



MISSOULA BRIDGES PLANNING STUDY

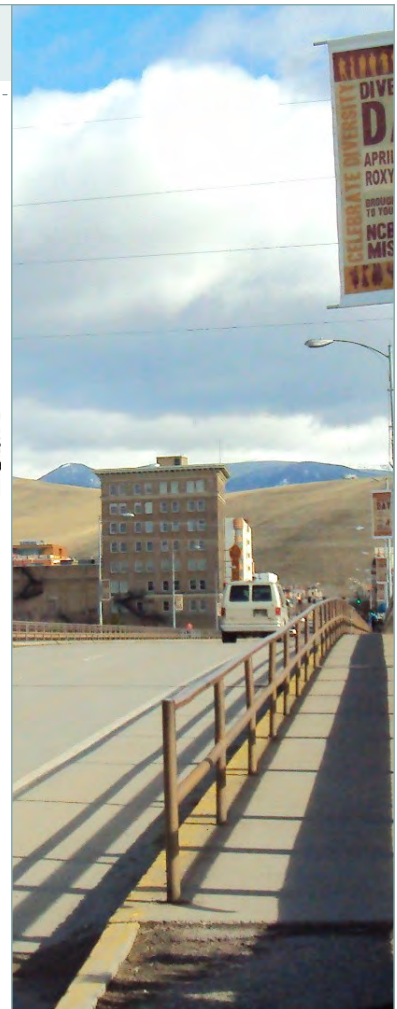
STUDY DESCRIPTION

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) initiated the Missoula Bridges Planning Study to identify potential bridge improvement options for the Higgins Avenue and Madison Street Bridges.

The study will define short-, mid-, and long-term improvement options based on the bridge needs and objectives. Improvement options will include:

- rehabilitation/repair work that must be accomplished for structural integrity;
- cost of rehabilitation/repair work and available funding;
- prioritization of work to be completed in the short-term;
- timeline for any remaining improvements (including potential long-term bridge replacement); and
- potential traffic mitigation during construction.

This study is a planning-level evaluation of the two bridges. It is not a design, maintenance, or construction project, or a lane configuration study for Higgins Avenue. Depending on need and funding availability, improvement options may be forwarded from this study and developed into projects at a later date.



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**PLEASE JOIN US
FOR AN
INFORMATIONAL
MEETING!**

**Tuesday,
October 8, 2013**

Holiday Inn
Missoula Downtown
200 South Pattee Street
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES

Needs and objectives are based on existing and projected conditions within the study area, comments from members of the public and resource agencies, and input from the study advisory committee. These statements reflect MDT and community desires to improve or maintain connectivity, safety, accessibility, and capacity where practicable given physical constraints and funding availability.

NEED 1: Maintain equivalent connectivity at the two river crossings.

Objectives

To the extent practicable:

- 1.a. Provide structurally-adequate bridges that will deliver long-term performance.
- 1.b. Preserve existing bridge capacity for all users, at a minimum.
- 1.c. Accommodate non-motorized connectivity.

NEED 2: Improve bridge safety and accessibility.

Objectives

To the extent practicable:

- 2.a. Provide pedestrian and bicycle facilities that meet current MDT guidelines/standards, at a minimum.
- 2.b. Provide safety features consistent with current MDT design standards.

Other Issues

The following issues will be considered during the improvement option screening process.

- Impacts to environmental, social, cultural/historic, scenic, and recreational resources and characteristics.
- Construction duration and temporary impacts to traffic operations.
- Structural limitations and remaining service life of existing bridges.
- Funding availability.
- Future growth.
- Locally-adopted plans.

IMPROVEMENT OPTIONS

Three improvement options are under consideration for this study.

OPTION 1: MINOR REHABILITATION

This option would repair or replace railings, expansion joints, deck seal, paint, drainage, and striping. *This would only be viable as a short-term option pending bridge rehabilitation/replacement.*

OPTION 2: MAJOR REHABILITATION

This option would include deck overlay or replacement and substructure repairs. Deck widening may not be viable due to structural limitations.

OPTION 3: BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

This option would provide a new four-lane or six-lane bridge. The Higgins Avenue Bridge width would range up to 92 ft (four lanes) or 114 ft (six lanes), including widened pedestrian/bicycle facilities. The Madison Street Bridge would range up to 96 ft (four lanes) or 120 ft (six lanes), and would perpetuate non-motorized function and connectivity.



| Option | Cost Estimate Ranges | |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| | Higgins | Madison |
| 1 Minor Rehabilitation | \$0.5M to \$1.8M | \$0.3M to \$1.1M |
| 2 Major Rehabilitation | \$4M to \$8M | \$2M to \$5M |
| 3A Bridge Replacement (Four Lanes) | \$18M to \$28M | \$15M to \$18M |
| 3B Bridge Replacement (Six Lanes) | \$23M to \$34M | \$18M to \$23M |

STUDY CONTACTS

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INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

An informational meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 8, 2013** at the Holiday Inn — Missoula Downtown (200 South Pattee Street) from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. We encourage you to attend and provide feedback about the bridges.

Please visit the study website (<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/missoulabridges>) for more information on upcoming involvement opportunities.

MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that **may interfere with a person's participation in any service, program or activity** of the department. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provide upon request. For more information, please call Sarah Nicolai at (406) 442-0370 or Montana Relay at 711.



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