

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

10324 Interstate 30 | P.O. Box 2261 | Little Rock, AR 72203-2261 | Phone: 501.569.2281 | Fax: 501.569.2009

July 8, 2020

RE: Historic Bridge Number 13091
Job Number BR7615
Mulberry River Str. & Apprs. (S)
Crawford and Franklin Counties
Historic Bridge Marketing Request

To Whom It May Concern:

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) is planning to replace Bridge Number 13091 (Wire Ford Bridge or Silver Bridge) on Wire Road/County Road 67 at the border of Crawford and Franklin Counties. This bridge was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 2007. A location map and further information about the bridge is enclosed.

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, 23 USC § 144 (g)(5) states: "Any State which proposes to demolish a historic bridge for a replacement project ... shall first make the bridge available for donation to a State, locality, or responsible private entity..." As part of the mitigation process, the ARDOT is offering to donate Bridge Number 13091 to any government or entity that demonstrates a willingness to accept title for, relocate it for use at another site, preserve the historic features of, and assume the financial responsibility for the continued maintenance on the structure.

Normally, the ARDOT, through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), can reimburse costs associated with preservation up to the demolition estimate expense. However, the reimbursement funds allocated to this bridge will be exhausted during the dismantling and relocation process.

If you are interested in acquiring this bridge, please respond with a letter of interest within 45 days from the date of this letter. For further information, contact Nikki Senn at (501) 569-2979.

Sincerely,

John Fleming Division Head

Environmental Division

John Flening

Enclosures

JF:NS:cb

c: Assistant Chief Engineer - Planning Bridge Division District 4 Engineer



ARDOT Bridge Number 13091, on Wire Road, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. The Lakeside Bridge and Steel Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, erected two spans of this bridge over the Mulberry River in 1929. The Great Flood of 1927 damaged the previous bridge (built circa 1912); one span of that 1912 structure might be the westerly span of the present bridge. The bridge was rehabilitated in 1976 and had extensive repairs in 2006.

The main portion of the bridge measures 305 feet long and includes three truss spans: two of 100-feet and one at 105-feet in length. The bridge has a clear roadway width of just over 11 feet. ARDOT Bridge Number 13091, also known as the Wire Ford Bridge or the Silver Bridge, is a good example of a pin-connected Pratt through truss design. As one of six bridges with this design still in vehicular use, it represents early transportation in Arkansas.

