



US 181 - 1959 Harbor Bridge Removal

Corpus Christi, TX



Foothills Bridge Co served as the demolition engineer for the Harbor Bridge Replacement Project, a \$1.3 billion dollar TxDOT design-build with Flatiron/Dragados, LLC. The 1959 cantilever through-arch bridge was replaced by one of the longest spanning cable-stayed bridges in North America when the project finished in April 2026. As part of the demolition, the 4.7 million pound center span of the original bridge was severed and lowered to a barge using (4) 900 tonne jacks during a 36 hour ship channel closure. Teams worked through the night leading up to the lowering to ensure a safe and efficient operation. The innovative demolition method kept the bridge load path unchanged during lowering and reduced the amount of required retrofitting, risk, and closure time of the channel. The new bridge is expected to safely serve the Corpus Christi community for 170 years to come.

Photo credits: New Harbor Bridge Project

