

Canada



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration



Ontario



Context Sensitive Solutions Workshop

Detroit River International Crossing Project

August 24, 2006

Meeting Objective

- Work toward consensus on the vision for the aesthetic treatment of the crossing system, including the bridge, plaza, interchange, and local access.

Context Sensitive Solutions DRIC

“Incorporate context sensitive design (solutions) into transportation projects”

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm

“A collaborative, interdisciplinary approach involving stakeholders for the development of a transportation facility that fits its physical setting and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historic, cultural, and environmental resources, while maintaining safety and mobility.”

Michigan Department of Transportation

- A blending of community values and sound engineering

Vision Statement WITHOUT a New River Crossing

The participants of the Detroit River International Crossing workshops envision the future WITHOUT a new river crossing as follows:

The area between Zug Island and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge along the Detroit River is experiencing an ever-improving quality of life for a number of reasons, including the area is clean and safe, with neighbors breathing clean air. New residential development is flourishing with families continuing to return. Programs, like the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ) control the taxes of those who have remained in, and others who have moved to, the area. Historic structures are preserved, particularly the churches and Fort Wayne, which has become an international tourist attraction.

Developments in and around the area provide jobs with good wages for local residents. The City of Detroit supports this growth and development in a number of ways, including providing significant police and fire protection. Designated and policed truck routes further protect the neighborhoods in the area by directing heavy truck traffic around them.

Vision Statement WITH a New River Crossing

The vision for the community WITH a new river crossing system is seen as follows:

The area between Zug Island and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge, known as the “host community” of a new river crossing, is experiencing an ever-improving quality of life.

The West Delray neighborhood is intact with no relocations because of the new river crossing, which is publicly owned and operated. Free housing has been provided to those few who were relocated. Improvements to housing and small businesses in the area are financed through a special fund designed to benefit the “host community” of the new river crossing. And, programs like the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ) control the taxes of those who have remained in, and others who moved to, the area. Development that occurs in and around the new crossing supports good paying jobs for the local residents. The City of Detroit supports this growth in a number of ways, including providing significant police and fire protection. Further support of the area, including its air quality and the health of its residents, is caused by routing heavy trucks around the area over designated routes that are built to last.

Detroit River International Crossing Study

Previous Workshops

- # 1 Dec. 14, 2005: **“Prouds” and “Concerns” & Visioning a Successful and Vibrant Area WITH and WITHOUT a Bridge**
- # 2 Dec. 21, 2005: **Visions / First Step to Plaza Location**
- # 3 Jan. 4, 2006: **Visions and Presentation of Preliminary Plaza Locations**
- # 4 Jan. 18, 2006: **Work Station “Q and A” and Proposed Plaza Locations**
- # 5 Feb. 8, 2006: **Proposed Plazas w/ Preliminary Tie to Bridge / I-75**
- # 6 Feb. 27, 2006: **Vision State. Extract./Land Use Goals and Govern. Vision**
- # 7 March 8, 2006: **V.P. Survey and Introduction of the Community Analysis**
- # 8 March 22, 2006: **Community Planning Exercises**
- # 9 April 19, 2006: **Community Planning, CSS, and Bridge Terminology**
- #10 May 9/10, 2006: **SW Detroit Social and Cultural Information Gathering**
- #11 May 23, 2006: **Community Planning Process, Illustrative Community Plans, and Enhancement Projects**
- #12 June 22, 2006: **Community Planning Process, Illustrative Community Plans and Bus Tour**

