



16591/164
October 28, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE (07-20)

All interested parties are notified that the Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District has received an application from the State of South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), requesting approval of the location and plans for the modification of a bridge structure over navigable waterways of the United States.

WATERWAYS AND LOCATIONS: Both waterways are located between North Charleston and Charleston in Charleston County, SC.

Ashley River, mile 10.6, Lat/Long: 32.835645, -80.024364 (32°50'08.3"N 80°01'27.7"W) and Bulls Creek, mile 1.4, Lat/Long: 32.828982, -80.029511 (32°49'44.3"N 80°01'46.2"W).

CHARACTER OF WORK: SCDOT proposes to widen the existing I-526 (General William C. Westmoreland) Bridges over the Ashley River and Bulls Creek. The bridge project is being widened as part of a larger roadway improvement project known as the I-526 Lowcountry Corridor (LCC) West project. The I-526 (LCC) project is approximately 11.4 miles long and includes upgrades to interstate interchanges and roadway widening to reduce extreme traffic congestion along the I-526 corridor. The existing bridge project consists of two structures each approximately 42.8 feet wide separated by approximately 45.7 feet. Each existing structure currently consists of: two 12-foot travel lanes; a 5.5-foot inside shoulder; a 10-foot outside shoulder; and two 1.7-foot wide barriers. Upgrading I-526 requires each bridge be widened to accommodate two additional travel lanes. The proposed bridge modification would result in two structures each with: four 12-foot travel lanes (2 additional lanes each); 12-foot outside shoulders; 12-foot inside shoulders; and two 1.6-foot barriers. A 14-foot wide shared use path (SUP) to accommodate pedestrians and cyclists would be added to the upstream side of the westbound bridge. The 14-foot path would be separated from the motorized travel lanes with a raised barrier (refer to the attached conceptual bridge plans, widening schematic). The out-to-out width of the existing bridge structure is approximately 131.4 feet. The out-to-out width of the proposed, widened bridge structure will be approximately 178.3 feet. The overall length of the existing and proposed modified bridge structure is approximately 3,907.5 feet.

MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

Ashley River Clearances

Existing

Horizontal:

60.0 ft. between face of fenders

Vertical:

35.0 ft. above Mean High Water

41.0 ft. above Mean Low Water

Proposed

Horizontal:

60.0 ft. between face of fenders

Vertical:

35.0 ft. above Mean High Water

41.0 ft. above Mean Low Water

MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES (continued):

Bulls Creek Clearances

Existing

Horizontal:

40.0 ft. navigation channel

Vertical:

11.0 ft. above Mean High Water

16.0 ft. above Mean Low Water

Proposed

Horizontal:

40.0 ft. navigation channel

Vertical:

11.0 ft. above Mean High Water

16.0 ft. above Mean Low Water

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead federal agency for satisfying the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FHWA, as the lead federal agency will act on behalf of the USCG for all environmental control laws. FHWA is currently preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which is expected to be available late 2020. The Coast Guard is a cooperating agency for the proposed project and associated EIS. The Coast Guard intends to adopt the portions of the EIS related to the bridges and approaches for the proposed modification of the bridge structure crossing the Ashley River and Bulls Creek. The environmental documents associated with the project will be available upon publication at <https://www.526lowcountrycorridor.com/west/nepa> and at the above address, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The bridge is located in the floodplain. The 100-year flood elevation is approximately 14.0 ft. at the Ashley River and 13 ft. at Bulls Creek. The bridge low member elevation over the navigational channel is 38 ft. for the Ashley River and 14.5 ft. for Bulls Creek. Elevations are referenced to NAVD 88 datum.

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) Bureau of Water is the certifying agency, as defined in 40 CFR § 121.1(e), for issuance of Water Quality Certification (WQC) pursuant to Section 401, Public Law 92-500, 33 U.S.C. Section 1341. WQC application was submitted to and received by SC DHEC on August 31, 2020.

