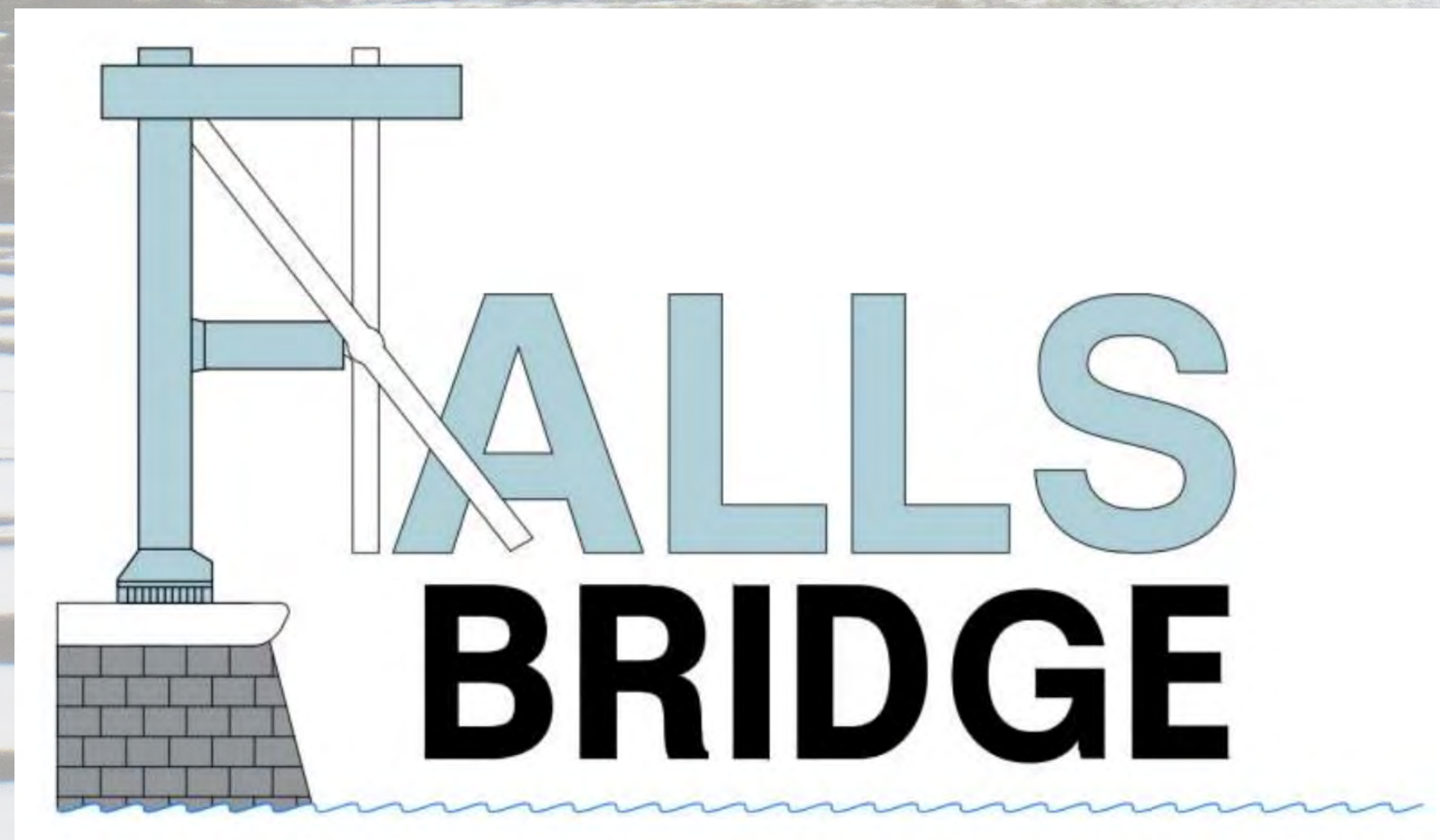


Welcome

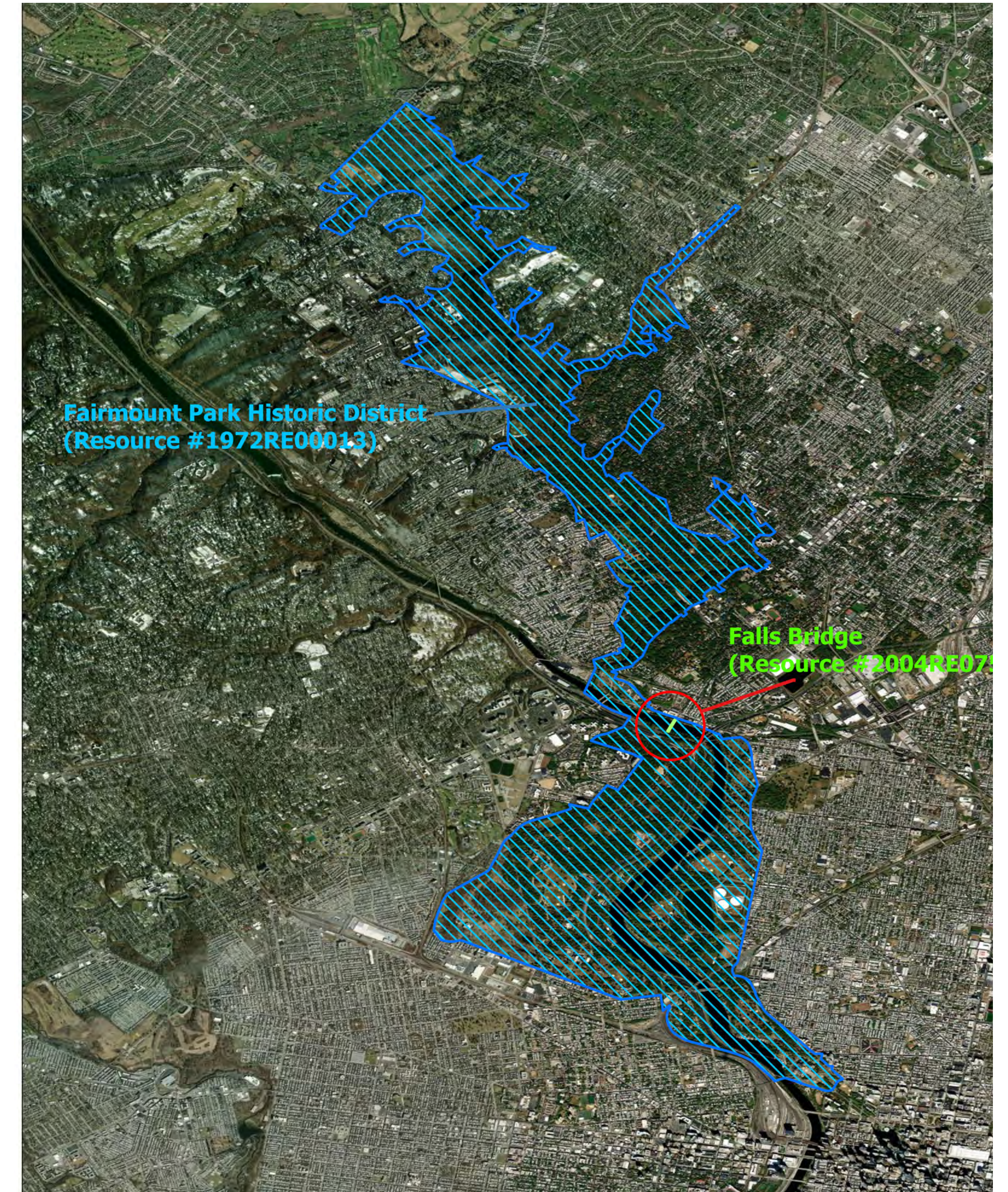


Public Open House
Tuesday, August 19, 2025
5:00pm - 8:00pm

History of the Falls Bridge



- Existing truss, built in 1895, is a variant of the Pratt truss form known as the Baltimore (Petit) truss
- This is the eighth iteration of the bridge. Earlier bridges at this location spanning 1808-1878 were destroyed by wind, snow, ice, damage from a cattle herd, and even a collision with another bridge!
- Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The NRHP boundary for the bridge is its footprint and includes the decorative pedestrian railings along the sidewalk that extend from each portal.



Historic Petit Through Truss

- Petit truss developed in 1871 by Baltimore, Ohio, and Pennsylvania Railroad engineers
- Additional strut and hangers
 - Allows taller truss
 - More frequent floorbeams
 - Shallower deck
- Falls Bridge unusually large and heavy due to original design including an upper bridge deck



The PA SHPO concurred with PennDOT's Section 106 determination of *No Adverse Effect* to the NRHP-Eligible Falls Bridge (Resource #2004RE07542) on September 26, 2024.

Falls Bridge Existing Conditions



Bridge Background:

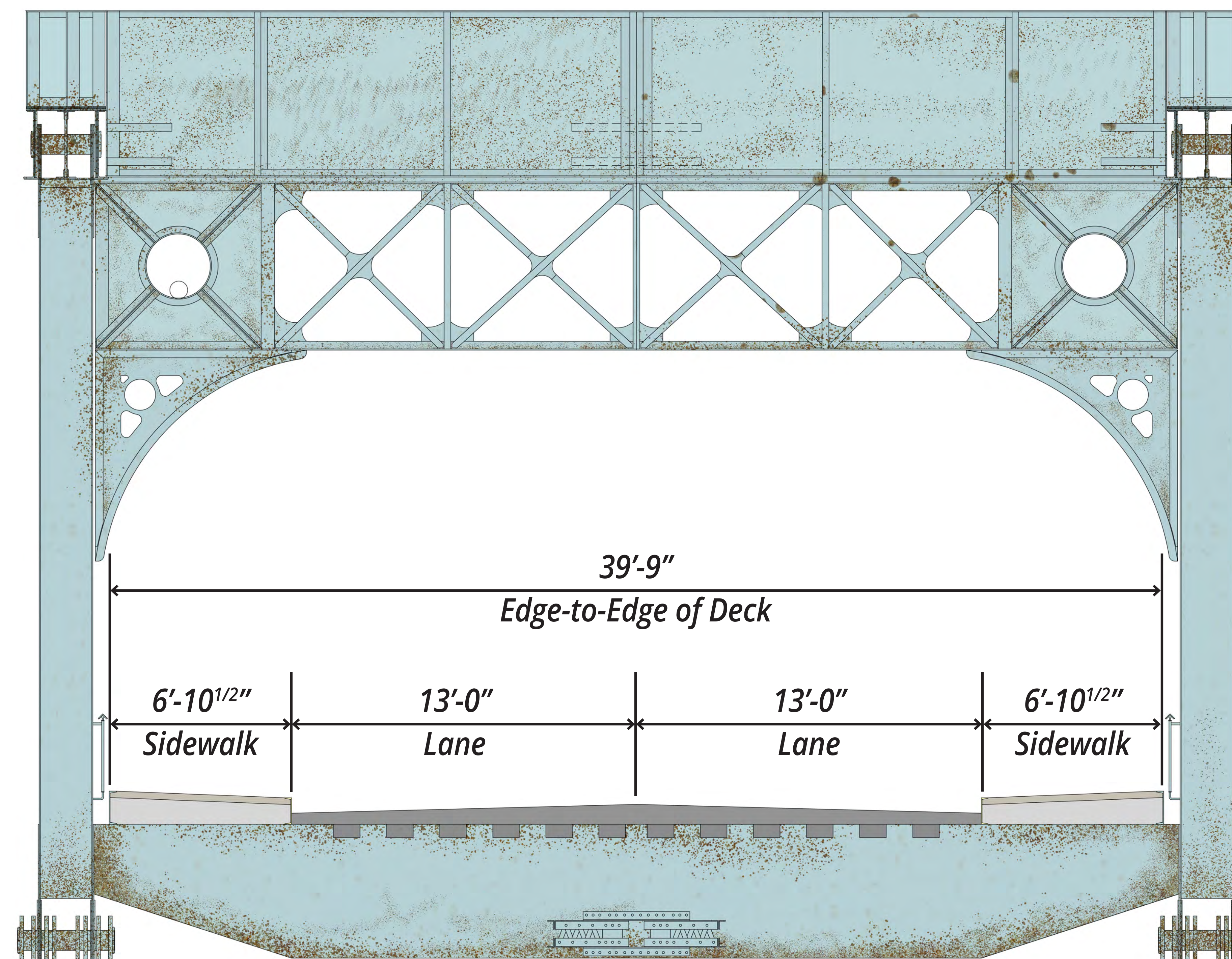
- Total Bridge Length: 554' -3"
- 3 Spans
- Span Length: 180'
- Width: 26' (curb to curb)
- Sidewalk width: 6'-10.5" (both sides)
- Originally built in 1895
- Type: Steel Petit through truss/ floorbeam/stringer
- Repair/Rehab in 1973, 1986, 1997, 2007, 2015, 2017, 2023

Current Condition:

- Inspected 1/23/2025
- Poor condition
- 3 Ton weight restriction
- No trucks or buses
- Emergency vehicles permitted

