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Pony Farm Road CP Rail Bridge

Presented to Town of Oneonta Board
February 13, 2008



Feb. 12, 2008

We would like to thank you for meeting with us on Friday Afternoon Feb. 8, 2008.

Summarizing the meeting:

We discussed the public safety issues of Pony Farm Rd.

We discussed the ingress and egress to Pony Farm Rd., particle attention to the section west of the Otego Creek Bridge.

We discussed the businesses @ 330 Pony Farm Rd. that have been seriously affected by the decision to close the CP Rail Bridge.

Bob Wood:

- Town position on fixing the CP Rail Bridge and billing CP Rail-
 - Bob to speak to the town attorney
 - Town to contact the engineer
 - Corrective action to bring the bridge back to a temporary safe status
- A letter to Governor Spitzer
 - Asking for additional funds to upgrade Pony Farm Rd.
- Move the barricades closer to the intersections- coordinated effort with State DOT
 - Contact the county about the Pony Farm RD signs used in the detour
- Town to upgrade the road from a farm road
 - Contact NYSEG about moving Utility Poles to back of right of way
 - Start filling in shoulders an low areas along roadway

Gerald Murello:

- Send VP the Electronic file of CP Rail Bridge as built drawings
 - Supply to Bob Wood for Engineers
- Construct detour signs
 - West of CP Rail Bridge on route 7 directing traffic through Industrial Park
 - Intersection of Route 205 from three sides-route 205 so. Route 7 east and west
 - Route 205 from I88 before Corporate Dr.

CommInnovations:

- Supply copies of as built drawing to town of Oneonta
 - Engineers to use for study and affect a viable repair to CP Rail Bridge
 - Supply a signed petition to the Town of Oneonta from residents and businesses affected by closing of CP Rail Bridge

Thank you,

Brian Konze

February 8, 2008

Subj: Bridge Safety & Access to our Neighborhood

Hello,

We are all sad to see the Rt 7 / Pony Farm Road bridge connecting our community along the western end of Pony farm Road was recently closed. This closure represents more than just an inconvenience.

The closure of this bridge creates a safety concern & will have a financial impact through lower property values & possibly higher insurance premiums. The bridge on Pony Farm Road across Otego Creek is our principal access & there is one atgrade railroad crossing that can be used in emergency. The largest concern is access for fire & other emergency vehicles.

We learned in the summer of 2006, the Otego Creek bridge was built with far too little clearance over the creek & is susceptible to flood damage & can be closed for long periods waiting for repair. Furthermore, the section of road approaching this bridge from the east is very low and easily flooded in storms of less severity than 2006. Also, in heavy snow storms this section of road is impassible for long periods of time. The at-grade emergency crossing is often blocked for long periods of time by stopped trains.

In September 2006 we were pleased to hear that an agreement had been reached that would result in this bridge being replaced in the summer of 2008. Also in response to a resident's petition in November 2006, the Town of Oneonta agreed to install one or two lights when the new bridge is installed. Since that time the date has been pushed back to the summer of 2009 for the new bridge & lighting. Worse yet, based on the current lack of progress this date appears to be in great jeopardy.

The Rt 7 / Pony Farm Road bridge effective represents the entrance to the Town of Oneonta for those traveling west on Rt 7. It has long been an eyesore rather than a gateway to our town we could be proud of. Please express your concern & support for action by signing the attached petition.

You can call Mike Adams or Jerry Murillo at the DOT (432-4810) if you wish to endorse the improved signage and lighting along Route 7.

A Town Board meeting is held 7:30 pm at the Town Hall (West Oneonta) the second Wednesday of every month. If you are unavailable to attend: please call, write or e-mail the Town Board Members.

Your concerned neighbor, Bill Castine

February 8, 2008 (continuation)

Petition: Pony Farm Road Residents Safety ~ Emergency Vehicle Access

We the undersigned petition the Town Board of Oneonta to recognize our concern with regards to the closure of the Rt 7 / Pony Farm Road bridge & to take action to resolve this problem.

The closure of this bridge creates a safety concern & will have a financial impact through lower property values & possibly higher insurance premiums. The bridge on Pony Farm Road across Otego Creek is our principal access & there is one at-grade railroad crossing that can be used in emergency. The largest concern is access for fire & other emergency vehicles.

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Jason Thore		for the	2/13/08
Elizabeth Coffin	330 Pony Farm Rd	Elisted M. S.f.	02/13/08
Calin Thorsend	330 Pony Farm Ral	Cochrel	02/13/08
Mathla Coughlan	330 Pony Farm Rd	Mally gorden	2/13/08
David Marrill	330 Pany Farm Rd	full .	2/13/08
John Stocka	330 Pony Farm. Rd.	Stuck	<u>2/13/0</u> 8

