

# **Project Advisory Committee**

## **Meeting #9**

*Pedestrian Overlook Educational Plaques  
Finalize Roadway Fixture Color  
Pier Constructability Update*



*City of Bradenton Beach*

*Community of Cortez*

**November 9, 2021**

## *Today's Agenda*

- Team Introductions
- Pedestrian Overlook Educational Plaques
- Finalize Roadway Fixture Color
- Pier Constructability Update
- Additional Feedback from the Community?
- What's Next?

- Selection of Main Span Overlooks

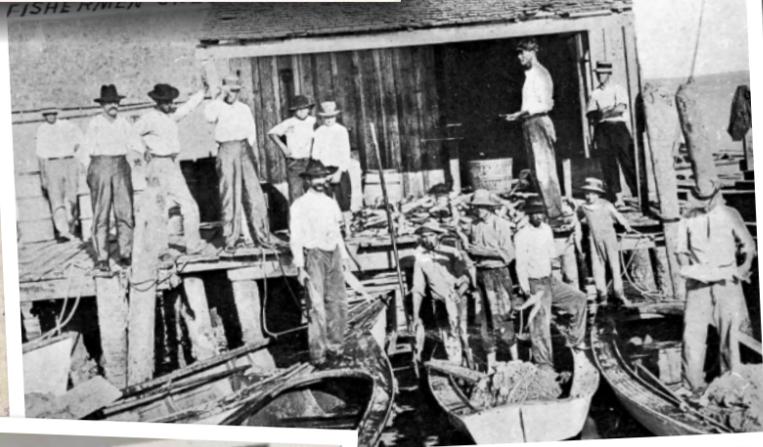
- *The Committee selected a rounded, open overlook shape, with no benches*
- *Panoramic overlook plaques featuring information on the area to be developed in coordination with local historian*



# Historic Cortez Fishing Village



11424 SOUNDINGS IN FEET



Find out more about the community's maritime legacy at The Florida Maritime Museum, in the historic Cortez schoolhouse built in 1912 and located at 4415 119th Street West.



Cortez Florida is one of the last coastal fishing villages in Florida. Although founded in the 1880s by settlers from North Carolina, the Cortez peninsula has a rich history that dates back hundreds of years. The fishing community's location, surrounded by deep water and buffered by barrier islands, has made it the ideal location for generations of Florida fishermen, and remains a quintessential example of turn of the century Florida.

Maritime traditions run deep in the streets of Cortez, where you'll find restored fishing boats residing along 1920s bungalows which date back to the original founding families of the village. Fishing has been the primary industry here for decades, with local fisheries like Star Fish Company still selling fresh grouper and shrimp to local restaurants and visitors directly. Cortez was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on March 16, 1995.



# The Storm of 1921

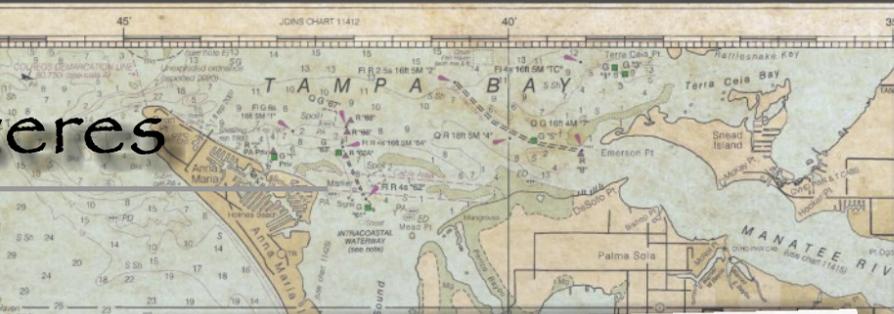
## A Community Perseveres

On the night of Oct. 23, a telegram arrived at the Albion Inn, which housed a community store and post office, warning of an approaching storm.

On Oct. 24, the news got worse. "Key West to Apalachicola. Increasing winds and gales and hurricane velocities along the coast. Emergency: warn all interests," the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration alert said. The warnings did the residents of Cortez little good as there was only one radio in the village.

