

The population being studied was the households in the Target Range School District. This population consisted of 1682 households and their addresses. 1104 of these households were on the East side of Maclay Bridge and 578 were on the West side.

A questionnaire was written for the 2013 Maclay Bridge Survey. In late November 2013, it was mailed to a random sample of 800 households drawn from the population being studied. The results in this report are based on 248 questionnaires that were returned, (171 from households on the East side of Maclay Bridge, 75 from households on the West side, and 2 with side of bridge unknown.) The last 2 questionnaires are always included when all questionnaires are combined. The return rate was 31.0% overall, 32.0% from East side households and 28.2% from West side households. A mapping of addresses for the returned questionnaires showed that they were widely distributed over the area of the population being studied. See maps and the questionnaire in the Appendix.

The 7 questions on the survey questionnaire and a summary of the answers to each question are given below. Whenever appropriate, the answers are summarized for the entire population as well as for the east and west sides of Maclay Bridge.

1. Before this survey, were you aware of the County’s plans to replace Maclay Bridge?

	East side of Maclay Bridge	West side of Maclay Bridge	All questionnaires Combined*
Yes	85.4%	90.7%	87.1%
No	1.2%	1.3%	1.2%
Somewhat	12.9%	8.0%	11.3%
No Answer	0.6%		0.4%

* Combined always includes the 2 questionnaires with side of bridge unknown.

2. How long have you lived in the Target Range School District?

	East side of Maclay Bridge	West side of Maclay Bridge	All questionnaires Combined
Average years	22.7	21.2	22.3
Range of years	1 to 68	1 to 49	1 to 68

3.a. Do you use Maclay Bridge?

	East side of Maclay Bridge	West side of Maclay Bridge	All questionnaires Combined
Yes	95.3%	100%	96.8%
No	4.7%	0%	3.2%

3.b. How often do you cross the bridge?

	East side of Maclay Bridge	West side of Maclay Bridge	All questionnaires Combined
Once or more daily	5.8%	61.3%	23.4%
Once or more weekly (not daily)	53.2%	32.0%	46.4%
Once or more monthly (not daily or weekly)	25.7%	5.3%	19.4%
Once or more yearly (not daily or weekly or monthly)	8.2%	0.0%	5.6%
Used, but how often not given	2.3%	1.3%	2.0%
Never use bridge	4.7%	0.0%	3.2%

3.c. Why do you use the bridge?

Reason for using Bridge	East side of Maclay Bridge	West side of Maclay Bridge	All questionnaires Combined
Access Big Flat/Blue Mtn. Road	64	1	65
Access HW-93 & Bitterroot	63	0	63
Recreation-Peak	55	1	57
Go to School-Town-Shopping	0	59	60
Commute to Work	7	20	27
Cross the River	9	4	13
Avoid Reserve Street	8	0	8
No comment	12	2	14
Other comments	7	6	13
Do not use bridge	8	0	8

Notes

Numbers in table are counts from 248 questionnaires returned.
 Respondents were not limited to giving just one reason for using bridge.

4. What experiences have you had when using this Bridge?

Experience	East side residents	West side residents	All questionnaires combined	Percent of questionnaires
Positive				
No problems/mostly good	104	43	147	59.3%
Other drivers Courteous-Wave	29	18	47	19.0%
Neighborhood Character/Landmark	5	7	12	4.8%
Scenic/Wildlife/Families-Enjoy	7	4	11	4.5%
Traffic calming	8	2	10	4.0%
Negative				
Summer time-Kids in the way	24	21	47	19.0%
Congestion-Waiting for Traffic	23	12	36	14.5%
Narrow/One lane/Safety Concerns	11	11	24	9.7%
Other drivers Not Courteous	5	7	12	4.8%
No comment	8	1	9	
Other Comments	5	1	6	
Do not use bridge	8	0	8	

Notes

Numbers are counts from 248 questionnaires returned.
 Respondents wrote in their experiences; a list was not provided.
 Respondents could write in as many experiences as they desired.