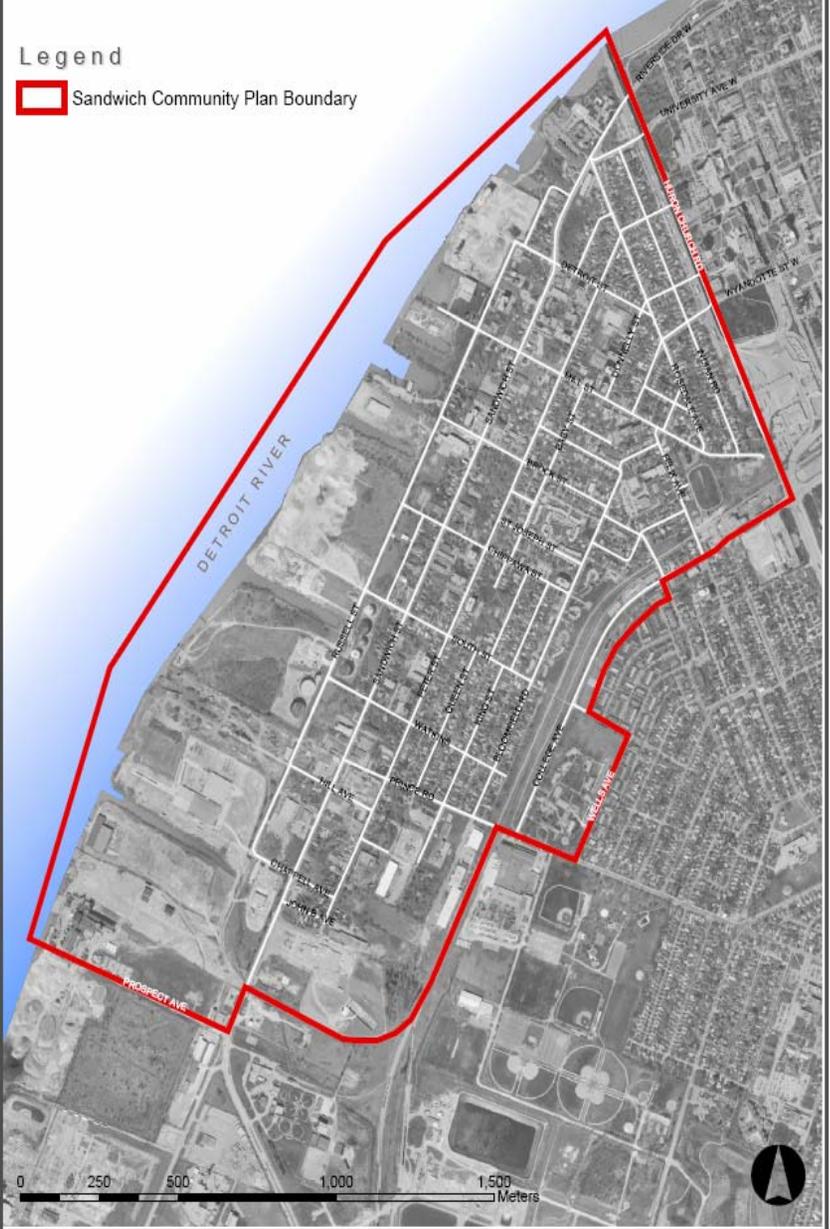
Community Planning Priorities (WS #12 voting results)

1. Enhance the development of Fort Wayne, its connection to the community and new plaza (international welcome center).
2. Connect adjacent communities with common greenways, commercial / business districts, and residential developments.
3. Buffer DWSD, Zug Island, and future plaza from existing and future residential developments. Also, buffer SWHS from plaza functions.
4. Develop and redevelop commercial areas in “Old Delray” and along Fort Street.
5. Encourage “clean industrial” development near east end of study area.
6. Balance development of commercial / business, industrial, and residential development.
7. Maintain and re-establish direct vehicular connections to the Downriver and Downtown Detroit areas (West Jefferson Avenue).
8. Improve riverfront access for residents through recreational connections.

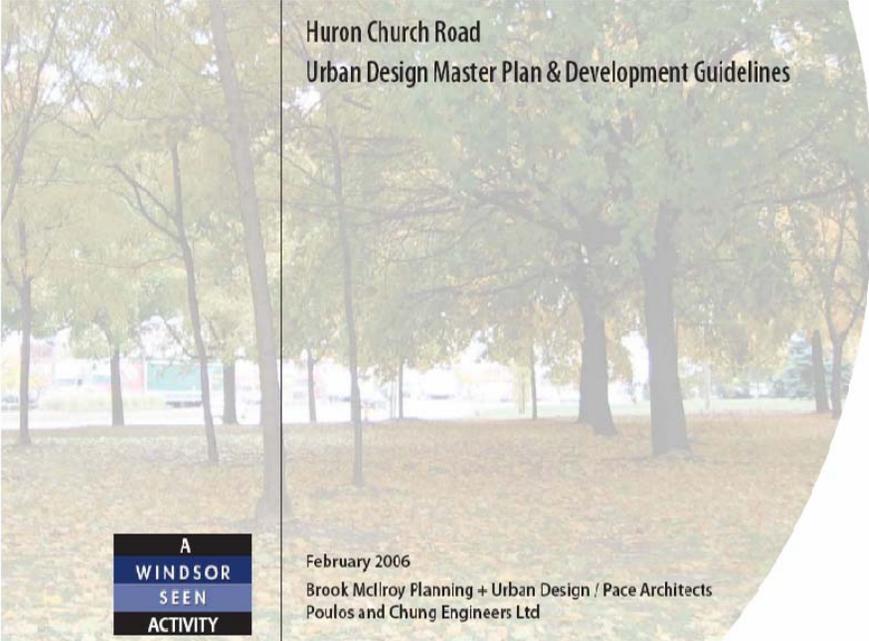
Canadian Consultation Activities

- Public Information Open House in November 2005 and Workshops in January 2006
 - Focused mainly on the location of practical alternatives (access road, plaza and crossing);
- Workshops held in February and April 2006;
 - Focused on refining the crossing, plaza and roadway locations;
 - participants were asked what elements should be incorporated into the design of the crossing, plaza, and access road to improve aesthetics
- Tour of Sandwich for U.S. representatives (May 10)
- Bus Tours in June:
 - Crossings (June 8)
 - Delray (June 14)
 - Access Road (June 26)
- Workshops in June
 - Crossing, Plaza and Access Road