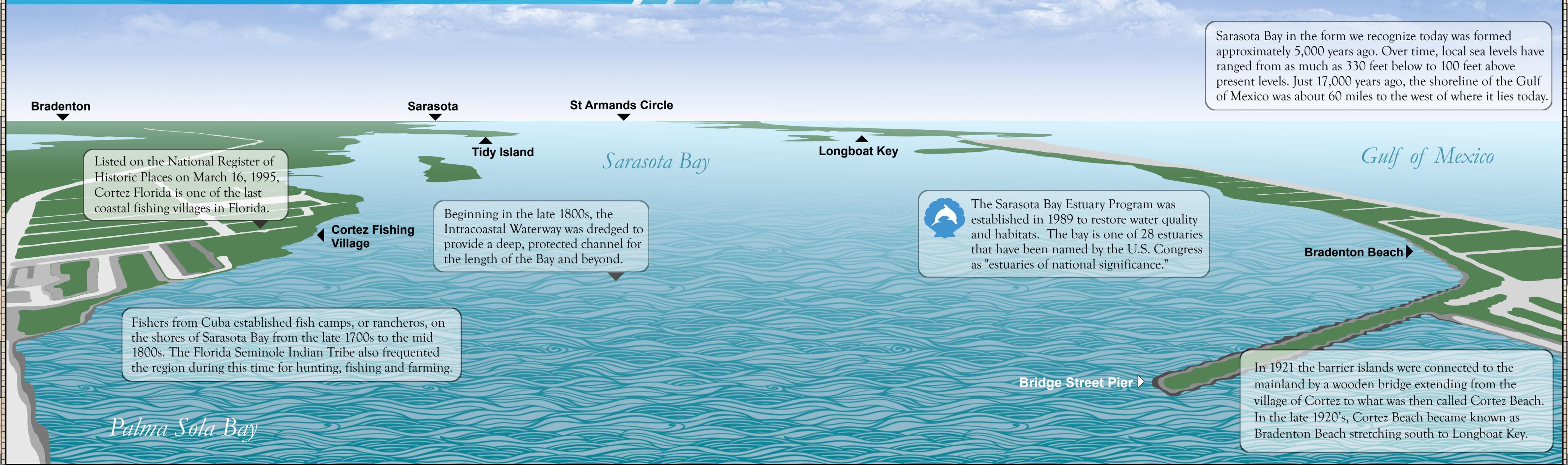
By the morning of Oct. 25, Cortez was underwater, five feet deep at the docks, according to a Bradentown Herald newspaper report. When it finally hit the coast, the storm was reported as a category 3, with winds reaching 100 miles per hour.

Although devastation within the community was severe, no lives were lost in Cortez. After the storm cleared, the resilient residents of Cortez salvaged what they could and began to rebuild.



Nothing was left standing, except the Albion Inn shown above, and the red brick Cortez schoolhouse below, built nine years earlier at an elevation slightly higher than sea level. It was successfully used for shelter during the storm.

# Looking South towards Sarasota Bay



Bradenton

Sarasota

St Armands Circle

Tidy Island

Longboat Key

Gulf of Mexico

Bradenton Beach

Bridge Street Pier

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places on March 16, 1995, Cortez Florida is one of the last coastal fishing villages in Florida.

Cortez Fishing Village

Beginning in the late 1800s, the Intracoastal Waterway was dredged to provide a deep, protected channel for the length of the Bay and beyond.



The Sarasota Bay Estuary Program was established in 1989 to restore water quality and habitats. The bay is one of 28 estuaries that have been named by the U.S. Congress as "estuaries of national significance."

Fishers from Cuba established fish camps, or rancheros, on the shores of Sarasota Bay from the late 1700s to the mid 1800s. The Florida Seminole Indian Tribe also frequented the region during this time for hunting, fishing and farming.

Palma Sola Bay

In 1921 the barrier islands were connected to the mainland by a wooden bridge extending from the village of Cortez to what was then called Cortez Beach. In the late 1920's, Cortez Beach became known as Bradenton Beach stretching south to Longboat Key.

Sarasota Bay in the form we recognize today was formed approximately 5,000 years ago. Over time, local sea levels have ranged from as much as 330 feet below to 100 feet above present levels. Just 17,000 years ago, the shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico was about 60 miles to the west of where it lies today.

