



Temporary Acrow Bridge Maintains Rural Route During Aging Bridge Replacement in Alabama

Modular steel solution provides safe, reliable traffic detour for Cherokee County

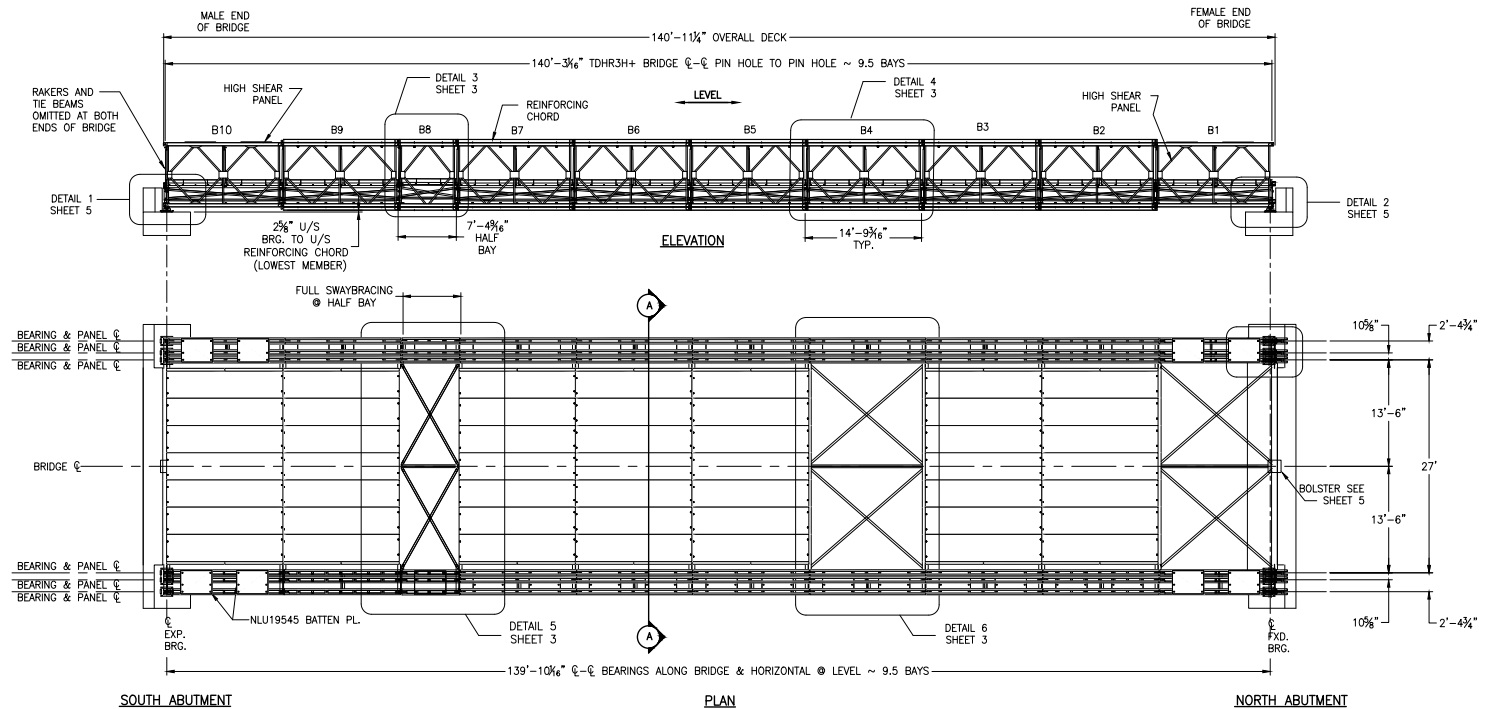
State Route 273 (SR-273), a 16-mile north-south route in northeastern Alabama, is a critical corridor for residents and first responders. When the century-old bridge carrying SR-273 traffic over Daniels Branch, north of Leesville, reached the end of its service life, it was slated for replacement. Despite its modest population and rural location in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, closing the bridge during construction would have required a 40-mile detour, significantly inconveniencing the local community and delaying emergency response. Without a feasible, alternate route and to maintain safe, reliable access throughout the replacement project, a temporary detour bridge installation was necessary, and a Mabey Universal bridge from Acrow was selected.

Acrow's modular steel structure measures 140 feet (42.67m) in length with a two-lane roadway width of 24 feet (7.35m). Featuring an asphalt overlay deck and designed to AASHTO HS20-44, the bridge was supplied

to contractor McInnis Construction. It was assembled on site and then installed adjacent to the existing crossing using a crane-assisted launch.

Traffic was successfully switched onto the temporary detour bridge in November 2025. Following demolition of the original structure, construction of the replacement bridge is expected to be completed in late 2026, at which point the detour bridge will be removed.

A proven, cost-effective solution for maintaining traffic during bridge rehabilitation or replacement projects, Acrow's temporary bridge solutions can reduce construction impacts and help keep projects on or ahead of schedule. In locations where detour options are limited, Acrow's versatile systems provide a safe and reliable way to keep traffic and communities moving throughout project delivery.



Specifications

Bridge length:

140' (42.67m)

Roadway width:

24' (7.35m)

Guide rails:

TL-4

Deck surface:

Asphalt overlay

Bridge erection method:

Crane-assisted launch

Design load:

HS20-44

Standard Acrow bridge finish:

- All major components galvanized to AASHTO M111-ASTM A123
- All bolts are hot-dip galvanized
- All pins are electrogalvanized

Standard Acrow bridge specification:

- (A) Panel chords, diagonals, verticals, reinforcing chords, rakers to AASHTO M223 GD 65
- (B) Raker braces, transoms, top chord braces, swaybraces, transom braces, diagonal chord braces, decking to AASHTO M223 GD 50
- (C) Panel pins to ASTM A 193 GD B7
- (D) Bolts to AASHTO M164M - A325