

**PFC Abraham G. Sams Memorial Bridge (Camp Creek Truss Bridge)  
Replacement Project  
Clay County**

**SUMMARY OF MAY 16, 2013 INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP  
PUBLIC MEETING AND COMMENTS**

**Summary of Meeting:** The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways (WVDOH) hosted an informational public meeting to inform the public and receive comments about the proposed project and specific preliminary alternatives. The project proposes to replace the existing PFC Abraham G. Sams Memorial Bridge (“Camp Creek Truss Bridge”) across the Elk River near the mouth of the Camp Run tributary in Prociuous, West Virginia.

The meeting was held at the Burke Memorial United Methodist Church on Scenic River Road in Prociuous, WV on May 16, 2013 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. This location is within the project area, adjacent to the Elk River, upstream of the existing bridge and just downstream of Alternative 4.

WVDOH advertised the meeting in local papers, sent announcements to area residents, and posted flyers in community common spaces (e.g., convenience store entryway). At the meeting, WVDOH had six (6) display boards and a handout to explain the project and present alternatives. WVDOH representatives were in attendance to answer questions.

As explained in the handout, of the nine (9) replacement alternatives assessed by WVDOH engineers, five (5) were being carried forward for further assessment, and were detailed in the handout and display boards. Also explained in the handout was the preliminary selection of a Preferred Alternative, Alternative 2C.

A month long comment period followed the meeting, with comments due to WVDOH by June 17, 2013. A comment form was available at the meeting, along with instructions for mailing the comment form in after the meeting or commenting electronically.

**Attendance:** 47 individuals signed the sign-in sheet at the meeting.

**Total Comments:** 193 comment forms, emails, or letters were received by WVDOH. Details for each of these are provided in **Table 1**, while the comments themselves are included verbatim together with responses from WVDOH in **Table 2**.

**Alternative Selection:** Although not all comments expressed a preference for a specific alternative, most commenters expressed support or objection to WVDOH's preliminarily selected Preferred Alternative, Alternative 2C. Following is a breakdown of alternative preferences expressed in the comments:

- 173 commenters specifically noted that Alternative 2C should be avoided and that a modified version of Alternative 3 should be considered. In addition, 62 of these commenters also implied through their discussion that Alternative 1B (existing location with temporary bridge closure) would be acceptable as well. More detail is provided in “Form Letter” discussion below.

- Fourteen (14) commenters specifically expressed support for Alternative 2C, with one commenter adding that Alternatives 1A or 1B would be his second choice;
- Two (2) commenters chose Alternative 4, with one commenter adding that Alternative 2C would be his second choice;
- Four (4) commenters did not express a preference for a specific alternative, but voiced strong opposition to bridge closure (Alternative 1B).

**Form Letter Comments:** Of the total comment letters received, 90 percent (173 out of 193) was comprised of three very similar form letters. The complete text of the form letters is presented with comment numbers 21, 22, and 23 in **Table 2**.

All three form letters (Form Letters #1, #2, and #3) expressed preference for selecting a modified version of Alternative 3, which is upstream of the existing bridge instead of downstream like Alternative 2C. The letters emphasized the harm that Alternative 2C would cause as compared to a more upstream alternative. One key point of the letters was that the commenters believed Alternative 2C would displace a longtime resident, and that a more upstream alternative offered an option to displace an unoccupied home instead.

Form Letters #1 and #2 included discussion of willing sellers along Scenic River Road (CR 4/6), who could offer additional upstream alignment options.

Form Letter #3 was the same as Form Letter #2 except instead of discussing the willing sellers along Scenic River Road and only focusing on upstream alternatives, this letter included support for using the existing bridge location. To help make this case, this letter explained in detail why the signatories believed closing the bridge for construction at the existing location would not cause significant delay to emergency services.

However, several of the non-form letter comments expressed opposition to bridge closure for reasons other than emergency service delays. These commenters also referred to the narrow, curvy roads of the detour routes, particularly challenging for the elderly, and the long bus routes for children.

Responses to comments are included in **Table 2**.

## Table 1. Inventory of Comments Received During 2013 Public Comment Period

**Note:** Because of their large number of submissions, three letters are summarized in the text of Appendix J and are referred to as Form Letters #1, #2, and #3, Below, these are represented by Comment Nos. 21, 22, and 23. Responses to comments are found in Table 2.

