

TOWN OF CHESTER
SELECT BOARD
September 16, 2020
Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Arne Jonynas; Lee Gustafson; Leigh Dakin; Julie Hance; Jeff Holden; Heather Chase; Amie O'Brien

VISITORS: SapaTV; Mahendra Thilliyar; Michael Cruz; Tiffany Card; Shawn Cunningham; Sharon Huntley; Ralph Falanga

Meeting was held via Zoom and at the Town Hall.

1. SCOPING PRESENTATION FOR STATE BRIDGE ON VT. RTE. 103 NORTH; VTRANS

Please see the attached PDF for the information related to this presentation.

2. APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 SELECTBOARD MEETING

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to approve the Minutes of the September 2, 2020 Select Board meeting as written. Seconded by Jeff Holden. The motion passed.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS/ANSWERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No citizens comment.

4. OLD BUSINESS

Speed Limits: Radar strips will be placed on River Street and High Street. The portable speed limit sign will be on Andover Road and moved to Grafton Road when finished. Depot Street and Church Street data will be gathered through the existing digital speed limit signs. Speed data on each street will be gather for a two week period and then analyzed to see if lowering the speed limits is justified.

Emergency Services Building: Jason Julian, owner of the Allstone quarry has offered to donate stone material to the project. The stone will not be needed in the construction of the building but would be used for landscaping. Jason Julian will drop off samples and send photos of projects they have done for Kevin Racek to look at. They will donate stone material. The stone will be native to Chester adding a nice touch to the building. The town crew trucked in material quicker than expected which put the project on hold. The concrete company has been waiting to get the materials needed to continue the work.

Academy Building: The Preservation Trust Committee will not allow sheet rock to be used to repair the damage to the ceiling. The two options they will allow include using blue board with a plaster veneer or replacing the plaster. The 1772 Foundation Grant of \$10,000 would only be available for the option of replacing the plaster only. The two options cost about the same after the grant. Julie Hance will price out both expecting the work to be done in 2021.

Yosemite Firehouse: The roof repairs were done to the building this year costing about \$6,000. The next thing to focus on is straightening the building by replacing the beam to make it structurally sound. Lee Gustafson will speak with Jeff Metcalf about the beam.

Taxes: The tax due date was September 15, 2020 with a one day grace period. So far, the town has collected 94% of the taxes due. Julie Hance had people ask for additional time to pay with most of them paying a portion of the bill upfront. The payment arrangements do not extend beyond a year. She has waived the penalty for these people.

Sidewalk Project: The Depot Street sidewalk project is in the review stages and will go to bid in January or February 2021. The work will begin the summer of 2021.

5. HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT APPROVAL

The roof on the west side of the Academy Building is the last piece of the exterior needing to be fixed. The estimate for the repair is \$60,000. The maximum award for the grant is \$20,000, another \$30,000 would come from the Grant Fund, and \$10,000 would be taken from the Historic Preservation line item. This will go out to bid after the grant is awarded.

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to allow Julie Hance to apply for the grant to replace the Academy Building roof. Seconded by Jeff Holden. The motion passed.

The lease agreement with the Historical Society has expired and is now operating on a month to month basis. The board would like to consider options for what the building could be used for in the future and discuss this with the Historical Society. This will be added to a future Agenda.

6. POPPLE DUNGEON GRANT APPROVAL

The anticipated cost of the Popple Dungeon bridge repair is \$900,000, which \$150,000 is still needed. The grant application is due before October 9, 2020. If denied, another grant opens in December. Federal projects require an inspection engineer to be onsite during the entire project. This engineer cannot be the same one doing the project. The cost for the extra engineer is about 10%-15% of the total estimate. The lowest bidder will be awarded the contract for the job. If both grants are denied, the town will need to explore other options. The town could use fill it already has and possibly save \$50,000-\$60,000.

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to allow Julie Hance to apply for a grant to cover the remaining balance of the Popple Dungeon bridge project. Seconded by Heather Chase. The motion passed.