Sarasota Bay

# Tan - Matching Pier Primary Color



# Sand - Matching Pier Accent Color



# Brushed Aluminum



# Matching Selected Rail Color



**Satin Black**



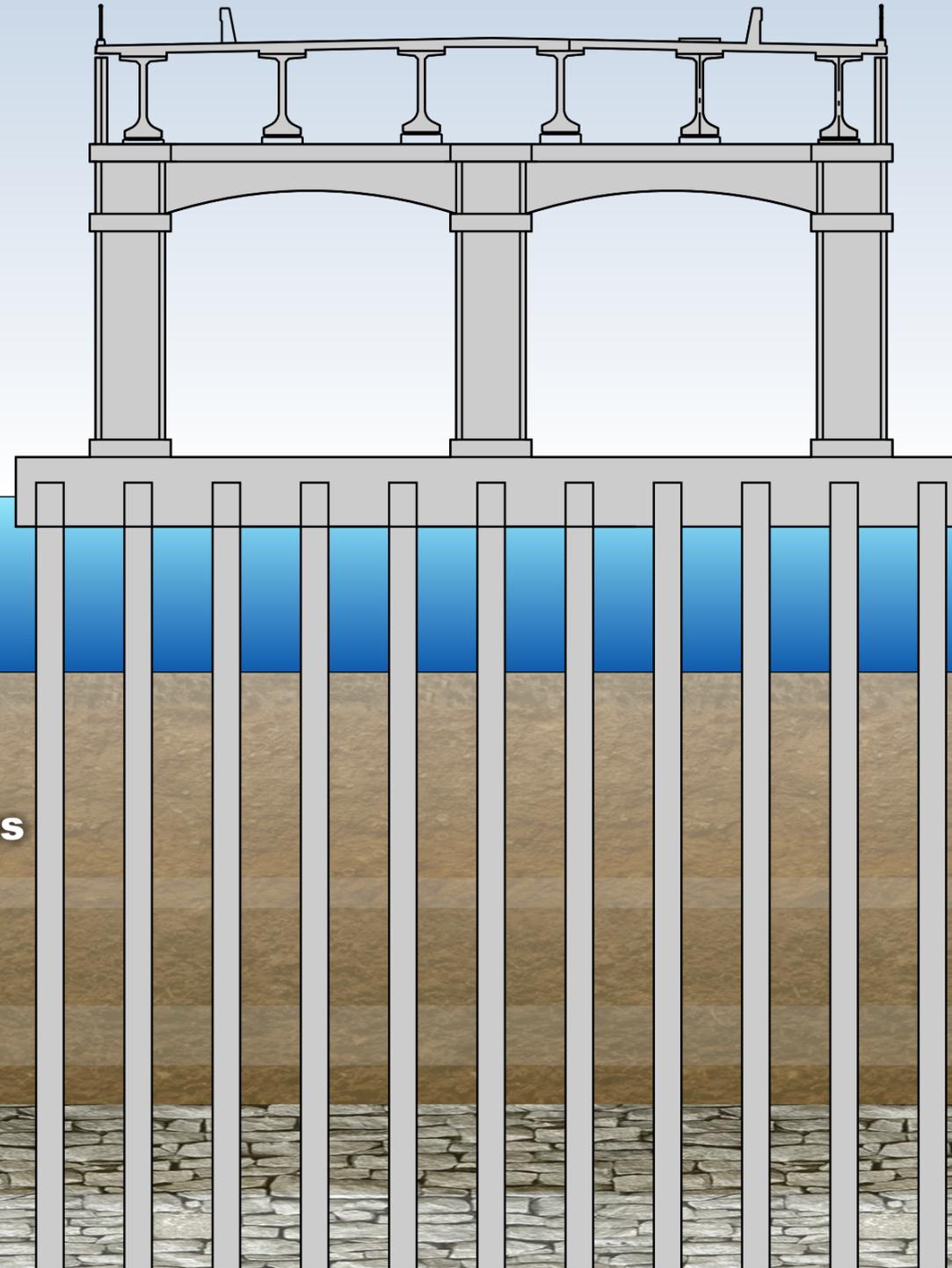
**Satin White**



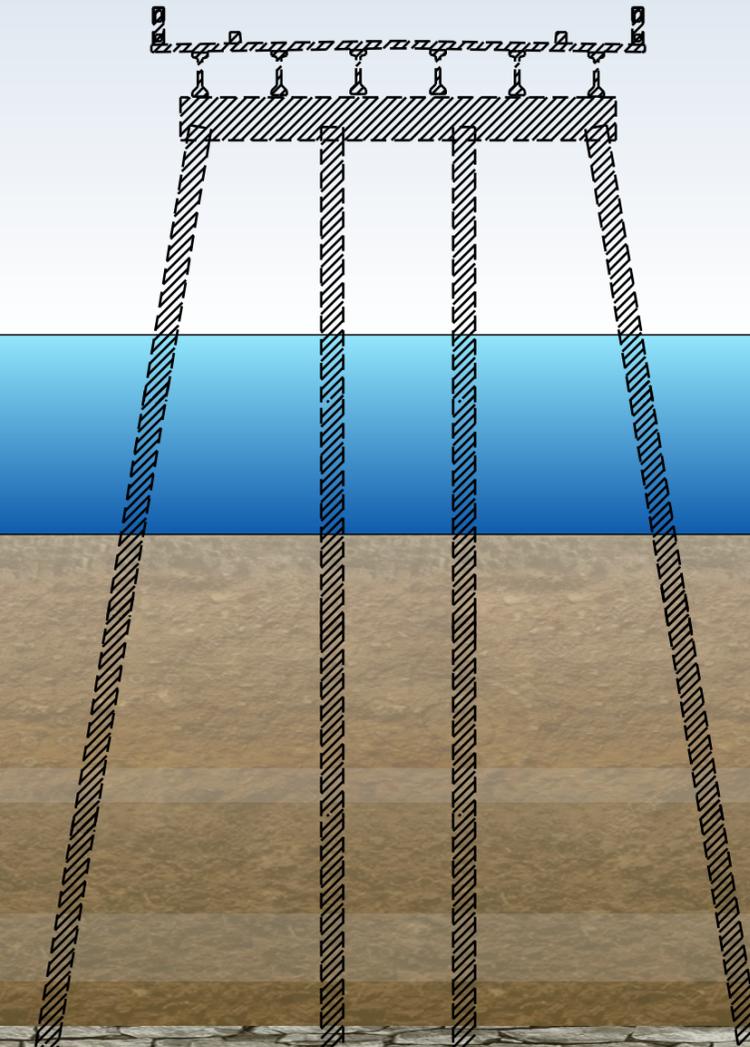
# Constructability Discussion

Geotechnical conditions help