



**MEMORANDUM**

To: Keith Horn, Managing Attorney  
From: Chester Hicks, Administrative Officer  
Date: August 27, 2018  
RE: Proposed closing of Jefferson St. Bridge

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This memorandum is to request the legal review of the Jefferson St. Bridge proposed permanent closing. The appropriate LFUCG Division Directors and utility company representatives have responded with comments and those comments are enclosed for your review. The property owner (Lexington Convention Center) will accept full responsibility of the maintenance and repair of the right-of-way. Should you have any questions regarding this request please feel free to contact me at 258-3407.

The request and pertinent support materials were circulated among various divisions and utility representatives to determine impacts to current operations. The comments can be summarized as follows:

LFUCG Divisions:

Div. of Planning: Obviously this closing will cause traffic impacts/changes but with the completion of Oliver Lewis Way as an alternative, traffic should adjust, as was determined in our past studies. The KYTC also contracted a traffic impact study and concluded that the impacts were not significant enough and they could live with the closing given the City's desire to pursue Town Branch Park. Therefore we see no significant adverse effects for this action and fully support the development of the Town Branch Park.

We do think it important to emphasize that very solid maintenance of traffic (MOT) plans be developed and implemented during demolition and construction to ensure safety at these closed bridge abutments. The MOT should focus not only on vehicle flow but pedestrian and bike flow as well and include good signage, barriers, signal adjustments, and overall maintenance for the existing high volume of multi-modal traffic in this area.

I checked with our Director, Jim Duncan, and the other sections of Planning and they concur. (Max D. Conyers)

Div. of Engineering: No Comment. (W. Douglas Burton)

Div. of Water Quality: We have two large trunk lines running in the Lexington Center parking lot (see attachment) generally perpendicular to the Jefferson Street Bridge. We have no facilities on the bridge itself. I would assume that we have easements with Lexington Center in place for the lines but I have no way to really determine since my as-built plans do not show easements. If it is determined that the 36" line and the 24" line are not presently within easements with Lexington Center, then 15' wide easements should be retained for each line. (Steve Farmer)



Fire Department: The request to transfer will not adversely impact the Division of Fire. (Cpt. Greg Lengal)

Lexington Enhanced 911: E911 does not oppose this change. (Robert Stack)

Police Department: This proposed closure will not have any adverse impact on our department or the general traveling public. Other nearby roadways will be able to accommodate travelers and no businesses or residences will be directly impacted. (Commander Thomas Curtsinger)

Traffic Engineering: KYTC funded a study by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. last year to evaluate impacts of the Jefferson Street Bridge closure. The final report indicated that once Oliver Lewis Way is completed (now open) to South Broadway, traffic demand on Jefferson Street would diminish enough to make the closure insignificant from a network performance perspective. ie Oliver Lewis Way will carry most of the diverted traffic from the viaduct closure.

The study did not evaluate surrounding, temporary lane closures required by the Civic Center Expansion so it should be noted that Jefferson Street between Main and High remains a viable overflow/detour route for all the utility work currently being done on High Street between Broadway and Jefferson. I would like to see this portion of Jefferson Street remain open until the critical, utility work on High Street is completed.

As far as impacts to Traffic Engineering: Six street lights from the bridge will need to be removed along with minor modifications to the traffic signal and striping on W. Main @ Jefferson Street. Also, vehicular counts and revised timing plans will need to be developed to accommodate the changed traffic patterns. (Jeffrey Neal)

Utilities:

Kentucky Utilities: KU has been working with the project team for a relocation of the nearby distribution facilities. There is no distribution primary in the bridge itself; however, there are street lights and associated conductors in the bridge which have not been addressed yet. I assume the city will just ask KU to remove those street lights with "authorization letters" when the time comes. (Rodney Brock)

Kentucky American Water: KAWC is clear in this area. (Tobey Adams)

Windstream: Windstream is ok with this closure - proposed closure will have no adverse effect on us. (Ashley L. Sanders)



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Chester Hicks, Administrative Officer

