# Rehabilitation of Tacoma Avenue S. Bridge, WA

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Peppermill Hotel, Reno, Nevada



Western Bridge Engineers' Seminar



- Introduction
- Objectives
- Assessment of bridge deficiencies
- Seismic retrofit considerations
- Repair of major elements
- Concluding remarks

## Introduction

- Bridge was built in 1930
- Bridge is 5-span, 333' long and 52' wide.
- It serves as a critical link within the City of Tacoma.
- Bridge now shows deficiency in load carry capacity, and is posted.

# Introduction (Cont'd)

- Two of the 4 traffic lanes are closed and both sidewalks are closed.
- The roadway does not meet the current City roadway standard and needs to be widened.
- The steel superstructure and substructure is rusted and damaged.
  The bridge is vulnerable to earthquake loading.

# Introduction (Cont'd)

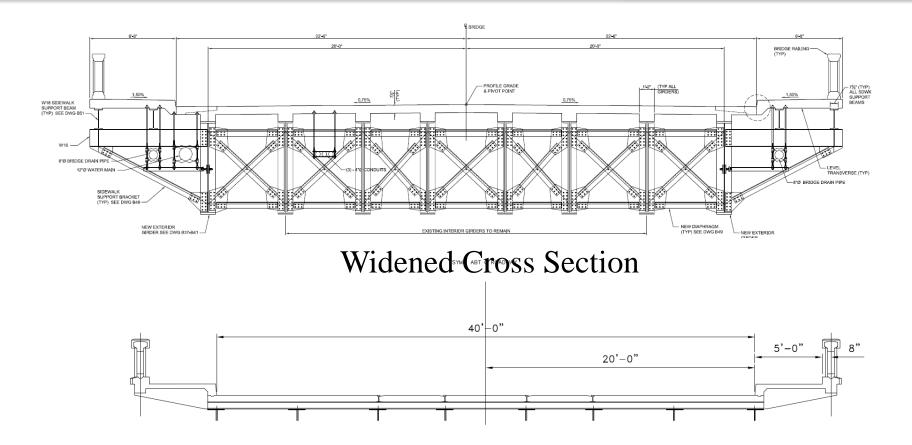
- Steel rust damages are in girders and crossbeams.
- Sidewalk cantilever system is failing.
- Abutment 1 has moved due to Nisqually earthquake in 2001. (Abutment 1 settled by 8" and moved toward north by 4")



#### The objectives are;

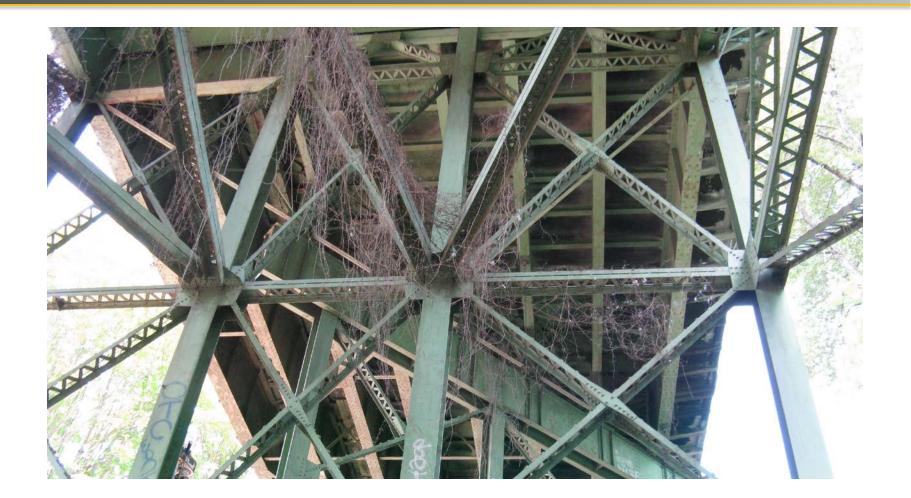
- To rehabilitate the bridge to its original design capacity (i.e. AASHO Class AA Loading; 8-axles 96 kips Streetcar)
- Widen the bridge from 56'-4" to 59'-2" wide (geometry improvement)
- Improve seismic capacity to the extent feasible without major expense.



