

Ministry of Culture

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Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic
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Attn./Extension
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In Prague, dated: 13 November 2019

Subject: Proceedings to annul the classification of the set of bridges under Vyšehrad in Prague as cultural heritage - request for standpoint from the public interest (public transport) perspective

The Ministry of Culture is conducting administrative proceedings to annul the classification of “**set of railway bridges**” on the **Praha-Smíchov and Praha hlavní nádraží route**, registered in the Central List of Cultural Heritage Sites under No. **101315** as cultural heritage. This set of bridges includes a bridge over the Vltava under Vyšehrad, whose lattice construction is in an extremely poor technical condition, which is also the reason why Správa železniční a dopravní cesty asked for the annulment of the above-mentioned cultural heritage site.

At the meeting of SŽDC and heritage conservation representatives on 5 November 2019, the most recent results of the Expert Report of the Klokner Institute concerning the technical qualities of the lattice part of the bridge over the Vltava were presented. As this part of the set — a cultural heritage site, is in a very bad technical condition, its lifespan is set for five years, it is permissible from the heritage conservation viewpoint to replace it by a copy with roughly the same shape, which would meet the modern parameters for this highly exposed international railway route without significantly impairing the cultural heritage values of the set of bridges. SŽDC also presented a project of such copy and promised to finalise options of transport and structural solution of the connection at Výtoň and submit these options to the relevant authority and heritage conservation organisation, who will comment on them as part of these administrative proceedings.

In conclusion, it was sated that from the perspective of public interest in conserving cultural heritage, the lattice structure(s) of the bridge across the Vltava River can be replaced with a copy with roughly the same shape that meets modern-day parameters without the need to annul the classification of the set of bridges as a cultural heritage site.

The proceedings to annul the classification as cultural heritage site are administrative proceedings, in which it is necessary to consider other public interests such as ensuring fully functional traffic on this important international and domestic route and transport connection of the capital with suburban areas. In order for the Ministry of Culture to properly assess all the concerned public interests in these administrative proceedings, **we approach you with a request for statement on what public interests the Ministry of Transport needs to have secured in the context of the necessary repairs of the railway bridge under Vyšehrad.**

Mgr. Ing. Eva Trejbalová
Head of the Department of Cultural Heritage Sites Protection
in the Division of Heritage Conservation of the Ministry of Culture

Attn: Správa železniční a dopravní cesty,