

THE PETALUMA RAILROAD TRESTLE

The SMART owned railroad trestle in the City's downtown has been determined to be unsafe for pedestrian use and therefore has been fenced off. In addition, many find the trestle in its current condition to be a detriment to the area and wish for it to be remedied. Prior to any alterations to the structure, a full evaluation of the structure should be conducted, including its potential contributions to the historic downtown and a determination of its role as part of the historic setting. Any rehabilitation and renovation work on this structure will require a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process to be completed prior to the approval of a project. If the project is funded with Federal funds, the CEQA equivalent Historic Property Survey Report is required as part of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106. City Council desired to establish the historic contributing potential of the trestle through a formal Historic Structure Report (HSR) process in the initial discussion phase of the Trestle; therefore, Public Works was directed by Council to hire a consultant, through a public request-for-proposal process, to provide a HSR for the Petaluma & Santa Rosa Railroad Trestle (Trestle).

The HSR documents will be on file to support any future endeavors regarding the trestle. The HSR document also includes evaluation of the wood elements examined by a wood conservationist and initial engineering documentation reported in the Limited Structural Assessment with rough order-of-magnitude estimates for two possible uses to base any future budget requirements upon.