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Martin's Point Bridge : Aesthetics, March 16, 2011

Maine Department of Transportation

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Martin's Point Bridge

Aesthetics



The Big Picture

- Needs Statement

The new construction must be a safe, durable, low maintenance bridge, designed to last 100 years.

It needs to accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, maritime traffic, recreational, and vehicular users in a comfortable, attractive, and secure environment. It should incorporate:

One lane of traffic in each direction designed at a speed that balances the needs of its multiple users.

- A multi-use pathway providing safety and enjoyment for different activities.
- Accommodations for bicycles in both directions adjacent to the vehicular traffic lanes.
- A design that enhances and harmonizes with the beauty of the existing location and preserves water views for all users.
- Improvements that optimize all users' everyday experience and enjoyment of the locale and their sense of community.

The Big Picture (continued)

- Vision Statement

Traveling across Martin's Point Bridge should be a memorable event, a special moment, every time it is traversed. Its design should ensure that when seen from all vantage points, the bridge enhances the view of the bay and the estuary. Its design will encourage diverse use for future generations. The bridge will provide a safe and seamless connection between communities.

The Big Picture (continued)

- Define overarching feel and presence of the bridge and the approaches?
- Define settings?
 - River
 - Falmouth side
 - Residential neighborhood
 - Portland side
 - Commercial/hospital
 - Park/recreational areas
 - Residential neighborhood

What Was Done for the Veteran's Memorial Bridge Project

- RFP requirements

- Project Goals

The Department's primary goals for the Project include the following:

1. Deliver a cost-effective Project.
2. Provide a high quality, aesthetic, durable, and maintainable Project.
3. Minimize impacts to traffic and local businesses and communities during construction.
4. Apply appropriate context-sensitive solutions that address the needs and goals of a diverse group of stakeholders.

What Was Done for the Veteran's Memorial Bridge Project (continued)

- RFP requirements (continued)
 - Scoring Categories
 - Design Concept (45 points)
 - **Context Sensitive Solutions (15 points)**
 - Project Management and Quality Program (20 points)
 - Maintenance and Protection of Traffic / Project Sequencing (15 points)
 - **Public Information Plan (5 points)**

What Was Done for the Veteran's Memorial Bridge Project (continued)

- RFP requirements (continued)
 - Scoring Criteria

Context Sensitive Solutions (15 points)

Through this scoring item, the Department will evaluate the Proposer's vision for developing and providing a Project that adds lasting value to the community.

- Proposal submittal requirements
- Evaluation criteria

What Was Done for the Veteran's Memorial Bridge Project (continued)

Proposal Submittal Requirements for Context Sensitive Solutions

1. an artistic rendering depicting how proposed aesthetic treatments (such as lighting, railing, medians, landscape elements, etc.) will provide for a coordinated aesthetic theme that preserves or enhances the surrounding landscape;
2. a narrative discussion on the maintainability (both routine and periodic) of the landscape and aesthetic treatments proposed;
3. a public involvement/outreach plan that embraces open, honest, and continuous communication with stakeholders to ensure that community and stakeholder input and preferences are addressed; and
4. a narrative discussion on how the design concept has been tailored to meet community sensitivities, particularly with regard to:
 - a. bicycle/pedestrian accommodation on the bridge and on both approaches,
 - b. traffic calming measures, and
 - c. environmentally sustainable construction solutions.

What Was Done for the Veteran's Memorial Bridge Project (continued)

Evaluation Criteria for Context Sensitive Solutions

Superior scores will be awarded to context sensitive solutions that:

1. preserve and reinforce the identity of the Portland/South Portland area, enhance environmental health, and provide a pleasant experience for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists alike;
2. provide the optimal balance between long-term fiscal, environmental, and cultural needs;
3. provide flexibility to accommodate evolving demands of motorized and non-motorized modes of transportation; and
4. incorporate elements of green construction (note that although no LEED certification program currently exists for bridge projects, the Department will consider inclusion of LEED-related elements to be an enhancement).

What Was Done for the Veteran's Memorial Bridge Project (continued)

- RFP requirements (continued)
 - Scoring Criteria

Public Information Plan (5 points)

Through this scoring item, the Department will evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed efforts to keep stakeholders informed of the Project's progress and to garner and retain public support for the Project.

- Proposal submittal requirements
- Evaluation criteria

What Was Done for the Veteran's Memorial Bridge Project (continued)

Proposal Submittal Requirements for Public Information Plan

Provide a narrative description of the following:

1. identification of key stakeholders and how the public information efforts will ensure that key messages will be proactively communicated to the appropriate audience in a manner that is accurate, timely, and responsive to the needs of Project stakeholders;
2. approach to responding to public inquiries and requests in a timely and personable way; and
3. approach to coordinating with the Department on responses to media inquiries.

