

# Fiber Reinforced Polymer Decks and Challenging Micropile Installation for Pedestrian Bridges in Difficult Terrain



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# Introduction

- Project Overview
- Bridge Type Selection & Design
- Construction Photos

# Project Partners



TAHOE  
REGIONAL  
PLANNING  
AGENCY



Together Creating a Legacy



Tahoe Transportation  
DISTRICT



DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION &  
NATURAL RESOURCES



ch2m<sup>SM</sup>

# Project Location



# Shared Use Path

- Three plus miles of shared use path from the south end of Incline Village to Sand Harbor
- An undercrossing of SR 28 near Tunnel Creek
- Vista Points (Pullouts)
- Bridges and retaining wall structures



# Design Considerations

- Steep terrain between lake and SR-28
- Highly variable subsurface conditions (depth to bedrock and thickness of alluvium)
- Large diameter boulders
- High seismicity (PGA = 1.25g)
- Maintenance of traffic along SR-28
- Environmental constraints



# Bridge Type Selection

- Structure Type (Engineered Fill vs. Walls vs. Bridge)
- Superstructure Type
- Abutment Type
- Pier Type

# Structure Type (Engineered Fill vs. Walls vs. Bridges)

- Geosynthetic Reinforced Slopes
- Soldier Pile Retaining Walls
- Bridges

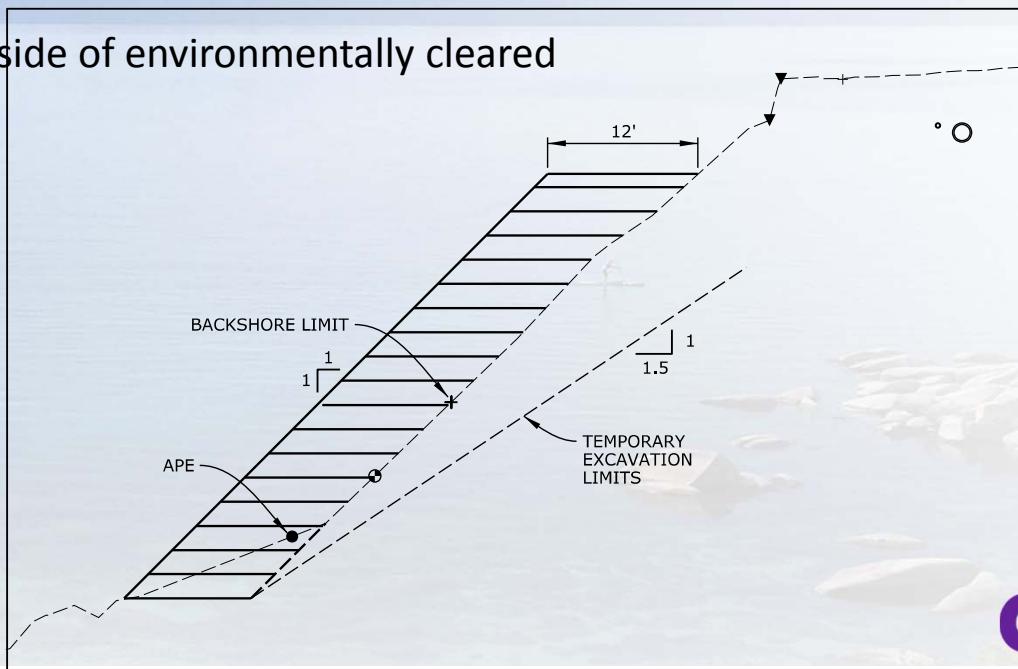
# Geosynthetic Reinforced Slope

- Pros:

- Lower cost compared to bridges

- Cons:

- Improvements extended outside of environmentally cleared zones, and into lake



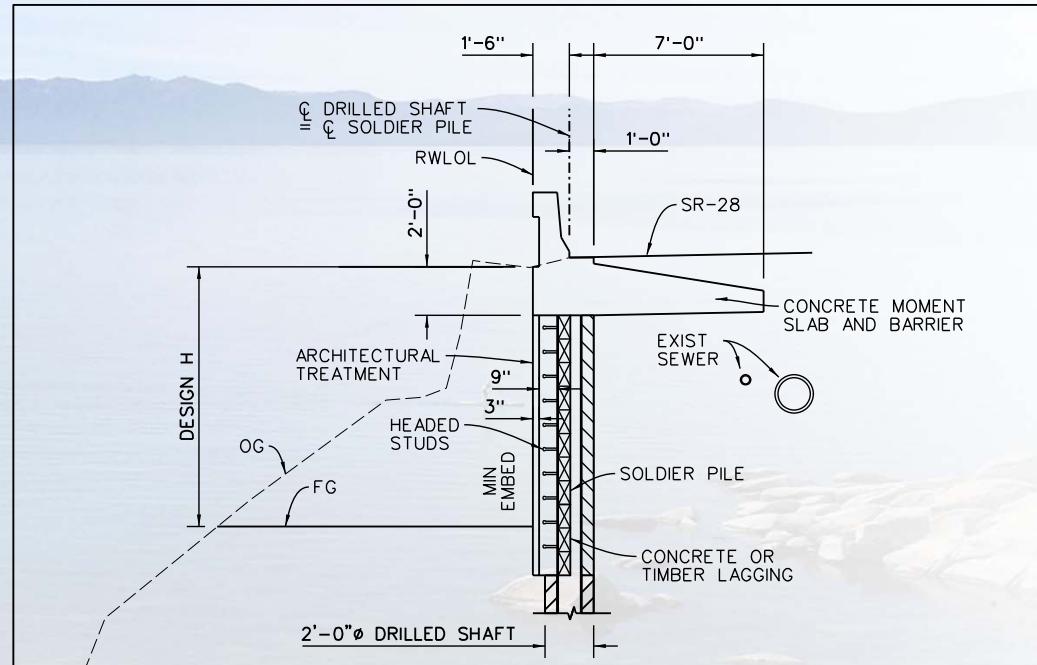
# Soldier Pile Retaining Wall

- Pros:

- Top Down Construction
- Trail separated from highway

- Cons:

- Traffic Control
- Construction Duration
- Higher Construction Cost

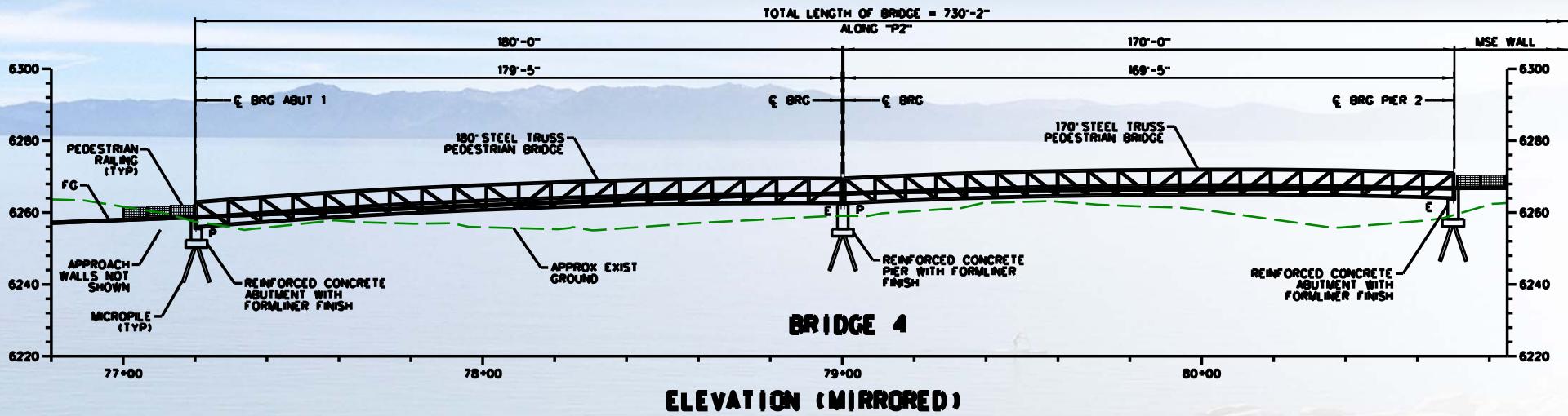


# Superstructure Type

- Prefabricated Steel Truss – Long Span Alternative
- Precast Concrete Slabs
- Concrete Deck on Steel Girders
- Fiber reinforced polymer (FRP) deck on steel girders

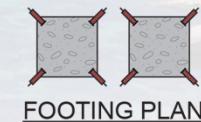
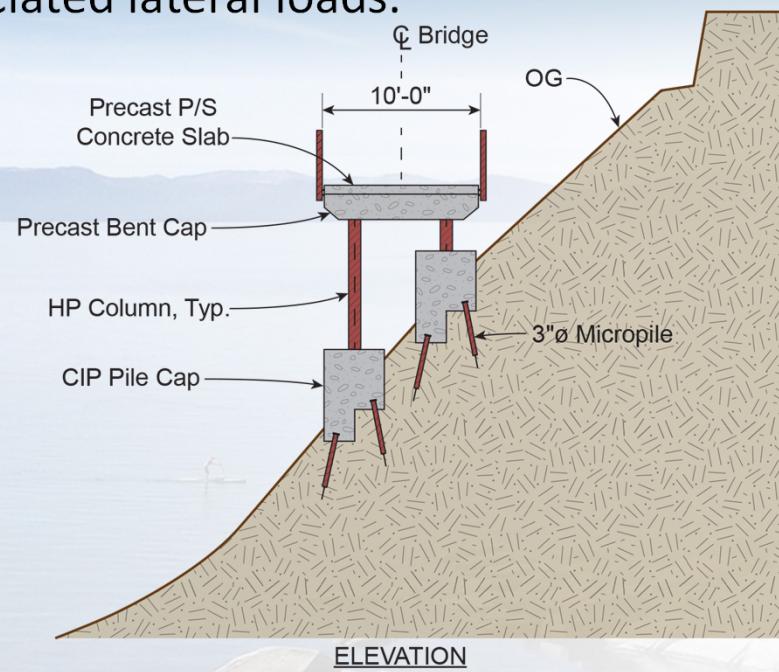
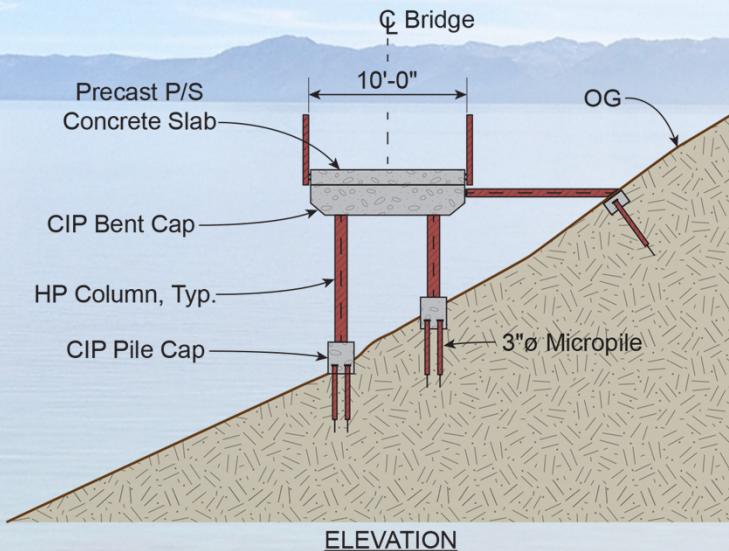
# Prefabricated Steel Truss