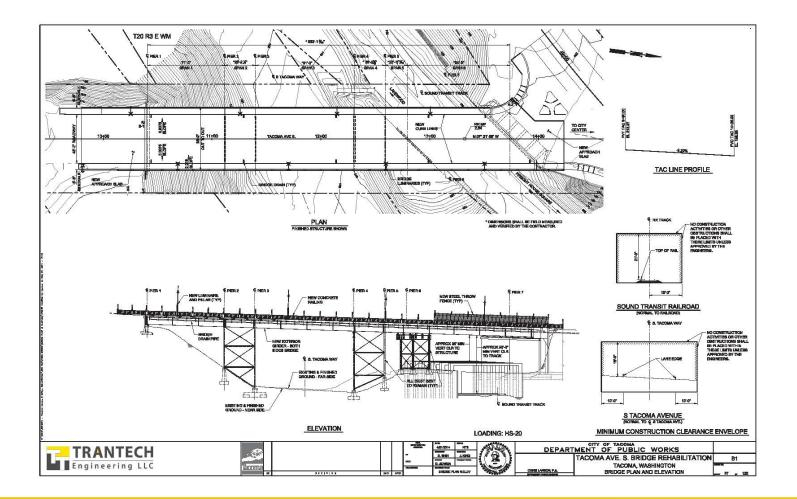


**Original Cross Section** 

# **Bridge Description**

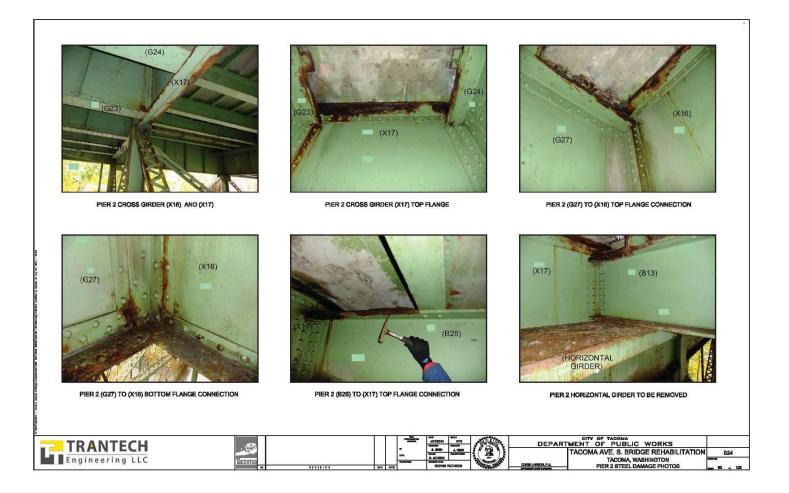


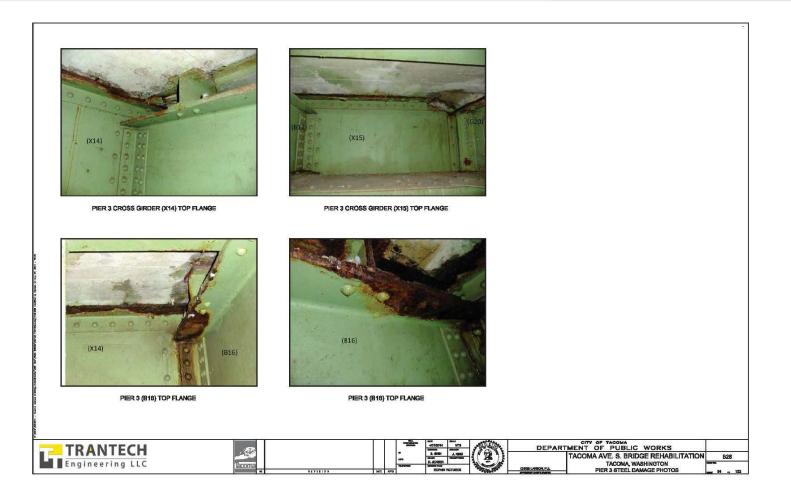
# **Bridge Description**



# Assessment of bridge deficiencies

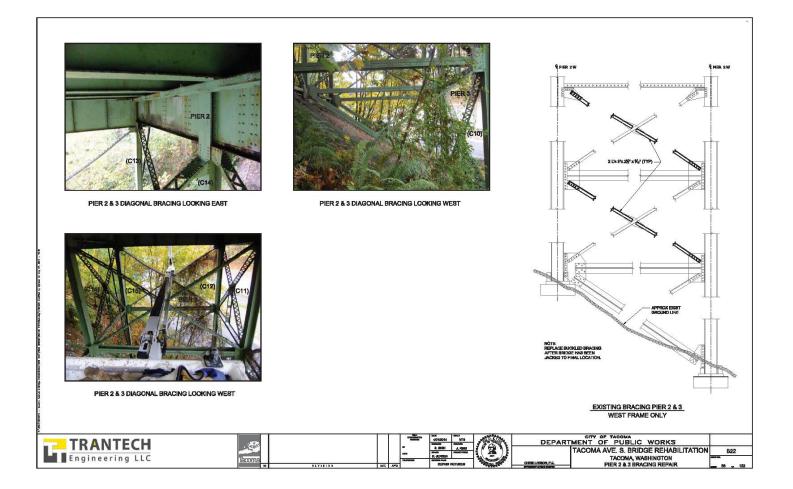
- Based on in-depth inspection report:
  - Girders have pack rust and section losses due to rusting
  - Crossbeam at bent 5 has substantial reduction in section
  - Roadway is not adequate (deck geometry coded 2)