Last Name	First Name	Organization	City	State	Comment Type	Received	Comment No.
Alexander	Lauren				Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Anderson	Ann		Bomont	WV	Meeting Form	5/20/2013	1
Anderson	Ava			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Anderson	Emily			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Asbury	Gayle		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Asbury	Michael		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Asbury, Sr.	Michael W.		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Asby	Carrie		Wallback	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Asby	Jordon		Wallback	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Auman	Katherine				Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Baker	Jason		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Baker	Josh		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Baker	RuAnn		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Baker	Stacey		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Baldwin	Rick			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/12/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Bass	Amber	Clay County Free Press	Duck	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Bass	Scott	WVSP/Clay	Duck	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Bell	Robert		Bomont	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Bergman	Richard			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Bishop	Eddie		Bomont	WV	Online	5/17/2013	2

Boggs	Jeff		Ivydale	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Boggs	Micki		Ivydale	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Bowe	Marilyn		Charleston	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Buckhart	Alma		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Buckhart	Gary		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Burleson	Paige				Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Carper	Gavin M.		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence
Carper	Joan		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Carper	Lindy		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Carper	Michael		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence
Carper	Perry		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Carr	Carrie		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Carr	Evelyn		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Carr	Merril		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Carr	Robin		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Caruthers	Bobby		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Caruthers	Jill		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Caruthers	Tyler		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Coddy	Ellen		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Coddy	Tom		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Colon	Ricky		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Combs	Roy and Judy		Bomont	WV	Meeting Form	6/11/2013	3
Davis	Christopher		Ivydale	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23

Davis	Danny		Procious	WV	Meeting Form	5/16/2013	4
Davis	Kenneth		Bomont	WV	Online	5/17/2013	5
Davis	Lori		Bomont	WV	Online	5/17/2013	6
Davis	Teresa		Procious	WV	Letter	5/20/2013	7
Dennis	Melinda		Procious	WV	Online	5/6/2013	8
Dennis	Melinda and Waldon		Procious	WV	Meeting Form		9
Dominguez	Dawn			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Dotson, III	Daniel B.		Camden On Gauley	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Ellis	James		Ivydale	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Fanela	Daya		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Farrell	Katherine				Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Fusco	JoeMichael			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Geney	?		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Geney	Greg		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
George	Jacob		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence
Gill	Jonathan		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Gill	Kaitlyn		Columbia	SC	Form Letter via Online	6/13/2013	21
Gill	Katelynn		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Gill	Kimberly		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Gill	Penny		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Gillespie	Larry		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Gillespie	Matt		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Gillespie	Sue		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Goins	Alisha		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Goins	Dan		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Goins	Darrell		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Goins	David		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.

Goins	Geraldine		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Goins	John Ed		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Goins	Kenneth		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Goins	Louis		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Goins	Lyle		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Goins	Salena		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Goins	Theo		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Goodwin	Steve and Diana		Procious	WV	Meeting Form		10
Grant	Mr. and Mrs. Alan		Parkersburg	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Guarino	Jillian		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Hanshaw	Breanna		Wallback	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Hanshaw	Clarissa		Wallback	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Hanshaw	Jaycee		Wallback	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Hanshaw	Jeremy		Wallback	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Harmon-Schamberger, Esq.	Barbara		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Harris	Abbey			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Harris	Liza			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Holcomb	Anita		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Holcomb	Randy	Former Sheriff of Clay Co.	Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Hougan	Alley			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Hougan	Brigette			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Hougan	Carely			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without

							introductory sentence.
Hughart	Kevin	Hughart Law office	Sissonville	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Jackson	Donnie		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Jackson	Minnie		London	KY	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Jackson	Pat		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Jackson	Paul		London	KY	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
King	Emma		Ovapa	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
King	James C Jr.		Ovapa	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
King	Joshua		Wallback	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
King	Mitchel	Magistrate	Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
King	Rebecca		Wallback	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
King	Stacy		Ovapa	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Lisowe	Danny		London	KY	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Lisowe	Donna		London	KY	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
McClintock	Tim				Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
McGlothlin	Broderick		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
McGlothlin	Shonette		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Mendez	Maria				Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Mitchell Sr.	John		Charleston	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Morris	John D.		Ivydale	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Morris	John Amos		Ivydale	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Mudie	Scott		Scott Depot	WV	Meeting Form	6/17/2013	11
Neal	Madison	WVU Tech Nursing Student	Bickmore	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Nguyen	Christina			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Nguyen	Trinh			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
O'Dell	Alice		Bomont	WV	Meeting Form	5/16/2013	12
O'Dell	Larry		Bomont	WV	Meeting Form	5/16/2013	13

