

Healdsburg Avenue Bridge Over the Russian River Alternative Analysis Process



**Open House #1 – Healdsburg Senior Center
March 31, 2010**



INTRODUCTION

River crossing improvement alternatives will be individually evaluated using a series of nine criteria, each of which is important in the overall determination of the best alternative river crossing solution. The issues identified for evaluation in this project process are:

1. Historic Preservation

The historic nature of the project is of specific concern to nearly all involved or interested in this project. The analysis of each alternative in the context of the existing historic fabric will be a significant issue in this analysis.

2. Public Safety

One of the primary reasons this project is being advanced is the concern over the seismic integrity of the existing structure, it's sub-structure with scour/hydraulic issues and geometric deficiencies. The safety criterion provides a measure of potential safety enhancements as a result of the proposed improvement alternatives.

3. Environmental Sensitivity

This criterion will provide a subjective indication of the possible environmental effects resulting from each of the alternatives. Environmental consequences can result from each alternative including the "no-build" alternative. No matter the alternative selected mitigations will be identified.

4. Right of Way Impacts

Right-of way criteria are essentially a quantification of impacts by type and include potential impacts to homes, commercial buildings, public property, vacant land and Relocation Assistance Program (RAP) considerations.

5. Constructability

Constructability refers to the feasibility and cost implications of constructing a particular alternative. In general, this is related to ease of construction access, staging areas, project phasing and the efficient movement of traffic handling during construction.

6. Design Standard Conformance

Roadway and interchange design standards are set by the local agency, Caltrans and the FHWA. For purposes of the Alternative Analysis Process, consistency with the requirements of the agency, or accepted standard for structure, roadway and hydraulic design will be evaluated.

7. Cost

The costs presented in the Alternative Analysis Process are for comparative purposes only and may not represent the actual final construction costs. Actual project construction costs for each listed component or as totaled may vary from the early estimates and therefore should not be used outside of the context of this comparative study. Two factors which influence the total cost of a project alternative are the initial capital cost and the long term maintenance requirements. Long term maintenance will be evaluated using a life cycle analysis on each bridge alternative deemed feasible.

8. Transportation Operations

This criterion refers to the quantification of transportation service provided to the area accessed via the Russian river bridge. Impacts associated with each one of the alternatives will be considered, so that the “relative” operating merits of the alternatives can be assessed from a transportation standpoint. The transportation function is not just a matter of passenger vehicle level of service (LOS), but rather a measure of the transportation service function for all road users, including public transit, goods carriers, bicycle and pedestrian users as well.

9. Funding Capability (City Contribution)

This criterion is a comparative measure of the ability of the City of Healdsburg to fund each alternative under evaluation. Total cost is **NOT** considered within this criterion, rather the amount of local funding required to accomplish the implementation of each alternative is the sole basis for comparison.

While each of these evaluation criteria has importance to the final decision, undoubtedly they are not each considered equal in their individual impact on the final alternative selection. Each community will have a different perspective on the relative importance of each criteria and this analysis process is designed to recognize this community profile. In fact the community profile is the sum of the perspectives of all those who participate in this process.

Evaluation Analysis Rating

Each of the evaluation criteria will be rated on a scale of one to five. Five is the upper end of the scale and indicates that the evaluated criterion is of extreme importance; whereas, one is the low end of the scale and indicates that the evaluation criterion is far less important.

Tonight we are asking you to provide your input into this process. When you entered the Senior Center you were provided with this document and a rating sheet. We ask that you provide your rating as to the relative importance of each of these criteria as they relate to the evaluation of the Healdsburg Avenue Bridge over the Russian River project. The result of all who attend this evening and participate in this process will be included in our Matrix evaluation process. This Open House survey will be included along with the Healdsburg City Council, City Manager, Public Works, Planning, Fire, Police, Unified School district, Chamber of Commerce and the Sonoma County Parks Department rating as an integral part of the Alternatives Evaluation Process][.

Thank you for your participation, please deposit your rating sheet as you leave the hall this evening.