Anticipated Impacts to Navigation during Construction:

Mariners will be notified of the details of in-water construction activities, which will impact the navigation channels at and around the bridge site. Details of navigation restrictions will be disseminated to mariners via the Coast Guard's Local Notice to Mariners (LNM). To subscribe to the Coast Guard LNM and other free Coast Guard navigation notification services, please visit <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/> under "Subscribe / Report (free)" select the notifications you wish to receive. Note--this project is located in the Seventh Coast Guard District area.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:

Mariners are requested to comment on the proposed vertical and horizontal navigational clearances and other navigational safety issues including, but not limited to, the extent of nighttime navigation, need for bridge fendering, and impacts due to construction activities.

Interested parties are requested to express their views, in writing, on the proposed bridge project, giving sufficient detail to establish a clear understanding of their reasons for support of, or opposition to, the proposed work. Comments will be received for the record at the office of: Commander (dpb), Seventh Coast Guard District, 909 SE 1st Ave., Ste 432, Miami, Florida 33131-3028, for a 30-day period from the date of this public notice. The Coast Guard project manager for this application is Mr. Randall Overton. He can be contacted by telephone at (305) 415-6736, by mail at the above address, or e-mail at randall.d.overton@uscg.mil. Comments received will be made part of the case record.

We will forward comments of an environmental nature such as those regarding wildlife or water fowl refuges, public parks, historic sites, wetlands, floodplain issues, air, water quality, environmental justice, etc. to the Federal Highway Administration for appropriate handling.

It is requested that this information be brought to the attention of any person having an interest in this who may not have received a copy of this public notice.

Map of location and plans attached.



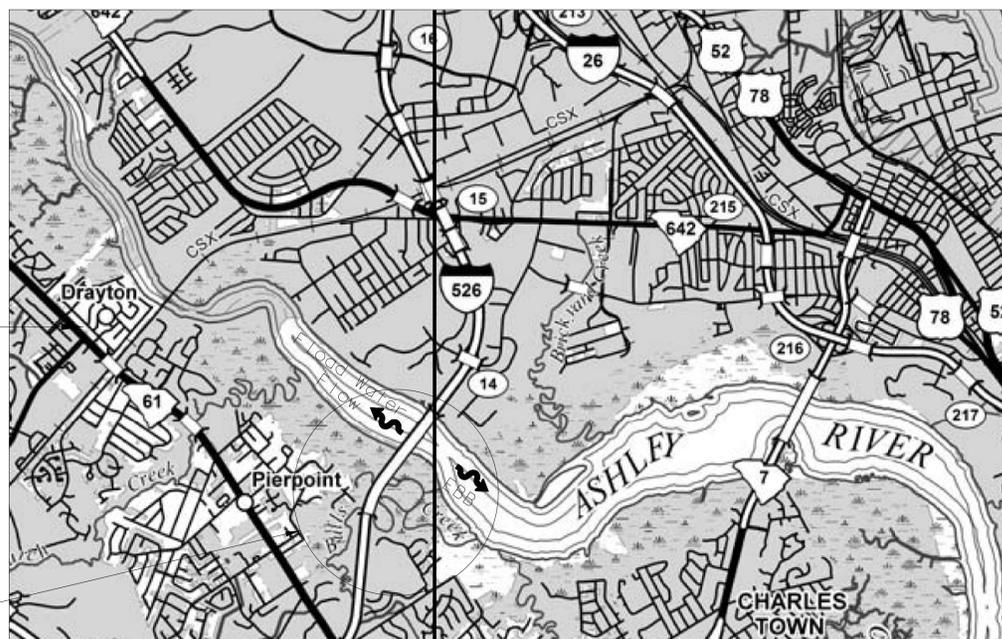
South Carolina Department of Transportation

