

Bohemian Highway Bridge over the Russian River

Draft EIR Public Hearing

May 17, 2022





Introductions

○ Staff

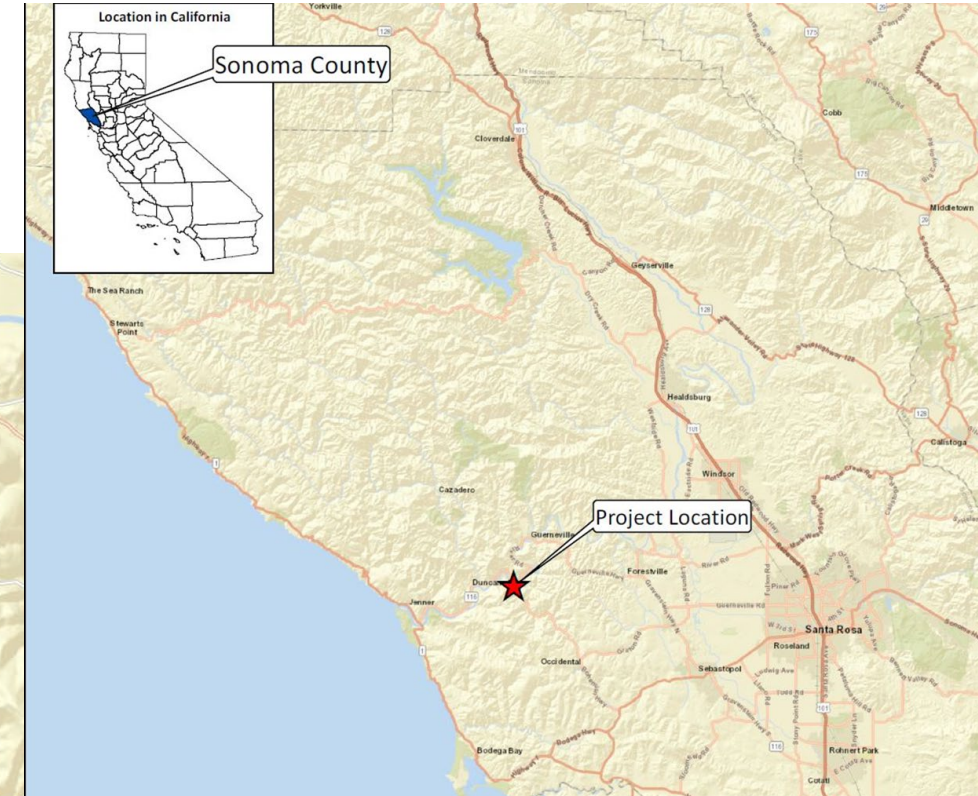
- CEQA Team - Jackson Ford, Deborah Waller, Rich Stabler, Robert Aguero
- Engineering Project Manager, Samuel Baumgardner-Kranz
- Not present is the consulting team helping to provide expertise in key areas of planning and.



Project

- Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works (TPW) proposes to remove the existing bridge on the Bohemian Highway over the Russian River and construct a new bridge on an alternate alignment.
 - The existing bridge was constructed in 1934 and was designated locally as a County Landmark in 2003
 - It provides a critical connection across the Russian River.
- Today, Public Hearing to take comment on the Draft EIR for the project.