7. SOUND EQUIPMENT APPROVAL

Julie Hance was unable to find another company to bid on the portable sound equipment for upstairs at the Town Hall. Atomic Sound cut a few things from their quote bringing the estimated cost to \$10,200. A COVID local government relief grant may cover the cost.

A motion was made by Heather Chase to allow Julie Hance to purchase a portable sound system from Atomic Sound costing \$10,220.57 for upstairs at the Town Hall. Seconded by Leigh Dakin. The motion passed.

8. WAIVE LATE HS122 FILING FEE

The Select Board opted to charge a late fee of 3% for late homestead filers a few years ago. The State changed the deadline for filing Income Tax this year due to COVID. This caused a lot of people to file their HS-122 late.

A motion was made by Heather Chase to waive the 3% fee for 2020 late homestead filers. Seconded by Leigh Dakin. The motion passed.

9. OUTSIDE CONSUMPTION PERMIT; HERITAGE DELI

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to approve the Outside Consumption Permit for the Heritage Deli. Seconded by Jeff Holden. The motion passed.

10. CEMETERY DEED

The Select Board signed the Cemetery Deed.

11. NEW BUSINESS/NEXT AGENDA

Debbie Aldrich will be at the next meeting to discuss the voting process. Julie Hance read a statement to the Select Board about the voting process which will be put on the website, Facebook, and possibly the newspaper. The Church Street Scoping Study, preliminary Police Policy discussion, and loan request will happen October 7, 2020. The budget review and Dog Ordinance review will be on the October 21, 2020 Agenda.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: TOWN MANAGER 6 MONTH REVIEW

A motion was made by Leigh Dakin to enter Executive Session. Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The board entered Executive Session at 7:25 p.m.

A motion was made by Heather Chase to exit Executive Session. Seconded by Jeff Holden. Executive Session ended at 8:00 p.m.

13. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Heather Chase to adjourn. Seconded by Jeff Holden. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Amie O'Brien
Secretary of the Select Board

Lee Gustafson
Clerk of the Select Board



Chester BF 025-1(46)

Public Meeting

VT Route 103– Bridge #16 over Williams River

September 16, 2020

Introductions

Mahendra Thilliyar, P.E.

VTrans Project Manager

Michael Cruz, P.E.