CONCEPTUAL PLANS
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

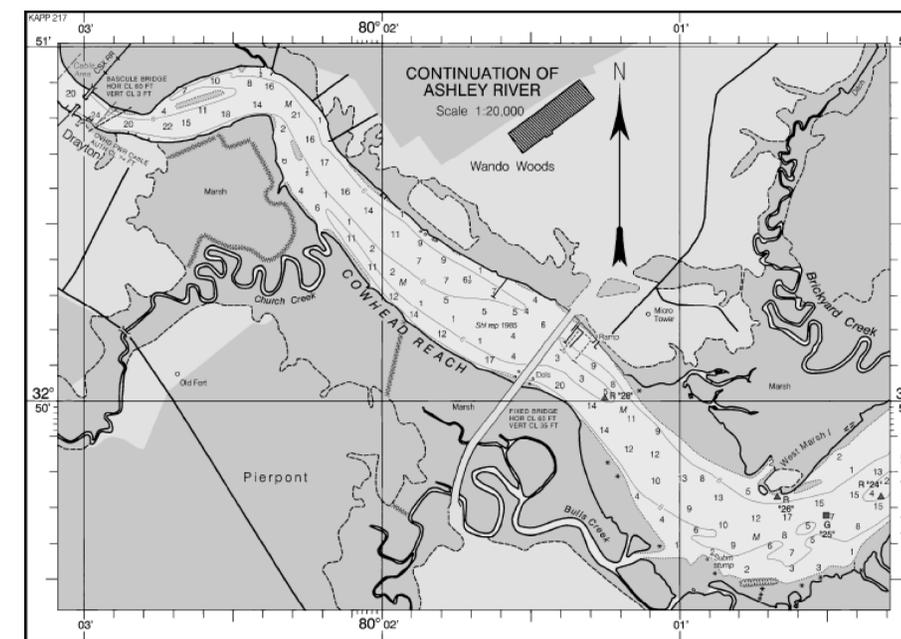
CONCEPTUAL PLANS UTILIZED TO OBTAIN COAST GUARD BRIDGE PERMIT

WIDEN TWIN BRIDGES OVER BULLS CREEK AND ASHLEY RIVER ALONG I-526 (MARK CLARK EXPRESSWAY) IN CHARLESTON, CHARLESTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Approximate Location of Bridge is
Latitude 32°-50'-07" N
Longitude 80°-01'-28" W



VICINITY MAP



LOCATION MAP

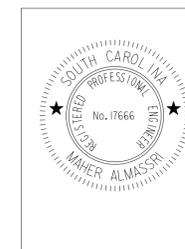
WIDEN 3907.5' TWIN BRIDGES ALONG
I-526 (MARK CLARK EXPY) OVER BULLS
CREEK & ASHLEY RIVER (GENERAL
WILLIAM C. WESTMORELAND BRIDGE)

CE CIVIL ENGINEERING
CS CONSULTING SERVICES, INC.

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WIDEN WESTMORELAND TWIN BRIDGES OVER
ASHLEY RIVER AND BULL CREEK
VICINITY/LOCATION MAP

I-526 (MARK CLARK EXPRESSWAY)
RIVER MILE 10.6 OVER ASHLEY RIVER AND
RIVER MILE 1.4 OVER BULLS CREEK
BETWEEN NORTH CHARLESTON AND
CHARLESTON, CHARLESTON COUNTY, SC



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DR.	MSA	DPM	10-20
DES.			
BY	CHK.	DATE	

