Disclaimer
This manual is intended to be an aid to designers working on projects for the Georgia Department of Transportation. It is not to be used as a substitute for sound engineering practice and will be used at one’s own risk. The Georgia Department of Transportation and the authors of this document are not responsible for the consequences of the use and misuse of the contents of this document.

The latest version of this document is available at:

Basic drawings, MicroStation customization tools, design programs, and other helpful resources can be accessed from the Office of Bridge Design and Maintenance home page:

Please send constructive comments to the Bridge Design LRFD Committee care of Douglas Franks: dfranks@dot.ga.gov.
Acknowledgement

The original Bridge and Structures Design Manual was created through the public-private partnership of the Georgia Department of Transportation and the Consulting Engineering Companies of Georgia. This document was modified from the original Design Manual for inclusion of LRFD material and general content by Georgia Department of Transportation personnel. The following people have donated their time and resources to contribute to the quality of transportation engineering in Georgia:

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## Revision Summary

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<tr>
<th>Revision Number</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LRFD Bridge Manual</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Original</td>
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| 1.0 | 10/1/13 | Section 3.2.3.3 - Removed “after all necessary grinding” from 8” overhang thickness; Removed "(LRFD 13.7.3.1.2)" from 8” overhang thickness  
Section 3.5.2.1 - Changed LRFD reference from Table 4A-1 to Table A4-1  
Section 4.4.2 - Modified tower bent placement directive; Added pile fixity assumption |
| 2.0 | 6/2/14 | Section 2.1 - Updated LRFD Specification to 6th edition, 2012; updated Georgia Standard Specification to 2013; defined all bridges as “typical”  
Section 2.2.2.2 - Allowed Standard Specification widening of Existing Standard Specification bridges  
Section 2.4 - Changed office responsible for Survey Manual  
Section 2.8 - Added LRFD software submittal requirements for consultants  
Section 3.1.1 - New section added - Set minimum beam requirement for bridges with vehicular traffic  
Section 3.2.2.1 - Added reference to online slab design program  
Section 3.2.2.4.2 - Changed placement and spacing of temperature steel in top mat of deck  
Section 3.3.2.2.1 - Clarified urban area locations  
Section 3.3.2.2.2 - Edited height of fence  
Section 3.4.3.15.4 - New section added – limiting coping thickness to 6"  
Section 3.12.2.3.1 - Check clearance between cap and PSC beam when plain pads are used  
Section 3.12.2.5.2 - Added new section - Directive to minimize number of pad designs for bridge  
Section 4.2.1 - Specified use of kips in lieu of tons or pounds for foundations  
Section 4.2.2.3, 4.2.2.4, 4.2.2.5 - Added maximum factored resistances and stresses for all pile types  
Section 4.2.3.4 - Restricted use of spirals in caisson; limited ties to maximum size of #6; Stated seismic detailing at fixity is not required in caissons  
Section 4.4.1.2.1 - Added limits for depth to width |
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<td><strong>Ratio of intermediate caps:</strong> Changed cap width increment to 3&quot;</td>
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<td><strong>Section 4.4.1.2.2</strong> - Modified longitudinal rebar in riser of intermediate bents to # 5</td>
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<td><strong>Section 4.4.1.3</strong> - Removed railroad from vehicular collision consideration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Added requirement to submit design calculations in PDF format</td>
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<td>Added guidance for when a deck section is required on preliminary layouts</td>
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<td>Removed restriction on use of 0.6” diameter strands</td>
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<td>Cover</td>
<td>Added Donn Digamon to the list of active committee members</td>
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<td>Section 1.6.8.1</td>
<td>Reduced gross haul weight requiring routing investigation</td>
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<td>Move subsection 3.4.3.3 to 4.4.1.2.5</td>
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<td>Added directive to add note for minimum lap of 2'-2&quot; on stirrup bars in barriers/parapets</td>
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<td>Added requirement for lateral stability check by EOR when beam limits are exceeded.</td>
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unreinforced pads for Type I Mod beams
Section 3.12.2.2.2 - Revised title to read Width and Length and set minimum pad length to 9 inches
Section 4.3.2 - Added requirements for end bent cheek walls
Section 4.3.4 - Deleted guidance on mismatched wingwall lengths
Section 4.4.1.2.4 - Prohibited the use of single legged stirrups
Section 4.4.1.2.5 - Relocated from 3.4.3.3
Section 5.3.1 - Added requirements for wall plans
Section 5.3.2 - Added requirements for wall plans
Chapter 6 - Corrected chapter title
Section Fig 9.B-2 - Revised figure to match directive