Perkins	Stephanie			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Pickens	Brent		Winfield	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Pickens	Lacey R.		Winfield	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Pierson	Jordan		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Powell	Brian		Morgantown	WV	Online	5/20/2013	14
Reitdyke	Paula			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/14/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Reveal	Gerald		St. Albans	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence
Samples	Andrew		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Samples	Cathy		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence
Samples	Dorthy		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/18/2013	22
Samples	Elizabeth		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Samples	Jeremy		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Samples	Jim		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Samples	Joanna		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Samples	Josh		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence
Samples	Lonnie B.		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Samples	Melissa		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Samples	Melissa Kay		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Samples	Michael		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/18/2013	22
Samples	Ramona		Procious	WV	Meeting Form	5/16/2013	15
Samples	Roy "Tony"			WV	Form Letter	6/18/2013	22
Samples	Wilma			WV	Form Letter	6/18/2013	22
Sams	James		Bomont	WV	Meeting Form	5/16/2013	16
Sams	Jamie and Cindy		Procious	WV	Meeting Form	5/16/2013	17
Schamberger	Richard and		Pennsboro	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23

	Showna						
Scott	Mariah		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Sheaffer	James				Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Siegel	Jessica				Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Simms	Stuart J.		Clendenin	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Slack	Lisa	Clay Co. Magistrate Court	Bickmore	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Slack	Miles	Sheriff of Clay County	Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Smith	Brook		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Smith	Lemian		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Smith	McKenzie		Maysel	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Smith	Megan M.		Hurricane	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Smith	Nettie		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Smith	Rick		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Smith	Tyler		Columbia	SC	Form Letter via Online	6/13/2013	21
Smith	Tyler		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Smith	Vickie		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Smith	Wesley		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Stewart	Brian		Maysel	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Stewart	Dylan		Maysel	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Stewart	Malinda		Maysel	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Stewart	Paige		Maysel	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Taylor	Jo		Wallback	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Townsend	David and Rebecca		Procious	WV	Meeting Form	5/16/2013	18
Triplett	Peter		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Triplett	Roger		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Triplett	Trisha		Clay	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Turner	Elizabeth				Form Letter	6/17/2013	22

UNKNOWN					Letter	6/13/2013	19
Vaughn	Amanda		Valley Fork	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Vaughn	Bobby		Valley Fork	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Wagers	Ed		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Wagers	Marie		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Wallace	Celia A.		Hurricane	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Webb	Amy		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Webb	Brandon		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Webb	Jimmy		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Webb	Leslie		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
West	Derick		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
West	Eli		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
West	FrankieJo		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
West	Isaac		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
West	Luke		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
West	Robert		Procious	WV	Meeting Form	5/16/2013	20
West, II	Robert Dennis		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Wilson	Sarah		Procious	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	21 without introductory sentence.
Workman	Connie		Ivydale	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Workman	George		Ivydale	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	23
Wright	Wendy			WV	Form Letter via Online	6/12/2013	21
Young	Brian		Charleston	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Young	Edward		Clendenin	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22
Young	Janet		Bomont	WV	Form Letter	6/17/2013	22

## Table 2. Responses to Comments Received During 2013 Public Comment Period

**Note:** See Table 1 for an alphabetized list of commenters. All comments, 1 through 23, were received in separate letters (or emails or forms). Comments 1-20 were all sent by one commenter or a pair of commenters (e.g., a married couple), while Comments 21, 22, and 23 were sent by 80, 31, and 62 commenters respectively. Consequently, they have been summarized in the text of Appendix J as Form Letters #1, #2, and #3.