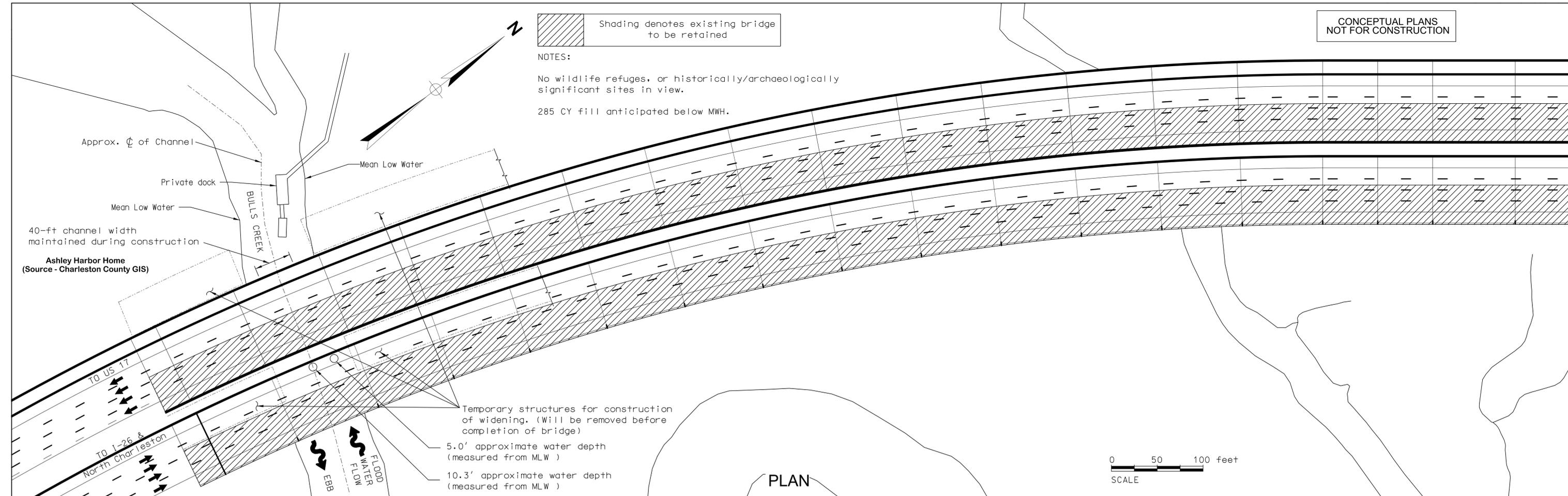
DATE: 10/13/2020

SHEET NUMBER: 1 OF 5

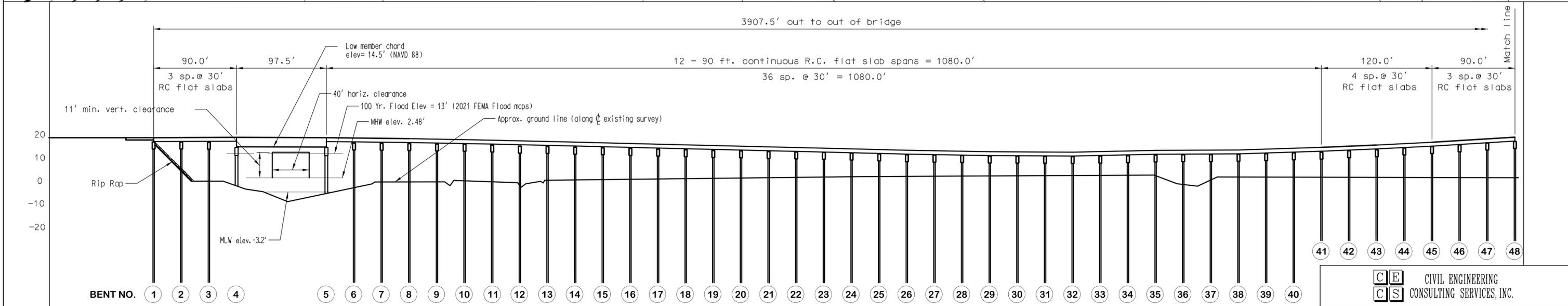
CONCEPTUAL PLANS
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Shading denotes existing bridge
to be retained

NOTES:
No wildlife refuges, or historically/archaeologically
significant sites in view.
285 CY fill anticipated below MWH.



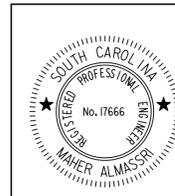
PLAN



ELEVATION VIEW

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Datum: NAVD 88
WSE information shown for NOAA Station 8665099, I-526 BRIDGE, ASHLEY RIVER, SC,
1983-2001 epoch. Datum translation using NOAA VDatum.

CONCEPTUAL SUBSTRUCTURE:
Bents 1-3 & 6-48 - Driven Prestressed piles
Bents 4 & 5 - Round Concrete Columns



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DR.	MSA	DPM	10-20
DES.			
BY	CHK.	DATE	

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SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WIDEN WESTMORELAND TWIN BRIDGES OVER
ASHLEY RIVER AND BULL CREEK
BRIDGE PLAN AND PROFILE 1

I-526 (MARK CLARK EXPRESSWAY)
RIVER MILE 10.6 OVER ASHLEY RIVER AND
RIVER MILE 1.4 OVER BULLS CREEK
BETWEEN NORTH CHARLESTON AND
CHARLESTON, CHARLESTON COUNTY, SC

