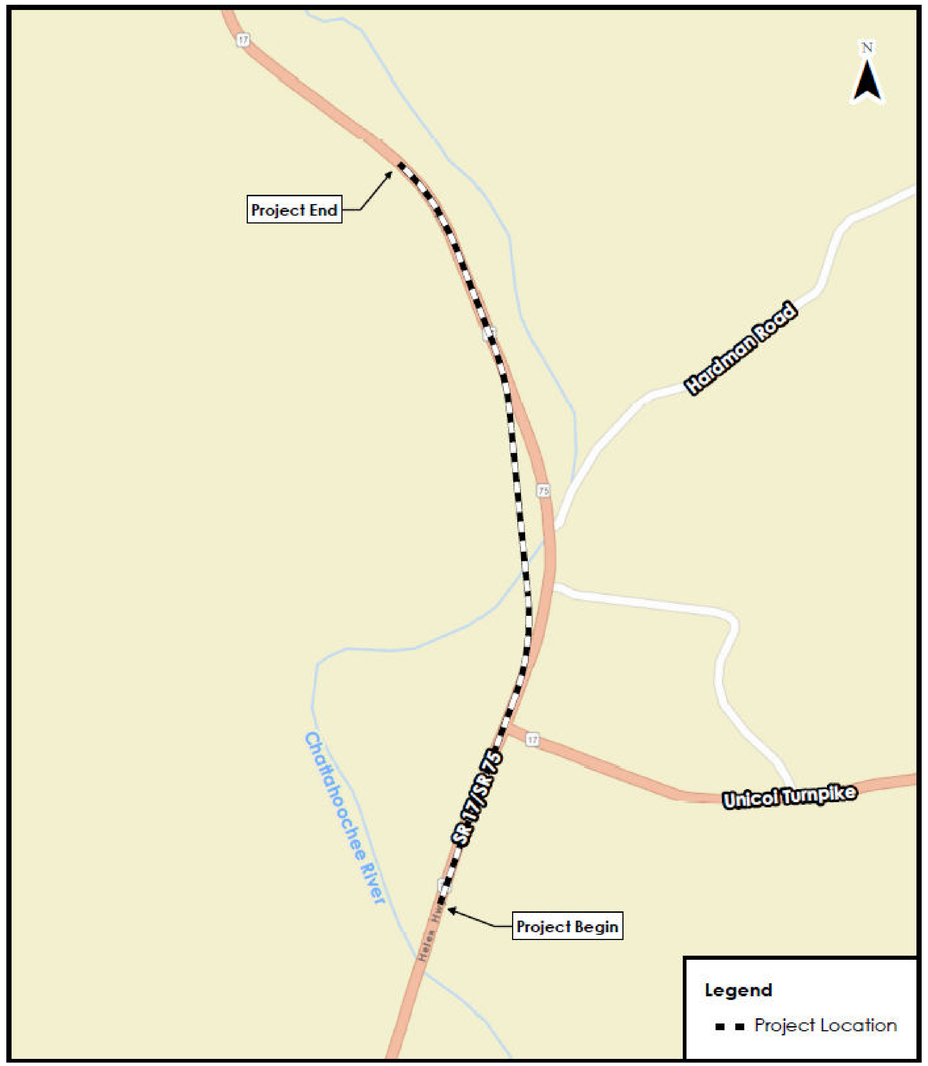
WHY ARE WE HERE?

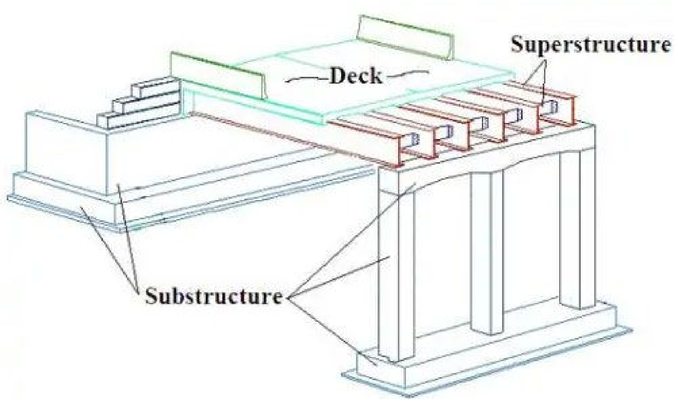


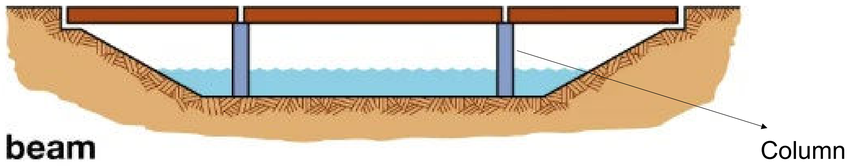
To review and receive feedback about the proposed bridge replacement on State Route (SR) 17/ SR 75 over the Chattahoochee River south of Helen, Georgia