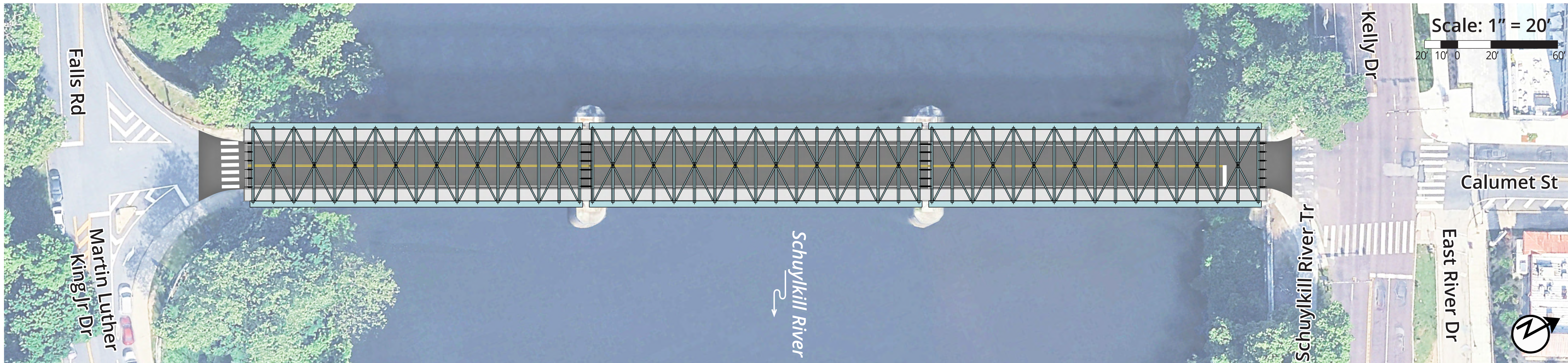


Bridge Typical Section



Falls Bridge Proposed Conditions

Bridge Plan



Proposed Improvements

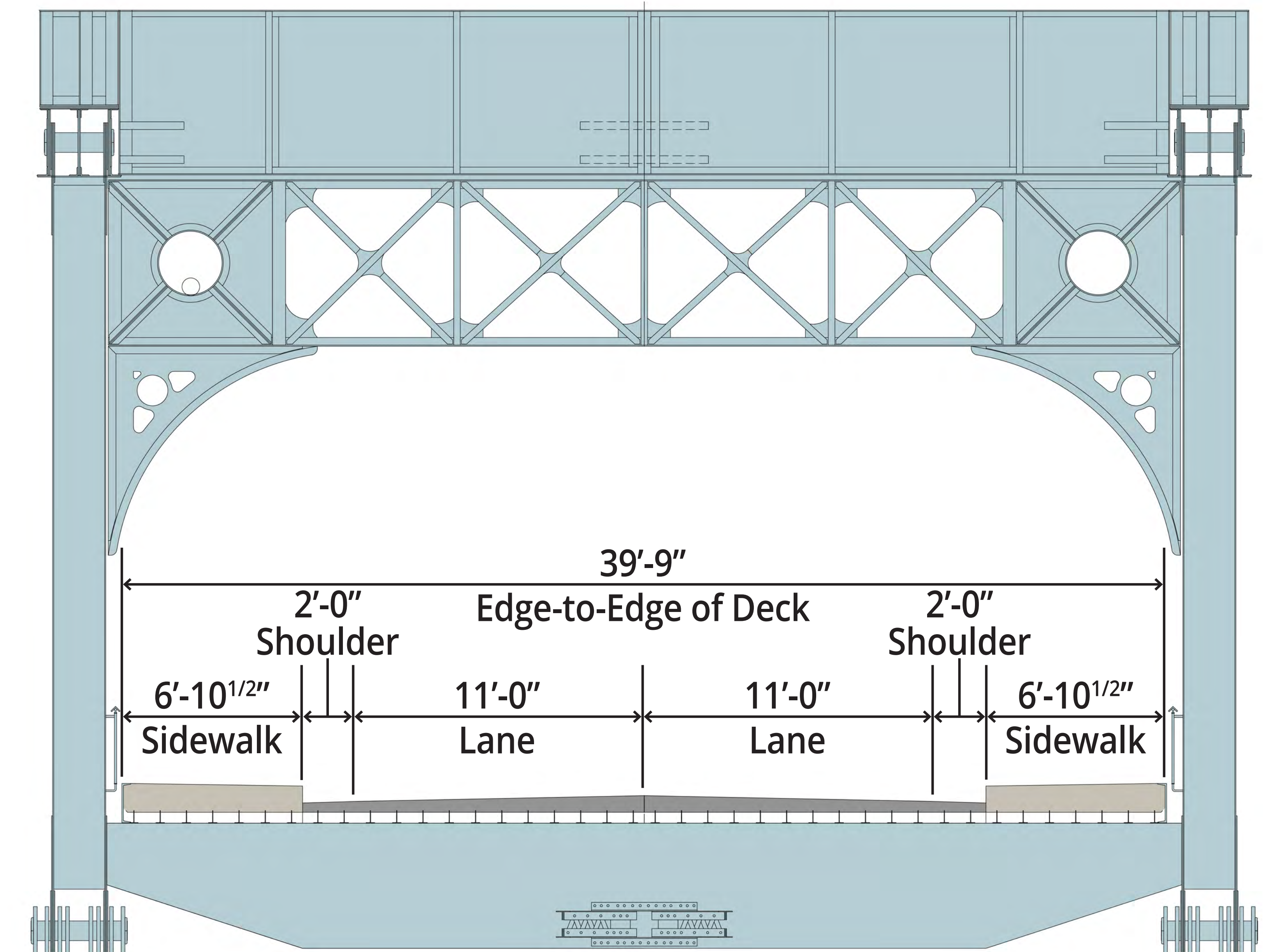


List of Project Improvements:

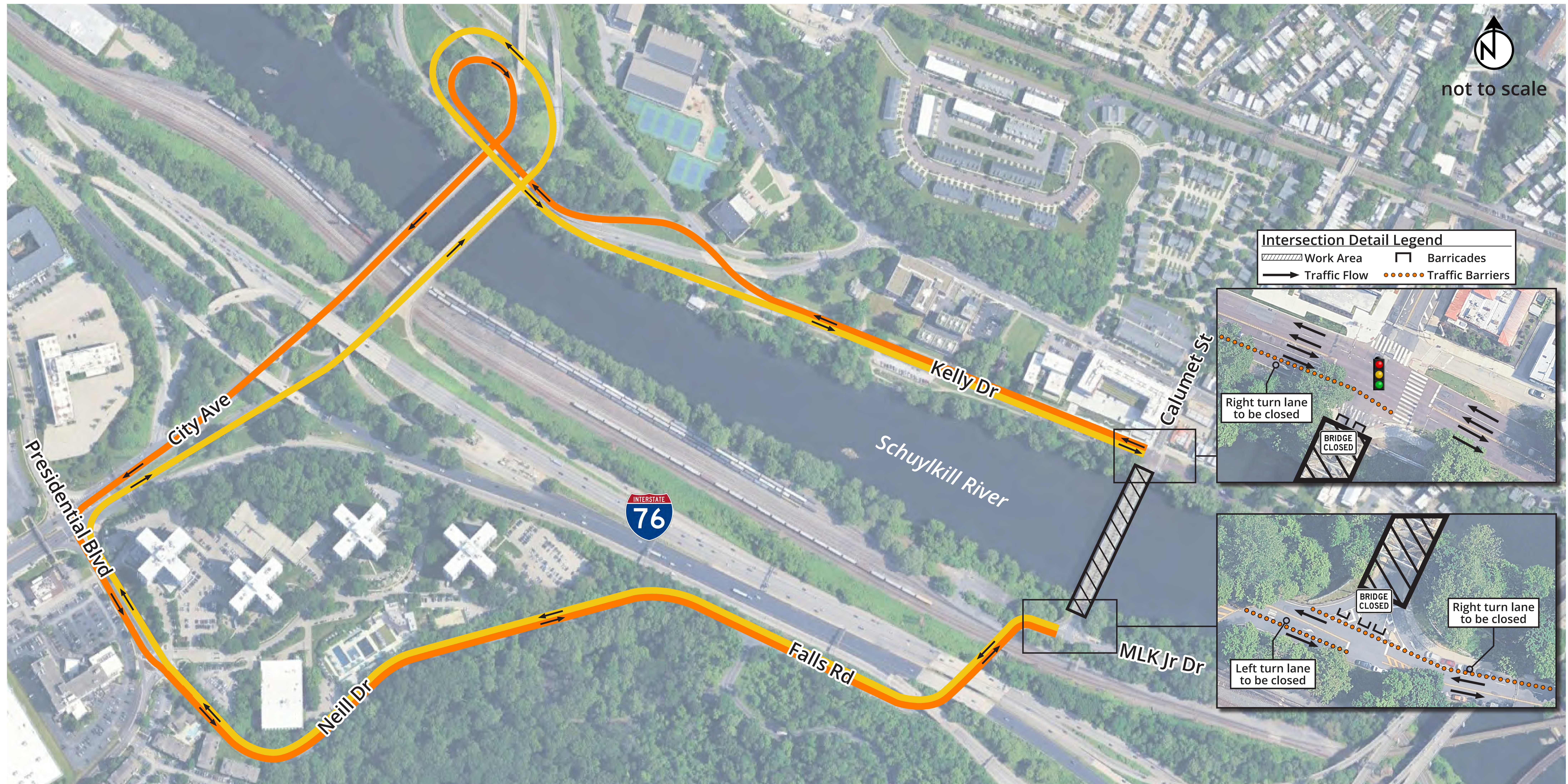
- 1 Upgrade original bearings with modern-day bearing pads
- 2 Repair, clean, and paint existing truss members in kind to match the original Starlight Blue color
- 3 Test and repair truss pin connections
- 4 Improve bridge drainage system
- 5 Clean and repoint masonry piers and provide scour protection at base of piers
- 6 Reconstruct bridge deck, deck joints, approach roadways, and the sidewalks
- 7 Replace original floorbeams under the bridge deck, matching the historic shapes
- 8 Restore the historic ornamental railing
- 9 Restripe roadway, add shoulder, and narrow lanes to 11'