DATE: 10/13/2020 SHEET NUMBER: 2 OF 5

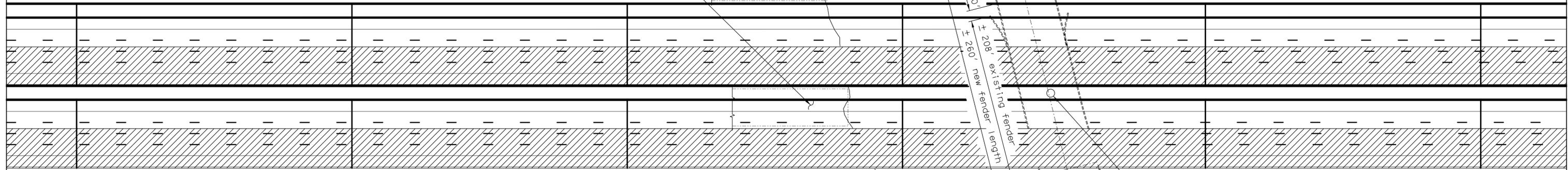
Shading denotes existing bridge to be retained

Holland Charles G.
(Source - Charleston County GIS)

Temporary structures for construction of widening.
(Will be removed before completion of bridge)

17.0' approx. water depth
(measured from MLW)

Existing 208' fender to be extended approx. 52' on same alignment with similar material and configuration (currently timber piling) to approximately 260' total length. Extend on this side of the bridge only. A temporary channel width of 50-ft proposed during construction of fender extensions.



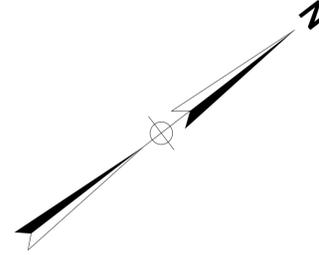
NOTES:

Low chord elevation is to be determined by the designer
A 35' minimum vertical clearance will be maintained.

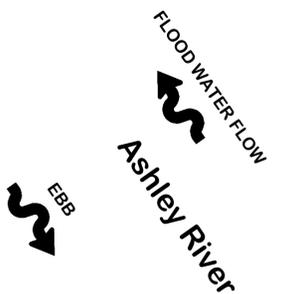
Crane barges will be moored in river behind the fenders during fender construction.

No wildlife refuges, or confirmed historically/archaeologically significant sites in view.

Weatherly Harwood Jr.
(Source - Charleston County GIS)



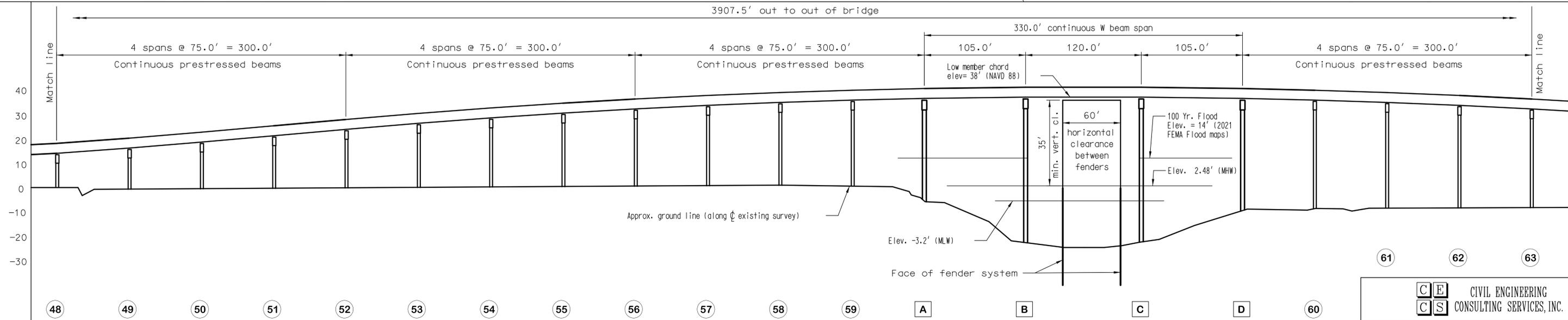
PLAN



0 50 100 feet
SCALE

CONCEPTUAL PLANS
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

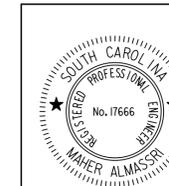
3907.5' out to out of bridge



CONCEPTUAL SUBSTRUCTURE:
Bents 48-63, A, B, C, and D - Round Concrete Columns

ELEVATION VIEW

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Datum: NAVD 88
WSE information shown for NOAA Station 8665099, I-526 BRIDGE, ASHLEY RIVER, SC,
1983-2001 epoch. Datum translation using NOAA VDatum.