to determine the size and type of foundations, and can also impact construction sequencing. At this meeting we will briefly discuss how geotechnical conditions below the Cortez bridge will impact design and construction of a new structure.

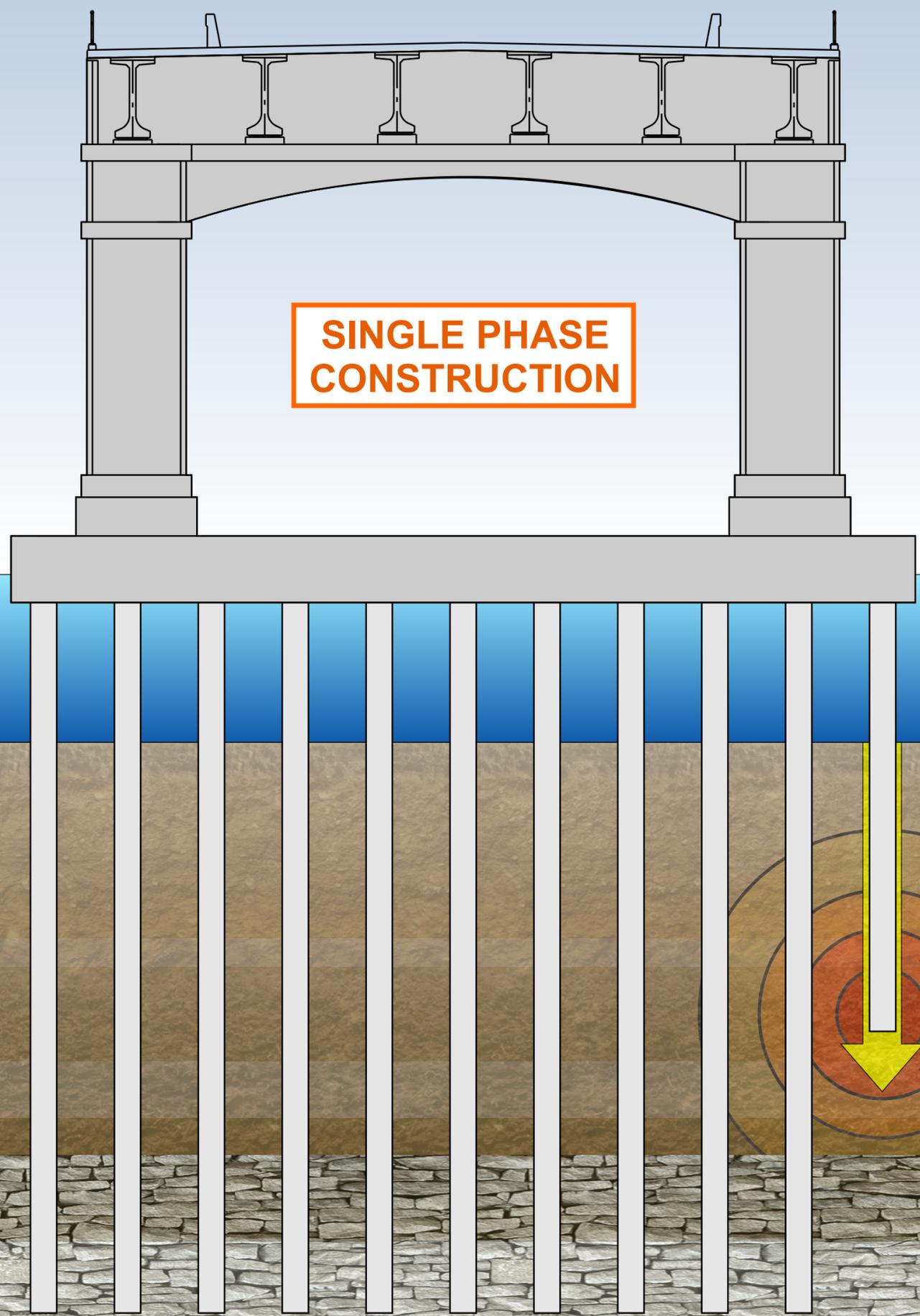
**Bridge Foundation  
Concrete Driven Piles**