- Not selected due to larger foundations required



# Precast PS Concrete Slab Alternatives

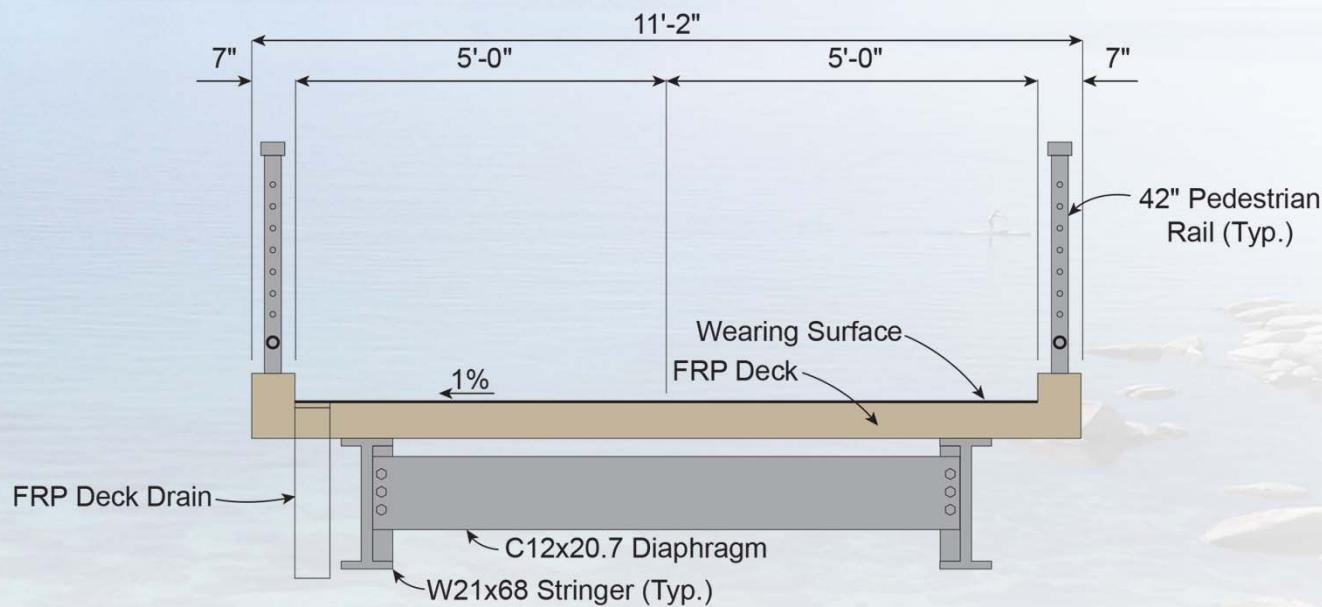
- Not selected due to weight of spans and associated lateral loads.



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# FRP Deck on Steel Girders

- Deck Unit Weight = 12 psf
- Stringers are Weathering Steel with Painted Ends
- Piers are Galvanized and Coated with Natina
- Full length FRP deck panels (50-foot span with deck & stringers = 17 kips)
- Deck Panels will be Bonded to Stringers in the FRP Shop and Shipped to the Site in Complete Span Units



