



**Department of
Transportation**
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Re: WOO-Roche de Boeuf Interurban Feasibility Study

The Office of Structural Engineering has reviewed the Feasibility Study for the Roche de Boeuf Interurban bridge near Waterville, Ohio funded under ODOT PID 107405. The study was prepared by DGL Consulting Engineers, LLC in June 2019. TTL Associates provided concrete test results on cores recovered from the existing structure.

The study investigated nine alternatives featuring variations derived from: No Build, Rehabilitation and Removal. The study concluded that the concrete structure was in a dangerous state of disrepair, recommending removal as ODOT's best alternative.

In the bridge's current condition, there is no question that there is insufficient structural integrity to carry any load including its own self-weight safely. There are several locations where spandrel walls have collapsed, allowing the retained earthen subgrade supporting the travel way to spill into the river. There are additional locations where the spandrel walls are leaning and in danger of collapse as well. Although no arch barrels as yet have collapsed, there is evidence of widespread efflorescence on the underside of the arches suggesting the concrete is in the final stages of sustaining structural integrity. Lastly, there is insufficient evidence to suggest that the foundations are capable of preventing a progressive collapse of the entire structure should a single arch span collapse.

The bridge is a hazard to individuals using the river, and it is an inviting temptation to adventurous individuals that could be in peril investigating the bridge. As such, our office fully supports the conclusions in the Feasibility Study to remove the bridge.

Respectfully,

Sean Meddles, P.E.
Administrator, Office of Structural Engineering