

Brent Spence Bridge



FHWA Involvement

Michael Loyselle, P.E. and Aaron Buckner, P.E.

FHWA - Kentucky Division

Engineering and Operations Team



**It always seems
impossible until it's done.**

Nelson Mandela

Elements of Success



- Stewardship
 - Federal-State partnership to ensure federal laws and regs are complied when using federal funds
- Program Oversight
 - Support KYTC efforts to meet Emergency Relief (ER) program requirements and guidance
- Logistical
 - Provide technical expertise to KYTC from the ER-program perspective to project development, procurement and delivery phases of the project
- Leadership and Communication
 - Manage and coordinate relevant information regarding status, progress and/or federal actions that must be taken for KYTC to achieve their goals and successfully complete their mission
- Challenges at the project-level (traditional way to do business vs. emergencies)
 - Time to develop a project (years vs. hours/days)
 - Follow established construction procurement procedures (support to Division of Purchases' procurement)
 - National, regional and local visibility
 - Multiple levels of coordination and information management/sharing



What happened and why is it important to FHWA?

- Asset: Brent Spence Bridge
 - River crossing over the OH River
 - Carries I-75 and I-71 traffic
 - 160,000 vehicles per day
- Event: 0245 November 11, 2020 (Wed)
 - CMVs NB collision (lower deck)
 - Truck carrying potassium hydroxide crashed into 1st CMV collision
 - Collision caused a fire on the bridge, burning up to 1,500°F
- Impact and Effect: Bridge closure
 - Bridge inspections to assess damages and ability for bridge to reopen
 - Traffic being temporarily detoured
- Mission: Restore Essential Traffic Service



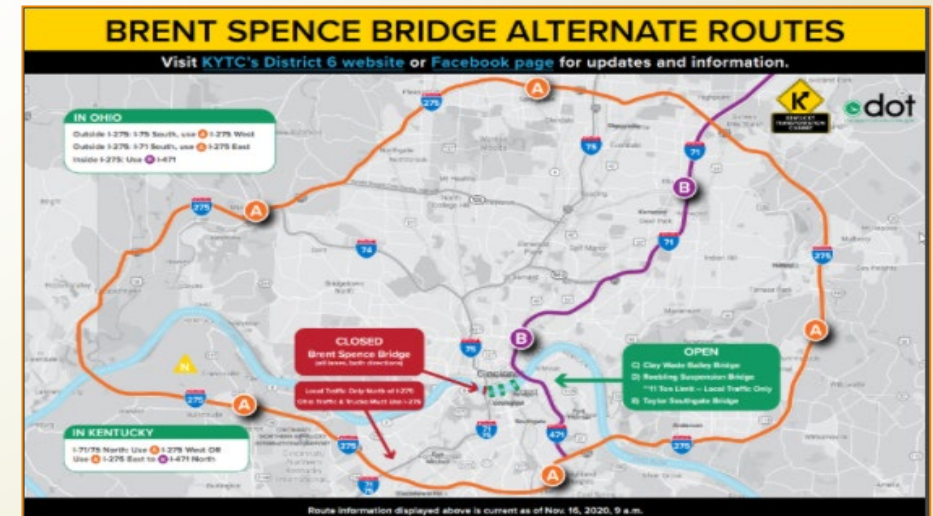
Credit: Dayton Daily News, WKRC

FHWA Involvement

Mission: Restore Essential Traffic Service by Repairing and Re-opening Bridge in an Efficient and Safe Manner

Goal: Re-open by 12/23/20 ~ 42-days post- event

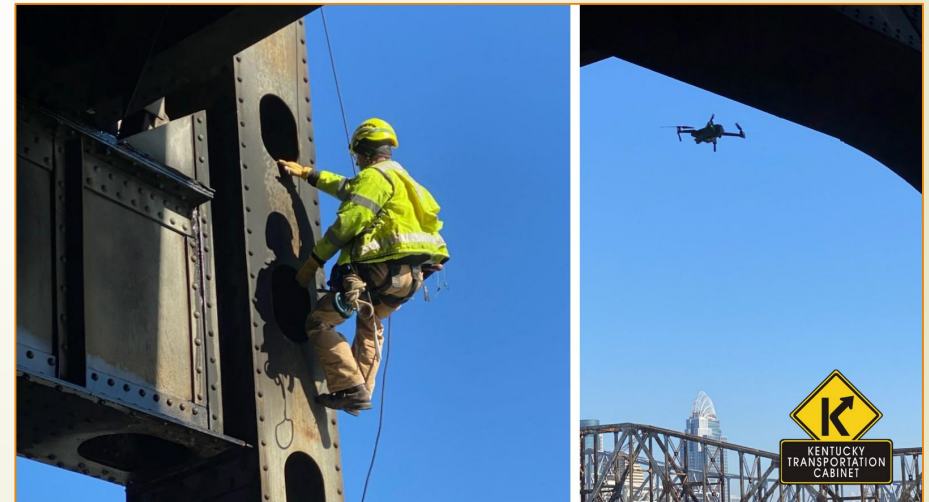
- Day 1 (Wed): Fire and Environmental Containment | Initial MOT, Initial Assessments | Governor issues Emergency Declaration
 - FHWA-KY Reporting & Briefing to USDOT/FHWA
 - OST, HOA, DFS, Program Offices, OH/KY Divisions
 - Initial ER Coordination
- Day 2 (Thurs): Bridge Structural Inspections/Assessment of Damages | Kentucky Lead State in Repairs
 - FHWA Bridge Safety SME Team
 - MOT Development of Detour & Signing
 - Reporting & Briefing
 - FHWA ER Acknowledgement Letter Sent
 - KYTC requests \$12-million in ER Quick Release