Project Location

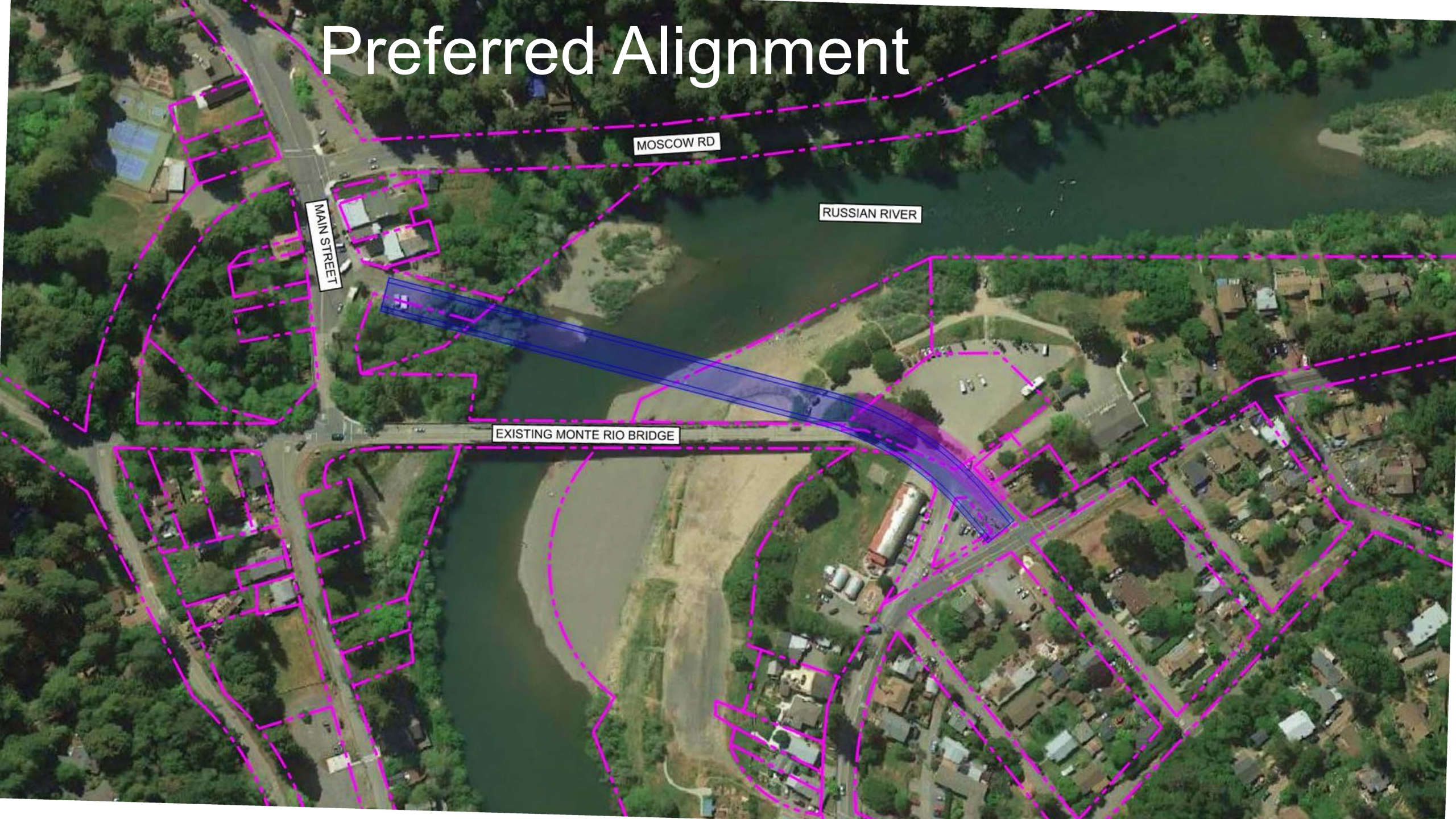




Purpose of the Project

- To correct deficiencies in the bridge
 - Seismic Performance
 - Pier Scour
 - Bridge Geometry
 - Hydrology/ Flood
 - Bridge geometry (road, bike, ADA)