5.a Do you favor building a new bridge at the end of South Avenue West and removing the existing Maclay Bridge as recommended in the Maclay Bridge Planning Study?

	East side of Maclay Bridge	Margin of error	West side of Maclay Bridge	Margin of error	All surveys Combined	Margin of error
Yes	28.7%	6.4%	40.0%	10.6%	32.7%	5.5%
No	58.5%	6.9%	44.0%	10.8%	53.6%	5.9%
Undecided	11.7%		14.7%		12.5%	
No answer	1.2%		1.3%		1.2%	

Notes

These percentages are estimates for the entire population in each of the 3 cases above.
The margin of errors have 95% confidence.

5.b Do you favor a new bridge on South Avenue? Why?

Reasons most mentioned by YES respondents	Those who answered YES
Improve Traffic flow/New bridge needed	29
Time for new bridge-Maclay worn out	19
Improve safety with Fire, Police, Bus	16
Build new bridge & leave Maclay Bridge	10
Miscellaneous comments-varied widely	19
No comment	7
Reasons most mentioned by NO respondents	Those who answered NO
Safety concerns with increased traffic	54
Negative impact on community/environment	37
Too expensive-More taxes	30
New bridge is not needed	21
Maclay Bridge is fine	17
Miscellaneous comments-varied widely	33
No comment	22
Reasons for the UNDECIDED respondents	Those who were UNDECIDED
Miscellaneous comments-varied widely	23
No comment	13

Notes

Numbers in the table are counts from 248 questionnaires returned.
For a new bridge? Yes 81 No 133 Undecided 31 Others 3.
Respondents gave their own reasons for their choice. No list was given to them.
Respondents could give as many reasons as they desired.
Safety concerns for those who answered Yes are for Maclay Bridge.
Safety concerns for those who answered No are primarily for increased traffic on South Ave. and throughout the neighborhood.

6.a Do you favor upgrading Maclay Bridge to fix possible structural/safety and bike/pedestrian concerns, rather than building a new bridge on South Ave West?

	East side of Maclay Bridge	Margin of error	West side of Maclay Bridge	Margin of error	All surveys Combined	Margin of error
Yes	60.2%	6.9%	48.0%	10.8%	56.0%	5.8%
No	29.2%	6.4%	42.7%	10.7%	33.9%	5.6%
Undecided	9.4%		9.3%		9.3%	
No answer	1.2%		0.0%		0.8%	

Notes

These percentages are estimates for the entire population in each of the 3 cases above.
The margin of errors have 95% confidence.

6.b Do you favor upgrading Maclay Bridge? Why?

Reasons most mentioned by YES respondents	Those who answered YES
Lower Cost	60
Fits Neighborhood Character/Negative Community Impacts	53
Maclay Serves its Purpose	45
Avoid Traffic & Safety Problems	37
Common Sense/Right Thing to Do	7
Miscellaneous comments-varied widely	26
No comment	17
Reasons most mentioned by NO respondents	Those who answered NO
Old & Outdated/Has Served Its Purpose	21
Avoid Traffic & Safety Problems	12
Needs a Permanent Fix	9
Rehab of Maclay is a Waste of Money	8
Miscellaneous comments-varied widely	34
No comment	19
Reasons for the UNDECIDED respondents	Those who were UNDECIDED
Miscellaneous comments-varied widely	17
No comment	12

Notes

Numbers in the table are counts from 248 questionnaires returned.
For a Maclay Bridge upgrade? Yes 139 No 84 Undecided 23 Others 2
Respondents gave their own reasons for their choice. No list was given to them.
Respondents gave as many reasons as they desired.
Safety concerns for those who answered "Yes" are primarily for increased traffic on South Ave and throughout the neighborhood.
Safety concerns for those who answered "No" are for safety of Maclay Bridge itself.