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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WIDEN WESTMORELAND TWIN BRIDGES OVER
ASHLEY RIVER AND BULL CREEK
BRIDGE PLAN AND PROFILE 2

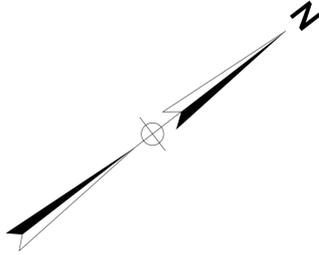
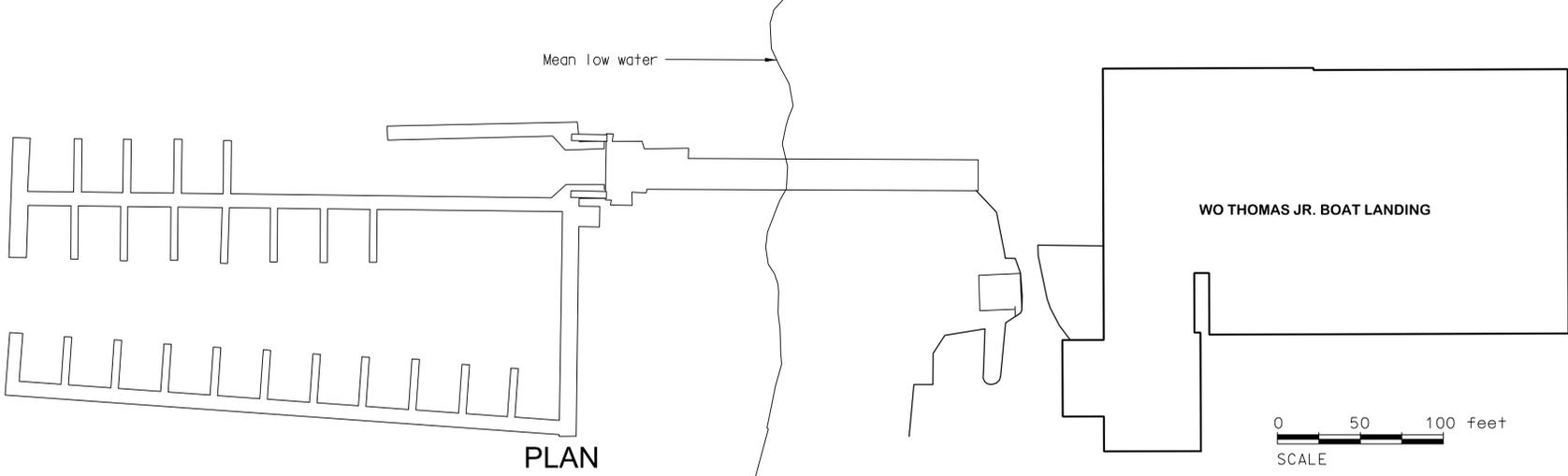
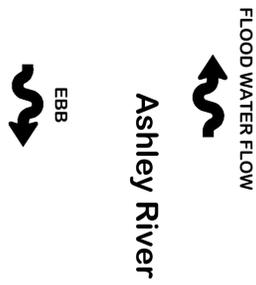
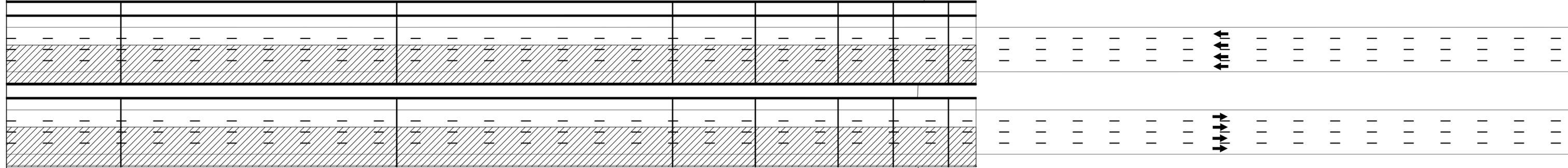
I-526 (MARK CLARK EXPRESSWAY)
RIVER MILE 10.6 OVER ASHLEY RIVER AND
RIVER MILE 1.4 OVER BULLS CREEK
BETWEEN NORTH CHARLESTON AND
CHARLESTON, CHARLESTON COUNTY, SC