Preferred Alignment



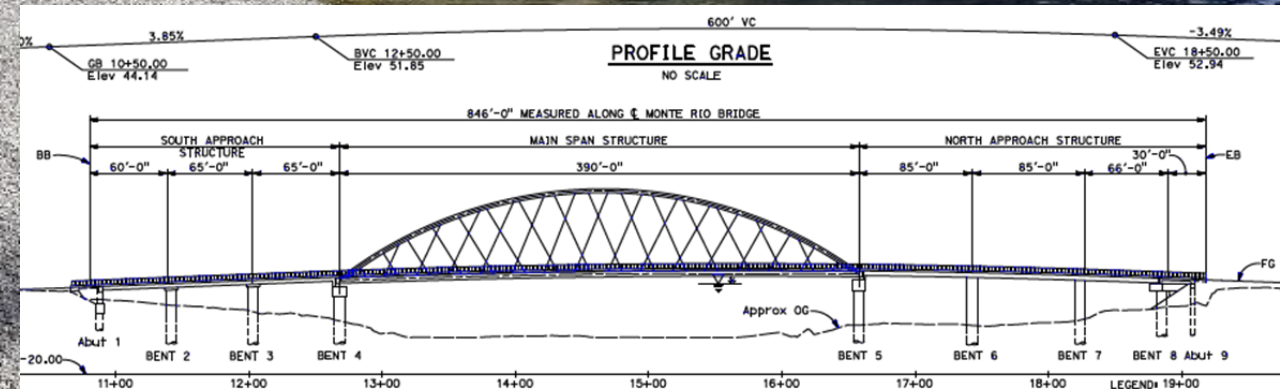
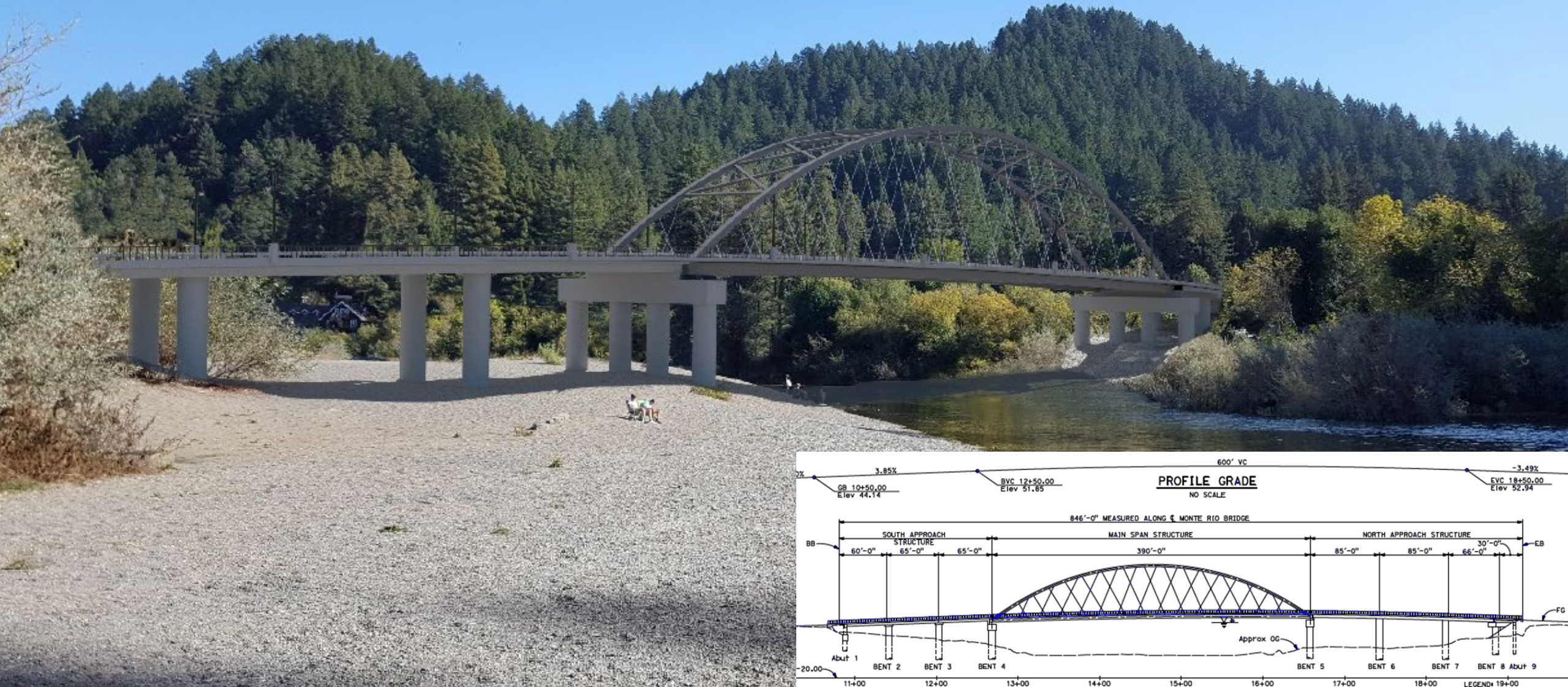
MOSCOW RD