  - Substructure is damaged (rusted, bent bracing etc.)
  - Seismic settlement Pier/ Abutment 1





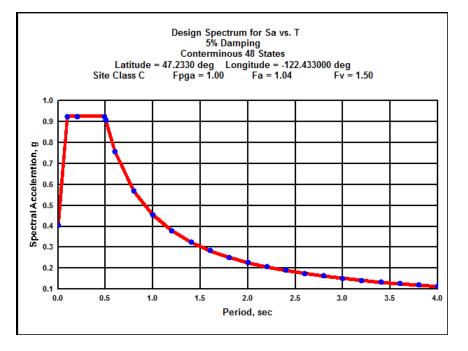


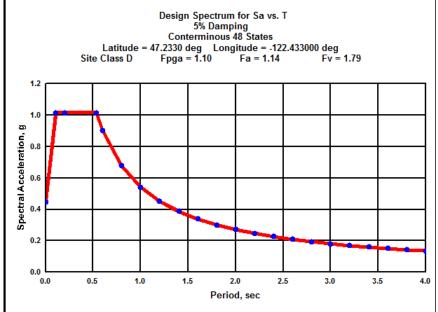




- Deck thickness = 6.75"
- Deck rating = 0.45 (shear governing)
- Deck geometry coded = 2
- Deck needs to be replaced and roadway to be widened by 7 feet.

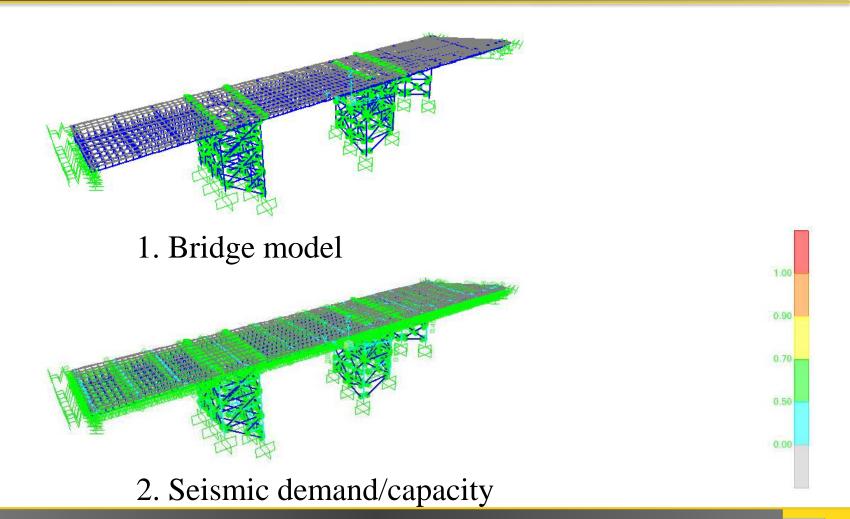
- Sidewalk condition = 4 (poor)
- Concrete sidewalk support bracket cracked
- Cantilever reinforcement yielding and sidewalk tipping down