Chapter 2
2.3.3.2 - Added guidance regarding horizontal bridge clearance for future lanes.
2.10.1 - Revised the integer to which pile quantities shall be rounded.

Chapter 3
3.2.2.2.3 - Revised statement explaining minimum slab thickness table.
3.4.1.1 - Set minimum difference between initial and final concrete strength for PSC beams.
3.4.1.2.3 - Added requirement to fill PSC strand pattern from bottom up.
3.9.1.1 - Revised steel diaphragm requirements
3.9.1.3 – Added subsection on diaphragm materials, including necessary General Notes.
3.12.2.3.1 - Removed option of 1/2in unreinforced pads under Type 1 Mod beams.

Chapter 4
4.1.2- Specified that Service Limit State should note control size or design of elements.
4.2.2.2 - Revised the integer to which pile quantities shall be rounded.
4.2.4.2 – Restricted the use of stirrups as a means to control shear in spread footing.
4.2.5.2 – Restricted the use of stirrups as a mean to control shear in pile footings.

Chapter 5
5.5.3.1.9- Removed New Jersey Barrier option from Traffic Barrier H, modified design loading, and revised figure.
### Changes

**5.5.7** – Added guidance on estimating right of way need behind tie back walls.

**5.5.8** – Added guidance on estimating right of way need behind soil nail walls.

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**Chapter 2**

Section 2.3.2 – Corrected Hydraulics Manual Chapter Reference

**Chapter 3**

Section 3.9.1.3 - Added guidance on payment for steel diaphragms.

Section 3.9.2.1 - Revised steel cross frame preference.

Section 3.12.2.2.2 - Redefined minimum bearing pad width.

Section 3.12.2.4.3 - Added Slippage Check to bearing design.

Section 3.12.2.5.4 - Added directive to specify design yield strength for bolts on the plans.

Section 3.14.1.3 - Added guidance on payment for water hanger steel.

Section 3.15.4.4 - Revised guidance for drain pipe installation.

**Chapter 4**

Section 4.1.2 - Defined required flood year for stream pressure calculations.

Section 4.3.2 - Revised minimum elevation difference to require a cap step.

Section 4.4.1.2.2 - Added minimum elevation difference for required cap step.

**Chapter 5**

Section 5.1.2.2 - Changed subsection title to match common nomenclature.

Section 5.1.3.4 - Added direction for MSE Wall external stability calculations.

Section 5.5.3.2.5 - Revised guidance on calculating Additional MSE Backfill.

**Chapter 1**

1.3.5 - Added subsection describing plan quality evaluation process

1.6.8 – Edited subsection title

1.6.8.1 - Broadened directive on haul weight limits requiring assistance from GDOT truck routing personnel.

Appendix 1B - Added copies of Quality Evaluation
Forms

Chapter 2
2.1.1 - Added the bridge design policy manual to the list of controlling documents for design
2.5.1 - Specified a required minimum assumption for the width of temporary shoring and clarified the need for temporary shoring pay item
2.5.4 - Provided guidance about accommodating overhang brackets into staging layouts
2.5.5 - Specified the minimum number of beams to be used in construction stages
2.5.6 - Added guidance about including pedestrians in staging plans
2.8.1 - Revised name of general notes program

