

Pre-2015

2015

2016

2017

2019

2020

2022

2023

2024

2025

2026

2002

Missoula County nominated project to receive funding from the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Off-System Bridge Program.

2010

Missoula County entered into agreement with MDT to conduct a pre-National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)/Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) planning study.

2013

- Missoula County Commission voted to pursue federal funding (Resolution 2013-052) for the replacement of Maclay Bridge with a new bridge on the South 1 Alignment as identified by the planning study.
- Maclay Bridge Planning Study completed, which identified the South 1 Alignment as the preferred alternative. The South 1 Alignment is the current alignment being evaluated by Missoula County and MDT.

April

- Missoula County enters into agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) to design the project.
- Preliminary design underway: crossing alignments evaluated, new bridge alternatives evaluated, hydraulic analysis. Removal of Maclay Bridge is determined necessary as part of the project.
- Missoula County Commission reaffirms commitment to replacing Maclay Bridge with a new structure at South Ave (Resolution 2015-046).

September

Public Open House #1 – Project kick-off meeting describing work completed and next steps. Project team gathered public input as project alternatives are evaluated.

March

The Cultural Resources Report completed and submitted to State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Concurrence received from SHPO on Maclay Bridge eligibility for the National Historic Register.

August

Public Open House #2. The proposed alignment, alternatives considered, and proposed new bridge configuration were presented. Public input on bike/ped accommodations were solicited.

September

The Maclay Bridge Alliance (MBA) requested Section 106 Consulting Party status from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and presented rehabilitation alternatives for Maclay Bridge to the public.

October

- FHWA granted Consulting Party status to MBA to help inform the Section 106 (effects to historic properties) process.
- Concurrence from SHPO on the Determination of Effect (DOE) – Adverse effect to Maclay Bridge as it will be removed.
- New bridge alternatives analysis and preliminary roadway design were completed.

December

- Maclay Bridge becomes listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

January

Draft Environmental Document updated, and revisions submitted for review.

July

FHWA granted Historic Bridge Foundation (HBF) Consulting Party status.

October

Agency coordination meeting between FHWA, MDT, Missoula County and HDR. Key decisions: level of environmental document confirmed (Categorical Exclusion), US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) requires survey for yellow-billed cuckoo and detailed engineering evaluation of Maclay Bridge rehabilitation options.

January

Missoula County completed Maclay Bridge Preservation Alternatives Analysis, which evaluated the MBA proposed preservation options for Maclay Bridge.

March

The County Commission provided comments on the environmental document and requested additional information on purpose and need, level of environmental documentation, and feasibility to rehabilitate the existing Maclay Bridge to meet project goals. HDR provided responses.

April

MDT submits amended DOE to SHPO evaluating the impact on the historical significance of Maclay Bridge based on rehabilitation options.

May

SHPO concurred with the amended DOE.

June

MBA and HBF provided comments to FHWA regarding Maclay DOE.

August

Environmental document and Section 4(f) Evaluation submitted for review.

January

Missoula County Commission requested MDT manage the South Avenue Bridge project.

January

HDR and Missoula County completed an evaluation of alternatives to retain Maclay Bridge as a pedestrian structure while moving forward with building a new bridge on South Avenue.

February

Missoula County Commission recommends removal of Maclay Bridge as part of the proposed South Avenue Bridge project.

October

Updated project preliminary design and obtained concurrence with MDT and Missoula County. Completed Alignment and Grade Report to support environmental documentation.

November

Draft Environmental Document, Section 4(f) Evaluation, and all supporting reports resubmitted.

Final design phase expected to begin. Construction timeline will be determined based on funding and final design schedule.

January

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and Consulting Parties meeting.

February

- FHWA provides notice to develop Programmatic Agreement (PA).
- MDT develops PA on behalf of FHWA.

March

- Present the PA for preliminary agreement.
- Consulting Party meeting to explain the PA.
- Comment period or additional meetings.

April

- Missoula County & HDR share standalone documents explaining floodplain analysis for bridge adoption options.
- Finalize PA with signatures.

May

- NHPA Section 106 process is expected to be completed through a PA between involved agencies.
- Final NEPA/MEPA and Section 4(f) decision anticipated.

June

- Agreement between MDT and Missoula County for MDT to take over project administration is anticipated.
- HDR continues final design plans.

April

- 90% design plans developed.
- MDT begins right of way negotiation and purchasing.

September

Right of way purchasing completed.

January

Full design plans submitted.

April

Design plans advertised for construction.

May

Select contractor from submitted bids.

June

Construction begins.

Acronym Legend

ACHP - Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	MBA - Maclay Bridge Alliance	NHPA - National Historic Preservation Act	SHPO - State Historic Preservation Office
DOE - Determination of Effect	MDT - Montana Department of Transportation	NRHP - National Register of Historic Places	USFWS - US Fish & Wildlife Service
FHWA - Federal Highway Administration	MEPA - Montana Environmental Policy Act	PA - Programmatic Agreement	
HBF - Historic Bridge Foundation	NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act		