**EXISTING BRIDGE**

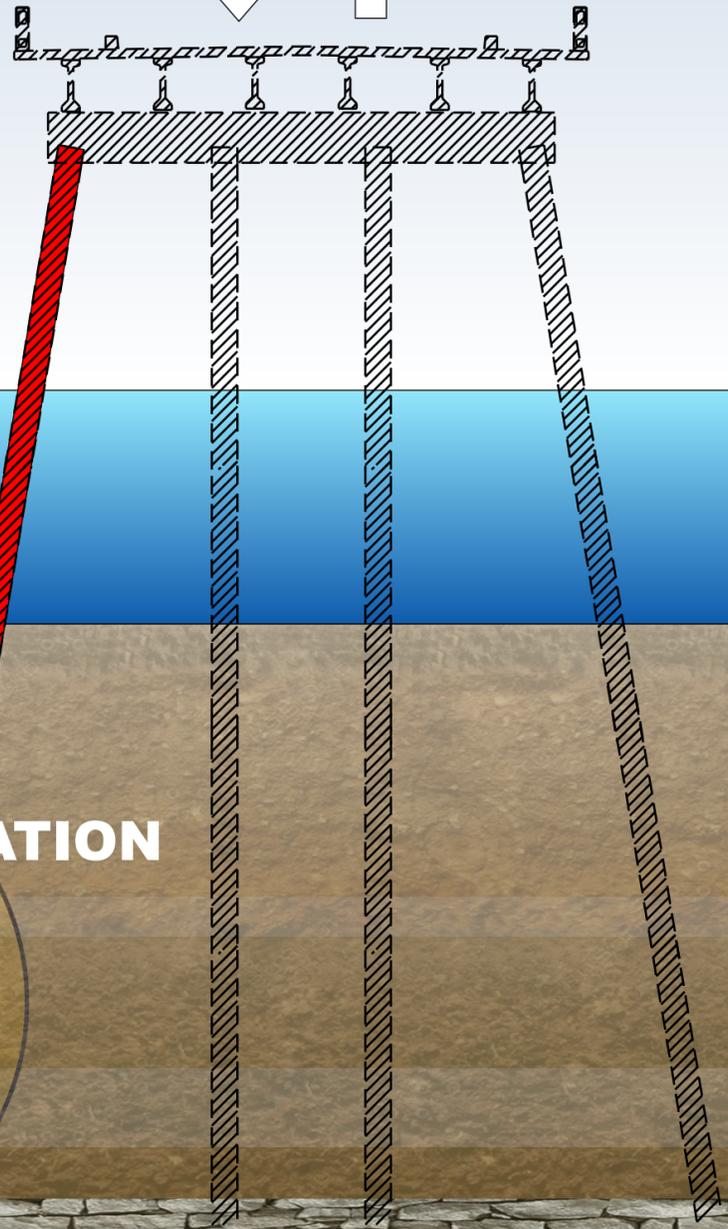
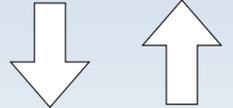


