

Executive Summary

Howellville Road Bridge Replacement Category C

Built in 1879, the original Howellville Road Bridge was a historic structure within Tredyffrin Township, a community of nearly 30,000 in eastern Chester County, Pennsylvania. After 140 years of use, the single span wrought-iron Warren truss bridge had a "poor" condition rating in accordance with FHWA's National Bridge Inspection Standards. Officials from Tredyffrin Township decided to move forward with the construction of a new bridge that would combine the historic aesthetics of a truss bridge with modern safety features and secured funding for this project through the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission Retro-Reimbursement program.

Michael Baker International led the design of the new bridge, which included the replacement of the structure, with a truss on alignment, including new abutments and wider bridge crossing to accommodate appropriate shoulders for traffic and pedestrians on the two-lane structure. Notably, the bridge was located over a Norfolk Southern Railway track, which required close coordination with the railway to limit disruption to their service during construction.

The new crossing opened to traffic on July 1, 2021. The old historic wrought-iron truss bridge was relocated to Tioga County, where it will be repurposed and reused for a future pedestrian trail project.