Credit: KYTC

FHWA Involvement

- Day 3 (Fri): Final Bridge Inspections | Roebling Bridge MOT | SOW Development | Procurement of Steel & Emergency Repairs Construction
 - FHWA-KY expanded its program and technical assistance from initial ER damage assessment to support KYTC's project development and procurement efforts
 - Contract Administration technical assistance
 - Ability for KYTC to procure negotiated contract with a sole contractor
 - Review and vetting of negotiated procurement language for beams
 - MOT development and procurement
 - DDIR approved for MOT, Inspection and Engineering/Environmental
 - Led meeting with FHWA HQ, FHWA-OH and ODOT to determine ODOT's cost reimbursement from event
 - Reporting & Briefing to FHWA-HQ



Credit: KYTC

FHWA Involvement

- Day 4 (Sat): SOW/Repair Plan Development | Construction Procurement
 - Negotiated contract shifts to Solicited procurement using *Request for Quote* with 21-day advertisement period waiver
 - \$12-million ER Quick Release allocation received
 - Reviewed and approved plans + contract language for *Request for Quote*
 - Briefing & Discussions with FHWA-KY leadership



Credit: KYTC

FHWA Involvement


- Day 5 (Sun): Procurement of Steel & Emergency Repairs | Advertisement of *Request for Quote*
 - FHWA-KY reviewed and approved request for sole-source procurement of steel beams
 - Reviewed and approved request for 21-day advertisement waiver for construction procurement
 - Reviewed and approved addendum #1 for *Request for Quote*
 - Reviewed Contractor's questions and provided feedback to KYTC
 - Processed the Right-of-Way Certification



Credit: KYTC

FHWA Involvement

- Day 6 (Mon): Quotes Received | Bid Evaluation | Repair Project Awarded | NEPA Evaluation Complete
 - FHWA-KY reviewed and approved *Request for Quote's* Addendum #2
 - Reviewed and approved Detailed Damage Inspection Report (DDIR) for construction phase
 - Approved construction authorization of federal funds
 - Reviewed bid tabs and participated in Awards Committee Meeting
 - Concurred in Award of the Emergency Repairs' construction contract
 - Participated in Pre-construction Meeting



ANDY BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
TRANSPORTATION CABINET
transportation.ky.gov

JIM GRAY
SECRETARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Naitore Djigbenou
502.782.4829
naitore.djigbenou@ky.gov

Contact: Chuck Wolfe
502.892.9038
chuck.wolfe@ky.gov

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Awards Contract for Repairs to Spence Bridge
Kokosing Construction Co. submits low bid of \$3.1 million, commits to reopening by Dec. 23

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Nov. 16, 2020) – Today, Kentucky Transportation Secretary Jim Gray announced the awarding of a contract to Kokosing Construction Co. to repair and reopen the fire-damaged Brent Spence Bridge that connects Northern Kentucky and Cincinnati.

Kokosing, headquartered in Westerville, Ohio, submitted a low bid of \$3,127,528 and committed to having the bridge reopened to traffic by Dec. 23. There will be additional costs – the exact amount yet to be determined – for ancillary expenses such as traffic control, construction inspection and additional steel.

The bridge, which carries about 160,000 vehicles per day across the Ohio River on Interstates 71 and 75, has been closed since a fiery truck crash in the early hours of Wednesday, Nov. 11. An in-depth inspection of the bridge, supported by laboratory testing, showed that damage was localized and the structural integrity of the bridge was not

Credit: KYTC

FHWA Involvement

- Since Award of Repair Project
 - FHWA-KY participated in coordination of 2 adjacent Interstate Rehabilitation projects that were completed during the traffic detour
 - Received Damage Survey Summary Report (DSSR)
 - Developed ER Determination Acknowledgement letter to KYTC for FHWA signature
 - Provided guidance on allowable project charges for public relations
 - Provided guidance in the process for Local Public Agencies to request reimbursement from FHWA-ER funds
 - Repairs completed under budget and ahead of schedule
 - Release of unused ER Quick Release funds



Credit: The Young Witness, Australian Newspaper



Credit: KYTC



Brent Spence Bridge Emergency Repairs – FHWA Team

- FHWA-KY
 - Todd Jeter
 - Boday Borres
 - John Ballantyne
 - David Whitworth
 - Jill Asher
 - Aaron Buckner
- FHWA Bridge Safety Inspection Team
 - Tom Drda
 - Sonny Jadun
 - Justin Ocel
 - Kenny Tong
- FHWA-KY
 - Bernadette Dupont
 - Steven Jacobs
 - Michael Loyselle
 - Thava Overstreet
 - Eric Rothermel
 - Ryan Tenges
 - Eileen Vaughan