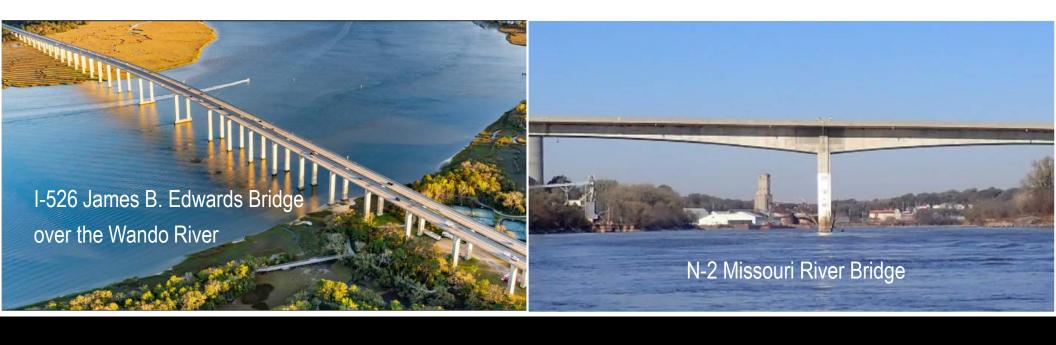


# POST-TENSIONING TENDON REPAIRS OF TWO SEGMENTAL CONCRETE BRIDGES

Ying Tan, PhD, PE





**EOR: Nick Amico (Complex Structures Lead)** 

Design Team: HDR South Atlantic Area Complex Bridge Group

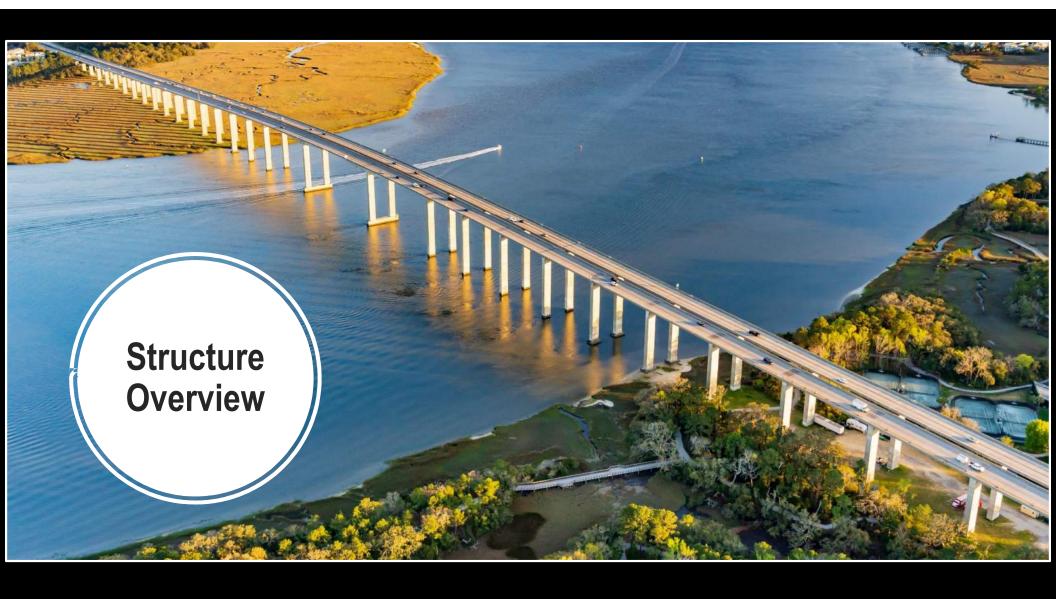


# I-526 James B. Edwards Bridge over the Wando River

Charleston, SC

**Post-Tensioning Tendon Inspection and Repairs** 

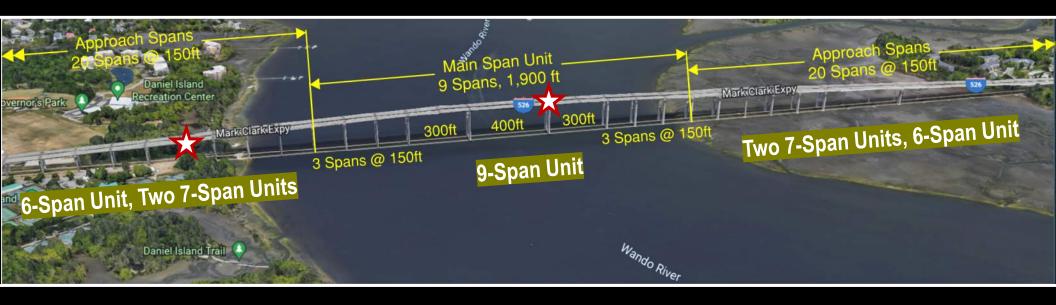








# **Wando Overview**



Erected: 1989

**Opened: 1991** 

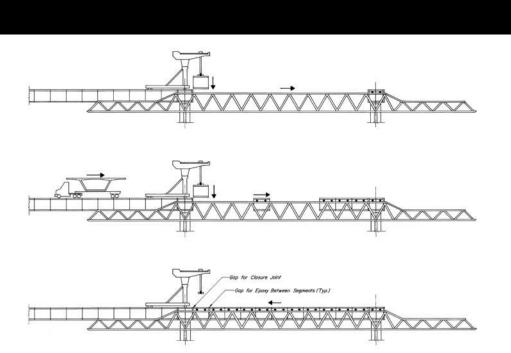
Symmetrical Twin Bridges

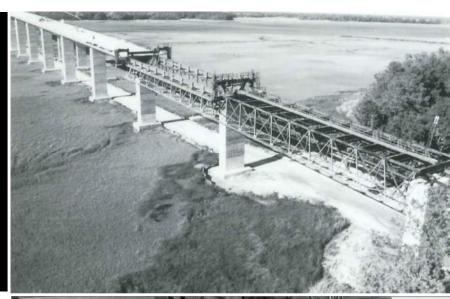
Each Bridge: 7 units, 49 spans

- Approach Spans at Each End: 3 Units (20 Spans @ 150ft)
- Main Span: 1 Unit (9 Spans)
- Total Length: 7,900ft (1.5miles)

# **Wando Overview**

- Precast, Post-Tensioned Segmental Construction
- Approach Spans erected with the Span-by-Span Method



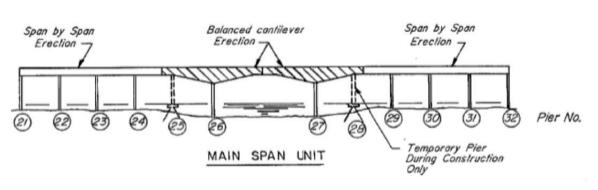




# **Wando Overview**

- Main Spans erected with the Balanced Cantilever Method
- Tendons
  - 600 External Draped Longitudinal Tendons
  - 792 Internal Longitudinal Tendons