February 8, 2008

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Betty Livery	372 Pany Farm Rd	Bitchales	29100
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John Tang	116 West Dely & Mountes	John Long	2/9/08
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ROY WULLIAGE	311 PONY FAREN Ro	Som lative	
Jen Krapo	330 Prn Farm Pd	Territor	2-11-08
Jason Knapp	330 Pany Farm Rd =		2-11-08
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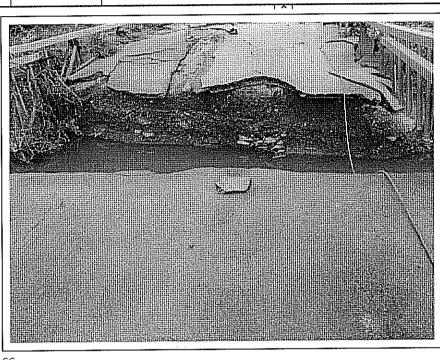
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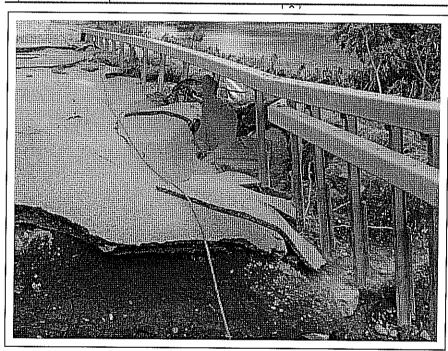
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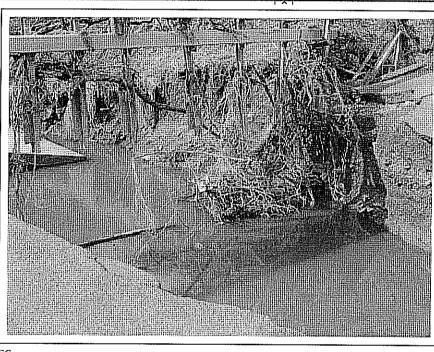
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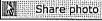
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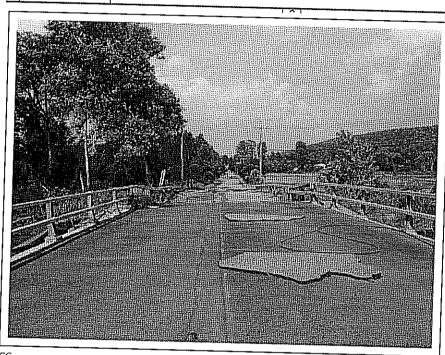
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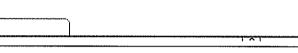
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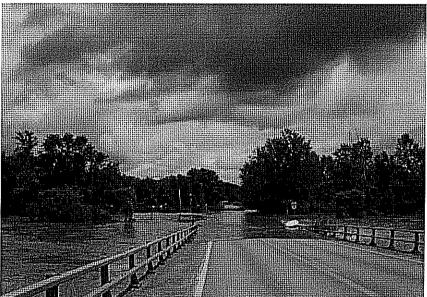
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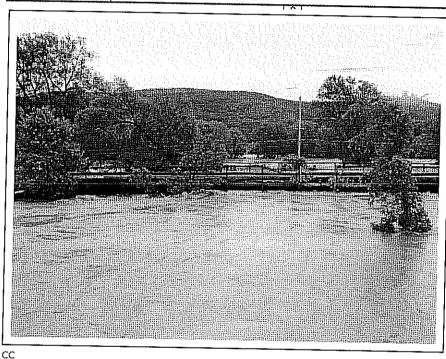
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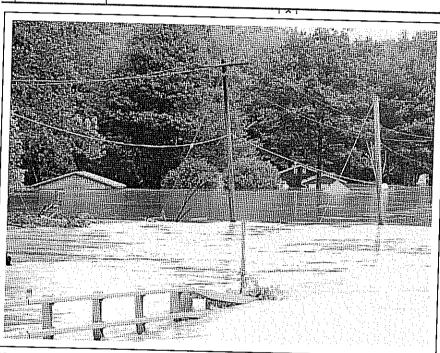
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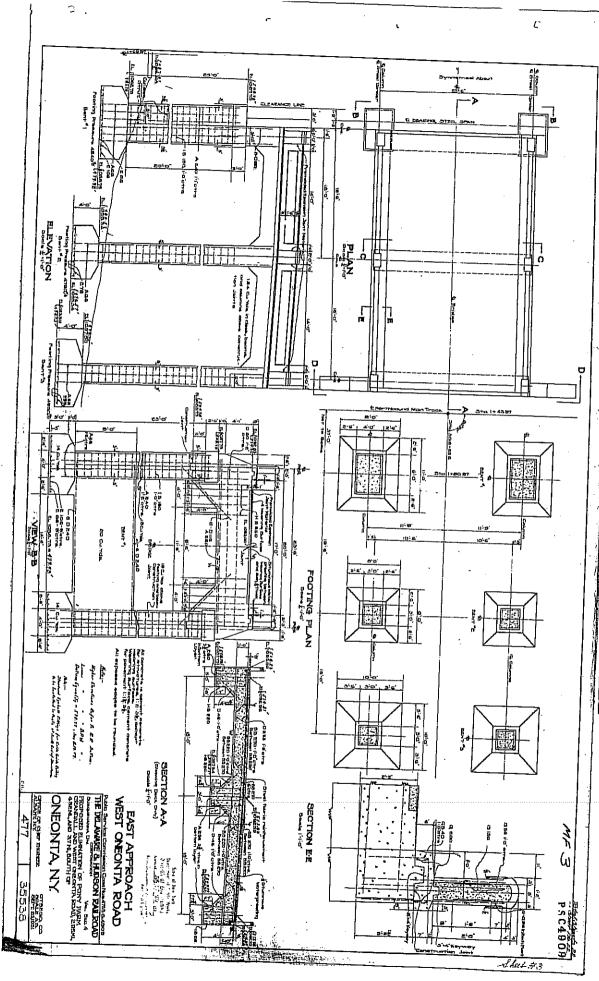
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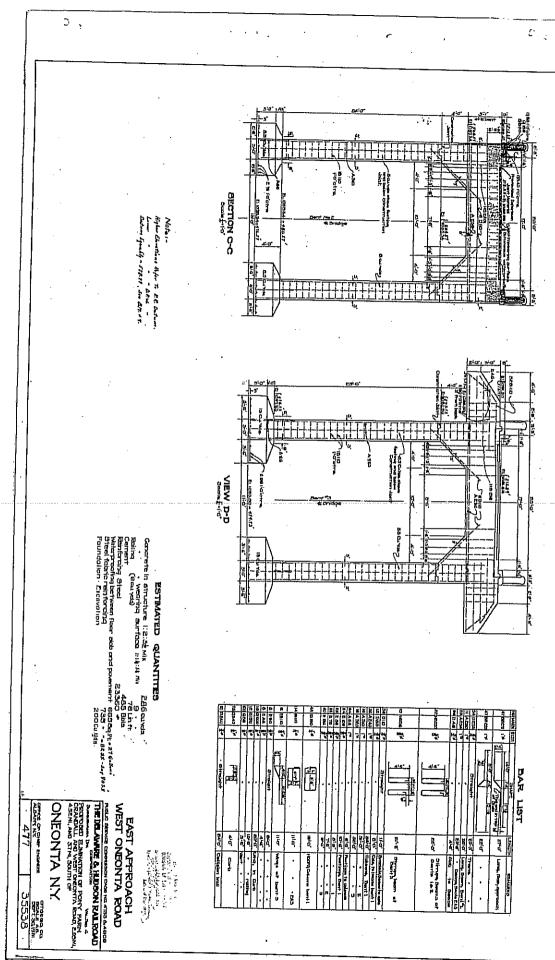
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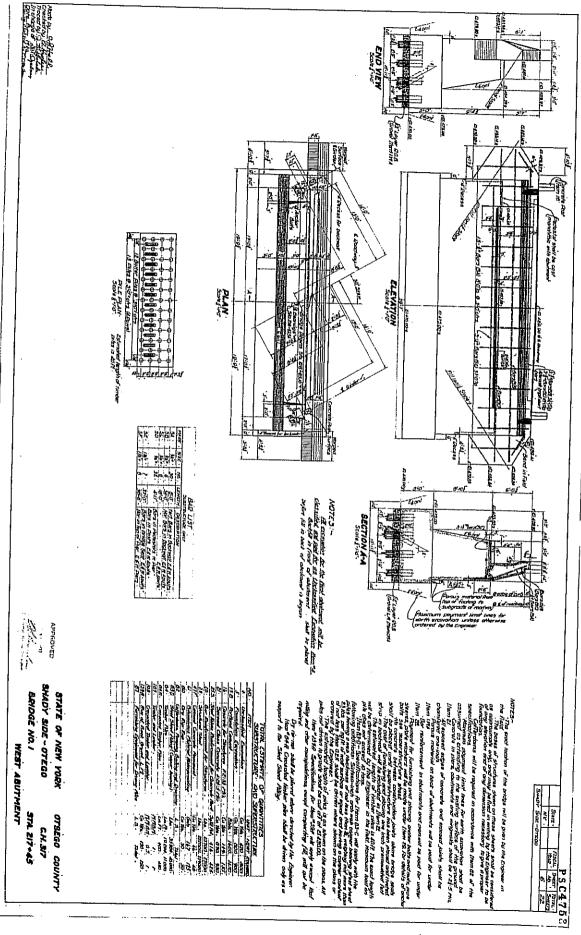


