

NHDOT / ACEC-NH Bridge Subcommittee MEETING MINUTES September 9, 2022



| Location: NHDOT Room 114 and Virtual | Time: 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM |
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| Purpose of Meeting: Third Quarter Meeting 2022 | |
| Invitees: □ Loretta Girard Doughty, NHDOT ☑ Angela Hubbard, NHDOT (Co-Chair) □ David Scott, NHDOT ☑ Jennifer Reczek, NHDOT ☑ Robert Juliano, NHDOT ☑ Paul Lovely, NHDOT ☑ Jason Tremblay, NHDOT ☑ Tim Boodey, NHDOT | ☑ Dan O'Connor, Collins ☑ Kim Smith, H&H (Co-Chair) ☑ Chris Cucco, AECOM ☑ Daniel Taylor, Stantec ☑ Jaime French, F&O ☑ John Byatt, BETA ☐ Chris Fournier, HEB ☑ Steve Langevin, GPI |

1. Department staff changes (promotions, new-hires, retirements, etc.)

- ACEC members
 - i. Kim, Dan O'Connor, and Bob Juliano will be rotating off the committee in September.
 - ii. John Byatt is the new co-chair
 - iii. Chris Fournier & Stephen Langevin are new members. Need a new DOT member.
- NHDOT Staffing discussion
 - John Stockton is the interim Fabrication/Painting engineer in Bridge Design.
 - Jared Peterson has left the office. Now have CE I-III open.
 - Ron Kleiner is the new CE5 that is working under Jason Tremblay.
 - Still have CE IV's, V's positions open
 - Steve Glines, Construction DCE has retired.
 - Steve Johnson has retired, and Tim Boodey is the new Administrator of Bridge Maintenance.
 - Eileen Meaney has left NHDOT.
 - Patrick Herlihy has retired, and Shelly Winters is now the Director or Aeronautics, Rail and Transit.

2. Summary of In-House Design Section staff meetings

No pertinent information from In-House staff meetings.

3. NHDOT Information for Consultants

- Revision to Section 105 and new NHDOT stamps have been approved by the Specifications Committee. A memo will be sent out to all the Bureaus and the Supplemental Specification will be put in contracts.
- New Section 529 Precast Concrete Components was approved by the Specifications Committee. Angela will be sending out a memo to all Bureaus and Consultants regarding the new spec and implementation.
 - NHDOT <u>bridge inspection reports</u> from the bridge map on the internet site only works with Internet Explorer. The Reports and bridge plans can be found at this link: <u>NHDOT Bridge Plans and Reports</u>. This website contains



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existing bridge plans and shop plans that have been scanned in and current inspection reports.

NHDOT will send a blast email to consultants alerting them of this website and provide the link on Bridge Design's Document Page website

 If you have a project with patching a concrete frame, talk with the project engineer regarding notes to limit the amount of concrete removal so the knee reinforcement stays in compression. A new plan note has been developed to address this.

4. Technical Topics

- Modular bridge joints with one or multiple support bars
 - The NHDOT has had a request from an expansion bearing manufacturer to use only single support bars in modular joint boxes even though the plans call for multiple support bars. The consultants were asked if other states allow single support bars. There are concerns with NHDOT that there is a lack of redundancy with only one bar as there is no way to repair or maintain the supports after installation. If the one bar is compromised, then the whole joint needs to be replaced. The consultants reported that MaineDOT prefers to use finger joints instead of modular joints and MassDOT avoids using them in favor of having all the bridge supports be expansion (floating bridge system) and using strip seals whenever possible. This is what MassDOT refers to as a "floating bridge".
 - Chris commented on a bridge in Littleton where the fixity was removed, and the joints were replaced with finger joints.
- Synthetic Fibers in Bridge Brush Curbs: NHDOT is looking at different rates of application of the fibers. Tim noted that some spalling in tops of curbs/sidewalks with fibers may be due to over-finishing of the concrete surface because contractors are not familiar with finishing concrete with synthetic fibers.
- Shop Drawing Review: Jennifer mentioned that they have had some issues with consultant review of shop drawings. A couple different consultants missed the same issue on some shop drawings from the same fabricator recently curb stirrups in prestressed beams. She asked how consultants go about shop drawing review and how the review is checked. Steve said the reviews are typically performed by junior level engineers, but senior engineers go over all the comments the junior engineer has with the junior engineer. Others concurred that this was a common method. It was also noted that the quality of the shop submittal can affect the review. Poor quality shop drawings can be more difficult to review and find errors or omissions. A QA/QC plan needs to be developed.
- Tim noted that if consultants have suggested edits to specifications that would improve quality of plans, shop drawings, final products, etc. to let the Department know.
- Bridge Manual and drawings
 - o Angela has not had the time to work on any revisions/updates.



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5. Business Topics

Update for online shared reviews – Nothing to report.

6. Potential NHDOT and Consultant bridge training opportunities

- DES is sponsoring a <u>FREE</u> training for NHDOT professionals, consultants, engineers, and wetland scientists entitled: "Protecting Surface Water Quality on Construction Sites." This virtual training will be held on the mornings of **September 16th and September 23rd** (information attached). You will need to register for both sessions separately. Topics include:
 - State and Federal Water Quality Regulations
 - Alteration of Terrain & BMPs
 - In-stream Water Diversion Plans
 - UNH studies on water quality BMP Design and Effectiveness
 - Construction Water Quality BMPs
 - 1. Session 1: Water Quality Requirements for Wetlands and Alteration of Terrain (AoT) Permitting: Register: Webinar (microsoft.com)
 - 2. Session 2: BMPs to Protect Water Quality: Register: Webinar (microsoft.com)
- WTS-NH is having a seminar on September 20, 2022 called "Improving Communication: The Persuasive Speaker Seminar" which focuses on the fundamentals of creating and delivering simple, persuasive messages. <u>Improving</u> Communication: Persuasive Speaker Seminar | WTS (wtsinternational.org)

7. Bridge Bureau workload and anticipated consultant support needs

- A Request for Letter of Interest for Bridge On-Call contracts should be coming out by the end of the year.
- Request for Letter of Interests for several bridge projects are expected to come out in the next year.

8. Subcommittee membership rotation / new members

| Kim Smith, Dan O'Connor, Bob Juliano | Sept. 2019 to Sept. 2022 |
|--|--------------------------|
| Chris Cucco, Jaime French | Sept. 2020 to Sept. 2023 |
| John Byatt, Daniel Taylor, Jason Tremblay, Paul Lovely | Sept. 2021 to Sept. 2024 |
| Steve Langevin, Chris Fournier, DOT member | Sept. 2022 to Sept. 2025 |

9. Upcoming meetings - scheduled Fridays from 10:00 to 11:30 AM

- 2022 & 2023 meeting dates (calendar invites will be sent out):
 - i. December 9, 2022 Virtual only
 - ii. March 2023 Large Highway Conference room and Virtual