Bridge Typical Section



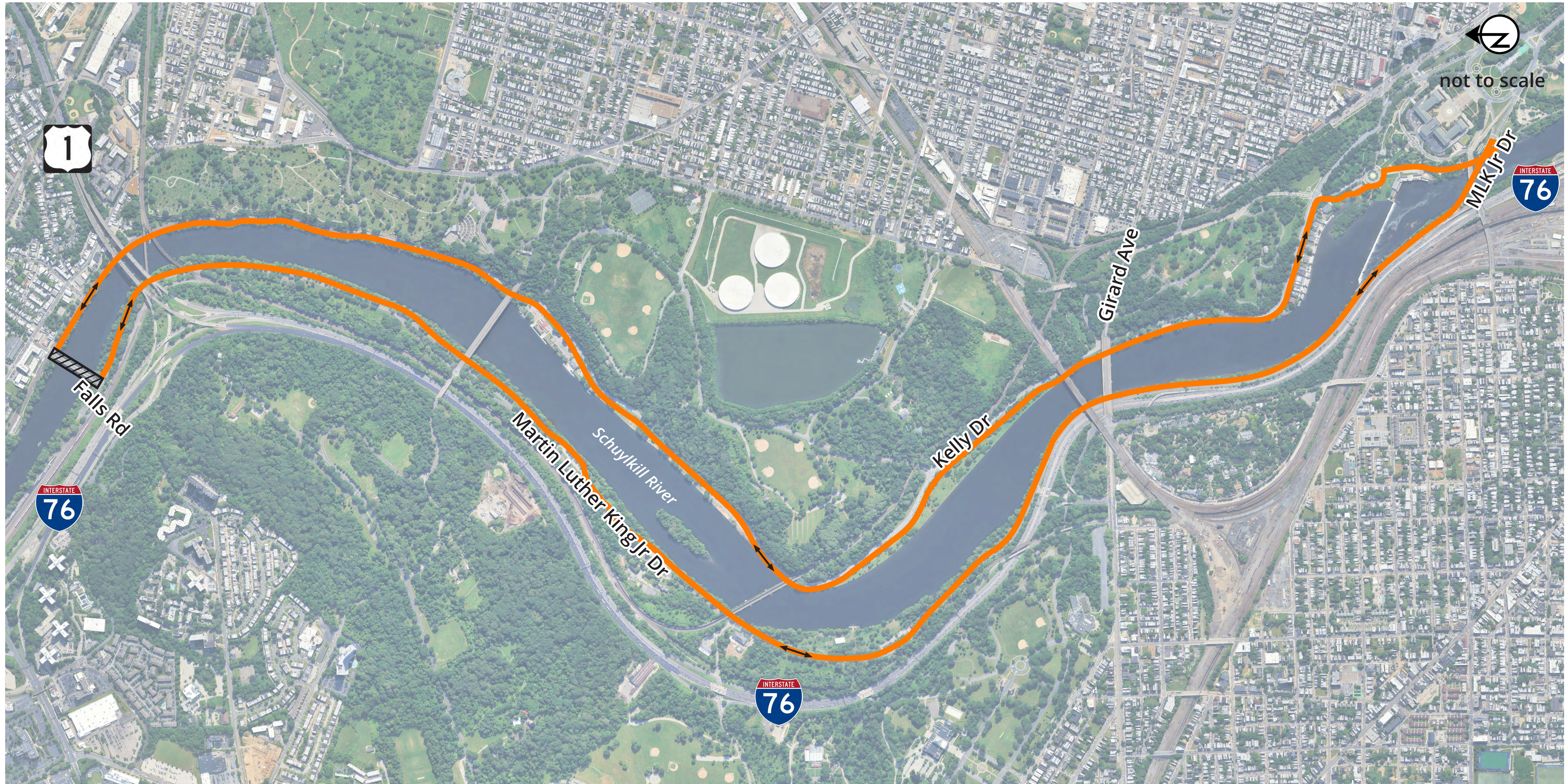
Vehicular Detour Map



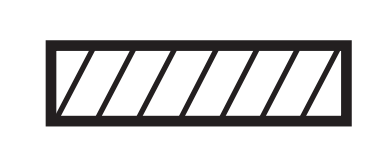


Legend

- Work Area
- Direction of Traffic
- Eastbound thru traffic Detour Route - Falls Rd (1.9 miles)
- Westbound thru traffic Detour Route - Falls Rd (1.9 miles)

