

Edwards Crossing Bridge Project - EIR



NEVADA
COUNTY
CALIFORNIA

Project Location

Edwards Crossing Bridge

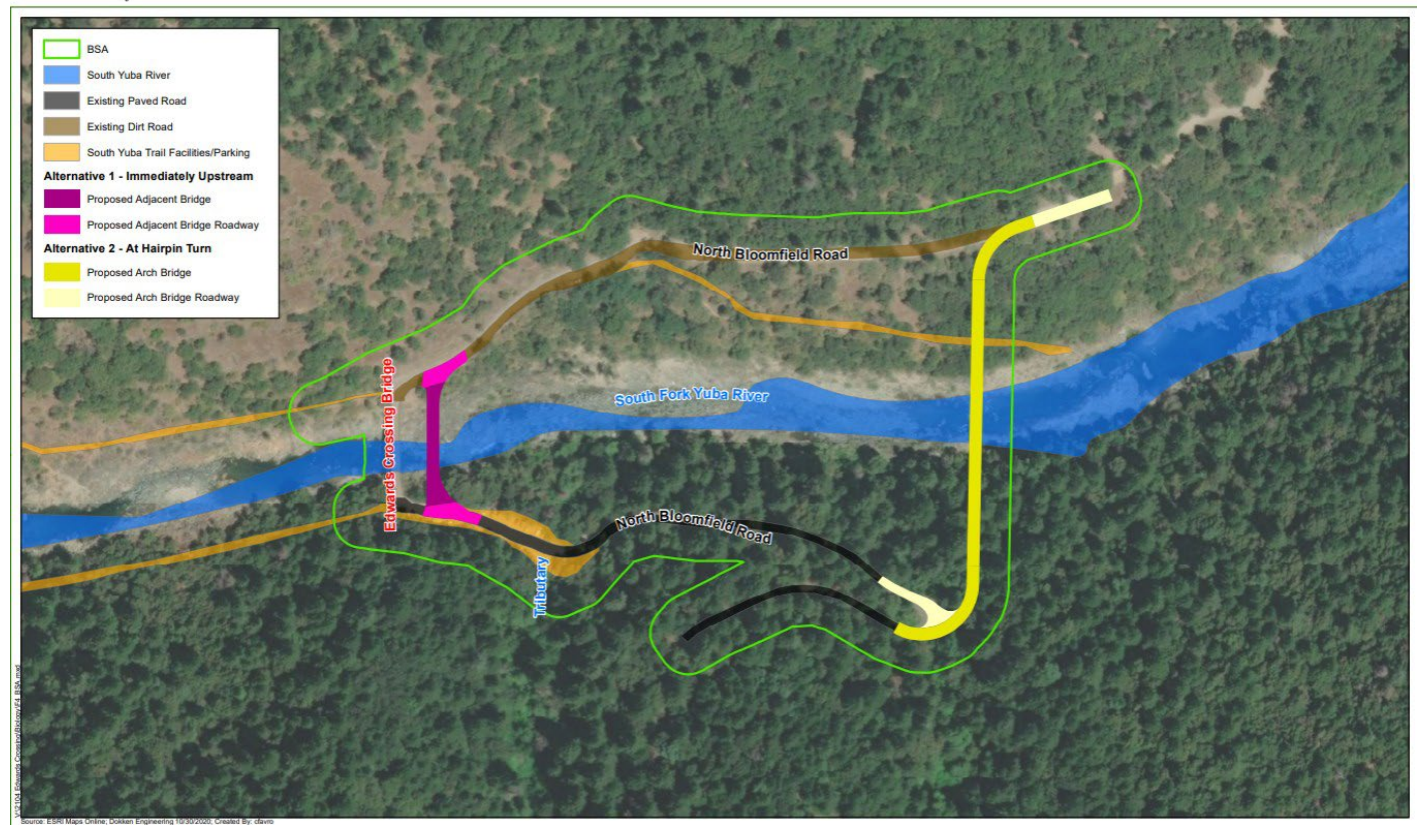


Project Description

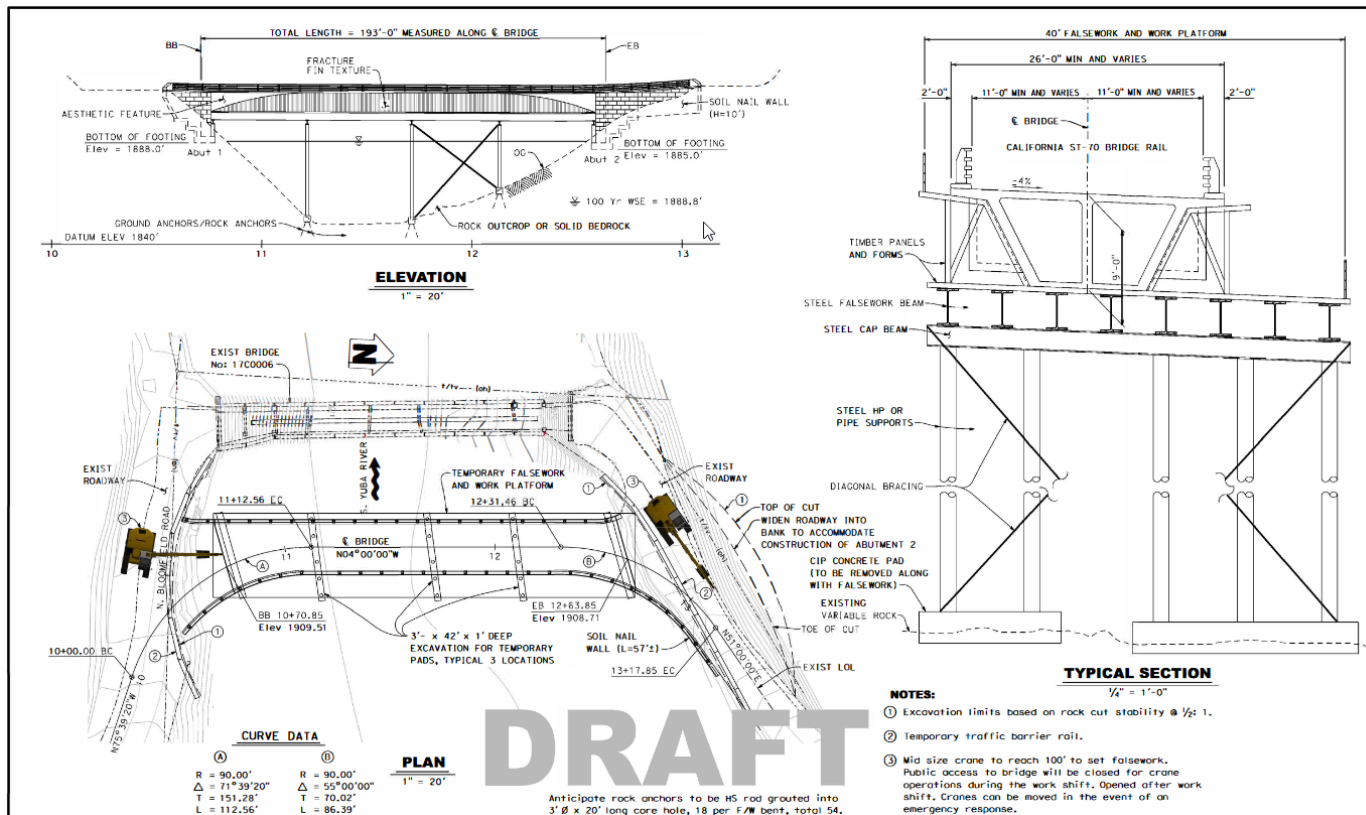
- Project proposes to replace a single lane, structurally deficient bridge built in 1904 with a new 2 lane bridge
- Current bridge has load restrictions and cannot support emergency vehicles
- The Project Environmental document is ready for public circulation with two alternative locations for a new bridge:
 - Alternative 1 = 60' upstream
 - Alternative 2 = 1000' upstream

EIR Alternatives

- Alt 1 = Pink
- Alt 2 = Yellow



Alternative 1



Alternative 1 Highlights

- Replaces Bridge 60 feet Upstream of Existing
- Narrow canyon structure here allows for a shorter bridge
- Through traffic required to pass through parking area
- Funding available to cover the cost of this alternative