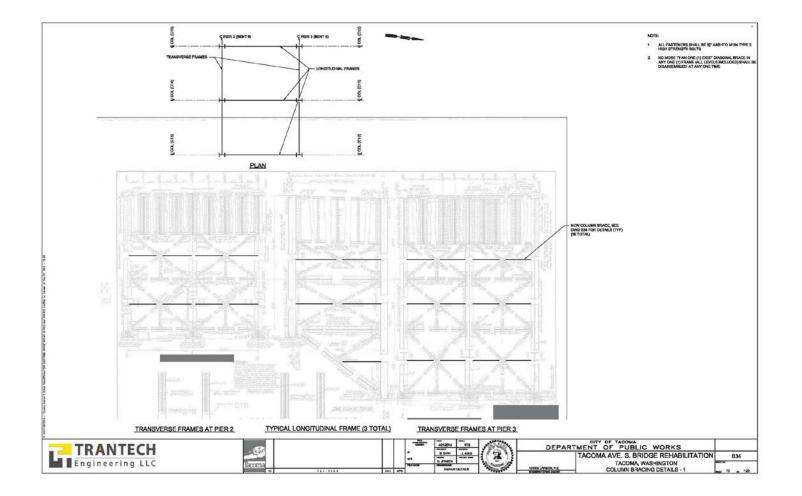
1. Earthquake response spectra for C site (N Abutment) 2. Earthquake response spectra for D site (S Abutment)

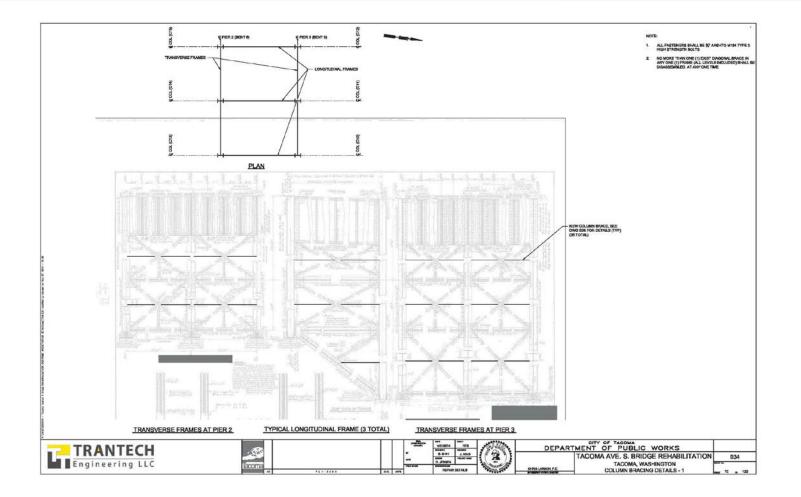
- Ss = 0.89g
- Method C: component capacity/demand method.
- Seismic demands are determined from multi-mode response spectrum method.
- Capacity/demand ratios are calculated for individual components.
- The bridge is vulnerable to earthquake loading.



- Catcher blocks and longitudinal restrainers
- New light weight deck (added mass less than 10%)
- Reduction of unsupported length of columns
- Jacking the bridge to its original position
- Replace buckled braces

- Addition of new cross frames for a better diaphragm and load distribution.
- Making the existing girder composite
- Replacement of rocker bearings with neoprene pads at abutments.
- Connection of abutments to approach slab

