

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
SUBMITTED TO THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
PURSUANT TO CFR 800.6(A)**

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has determined that Federal-Aid Project BRO-116D(029); State Job 17575(04) will have an adverse impact to the existing Pratt pony truss over Blue Beaver Creek in Comanche County, Oklahoma (Structure 16N2470E1730007), a property determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, and has consulted with the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f);

NOW, THEREFORE, FHWA and the Oklahoma SHPO agree that the undertaking shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of the undertaking on historic properties.

**STIPULATIONS
BLUE BEAVER CREEK PRATT PONY TRUSS
BRIDGE 16N2470E1730007**

FHWA will ensure that the following measures are carried out:

1. Prior to its removal, the existing bridge will be recorded at the equivalent of Level II documentation as specified by the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) and incorporated in the 1993 *Oklahoma Historic Bridge Project Preservation and Management Plan*, as approved by the Oklahoma SHPO. This will include the following:
 - a. High-quality 35mm or large format, archival-quality photographs of the bridge documenting its present appearance and major structural or decorative details, together with all negatives.
 - b. Photographic reproduction of selected original construction plans and historic photographs, if they exist.
 - c. Preparation of a brief written technical description of the bridge and historical summary.

All documentation will be edited, catalogued, and packaged in a manner acceptable to the Oklahoma SHPO. The Oklahoma SHPO will be the repository for the documentation.

2. Removal of the structure from its present location and storage on State/County R/W in the vicinity of Faxon, Oklahoma, in anticipation of its donation to the town of Faxon for use as a pedestrian facility on a proposed city/county park.

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3. In the event the anticipated donation to the town of Faxon does not materialize in a reasonable time, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) shall develop a statewide marketing plan for the bridge including the following features:
 - a. An information packet will be prepared containing a description of the bridge, photographs, a location map, information regarding its historic significance, requirements regarding relocation, rehabilitation, and maintenance.
 - b. The availability of the truss for relocation will be advertised in the Lawton and Oklahoma City papers. In addition, a press release advertising the bridge will be submitted for dissemination by regional news outlets. A copy of this release will also be provided to the Oklahoma Historical Society for dissemination local historical societies in Central and Southwestern Oklahoma. All advertisements will clearly indicate that the bridge structure will be donated to the recipient, and that FHWA may provide reimbursement, equal to the estimated demolition costs, to help defray the expense of relocating the bridge.
 - c. All respondents to the above advertisement process must provide a written statement of interest to ODOT that clearly indicates their willingness and ability to relocate, rebuild, and maintain the bridge at a new site, as well as provide an estimated time-frame for the undertaking. Information packets will be provided to all respondents whose written statement of interest meets the above requirements.
 - d. Respondents must then submit to ODOT a detailed written proposal for moving, relocating, and maintaining the bridge. These proposals must also identify the new site for the bridge and discuss any proposed alterations to its design and general appearance. The Oklahoma SHPO will be afforded the opportunity to review and comment upon all proposals. Preference will be given to proposals that indicate (1) the recipient's ability to relocate the bridge in a reasonable period of time, and (2) the recipient's willingness to maintain the historic design and integrity of the bridge.
 - e. A period of 45 days will be allowed for the receipt of written statements of interest, with an additional 45 days for the review of any detailed written proposals received by ODOT during the advertising period.
 - f. If a new owner is found to relocate the bridge, the FHWA shall evaluate any possible cultural resource impacts caused by construction at the new site, and confer with SHPO regarding the structure's continued eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. If requested by SHPO, FHWA shall create a preservation agreement which will apply to the subsequent protection of the bridge.
 - g. Reimbursement, equal to the estimated demolition costs of the structure at its original stream crossing site, shall be made available by FHWA to recipients willing to abide by any preservation agreement. All expenses beyond these possible reimbursements shall be born by the recipient.

- h. If no written statements of interest are received by ODOT within the 45-day advertisement period stipulated in Item 1(e), above, the bridge may be disposed of as the Comanche County Commissioners see fit.

Execution of this Memorandum of Agreement and implementation of its terms evidence that FHWA has afforded the Council an opportunity to comment on the replacement of the Blue Beaver Pratt Pony Truss bridge in Comanche County (Bridge 16N2470E1730007) and its effects on historic properties, and that FHWA has taken into account the effects of the undertaking on historic properties.

Federal Highway Administration

BY: Mike Henon DATE: 1/21/00

Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Officer

BY: Bob Blackburn DATE: 1-4-2000

Comanche County Commissioners

BY: Sam Buckner DATE: 1-31-2000