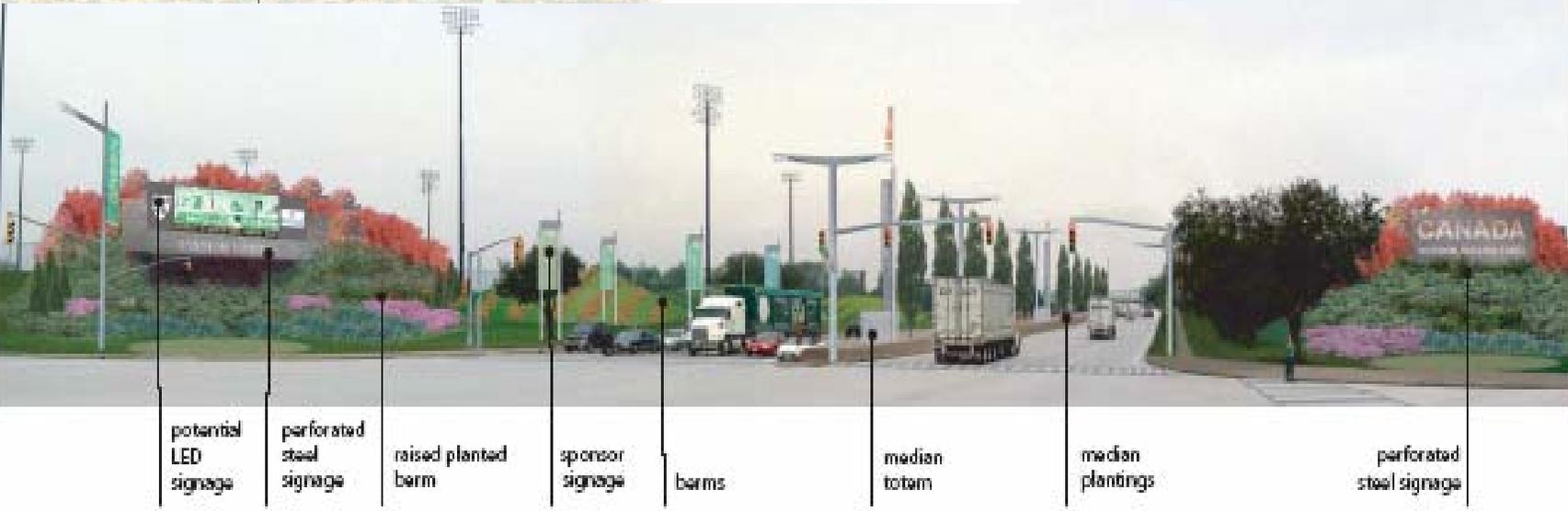
Sandwich Community Planning Study (ongoing)



Canadian Community Planning Initiatives



Huron Church Road Urban Design Master Plan (2005)



Community Bridge Tours

- June 8, 2006 bus tour of Maumee River and Blue Water Bridges.
- Objective: Observe the experience of other communities with large bridge projects.
- This Meeting Objective: Work toward consensus on the vision for the aesthetic treatment of the crossing system, including the bridge, plaza, interchange, and local access.

New Maumee River Bridge Toledo, Ohio

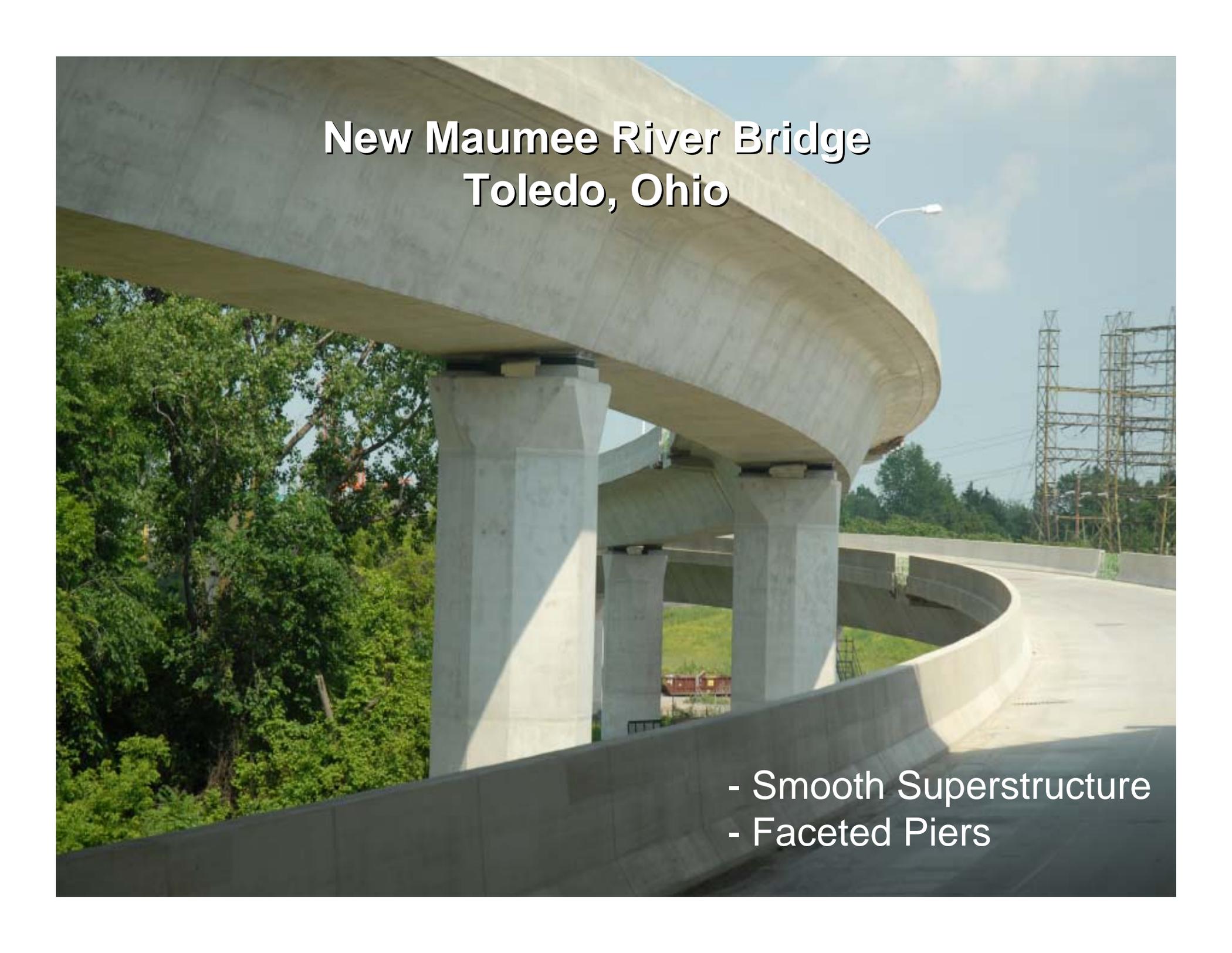
- Glass Vision Selected for Bridge
- Over 200 Community Participants
- Multiple Public Workshops
- Public Selected many design elements