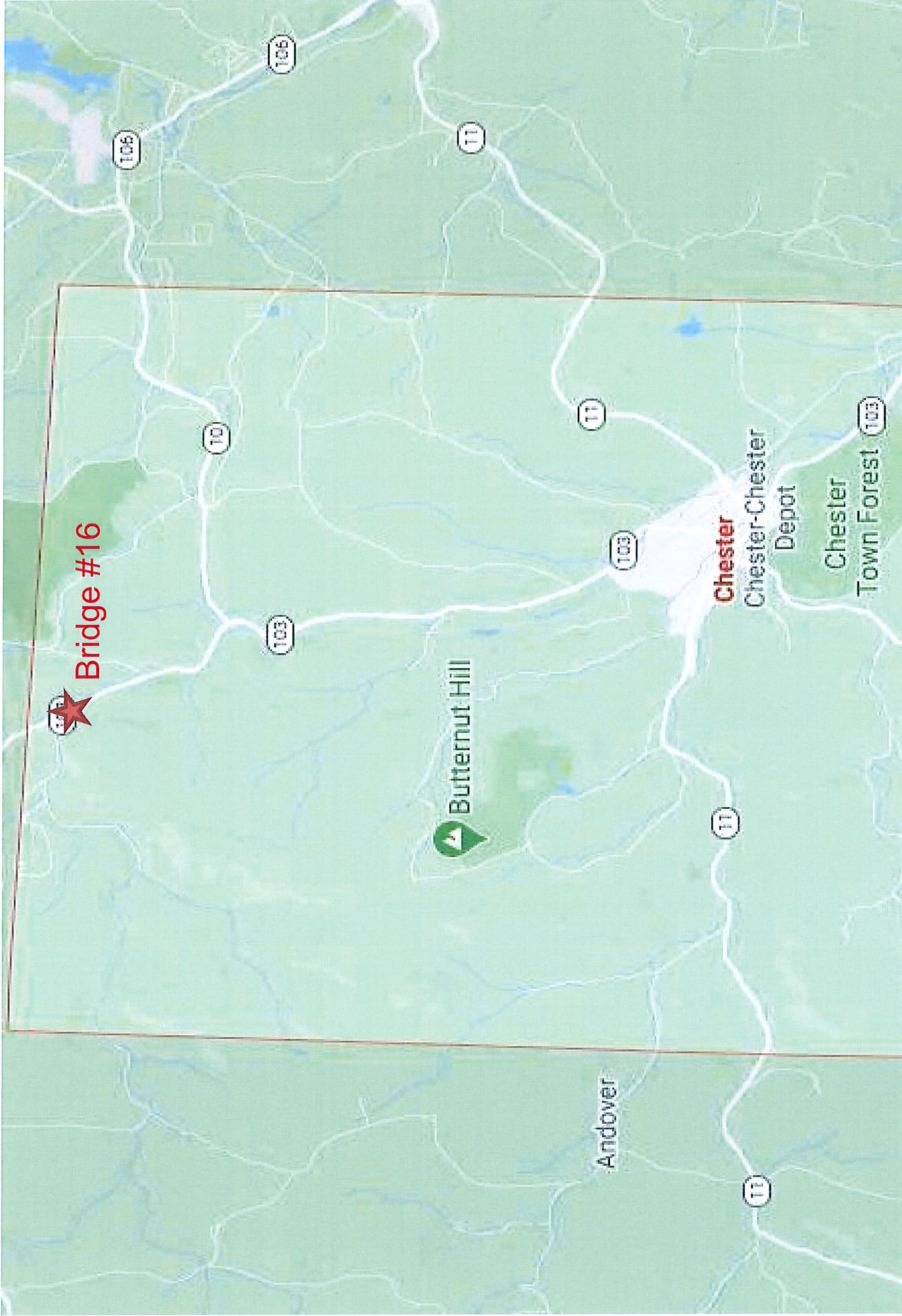
Green International Affiliates, Inc. Design Consultant

Tiffany Card, P.E.

Green International Affiliates, Inc. Design Consultant

Agenda

- Project Overview
- Existing Conditions
- Construction and Traffic Control Approach
- Temporary Easements
- Anticipated Construction Schedule
- Questions and Comments