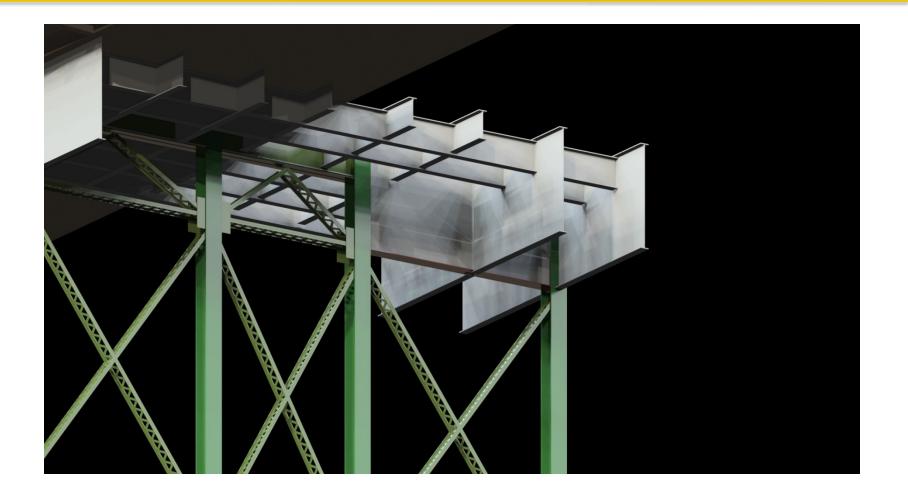


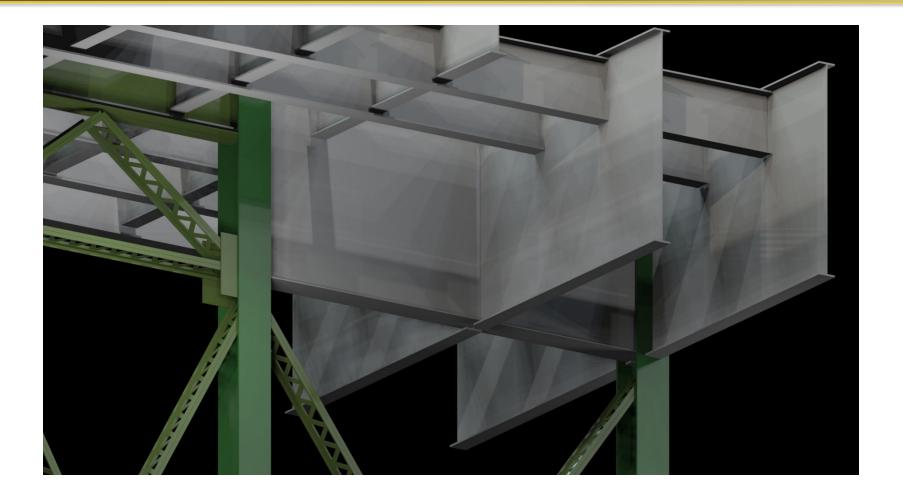


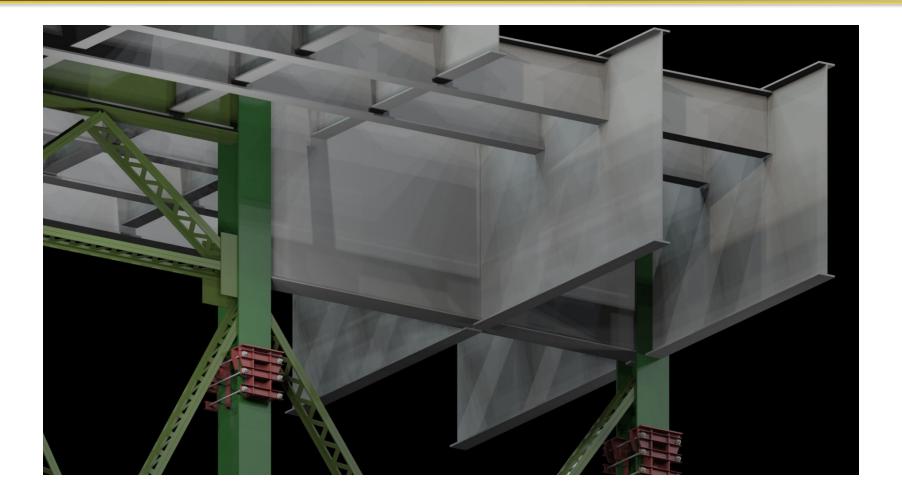
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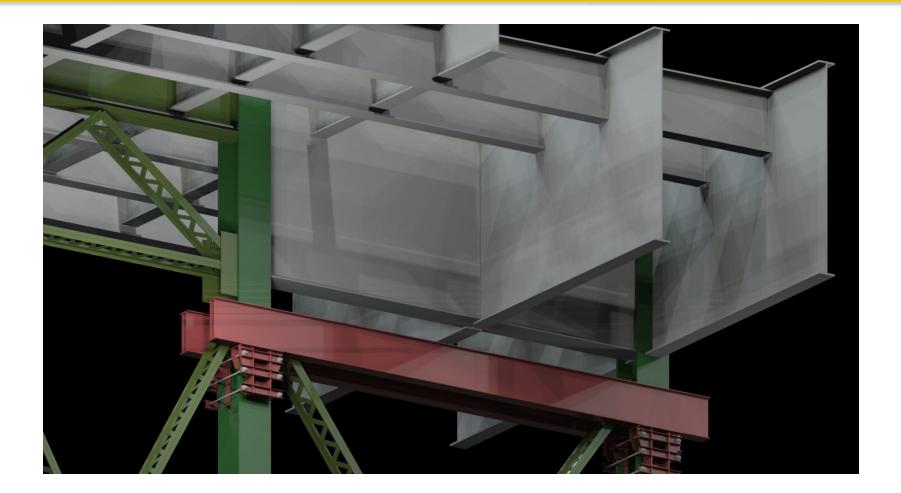