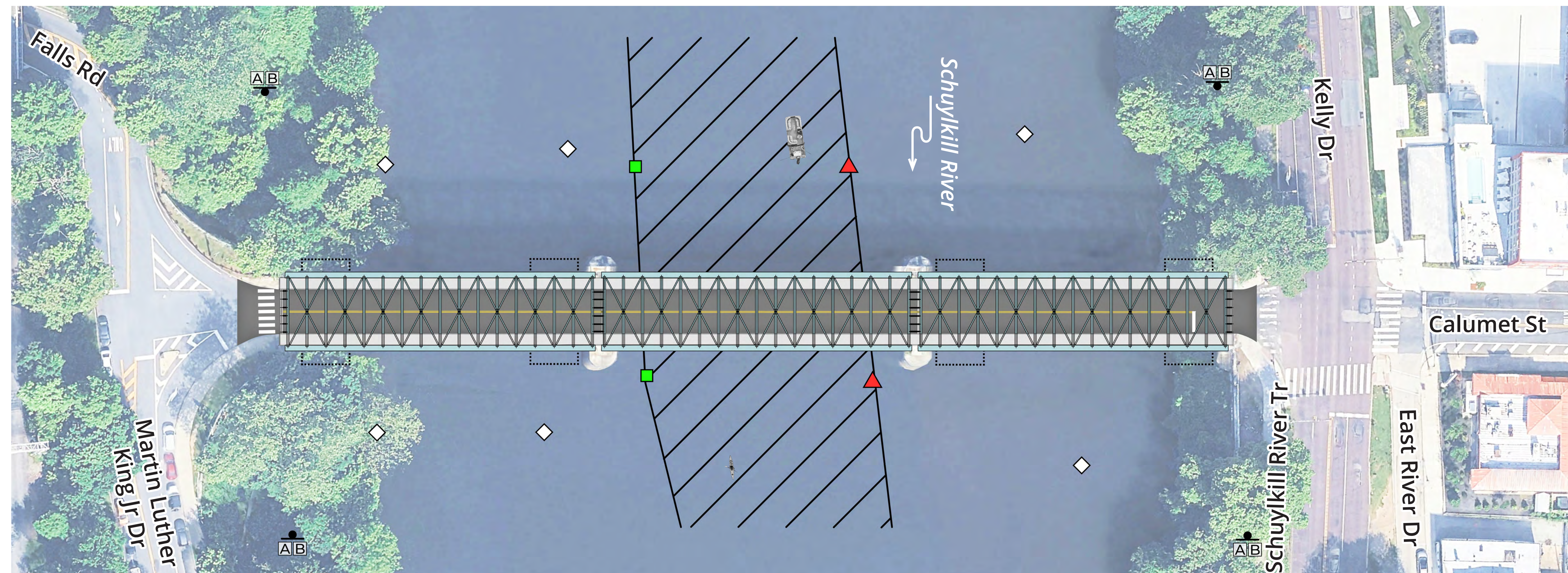
Bicycle and Pedestrian Detour Map



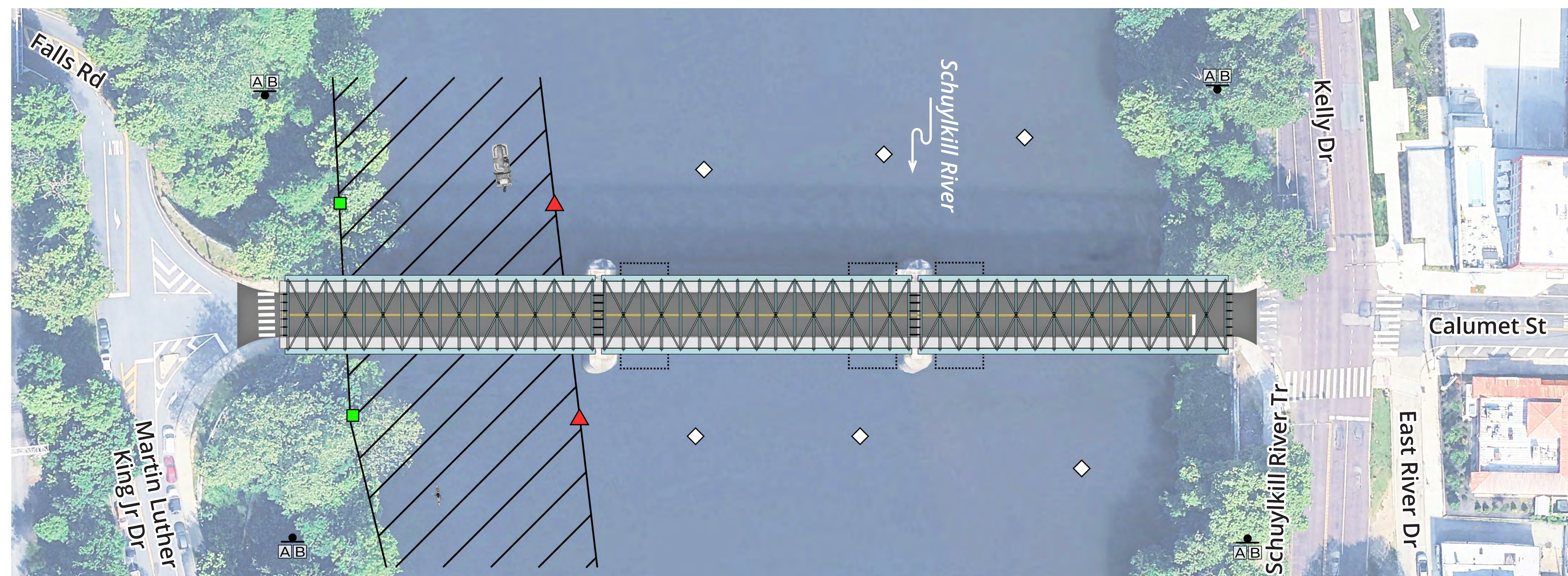
Legend

-  Work Area
-  Detour Route - Falls Rd (8.1 miles)
-  Direction of Traffic

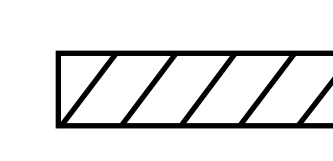






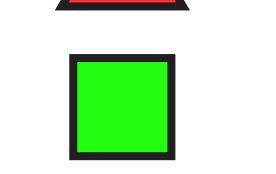
Aids to Navigation (ATON) Detour Plan - Phase 1