Comment No.	Comment	WVDOH Response
1	"We need a new bridge. We should spend tax dollars wisely. Therefore, Preferred Alternative 2C is my choice for this project. I realize this will affect Mrs. Samples the most, but shouldn't a practical, logic choice that benefits everyone, be the course of action? Thank you."	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.
2	"I prefer Alternate 2C. This bridge needs to be built as soon as possible and this option does not close the existing bridge until the new one is ready to go. I also like it removing the curve that is there now. It doesn't take anyones house and it gives us a great new bridge. I just hope you stop talking about it and build the bridge soon."	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.
3	"Thank you for all your information regarding the new bridge proposal for Camp Creek Bridge. We are in agreement with your proposal for Alternative 2C. It is critical to get the new bridge so the school bus can resume crossing the bridge and reduce the time on the bus."	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.
4	"We would prefer using the old bridge, while the new bridge is being built."	The Preferred Alternative is Alternative 2C, which allows the existing bridge to remain open during construction. However, construction plans call for a temporary closure of both crossings (less than one day) during removal of the middle span of the old bridge.
5	"I prefer Alternate 2C. It makes the most sense and removes the curve for a bonus. I hope construction starts very soon."	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.
6	"I prefer Alternate 2C. It makes the most sense for the convenience of the community as well as the spending of tax payer funds. It barely changes traffic flow and in fact improves it by removing a curve. It has minimal affects on a small portion of a yard. The closure of the existing bridge would be detrimental to the surrounding area. The sooner we get this new bridge built the	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.

	better for everyone."	
7	"I am writing on concern of the construction of the Camp Creek Bridge. I have a concern about the bridge closure. I live above the bridge on Scenic River Rd. My question is, if someone in our community has an emergency & needs an ambulance and they can not get there in time. I have one neighbor that is on oxygen an one that has had a kidney transplant, and not counting the elderly that lives in our community with heart conditions. This could be fatal. Another issue is, if one of our houses would catch on fire, it would burn to the ground by the time the fire department would get to our homes. It would take 45 minutes from Clay. It is 17 miles round trip from Rt. 4 to Queen Shoals then cross by Bomont, & Porters Creek and to the Camp Bridge. Our children are already riding a bus over and hour to go to school each day because of the weight limit on the bridge. My daughter catches the bus at 6:20 each morning and arrives at school in Clay by 7:30. So, I am asking for your consideration in these issues, that you do not land lock our community by closing the bridge during construction. I feel that this is a safely issue for the people of Camp Creek, Porters Creek, and Bomont area.My choice of alternatives would be #2C - Replace the existing bridge 20 feet down stream of the existing location andthe existing bridge remain open to traffic during construction. This looks to be the best location for the new bridge. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. Looking forard to a new bridge at Camp Creek!"	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C. Please also see the response to Comment 4.
8	"Just got the amended announcement today in the mail, and my first thought and comment to you are...Are you crazy? I live in the neighborhood at the end of this bridge. If you close this and we have a emergency (we have a lot of elderly and small children in our neighhborhood), the Clay County Ambulance would have to go all the way to Queen Shoals bridge, then back over the mountains to Prociuous...evaluate & load the patient, then back over the mountains, back over Queen Shoals bridge-then all the way to Charleston...You would be adding at least an extra hour to the normal trip. If it is a serious situation...You've just killed them! Put the bridge on either side of the existing one! Don't be idiots!"	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C. Please also see the response to Comment 4.
9	"I live 4 houses beyond the Church where you had the meeting, and in the 31 years I've been here I have seen 4 house fires beyond the	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C. Please also see the response to Comment 4.