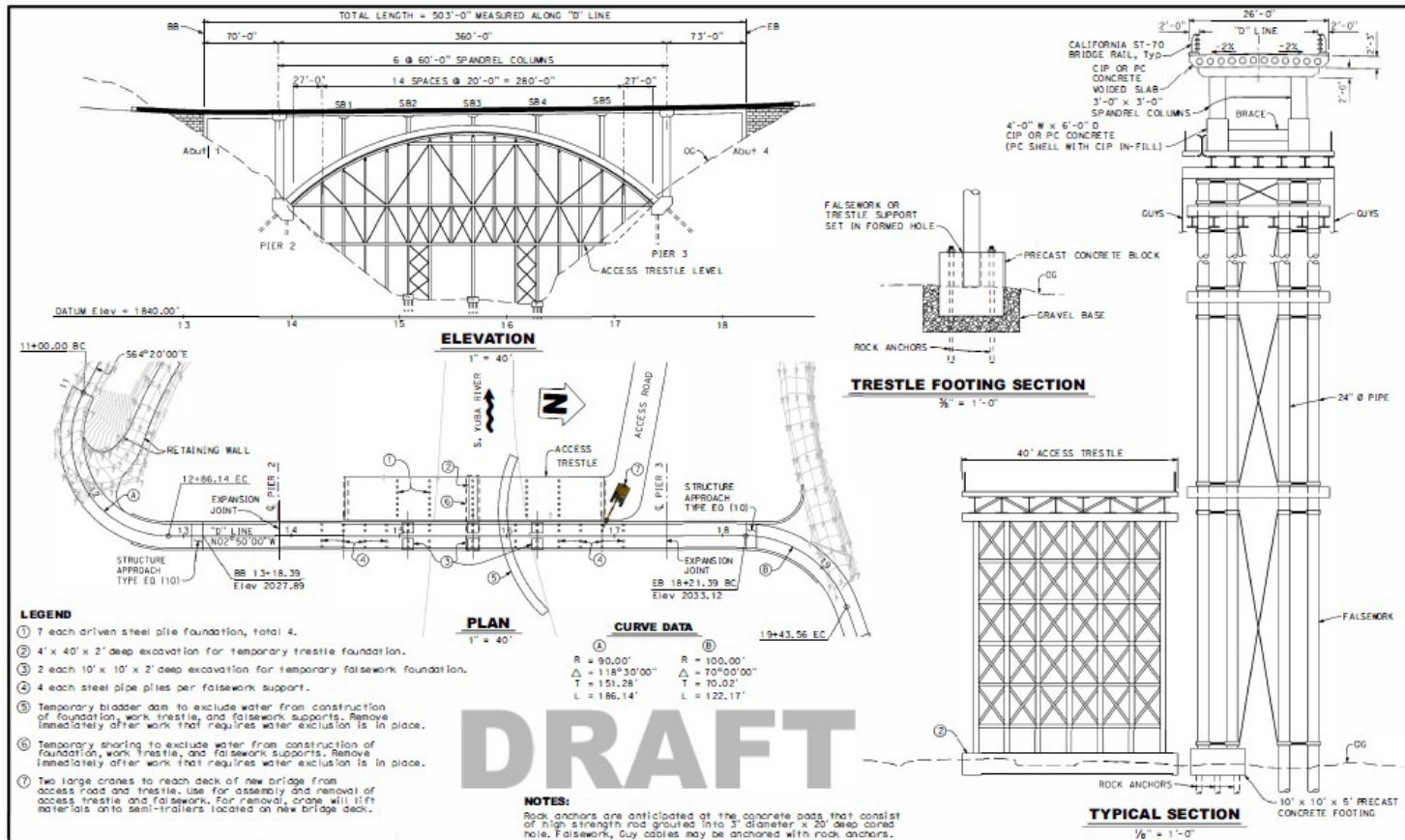
Alternative 1 Rendering





Alternative 1 Rendering

Alternative 2



Alternative 2 Highlights

- Replaces Bridge 1,000 feet upstream of the existing
- Improves the alignment of North Bloomfield Road
- Separates recreational parking from N. Bloomfield Road
- Provides improvement to emergency response for fire, evacuation and rescue
- Bridge is longer and construction cost is more than double
 - No commitment from the bridge program to cover the full cost



Alternative 2 Rendering





Alternative 2 Rendering



Access to the Existing Bridge

- Both alternatives keep the existing bridge in place to be used as a pedestrian bridge.
- Access during construction will be limited with either option

Public & Stakeholder Engagement

- **Public Meetings held in two locations:**
 - The Rood Center and the North Bloomfield Schoolhouse
- **Engaged the Following Agencies & Groups:**
 - South Yuba River Citizens League
 - Fire Safe Council of Nevada County
 - Cal Fire
 - State Parks
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Nevada County Sherriff
 - Nevada County Consolidated Fire Department
 - Nevada County Fire Chiefs Association
 - San Juan Ridge Taxpayers Association

Common Concerns Raised

- **Illegal Parking at the existing bridge impedes use of the road**
- **Community desires better access for evacuation and emergency response**
- **Support and sentiment for retaining the existing bridge**
- **Support for additional parking**
- **A comprehensive environmental study should be prepared**

Next steps on EIR

1. Release & Circulate EIR
2. 45-day Comment Period
3. Public Meeting or Open House During Circulation
4. Evaluate Public and Agency Input from Comments
5. Present Findings to Caltrans with Request for Funding
6. Return to Board for Approval
7. Finalize EIR

Overall Project Schedule

1. Complete EIR Circulation – Nov 2023
2. Establish Preferred Alternative – Dec 2023
3. Request Caltrans Approve County’s Preferred Alternative
Submit Project Scope Change Request – Dec 2023
Meet with Caltrans Bridge Managers - Mar 2024
4. Finalize EIR – July 2024
5. Design, July 2024 to August 2026
6. Construction Summer 2027 (pending funding available)

Conclusion & Questions

- No Board action at this time
- Staff will bring Preferred Alternative to Board later this year
- Final EIR to Board for Approval after Funding Secured
- Questions ??