New Maumee River Bridge Toledo, Ohio

- Largest Pylon Possible
- Integration of Glass on Pylon



A photograph of the New Maumee River Bridge in Toledo, Ohio. The bridge is a multi-level concrete structure with a smooth, curved superstructure supported by faceted piers. The bridge spans a river, with lush green trees on the left and a grassy area with a train car on the right. In the background, there are utility towers and a clear blue sky with some clouds. The bridge's design is modern and functional, with a focus on smooth curves and faceted supports.

New Maumee River Bridge Toledo, Ohio

- Smooth Superstructure
- Faceted Piers

New Maumee River Bridge Toledo, Ohio



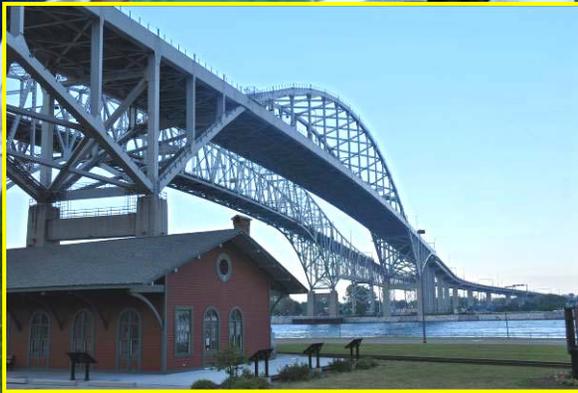
Blue Water Bridge

- Companion Span
- International Crossing
- Integrated Into the River Front



Blue Water Bridge

- Parks and Recreation
- Boardwalk
- Urban Revitalization
- Economic Growth



Crossing X11(C)

North of Fort Wayne



Cable Stay Bridge at X11(C)



Suspension Bridge at X11(C)





Cable Stay Bridge at X11(C)



Suspension Bridge at X11(C)



Crossing X10(B)

South of Fort Wayne near Zug Island



Fort Wayne
Soccer Field



Cable Stay Bridge at X10(B)



Suspension Bridge at X10(B)