**VARIABLE THICKNESS  
LIMESTONE LAYER**



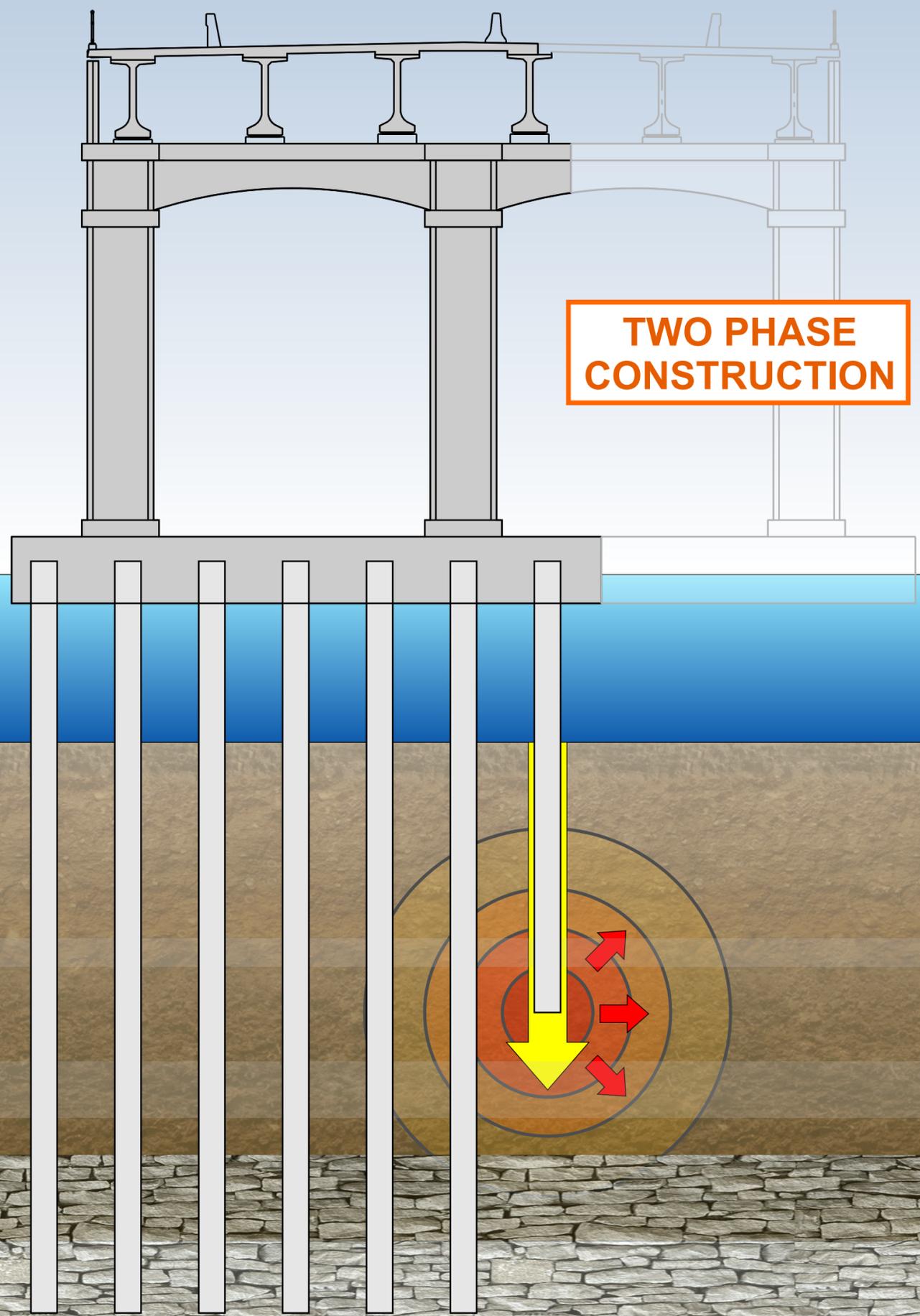
**SINGLE PHASE  
CONSTRUCTION**

**OPEN TO  
TRAFFIC**

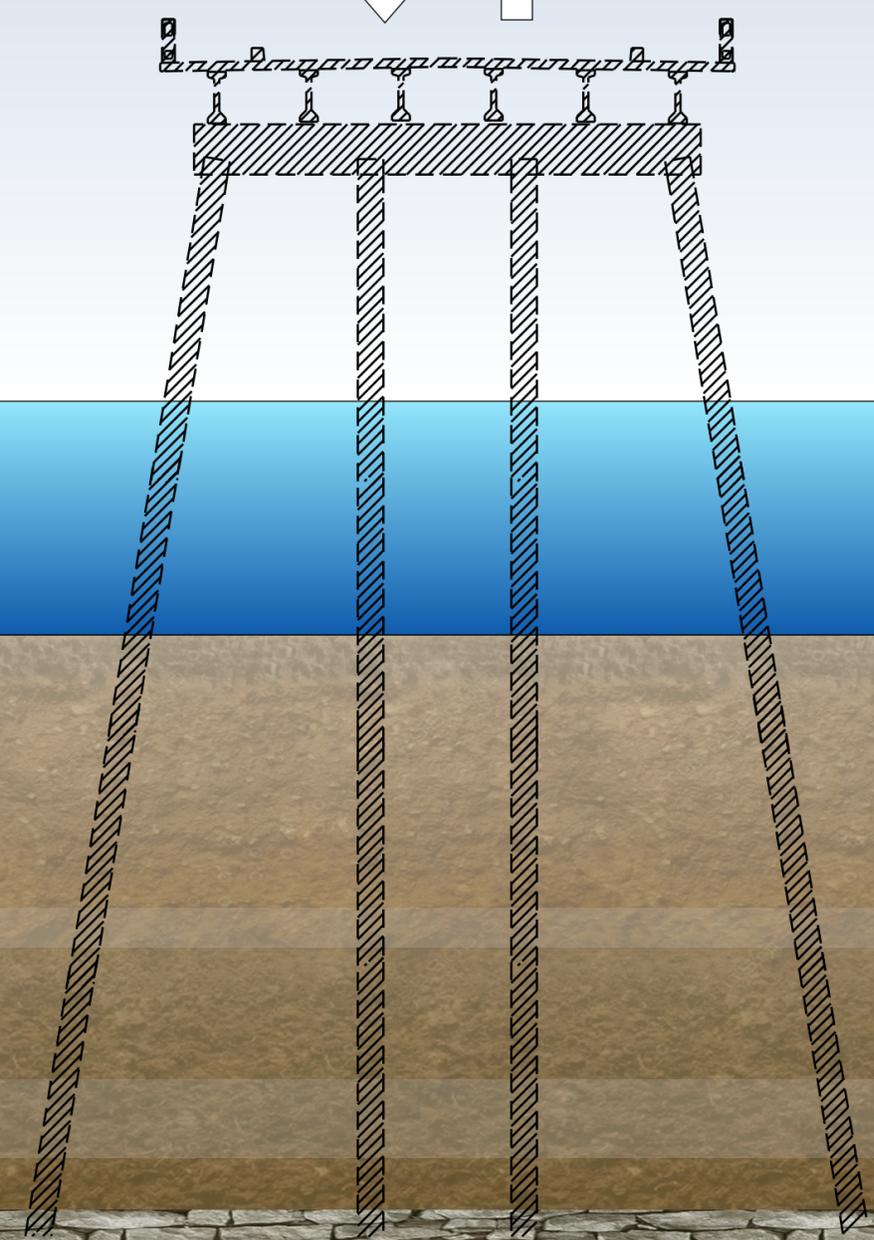
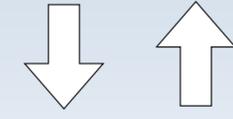