Chapter 3
3.3.2.1-1 – Replaced Table of approved barriers
3.3.2.2.1 – Revised barrier requirements for bridges with sidewalk
3.3.2.2.2 – Revised barrier requirements for bridges without sidewalk
3.3.2.2.3 - Eliminated Kansas Corral rail as an architectural bridge rail option and stated MASH requirement for alternate rail systems
3.3.2.3.3 – Modified guidance on widening barriers for fence
3.3.6 - Removed requirement for temporary barrier special provision and prohibited use of method 2 on new bridge decks
3.3.6.2 - Modified offset requirement from edge of deck for method 2 temporary barrier
3.4.1.2.3 - Modified reference to basic PSC beam drawings
3.8.1 - Added guidance for use of “Other Precast Concrete Beams”
3.13.1.1 - Modified requirements for pour strips to include all stage constructed bridges carrying traffic
3.15.4.1 - Eliminated ductile iron as a drainage system material
Appendix 3E - Added barrier detail drawings

Chapter 4
4.3.2 - Reorganized and subdivided section and increased cheek width requirements for end bents
4.4.2.3 - Added directive to deal with very short pile
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<td>3.2.1.2 - Added guidance regarding splice lengths, and limited reinforcing steel strength.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3.2.2.2.1 - Added requirement to use GDOT slab</td>
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design program.

Table 3.2.2.2-1 - Reduced the number of Slab thickness cases for design.

3.2.2.3.1 - Reduced maximum spacing limit for main slab reinforcement.

3.2.2.3.4 - Revised guidance on determining lap splice in slab.

3.2.3 - Revised guidance on the design and detailing of overhang slabs, including guidance related to MASH barriers on Standard Specification projects.

3.2.5 - Added directive to account for staging in grooving quantities.

3.3.2 - Revised guidance on the requirements for bridge railings.

3.3.3.1 - Revised the minimum sidewalk width and guidance about approval of shared use paths.

Table 3.4.1.1.3-1 - Revised concrete stress limits and code references

3.4.2.7 - Increased Maximum beam spacing for LRFD projects.

3.4.2.8 - Revised title to clarify that section selection should be controlled by span length, and modified table to clarify Mod 1 beam use, and add additional Bulb Tee sections.

3.4.2.9 - Added guidance regarding longitudinal reinforcement check for PSC beams.

3.4.2.10 - Added requirement for positive camber in PSC beams.

3.4.3.1 - Clarified steel clearance requirements for PSC beams.

3.4.3.4 - Deleted broken reference and added table of PSC beam characteristic necessary for design.

3.4.3.8 - Resolved a conflict between the manual and the basic beam drawings regarding dowel chase dimensions.

3.4.3.14.3 - Clarified how additional coping should be calculated.

3.6.2 - Reformatted section and added guidance on use of weathering steel.

3.6.5.1.1 - Revised allowable plate sized for steel girders.

3.9.1.3 - Added further restrictions on the use of steel diaphragms and provided guidance on the frame design.

3.10.1 - Revised guidance on detailing of edge beams.
<table>
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<td>Revised table 3.14.1.4-1 to clarify limits on acceptable utility pipe diameters.</td>
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**Chapter 4**

4.1.1 Revised to separate concrete and reinforcement guidance and provide lap splice guidance.

4.2.2.2- Added guidance on presenting driven pile information on plans.

4.2.6.1-Revised guidance on cofferdam coordination

4.2.6.2-Clarified detailing of seal concrete

4.2.7- Revised guidance on presenting Alternate Foundation Type quantities.

4.3.2.1-Revised guidance on end bent cap dimensioning.

4.4.2.1- Revised guidance on pile bent cap dimensioning.

**Chapter 5**

Table 5.1.2.1- Updated retaining wall standards table

5.1.3.5- Added guidance on applying an impact load to retaining wall barriers.

5.5.1- Updated Standard reference

5.5.2- Updated Standard reference

5.5.3.1.9- Simplified guidance regarding MSE barrier coping consideration.

**Chapter 7**

7.4 -Revised title and added need to include vehicle collision forces in the design.

**Cover**

Reduced the number of websites referenced to prepare for upcoming website revision

**Revision Summary**

The previous Revision 2.9 “revision summary” section had the incorrect version number listed for revisions dated 4/19/19 and 5/22/20. They have been corrected.