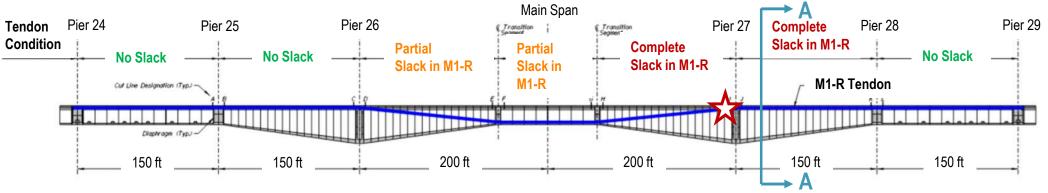
# **Sept. 2016**

# Main Span Unit

## **M1-R Tendon Ruptured**

- 19 Strand External Tendon
- 1,010 ft long
- No other distress evident





# **SCDOT Responded rapidly...**

- Near daily inspection
- Installed crack monitors at key locations
- Engaged HDR to Model and analyze main span unit
- Closed one traffic lane to reduce load and provide a work zone on the deck
- Installed one supplemental tendon
- Detensioned and replaced the ruptured tendon





## **Assessment Phase**

#### **Limited Inspection, Testing, and Analysis Program**

Determine if grout deficiencies were present

Determine the extent and significance of these deficiencies

Identify sources and extent of corrosion in the external tendons

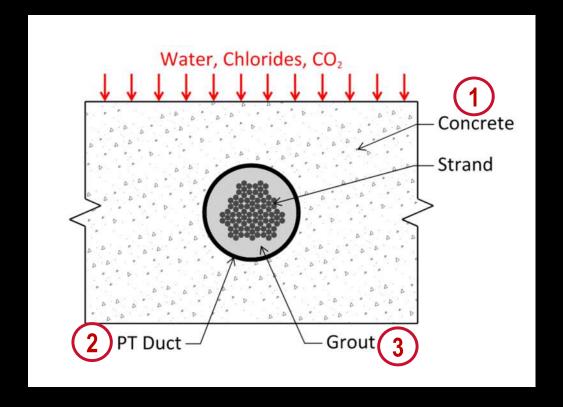
Propose courses of remedial action



# **Tendon Protection**

Physical barrier to water and oxygen:3 layers of protection

**Chemical Barrier**: High pH grout forms a protective oxide film on the strand



# **Deficiencies to look for...**

#### **Structure** deficiencies

- Cracks, spalls, voids
- Segmented, unsealed ducts
- Cracked or punctured ducts
- Unprotected grout ports

#### **Grout** deficiencies

- Soft grout
- Segregated grout
- Voids and poor grout cover
- Microcracking



#### **Chemical deficiencies**

- Carbonation
- High chloride content
- High sulfate content

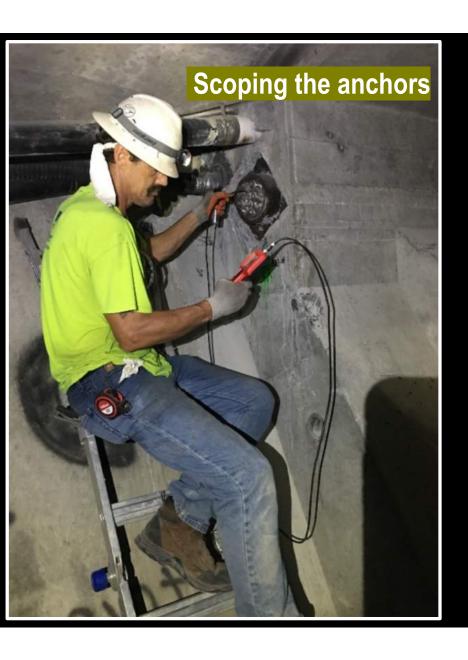




# **Assessment Phase**

# **M1-R Tendon Investigation**





# **Walkthrough and Visual Inspection**

- Cracks, spalls, voids
- Open grout ports
- Evidence of water infiltration
- 300 borescope inspections



#### **Grout and Material Testing**

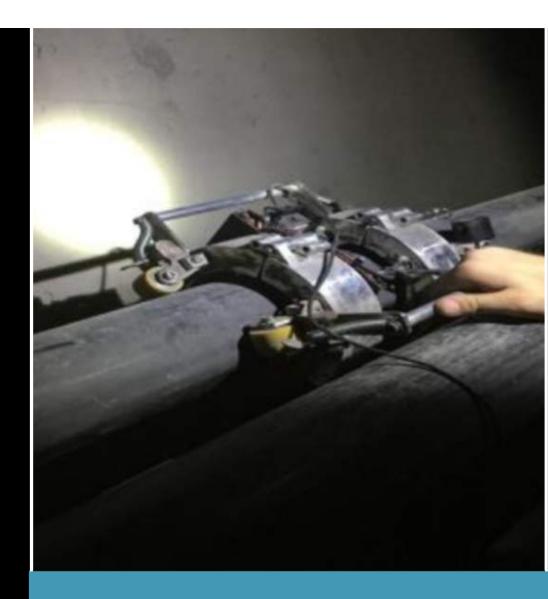
- Visual grout condition inspection
- Corrosion potential
- Corrosion rate
- Grout tests
- Tensile strength testing
- Duct material tests





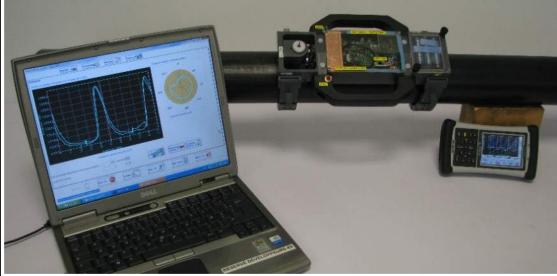
#### **Magnetic Flux Testing**

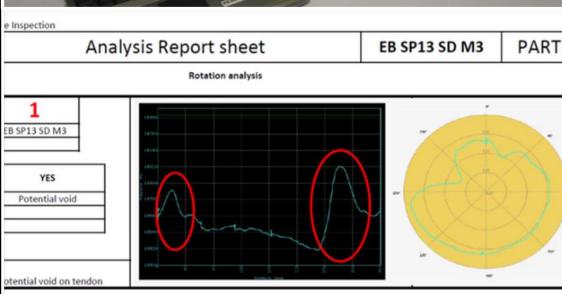
- Locates area of steel section loss
- 24,500 linear feet tested



#### **Capacitive Probe Inspection**

- Locates voids, water, white paste, soft grout
- 44,445 linear feet tested





#### **Findings**

#### At the rupture location

- Severe corrosion of the strand
- Duct was approximately 80% empty
- Very low pH (around 5)
- Water infiltration





#### Findings - Away from the rupture

#### **Good News**

- Tendons majority in good condition with little corrosion
- Grout overall a decent quality

