

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF AVAILABILITY OF THREE HISTORIC BRIDGES

The Department of Transportation is planning to replace four bridges, three of which have been determined eligible for inclusion in the *National Register of Historic Places*. For various reasons preservation in place of these structures is not feasible. The bridges to be replaced are CR 242/ Old Highway 431 Bridges, BIN 000313, BIN 000314, BIN 000558 and BIN 000559 over the Flint River in Madison County, Alabama. BIN 00314 and BIN 00559 are T-beam bridges built in 1925 and 1928 respectively, and BIN 00558 is a concrete slab bridge built in 1928. These three bridges meet *National Register* eligibility criteria under Criterion A, in the area of transportation. They were built as part of the US-241/431 section in Madison County, the initial construction of the nation's highway infrastructure. Built to carry the future phases of interstate traffic through rural Alabama, these 1920s bridges feature uniform design with T-beam construction and arcaded balustrades. Together they represent one of the best reserved collections of same origin/function/period bridges in Alabama. They retain their collective integrity in the areas of architecture/engineering and rural setting. BIN 000313 is not considered eligible for the National Register.

Pursuant to 23U.S. Code 144(g)5 *National Bridge and Tunnel Inventory and Inspection Standards*, and the *Memorandum of Agreement* with the Alabama Historical Commission and the Federal Highway Administration, the Alabama Department of Transportation, is officially announcing the availability of these three bridges to qualified organizations. The structures will be donated to appropriate recipients and the Department of Transportation will pay the expense to move the bridges or selected bridge sections thereof and associated re-establishment costs up to the expense of bridge or bridge section demolition. For this service the receiver will agree to preserve the historical integrity of the bridge(s) and assume all future legal and financial responsibility for the historic bridge(s).

Any agencies or groups interested in further information concerning acquisition of these bridges, or wishing to be considered for donation of additional bridges to be offered in the future, please contact:

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## FACT SHEETS

The bridges to be replaced are located along CR 242 (Old Highway 431) in Madison County, Alabama, approximately 10 miles southeast of the City of Huntsville. BIN 00314, built in 1925 and BIN 00559, built in 1928 are concrete T-beam bridges. BIN 00558 is a concrete slab bridge built in 1928. These three bridges meet *National Register* eligibility criteria under Criterion A, in the area of Transportation. They were built as part of the US-241/431 section in Madison County, the initial construction of the nation's highway infrastructure, to carry the future phases of interstate traffic through rural Alabama.



**Side View of BIN 000314** (Photos courtesy of Garver)

BIN 000314 is a concrete T-beam bridge constructed in 1925. The overall the bridge measures 292 feet in length and is roughly 18 feet wide. The bridge is flanked with concrete railings featuring an arcaded balustrade and interspersed with paneled concrete posts. Situated along the east side of the road at the north approach are two mid-twentieth century wood posts that serve as guardrails.



**View of BIN 00014** (Photos courtesy of Garver)



**View of BIN 000558** *(Photos courtesy of Garver)*

BIN 000558 is a concrete slab bridge, constructed in 1928. The bridge features five spans composed of reinforced concrete that are supported by four concrete piers and two concrete abutments. Resting atop the abutments and piers is a concrete deck paved with asphalt. Overall, the bridge measures 90 feet in length and is roughly 18 feet wide. The bridge is flanked with concrete railings featuring an arcaded balustrade and interspersed with paneled concrete posts. Situated along the west side of the road are a series of concrete guard posts linked together by steel cables.



**Side View BIN 000558** *(Photos courtesy of Garver)*



**View of BIN 000559** *(Photos courtesy of Garver)*

BIN 000558 is an example of an early-twentieth century concrete slab bridge. It has been slightly altered since its construction in 1928. The bridge features seven spans composed of reinforced concrete that are supported by six concrete piers and two concrete abutments. Resting atop the abutments and piers is a concrete deck paved with asphalt. Overall, the bridge measures 266 feet in length and is roughly 18 feet wide. As with the previous bridges, this bridge is flanked with concrete railings featuring an arcaded balustrade and interspersed with paneled concrete posts.



**Side View BIN 000559** *(Photos courtesy of Garver)*