Location Map



Bridge #16 over
Williams River

Williams River

Smokeshire Rd
103

Smokeshire Rd
Williams River

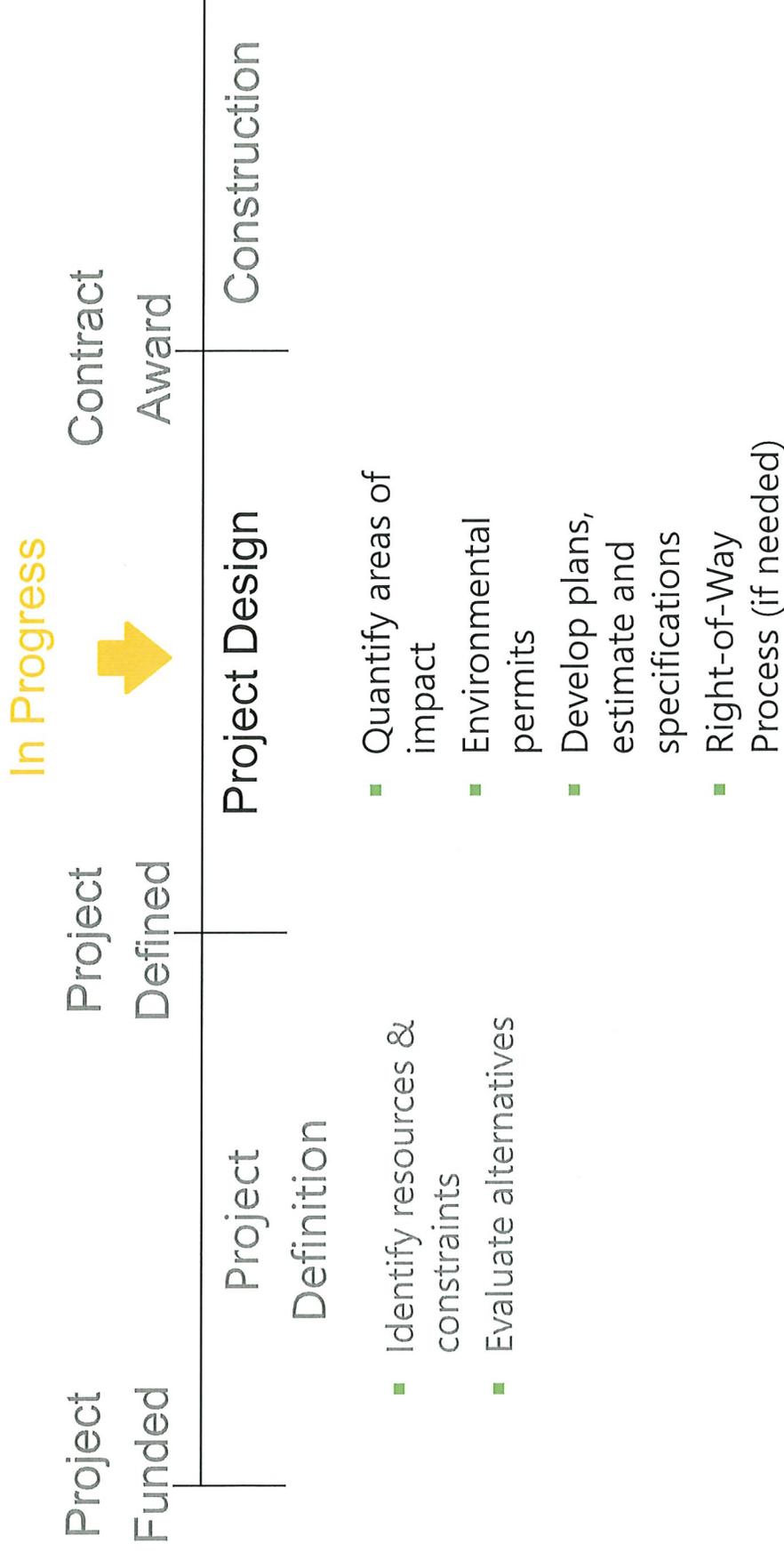
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103

