



2004 - I-10 Bridge over Escambia Bay (original emergency repair)

Description

Meta Fields

Project Summary : On September 16, 2004, the storm surge from Hurricane Ivan dropped 3,400 linear feet of bridge into the bay, causing the bridge to be closed to traffic in both directions. The detour length added at least an hour of travel time for all interstate traffic. On September 17, an emergency repair contract was signed. Conventional modular transporters on barges and a barge-mounted high-capacity crane were used to repair the bridges.

Project Location : Interstate 10 over Escambia Bay in northwestern Florida

Mobility Impact Time :

- ABC: 17-day closure of westbound bridge (Tier 4); 63-day closure of eastbound bridge (Tier 5)
- Conventional: Not an option.

Impact Category : Tier 4 (within 1 month)

Dimensions : 3,400 linear feet of bridge

Traffic Management : not an option

Existing Bridge Description : The existing bridge consisted of twin structures, each with two 12-ft-wide traffic lanes and two 6-ft-wide shoulders. Built in 1968, the bridge was heavily damaged when Hurricane Ivan struck the Pensacola area. During the hurricane, the impact of the storm surge pushed 58 spans off bridge supports and shifted another 66 spans.

Replacement Or New Bridge : N/A

Construction Method : The 2004 repair contract had two construction phases. The westbound bridge was repaired in Phase 1, and the eastbound bridge was repaired in Phase 2. In the westbound bridge, a total of 12 spans and seven piers were destroyed, and 19 spans were misaligned. In the eastbound bridge, a total of 51 spans and 25 piers were destroyed, and 33 spans were misaligned. In Phase 1, the contractor drove 28 new piles prior to lifting existing spans off the eastbound bridge and placing them on missing sections of the westbound bridge. Misaligned westbound spans were adjusted and the westbound bridge was re-opened to one lane of traffic in each direction. In Phase 2, the contractor repaired the eastbound bridge with existing spans and 58 temporary Acrow (metal) panel deck spans. It was re-opened to one lane of traffic in November 2004. Permitted and over-sized vehicles were not allowed to travel on the temporarily repaired bridges. Barge-mounted conventional modular transporters assisted in lifting spans off the eastbound substructure so that they could be floated to the westbound bridge side where they were set in place with a barge-mounted high-capacity ringer crane. The transporters on barges were also used to realign spans that had been shifted by the hurricane forces. Phase 1 of the contract required the westbound bridge to be repaired and re-opened within 24 days. An incentive/disincentive clause of \$250,000 per day if less than or greater than 24 days was also included. The contractor opened one traffic lane in each direction on the westbound bridge in 17 days, earning a \$1.75 million bonus for opening seven days early. Phase 2 of the contract required the eastbound bridge to be repaired and re-opened within 90 days. The contractor opened the eastbound bridge to one lane of traffic in 63 days, 27 days ahead of schedule. [Note: Construction on a replacement bridge was initiated in 2006 while the existing bridge remained open. The wider (six-lane) replacement bridge was built with higher vertical clearance south of the existing bridge. [See database project: "[I-10 Bridge over Escambia Bay \(Replacement Spans\)](#)".] After the replacement bridge opened in 2007, the original twin structures described herein were demolished.]

Stakeholder Feedback : Governor Bush praised the workers involved. He said: "The work that you did makes me and the 16.5 million Floridians proud."• **Lessons Learned:** Because the project site had no electricity or running water, the design-build team and the FDOT staff moved to an office in Tallahassee. The office's efficient communication and coordination kept the project going 24/7.

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Costs : \$26.4 million emergency contract.

Funding Source : Federal Only

Incentive Program : FEMA emergency relief funds

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