	Church. If you would take out our bridge any fire truck or ambulance would have to travel an EXTRA 17 miles... it would basically be a death sentence! I really don't care which one you do as long as it isn't 1B! (Also beyond the EXTRA 17 miles - that road is FAR to narrow hilly + curvey to put more traffic on, especially in the winter!)"	
10	"We have considered selling the State of W.V. Dept. of highways of property. We have 1 lot approx. 2 acres. We are 6 houses from the church. You would not have to bother the endangered species at the bridge. You would have great access for a bridge and possibly a park + ride also. Please accept our offer."	As demonstrated through analysis of Build Alternative 4, locating the new bridge upstream but not adjacent to the existing bridge does not avoid impacts to endangered species. This is because the old bridge must be removed, and its demolition disturbs the streambed below. Placing the new bridge adjacent to the old one allows many of the impacts from demolition to be avoided. Preferred Alternative 2C minimizes impacts to the endangered species.
11	"My first choice of the various proposed locations for the replacement bridge is 'Alternative 4'. If that is not selected, my second choice would be Alternative '2C'. Regardless of location, the bridge that is coming down, though not pretty, is unique, with character. I wish to stress the unique opportunity this presents, for our state to build a special bridge that will attract attention, from visitors, and also give residents a sense of pride, and a standard which they might hold their own homes and building for. This is the kind of infrastructure investment I want to see our federal government putting out money into, and also (our) state moneys."	Your second choice, Alternative 2C, is the Preferred Alternative at this time. Preferred Alternative 2C minimizes impacts to the endangered species, as detailed in the EA's alternatives analysis (Appendix C). Your comment concerning aesthetics is noted. WVDOH also takes pride in producing attractive bridges. WVDOH will balance these concerns with consideration for project costs and for the context of the project area, such as whether or not the bridge is adjacent to an historic district or along a busy route where the bridge will be viewed by many travelers.
12	"Please use Alternative #2C. Don't waste money on a temporary bridge."	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.
13	"Please consider Alternative #2C. Should be more cost effective and less disruptive to the local traffic."	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.
14	"Alternative 2C appears to be the best choice for this project. It provides an improved river crossing to meet needs for years in the future, improves horizontal roadway alignment, and minimizes cost."	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.
15	"Please do not close this bridge. The detour route will be too difficult for me to travel as I am elderly."	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C. Please also see the response to Comment 4.
16	"Alternative 2C"	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.
17	"My choice is 2C for building the new brige. This choice will not effect anyone except 20 feet on a person's yard. I <u>don't</u> like options	The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C. Please also see the response to Comment 4.

	<p><u>1A or 1B</u> because that bridge needs to stay opened in cause of fire or health problems. To take that detour to Queen Bridge is like 17 miles out of the way, to travel and for emergency personel. The road is curvy, narrow and dangerous. There are lots of kids and elderly people over in this area and that attend Burke Church. Option 4, just seems rediculous to me. It will effect the church and all the houses from that point to the present bridge. Please pick option 2C for the sake of the community and its people."</p>	
18	<p>"My husband had a kidney transplant 3 weeks ago, is a brittle diabetic and has heart disease. I am on home oxygen and in a wheelchair. The extra 30 min. or more it would take an ambulance to reach us, could mean life or death. The old bridge simply cannot be closed during construction. Alternative 2C is preferred."</p>	<p>The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C. Please also see the response to Comment 4.</p>
19	<p>"My thought is: #1 Alternative 2C #2 Alternative 1A &amp; 1B Thanx!"</p>	<p>The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.</p>
20	<p>"Alt 2C is the best choice. Please get rid of Alt 4. It should not even be an option."</p>	<p>The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C.</p>
21a	<p>"Please find an alternative location for the bridge! Here are the reasons: 1. Bridge should NOT be replaced downstream of existing bridge. Downstream placement would create major traffic safety issues, would increase the negative impact on protected species in the river, would have the greatest threat on Elk River wetlands and would likely change the pool characteristics of the river thereby further negatively impacting the river and its habitat."</p>	<p>The Preferred Alternative at this time is Alternative 2C. This alternative is closely aligned with the existing route so traffic safety issues are not anticipated. This alternative will have the smallest direct impact on the mussels and mussel habitat, and no impact on wetlands. Some indirect impact on local river pooling is unavoidable with any of the alternatives. WVDOH has undertaken hydraulic and hydrologic studies and coordination is ongoing with the USFWS for minimizing effects to the habitat. In their letter dated May 19, 2014, USFWS concurs with the selection of Alternative 2C.</p>
21b	<p>"2. Better upstream options exist both explored and unexplored by the DOH. Example #1 - Alternative #3 Maintains a safe highway pattern. But as presented, 25 feet upstream, encroaches on the upstream portion of the mussel bed. Mussel studies show mussels (99.9%) to only 60 feet above the existing bridge. A modified Alt #3 would move the new bridge further upstream. This would help the community by removing an outbuilding where police were called to investigate the existence of an illegal methamphetamine lab and would remove an unoccupied house. This unoccupied house is built on the right of way of residences upstream from the existing bridge.</p>	<p>As detailed in the EA's alternatives analysis (Appendix C), WVDOH assessed a wide range of alternatives, including two upstream alternatives in their analysis prior to selection of Preferred Alternative 2C. As with Alternative 4, any of the locations suggested by the commenter for a different upstream alternative would impact more mussels and more residential property and would provide a less straight roadway than Alternative 2C. Farther upstream alternatives would add new curves to the roadway, which is less preferable as compared to alternatives more closely aligned with the existing roadway. With regard to mussel impacts,</p>