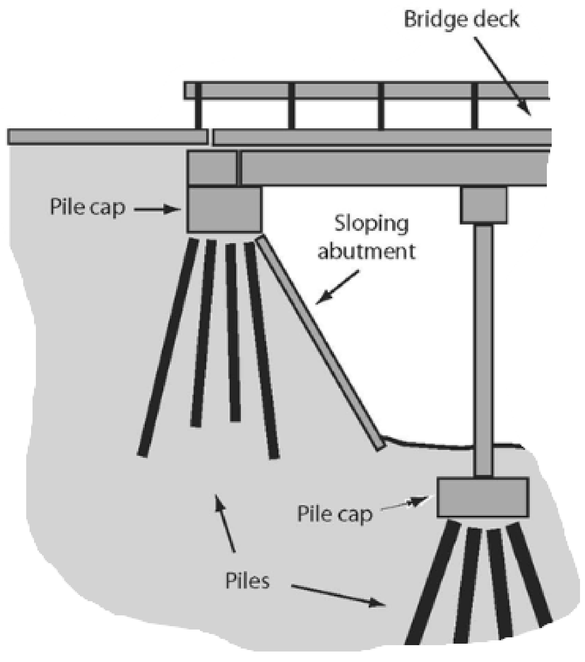
Thank you! We need your input!

GDOT
Georgia Department of Transportation

EXISTING CONDITIONS







- The bridge was built in 1941 and widened in 1990.
- The bridge consists of seven spans
- It was designed using an H-15 vehicle* which is lower than current standards.
- The current condition of the bridge is fair.
- There is minor to moderate cracking throughout the deck and exposed rebar.
- The steel beams have several areas of heavy corrosion and major section loss, up to 100% in some areas.
- The concrete caps have deterioration with exposed rebar and the concrete columns have severe wear.
- The load carrying capacity (weight limit) is below current design standards due to the condition of the bridge
- The existing bridge is 280 feet long and 47 feet wide & consists of 7 spans with 2, 12-foot lanes with 10-foot shoulders

*H-15 vehicle refers to a two-axle truck with a 15-ton gross weight

PROJECT GOALS

Connectivity

Safety

Minimizing impacts to properties and environmentally sensitive areas

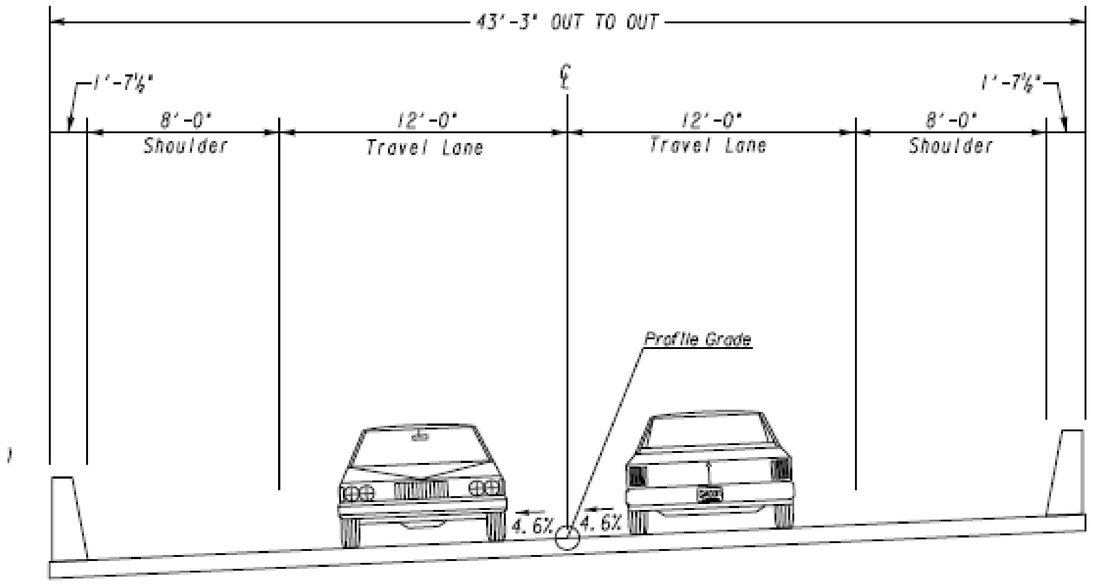
- Construct a new bridge that meets current design standards
- Minimize impacts to communities

WITHOUT THIS PROJECT

- The substandard bridge would not be replaced
- The carrying capacity (weight limit) of the bridge would not be increased

Proposed Solution

- Replace the substandard existing bridge with a new one, which will have:
  - A new off-set alignment approximately 46 feet to the west of the existing location
  - An increased length of 380 feet (due to the skew of the Chattahoochee River)
  - A reduced width of 42.35 feet consisting of 4 spans
  - Two 12-foot lanes with 8-foot shoulders
  - A higher profile (raised) by approximately 1.5 feet.



The project will utilize staged construction, so no off-site detour is anticipated

Benefits of the Proposed

- Provides a new bridge that meets current design standards
- SR 17/SR 75 is a main road into Helen and the replacement of this bridge is expected to benefit the community
- Allows for traffic to be maintained on existing roadway and bridge rather than require an offsite detour
- Cost efficient compared to other alternatives
- Minimizes property and environmental impacts to the extent feasible
- Increases carrying capacity (weight limit) of the bridge