In short: no significant corrosion would be expected if encased in grout

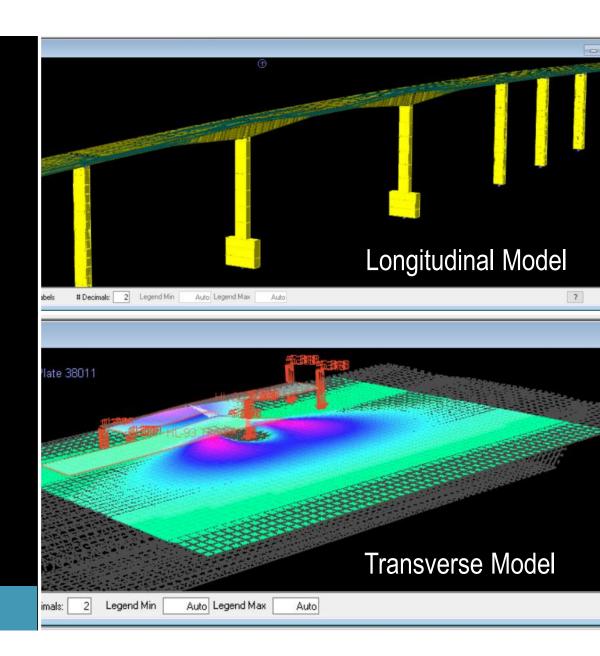
#### Hmm...

- One detensioned tendon: M1-R in WB Main Span Unit
- Two corroded external tendons: M2-L & M2-R in WB Mian Span Unit
- One detensioned tendon 16-4R in WB Approach Span Unit

#### **Modeling and Limited Load Rating**

3D Time-Dependent Staged Construction and Live Load Models

- Main Span Unit
- Typical Approach Span Unit
- Transverse Analysis Models

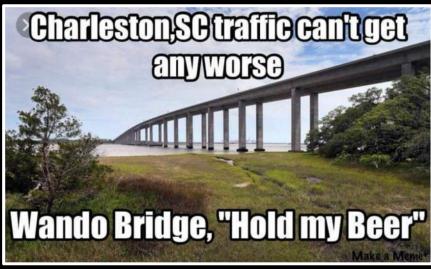


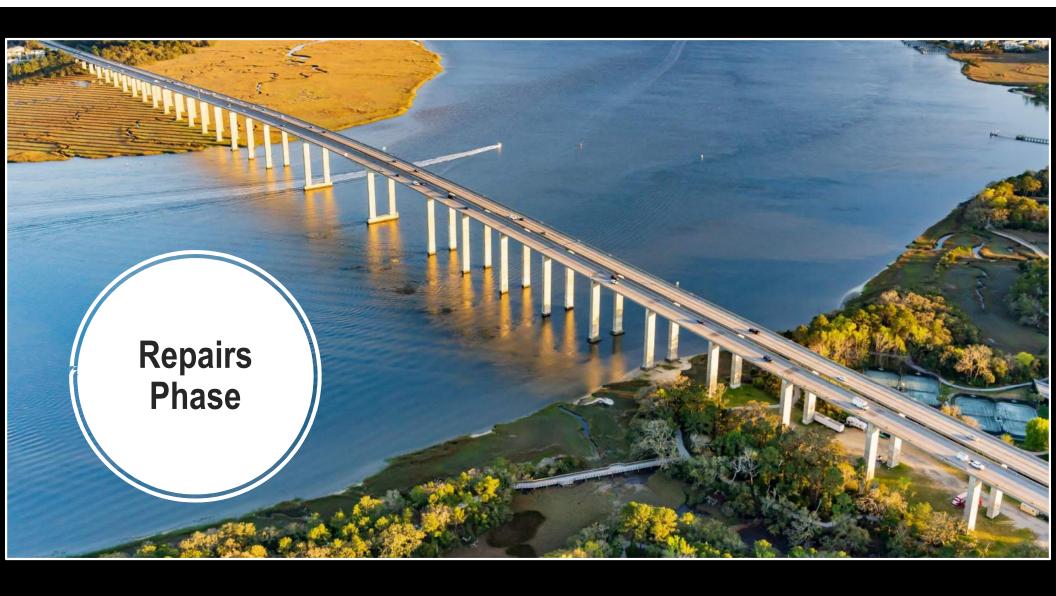
May 2018 ...

Again – Main Span Unit
M4-L Tendon ruptured
at same location as M1-R tendon









# Main Span Supplemental Tendons

#### **WB** structure

- Two supplemental tendons added
- Reopened after 19 days

#### **EB** structure

Two supplemental tendons added

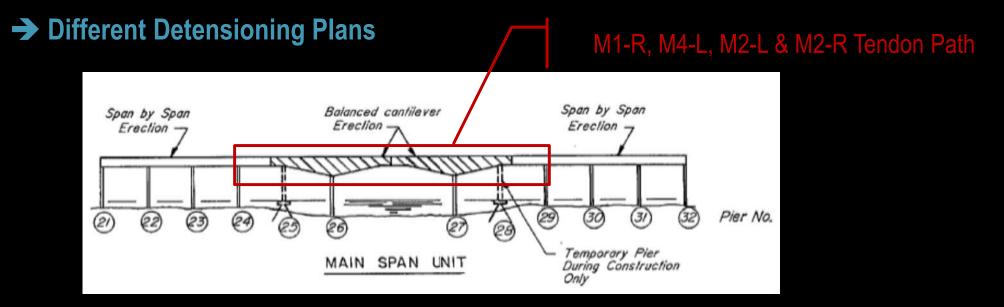




# **Main Span** Tendon Replacement

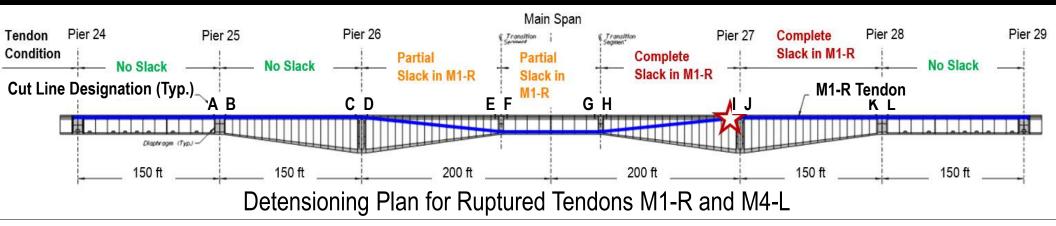
#### **WB** structure

- M1-R & M4-L Tendons: ruptured
- M2-L & M2-R Tendons: completely intact, partially corroded



