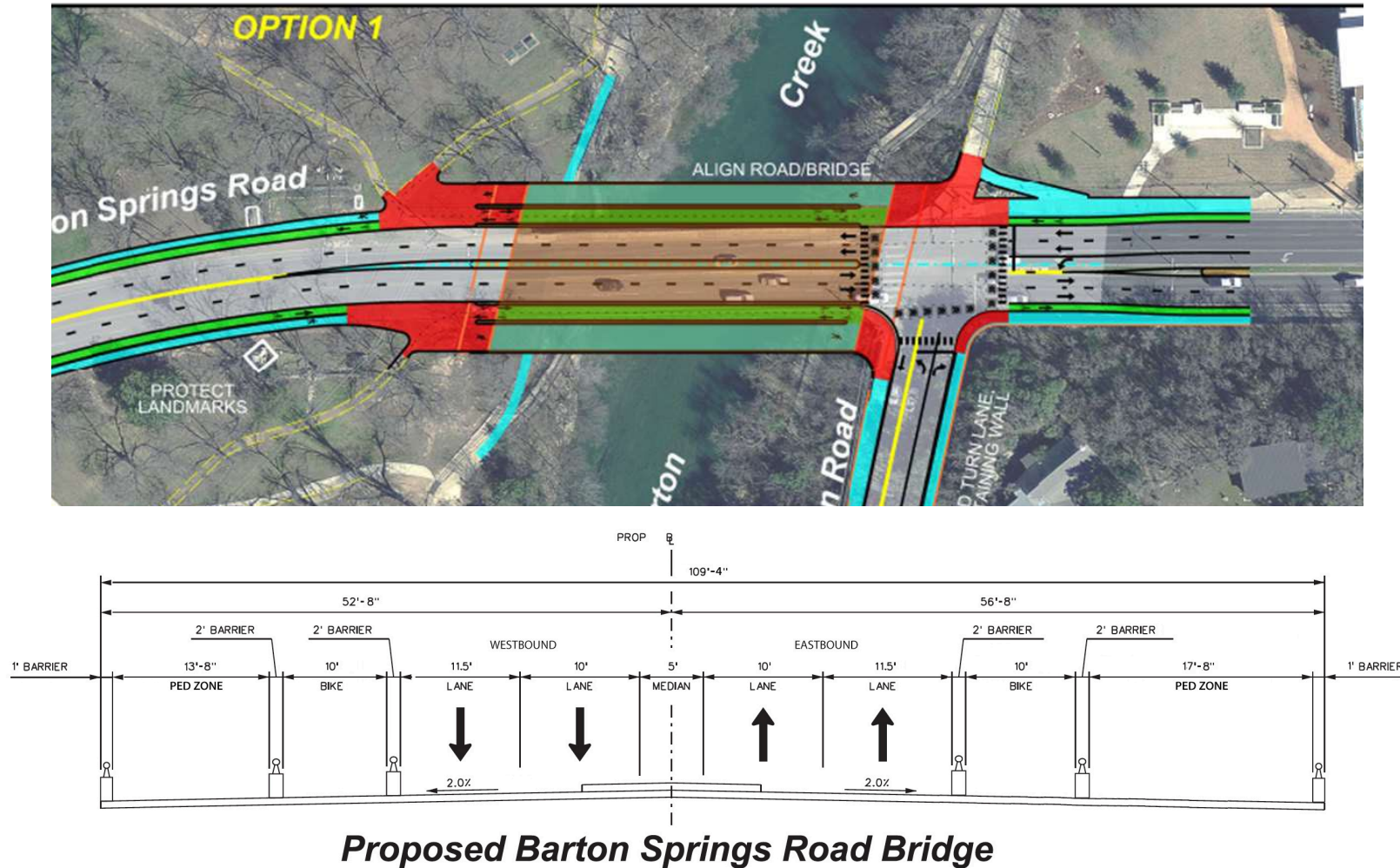
Design Considerations

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Rehabilitation Options | Option 1: “Light Touch” | Rehabilitate and preserve the existing structure <i>Based on a 2016 inspection of the bridge, the minor rehabilitation option was removed from consideration</i> |
| | Option 2: Major Rehabilitation | Rehabilitate the existing structure and widen deck |
| Replacement Options | Option 3: Replacement Alternative 1 – Single Arch | Three alternatives were developed and compared in cost, aesthetics, constructability, and visual perspective from trails, sidewalks, parkland, and the creek |
| | Option 4: Replacement Alternative 2 – Single “Y” Pier | |
| | Option 5: Replacement Alternative 3 – Double “Y” Pier | |