**Chapter 1**

1.1.5.1-Revised BMU responsibilities

1.3.5- Added statement about return of poor-quality plans

1.4.3-Revised submission process for Preliminary Plans
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<td>Put deck condition survey requests in the control of BMU as part of overall condition survey</td>
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1.1 Bridge Office Organization

1.1.1 General
The Office of Bridges and Structures supplies structural plans to Project Managers and provides maintenance support for structures in the state. This Office is divided into two units: the Bridge Design Unit (BDU) and the Bridge Maintenance Unit (BMU).

1.1.2 State Bridge Engineer
The State Bridge Engineer is the head of the Office of Bridges and Structures and reports directly to the Director of Engineering.

1.1.3 Assistant State Bridge Engineers
The State Bridge Engineer and the Assistant State Bridge Engineers are referred to as the Front Office.

The Assistant State Bridge Engineers keep track of Special Provisions, manage sections of the construction specifications relating to bridges, serve as a liaison for non-GDOT bridge projects (for local governments who don't have bridge expertise but want to use GDOT guidelines or funding), track bridge costs using data from Contract Administration, and review plans. The Assistant State Bridge Engineers also manage design groups, oversee most design policies and review plans including hydraulic studies.

1.1.4 Bridge Design Unit
The Bridge Design Unit (also referred to as the Bridge Office) supplies bridge plans to Project Managers. The Bridge Design Unit also oversees the design of walls, culverts, sign supports and anything else requiring structural expertise.

There are 7 design groups within the Bridge Office plus a group dedicated to bridge hydraulics. The design groups prepare or review preliminary layouts for bridges over railroads or roadways as well as prepare or review all final bridge plans. The hydraulics group prepares or reviews all the preliminary layouts for bridges over streams as well as some culverts, though most culverts are sized by roadway engineers. Most bridge hydraulic questions should be addressed to that group.

1.1.5 Bridge Maintenance Unit

1.1.5.1 General
The State Bridge Maintenance Engineer serves as an assistant to the State Bridge Engineer and oversees the Bridge Maintenance Unit (BMU). This unit’s responsibilities include inspecting all the bridges and bridge culverts in the State (including county bridges) every two years. It also maintains the historical bridge files including inventory, bridge inspection reports, maintenance records, BFI, plans, etc. Bridge Maintenance Unit also develops bridge maintenance projects using in-house and consultant engineering. It is important to coordinate with the Bridge Maintenance Unit when doing work that will affect existing bridges.
For typical bridge design work, coordination is necessary with the Bridge Maintenance Unit for the following items: salvage material coordination, bridge condition surveys (widening), maintenance on existing or parallel structures to be included with widening or paralleling plans. The Bridge Maintenance Unit also provides important feedback to the State Bridge Engineer on the effectiveness of certain design details.

1.1.5.2 Concept Coordination

During the Concept phase for any project that includes a bridge, the Project Manager should coordinate with Bridge Maintenance Unit to get a project justification statement on whether the bridge is suitable for widening or should be replaced (a bridge could also be replaced if the cost of widening would exceed the cost of replacement). Bridge Maintenance Unit also produces a project justification report for new projects.

1.2 Other Offices and Agencies with Bridge-Related Responsibilities

1.2.1 Office of Construction

The State Bridge Construction Engineer, in the Office of Construction, serves as a resource for district construction personnel regarding bridges, participates in training, troubleshoots construction problems, sets bridge construction policies, and makes recommendations to designers on the use of cofferdams and seals.

1.2.2 Geotechnical Bureau

The Geotechnical Branch Chief is head of the Geotechnical Bureau, which is part of the Office of Materials. The Geotechnical Bureau writes or reviews the Bridge, Wall and Culvert Foundation Investigation reports that recommend the type of foundation, pile capacity, special construction situations, etc., for each bridge in the state. They also deal with geotechnical issues that arise during construction. They are responsible for geotechnical special provisions such as drilled shafts and pile driving.

1.2.3 Office of Engineering Services

The Office of Engineering Services acts on behalf of the FHWA in reviewing projects and advising on constructability. They report directly to the Chief Engineer and are therefore independent of the Engineering Division. They coordinate and conduct Preliminary Field Plan Reviews (PFPR) and Final Field Plan Reviews (FFPR) as well as value engineering studies. They review all hydraulic studies (for PFPR) as well as bridge plans (for FFPR). They are the central coordinator for writing specifications.