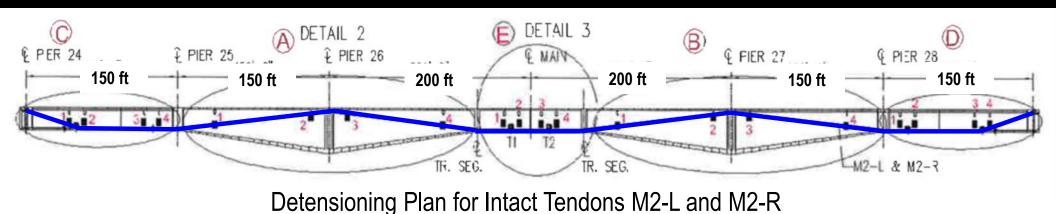
# Detensioning of Ruptured M1-R and M4-L Tendons

- Step 1: Installed heavy duty clamps every 4ft along the full length of the tendon
- Step 2: Removed Grout at specific locations on either side of diaphragms
- Step 3: Cut strands with powered cutoff saw alternately on either side of P26 to match broken strands at P27 and balance the tendon force.
- Step 4: Cut strands at P28 to match P27
- Step 5: Cut one strand at each point sequentially until all strands are cut
- Step 6: Removed the tendons from the diaphragms by pulling the tails



# Detensioning of intact M2-L & M2-R tendons

- Given the condition of the tendon, plan was developed to minimize risk
- Tendons were secured along the length of the tension to prevent whiplash
- Tendon detensioning sequence: A-B-C-D-E

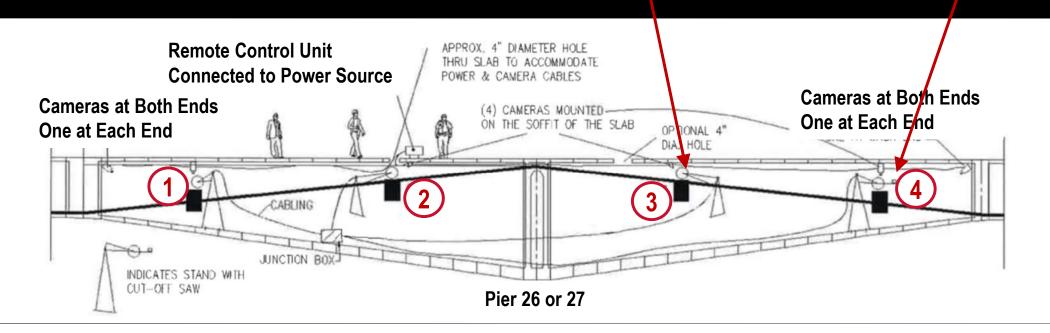


# **Detensioning M2 Tendons**

Four remote-controlled power saws
Cameras with each saw and each span

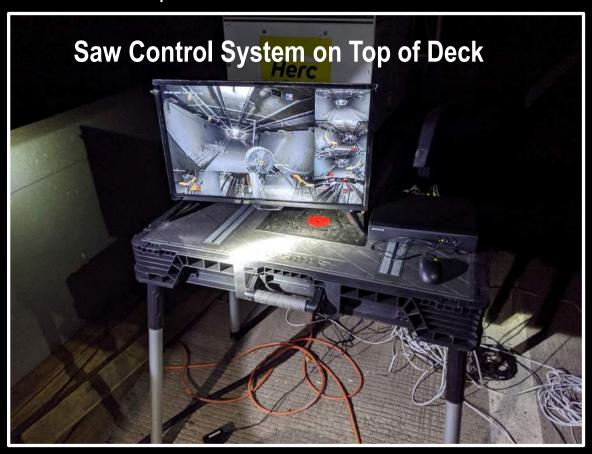
10-minute traffic closure for cutting





# **Replacing M2 Tendons**

M2-L and M2-R tendons were replaced one at a time



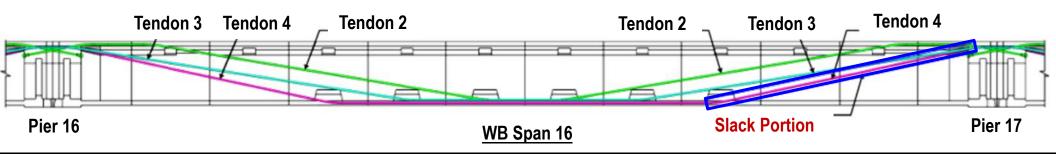
# **WB Span 16 Supplemental Tendons**

Draped portion of **Tendon 4S** found slack

Downstation end of tendon still had tension

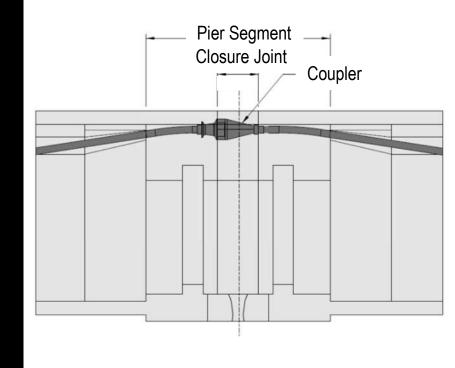
No evidence of corrosion or water infiltration of the tendon or at the diaphragm

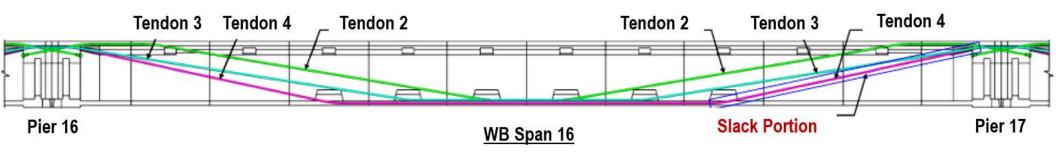




# WB Span 16 Supplemental Tendons Replacement challenges

- Tendon is coupled to a tendon in the adjacent span
- Tendon profile becomes internal to the bottom slab





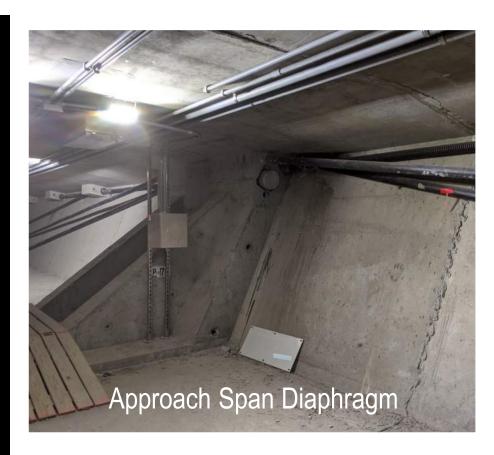
# **WB Span 16 Supplemental Tendons**

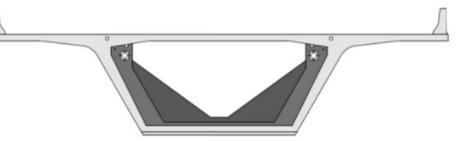
# Supplemental design requirements

- Replace both shear and moment capacity
- Must not prevent remediation for other tendons

