



Top Projects of 2007 Award
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For more information:
920-592-9440
or
bob.schmidt@gasai.com

WWW.GASAI.COM



CLAUDE ALLOUEZ BRIDGE REPLACEMENT



The Claude Allouez Bridge Replacement Project was truly complex and unique. The project involved replacement of a 75 year old bridge over the Fox River, which was determined to be both structurally deficient and functionally obsolete. The project is located in the Central Business District of the City of De Pere and is the sole connection between the east and west side of this growing community.

The complexity of the project resulted from the associated public controversy surrounding the selection of the final preferred alternative, the number and extent of environmental, historical and Section 4(f) resources potentially impacted by the project, extent of project stakeholder coordination, the final aesthetics of the bridge, and the construction time frame. Project planning and environmental evaluation took almost 7 years to complete and, even in the midst of the controversy, the environmental evaluation resulted in an ultimate "Finding of No Significant Impact" by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The new 13 span structure is approximately 1700 feet in length. The structure has a unique appearance. The bridge has a modern look, is white in color, has distinctive 50-foot high pylons on each end delineating both the end and beginning of the crossing, and is supported by knife shaped rusticated piers. The project is also unique because of its two-lane roundabout on the east approach to the bridge. The roundabout not only efficiently and safely handles the 27,000 vehicles per day on the bridge but also gives the appearance to the traveler that they have arrived into the City.


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