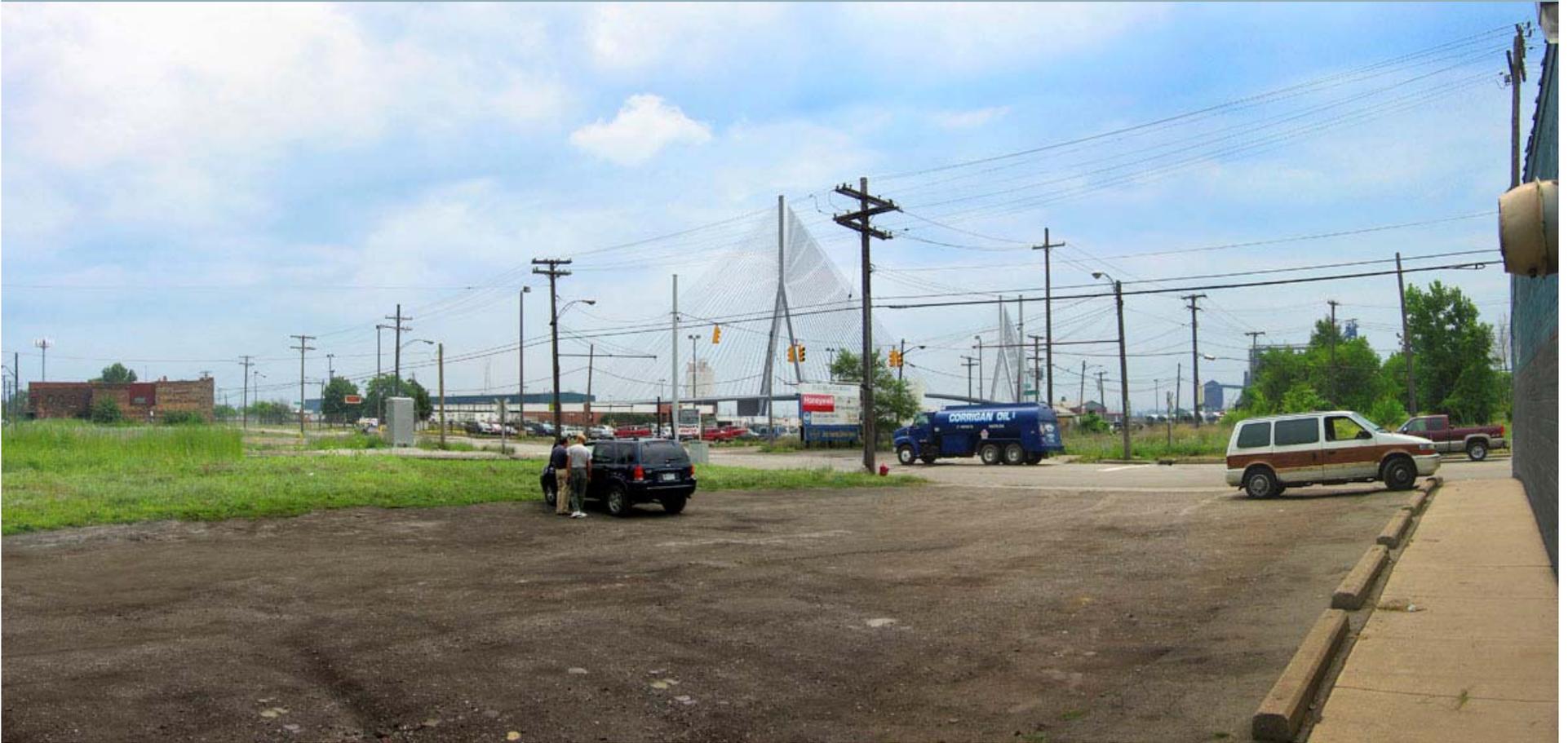




Black Horse
Cantina



Cable Stay Bridge at X10(B)