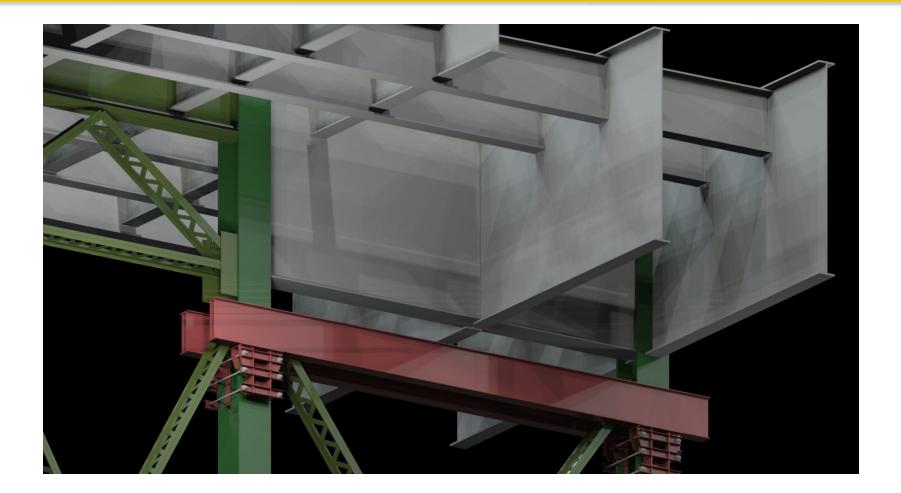


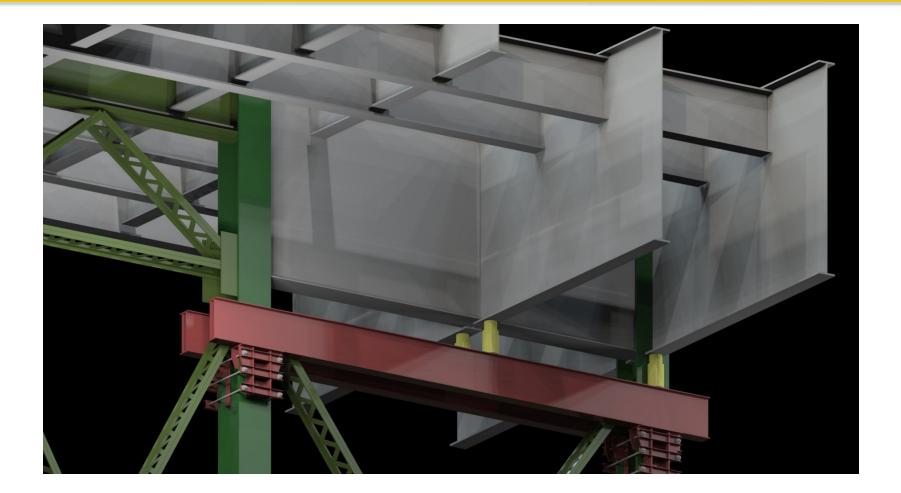


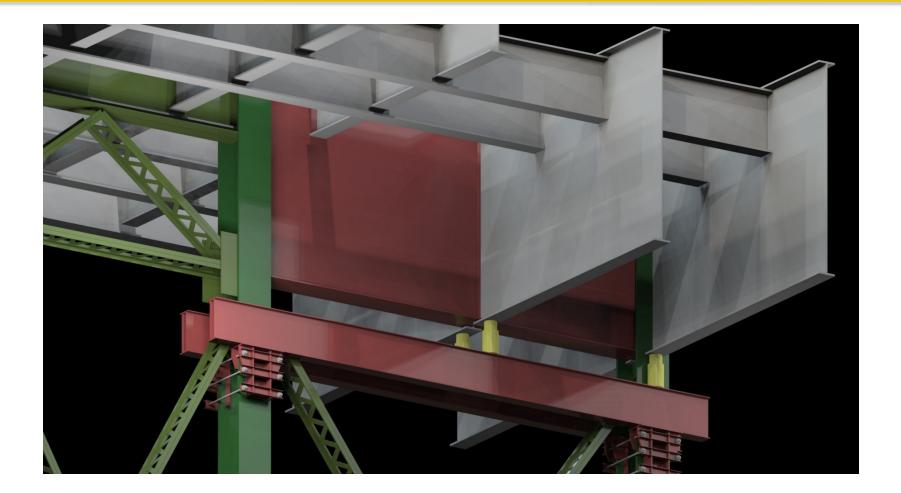


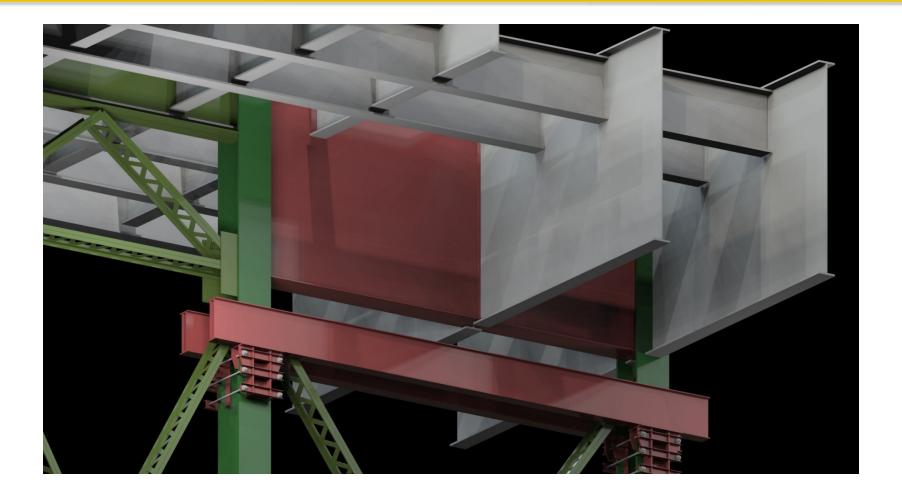




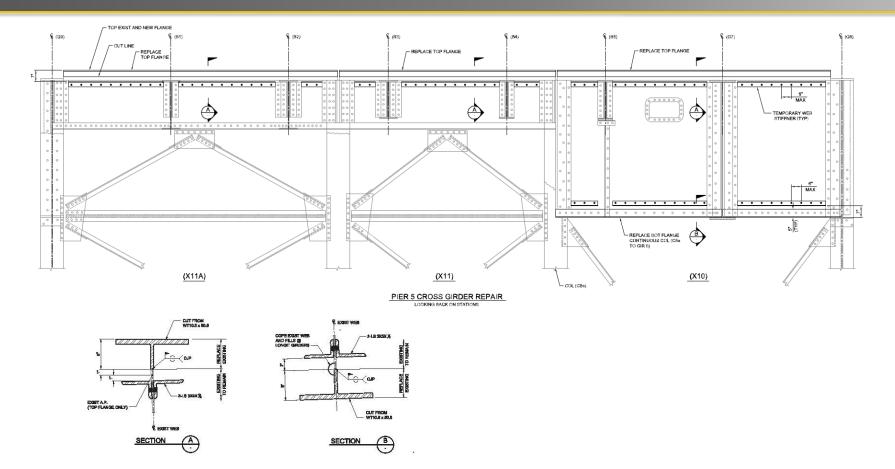






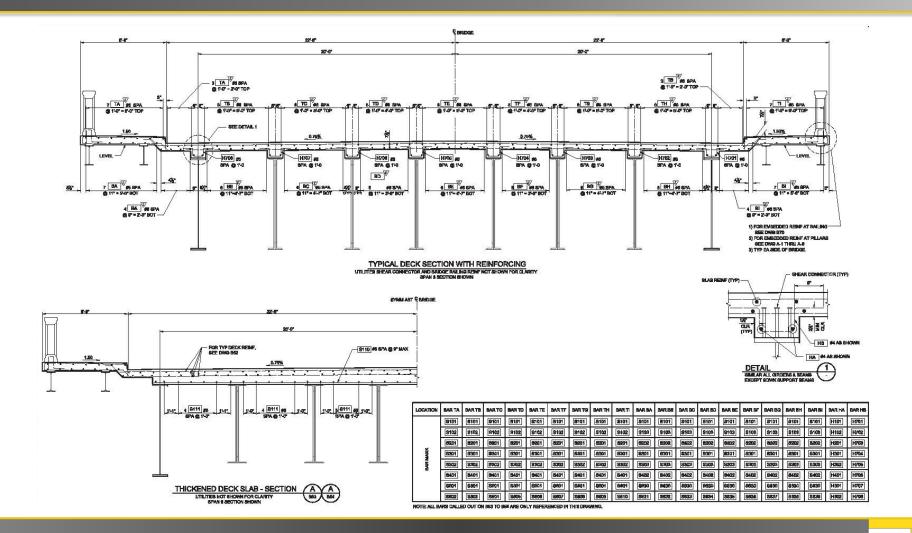


#### **Crossbeam repairs**

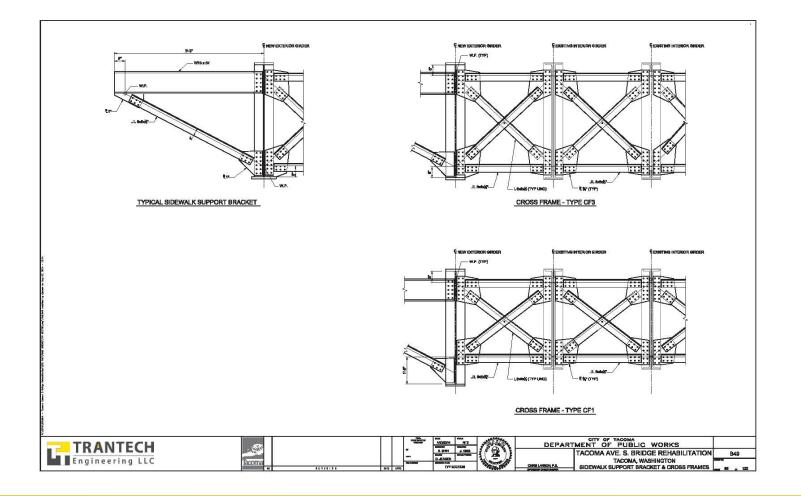


Repair crossbeam X10 at pier 5