1.2.4 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

FHWA participates in projects designated as “full oversight” (FOS). FHWA has a bridge specialist, Division Bridge Engineer, who provides expertise, direction, and reviews. For projects containing bridges, the Bridge Office will coordinate with the Division Bridge Engineer for review and approval of preliminary bridge layouts, bridge hydraulic studies and final bridge plans. This coordination is also required for consultant-designed projects with the Bridge Office acting as liaison.
1.3 Quality Control and Quality Assurance (QC/QA)

1.3.1 General

In designing bridges and other highway structures our mission is to prepare safe and economical design solutions and produce a quality set of plans that meet the project requirements, use details that are consistent with GDOT Bridge Office practices, and are suitable for bidding and construction. To produce quality work requires collaboration between the designer or detailer and checker as well as a comprehensive review. The quality control and quality assurance process for bridges and other highway structures provided herein shall be followed by the GDOT Bridge Office and consultants designing structures for the Department. This process is required for preliminary layouts, bridge hydraulic studies, final bridge plans and other highway structures as necessary.

1.3.2 Quality Control

Quality control (QC) is a process in which a person designated as the “checker” evaluates the design or details prepared by a designer or detailer. In general, the checker shall be an engineer with relative experience for the work being checked. Collaboration between the checker and the designer/detailer is used to resolve any discrepancies found during the evaluation.

In the design of a bridge, the checker shall evaluate deck, superstructure and substructure. In general, this check shall be (1) a careful review of the design notes, program inputs and results or (2) an independent check of the design developed by the checker and comparison of results prepared by the designer. When checking final bridge plans, the checker shall obtain a current set of roadway plans, including utility plans, for a thorough check. The checker shall generate a geometry program based on the final bridge and roadway plans. The checker shall prepare an independent set of cap step elevations and this duplicate set shall be maintained throughout the design process should changes/revisions arise. The checker shall also prepare and maintain an independent set of quantities for all quantities included in the summary of quantities. For all highway structures, the use of a checker is required.

All bridge plans, preliminary layouts and other structural plans shall have a title block listing at a minimum the initials of the designer, detailer, checker, reviewer and approver. Under no circumstance should the designer be the same as the checker. Generally, the checker’s initials shown in the plans reflect who checked the plan details. If a different checker is used to check the design, geometry and quantities then the design notes should clearly state the responsible checker by name or initials.

As part of the quality control process it is extremely important that the checker ensure the results of the design are appropriately shown in the plans. Therefore it is good practice for the checker to review the design with plans complete or nearly complete. Notes and other documentation prepared by the checker shall be initialed and retained in the bridge design notes.

1.3.3 Quality Assurance

Quality assurance (QA) is a process in which a person designated as the “reviewer” ensures that the design and details have been adequately checked. The reviewer resolves differences between designer/detailer and checker. The reviewer also evaluates the complete set of plans. As a matter
of practice, the reviewer should spot check the design, geometry and quantities. In general, the reviewer is a Bridge Design Group Leader or senior engineer (consultant).

Once bridge plans or other structural plans are complete and have been checked and reviewed, they are submitted to the Front Office. Plans completed by consultants shall be submitted by the GDOT Project Manager to the Bridge Office at this time. For consultant projects, the consultant shall submit design notes including but not limited to geometry, superstructure design, substructure design, clearance calculations, elevations and quantities. This information shall be submitted in the Portable Document Format (.pdf). Consultant plans will generally be reviewed by a Bridge Design liaison and may be returned to the consultant for corrections prior to the Front Office review or submitted directly to the Front Office for review. It is important that the submission include the foundation investigation(s), documentation of the bridge stakeout / site inspection, salvage of materials, deck condition survey, bridge condition survey, etc.

The Front Office review consists of a complete review of the plans by the Assistant State Bridge Engineer(s). These reviewers may review other plans or consult with other offices such as Roadway Design, Utilities, Environmental Services, etc., to ensure the structural plans meet the requirements of the project. Geometry, elevations and quantities are routinely spot checked during this review. Compilations of the required special provisions are prepared during this review.