7. What Concerns would you like to be addressed by NEPA/MEPA Study?

Concern	East side residents	West side residents	All questionnaires combined
Impacts on Fish/Wildlife/River/Floodplain	24	12	36
All Costs of Project + Including Taxes	22	10	32
Traffic Projections/Increased Traffic on So. Ave. & Blue Mtn./Big Flat	24	8	32
Impacts on Neighborhood/Community	23	8	31
Traffic Safety/Emergency Access	16	11	27
If New Bridge, Keep Maclay for Bike/Ped	5	4	9
Commissioners/Govt. Should Listen to Residents	4	0	4
No comment	49	19	68
Other comments-a listing is found in the Appendix	54	28	84

Notes

Numbers in table are counts from 248 questionnaires returned.
Questionnaires returned: East side 171 West side 75 Side unknown 2.
Respondents wrote in their concerns; a list was not provided.
Respondents could write in as many concerns as they desired.

SUMMARY RESULTS

- **The key results of the survey show 56% of respondents favor upgrading the existing Maclay Bridge with 34% opposed and 9% undecided, while 33% favor building a new bridge at the end of South Ave. with 54% opposed and 13% undecided.**
- **The main reasons listed by those favoring upgrading Maclay Bridge were lower cost, negative community impacts with a new bridge and the fact that the existing bridge is adequately serving local needs.**
- **The main reasons listed by those opposing upgrading Maclay Bridge were the age of the bridge, and traffic and safety problems with the bridge.**
- **The primary reasons given in support of a new bridge on South Avenue were to improve traffic flow, access for fire, police and bus service, and the existing bridge is seen as worn out.**
- **The primary reasons given in opposition for a new bridge were safety concerns in the community from increased traffic generated by the new bridge and the expenses connected to a new bridge.**
- **A full 70% of respondents report using the bridge at least weekly, with 23% using the bridge daily.**
- **Major uses are for accessing work, school, or businesses on the east side of the river, as well as access to HWY-93 and the Big Flat/Blue Mountain areas on the west side.**
- **No problems with the use of Maclay Bridge were mentioned by 59% of respondents and 19% indicated other drivers are courteous when taking turns using the one lane bridge.**
- **Problems with congestion from swimmers in the summer and waiting for traffic on the one lane bridge were mentioned by 19% and 15% of respondents respectively.**

APPENDIX

Miscellaneous Information for the 2013 Maclay Bridge Survey

The population being studied is the households in the Target Range School District. This population consisted of 1682 households and their addresses. 1104 of these households were on the East side of Maclay Bridge and 578 were on the West side.

A random sample of 800 households were drawn from this population. In this sample, 534 households were on the East side of Maclay Bridge and 266 were on the West side.

Response to a Maclay Bridge Survey. A questionnaire was written for the 2013 Maclay Bridge Survey and it was mailed to these 800 households. A total of 248 (31.0%) of the questionnaires were returned. A mapping of the addresses of the returned questionnaires showed them to be well distributed geographically over the population being studied. See maps of these geographic distributions later in this Appendix. For the 534 households on the East side of Maclay Bridge, 171 (32.0%) were returned. For the 266 households on the West side of Maclay Bridge, 75 (28.2%) were returned. Side of the bridge was unknown for 2 questionnaires. These last 2 were included for any analysis with all data combined.

Percent favoring a new bridge on South Avenue.

Question 5 on the questionnaire was : Do you favor building a new bridge at the end of South Avenue West and removing the existing Maclay Bridge as recommended in the Maclay Bridge Planning Study? The percents who checked YES, NO, and UNDECIDED were calculated for ALL questionnaires returned, those on the WEST side of Maclay Bridge and those on the EAST side. Because we have random samples we are able to compute a margin of error (95% confidence) for each of these percents.

	East side Maclay Bridge	Margin of Error 95% Conf.	West side Maclay Bridge	Margin of Error 95% Conf.	All surveys combined	Margin of Error 95% Conf.
Percent for new Bridge (Q5)	28.7%	+/- 6.4%	40.0%	+/- 10.6%	32.7%	+/- 5.5%
Percent against New Bridge (Q5)	58.5%	+/- 6.9%	44.0%	+/- 10.8%	53.6%	+/- 5.9%
Percent undecided (Q5)	11.7%	+/- 4.5%	14.7%	+/- 7.7%	12.5%	+/- 3.9%

Percent favoring fixing and keeping Maclay Bridge.

