Contracting Agency **King County**

Tim Hill
King County Executive

Department of Public Works
Paul Tanaka, Director

Roads and Engineering Division
Louis J. Haff, County Road Engineer
Bill Vlcek, Manager, Engineering Services Section
George Wannamaker, Design Engineer
Jerry Adair, Construction Engineer
Wallace Ip, Bridge Engineer
John Logan, Traffic and Planning Engineer
Bill Hoffman, Manager, Transporation Planning Section
Doug Mattoon, Maintenance Engineer
Dana Breidenbach, Finance Officer
Dave Crippen, Supervising Engineer
Pete Ringen, Consultant Liaison
Larry Bishop, Materials Engineer
Carl Beckett, Project Engineer
Jim Hinkle, Field Coordinator
Lee H. Eide, Inspector

King County Council

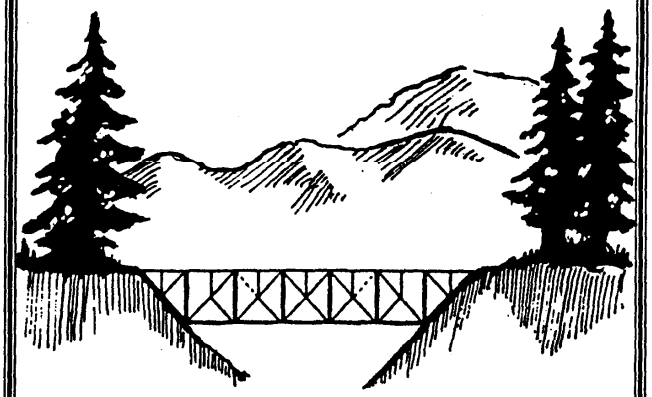
Audrey Gruger	District 1
Cynthia Sullivan	District 2
Brian Derdowski	District 3
Lois North	District 4
Ron Sims	District 5
Bruce Laing	District 6
Paul Barden	District 7
Greg Nickels	District 8
Kent Pullen	District 9

Dedication
On the occasion of this dedication of the Green River Gorge Bridge, King County congratulates and thanks the community for its patience during the reconstruction of the bridge since its closure in 1988. Today the reconstructed bridge is dedicated to the vision of pioneers, builders and residents of the area.

Green River Gorge Bridge
Dedication Ceremony

October 16
1991

Location: Green River Gorge Bridge



Serving Black Diamond, Cumberland, Enumclaw, Franklin, Kanaskat
&
Palmer

Franklin, Washington

GREEN RIVER GORGE BRIDGE

The first log trestle bridge was located and constructed in the Gorge by unidentified pioneers late in the nineteenth century to serve the logging, mining, and recreational communities of Palmer, Kanaskat, Cumberland and Franklin. The old log trestle bridge crossing was an important link in the first road to connect Seattle with Enumclaw. The approaches were so steep that a double team of horses was frequently required to control heavy loads going to the bridge and pulling them up the other side

In 1912 a $3,000,000 bond issue was passed for road and bridge improvements and the Green River Gorge Bridge was specifically mentioned in the bond issue for replacement. The new bridge which was built 155 feet above the old became a part of the main highway which went from Renton to Maple Valley, to Black Diamond, to Franklin Cumberland and Enumclaw, and finally to the Nachess Pass Highway and down to Mount Rainier.

The new high level bridge was designed in 1914 by Charles D. Calley, Bridge Engineer, under the direction of County Engineer, A. P. Denton. The Gorge Bridge is the only Baltimore Petit truss bridge built and owned by King County. The Baltimore Petit truss developed in the 1870's eventually became a typical solution to spanning distances greater than 250-300 feet. Donaldson Hampton Evans, who later went on to serve as County Engineer from 1927-1929, prepared the preliminary maps, figured the stresses and served as resident engineer during construction. Evans later wrote that this truss was selected "...to take advantage of the economic foundations...and consequently reduce the weight of the floor system." In 1988, as a result of a detailed inspection, the bridge was deemed unsafe and closed to traffic.

Bridge restoration included:

- Replacement of existing timber trestle bridge approaches with concrete girders which are supported by cast-in-place concrete piers and footings.
- Rehabilitation of existing steel truss bridge span by gusseting the truss connections and replacing the rivets at the truss connections with high strength steel bolts.
- Construction of a new concrete road deck providing for one 14 foot driving lane and five foot sidewalks on both sides.
- Sandblasting and repainting the steel span.
- Installation of traffic control signal lights to regulate the single traffic lane.

Bridge Restoration

Basic structure	Steel Baltimore Petit Deck Truss
Length	288 feet
Length with approaches	428 feet
Width after construction	33 feet

Green River Gorge

Dedication Ceremony
Wednesday October 16, 1991
11:00 a.m.

Master of Ceremonies	Louis J. Haff County Road Engineer

REMARKS

The Honorable **Kent Pullen**	Councilmember, District 9
The Honorable **Howard Botts**	Mayor, City of Black Diamond
The Honorable **Keith Blackburn**	Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Energizing the Traffic Control System
Bridge Replacement Program

Completion of the Green River Gorge Bridge marks the completion of the fifth in a series of six bridges that cross the Green River which have been rebuilt or replaced in recent years. The Foster Bridge (56th Avenue South) in Tukwila was completed in 1985. The Interurban Bridge at 115th South Street, Tukwila completed in 1989 was a new structure replacing an old substandard structure. The Green River Bridge (83rd Avenue South), Kent was completed in summer 1991. The Whitney Bridge near Flaming Geyser Park was completed in 1991. Under construction is the sixth bridge being built in Flaming Geyser Park with completion scheduled for 1992.

Construction

Construction costs	$2,800,000
Contractor	Madden Construction, Inc.
President	Donna Madden
Bridge Design Engineering	Alpha Engineers, Inc.
President	Prakash Limaye
Project Engineer	Steve Haynes