



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

EUGENE A. CONTI, JR.
SECRETARY

January 18, 2012

Memorandum To: Structure Management Unit
Division Engineers, Attn: Bridge Program Managers
Transportation Program Management Unit

From: Steve Kite, PE, Work Zone Traffic Control Engineer 

Subject: Transportation Management Plan reviews for Bridge
Impact Projects

As you are aware, the State funded bridge improvement program initiative to replace, rehabilitate or preserve approximately 1300 bridges over the next 2 years is currently being implemented with much veracity in an effort to protect our state's aging bridge assets. This new \$460 million state funded program along with the existing Federal funded bridge replacement program presents many new and unforeseen challenges in getting these projects designed, reviewed and placed under contract.

In order to meet the LET demand for this initiative, it's not practical or feasible for our Section to review all of the bridge impact projects along with the typical TIP project assignments. To ensure the projects that present the most risk for congestion and crashes are properly reviewed, we have prioritized our work to review each of these for compliance with our design standards, policies and procedures. Many of these are on our Interstate and US routes (Tier 1) network where volumes and speeds are higher and associated risks to crashes and congestion are higher as well. The low impact, rural bridge replacement projects will not be reviewed by our Section because the risks to them are much lower.

It is our understanding the Structures Management Unit, the Design/Build Unit and the Division Offices are involved in developing the plans to support this initiative. After much discussion with our staff and the Contracts Standards and Development Unit, the following are our guidelines for review of the Transportation Management Plans.

- The Work Zone Traffic Control Section will review the Transportation Management Plans for Federally funded bridge projects as we normally do for the bridges scheduled in the TIP.
- All Transportation Management Plans for the 17 BP bridge rehabilitation or preservation projects generated in the Structure Management Unit will be submitted for review by the Work Zone Traffic Control Section.

- Upon receipt, we will determine whether a review is necessary and either review the plans and provide comments or provide a statement that such review is not required due to low impacts to the motorists.
- All bridge projects including rehabilitation, replacement, preservation or other work that are generated and LET at the Division level will not be reviewed by our Section since these are low impact projects on low volume, rural roadways.
- The bridge replacements being administered by the Design/Build process that are low impact, rural projects will not be reviewed by our Section. However, Significant projects that are located on the Statewide and Regional networks will be reviewed by the Work Zone Traffic Control Section.

By managing our resources as described above, we can devote the appropriate review effort to help ensure the projects that affect the most traffic can have the proper oversight. In as much, we have developed the following review submittal procedures that we would like implemented beginning with the January 2012 Let schedule. For project to be reviewed by our Section as indicated above:

- 1) The Work Zone Traffic Control Section will review 1 final submittal. This submittal will include plans, specifications, estimates and all Intermediate Contract Times.
- 2) After receiving our review comments, no resubmittal will be required. The project manager will use their discretion to direct the PEF's to incorporate, modify or not incorporate our review comments into the Transportation Management Plans.
- 3) All final submittals are required to our Office by the following schedule. If this schedule can't be met due to Department commitments or other project obligations, then no review will be provided by our office.

Project Schedule/Submittals/ICT's

21 weeks prior to LET: Final Submittals Due to the Work Zone Traffic Control Section
 17 weeks prior to LET: WZTCS comments Due to Structure Management Unit
 15 weeks prior to LET: Firms to submit Final Plans to Structure Management Unit
 14 weeks prior to LET: Structure Management Submits Final Plans to Contract Office

Plans sent to the Contract Standards and Development Unit should include a checklist indicating if a review was required and if so, by whom. Also, we recommend a similar checklist be used for all other review units used in this process.

Our office is providing the Intermediate Contract Time (ICT) documents for the firms to use in putting together their Transportation Management Plan (TMP). These documents will be posted on our webpage under the "Bridge Impact Projects" link. The Work Zone Traffic Control Section has developed the below guidelines for the establishment of liquidated damages for any Intermediate Contract Time to be used in the contract.

The firms will coordinate with the Division on time restrictions for lane and road closures and intermediate contract time durations for work completed within the total contract time. The firms will also coordinate with the Division on the liquidated damages associated with each intermediate contract time and place these damages in the ICT documents for our review.

1) Interstate Work

- a) \$2,500 per 15 minutes (ADT's above 75,000)
- b) \$1,250 per 15 minutes (ADT's below 75,000)

2) US routes with speed limits above 55 MPH and multi-lane routes (US, NC)

- a) \$1,250 per 15 minutes (ADT's above 50,000)
- b) \$500 per 15 minutes (ADT's below 50,000)

3) Secondary Routes (SR's and 2 lane NC and US routes)

- a) \$1,000/hour (ADT's above 10,000)
- b) \$500/hour (ADT's below 10,000)

Thanks in advance for everyone's understanding and support as we move forward in delivering all of the Departments programs while improving the safety and infrastructure of the State's highways and bridges. If anyone, has any questions, feel free to contact me at 919 662-4339 or skite@ncdot.gov.

cc:

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