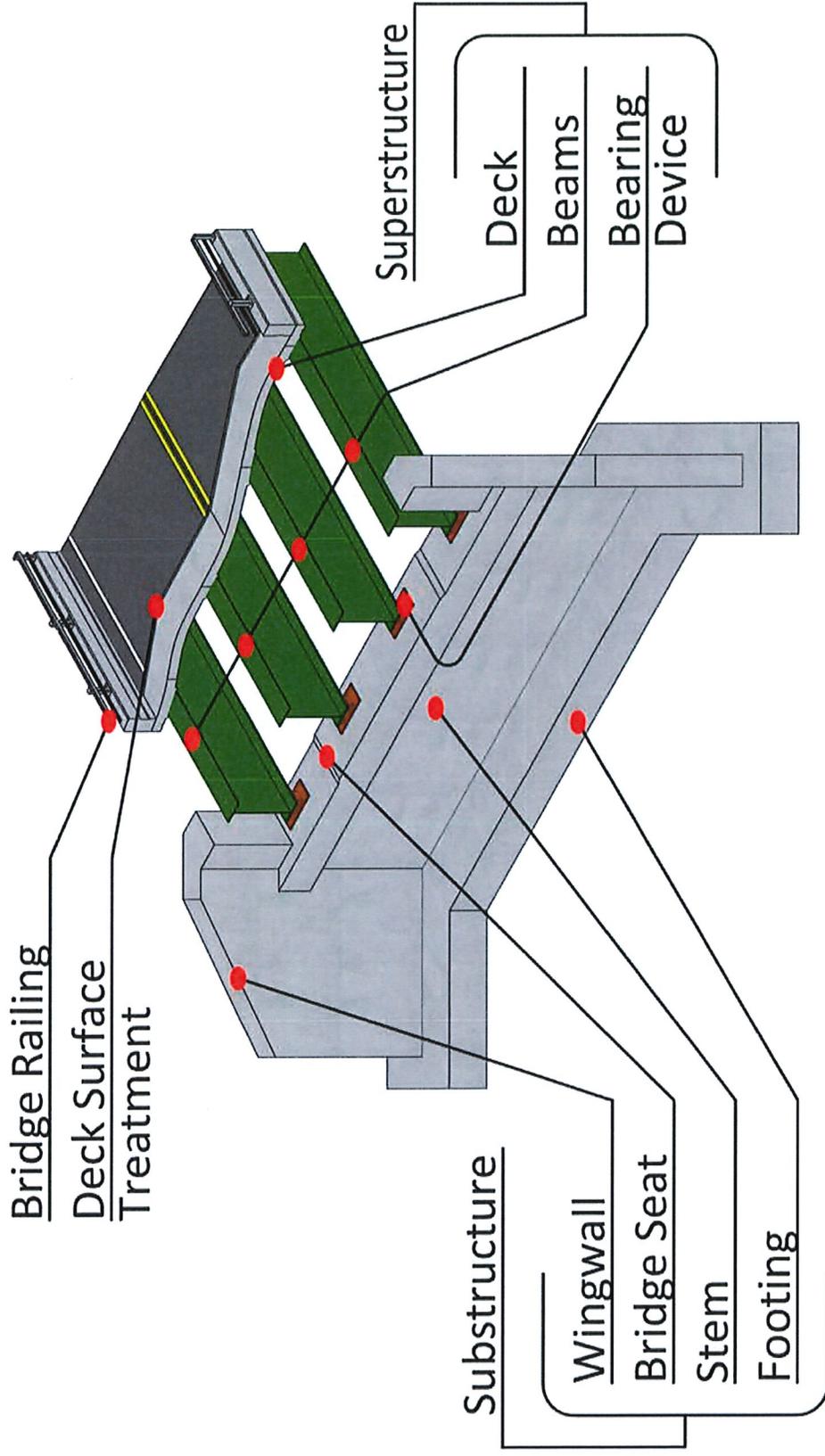
103

Rd

VTrans Project Development Process



Description of Terms Used



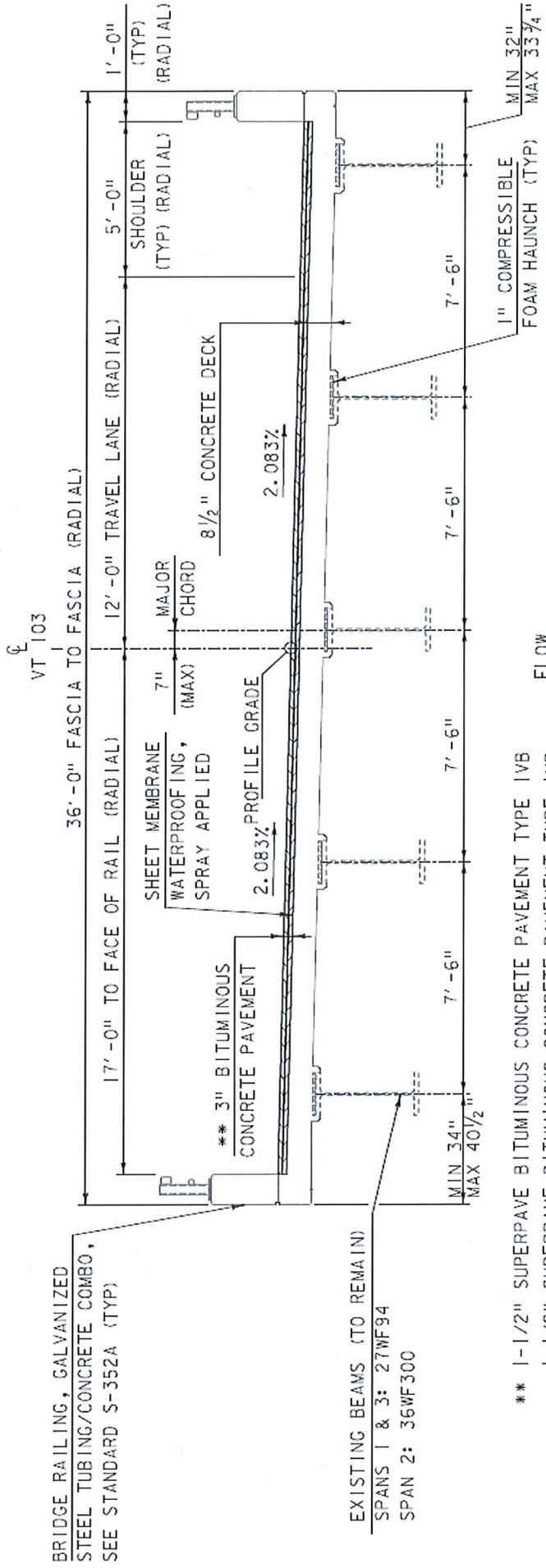
Bridge Project Overview- Bridge #16

- Deck Replacement
 - Slight widening of the bridge to provide 12'-0" Travel Lanes and 5'-0" Shoulders
 - Replacing the bridge railing with Combination Concrete and Steel Tubing Rail
 - Replacing the concrete encasement of the beam ends at the abutments and piers
 - Re-building the top portions of the existing wingwalls to match widened deck