	<p>The road currently in use, paved and maintained by the DOH, is located on the railroad right of way. This house is likely to continue to be unoccupied as no loan can be made on it because it is built on the right of way. A modified Alt #3 would better serve the community, the state of West Virginia and our environment by providing a safe roadway, by protecting our environment and by removing a problem property. Example #2 - Located 2 lots upstream from the existing bridge is a land owner with an old trailer on his lot used as a camp. He has been trying to sell for an extended period of time. While at the community meeting he suggested the DOH purchase and use his lot as a replacement location for the bridge because it did not encroach on the mussel habitat, created a safe roadway for the community and does not take existing resident's property. Another resident at the upper end of the upstream portion of the community suggested her property for the same reasons. Unexplored alternatives exist that are better for the community, our environment and the state of West Virginia."</p>	<p>Alternatives 2C or 3 greatly reduce impacts to the mussels over alternatives not adjacent to the existing bridge because demolition with these alternatives can avoid dropping the middle span of the old bridge into the river. Alternatives farther upstream from Alternative 3 would impact more than just one residential property because of the constraint of the railroad and required widening of Scenic River Road. ROW requirements with Alternative 2C are limited to a 0.26-acre, narrow strip of residential property that contains two driveway entrances and a front lawn.</p>
<p>21c</p>	<p>"Summary - While Alternative #2C appears to be easiest and appears to have the lowest initial capital outlay this alternative is the worst option for the community, the environment and for the state of West Virginia. The longer term cost to the community by creating an unsafe roadway, by destroying a mussel habitat, the river habitat and displacing long term resident is much much higher than other alternatives."</p>	<p>Please see the responses to Comments 21a and 21b regarding safety and impact to mussels. The ROW requirement of Alternative 2C is limited to a 0.26-acre, narrow strip of residential property across two driveways and a front lawn and does not include the displacement of a residence.</p>
<p>22a</p>	<p>"Please consider the following comments: 1. Bridge should NOT be replaced downstream of existing bridge. Downstream placement would create major traffic safety issues, would create a hazard to the citizens of the community, would increase the negative impact on protected species in the river, would have the greatest threat on Elk River wetlands and would likely change the pool characteristics of the river thereby further negatively impacting the river and its habitat."</p>	<p>Please see the response to Comment 21a. This comment (22a) also mentions creating a hazard to the citizens of the community. It is unclear why the commenter believes this to be the case and encourages the commenter to submit a comment on this subject during the EA public comment period.</p>
<p>22b</p>	<p>"2. Better upstream options exist both explored and unexplored by the DOH. #1 - Alternative #3 Maintains a safe highway pattern. But as presented, 25 feet upstream, encroaches on the upstream portion of the mussel bed. Mussel studies show mussels (99.9%) to only 60 feet above the existing bridge. A modified Alt #3 would move the</p>	<p>Please see the response to Comment 21b.</p>

