



Moscow Covered Bridge Reconstruction Committee

“THE GOVERNOR’S PLAN”



On August 8, 2008, Governor Mitch Daniels announced that the Moscow Covered Bridge will be rebuilt on its original site. The Governor has organized a coalition of individuals and organizations who will raise private funds to pay for the restoration, donate materials, build the bridge, and volunteer their skills and time.

“You couldn’t go to Moscow without hearing about the loss of the bridge,” said Daniels,

referencing severe weather that struck the state in late May and early June. *“I knew what it must mean to folks in the area and resolved to find a way to replace it.”*

Up to \$450,000 may be needed to pay for the cost of rebuilding the bridge. Much more would have been required under ordinary circumstances, but much of the material, equipment, and assistance to restore the bridge will be donated.

The funds will be raised privately by two groups. CSO Architects of Indianapolis will lead an effort to raise at least two-thirds of the amount needed. The remaining one-third of funds will be raised by area citizens. A committee has been created which includes representatives from each of the two groups along with bridge expert, Dan Collom. The Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana will also be providing assistance and expertise.

Along with the timbers salvaged from the 1886 bridge, wood will be provided through a joint effort including private industry and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Forestry. The DNR estimates that donated timber from 100 or more trees, approaching \$100,000 in value, will be harvested from trees in the state’s forest system. Ray Moistner, Executive Director of the Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen’s Association, said his organization will supplement needed timber and assist with equipment, such as portable sawmills. Members of the Indiana-Kentucky Regional Council of Carpenters have agreed to volunteer their time to help with the project. The Indiana Department of Transportation has inspected the approaches, abutments and foundation of the current road and will provide crane service.