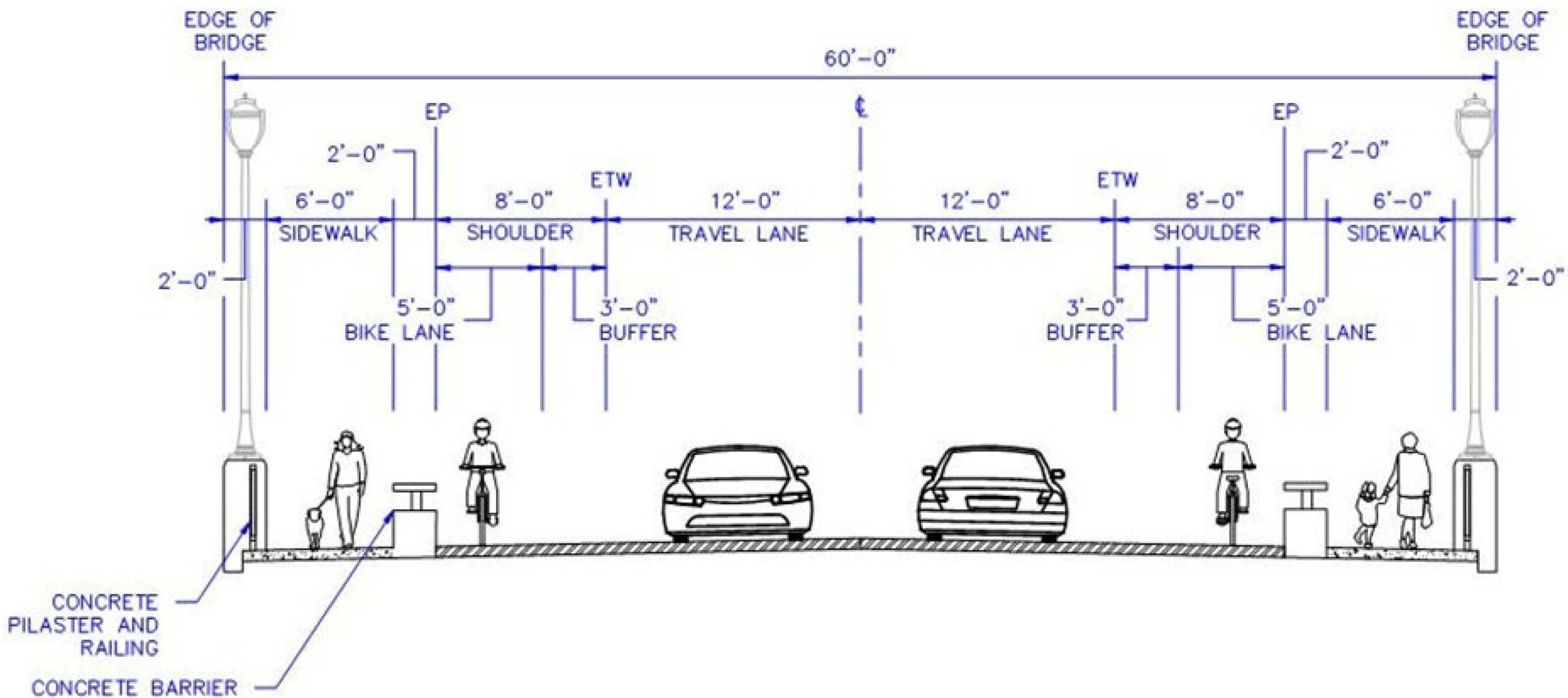
RUSSIAN RIVER

MAIN STREET

EXISTING MONTE RIO BRIDGE

Steel-tied Arch







Community Engagement

Four Community Workshops

1: Alignment

2: Road/Bike Configuration

3: Structure Type

4: Aesthetics

Landmarks and Bicycle Commissions





CEQA Environmental Impact Report





Why was an EIR needed?

- CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 states substantial adverse change to a resource included in local historical register may have a significant effect.
- The existing Bohemian Highway Bridge is a designated local historical resource in Sonoma County.
- But for, Section 15064.5, this project would have likely proceeded with a Mitigative Negative Declaration rather than an EIR.
- The removal and replacement of the bridge is a significant adverse impact and will require a statement of overriding considerations to certify the EIR



Scoping meeting comments

- Concerns over impacts to parking at MRRPD
- Class 1 bike path
- Traffic disruptions, use of Moscow Road
- SCTA Transit bus use
- Cliff Swallows present on existing bridge
- Impacts to Dutch Bill Creek, spawning salmonids
- Water main relocation



Environmental Analysis for EIR

- **Aesthetics/Visual**
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- **Air Quality**
- **Biological Resources**
- **Cultural Resources**
- Energy
- **Geology and Soils**
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- **Hazards and Hazards Materials**
- **Hydrology and Water Quality**
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- **Noise**
- Population and Housing
- **Public Services and Recreation**
- **Transportation**
- **Tribal Cultural Resources**
- Utilities and Service Systems
- **Wildfire**
- Cumulative Effects
- Growth Inducing Effects



Community Impacts from Construction

- Recognize that this is a 3 year construction project and some level of disruption unavoidable.
- Developed construction staging plan to maintain access to all key amenities throughout the project.
 - Boat Ramp
 - Community Center
 - Parking
 - Main beach with its parking and concessions
 - Upgrading and repaving of Boat Ramp parking lot at end of project
 - Existing bridge's abutments left in place for overlook and interpretation

Current Schedule

- April 4 Start of Draft EIR public comment period
- May 17 Public Hearing on Draft EIR
- May 18 End of Draft EIR public comment period
- August 2022 Public Hearing(s) on Final EIR
- 2024-2026 Bridge Construction





How to Submit Comments

- May 18, 2022 by 5:00pm
- Email: Jackson.Ford@Sonoma-county.org
- Call: Jackson Ford, 707-565-8356
- Regular Mail to:
 - Permit Sonoma
 - Attn: Jackson Ford
 - 2550 Ventura Avenue
 - Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Thank You!