	<p>new bridge further upstream. This would help the community by removing an outbuilding where police were called to investigate the existence of an illegal methamphetamine lab and would remove an unoccupied house. <u>This unoccupied house is built on the right of way of residences upstream from the existing bridge. The road currently in use, paved and maintained by the DOH, is located on the railroad right of way.</u> This house is likely to continue to be unoccupied as no loan can be made on it because it is built on the right of way. A modified Alt #3 would better serve the community, the state of West Virginia and our environment by providing a safe roadway, by protecting our environment and by removing a problem property.</p> <p>#2 - Located 2 lots upstream from the existing bridge is a land owner with an old trailer on his lot used as a camp. He has been trying to sell for an extended period of time. While at the community meeting he suggested the DOH purchase and use his lot as a replacement location for the bridge because it did not encroach on the mussel habitat, created a safe roadway for the community and does not take existing resident's property. Another resident at the upper end of the pstream prtion of the community suggested her property for the same reasons. Unexplored alternatives exist that are better for the community, our environment and the state of West Virginia."</p>	
<p>22c</p>	<p>"<b>Summary</b> - Alternative #2C (relocating the bridge downstream) is the worst option for the community , the environment and for the state of West Virginia. The longer term cost to the community by creating an unsafe roadway, by destroying a mussel habitat, the river habitat and displacing a long term resident is much higher than other alternatives. The best options are to either place the bridge upstream or replace the bridge in its current location. Do not locate the bridge downstream."</p>	<p>Please see response to Comment 21c. This comment (22c) also mentions a preference for replacing the bridge at its current location. Replacing the bridge in its current location requires a long-term (months) detour, which is not only a concern of WVDOH but has been voiced as a concern in a dozen other comment letters. Additionally, replacement of the bridge in place would have a greater impact on the mussels and mussel habitat because the middle span of the existing bridge would have to be dropped into the river. For details, see the EA's alternatives analysis (Appendix C).</p>
<p>23a</p>	<p>"Please consider the following comments:1. Bridge should NOT be replaced downstream of existing bridge. Downstream placement would create major traffic safety issues, would create a hazard to the citizens of the community, would increase the negative impact on protected species in the river, would have the greatest threat on</p>	<p>Please see the response to Comment 22a.</p>

	<p>Elk River wetlands and would likely change the pool characteristics of the river thereby further negatively impacting the river and its habitat."</p>	
<p>23b</p>	<p>"2. Better upstream options exist both explored and unexplored by the DOH.  <b>#1</b> - Alternative #3 Maintains a safe highway pattern. But as presented, 25 feet upstream, encroaches on the upstream portion of the mussel bed. Mussel studies show mussels (99.9%) to only 60 feet above the existing bridge. A modified Alt #3 would move the new bridge further upstream. This would help the community by removing an outbuilding where police were called to investigate the existence of an illegal methamphetamine lab and would remove an unoccupied house. <u>This unoccupied house is built on the right of way of residences upstream from the existing bridge. The road currently in use, paved and maintained by the DOH, is located on the railroad right of way.</u> This house is likely to continue to be unoccupied as no loan can be made on it because it is built on the right of way. A modified Alt #3 would better serve the community, the state of West Virginia and our environment by providing a safe roadway, by protecting our environment and by removing a problem property.  <b>#2</b> - Located 2 Replace the bridge in its current location. The area is serviced by three different volunteer fire departments and EMS, Clay, Lizemores, and Clendenin. The difference in response time between Clay VFD and EMS and Lizemores or Clendenin VFD or EMS to serve the Camp Creek community is a matter 5 minutes or less. Lizemores VFD and EMS service area already serves H.E. White School and the other side of Camp Creek Hill because they can reach that area faster than Clay or Clendenin VFD or EMS. Lizemores VFD and EMS would only have to travel an additional 3 to 4 miles to serve the Camp Creek community. Clendenin VFD and Kanawha County EMS serves the Queen Shoals area and part of the Bomont area. Response times for emergency services are not a concern."</p>	<p>Please see the response to Comment 21b regarding other upstream alternatives.</p> <p>Regarding suggestion #2, WVDOH eliminated this alternative in part because of the detour, which would be long-term (months) and was expressed as a concern in a dozen other comment letters. In large part, however, this alternative was eliminated because of impacts to endangered species. Replacement of the bridge in place requires demolition of the existing bridge without the benefit of a platform onto which the middle span can be placed. Therefore, this alternative impacts more mussels and mussel habitat, as detailed in the EA's alternatives analysis (Appendix C).</p>
<p>23c</p>	<p>"<b>Summary</b> - Alternative #2C (relocating the bridge downstream) is the worst option for the community , the environment and for the state of West Virginia. The longer term cost to the community by creating an unsafe roadway, by destroying a mussel habitat, the</p>	<p>Please see the response to Comment 22c.</p>

	<p>river habitat and displacing a long term resident is much higher than other alternatives. The best options are to either place the bridge upstream or replace the bridge in its current location. Do not locate the bridge downstream."</p>	
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