KY 8
LICKING RIVER
BRIDGE PROJECT

KY 8/4TH STREET

over the Licking River
Item # 6-1086 | Kenton County

Public Meeting

March 30, 2022
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm (EDT)

KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET

Stantec

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mike Bezold PE
Email: mike.bezold@ky.gov

KYTC Department of Highways, District 6
421 Buttermilk Pike
Fort Mitchell, Kentucky 41017

KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET

MEETING PURPOSE

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to:

- Provide an update on project progress and present possible alternatives.
- Provide an opportunity to comment and ask questions about the project and bridge concepts.

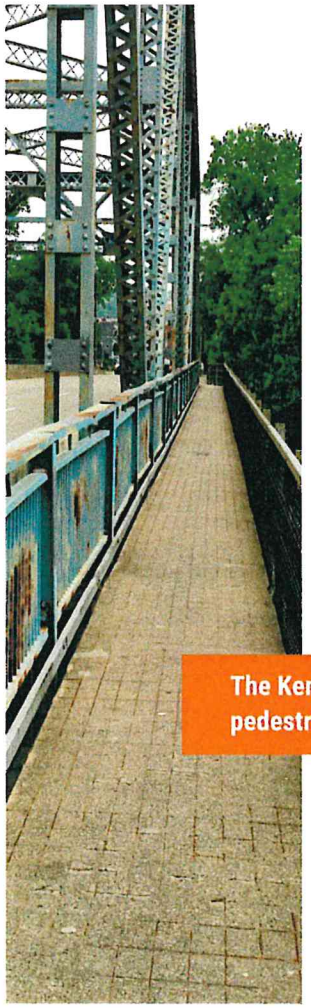
PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Purpose: To provide a safe, modern, efficient, and multimodal crossing of the Licking River within the existing corridor.

The safety of vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians is the primary concern on the KY 8 (4th Street) Licking River Bridge.

Project Needs: The KY 8 (4th Street) Licking River Bridge is a vital multimodal connection between Covington and Newport. Even with recent changes in daily commuting and travel patterns, this historic bridge carries a growing number of vehicles as well as a significant amount of pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Due to the narrow shoulder widths (one-foot) which do not meet current design standards, the bridge is classified as "functionally obsolete".

Additionally, even after rehabilitation in 2020, the bridge cannot accommodate vehicles weighing more than 17 tons. This reduced weight limit is considered substandard as nearly all of KY 8 within Kenton and Campbell County can accommodate weights up to 40 tons. Large trucks are forced to detour to the 12th Street Bridge (Licking Valley Girl Scout Bridge) one mile to the south.



Due to the reduced weight restrictions, the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK) does not currently operate local or express routes across the KY 8 Licking River Bridge. To travel from the western banks of the Licking River in Covington to the eastern banks in Newport by transit, a commuter would have to cross the Ohio River into Cincinnati on the Clay Wade Bailey Bridge (US 25) using one of several routes, then transfer to a different route in Cincinnati to travel back to Kentucky on the Taylor Southgate Bridge (US 27).

Thus, improving public transit efficiency is another need of the project.

Under current conditions, bicycles traveling between Covington and Newport are forced to ride in the roadway since they are prohibited by law from riding on the sidewalks. The addition of a shared-use facility will improve connectivity and safety for bicyclists, encourage and safely accommodate non-motorized travel, and improve vehicular travel. Once improved, a goal of the project would be to connect the sidewalks with the Licking River Greenway Trail for recreation and commuter use.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is committed to maintaining vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic during construction.

CONSTRUCTION ALTERNATIVES

A. Construct new bridge to carry eastbound traffic. Rehabilitate existing bridge and reconfigure to carry only westbound traffic.

B. Construct new single structure in phases.

C. Construct new twin structures in phases.



NEXT STEPS: The project team will study aesthetic enhancements and additional architectural bridge types.

Summer 2022
Form Aesthetic Committee

2023*
Right of Way Acquisition

2024*
Construction Begins
(anticipated 3-year construction)

*Based on draft KYTC plan

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
KENTUCKY TRANSPORATION CABINET
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS
DISTRICT 6

KY 8 LICKING RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT

http://www.ky8bridge.org

PUBLIC MEETING

KY 8 Licking River Bridge Project
Kenton and Campbell Counties
Item No. 6-1086.00

Wednesday, March 30, 2022, 4:00p.m. – 6:00p.m.
Kenton County Government Center – Riedlin-Schott Room
1840 Simon Kenton Way
Covington, KY

Comments will be received at the meeting or by mail through April 15, 2022

To: **Mike Bezold, P.E.**
Department of Highways
421 Buttermilk Pike
Covington, KY 41017
Phone: (859) 341-2700
Email: Mike.Bezold@ky.gov

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone (optional): _____

E-mail (optional): _____

Comments and views concerning this project:

1. How did you hear about this meeting? ☐ Newspaper ☐ Project Website ☐ Elected official ☐ Another meeting ☐ Friend ☐ Do not recall ☐ Other (please list)

2. Have you visited the project website? http://www.ky8bridge.org ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. How frequently do you DRIVE across the KY 8 Licking River Bridge? ☐ Several times per week ☐ Several times per month ☐ Rarely ☐ I do not drive across the bridge

4. How frequently do you WALK or BIKE across the KY 8 Licking River Bridge? ☐ Several times per week ☐ Several times per month ☐ Rarely ☐ I do not walk or bike across the bridge

5. Do you have any suggestions for the project team to consider enhance the community and historic resources of the area? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please provide any comments below.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Continued on back

Comments and views concerning this project (continued):

6. Do you have a preference for one of the four concepts shown for the 4th Street / Garrard Street intersection west of the bridge?
Please provide any comments below.

☐ Concept 1: No Change ☐ Concept 2: Right in/ Right out ☐ Concept 3: One-Way Southbound ☐ Concept 4: One-Way Northbound

7. Do you have any suggestions for aesthetic bridge enhancements for the project team to consider? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Please provide any comments below.

8. Did this evening's Public Meeting provide the right kind of information about the KY 8 Licking River Bridge Project? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If not, please tell us what should have been addressed.

9. Additional comments and views concerning this project:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.
Your input is critical to the success of this project!

Please leave your completed questionnaire at the sign-in table or send it to Project Manager Mike Bezold with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet at the address on the front.