



Historic Bridge Adoption Information Packet

Travis County

SL 111 (Airport Blvd.)

MKT (Austin Western) Railroad Crossing

June 7, 2024

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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 located in Travis County, on State Loop (SL) 111 (Airport Boulevard) crossing the MKT Railroad.

Letters of interest and/or reuse proposals will be accepted until 5 p.m. on July 8, 2024 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:

Troy Olney, Environmental Program Manager
TxDOT Austin District
7901 N IH 35, Austin, TX 78753
Phone Number: (512) 832-7056
Email address: Troy.Olney@txdot.gov



Bridge Location

- **County:** Travis
- **Highway or Facility:** State Loop (SL) 111/Airport Blvd.
- **Feature Crossed:** MKT Railroad
- **GIS Locational Information** <https://arcg.is/1Hm8Sz>

Bridge Information

- **Bridge Owner** State of Texas
- **Main-span Type:** Steel Stringer
- **Main-span Length** 800 feet
- **Roadway Width** 52 feet
- **Year Built** 1947
- **Builder** Unknown

Bridge Condition and Load Rating

With an overall length of 801 feet, utilizing 16 individual 50-foot-long spans, the bridge's structural, functional, and geometric deficiencies include the following:

- Bridge deck: Rating of 4 (poor condition)
- Railing: Does not meet current MASH crash testing criteria
- Non-Standard Rail: Current Height is 37 inches. Minimum pedestrian rail height is 42 inches.
- Vertical Clearance: Current bridge provides approximately 17 feet of vertical clearance, nearly 7 feet short of the CapMetro requirement for new facilities.
- H-20 Loading capacity: numerous repairs are needed, including spalling in the deck soffit. Current requirements are for HL-93 loading.

Historic Significance of the Bridge

The SL 111 (Airport Boulevard) bridge over the MKT (Austin Western) Railroad was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP in a 1999 state-wide bridge survey conducted by TxDOT. The bridge was evaluated and specifically listed within this survey as an NRHP-eligible bridge. The bridge is as a good representative example of a steel I-beam bridge designed by the Texas State Highway Department in the 1940s. The bridge is one of the

longest examples of its type in the state, and its main span is one of the longest simple steel I-beam configurations constructed during the period of significance. The overpass meets NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, Engineering, at the state level of significance.

Bridge Photographs