Question 6 on the questionnaire was: Do you favor upgrading Maclay Bridge to fix possible structural/safety and bike/pedestrian concerns, rather than building a new bridge on South Ave West? The percents who checked YES, NO, and UNDECIDED were calculated for ALL questionnaires returned, those on the WEST side of Maclay Bridge and those on the EAST side. Because we have random samples we are able to compute a margin of error (95% confidence) for each of these percents.

	East side Maclay Bridge	Margin of Error 95% Conf.	West side Maclay Bridge	Margin of Error 95% Conf.	All surveys combined	Margin of Error 95% Conf.
Percent for Maclay Bridge (Q6)	60.2%	+/- 6.9%	48.0%	+/- 10.8%	56.0%	+/- 5.8%
Percent against Maclay Bridge (Q6)	29.2%	+/- 6.4%	42.7%	+/- 10.7%	33.9%	+/- 5.6%
Percent undecided (Q6)	9.4%	+/- 4.1%	9.3%	+/- 6.3%	9.3%	+/- 3.4%

The tables below give more detailed information about the percents calculated for Questions 5 & 6 on the questionnaire.

**Margin of Errors (95% Confidence) for Percents for Questions 5 & 6 in the
2013 Maclay Bridge Survey**
Also numbers in various groups, sample sizes, and numbers returned

N = Population size p-est% = estimated percent M = Margin of Error

Entire Population (percents)	N	# mailed	# returned	p-est%	M Margin of Error 95% Conf	p-est% - M	p-est% + M
Percent for new Bridge (Q5)	1682	800	248	32.7%	+/- 5.5%	27.2%	38.2%
Percent against New Bridge (Q5)	1682	800	248	53.6%	+/- 5.9%	47.7%	59.5%
Percent undecided (Q5)	1682	800	248	12.5%	+/- 3.9%	8.6%	16.4%
Percent for Maclay Bridge (Q6)	1682	800	248	56.0%	+/- 5.8%	50.2%	61.8%
Percent against Maclay Bridge (Q6)	1682	800	248	33.9%	+/- 5.6%	28.3%	39.5%
Percent undecided (Q6)	1682	800	248	9.3%	+/- 3.4%	5.9%	12.7%

East side of River (percents)	N	# mailed	# returned	p-est%	M Margin of Error 95% Conf	p-est% - M	p-est% + M
Percent for new Bridge (Q5)	1104	534	171	28.7%	+/- 6.4%	22.3%	35.1%
Percent against New Bridge (Q5)	1104	534	171	58.5%	+/- 6.9%	51.6%	65.4%
Percent undecided (Q5)	1104	534	171	11.7%	+/- 4.5%	7.2%	16.2%
Percent for Maclay Bridge (Q6)	1104	534	171	60.2%	+/- 6.9%	53.3%	67.1%
Percent against Maclay Bridge (Q6)	1104	534	171	29.2%	+/- 6.4%	22.8%	35.6%
Percent undecided (Q6)	1104	534	171	9.4%	+/- 4.1%	5.3%	13.5%

West side of River (percents)	N	# mailed	# returned	p-est%	M Margin of Error 95% Conf	p-est% - M	p-est% + M
Percent for new Bridge (Q5)	578	266	75	40.0%	+/- 10.6%	29.4%	50.6%
Percent against New Bridge (Q5)	578	266	75	44.0%	+/- 10.8%	33.2%	54.8%
Percent undecided (Q5)	578	266	75	14.7%	+/- 7.7%	7.0%	22.4%
Percent for Maclay Bridge (Q6)	578	266	75	48.0%	+/- 10.8%	37.2%	58.8%
Percent against Maclay Bridge (Q6)	578	266	75	42.7%	+/- 10.7%	32.0%	53.4%
Percent undecided (Q6)	578	266	75	9.3%	+/- 6.3%	3.0%	15.6%

Miscellaneous comments from Question #7, "What Concerns Do You Want NEPA/MEPA Study to Address?"