 - Repairs to the concrete spalls in the substructure



Example of Proposed Bridge Railing

Proposed Bridge Section



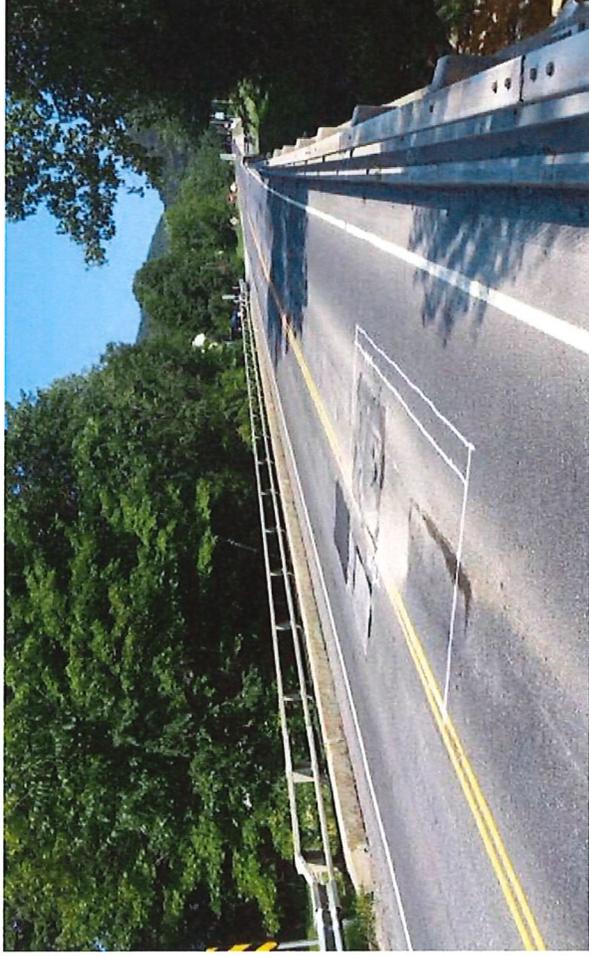


Existing Conditions – Bridge #16

- Roadway Classification: Principal Arterial, National Highway System
- Bridge Type: 3-Span Rolled Beam, Concrete CIP Deck
- Ownership: State of Vermont
- Constructed in 1962

Existing Conditions - Bridge #16

- Deck Rating 4 (Poor)
- Superstructure Rating 7 (Good)
- Substructure Rating: 6 (Satisfactory)
- Channel Rating: 7 (Good)



