

News  
From \_\_\_\_\_

CONGRESSMAN

  
**Nick Rahall**

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 3, 1986

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SIXTH STREET #1 PRIORITY AMONG STATE BRIDGES, RAHALL SAYS

Washington, D.C. -- Huntington's Sixth Street Bridge will be the top candidate for repair in the state should Congress enact a highway bill during the next session, according to U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV).

"The Sixth Street Bridge, according to U.S. Department of Transportation criteria, is the bridge in most need of repair throughout the entire state," Rahall said. "No other bridge in West Virginia is higher on the list of priority to be repaired than the Sixth Street Bridge."

Rahall, a high-ranking member of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee, has been assured by the leadership of the Committee that language will be included in the highway reauthorization legislation to direct Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole to assign priority in the use of discretionary funds to the Huntington Sixth Street Bridge. "Most likely, the Sixth Street Bridge will be completely replaced," Rahall noted.

The final determination of the exact plan of action is the responsibility of the West Virginia Department of Highways. Such a plan must be completed at the state level before federal funds will be released to the state for repair and replacement work under the discretionary program.

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## Sharp spent \$20,000 on campaign

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Tim Sharp spent about \$20,000 on his unsuccessful bid to unseat Rep. Bob Wise, D-W.Va., his campaign expense report shows.

The former television reporter received \$1,000 from Gov. Arch Moore, \$1,000 from the National Right-to-Life Political Action Committee and \$500 from Republican State Chairman John Raese. His campaign for Congress received donations totaling about \$20,000.

His report to the Federal Election Commission shows he has about \$27 left. He will file another report by April 15.

Sharp, who quit his job with WSAZ-TV to run for the 3rd District congressional seat, has been hired as the Statehouse correspondent for the Morgantown Dominion Post. The newspaper is owned and run by Raese, who recruited Sharp to run for office.

Sharp began his new job Monday and covered Gov. Arch Moore's news conference at the Capitol.

Sharp said he was hired by the newspaper to cover state lawmakers in the newspaper's circulation area.

## \$98 million targeted for repairs, including South Side Bridge

By Jack McCarthy  
STAFF WRITER

Rep. Bob Wise, D-W.Va., said Tuesday West Virginia stands to receive \$98.3 million from the federal government to upgrade roads and bridges, including the South Side Bridge in Charleston and the Chelyan Bridge.

Wise also said he is asking U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole to make the dilapidated South Side Bridge a priority among projects in her discretionary fund — an action he hopes

will result in \$5 million in funding for the bridge.

Wise, in a press release, said high-ranking members of the House Public Works Committee have assured him the \$92 billion Surface Transportation Act would get "the fast track treatment" soon after Congress convenes in January.

A draft of the bill allocates at least \$1.5 million for the repair of the Chelyan Bridge, Wise said.

"More than 5,900 jobs are at stake for West Virginia to repair 3,859 bridges and 10,687 miles of major roads," said Wise. He said that 58 percent of West Virginia's bridges and 87 percent of the state's roadways were in need of some kind of attention.

Wise has been lobbying for federal funding for the South Side

Bridge for six months. Charleston Mayor Mike Roark said the \$5 million Wise is hoping to obtain for the city would enable the bridge to be repaired.

Roark said the cost to repair the bridge would be \$6 million to \$7 million. The city has about \$1 million for the repairs.

"We can come up with our portion of funds to repair the bridge if we receive \$5 million," Roark said.

However, the bridge may need to be rebuilt. City and state engineers are conducting a study of the bridge to determine its condition. The results of the study are due in about two weeks, Roark said.

The cost of building a new bridge would be about \$15 million, he said.

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P.1 Charleston GAZETTE

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Charleston Gazette 12-3-86