The result is that all four alternatives would include at least:

- A bridge widened on both sides to keep the current four traffic lanes
- Two new 10 ft. bike lanes
- Pedestrian paths of 14 ft. and 18 ft. on the north and south side, respectively

Barton Springs Road Bridge Design



Replacement: Preferred Alternative



BENEFITS

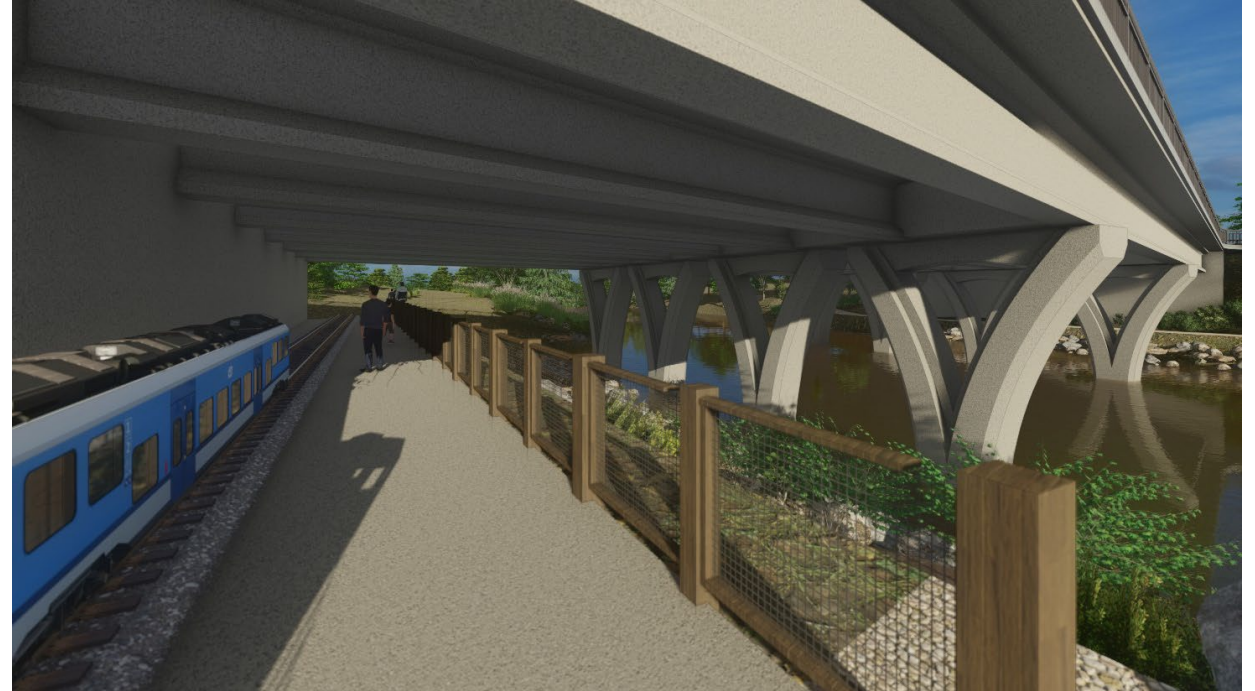
- **Maximizes views** through the bridge and maintains an open center channel in Barton Creek.
- Better accommodations of the Zilker Eagle mini-train
- Enhanced trails underneath the bridge
- **Cost of the replacement option is 40% less** than the rehabilitation option
- **Less risk** inherent than rehabilitation scheme

Next Steps

Preliminary Phase - Completion Summer 2023

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Council Briefing 1 | 11.10.2022 |
| Mobility Committee Meeting | |
| Public Engagement 1 | Winter 2023 |
| Texas Historical Commission | Spring 2023 |
| Council Briefing 2 | Summer 2023 |
| Public Engagement 2 | Summer 2023 |
| Complete Preliminary Phase | Fall 2023 |

** The project is currently funded for completion of preliminary engineering. Future funding would need to be identified to move forward with the construction.*





Questions + Comments