# Full Length FRP Deck Panel on Steel Stringers

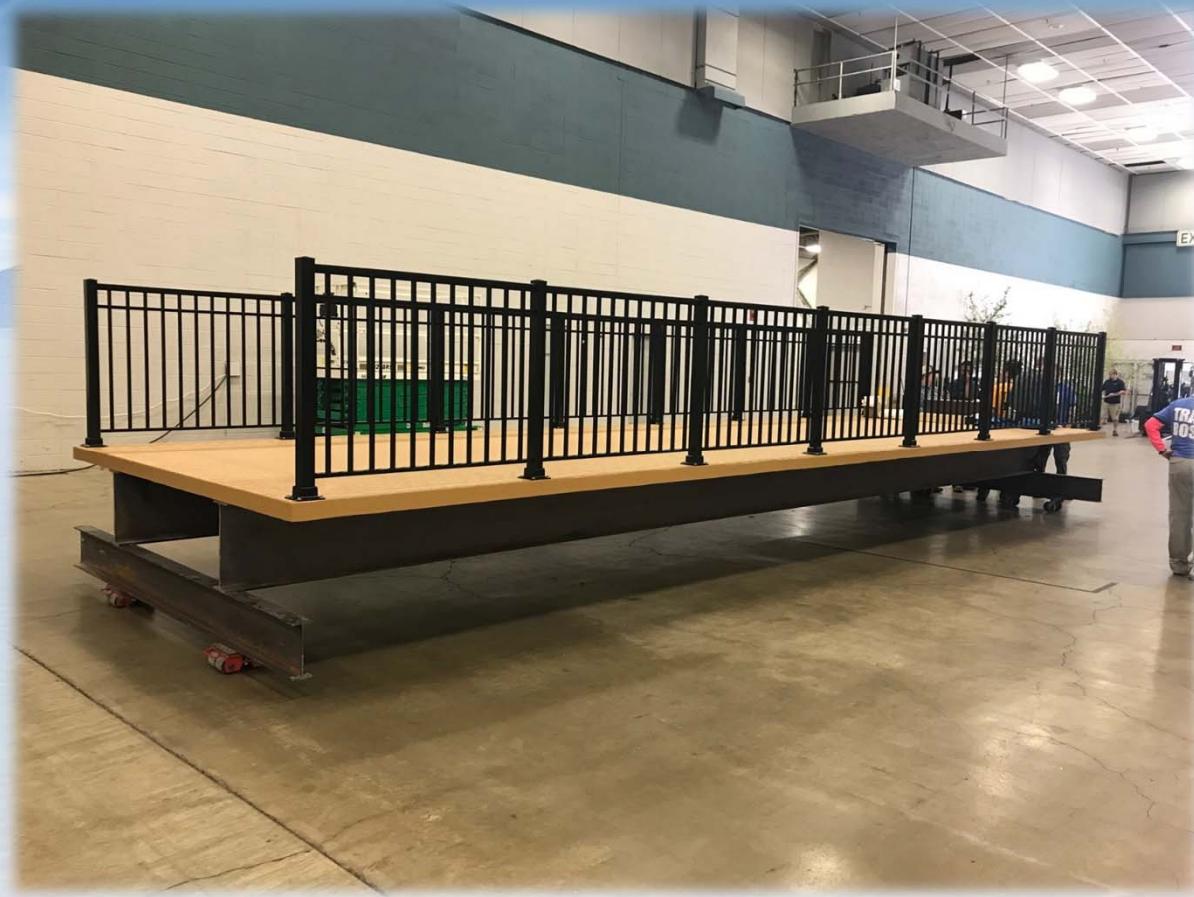


Photo: Composite Advantage

# Abutment Type

- GRS Abutment
- Short Seat on Micropiles

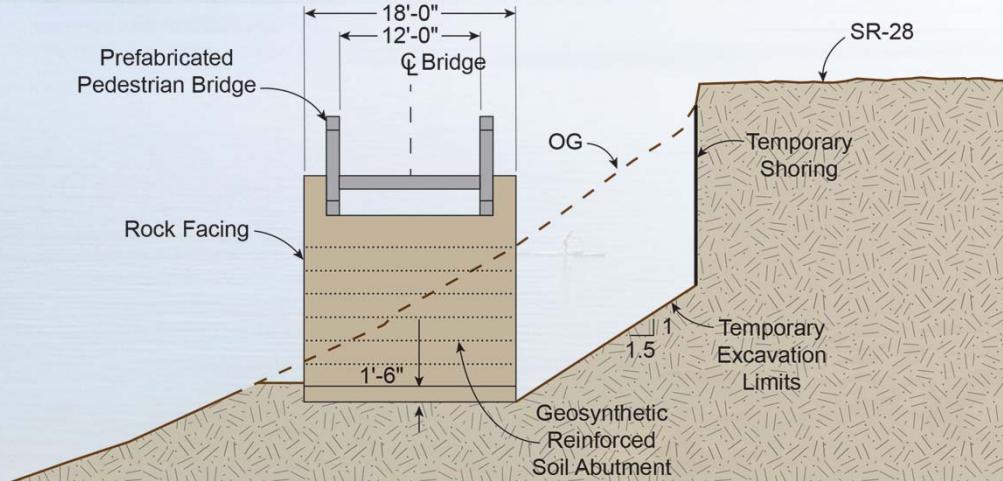
# Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil Abutment

- Pros:

- Low Construction Cost
- Ease of Construction

- Cons:

- Temporary Excavation Limits
- Slope Stability



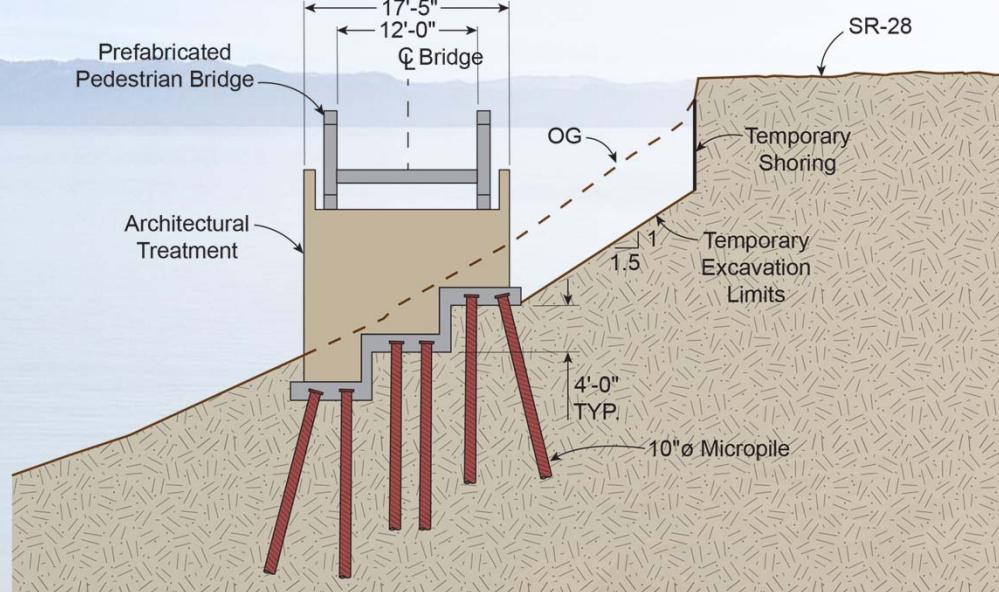
# Short Seat on Micropile Supported Abutment

