I-85 and South Perry St Bridge Incident
Why is my calendar important?

**Work Summary**

- District Meetings- 7 Days
- Area Meetings- 4 Days
- Region Meetings- 5 Days
- Permit Meetings- 2 Days
- Personnel Meetings- 1 Day
- Maintenance Management
  - 3 LONG Days

**Jesse’s Summary**

- Sick Child- 1 Day
- Fishing with the boys- 4 Days
- Jesse’s Personal Day- 1 Day
August 29
7:25 AM

Four vehicle collision including a tractor trailer hauling lumber occurred on I-85 South at milepost 0.9 at the South Perry Street bridge overpass.
Initial Response Teams

- All members of the Area Maintenance staff were called into action
  - District, Bridge, Operations, Traffic, Hazardous Materials, and even Permits
- Montgomery Fire and Rescue
- Montgomery Police Department
- Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA)
- City of Montgomery Maintenance Department
- Contractors
  - McInnis Construction
  - Scott Bridge Company
  - Newell & Bush
  - Bridge Builders of Alabama
- ALDOT EBIT Team
- ALDOT Leadership and various Bureaus
Issues on arrival at scene

Traffic

Bridge
Traffic Issues

- I-85 South was closed
  - Never good
- It was closed at rush hour
  - Really not good
- AADT- 125, 000
- Detours were needed
- Open the interstate
Bridge Issues

- South Perry Street bridge was closed
  - Even local traffic was hesitant on crossing the bridge
- Bridge had received significant damage
- Remove debris
  - Can be a lengthy process (especially after a large collision)
  - This was needed to determine the extent of bridge damage
- Determine the extent of the bridge damage
  - EBIT on site
  - Collision damage
  - Fire damage
- Determine a repair for the bridge
  - This was based on the extent of the bridge damage
  - Timeline for this item would be a huge factor
“Relax. Look Around. Make A Call.”
Traffic Operations

Two key activities working together

• Detour all I-85 South at Exit 6 (Eastern Boulevard)

• Detour all I-85 South at Exit 1 (Union Street/South Street)
Traffic Operations

Exit 6- Eastern Boulevard (US-231/AL-21)

- All Southbound ramps closed and traffic detoured
- Installed traffic control devices ahead of and at Exit 6
- Region staff was a great asset
- Began continuous contact with Mrs. Brantley Kirk
- Detour in place and operational by noon August 29
Traffic Operations

Exit 1 - Union Street

- Closed South Perry Street bridge overpass
- Closed South Lawrence Street bridge overpass
- Closed South Court Street bridge overpass
- Closed all intersecting city streets to South Street
- All signals in flash along the corridor
- Installed traffic control on I-85 at Exit 1
Final Traffic Pattern

- I-85 South passenger traffic detoured onto Exit 1 off ramp
  - Travel South Street for approximately ½ mile to reenter I-85 South at Exit 1 entrance ramp
- I-85 South truck traffic detoured at Exit 6 - Eastern Boulevard
- Huge group effort to put in place
  - District Staff
  - Area Staff
  - Region Staff
    - Mrs. Brantley Kirk
  - City of Montgomery
    - Maintenance Department
    - Police Department
  - ALEA
Traffic Operations

Final Traffic Pattern

• Operational by 3:00 p.m. August 29
  • Traffic was handled
    • Sigh of relief
Initial Unknowns

- South Perry Street bridge was closed
- Bridge was significantly damaged
- Contractors notified of emergency work
  - McInnis Construction
  - Scott Bridge Company
  - Newell & Bush
  - Bridge Builder’s of Alabama
- ALDOT EBIT team arrived on site to access bridge damage
Bridge Operations

Debris Removal

• Needed to determine full extent of damage
• City of Montgomery Maintenance Department
Bridge Operations

Bridge Damage

Determined that the bridge column and a portion of the bridge cap received substantial damage.
Bridge Operations

