

**Schoharie County Caverns Road Bridge (BIN 3355030)
over Cobleskill Creek
Hamlet of Bramanville
Bridge Offer**



The Schoharie County Department of Public Works (SCDPW) is seeking parties interested in removing, reusing and taking ownership of the Caverns Road Bridge, a single-span, Warren Pony Truss, American Bridge Company structure that currently spans Cobleskill Creek in the Hamlet of Bramanville, New York. The current owner, Schoharie County, in consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) determined the bridge to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The Caverns Road Bridge over Cobleskill Creek (Bridge Identification Number (BIN) 3355030) was built in 1928. It is approximately 100 feet long and 20 feet wide and is structurally deficient with advanced deterioration noted to critical components of the structure. The bridge currently is posted for 28 tons. Some vertical member stiffeners are corroded with localized section loss. Two truss members have up to 1" deep impact dents on inboard flanges. Truss members are in fair condition. Concrete on the fascias is spalling on approximately 70% of the bridge length on the left and 100% on the right. One rebar on right fascia is hanging down to stream level. Underside of deck panel 1, bays 2 and 3 is damp and map cracked with efflorescence near begin abutment. The wearing surface is cracked and broken up to 1' wide along left and right edges, exposing the membrane. The surface also has 1/16" wide x 3' to 5' long longitudinal and transverse cracks near midspan along with a cracked area of approximately 7' wide x 4' long near the begin abutment. Fascia stringers in panels 1 and 5 are heavily rusted with up to 20% section loss on the bottom flanges and 10% on the top.

Bridge removal cost is estimated at approximately \$230,000. This estimated cost excludes the removal of the lead-based paint from the steel structure in accordance with the US Environmental Protection Agency's requirements. In lieu of removing the lead-based paint a quid pro quo agreement to accept

liability for the lead-based paint may be acceptable. The bridge foundations or piers would be removed separately by the new bridge contractor.

Interested parties are required to meet certain conditions, which include:

- Providing a comprehensive written plan for the preservation and future use of the bridge, including any desired modifications, and the estimated cost of rehabilitation. It is preferred that the new owner be able to use the entire superstructure of the truss bridge. Prior to assuming ownership, the potential new owner's proposed plan for the relocation, rehabilitation and reuse of the bridge that will be subject to review by the New York State Historic Preservation Office for a period of 30 days. The prospective new owner's plan must include a timeline presenting the completion of a plan to disassemble, relocate, and reassemble the bridge within 12 months of ownership.
- Maintaining the structure and the features that give it historic significance according to prescribed standards.
- Assuming all future legal and financial responsibility for the structure, including "hold harmless" agreements to the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Post a performance bond.
- Providing proof of ability to assume the financial and administrative responsibilities of bridge ownership throughout its existence.

At the time ownership of the bridge is transferred for reuse, the transfer deed will include a preservation covenant that requires the new owner to maintain the bridge in accordance with the "Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings." This covenant will remain with the bridge if it is transferred to a third party.

Agencies, jurisdictions, organizations, or private owners interested in obtaining ownership of the bridge for aesthetic, historic, recreation or other uses should contact SCDPW Commissioner Dan Crandell by phone at (518) 295-2330 or email at crandell@co.schoharie.ny.us. This contact must be received no later than close of business on September 16, 2022. Funding to assist with relocation or rehabilitation may be provided up to the estimated cost of bridge demolition. If an interested party secures its own federal funding, it is noted that any bridge preserved with federal funding shall thereafter not be eligible for any other highway funds pursuant to Public Law 100-17, Section 123(f) (Historic Bridges).