

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS
RELATED TO DVRPC BOARD ACTION ITEMS

JULY 28, 2011

BOARD
AGENDA ITEM

2. DVRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Action

a. PA11-35: Vine Street Expressway Bridges (MPMS #80054), Philadelphia County

From: jfrey40535@gmail.com

County: Philadelphia

Zip Code: 19134

Date Received: July 21, 2011

Comment/Question: There is no detail in this action item as to the characteristics of these bridges that are structurally deficient. These bridges are roughly 20 years old. Are the deficiencies related to structural integrity, or capacity? There are many other bridges on public transit routes that are known to have serious physical deficiencies because of deferred maintenance and age. Why are bridges on a relatively new expressway in need of \$130 million dollars worth of repair work?

Response: The bridges over the Expressway included in this rehabilitation project are 22nd Street, 21st Street, Ben Franklin Parkway/20th Street, the Free Library Pedestrian Bridge, 19th Street, the Family Court Pedestrian Bridge, and 18th Street. All of these bridges are original structures constructed in the late 1950's. The existing structures are non-composite pre-stressed concrete adjacent box beams with asphalt wearing surfaces supported by concrete abutments and a center concrete pier. The bridges from 22nd Street to 18th Street are in advanced stages of deterioration; both their structural integrity and capacity have been significantly impacted by their current condition.

The bridges over the Expressway that are "roughly 20 years old" are not part of this project. Those bridges are located east of the 18th Street Bridge and were rehabilitated/replaced during the 1990 Expressway Rehabilitation Project.

Also, there is a Supporting Documentation section of the TIP package posted online (http://www.dvrpc.org/asp/Committee/committees/Board/Action/2011-07_TIP.pdf) which included sufficiency rating information for all the structures involved in the Vine Street Bridges TIP Action Item. Please note, a link to the full TIP package is available online at the bottom of each TIP Action highlight page. See example here: <http://www.dvrpc.org/asp/BoardComment/detail.asp?id=143>

As an additional resource for your information, there is bridge information posted on DVRPC's website that includes:

1. Name of Bridge
2. Location
3. County
4. Year Build
5. Type
6. Sufficiency Rating
7. ADT
8. Post Status

The **PA Bridge Condition Map** which shows all of the above information is located at the bottom of the Highways and Bridges page on DVRPC's website can be found here:
<http://www.dvrpc.org/Transportation/HighwaysandBridges/>

From: JoeyFaz@gmail.com

County: Philadelphia

Zip Code: 19130

Date Received: July 20, 2011

Comment/Question: Please make every effort not to impact the bicycle and pedestrian movements over the Spring Garden Bridge during the detour and construction. This is a critical link between my neighborhood (Fairmount) and University City, where many residents work and go to school. Thanks!