

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

April 3, 2023

RE: Historic Bridges 05074 and 05820 Job 040846 Hwy. 62 Intchng. Impvts. (Fayetteville) (F) Washington County Historic Bridge Marketing Request

To Whom It May Concern:

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) proposes to replace Bridge Numbers 05074 and 05820 (Highway 62 Interchange Bridges, Northbound and Southbound, respectively) on Interstate 49 in Washington County. During this project, these bridges were determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). A location map and more information about the bridges are enclosed.

The period for interest in accepting donation of one or both bridges has been extended until January 1, 2024.

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, ARDOT is offering to donate Bridge Numbers 05074 and 05820 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, 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 these bridges will be exhausted during the careful dismantling and relocation process.

If you are interested in acquiring either or both bridges, please respond with a letter of interest addressed to me before January 1, 2024. Such letter submission does not commit an entity to accept the bridge(s).

After receipt, ARDOT's Historic Bridge Analysis Committee will request a preservation plan with the required information for consideration before a preferred recipient is selected. For questions and further information, contact Nikki Senn at (501) 569-2979 or <u>Nikki.Senn@ardot.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

the for

Grown Fleming Division Head Environmental Division

Enclosures JF:NS:em

c: Assistant Chief Engineer – Planning Bridge Division District Engineer



ARDOT Bridge Number 05074 is a steel continuous frame bridge carrying northbound Interstate 49 across Highway 62 in Washington County. McGeorge Contracting Company Inc. of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, constructed this bridge in 1971. Metal tube railings held by curved metal posts on low concrete parapets line the sides of the bridge. Its length totals 194 feet, with a clear roadway width of 43 feet, and it was built at an eight-degree skew.

This bridge has unique aesthetics and distinctive engineering in the slanted column bents and continuous steel beams. The beams, column bents, and railing can be relocated for reassembly. Bridge 05074 is one of nine of its type built in Arkansas between 1967 and 1979. It was determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) through consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in 2023.



ARDOT Bridge Number 05820 is a steel continuous frame bridge carrying southbound Interstate 49 across Highway 62 in Washington County. D.B. Hill, of Little Rock, and Barber Bridge Builders, Inc., of Fort Smith, Arkansas, won the contract or the job that built this bridge in 1979. ARDOT (previously known as Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department) matched Bridge 05074's type when designing this bridge. However, instead of metal railings, this bridge shows concrete parapets on either side of the bridge. Its length totals 194 feet, with a clear roadway width of 40 feet, and it was built at an eight-degree skew.

This bridge has unique aesthetics and distinctive engineering in the slanted column bents and continuous steel beams. The beams and column bents can be relocated for reassembly. Bridge 05820 is one of nine of its type built in Arkansas between 1967 and 1979. Although it is not old enough for the NRHP, ARDOT shall treat this property as eligible for inclusion in the NRHP regarding the current undertaking due to the rarity of the design in Arkansas.