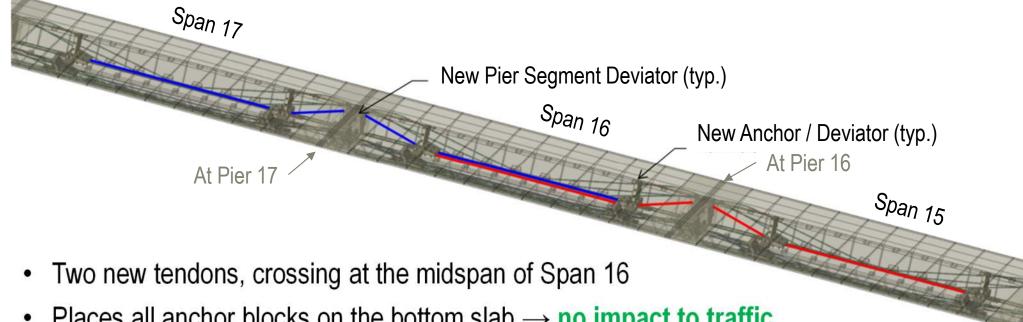
### Supplemental design challenges

- Diaphragms are small and congested with reinforcing and transverse PT
- Top slab and interior haunches are relatively thin



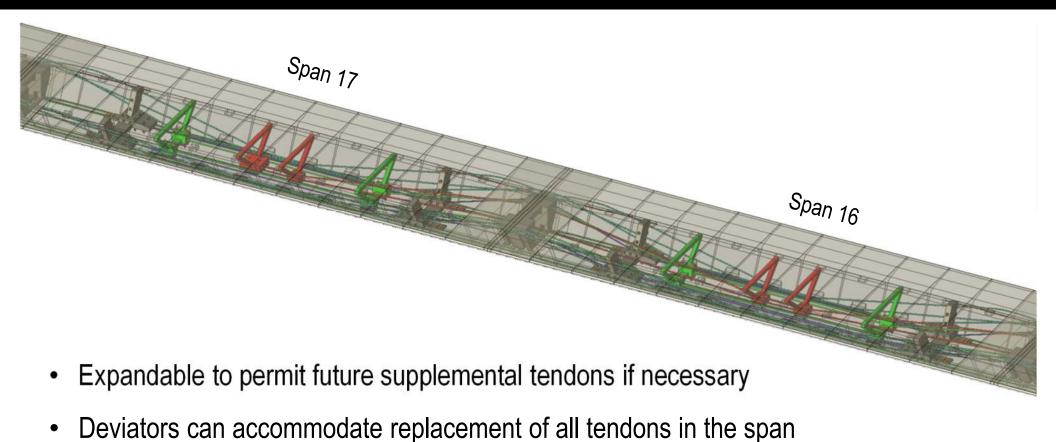


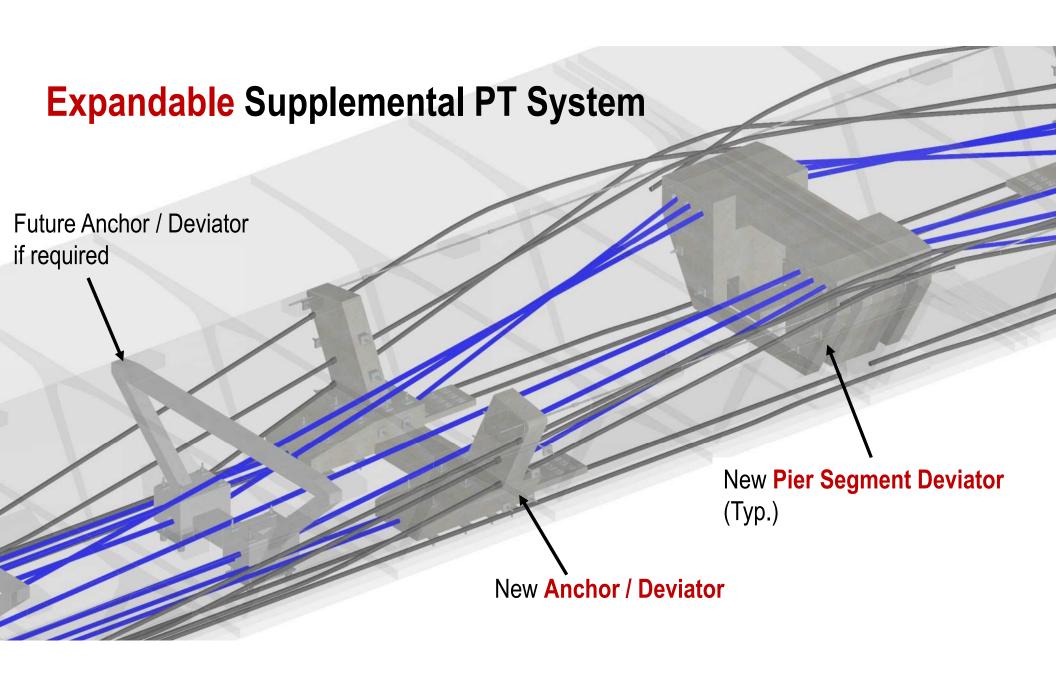
# **WB Span 16 Supplemental Tendons**



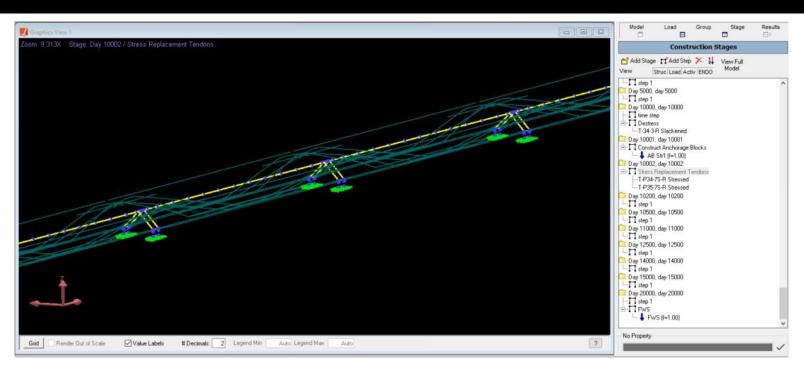
- Places all anchor blocks on the bottom slab → no impact to traffic
- Matches the Vp provided by the original tendon
- Doubles the number of strands crossing the midspan
- Provides redundancy for existing coupled tendon in adjacent span