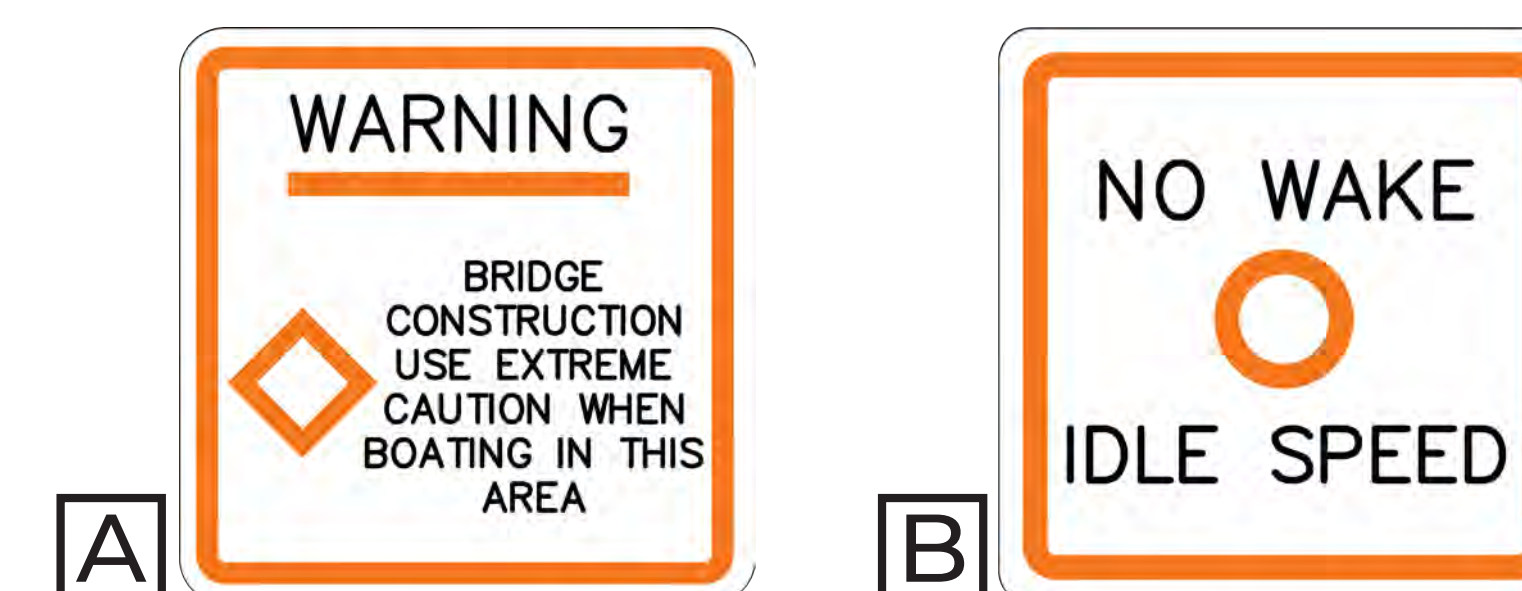


Aids to Navigation (ATON) Detour Plan - Phase 2



Legend

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
|  Safe Waterway Opening |  White "Boats Stay Out" Buoy |  Warning Sign |
|  ATON Location |  Red Channel Buoy |  No Wake Sign |
|  Barge Location |  Green Channel Buoy | |



not to scale

Anticipated Remaining Project Timeline

Estimated Falls Bridge timeline, 8/2025

	2025				2026				2027				2028				2029			
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Final Design																				
Public Outreach, FD																				
Reopen MLK, Jr. Drive Bridge																				
Falls Bridge Maintenance																				
PGA Tour, FIFA World Cup, MLB All-Star Game, Semiquincentennial																				
Open Contractor Bids																				
Offsite Construction																				
Detour & Onsite Construction																				

Falls Bridge Rehabilitation Project Public Open House Comment Form

Thank you for your participation in our Public Open House for Falls Bridge held at the Mifflin School on August 19, 2025! Please complete and use this form and provide any additional comments related to this project.

1. Your Name _____

2. Your Email (to receive project information) _____

3. Which of the following describes you? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Local Resident
 ☐ Community Business Owner
 ☐ Student
 ☐ Public Official
☐ Community Org. Member
 ☐ Transportation or Engineering Professional
 ☐ Other

4. How do you travel across Falls Bridge? Please indicate how often you do so.

	Daily	A few days per week	Once a week	Monthly	Less than Monthly	Special events in Manayunk
Walk/Jog	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bike	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Please provide us with any additional comments related to this project.