Stop wasting time & money
Study is waste of money
Removing Maclay takes away recreation opportunity
Impact on recreation
Encouraging a "by-pass" to 93 through Missoula on Big Flat/Blue Mtn. Road
Traffic doesn't slow through Missoula because of poor planning
Bridge wasn't built to last forever
Need for parking for recreation
Upgrade River Pines/O'Brien/Blue Mtn./Big Flat intersection
Scenic preservation
Quit wasting money on studies
NIMBYs influencing public needs
Why spend money on study?
What do property owners want?
Find cost effective alternatives to a new bridge
Find alternative North-South route
Actual need for a bridge?
Possible "by-pass" plans?
Provide boat launching at new bridge, make bridge wide enough for bike/ped
NEPA must be fair and honest
Consider rehab options & Follow up methods of Govt. funding
Saves 7.4 Mil to not build new bridge
"Send them packing", don't need a study, fix Maclay
Study a waste of money, build new bridge
Bridge jumping and traffic impact
"No left over hazards"?
Stop studying and build new bridge
Impact on property value on South Ave. Removal of Maclay a "connected action". Bridge footprint & buffer should be analyzed.
Consider different options
Bridge at Tower St. east of McCauley Butte
Study accidents at bridge, drowning, 4-way stop at North & Clements
"What is the will of God?"
Possible to engineer a change to Maclay that will stop drowning?
Keep and maintain existing bridge
Keep kids from jumping from bridge
How would bridge removal affect fishing hole below Maclay?
Traffic at Clements and South
Road construction timing, closing of Maclay
3-way stop at Clements and South
Flashing lights at each end of Maclay to stop traffic when in use
Make Maclay part of bike/ped trail route
Purchase parking spaces at Maclay
How long would it take to complete upgrade of Maclay? Access during construction?
Just get it done - "enough is enough"

Completely remove old bridge making water recreation safer for all
How soon could a new bridge be built?
Want a complete scientific evaluation with site specific data, including historic aerial photos, history of bridge and engineers who were involved, number of injuries and deaths from jumping from bridge, change in river morphology both upstream and downstream.
Get started on new bridge as soon as possible
Don't waste money on any excessive study
How many studies are needed, stop wasting money and replace the bridge
I want a new bridge
How to design a new bridge that will not alter the course of the Bitterroot River
Deterioration of property values on South Ave. if bridge is built
Leave NEPA/MEPA out of the picture! Our community wants to keep the bridge.
Identify future connected actions, evaluate rip-rap above and below bridge-good or bad? How has it changed the river over time?
Money being used to study something many of us don't want.
Fire/ambulance response time, evacuation concerns, dangerous swimming/diving access
Dust abatement, police/sheriff coverage in summer
Realistic data should be used
Bike lanes protected by barriers from traffic, population growth projections, one lane bridge preferable if growth doesn't result in traffic jams
Cost of the study, find a place for kids to swim & park
Take the money and build bike path on Blue Mtn. & Big Flat, rural Montana is being over developed
Costs will be much greater than anticipated and more work will be required
Homes on South Ave. will be devalued and it will be hard to get out of some driveways.
Have an unbiased study
Who is pushing this project? Need credible traffic projections, include realistic rehab alternative
Designated parking for fishing/recreation
Need to include viable rehabilitation cost for Maclay bridge
Studies will cost a fortune and accomplish nothing
Include full range of alternatives, make Maclay bridge part of Kelly Island rec.. Area
We spend too much on planning and not enough on doing
Effect on values for current property owners
Put traffic lights at Target Range and Big Sky for student safety
Plan for more local traffic on South Ave. and park development at Maclay bridge
How to reduce the number of cars on the road
Why do we have to pay for another study?
New bridge would be used as a short-cut
Most residents would like to save the bridge
What is the best way to put more people to work?
Possibility of requiring heavier vehicles to take alternate route
Let the affected neighborhood be heard or allowed to vote on it
Need traffic light at Clements & South Ave. and speed bumps on Woodlawn
This is a "push" poll
Do not delay building the bridge

