

AUG-22-2008 08:08 From:

To:

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## STATE OF ALABAMA

August 11, 2008

## COMMITTEES:

CHAIRMAN, RULES  
 VICE-CHAIRMAN, Commerce,  
 Transportation and Utilities  
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 Local Legislation No. 1  
 Tourism and Marketing

Senator  
**LOWELL BARRON**  
 DeKalb, Jackson & Madison  
 Counties  
 P.O. Box 65  
 Fayette, AL 35971  
 (256) 623-2298  
 Alabama State House  
 11 South Union Street, Suite 729  
 Montgomery, AL 36130  
 (334) 242-7858

Mayor Rob Hammond  
 P. O. Box 295  
 Mentone, AL 35984

RE: Bridge replacement on SR 117 over the  
 west fork of the Little River in Mentone

Dear Mayor:

As you will recall from our public meeting in Mentone some three years ago, Transportation Director Joe McInnis committed to fast track the two bridges on SR 117 in the Mentone area. The easternmost bridge has been completed now for several months. The bridge in Mentone was on the same time schedule for completion. As you can see, this bridge still has not been replaced because the McDormans are claiming their property should be on the historic register and have appealed to the Historical Commission to prevent this project from moving forward as planned. I am very sorry that the McDormans have taken this action but I appreciate the strong commitment that you and the town of Mentone made with me and the State Transportation director in attempting to expedite this bridge.

I hope we can move on this project soon, but as you know big time environmental lawyers like Mr. McDorman can and have used the system to slow down progress. We must hope and pray that no one loses their life due to this unnecessary delay.

Again, thank you for your strong support.

Sincerely,

  
 LOWELL BARRON

LB:lf