Typical Top of Deck Condition



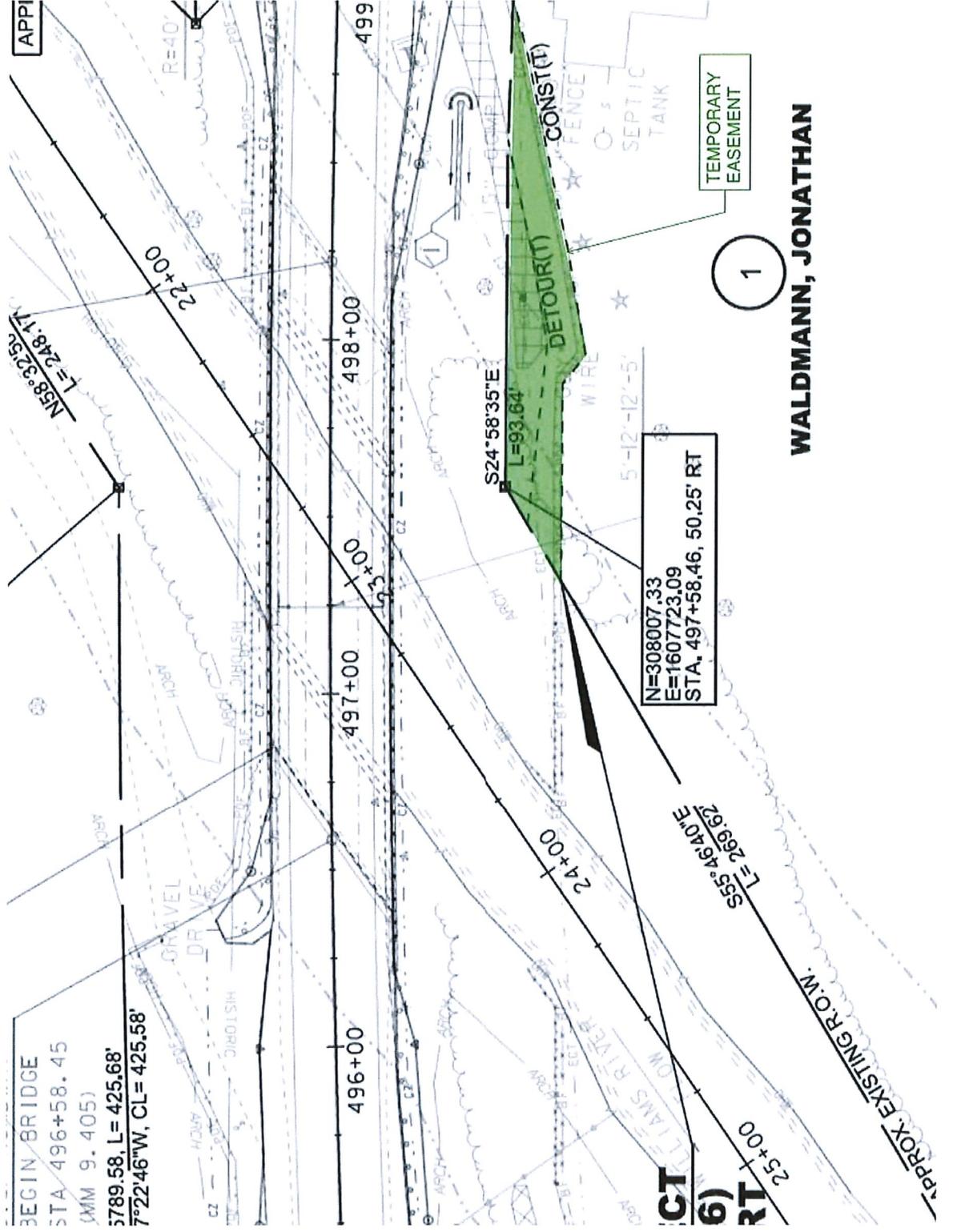
Underside of Deck Condition

Construction and Traffic Control Approach

- Temporary Bridge examples

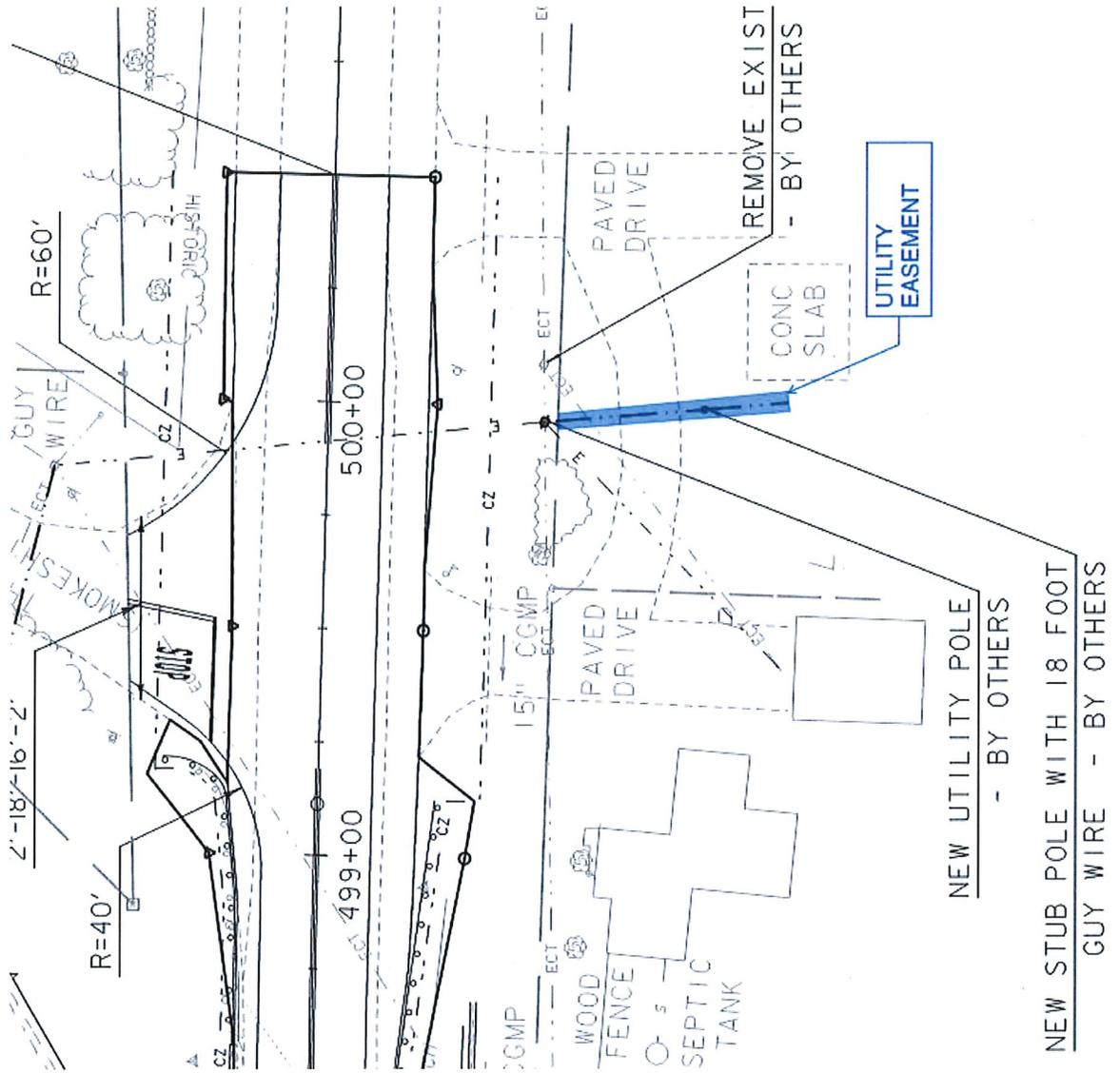


Temporary Easement



WALDMANN, JONATHAN

Utility Easement



Anticipated Project Schedule

- Advertisement – Late Fall 2021
- Construction – Spring 2021 to Spring 2022



Chester BF 025-1(46)

Questions and Comments

[VT Route 103- Bridge #16 over Williams River](#)
September 16, 2020