

Department of Transportation and Public Works

Emergency Rehabilitation Project

NW 17th Avenue Bascule Bridge over the Miami River Counterweight Replacement

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project is located at the NW 17th Avenue Bascule Bridge over the Miami River within Miami-Dade County Commission District 5. As a result of deficiencies identified in the concrete counterweight by Miami-Dade County Bridge Maintenance Staff, structural inspections were performed. Bascule Bridges are fitted with concrete and steel counterweights to balance the weight of the roadway and allow the motors to easily open and close the Bridge. It has been determined by multiple qualified engineers that the 1-million-pound concrete counterweight is damaged and must be replaced. It should be noted that the steel grid bridge deck (roadway) is not anticipated to require any repairs at this time.

The project includes structural design, maintenance of traffic, supporting of the existing counterweight, locking the bridge in the up position, bracing of the main bridge supports, removal of the existing concrete counterweight and forming and pouring of a new concrete and steel counterweight. The improvements being performed to the bridge are essential for operability and safety.

Commuters are encouraged to use NW 12 Avenue and NW 22 Avenue as alternate northbound/southbound routes and allow extra time when traveling through the area.

ENGINEERING DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:

The engineering design of the improvements has commenced and is being performed on an accelerated schedule. Design will be completed within the next 45 days in order to facilitate construction immediately thereafter.

Construction is scheduled to begin in December 2022 upon the conclusion of hurricane season and is expected to be completed in a period of 3 to 6 months. The earliest anticipated project completion time frame is March of 2023.



METHODOLOGY AND EFFORTS:

All efforts are being made to minimize the impact from the construction activities to area residents, schools, businesses, and motorists. The area will be restored to its original condition immediately upon the completion of the construction activities. The restoration activities will address any areas impacted by the project construction. The improvements being made to the bridge will result in an extended useful life to ensure no further anticipated disruptions to service for a period of 6 to 8 years.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Department of Transportation and Public Works Information Officer Sandra Antonio at (305) 375-2810 or by email at DTPWOutreach@miamidade.gov