

**Minutes NBCA Meeting
& Holiday Potluck
Topic: Harbor Bridge Project
Nov 16, 2023 - Las Brisas condos**

Board Members Present: Ron Graban (President), Dolores Vela (VP), Michael Kennedy (Treasurer), Carrie Meyer (Secretary), Manny Portillo, Tracy Jackson, Lynn Frazier,

Not Present: Bob Catalano (sick)

Ron introduces Speaker - Lynn Allison with Flatiron Dragados, contractors for the Harbor Bridge Project

Lynn: We are thankful to this community for your patience, as you've endured as much as anyone could with the project. We have a lot going on on both sides of the project. Utility and wastewater packages are a big part of the project. Drainage has been a focus and we're working to improve it.

On the North Beach side, Breakwater Ave has been rebuilt as part of the bridge project and is now open, which makes it easier to get back on the bridge for people visiting the Aquarium and Lexington.

The new bridge will have a 4% grade as opposed to the 5% grade of the current bridge, making it much less steep to drive up and down..

The project has a total of 21 bridges that cross over various highways.

All my photos in my presentation are recent. And I update the website with current photos both from the ground and from drone footage.

We opened Leopard Street bridge recently, which is a good place to get a view of the bridge project.

We will soon be mowing along the North Beach side. We are placing all new directional signs to point tourists towards the Aquarium and the Lex. We've added new raised pavement markers at Beach Ave. On West Causeway we're adding 50 delineators along West Causeway Blvd to ensure drivers realize right away that it is a 2-way street.

When are we going to open Burleson? Burleson will reopen in Phase II construction once all of the existing connectivity to the existing Harbor Bridge is removed.

All the concrete segments that make up the bridge are being made in Robstown and transported via truck to the project site.

The project is in coordination with US Coast Guard, Port of CC and Corps of Engineers to work through permitting, etc.

Eco Park area TxDOT Wetlands Mitigation - We have continued to replant native grasses and monitor for wildlife. It's a measure of moving forwards with compliance and environmental stewardship.

Timeline: Projected opening the new bridge by **Summer 2025**

Everyone is working hard to ensure safety and viability of this project.

Website - <https://harborbridgeproject.com/>

Things are getting real, folks. The lighting is LED RGB programmable lighting. It will cast up and down. There won't be issues with corrosive fixtures like we had with the lights on the old bridge.

Endangered birds have set up nests in the project. We work around them during construction to protect them. The new bridge captures rainwater that falls on the bridge so they are able to control and direct where it goes, which is important in case of a spill on the bridge.

The project has hired some local companies and has paid state and local sales tax on over \$400 million in consumable purchases. They hosted a Women in Construction event where we brought all the women hired on the project together for a walk through of the project site to interface with the staff in the field. Doing a rescue fire training event with CC Fire Dept where we perform high rescue drills.

Rendering of the final bridge. Flatiron and Dragados have collectively built over 1,500 bridges. . The cable stays run up and down the center of the bridge, so the view is unobstructed.

The "Shared Use Path" on the east side of the bridge will have a 10-foot-wide pathway with pedestrian guardrails to separate pedestrians and traffic.

I'm thankful for your patience with this project and am open to questions.

Demolition of the existing bridge is being planned. The old bridge might be used for a reef in the Gulf of Mexico

Carrie Meyer: Peter Davidson with the Ed Rachel Foundation is interested in getting pieces of the old bridge to extend the breakwater near the USS Lexington.

Lynn: Have him talk to me about that, please.

To find detailed bridge plans, go to <https://harborbridgeproject.com/> Home page > construction maps >> <https://harborbridgeproject.com/about-the-bridge/construction-maps/>
[https://harborbridgeproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/HBR_RDWY_Schematic_DRC-6.p
df](https://harborbridgeproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/HBR_RDWY_Schematic_DRC-6.pdf)

QUESTIONS

Michael Kennedy - Will the new bridge have just one North Beach exit? Where will that be?

Lynn: Yes, on exit and it will be just past Gulf Spray Ave.

Edwin - Will the new bridge accommodate cruise ships?

Lynn - Yes. Clearance under the new bridge is 205 feet gap between bridge and water.

Marian Elder - Where will the southbound entrance ramp be on North Beach?

Lynn: It will be between the Beach Ave and the Burleson, even with Tourist Ave.

This will be the longest segmental cable stay concrete bridge in North America.

MINUTES - Financial report needs to be added. Richard Reinhart makes a motion to approve Oct 19 minutes with suggested additions, Lel seconds it. Approved.

Ron talks about the **January 18th Annual NBCA Membership Meeting** -

We have 1 opening on the Board (MariAnne Gill stepped down)

Hawaiian theme party

Holiday Potluck & Social Hour - Turkey, ham, pancit, salad, lots of desserts, iced tea.