- Pros:

- Traditional Foundation
- Slope Stability

- Cons:

- Temporary Excavation Limits
- Higher Construction Cost



# Pier Type

## Pier Details – Alternative 1

- Reinforced Concrete Pier Cap
- Supported on 3-foot Diameter Drilled Shaft

## Pier Details – Alternative 2

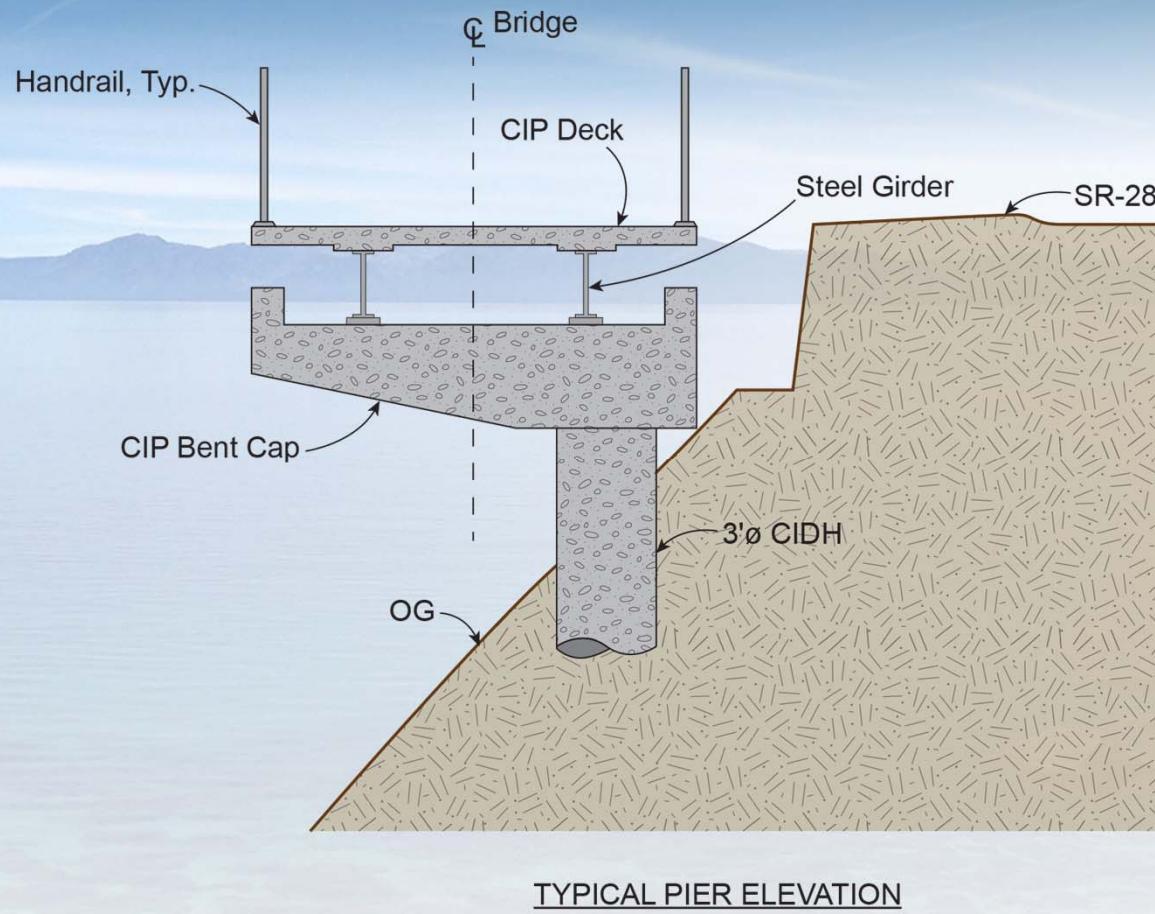
- Reinforced Concrete Pier Footings
- Supported on 3-inch Diameter Micropiles

## Pier Details – Alternative 3

- Bolted Splice on Downhill Support
- 2-foot Diameter Steel Pipe on Uphill Support

