







LAUREL FORK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Blue Ridge Parkway, Laurel Springs, NC

CHANDLER
CONCRETE MASONRY HARDSCAPES
Durable Products. Dependable Partners.

PROJECT SIZE:
17,000 sq ft

PROJECT COMPLETION DATE:
October 1, 2025

ARCHITECT:
USDOT

CONCRETE CONTRACTOR:
Vannoy-Structural Technologies Joint Ventures

CONCRETE SUPPLIER:
Chandler Concrete Co. LLC

ENGINEER:
USDOT
COWI

CONCRETE TOTALS:
Abutment – 404 cy
Mass Concrete 4500 psi

Piers – 961 cy
Mass Concrete 6000 psi
50% Fly Ash

Railing – 210 cy
Colored 6% – 4500 psi.

CAROLINAS READY MIXED CRMCA CONCRETE ASSOCIATION

Learn more about this project at **www.crmca.com**

THE LAUREL FORK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE ORIGINAL 1939 STRUCTURE WHILE INCORPORATING MODERN ENGINEERING AND MATERIALS.

Designed with three spans, the new bridge's substructure was carefully constructed to closely mirror the historic appearance of the original. Its superstructure features a precast concrete segmental design built using the balanced cantilever method, offering enhanced strength and durability. To maintain the bridge's classic character, the new railing replicates the original California-style design, complete with a 9-inch curb and 6- to 8-foot rail post spacing. A graphite color pigment was added to the concrete railings, achieving an aged look reminiscent of the 1939 bridge. The completed project now provides a safe, efficient crossing with a travel time of approximately 40 minutes.

THIS PROJECT ENHANCED THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY BY TAKING NEW CONCRETE WITH NEW WAYS AND MEANS AND MAKING IT LOOK LIKE 1939. THIS PROJECT OPENED A SECTION OF THE PARKWAY FOR MILLIONS OF TOURISTS TRAVELING IN THE BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The Laurel Fork Bridge Replacement project showcased innovation and resilience from start to finish. The team utilized a hydration stabilizer to precisely control concrete set times and incorporated color pigment to achieve the desired aesthetic, ensuring both performance and visual appeal. Despite these advancements, the project faced significant challenges as Hurricane Helene and multiple ice storms disrupted deliveries and made site access difficult. Through careful coordination and dedication, the project team successfully navigated these obstacles to keep the work moving forward and deliver a bridge that honors both the past and the future.