DATE: 10/13/2020 SHEET NUMBER: 3 OF 5

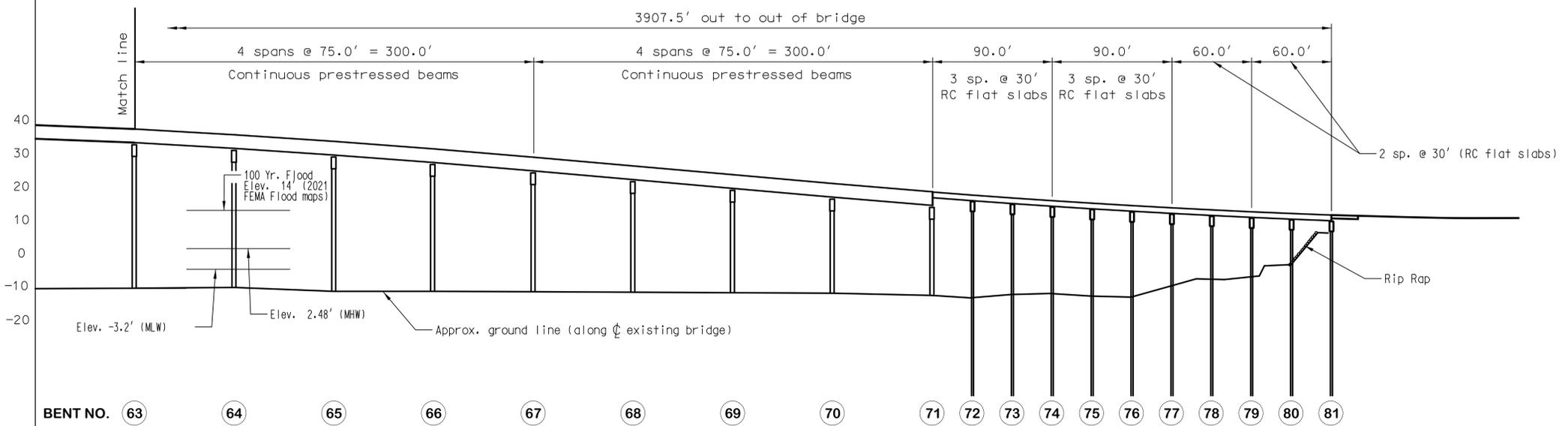
Shading denotes existing bridge to be retained

Lowcountry open land
(Source - Charleston County GIS)

CONCEPTUAL PLANS
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



NOTES:
No wildlife refuges, or historically/archaeologically significant sites in view.
281 CY fill anticipated below MWH.



ELEVATION VIEW

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Datum: NAVD 88
WSE information shown for NOAA Station 8665099, I-526 BRIDGE, ASHLEY RIVER, SC,
1983-2001 epoch. Datum translation using NOAA Vdatum.

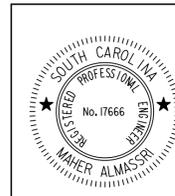
CONCEPTUAL SUBSTRUCTURE:
Bents 72-81- Driven Prestressed piles
Bents 63-71 - Round Concrete Columns