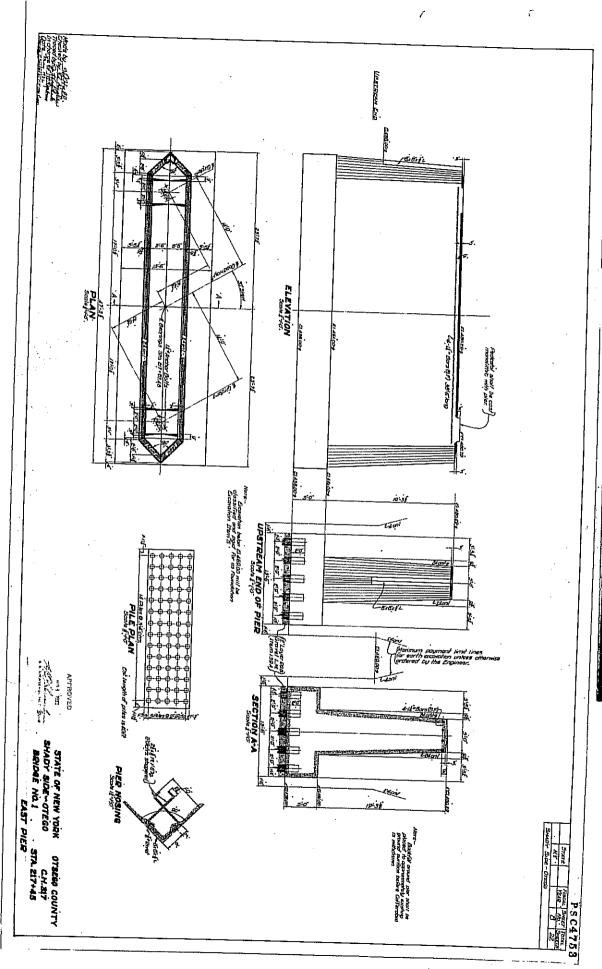
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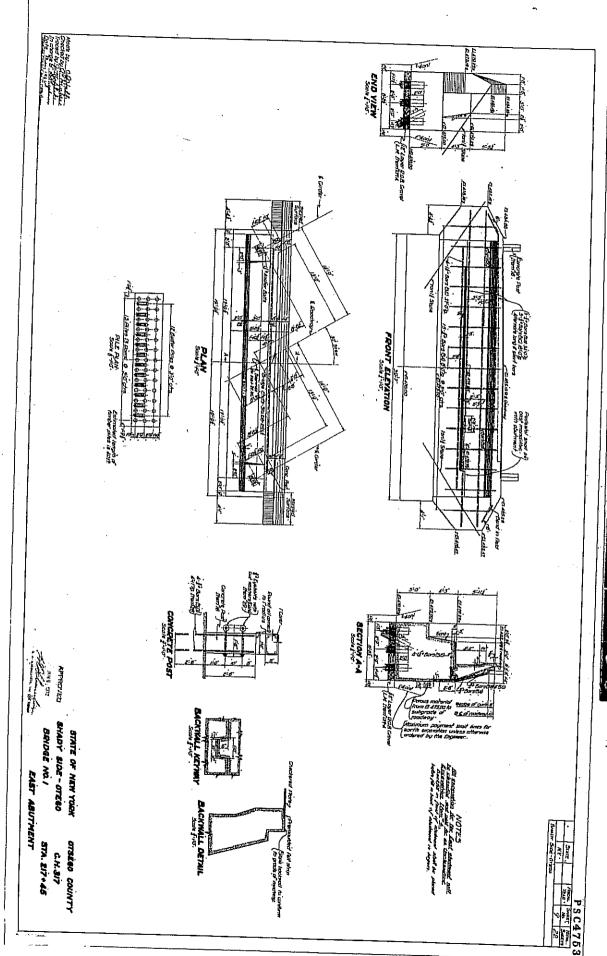
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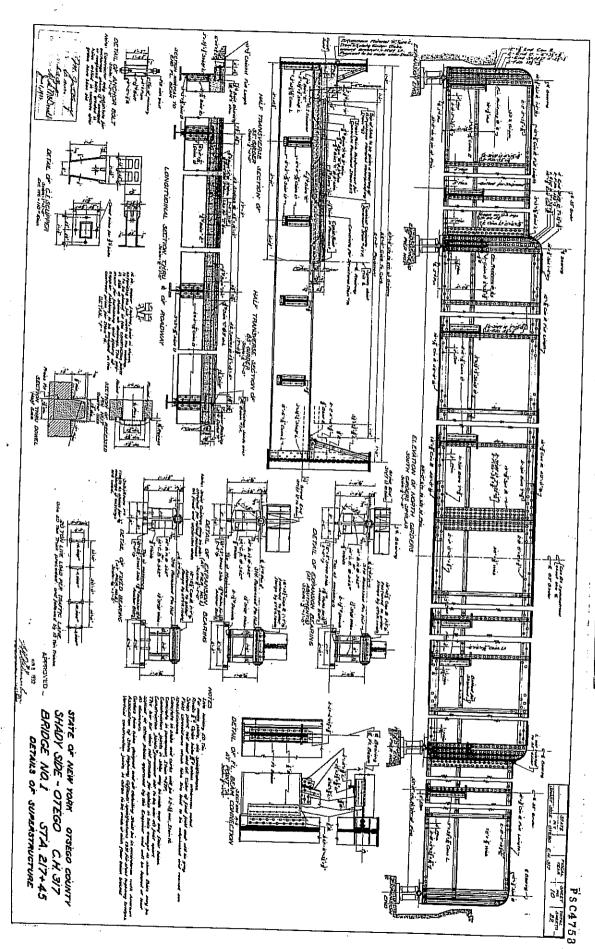
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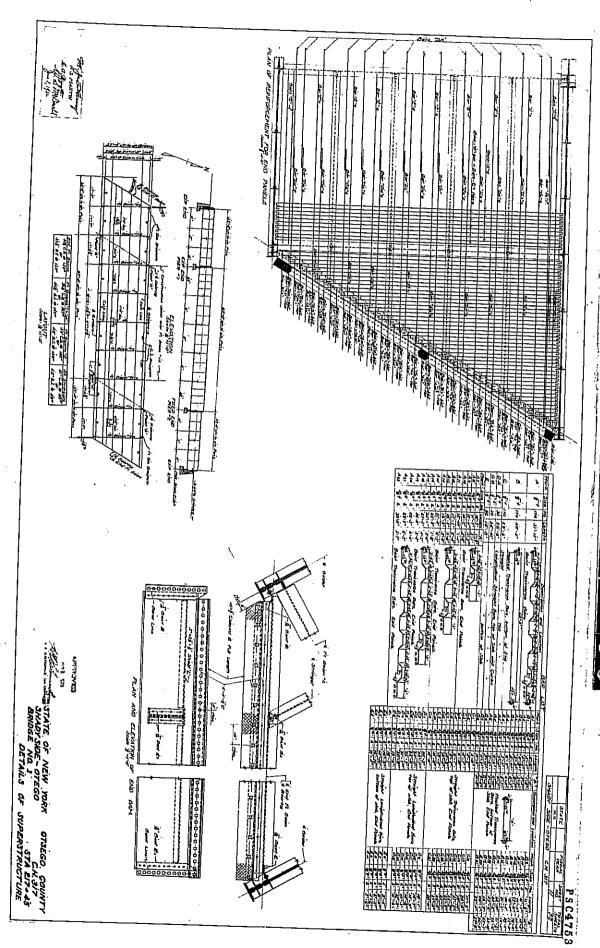
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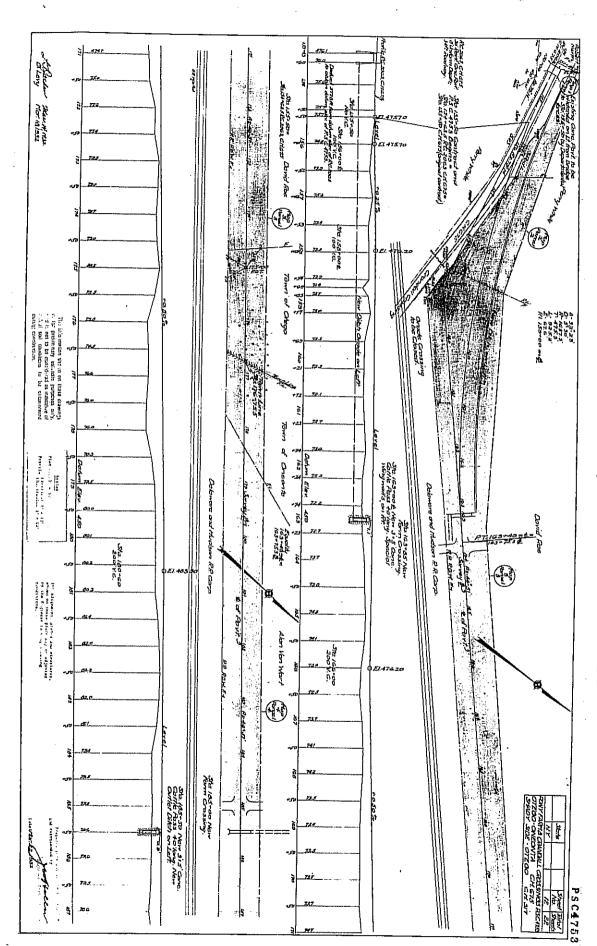