# **Expandable Supplemental PT System**



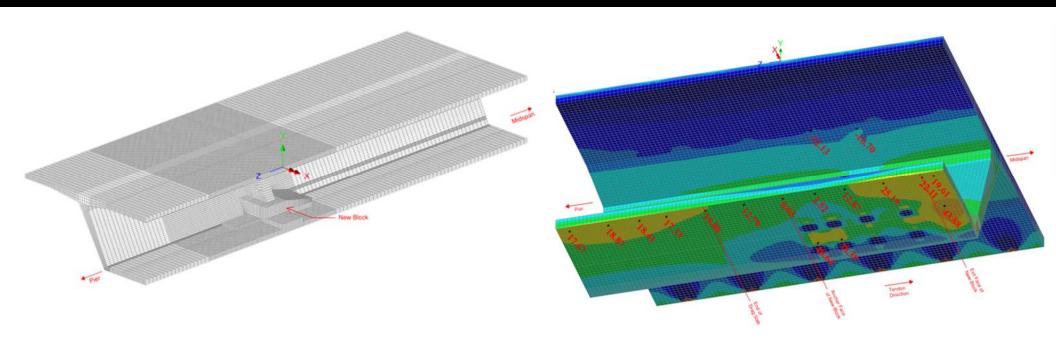


- Longitudinal and Transverse models developed in LARSA 4D
- Longitudinal design considered the controlling of:
  - Complete loss of existing tendon
  - Partial loss of existing tendon



Local effects on existing structure evaluate with Solid FEA Modeling performed in LUSAS

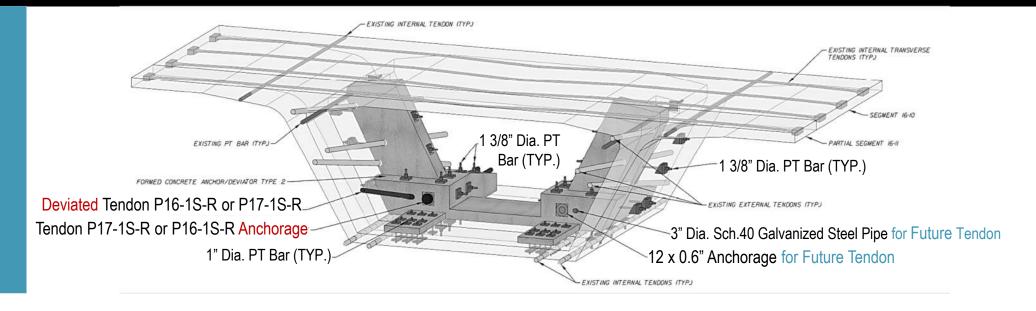
- Staged construction
- Initial stress state loading to match full structure analysis



#### **Anchor / Deviator**

- Anchors two 12-strand tendons
- Deviates two 12-strand tendons
- Tension slab distributes local tension behind anchors





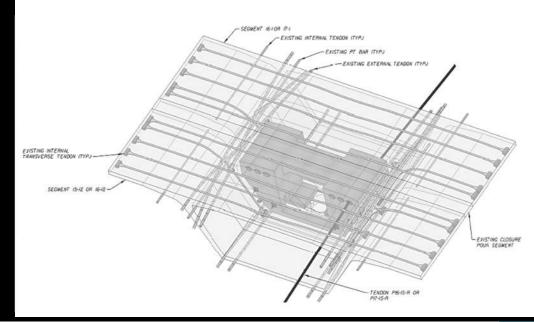
# WB Span 16 Supplemental Tendons Anchor / Deviator

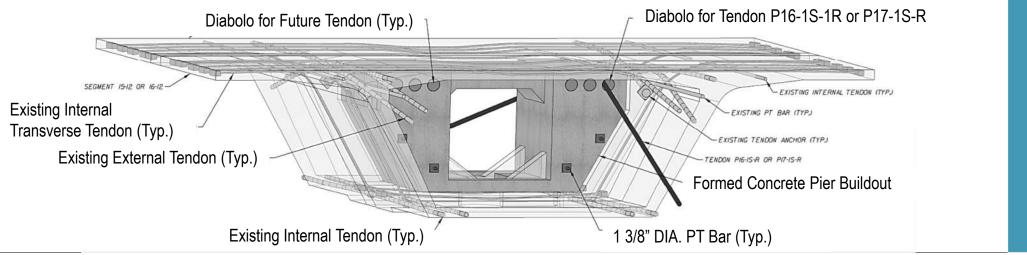




#### **Pier Segment Deviators**

Designed to accommodate six tendons





# WB Span 16 Supplemental Tendons Pier Segment Deviator





#### **Other Details**

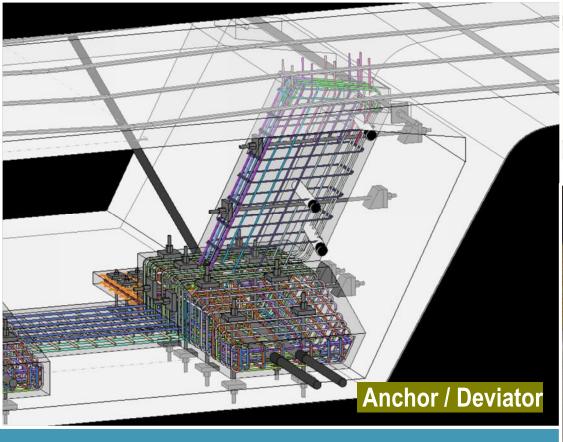


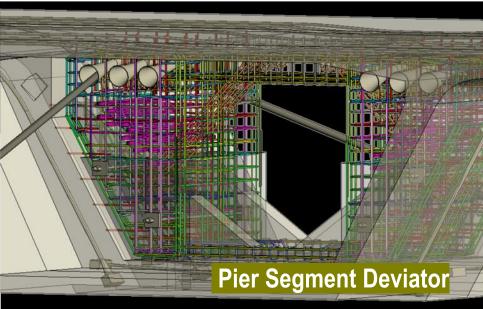


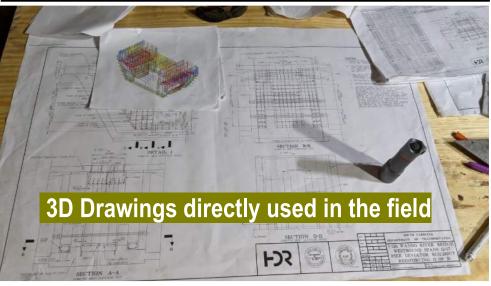
Span 16 Stressing – Fit like a glove

CFRP reinforcing at new access opening

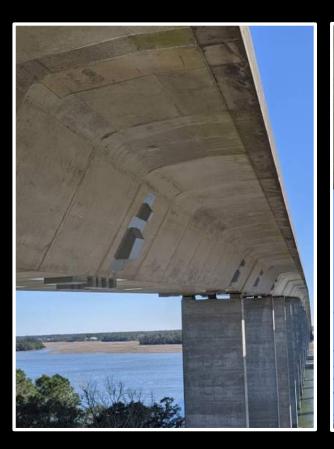
## WB Span 16 Supplemental Tendons 3D Drawings