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

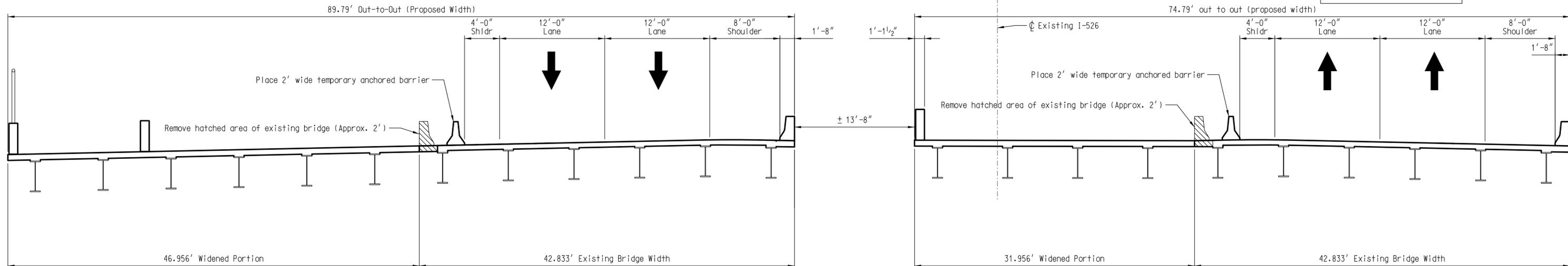
WIDEN WESTMORELAND TWIN BRIDGES OVER
ASHLEY RIVER AND BULL CREEK
BRIDGE PLAN AND PROFILE 3

I-526 (MARK CLARK EXPRESSWAY)
RIVER MILE 10.6 OVER ASHLEY RIVER AND
RIVER MILE 1.4 OVER BULLS CREEK
BETWEEN NORTH CHARLESTON AND
CHARLESTON, CHARLESTON COUNTY, SC



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QUAN.			
DR.	MSA	DPM	10-20
DES.			
BY	CHK.	DATE	

CONCEPTUAL PLANS
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

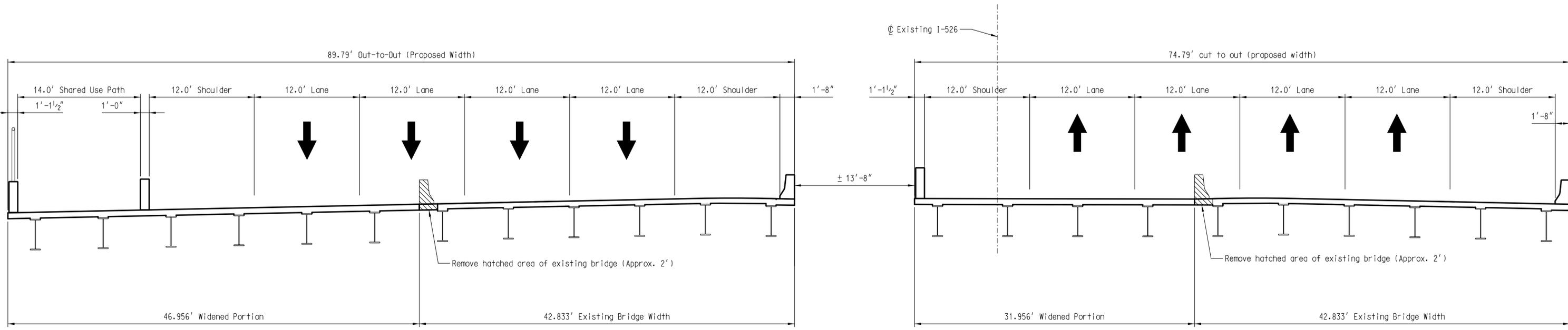


I-526 WEST BOUND

I-526 EAST BOUND

WIDENING SCHEMATIC

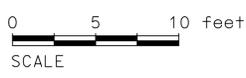
Looking Northbound
Maintain 2 lanes of traffic in each direction during construction



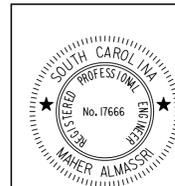
I-526 WEST BOUND

I-526 EAST BOUND

FINAL CONFIGURATION



NOTES:
See Sheets 2-4 for notes on substructure construction.



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DES.			
BY	CHK.	DATE	

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SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**WIDEN WESTMORELAND TWIN BRIDGES OVER
ASHLEY RIVER AND BULL CREEK
BRIDGE STAGING**

I-526 (MARK CLARK EXPRESSWAY)
RIVER MILE 10.6 OVER ASHLEY RIVER AND
RIVER MILE 1.4 OVER BULLS CREEK
BETWEEN NORTH CHARLESTON AND
CHARLESTON, CHARLESTON COUNTY, SC

DATE: 10/13/2020 SHEET NUMBER: 5 OF 5