What Was Done for the Veteran's Memorial Bridge Project (continued)

Evaluation Criteria for Public Information Plan

Superior scores will be awarded to plans that demonstrate:

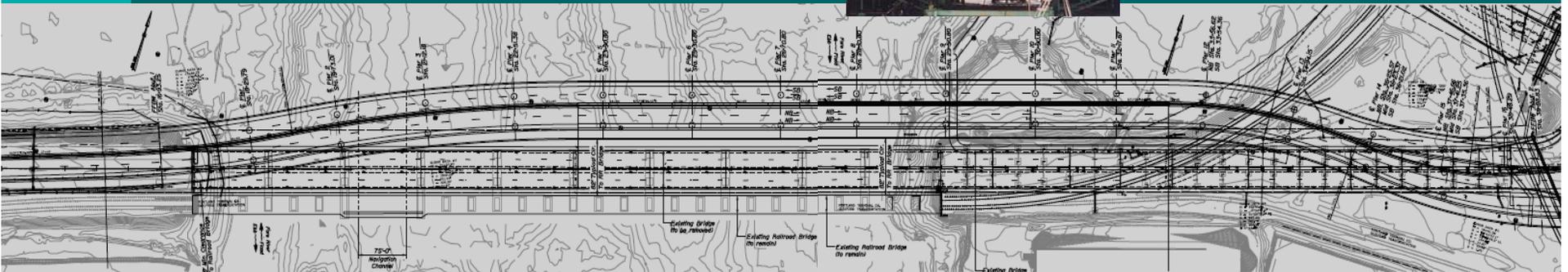
1. flexibility to quickly adapt to the changing needs of the Project and community;
2. ingenuity in engaging the public's interest in, and support for, the Project; and
3. ability to identify potential problems and to proactively provide information to avert such problems.

Results for Veteran's Memorial Bridge

Lane/Figg



- Twin constant depth precast / prestressed concrete segmental boxes
- Twin concrete columns with flared caps
- No added architectural elements on the bridge

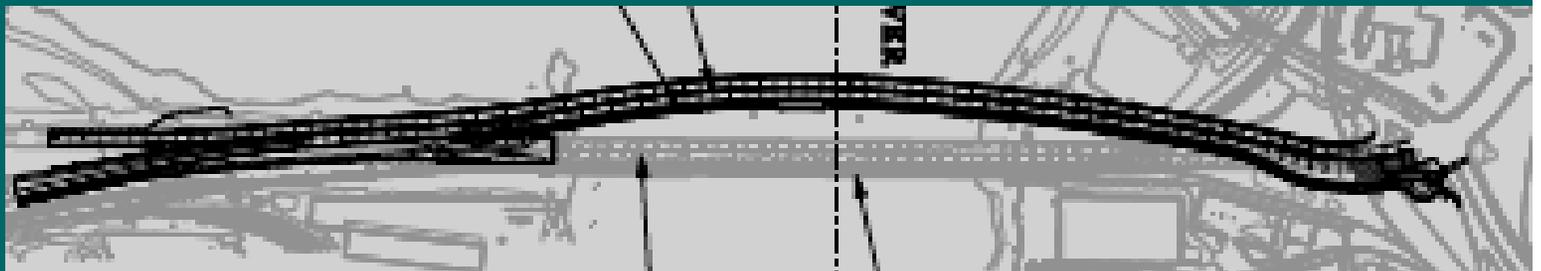


Results for Veteran's Memorial Bridge (continued)



Cianbro/Louis Berger

- Constant depth NEBT precast / prestressed concrete girders
- Concrete column piers with commonly used concrete caps
- Vertical architectural elements added at each end of the bridge and one large bump out platform on the bridge's multi-use pathway



Results for Veteran's Memorial Bridge (continued)

Reed & Reed/T. Y. Lin

- Twin haunched precast / prestressed concrete segmental boxes
- Twin flared concrete columns
- Added architectural elements include multiple bump out platforms with seating and artwork on the bridge's multi-use pathway and recess detail on piers



Winning
Proposal



Results for Veteran's Memorial Bridge (continued)

- Outcome
 - Winning proposal had strongest theme
 - Some elements were tweaked after contract award with input from public committee

Results for Veteran's Memorial Bridge (continued)

- Lessons learned
 - Need to be clearer in our vision for the project as a whole
 - Need to be clearer with our expectations for aesthetics and what we consider important in terms of scoring
 - Need to be clearer with our expectations of continuing public involvement after the contract is awarded, i.e., require public involvement plan in addition to public information plan

Items for the Martin's Point Bridge RFP

- Identify approach to defining the desired outcome for aesthetics to be included in the RFP
- Develop project requirements with respect to aesthetics to be included in the RFP
- Determine proposal submittal requirements and scoring evaluation criteria for desired approach to aesthetics

Items for the RFP (continued)

- Identify desired approach to continuing public involvement beyond contract award
- Develop project requirements with respect to public involvement to be included in the RFP
- Determine submittal requirements and scoring evaluation criteria for desired approach to public involvement

Options for Aesthetics

- Specify a theme?
 - Medical / Martin's Point Marine Hospital
 - Marine / nautical
 - Other
 - None
- Specify a general style?
 - Modern / contemporary
 - Retro
 - Other
 - None

Options for Aesthetics (continued)

- Specify specific elements?
 - Bridge rail
 - Lighting
 - Concrete color and/or other surface treatments
 - Multi-use path surface treatment
 - Landscaping
 - Other
 - None
- Require an aesthetic design without being specific?

Options for Aesthetics (continued)

- Require 2 or 3 options for specific elements to be addressed through public involvement after contract award?
- Require 2 or 3 style package proposals (includes rails, lights, multi-path surface treatment, etc.) to be addressed through public involvement after contract award?
- Leave aesthetic treatments wide open and up to the Design-Builder?
- Other?

Remember

- Cost is an important consideration to MaineDOT – elaborate designs are not likely to be cost competitive
- MaineDOT will evaluate the recommendations and preferences put forth by the advisory committee for initial cost impact and future maintenance needs