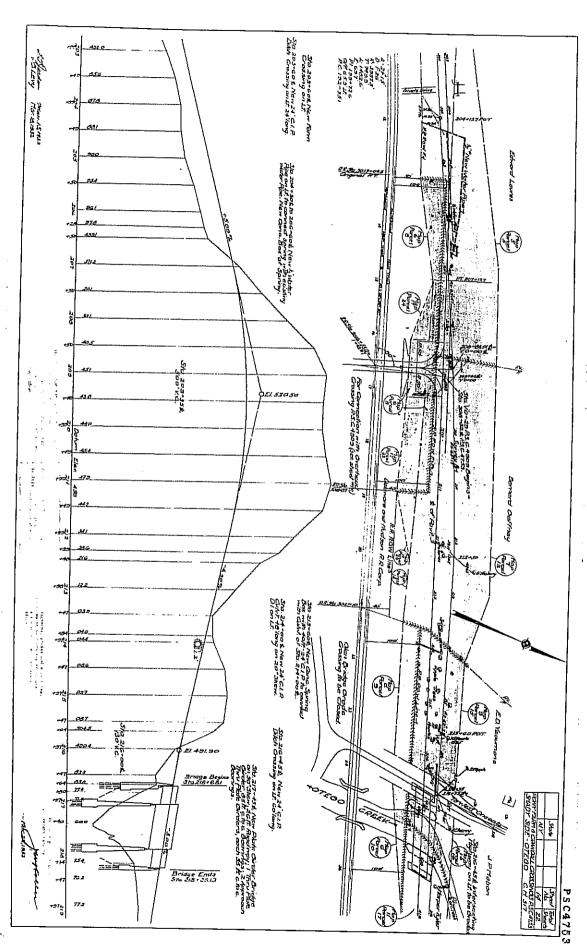


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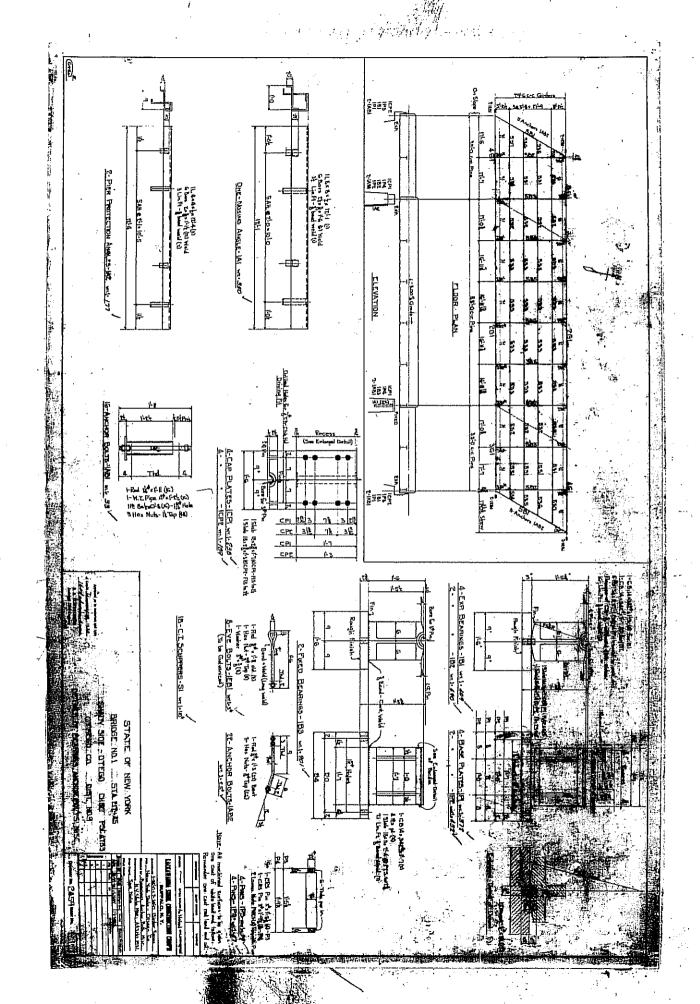
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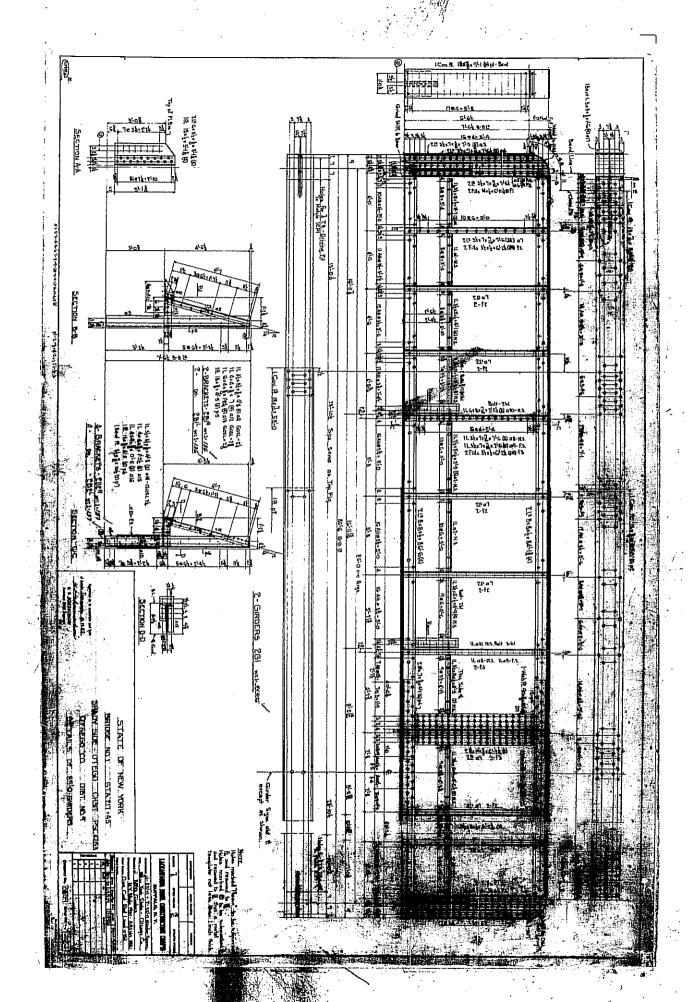
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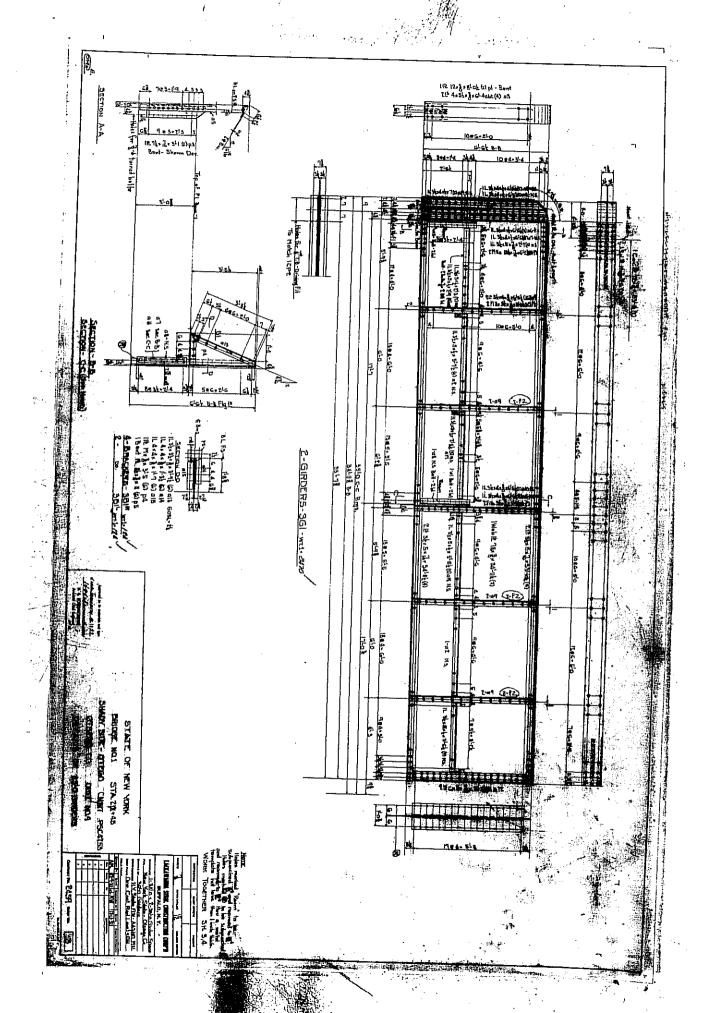
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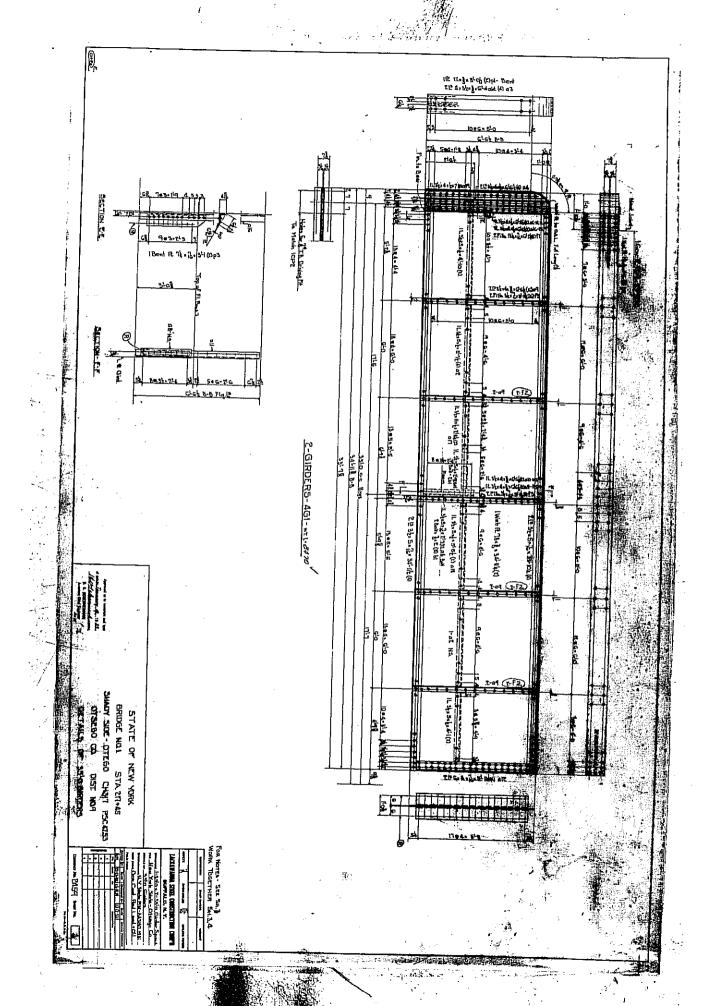
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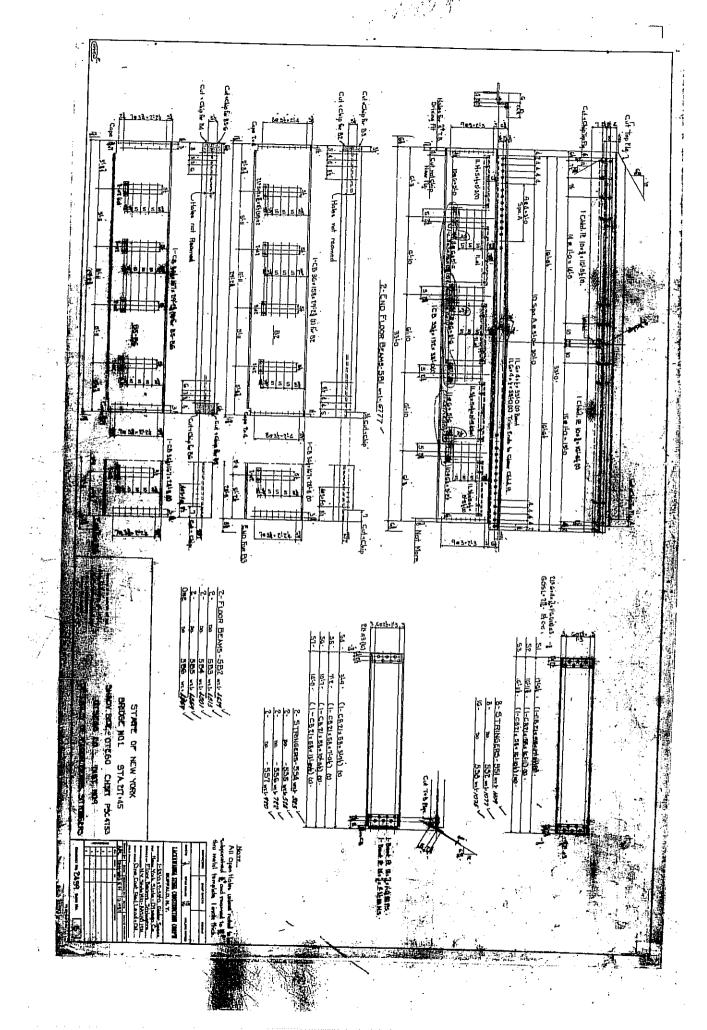
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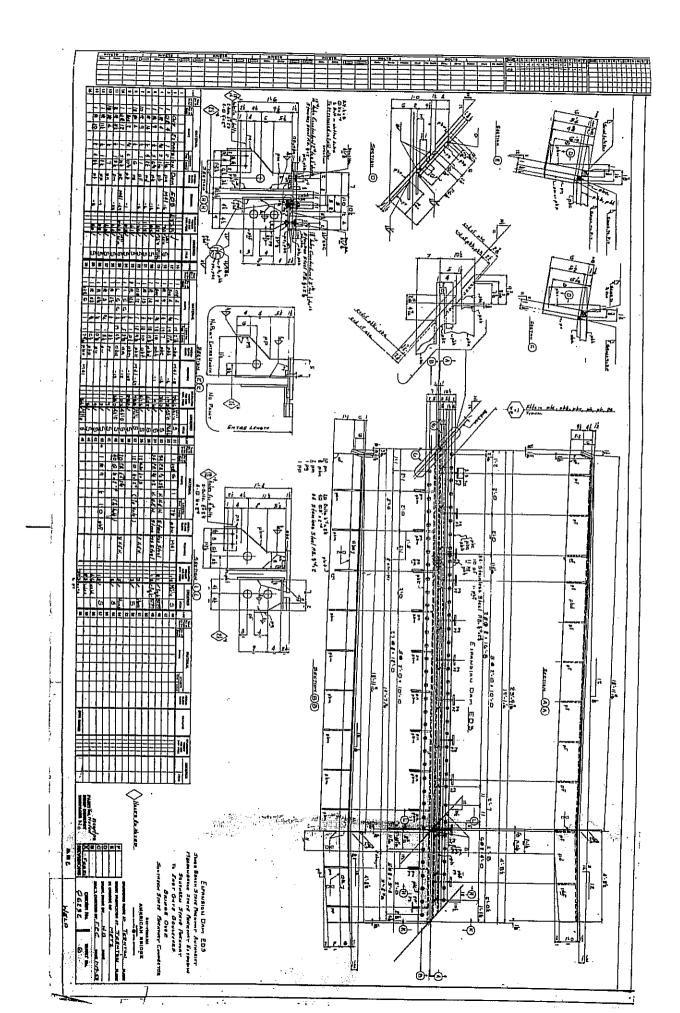