All structural plans are given a review by the State Bridge Engineer. At the conclusion of the Front Office review, the plans shall be corrected by the design groups (or consultant). In-house projects shall then be routed to the Program Manager or Roadway Design. Consultant design projects shall be checked by the Bridge Liaison to ensure final corrections are complete before submitting final plans to the Program Manager. For consultant projects, any revisions to the design notes stated above shall be submitted to the Bridge Office.

For projects that are under full oversight by FHWA, bridge plans that have been reviewed and approved will be forwarded to the Georgia Division of FHWA for review and approval. This coordination is conducted by the GDOT Bridge Office for both in-house and consultant projects.

The title blocks shall indicate the initials of the Assistant State Bridge Engineer(s) as “Reviewed”. The initials of the State Bridge Engineer shall be shown as in the title “Approved”. After completion of the QC/QA process, the review set of plans shall be retained by the design group, at a minimum, until the final plans are approved. Saving an electronic (scanned) copy of the review set is acceptable.

Once final plans are approved, the title block initials indicating “Reviewed” and “Approved” shall not be changed during any future modifications to the sheets.

1.3.4 Other Assurance Checks

In addition to the QC/QA process mentioned above, the Bridge Office routinely conducts additional QA checks for all bridge projects during the contract bidding process. One month prior to the Letting, plans are advertised to potential bidders. The Front Office checks the contract for special provision and quantities relative to bridge projects. The review includes a check of the bridge general notes and details to ensure that the plans are up to date. The Bridge Office load rates the bridges using the Bridge Maintenance rating software as an independent check of the superstructure and substructure elements to ensure the proposed bridges meet the intended design
loading. If discrepancies are found during this review then changes/revisions are made as an amendment to the contract.

1.3.5 Quality Evaluation

Hydraulic Studies, Preliminary Bridge Layouts, and Final Bridge Plans are evaluated and scored by the Bridge Office to promote uniform and quality plans. The baseline scoring goal has been set at a score of 85% based on each individual bridge.

Once plans have been reviewed by each Assistant Office Head, the plans will be scored using the Quality Evaluation Forms (see Appendix 1B). The State Bridge Engineer will then review the plans along with the completed Evaluation Quality Form. Scores will be presented to and discussed with Bridge Design Group Leaders for in-house designed bridges. For consultant designed bridges, the Bridge Office liaison will return marked-up plans along with the scored Evaluation Quality Form. If the initial review by the liaison yields extensive comments, the liaison may return the plans, with its evaluation score, to the consultant for corrections before the Front Office review has been conducted.

Consultants wishing to discuss the Bridge Evaluation Quality Form scoring should contact the Assistant State Bridge Engineer.

Evaluation records will be maintained by the Bridge Office. Performance metrics have been developed for each employee in the Bridge Office with the 85% scoring goal for quality. Resulting scores for consultant designed projects will be used to support ratings for consultant evaluations relating to projects. Evaluation scores are associated with both the design firm, and the Engineer of Record.

As stated in subsection 1.3.4, the Bridge Office performs additional checks during the letting process. If critical deficiencies are found during this process or if critical deficiencies are later revealed during construction, the Bridge Office may elect to revisit the previous evaluation and adjust the scoring. If scoring is modified, the consultant firm will be notified in writing of the revision.

1.4 Consultants and Bridge Office

1.4.1 General

Consultant projects are managed by a GDOT Project Manager assigned to the Office of Program Delivery even if the project consists primarily of bridge work. The Bridge Office occasionally issues task orders to consultants when the schedule or workload exceeds the capacity of the design groups. On projects with bridge work, a liaison from the Bridge Office will be assigned to the project. The liaison will be the point of contact for the bridge work on that project and will also coordinate with other GDOT offices on bridge activities. Much of the correspondence and coordination with other offices described below will be done by the liaison but consultants should be aware of this activity and make sure they incorporate the results in their plans.