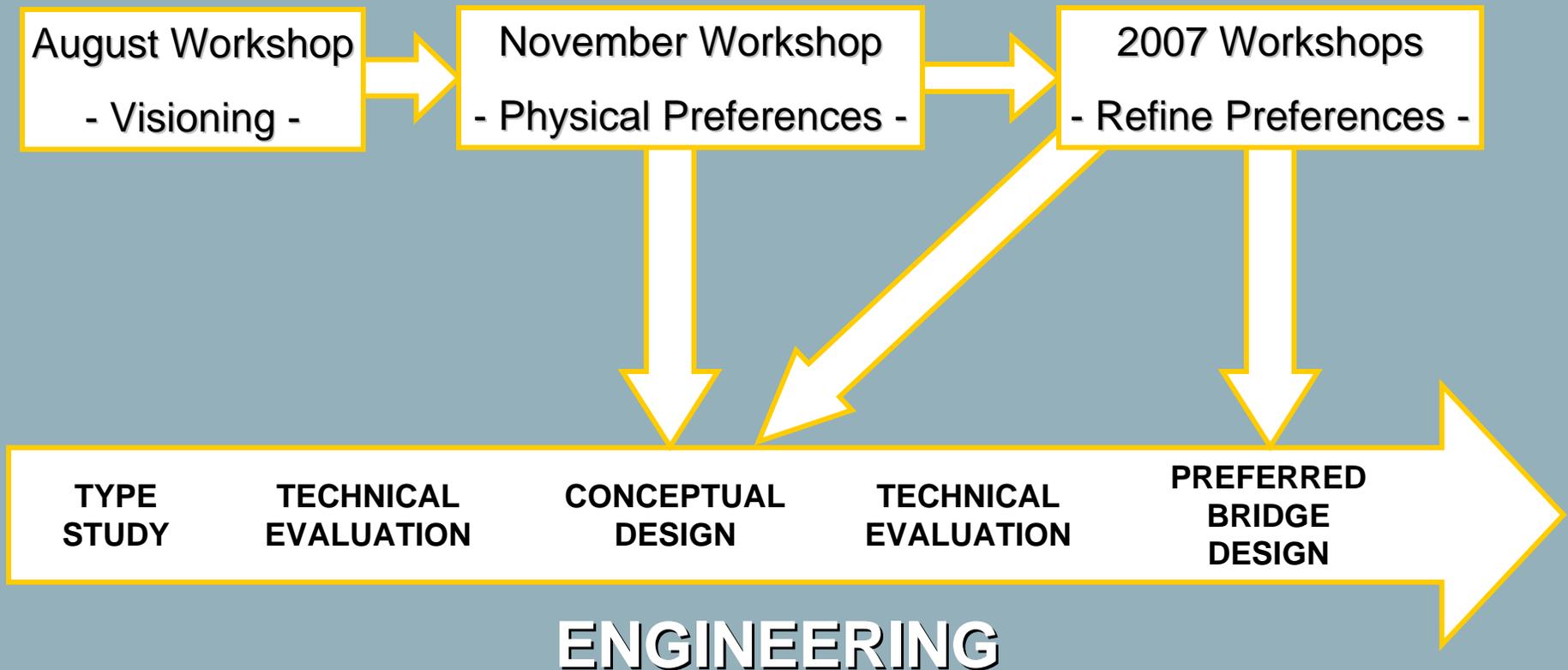


Suspension Bridge at X10(B)