**VIBRATION**

**VARIABLE THICKNESS  
LIMESTONE LAYER**

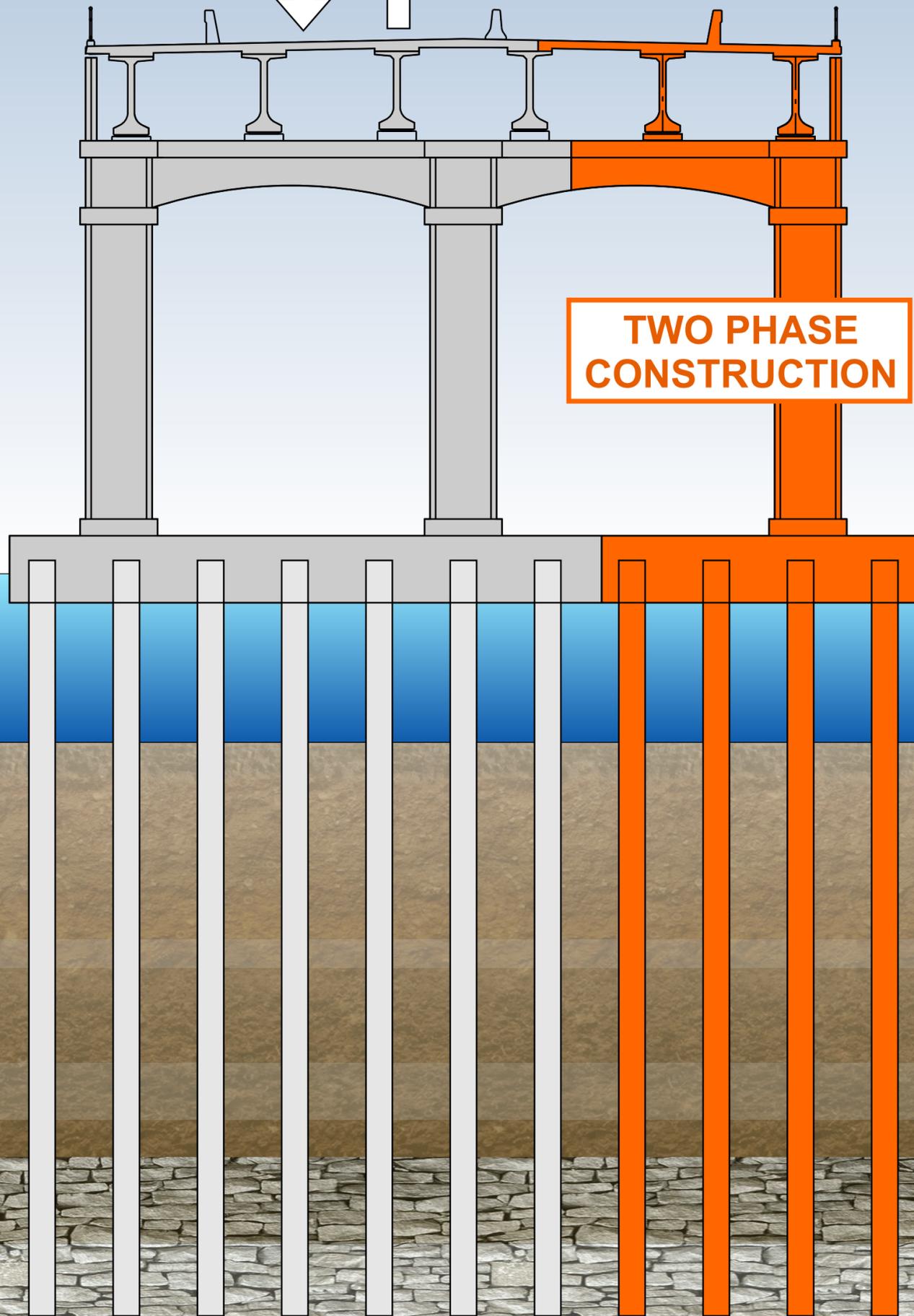
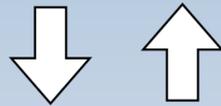