## WB Span 16 Supplemental Tendons Outside the box





#### N-2 Missouri River Bridge Nebraska City, NE

**Post-Tensioning Tendon Repairs** 





#### N-2 Missouri River Bridge

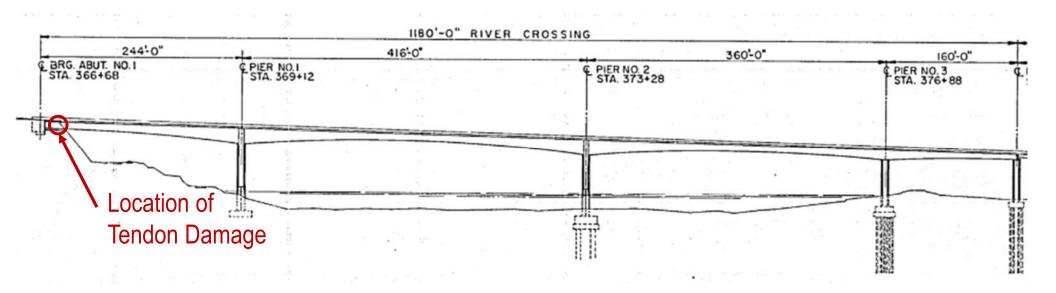
#### **Overview**





### **Main Span Unit**

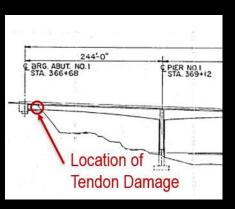
- Constructed in 1986
- Balanced Cantilever Construction
- 1,180 ft Long Cast-in-Place Post-Tensioned Segmental Bridge



#### **July 2021...**

#### **Corroded PT Tendons in Bottom Slab in main span unit**

- Rainwater Permeated the Bottom Slab Over Time, Corroding the Tendons
- Very Localized; No Further Damage Found Along Tendons







#### **July 2021...**

Published: Jul. 26, 2021 at 4:30 PM EDT

- The Bridge was reopened to legal trucks after 3 days.
- Two of the four lanes remained closed until completion of the rehab project.

Missouri River bridge near Nebraska City closed to truck traffic for 'rehab project'



Highway 2 bridge over Missouri River reopens to truck traffic



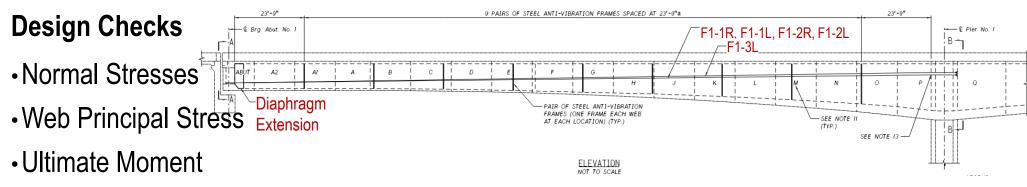


#### Supplemental PT Design

3D Time-Dependent Staged Construction Models were Developed for Four Conditions

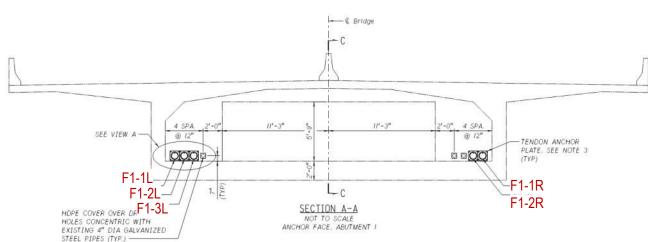
- 1 Original Condition (All PT Intact)
- 2 Degraded Condition (Damaged PT)
- 3 Degraded-Repaired Condition (Damaged PT+Supplemental PT)
- 4 Original-Repaired Condition (All PT Intact + Supplemental PT)

#### Supplemental PT Design



#### **Supplemental PT System**

- Asymmetric PT Configuration to Counter Asymmetry of Existing Tendons Due to Damaged PT
- 3 12 Strand Tendons North Web
- 2 12 Strand Tendons South Web

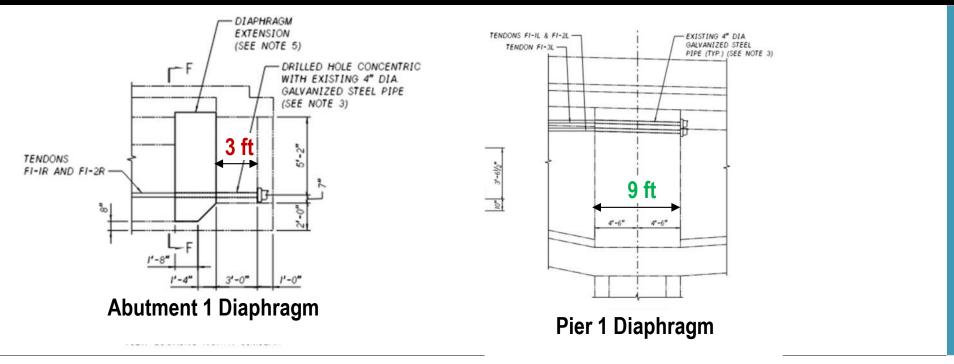


#### **Evaluation of Existing Diaphragms**

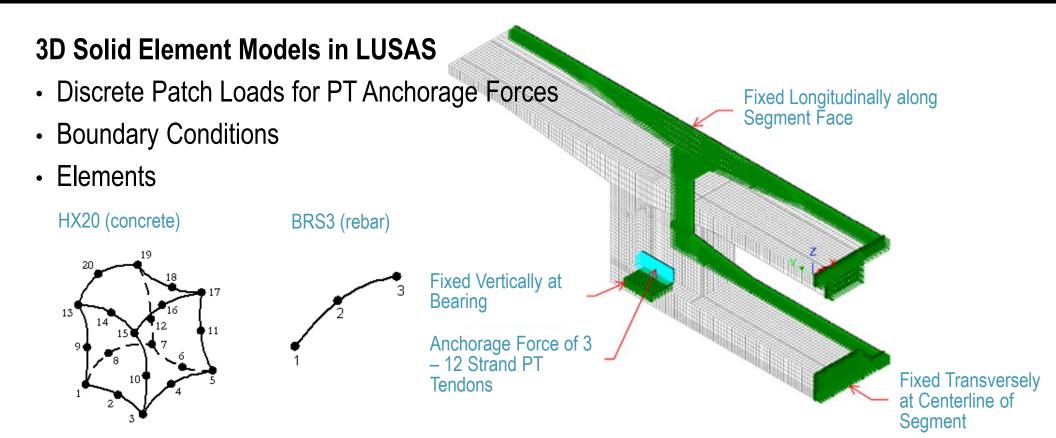
- Original Bridge Design Included Accommodations for Future Tendons
- Diaphragms Checked to Ensure Adequate Capacity for the Supplemental Tendons

