



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

[ARDOT.gov](http://ARDOT.gov) | [IDriveArkansas.com](http://IDriveArkansas.com) | **Scott E. Bennett, P.E., Director**

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November 3, 2017

RE: Historic Bridge 01597  
Job Number 080499  
Big Piney & Gee Creeks Strs. &  
Apprs. (Hwy. 123)  
Johnson County  
Historic Bridge Marketing Request

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) is planning to replace Bridge Number 01597 (Big Piney Creek Bridge) in Johnson County. This bridge was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1990. 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 01597 to any government or entity that demonstrates a willingness to accept title for; maintain the structure in its current location or relocate it for use at another site; preserve the historic features of; and assume the financial responsibility for the continued maintenance on the structure.

The ARDOT, through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), can reimburse costs associated with preservation up to the estimated demolition expense for bridges preserved in place. The estimated demolition reimbursement will be determined by the FHWA, not to exceed 100 percent of the costs of demolition of the bridge, which will be based on the estimate of the ARDOT. The 2017 demolition estimate for this bridge is \$83,000. The costs associated with preservation could include rehabilitation of the bridge or minor modifications for adaptive reuse. If the bridge is relocated, the reimbursement funds allocated to this bridge will be exhausted during the careful dismantling and relocation process.

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

Sincerely,

John Fleming  
Division Head  
Environmental Division