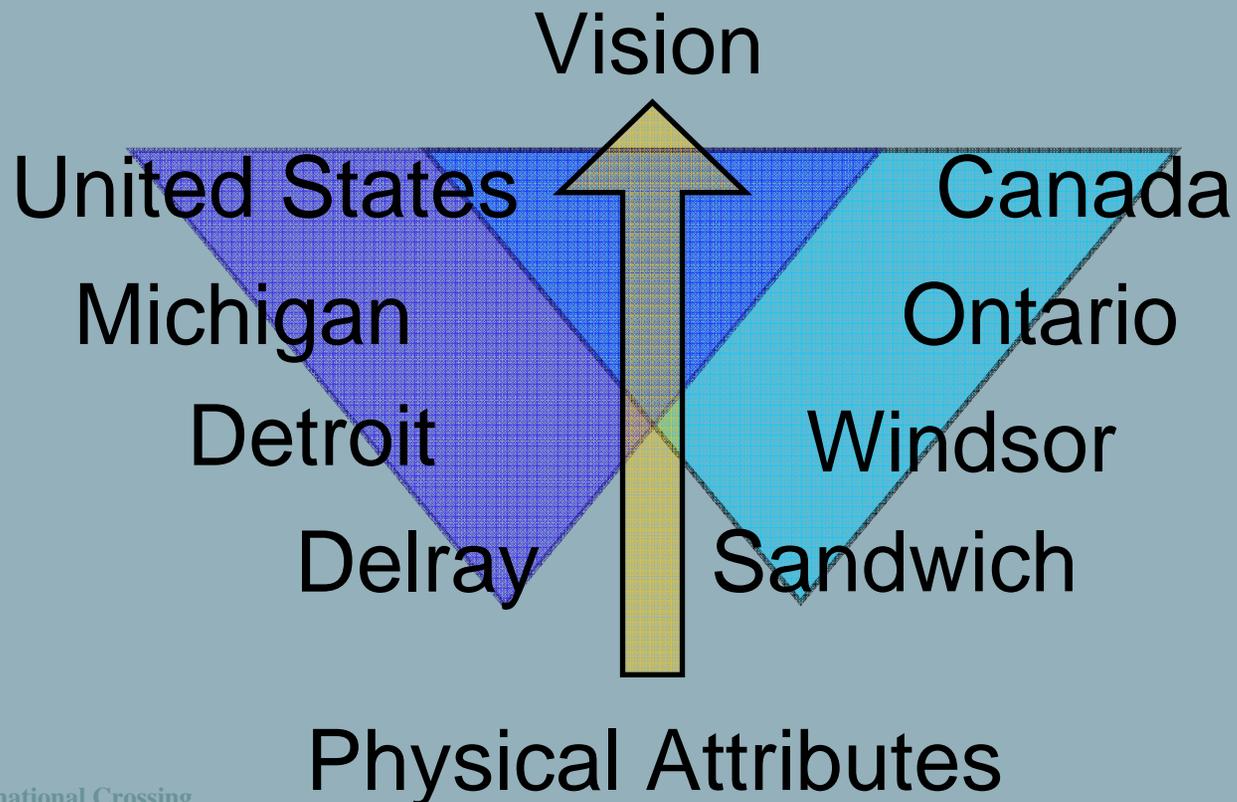


Achieving Context Sensitive Solutions

COMMUNITY INPUT



Bridge Vision Process



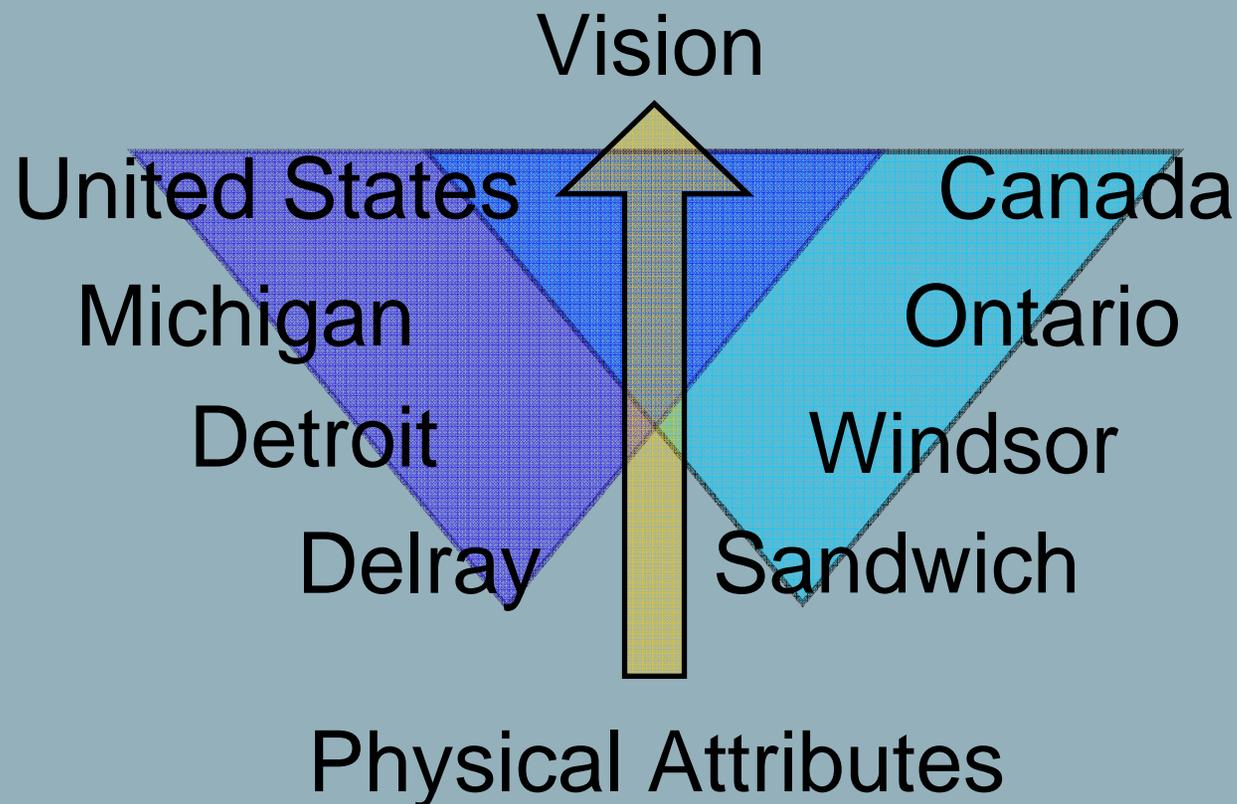
DRIC Bridge Vision

Can Reflect:

- Delray
- Michigan
- Detroit
- United States
- Sandwich
- Ontario
- Windsor
- Canada

DRIC Bridge Vision Process

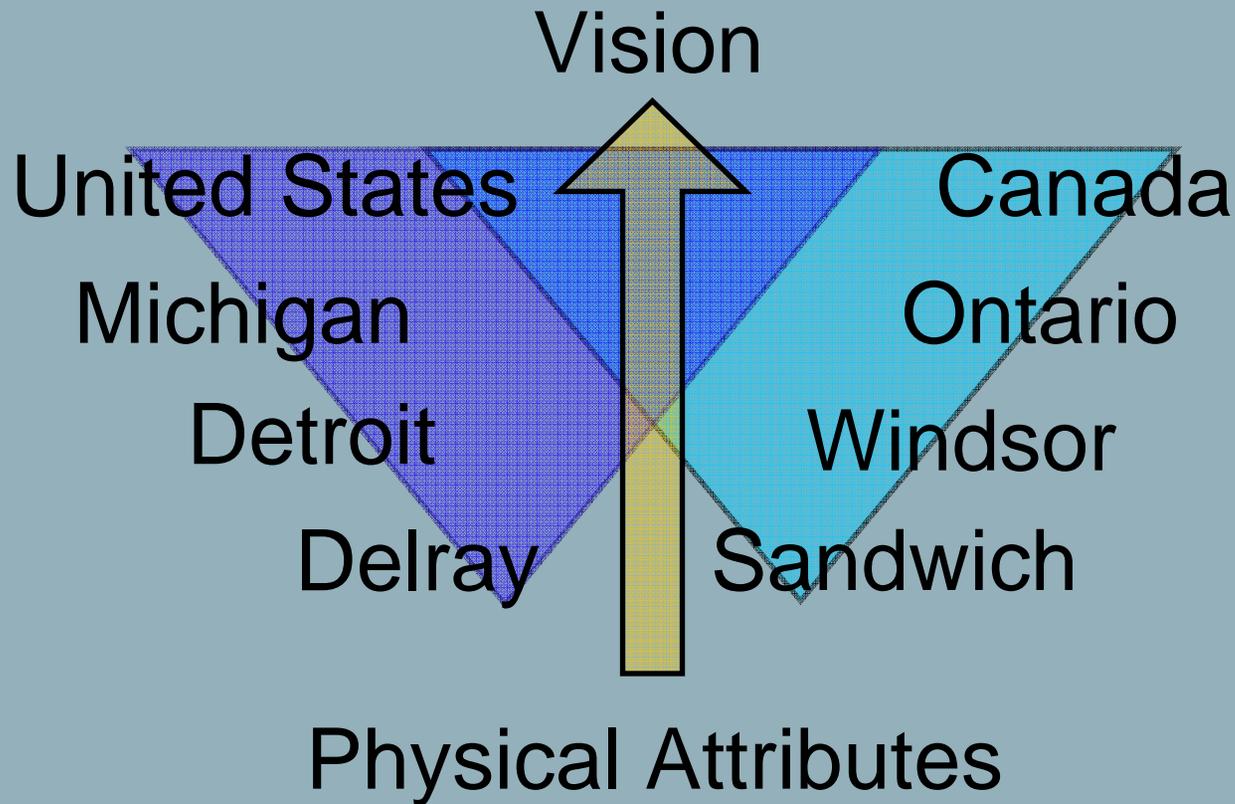
We will take a 2 step approach to defining the visual signature of the project.