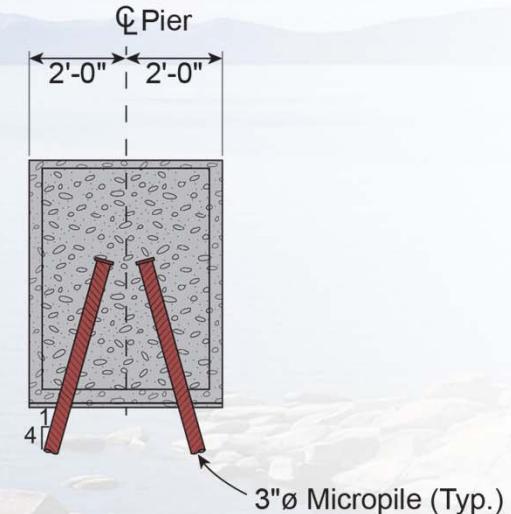
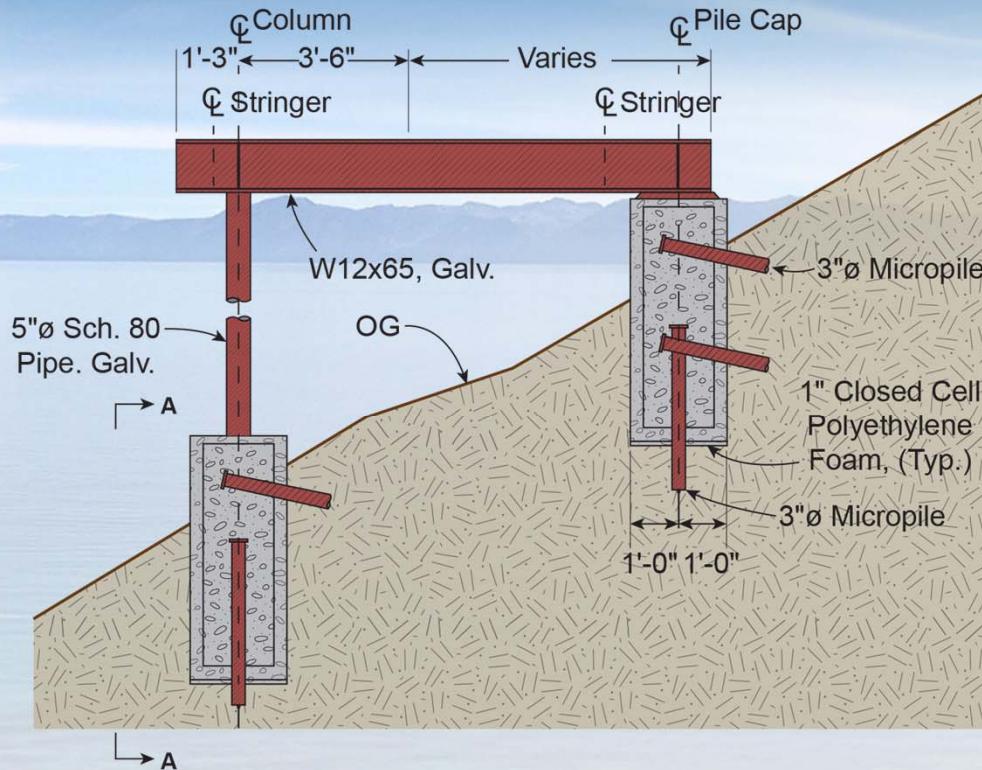
# Pier Details – Alternative 1