RC: 94 BIN: 2227870

RED Flag 9C070093

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

Prompt Interim Action Recommended: No

Inspector: Henderson, Ryan

Flag Number: 9C070093

Date Discovered: 12/12/2007

Supersedes Flag Number: 9W060016

Bridge Description:

BIN: 2227870

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD

Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

Region: 9 - Binghamton County: 4 - Otsego

Political Unit: 0610 - Town of Oneonta

Primary Owner: 60 - Railroad

Secondary Owner: 99 - One Agency - Listed in first subfield

Primary Maintenance: 40 - Town Secondary Maintenance: 60 - Railroad

Year Built: 1933

Posted For Load: 15 Tons

Number of Spans by Type:

Num Type Description

001 - 115 - Steel - Plate Girder-Floorbeam System, Thru

002 - B01 - Concrete, Reinforced - Slab

Description of Flagged Condition: RED STRUCTURAL FLAG 9C070093 ISSUED (Flag 9W060016 superseded):

The SPAN 2 LEFT Pedestal exhibits crumbly concrete, with a fracture line extending through the Begin ("rear") anchor bolts of the Bearing reaching a maximum length of 5 ft. down the side of the Pier Column with thick efflorescence extending another 1 ft. The entire Pedestal surface is spalled up to 8 in. deep, with crumbly concrete extending at up to 1 in. into the remaining material. Cleaning of loose material reveals a line of deeper deterioration, with a crack evident through both cement paste and aggregate. The crack appears to be a product of general deterioration rather than active shear failure of the concrete. But it forms a plane of weakness which effectively undermines 95% of the Bearing. No significant change to this condition as well as no sign of movement or settlement were observed this inspection. Vertical rebars with minor section losses were noted in the column/pedestal concrete.