**OPEN TO  
TRAFFIC**



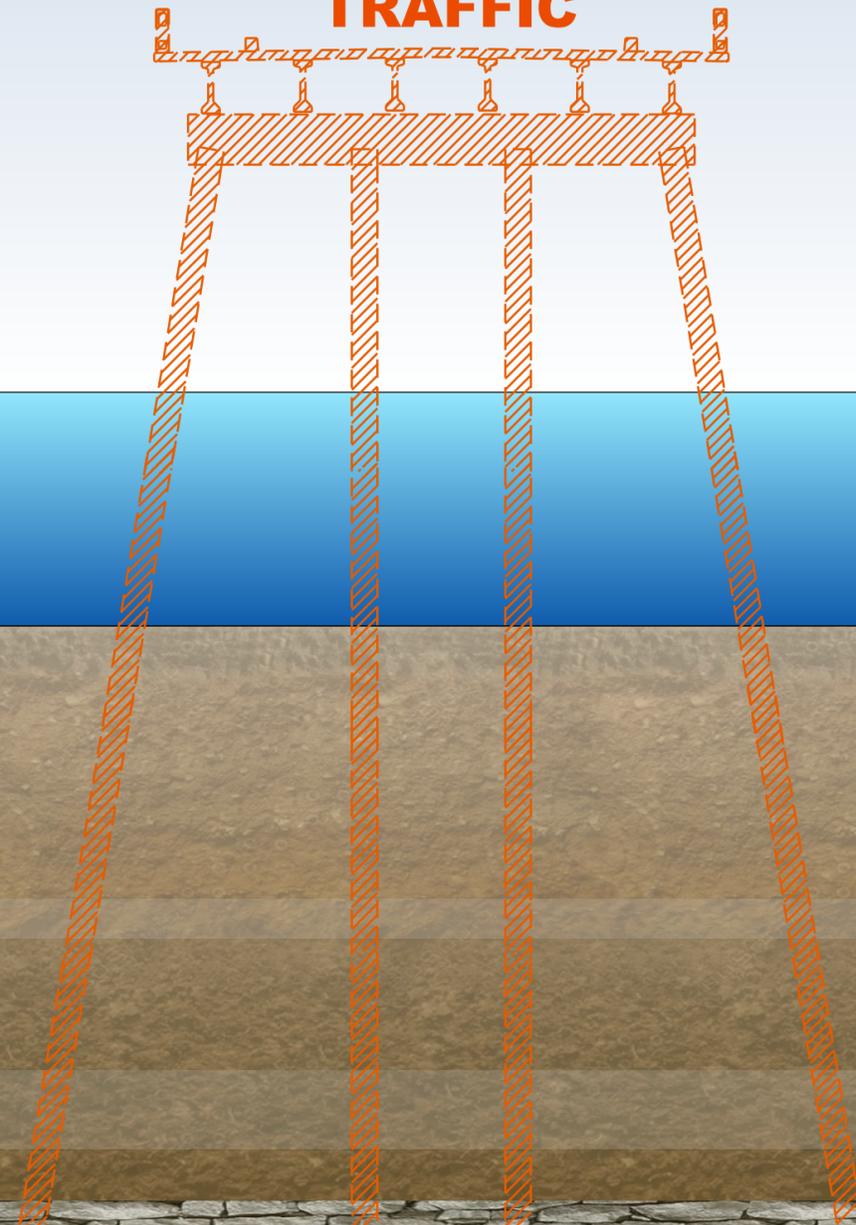
**VARIABLE THICKNESS  
LIMESTONE LAYER**

**2-LANE  
OPERATION**



**TWO PHASE  
CONSTRUCTION**

**CLOSED TO  
TRAFFIC**



**VARIABLE THICKNESS  
LIMESTONE LAYER**











**Cortez Bridge Aesthetics Advisory Committee**

**Thanks again to everyone for contributing their time!**