Bridge Damage
Bridge Operations

Determining Bridge Damage

• Remove all damaged portions of the bridge
  • Determine full extent of bridge damage
  • Determine full scope of bridge repair

• Solution
  • Replace bridge to previous condition
  • Include repouring cap and column
Bridge Operations

Letting Process: Two separate phases

- **Emergency Work - Force Account**
  - Temporary shoring (Located on I-85 South)
  - Removal of damaged bridge sections
    - To determine full extent of damage
  - Temporary shoring (located on backslope)
  - Install traffic control devices
    - Allows bridge work to progress
    - Open two lanes of traffic

- **Contract Work - Lowest Bid**
  - Jack the bridge
  - Rebuild cap and column
  - Rebuild crash wall
  - Install guardrail and rebuild curb
  - Mill and replace OGFC layer
  - Traffic strip
Bridge Operations

Emergency Work

• McInnis Construction arrived on site
• Cleared to begin emergency bridge repairs
• Force Account
• McInnis Construction
  • collaborated with Newell & Bush and Bridge Builders of Alabama
• Emergency Work
• $443,076.52
Bridge Operations

Emergency Work

• Bridge deemed stable once emergency work was complete
• Allowed two left lanes to be open to traffic
  • Opened to traffic August 30 at 10:00 am
• HUGE sigh of relief
Bridge Operations

Lowest Bid

• Bids went out September 1 at 3:30 p.m.
• Awarded based on lump sum
• Work to progress around the clock
• Plans developed by Region staff
Bridge Operations

Lowest Bid

- Contract was awarded on September 5 at 5:00 pm to McInnis Construction
- $841,294.68
- All contractual items turned over to Area Construction staff
- South Perry Street bridge opened the afternoon of September 12
- All lanes on I-85 South opened the morning of September 14
Summary

Crash occurred August 29th at 7:25 am

- Exit 6 detour installed August 29th at noon
- Exit 1 detour installed August 29th at 3:00 pm
- Emergency work
  - Initiated August 29th at 10:00 am
  - Completed August 30th at 10:00 am
- I-85 South open to two lanes August 30th at 10:00 am
  - Approximately 24 hours later
- South Perry Street bridge opened September 12th
  - Approximately two weeks later
- All lanes open on I-85 South morning of September 14th
  - Approximately two weeks later
Lessons Learned

• Trust your people
• Communication
  • Brantley Kirk and Ty Tyler most useful during the entire event
• Working together towards a common goal
  • ALDOT staff and Bureaus
  • State contractors
  • City of Montgomery staff
ALDOT: I-85 S MM 1 closed. Detour Exit 1/ Union Str.

Major crash on I-85 south at MM 1 all lanes are closed. Detour route at Exit 1/ Union Str. onto South East Street then back to I-85 South. Please use caution when traveling through this area.
August 29, 2023

Kent Wheeler · 1:29
I love the lady in the white for keeping a smile. They asking her the same question over and over ... I'm guessing they wanted to let their boss know they at the press conference. LoL.

Karen Blackmon Stacey · 9:58
Kent Wheeler they ask the dumbest questions that are common sense for most people!
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 1, 2023

South Perry Street bridge remains closed; emergency repairs complete

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Contractors with the Alabama Department of Transportation have completed emergency repairs to the South Perry Street bridge over Interstate 85 south in Montgomery.

The South Perry Street bridge will remain closed to all vehicles and pedestrians until permanent repairs are finished.

ALDOT has completed the inspection of the bridge and is finalizing plans that will take bids and be awarded on Tuesday afternoon with work to begin as soon as possible. The permanent repairs are expected to take approximately three weeks.

Two lanes on I-85 South will remain open through the weekend and during repairs.

Motorists should seek alternate routes or expect delays when traveling I-85 South and be mindful of people and equipment in the area.

###
ALDOT is reopening the South Perry Street bridge!!! Other work on I-85 South will continue but the S. Perry St. bridge is open to traffic.