The SPAN 2 RIGHT Pedestal exhibits crumbly concrete, with undermining along the front face of the Bearing up to 2.5 in. for Span 3 G2. The undermining reduces the bearing area by approximately 14%, which is a slight increase from the previous inspection (12%). The Pedestal is spalled up to 6 in. deep, with up to an additional 1 in. depth of crumbly concrete. The Right Pedestal has been included in this flag to show the condition of the overall load transferring system of superstructure to the

The Pedestals and Bearings support Load-path Non-redundant Girders. The advanced deterioration limits the service life of the Pedestals. This condition has been noted in the last inspection with minor change in deterioration since then.

Upon QC review it was determined that based on the active deterioration of the pedestal concrete and the fact that the pedestal supports a non-redundant thru-girder, a RED FLAG is warranted.

2 Photos/Sketches Attached

Verbal Notifications: (For RED Flags and Safety Flags with PIA only)

RC: 94 BIN: 2227870

RED Flag 9C070093

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

To: Tim Giblin of Regional Office on 12/19/2007 at 12:45:00 PM							
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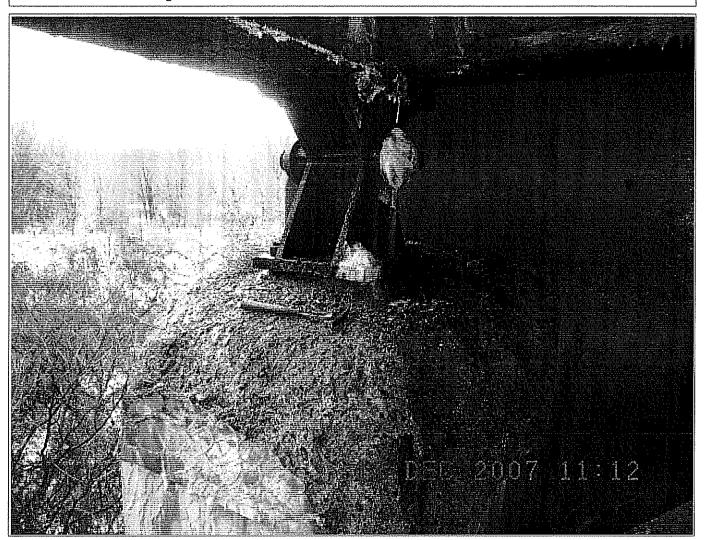
Discovery Date: 12/12/2007 RC: 94 BIN: 2227870

RED Flag 9C070093 Attachment

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

07-1476.jpg - Attached to RED Flag 9C070093

Left End Side of Right Column of Pier 2



RC: 94 BIN: 2227870

RED Flag 9C070093 Attachment

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

07-1480.jpg - Attached to RED Flag 9C070093 Left Side of Left Column of Pier 2



RC: 94 BIN: 2227870

RED Flag 9C070094

Prompt Interim Action Recommended: No

Inspector: Henderson, Ryan Flag Number: 9C070094

Date Discovered: 12/12/2007 Supersedes Flag Number: 9W060017

Bridge Description:

BIN: 2227870

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

Region: 9 - Binghamton County: 4 - Otsego

Political Unit: 0610 - Town of Oneonta

Primary Owner: 60 - Railroad

Secondary Owner: 99 - One Agency - Listed in first subfield

Primary Maintenance: 40 - Town Secondary Maintenance: 60 - Railroad

Year Built: 1933 Posted For Load: 15 Tons

Number of Spans by Type:

Num Type Description

001 - 115 - Steel - Plate Girder-Floorbeam System, Thru

002 - B01 - Concrete, Reinforced - Slab

Description of Flagged Condition:

RED STRUCTURAL FLAG 9C070094 Issued (Flag 9W060017 Superseded):

In Span 3, the bottom flanges of all Floorbeams exhibit heavy rust scale with section losses at their centers. Losses are estimated based a combination of caliper readings of exposed flange edges, pitting depths, and visual comparisons, as follows:

FB0-20%; FB1-30%; FB2-25%; FB3-42%; FB4-35%; FB5-35%; FB6-25%

Floorbeams are classified Load Path Non-Redundant at 14'-1" spacing. Webs and top flanges are encased and likely to have only minimal losses. Some slight variations in losses were observed from the previous inspection (however not to FB3, which should be the controlling member), but no distress or excess deformation is evident.

Upon QC review it was determined that the condition of the Floorbeams warrants a RED Flag. Yellow Flags have been issued in the past two inspections for the same condition.

It should be noted that the actual member properties are unavailable due to lack of record plans and the concrete blast protection which covers the majority of the beams. The section losses are based on the assumption that the flanges have a uniform thickness of 0.75" (also used in BLRS analysis).

1 Photos/Sketches Attached

Verbal Notifications: (For RED Flags and Safety Flags with PIA only)

To: Tim Giblin of Regional Office on 12/19/2007 at 12:45:00 PM

Signature: (a signed copy of this report will be placed in the BIN folder)
Flagged Bridge Report Completed By: Henderson, Ryan on 12/18/2007
Flagged Bridge Report Signed By: _______ on ______

Henderson, Ryan

Discovery Date: 12/12/2007 RC: 94 BIN: 2227870

RED Flag 9C070094

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

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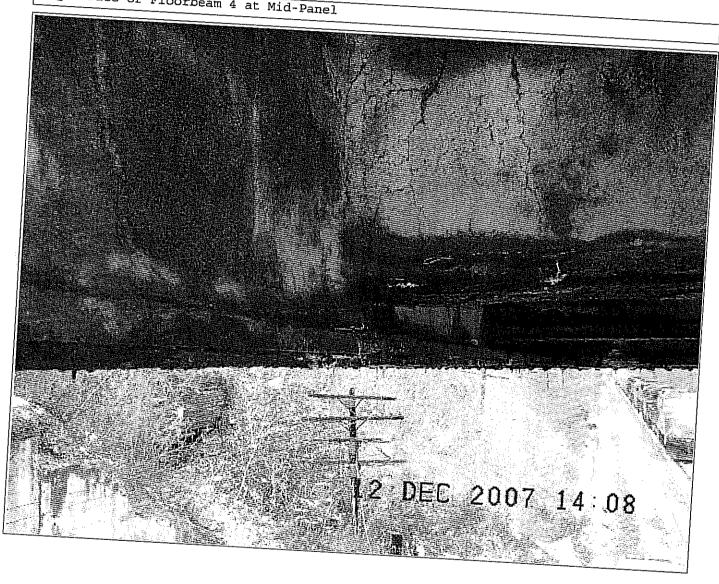
RC: 94 BIN: 2227870

RED Flag 9C070094 Attachment

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

07-1484.jpg - Attached to RED Flag 9C070094

Begin Face of Floorbeam 4 at Mid-Panel



RED Flag 9C070095

Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON Carried: PONY FARM ROAD

Prompt Interim Action Recommended: No

Inspector: Henderson, Ryan

Flag Number: 9C070095

Date Discovered: 12/12/2007 Supersedes Flag Number:

Bridge Description:

BIN: 2227870

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD

Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

RC: 94 BIN: 2227870

Region: 9 - Binghamton County: 4 - Otsego

Political Unit: 0610 - Town of Oneonta

Primary Owner: 60 - Railroad

Secondary Owner: 99 - One Agency - Listed in first subfield

Num

Primary Maintenance: 40 - Town Secondary Maintenance: 60 - Railroad

Year Built: 1933 Posted For Load: 15 Tons

Number of Spans by Type:

Type Description

001 - 115 - Steel - Plate Girder-Floorbeam System, Thru

002 - B01 - Concrete, Reinforced - Slab

Description of Flagged Condition:

RED STRUCTURAL FLAG 9C070095 Issued (No Previous Flag Superseded):

In Span 3, the bottom flanges of almost all Stringers exhibit heavy rust scale with section losses at their centers. Losses are estimated based a combination of caliper readings of exposed flange edges, pitting depths, and visual comparisons, as follows:

S1: 20% S2: 20% S2: 20% S3: 15% Panel 2 -S1: 20% Panel 3 -S1: 30% S2: 40% S3: 20% Panel 4 -S1: 35% S2: 45% S3: 30% Panel 5 -S1: 30% S2: 20% S3: 15%

Panel 6 -Minimal Losses.