DRIC Bridge Vision Process

Today → **Step 1: Determine Appropriate Vision**

Nov. → **Step 2: Determine Physical Preferences**



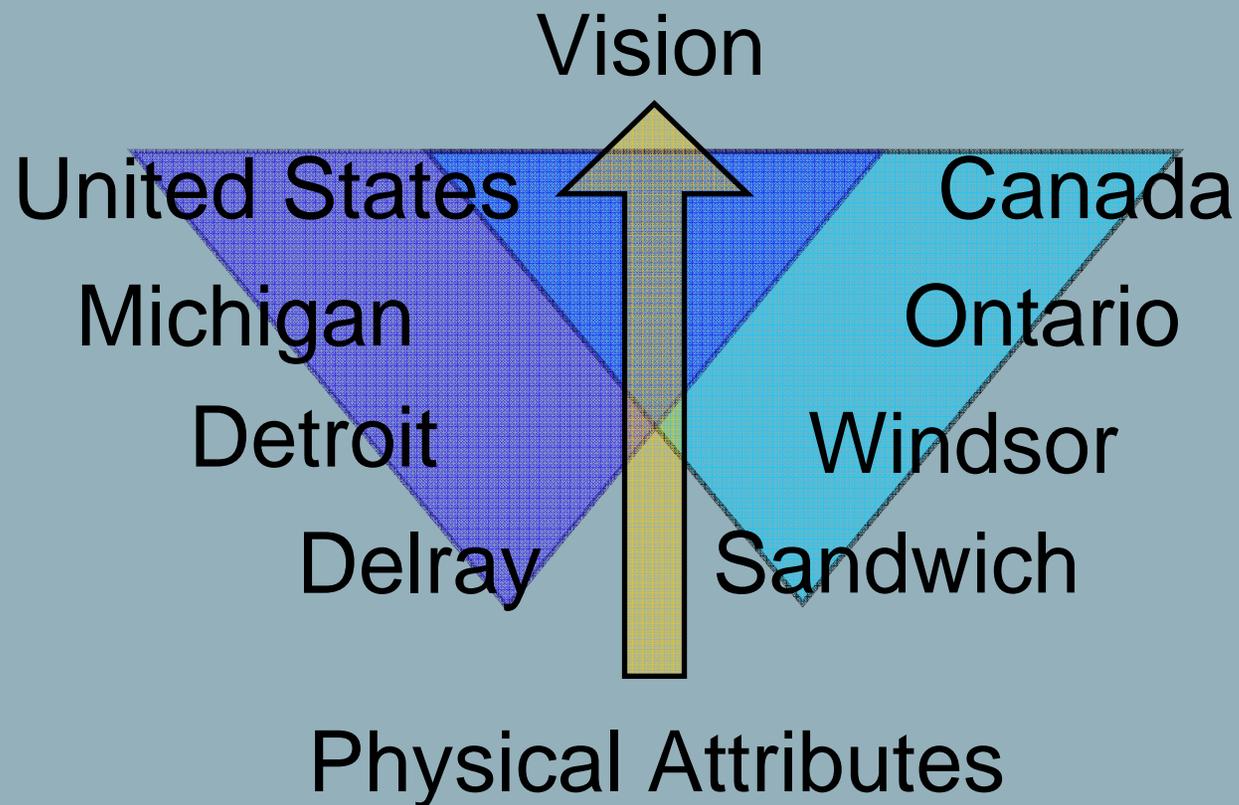
Canadian Findings to Date

Thematic Elements

- Canadian/U.S. Symbolism to be incorporated in bridge design
- Include heritage and history symbolism of each city on bridge
- Create an industrial looking bridge to reflect both cities
- Naturalize the areas approaching the bridge

DRIC Bridge Vision Process

Today → Step 1: Determine Appropriate Vision



DRIC Bridge Vision Process

Step 1: Determine Appropriate Vision

Potential Visions:

- a. Celebrating Friendship
- b. Industry
- c. Gateway Bridge
- d. Ecology
- e. History
- f. Culture

Vision Expression on Bridges

Vision Examples

Vision: Celebrating Friendship