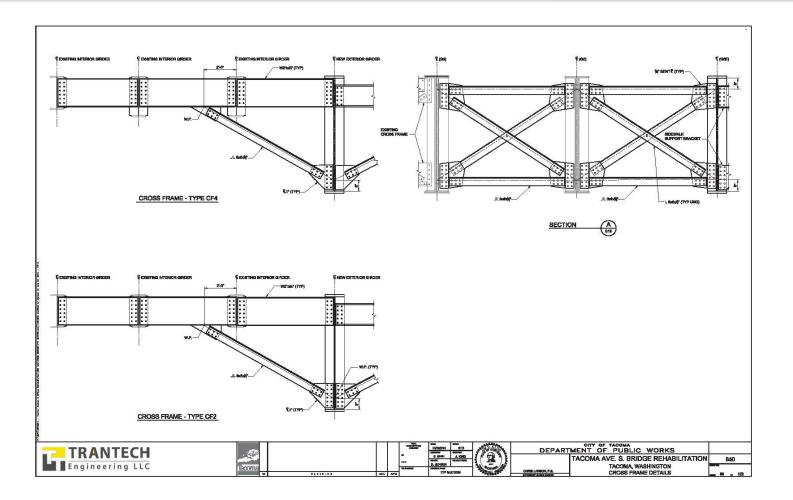
#### **Deck Replacement**



#### **New Cross Frames**

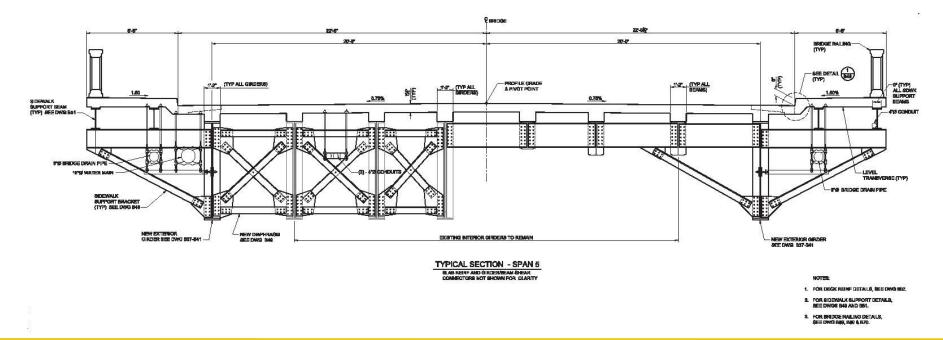


#### **New Cross Frames**



#### **New Cross Frames**

- Sidewalk width = 6'-8"
- Cantilever length = 9'-4"
- Sidewalk support bracket



# **Completed Structure**



# **Concluding remarks**

- Posting of the bridge is removed.
- Seismic capacity of the bridge is enhanced via simple described practical measurements.
- Practical steel repair measurements are described.
- New light weight deck is utilized to reduce the superstructure mass.
- New cross frame system is utilized as a primary structural system for distribution of live loads and lateral loads within the superstructure.
- Bridge aesthetics were incorporated