**Abutment 1 Diaphragm – Not Sufficient** 

Pier 1 Segment Diaphragm – Sufficient

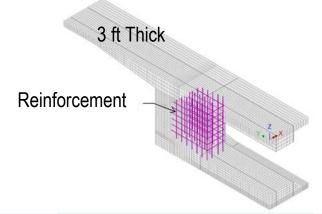


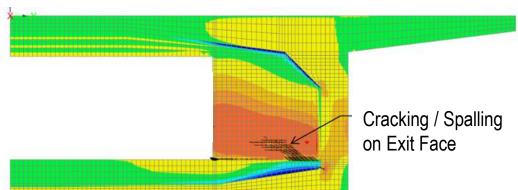
### **Evaluation of Existing Abutment 1 Diaphragm**



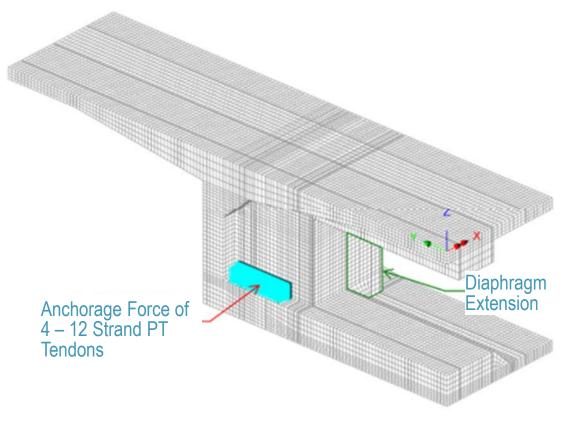
## **Evaluation of Existing Abutment 1 Diaphragm**

	Linear Elastic Model	Plastic-Crack Model with Discrete Rebars
Purpose	To calculate a tensile force / amount of reinforcement required by the tie force.	To see how forces redistribute once cracking occurs and to calculate a tensile force / amount of reinforcement required by the tie force.
Conclusions	The reinforcement required by the tie force is greater than the reinforcement in the existing diaphragm.	The model predicted heavy cracking on the exit face of the diaphragm. We needed to extend the diaphragm.





### **Abutment 1 Diaphragm Extension Design**



Modified the Existing Abutment
Diaphragm Models to Incorporate
the Diaphragm Extension

- Diaphragm Extended 3'-0"
- Designed Diaphragm Extension for "Future Tendons" (Used 4-12 Strand Tendons in the Model)

#### Post-Installed Supplemental Tendon System – Abutment Diaphragm

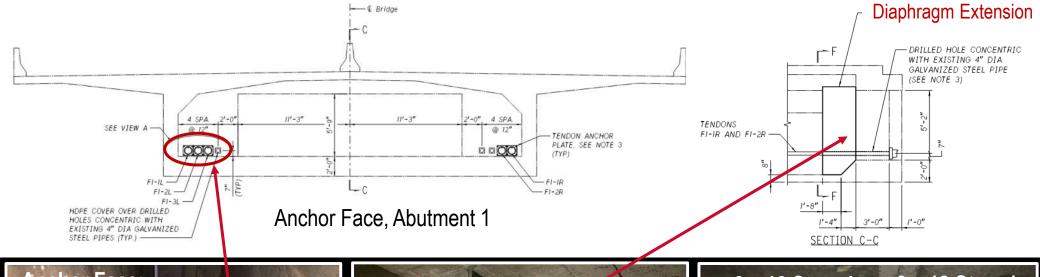




**Diaphragm Extension – Rebar Cage** 

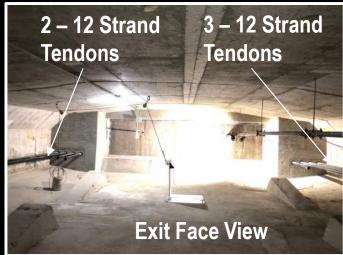
**Completed Diaphragm Extension** 

#### Post-Installed Supplemental Tendon System - Abutment Diaphragm









#### **Post-Installed Supplemental Tendon System**





#### **Post-Installed Supplemental Tendon System**

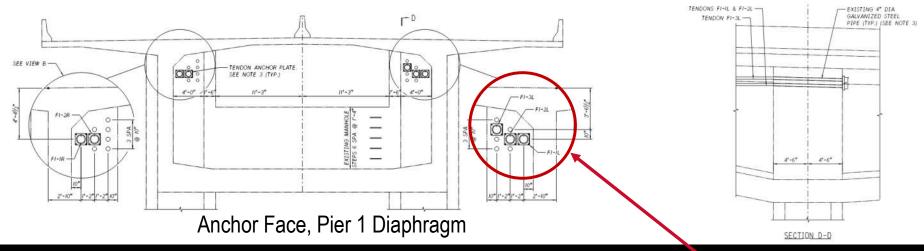
#### Pier Segment Diaphragm

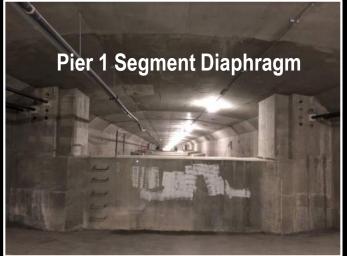




Tendon Stressing at Pier 1 Diaphragm

#### Post-Installed Supplemental Tendon System - Pier Segment Diaphragm









## Post-Tensioning Tendon Repairs of Two Segmental Concrete Bridges

R. DOMINICK AMICO, P.E., and JOHN WILLIAMS, P.E., HDR, Charlotte, North Carolina, and YING TAN, Ph.D., P.E., HDR, Raleigh, North Carolina

IBC 22-50

KEYWORDS: Post-Tensioning, Rehabilitation, Finite Element Modeling

ABSTRACT: This paper presents the design and construction of post-tensioning tendon repairs for two segmental concrete bridges. The design for both structures utilized a combination of 3D time-dependent staged-construction finite element beam models to evaluate overall behavior and non-linear finite element solid models to evaluate local effects. The repairs included detensioning the damaged tendons and installation of supplemental external tendons, construction of expandable post-tensioning systems with post-installed anchors and deviators, and the extension of an existing end diaphragm.

#### Two Key Takeaways

- □ Both Bridges were built in the 1980s. Significant improvement in the industry since these bridges were constructed (specifications, materials, and industry-standard training).
- □ Replaceable tendon details should be considered whenever feasible, but there are methods at add PT if necessary.

## **Acknowledgments**

I-526 James B. Edwards Bridge













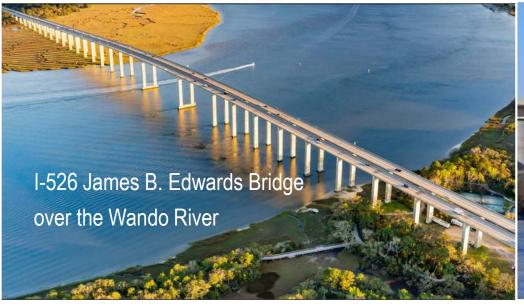


N-2 Missouri River Bridge













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## QUESTIONS?