



# Historic Bridge Adoption Information Packet

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La Salle County

Business-Interstate Highway 35

Nueces River

May 28, 2025

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## Announcement

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) seeks adopters for the historic bridge detailed below for reuse according to federal transportation and historic preservation laws. The bridge is on Business-Interstate Highway 35 crossing the Nueces River in LaSalle County.

Letters of interest and/or reuse proposals will be accepted until 5 p.m. on **June 27, 2025**. TxDOT is currently undergoing alternatives analysis for this project. The outcome of the analysis may impact the availability of this bridge. Priority for assistance will be given to public entities seeking to reuse the bridge in a public or publicly visible space. Bridges available through this program are not suitable for vehicular service. All rehabilitation work must conform to the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation* in consultation with the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

Interested parties may request additional information, indicate an interest, or submit a reuse proposal by contacting:

Gisela Herrera, Environmental Project Planner  
TxDOT Laredo District  
1817 Bob Bullock Loop  
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## Bridge Location

- **County:** La Salle
- **Highway or Facility:** Business-Interstate Highway 35
- **Feature Crossed:** Nueces River
- **GIS Locational Information:** <https://arcg.is/00T8X1>

## Bridge Information

- **Bridge Owner:** Texas Department of Transportation
- **Main-span Type:** Drop-in pin cantilever
- **Main-span Length:** 224 feet
- **Year Built:** 1938
- **Builder:** H.B. Zachry Co.

## Bridge Condition and Load Rating

Built in 1938, the Business-Interstate Highway 35 bridge at the Nueces River was designed to carry vehicles whose axle loads were historically lower than today's vehicles. As a result, the bridge has a limited load-carrying capacity, and it cannot safely carry modern, heavier vehicles. The bridge carries two-way traffic, but the deck is too narrow to meet current TxDOT standards. The bridge has moderate spalling with exposed pedestal anchors under a beam. There is also impact damage on guard fence rails, leaning/missing/weathered timber posts, widespread rust, and misalignment.

## Historic Significance of the Bridge

The Business-Interstate Highway 35 bridge at the Nueces River was constructed in 1938. It is comprised of 28 spans totaling 1,226-feet in length. The bridge is significant for its type and length. It is one of the longest cantilever-suspended steel I-beam bridges in the state, and is it noteworthy for its special design, structural components, and steel-picket railing.

The bridge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under *Criterion C* (Engineering) at the state level of significance. The character-defining features of the bridge include its length, the cantilever-suspended drop-in unit, and steel-picket railing.



## Bridge Photographs