Stringers are classified Load Path Redundant. Webs and top flanges are encased and likely to have only minimal losses. Some slight variations in losses were observed, but no distress or excess deformation is evident.

Upon QC review it was determined that the condition of the Stringers warrants a RED Flag, as it represents > 1/3 flange loss to adjacent redundant members.

It should be noted that the actual member properties are unavailable due to lack of record plans and the concrete blast protection which covers the majority of the beams. The section losses are based on a conservative assumption that the flanges have a uniform thickness of 0.5" (thickness used in BLRS analysis).

2 Photos/Sketches Attached

Verbal Notifications: (For RED Flags and Safety Flags with PIA only)

To: Tim Giblin of Regional Office on 12/19/2007 at 12:45:00 PM

(a signed copy of this report will be placed in the BIN folder) Signature: Flagged Bridge Report Completed By: Henderson, Ryan on 12/18/2007

Discovery Date: 12/12/2007 RC: 94 BIN: 2227870 RED Flag 9C070095

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

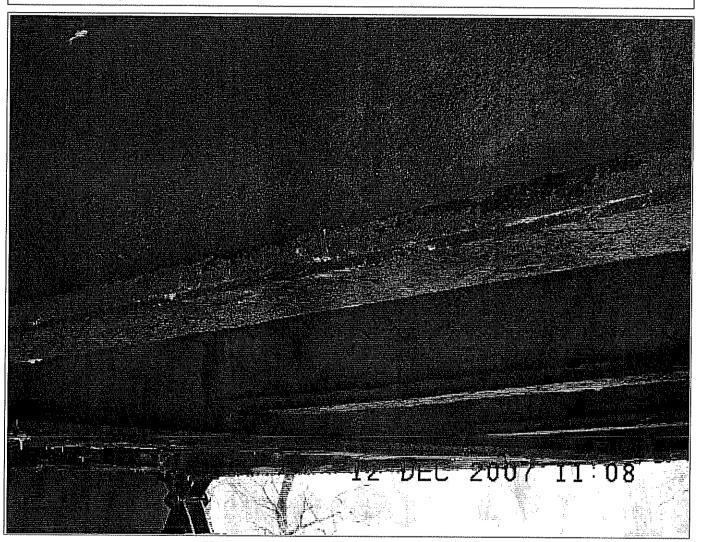
Flagged Bridge Report Signed By: Henderson, Ryan	on	
(This PDF Report Created: 12/19/2007 12:49:39 PM)		

RC: 94 BIN: 2227870

RED Flag 9C070095 Attachment

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

07-1475.jpg - Attached to RED Flag 9C070095
Panel 2 Stringer 3, Left Side

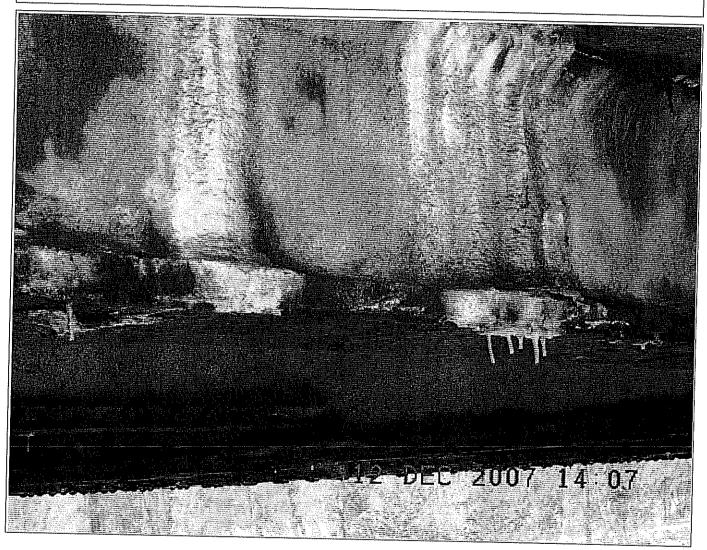


RC: 94 BIN: 2227870

RED Flag 9C070095 Attachment

Carried: PONY FARM ROAD Crossed: DELAWARE & HUDSON

07-1483.jpg - Attached to RED Flag 9C070095 Panel 4 Stringer 2, Left Side



The Newspaper for

Wednesday, October 11, 2006

News	9-27-2006					
Home	EMALE THIS PRINTED FRENCH SUBSCRIBE					
Local News	2 bridges will be replaced STORY VERSION TODAY					
- Local News						
Archives	By Jake Palmateer					
Local Sports	[26] [28] [18] [18] [18] [18] [18] [18] [18] [1					
- Local Sports	Staff Writer					
Archives	Stati Willei					
Obituaries	ONEONTA _ Two area bridges are being replaced under an agreement					
- Obituary	between the state and Canadian Pacific Railway, state and railroad					
Archives						
Local Opinion	officials announced Monday.					
Local Lifestyle	the second secon					
Community News	The state will provide \$1.1 million for a Brooker Hollow Road bridge in					
Police Blotter	East Worcester and a bridge between state Route 7 and Pony Farm Road					
Ap Wire	in the town of Oneonta. Both bridges span CP Rail's tracks, officials					
Business	said.					
Marketplace						
	· Ch Bail Mill be bickind up touduly half of the estimated \$2.1 million total					
Autos	cost to replace both bridges, according to state Sen. James Seward, R-					
Homes	Milford. Seward, along with Stephen Fisk of CP Rail, Oneonta Town					
Thresholds	- Supervisor Duncan Davie and Worcester Councilwoman Lynda Clark,					
Apartments	- made the announcement at the Oneonta Town Hall on Monday.					
Jobs	-					
- Heartland Job	There would be no local costs associated with the two projects, Seward					
Search	said.					
- Employment	Juliui -					
Opportunities	Fisk, a senior manager of business development for the railroad, said					
Retail	preliminary engineering work would begin this winter with construction					
Yellow Pages	"hopefully" completed by the fall of next year.					
All	noperally completed by the fall of next years					
Photos	The day of the section of the property of the section of the secti					
Reader Photo	- "I don't want to make any promises I can't keep," Fisk said.					
Galleries						
Historical Heartland	Fisk said the timetable still needs to be developed, adding that there is					
Purchase Photo	no indication of now long the Brooker Hollow Road Bridge, which officials					
Reprints	said was their most immediate concern, would be out during the					
- Photo Galleries	construction.					
- Special Photo						
Requests	The previous detour, which was in place for two months last winter,					
- Order Full Page	meant an 18-mile commute over "treacherous roads," Clark said.					
Reprints	•					
Other	School buses were forced to run an extra 100 miles daily to detour when					

Features

the bridge was closed, according to school officials.

Community Calendar

There were also concerns about response times for emergency services

Cooperstown Crier

"I know the people in East Worcester are going to be thrilled," Clark said.

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Newspapers in
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_ 1 know the people in East Worcester are going to be thrilled," Clark said.

Advertisements

The bridge was closed last November after the state Department of Transportation found it deficient, but it was reopened in mid-January on a temporary basis.



Cheryl Irvine, a 28-year resident of Brooker Hollow Road, said Monday she was pleased a deal between the state and the railway was reached.

LICENSED FLINERAL DIRECTORS

"I think it's great they were able to work out some kind of concerted effort on this," Irvine said.

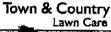


However, Irvine said she was still skeptical of how the replacement will eventually pan out, especially when it comes to the timing of the work, length of a bridge closure and the condition of the detour.

"There are public-safety issues with this," Irvine said. "The (detour) road is in horrendous shape."



To ensure public safety, Irvine said, Brooker Hollow Road would need to be reopened before winter sets in.



The detour went over a steep hill, she said.



Clark said the town of Worcester has previously spent about \$20,000 in costs related to the bridge, including improvements along the detour route.



Because state funds are involved, the project is subject to a public-bidding process, Fisk said.

The Daily Star Click here to subscribe

The projects may be put out to bid as a package, Fisk said.