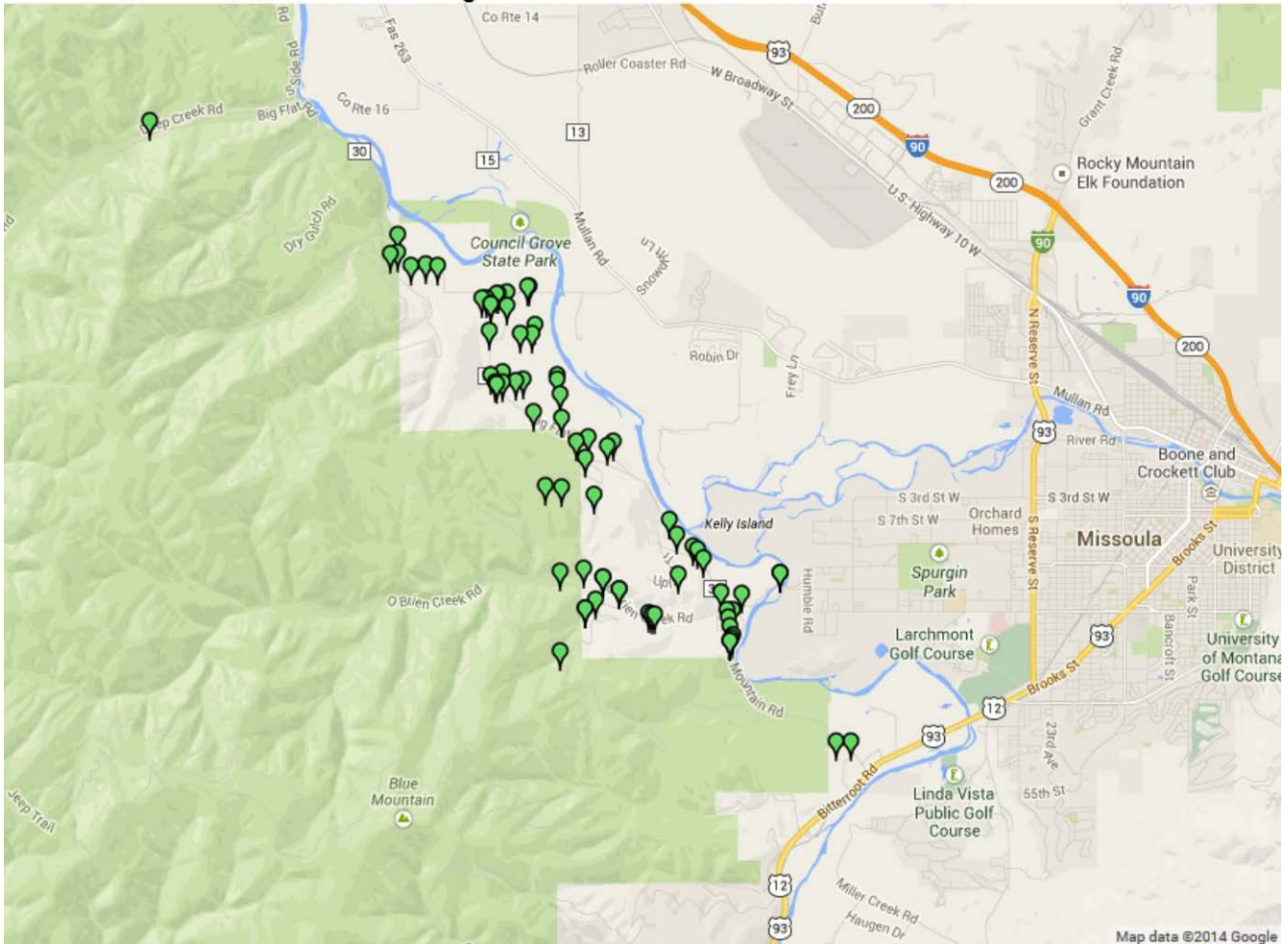
Brief explanation of the Maps on pages A-4 and A-5

