

Condition Analysis

Listed is a brief description of the study bridges and their existing condition including a general summary of expected service life and anticipated required repairs. A more detailed description and cost estimate for repairs are provided in the Phase I Final Report.

MARKET STREET BRIDGE

The Market Street Bridge was constructed in 1904. It spans the Ohio River at Steubenville, Ohio, and is approximately 1,800 feet long. The West Virginia Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining the bridge. It consists of two girder-approach spans (32 feet each), three through-truss spans (112 feet each) and a suspension bridge to span the main river channel. The cross-section includes a two-lane roadway and a pedestrian walkway. The west end of the bridge extends into downtown Steubenville, and serves the business district. It is posted with a 5 ton weight limit.



Given the age of the Market Street Bridge, the remaining service life is nearing its end. Rehabilitation and continuing maintenance will slow its rate of deterioration, but the Bridge will remain deficient in terms of both roadway geometrics and load-carrying capacity. With a structure of this type and age, concerns will continue to exist over the integrity of the main cables, cable anchorages and the supporting piers. Funding for future repairs will not be sufficient to extend its service life for the long-term. West Virginia may have difficulty securing additional repair funds, given the age, condition and structural capacity of the Bridge.

FORT STEUBEN BRIDGE

The Fort Steuben Bridge was constructed in 1928. It spans the Ohio River just north of Steubenville, Ohio, and is approximately 1,585 feet long. The Ohio Department of Transportation is responsible for maintenance of the structure. It consists of four-deck girder approach spans (60 to 90 feet in length each) and a suspension bridge that crosses over the main river channel. The bridge provides two traffic lanes. The pedestrian walkway has been closed for safety reasons.



The service life of this Bridge is nearing its end and it is functionally obsolete. Costly repairs will be required in order to extend the Bridge's remaining service life. More importantly, the fact that the structure is a suspension bridge eliminates the possibility of widening the roadway. Given the age of the structure, there will be a continuing concern over the integrity of the main cables, cable anchorages and main piers.

VETERANS MEMORIAL BRIDGE

The Veterans Memorial Bridge was constructed in 1990 and crosses the Ohio River between Weirton, West Virginia and Steubenville, Ohio. The structure is a single tower cable-stayed bridge, with an 820-foot forespan and 688-foot backspan, and a total bridge length, including approach spans, of 1,965 feet.



The Ohio and West Virginia Departments of Transportation share ownership and maintenance costs for the structure. The Bridge carries four through-traffic lanes and two acceleration/ deceleration lanes for the ramp structures adjacent to the Bridge.

The Veterans Memorial Bridge provides an efficient river crossing for traffic in the area. It will continue to serve the area for the foreseeable future.