He added that availability of steel could be one factor that could delay construction.

The state funds were allocated in the state budget for capital projects, according to Seward.

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12/28/05

By Mark Boshnack

Staff Writer

Progress is being made on a temporary fix that could result in an East Worcester bridge being reopened in the first half of January, a town official said Tuesday.

The Brooker Hollow Road bridge was closed in early November after a state Department of Transportation inspection indicated potential failure of a critical primary structure.

A response was delayed as the town and the Delaware and Hudson CP Rall System argued about ownership.

At a meeting with state officials in early December, both sides agreed to split the cost of the work, estimated to be \$25,000 to \$35,000, without claiming ownership.

.The blueprints for the project were received from Clough

Harbor Associates of Albany on Friday, Worcester Town Supervisor Christopher Clark said Tuesday.

The town is finishing plans to hire a contractor for the repairs needed to reopen the bridge to traffic, including vehicles as heavy as a school bus, he said.

The board could take action on approving a contract this week, Clark said. After that, if the materials are available and weather permits, it could take about five days for the work, which includes two sets of vertical and horizontal beams and a steel deck, to be completed.

A spokesman for the railroad could not be reached Tuesday.

What's Related

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- Children meet person behind winter warmth
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- City discusses wood-plant plan
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- Woman charged in 596,000 embezzlement

The situation is something for the town and railroad to address, said state Department of Transportation spokeswoman Chris Klein. The state agency will inspect the bridge before it can be reopened.

Robert Decker lives on the other side of the closed bridge. He said Tuesday that until repairs are made, he has no choice but to travel what town officials said was about a fivemile detour to get to the hamlet.

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CURRENT_WEATHER

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Conditions from The Daily Star 102 Chestnut Street Oneonta, NY at 3:44p.m.: 42.6°F

Wind: WSW at 1MPH Today's High Temp: 45,5°F at 2:10p.m. Today's Low Temp: 36,3°F at 12:00a.m. No current weather alerts

POLL

E

Gov. Pataki claims we have a \$2 billion surplus. What do you think we should do with the funds?

- Pay down state debt
- Give the money to New York City for its schools
- Give raises to the state

× Votel

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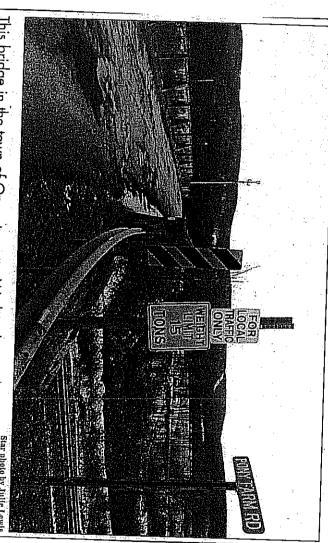
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Pony Farm Road while passing over Canadian Pacific Railroad tracks. This bridge in the town of Oneonta, seen Wednesday, connects state Route 7 and Bridge in town of Oneonta closing

WEST ONEONTA — The bridge connecting Pony Farm Road and state Route 7 in the town of Oneonta is closing.

The bridge owned by Canadian Pacific Department of Transportation. Railroad was declared unsafe by the state

said Oneonta Town Supervisor Robert Traffic will be re-routed through Corpo- nard. Barricades will be put in place Friday,

rate Drive and the Pony Farm Industrial Park, Wood said.

Wood said. It is not known how long the bridge will need to be closed or when it will be fixed,

future of the bridge, according to a state-ment from CP spokesman Michel Spestate and local officials to determine the CP officials are conducting a study with November 15, 2006

NYS Department of Transportation Lower Oneida Street Oneonta, NY 13820

Attn: Jerry Murrillo & Mike Adams

Subj; Unsafe Intersection @ Rt 7 & Pony Farm Rd

Dear Sirs,

Confirming my conversation with Jerry Murrillo, I am writing to express my concern with regards to safety at the subject intersection. Our employees & customers have expressed their concern & I've spoken with our residential neighbors & they agree something should be done.

When exiting from Pony Farm Rd onto Route 7 there is a problem that cars traveling east on Route 7 cannot be seen if they are just below the rise in the road. The same is true for cars traveling west on Route 7 & making a left hand turn onto Pony Farm Road.

There has been one accident & several near accidents at this intersection in the last few weeks. I look forward to meeting with you at 11 am on Friday, November 17 so we can look at this intersection together.

Please investigate options for better marking & lighting to reduce this hazard. I look forward to working with you to resolve this issue.

Bill Castine

August 7, 2006

Subj: Bridge Access to the West End of Pony Farm Road

Dear Board Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns to the board on the subject matter..

My Concerns are both as an employer & on behalf of my residential neighbors. Our business is located at 330 Pony Farm Road. There are several businesses (approximately 25 employees total) located at this address; Comminnovations, Village Printer, Solutions Integrators, AutoTech Electronics, UHaul & Century Storage. There are about a dozen residential homes along this portion of Pony Farm Road.

We are pleased to learn the repairs to flood damage bridge on Pony Farm Road across Otego Creek have been authorized & we look forward to seeing this road reopened this fall.

Our business is being affected in many ways:

Fire & other emergency vehicles exceeding 15 tons are prevented from using this access & the emergency only alternate at grade access is often blocked by railcars for extended periods.

Delivery & construction vehicles exceeding 15 tons cannot reach us at all, compromising our ability to conduct business & jeopardizing livelihood of our employees.

I have discussed this situation with my neighbors & they particularly concerned about the fact that the only route for fire & other emergency vehicles exceeding 15 tons is an at-grade crossing. This crossing is often blocked by stopped railroad cars. Even in an emergency it would take several minutes for a train to clear this path. Many of my neighbors are elderly & the homes are older wood frame structures. I'm sure you appreciate the importance of unimpeded access to emergency services.

Even before these floods we have seen the access across the Otego Creek bridge to this end of Pony Farm Road closed for periods of time due to much smaller floods than the recent occurrence. For this reason we would like to see the option for rebuilding the bridge & approach ramps much higher than the recent configuration.

Aside from floods access across the Otego Creek is blocked by road repair or heavy snow. For these reasons, the railroad bridge connecting Pony Farm Road

to Route 7 is of vital importance. This bridge was once rated as unlimited is now restricted to vehicles under 15 tons. Loss of this bridge would cause the loss of jobs adversely affect property values on this end of Pony Farm Road. It would also deprive the Industrial Park of its second entrance.

Improved lighting at this bridge is important to improve safety.

We were pleased to learn that you share our concern for this railroad bridge & that you will be working with Sen Seward & the CP Railroad. I look forward to attending future board meetings so that we can remain informed on progress.

Regards, Bill Castine

August 7, 2006

Subj: Bridge Access to the West End of Pony Farm Road

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to you as a concerned employer & on behalf of my residential neighbors. Our business is located at 330 Pony Farm Road. There are several businesses (approximately 25 employees total) located at this address; Comminnovations, Village Printer, Solutions Integrators, AutoTech Electronics, UHaul & Century Storage. There are about a dozen residences along this portion of Pony Farm Road.

The recent floods have caused the bridge on Pony Farm Road across Otego Creek to be closed. We are concerned about seeing this road reopened as soon as possible.

Our business is being affected in many ways:

Fire & other emergency vehicles exceeding 15 tons are prevented from using this access & the emergency only alternate at grade access is often blocked by railcars for extended periods

Delivery & construction vehicles exceeding 15 tons cannot reach us at all

Even before these floods we have seen this access to this end of Pony Farm Road closed or impassible for periods of time due to floods, road repair or heavy snow. For this reason the railroad bridge connecting Pony Farm Road to Route 7 is of vital importance. This bridge was once rated as unlimited is now restricted to vehicles under 15 tons. Loss of this bridge would cause the loss of jobs adversely affect property values on this end of Pony Farm Road. It would also deprive the Industrial Park of its second entrance.

Improved lighting at this bridge is important to improve safety.

Other communities have found solutions to similar problems: the E. Worcester Bridge was repaired & the Otsego County Board of Representatives recently approved funding for the Susquehanna Avenue Bridge connecting Otsego & Middlefield.

We look forward to working together with you to find solutions for our bridge problem

Bill Castine