## Concrete Cap on 3-foot Diameter CIDH



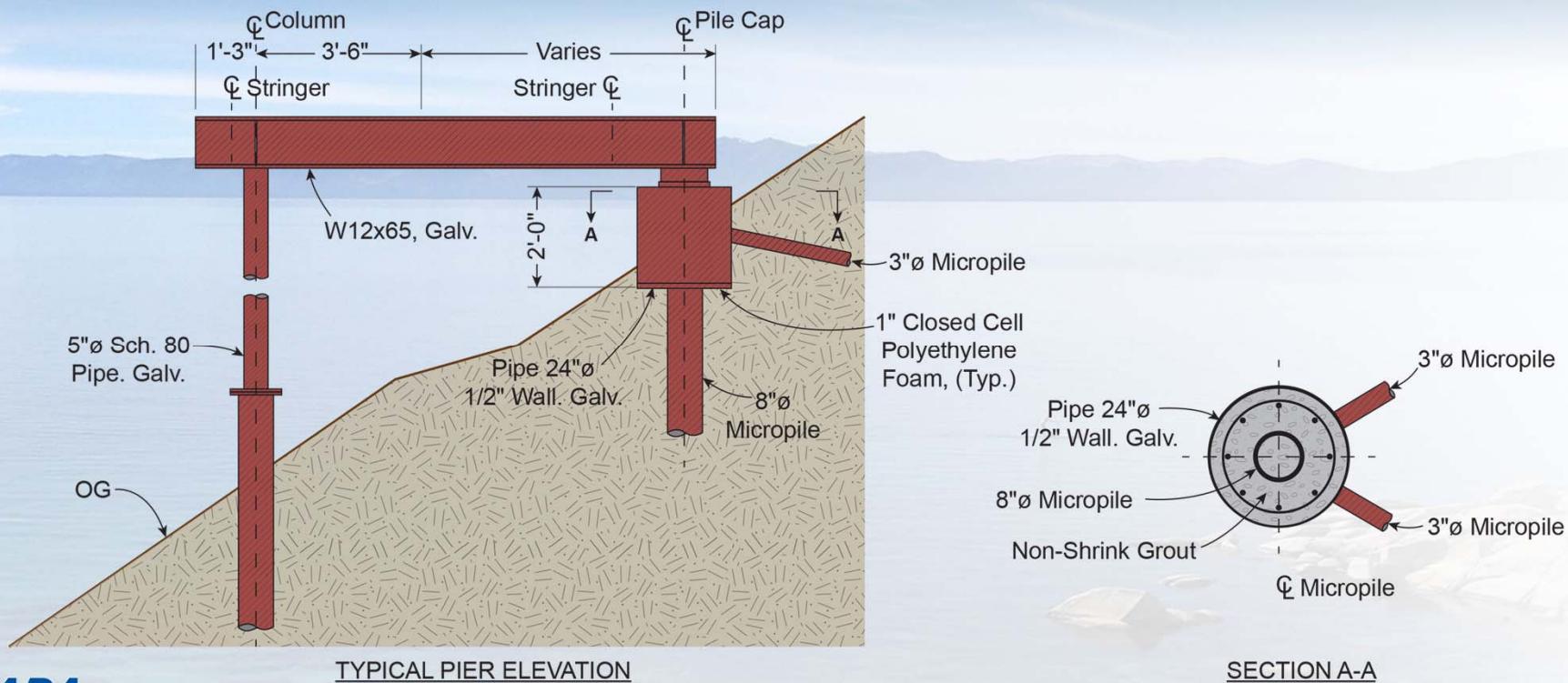
# Pier Details – Alternative 2

## Reinforced Concrete Pier Footings Supported on 3-inch Diameter Micropiles



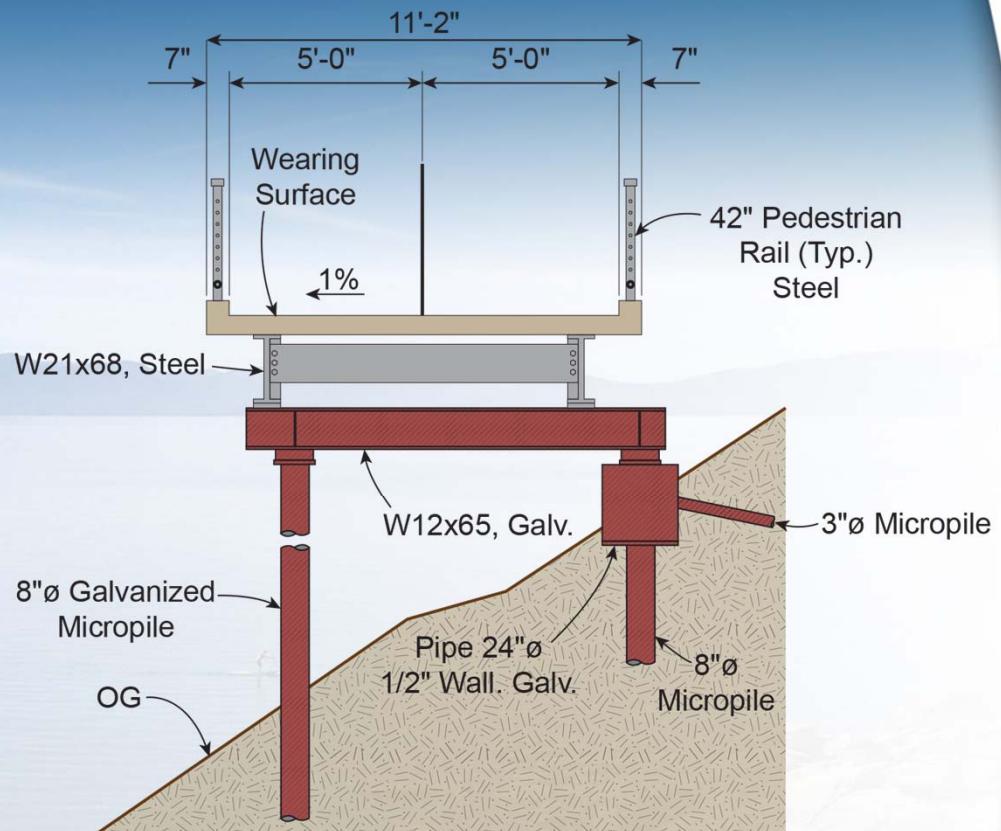
# Pier Details – Alternative 3

Bolted Splice on Downhill Support 2-foot Diameter Steel Pipe on  
Uphill Support



# Selected Alternative

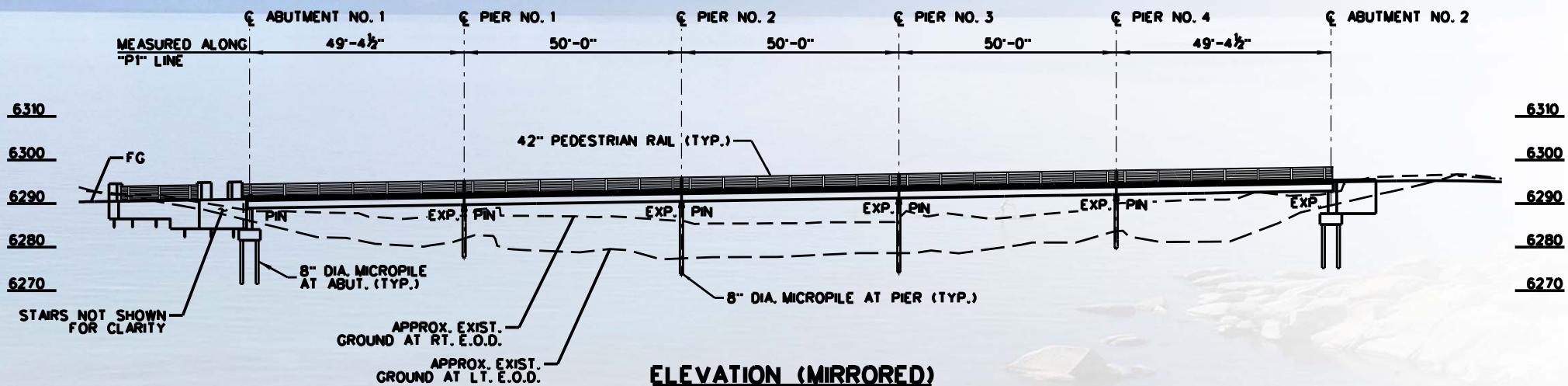
- FRP deck on steel girders
- Conventional seat abutments founded on 8" – 10" diameter micropiles
- Design allows for field adjustments of pier locations without significant design changes