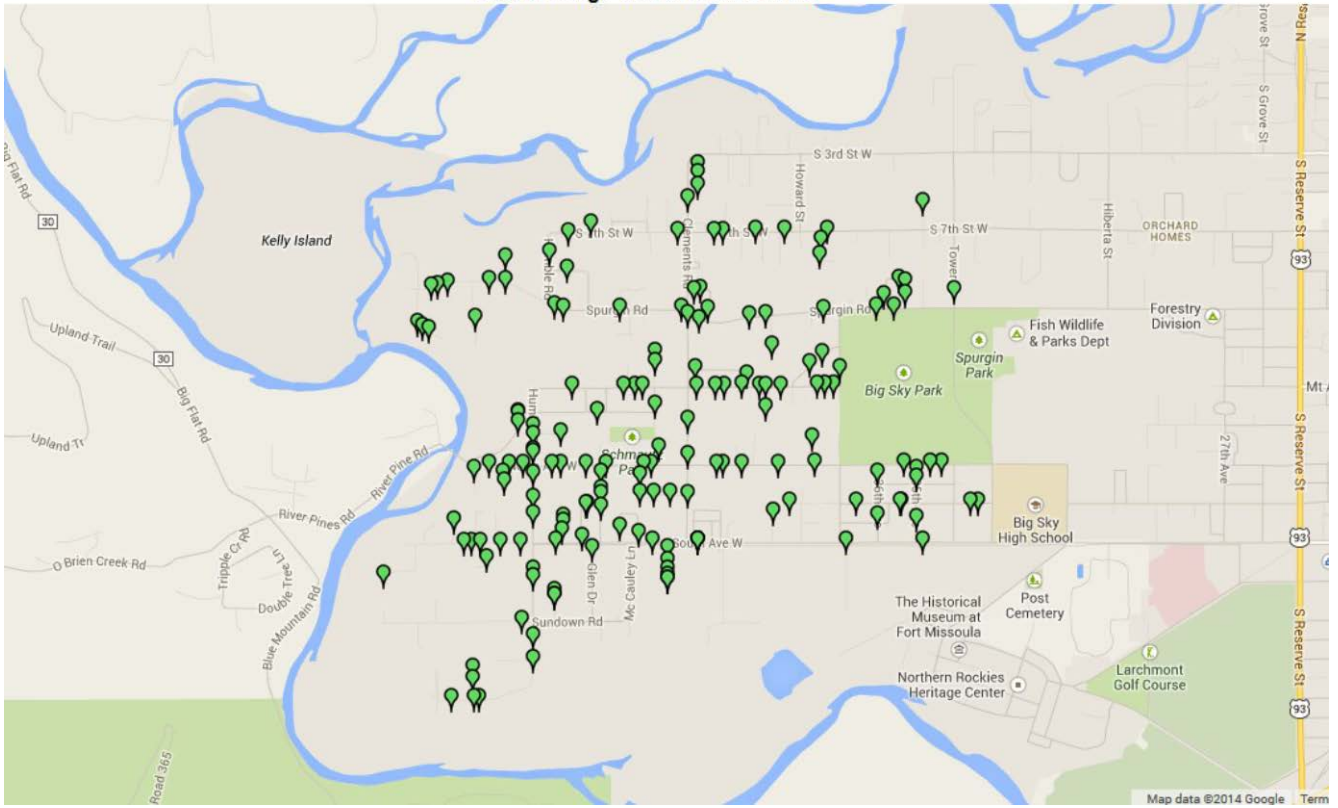
The map on page A-4 shows the locations of households on the West side of Maclay Bridge that were in the random sample for the 2013 Maclay Bridge Survey and sent in their survey questionnaire. Because of the condensed size of this map you cannot actually see every distinct household on this map.

The map on page A-5 shows the locations of households on the East side of Maclay Bridge that were in the random sample for the 2013 Maclay Bridge Survey and sent in their survey questionnaire. Because of the condensed size of this map you cannot actually see every distinct household on this map.

These maps show that the responding households were widely distributed over the area being studied, which was the Target Range School District.

West of Bridge 1/28/2014 8:39:36 PM





Maclay Bridge Survey

DEAR TARGET RANGE RESIDENT,

You have been chosen by a RANDOM SAMPLE to help the Target Range Homeowners Association determine the opinions of local residents regarding the REPLACEMENT of Maclay Bridge with a new, two-lane bridge, or REHABILITATION of the existing Maclay Bridge. Your input is invaluable for this survey on an issue that will affect our entire Target Range/O'Brien Creek/Big Flat/Blue Mountain community. **PLEASE**, take a moment to complete and return this survey. No stamp is necessary, just fold and tape the survey so the return address is shown. Please reply by **Friday, November 29.**

BASIC FACTS FROM MACLAY BRIDGE PLANNING STUDY

- The Missoula County Commissioners approved the Maclay Bridge Planning Study recommendation April 17, 2013, which proposed replacement of Maclay Bridge with a new two lane bridge at a new location at the western end of South Avenue West, and removal of the existing Maclay Bridge.
- As proposed, Federal funds would cover 86.6% of a new bridge and the state of Montana would cover the remaining 13.4% of the estimated \$7.4 million bridge cost.
- In addition, the Maclay Bridge Study Plan estimate for upgrading South Avenue West from a new bridge to Clements is \$1.9 million. This cost is in addition to the bridge cost estimate of \$7.4 million. There has been no estimate made of the cost of upgrading River Pines Road from the 90 degree turn on River Pines Road to the intersection with O'Brien Creek, Blue Mountain and Big Flat. All of these road costs will likely be paid by Missoula County residents since state and federal bridge funds will not be available for these roads.
- An alternative to building a new bridge is to upgrade the current Maclay Bridge, including addition of a pedestrian/bicycle bridge. The estimated cost of this alternative is \$972,800, and would likely be paid by Missoula County residents.
- If a new bridge is constructed on South Avenue West, the existing Maclay Bridge will be removed.
- NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) requires an environmental impact study for projects applying for federal funding. MEPA (Montana Environmental Policy Act) requires a similar study for projects applying for Montana State funding.
- The NEPA/MEPA study to examine Maclay Bridge replacement will likely begin in winter or spring of 2014, and must be completed and approved before construction.
- If approved following the NEPA study, construction of a new bridge could begin in 2016.

Your opinion is important because it is the policy of the State of Montana to create and maintain conditions in which people can exist in productive harmony with nature, and it recognizes each person's entitlement to a healthful environment. The right to a clean and healthful environment and the right to possess and protect property are among the inalienable rights guaranteed to Montanans in the state constitution.

MACLAY BRIDGE SURVEY

1. Before this survey, were you aware of the County's plans to replace Maclay Bridge?
Yes ___ No ___ Somewhat _____

2. How long have you lived in Target Range School District? _____

3. Do you use Maclay Bridge? Yes _____ No _____

If you answered "Yes", how often do you cross the bridge?

Why do you use the bridge?

4. If you use Maclay Bridge, what experiences have you had when using this bridge?

5. Do you favor building a new bridge at the west end of South Avenue West and removing the existing Maclay Bridge as recommended in the Maclay Bridge Planning Study?

Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

Why? _____

6. Do you favor upgrading Maclay Bridge to fix possible structural/safety and bike/pedestrian concerns, rather than building a new bridge on South Ave West?

Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

Why? _____

7. What concerns would you like the upcoming NEPA/MEPA study to address?

Your input is vital for this important issue which affects the entire Target Range community. All responses are confidential and will not be personally identifiable in summary data. PLEASE FOLD & TAPE THIS SURVEY SO THE RETURN ADDRESS IS SHOWN! THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME TO FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS SURVEY! PLEASE RETURN BY NOVEMBER 29.

The Target Range Home Owners Association