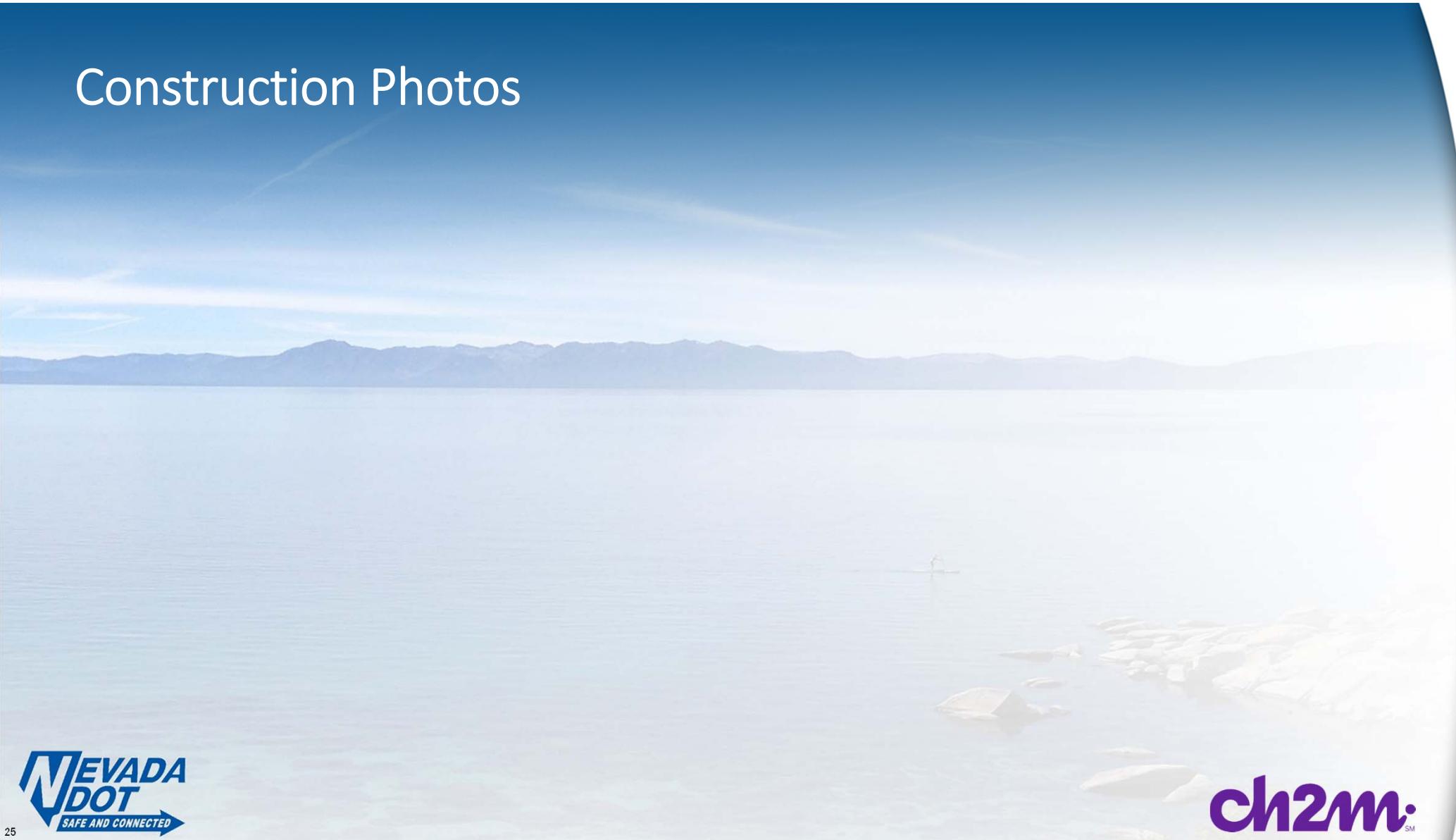
SECTION A-A

# Bridge Typical Elevation

- Span Lengths up to 50 feet long for pier design
- Span Length Controlled by Live Load Deflection Criteria (L/160)
- Snow Loading ≈ Pedestrian Live Loads
- H-5 & Pedestrian Loading used for Design



# Construction Photos



# Abutment Construction – Steep Terrain & Variable Subsurface Conditions



# Abutment Construction – Rock Excavation



# Abutment Micropile Construction – Track Mounted Rig



## Abutment Micropiles Supporting Short Seat Abutment



## Abutment with Formliner Finish



## Pier Horizontal Micropile Installation – Spider Rig



# Pier Vertical Micropile Installation – Spider Rig



# Pier Micropile Installation – Excavator Mounted Rig



# Pier Micropiles Installed



## Questions & Answers