Consultants are reminded that if their contract is with the Georgia Department of Transportation, all design questions and decisions regarding project requirements must be directed to the GDOT Project Manager for distribution to the appropriate office. Consultants shall not take direction from outside agencies for decisions regarding GDOT projects.
1.4.2 QC/QA for Consultants

Consultants are responsible for the quality and content of their plans. Prior to a final review by the Bridge Office, all QC/QA procedures must be followed in accordance with Section 1.3. All bridges, special design retaining walls and other special design structural components shall be detailed in accordance with Bridge and Structures Detailing Policy Manual (including Bridge Design Title Block) and reviewed by the Bridge Office.

1.4.3 Bridge Office Reviews of Preliminary Plans

1.4.3.1 Initial Submittal

Consultants shall submit Preliminary Plans electronically to the GDOT Project Manager who will prepare a review request and send it to the Bridge Office via the Bridge Office email (bridgeoffice@dot.ga.gov). This request for review may either include attachments encompassing the items necessary, in portable document format (.pdf), or a ProjectWise link to the same.

The preliminary bridge drawings must be stamped by the consultant when submitting for review, even though the plans are not for construction.

Include in the Preliminary Plans submission:

- Transmittal letter (for consultants)
- Up to date Preconstruction Status Report (PSR)
- Preliminary bridge and wall layouts, formatted 11” x 17”, unless the entire project is a legacy 24” x 36” project.
  (Name file using PI_Section_Status_date: Ex. 0123456_35_Preliminary_03-15-21)
- Complete preliminary roadway plan set
- Hydraulic & Hydrological Study report, if applicable (See Drainage Manual for guidance)
- Existing bridge plans for structure(s) being replaced or widened, if available
- Latest bridge inspection report for existing structure(s) being replaced or widened. The inspection report is not just the SI&A report. Inspection reports can be found on GeoPI when searching by existing bridge serial numbers.
- Correspondence from the Bridge Design Office regarding delivery routes for beams (BDM 1.6.8)
- Bridge Foundation Investigation report for existing structure(s) to be replaced or widened, if available
- Bridge Condition Survey results and recommendations from BMU (for widenings or existing bridge modifications)

Design notes, program runs, and calculations should be ready if they are requested.

Preliminary Layouts for bridges that cross over a railroad or involve staged construction shall include a deck section in addition to the plan and elevation views of the proposed structure.

Preliminary plans shall be submitted for review and accepted by the Bridge Office before requesting PFPR.
1.4.3.2 Bridge Office Review

Preliminary Bridge Plans from consultants are first assigned to either the Hydraulics group or one of the structural design groups to establish the liaison for the project.

The liaison will begin the plan review process by establishing a Bluebeam Studio Session (BBSS) to include all the submitted items and then perform the first level of review on the package. From there, the session will be provided to the Front Office for additional review, comment, and scoring. Once the Front Office review process is completed the liaison will make the session available to the design consultant for correction. The session will be made available using an email invite outside of BBSS that is carbon copied to the GDOT Project Manager.

If the initial review by the liaison yields extensive comments, the liaison may return the plans, with its evaluation score, to the consultant for corrections before the Front Office review has been conducted.

1.4.3.3 Subsequent Reviews

Prior to subsequent submissions, each review comment shall be addressed with concurrence or response in the Bluebeam Studio Session for documentation.

Corrected preliminary plans and any additional documentation necessary for the changes will be uploaded into the session by the consultant for review and approval by the Bridge Office Liaison. Once the corrected plans are uploaded to the session the consultant shall notify the liaison via email that the plans are ready for review, and carbon copy the GDOT Project Manager.

If corrected plans and documents cannot be uploaded to the session, submit them to the GDOT Project Manager in a manner similar to that presented in BDM 1.4.3.1.

1.4.3.4 Preliminary Plan Approval

The plans have not been approved by the Bridge Office for PFPR* until all markups are addressed and an e-mail or letter accepting the plans is issued to the GDOT Project Manager. The acceptance email or letter shall address distribution responsibilities of the approved layout.

*Projects are only allowed to proceed to PFPR once the Bridge Office has approved preliminary plans, or issued a waiver based on substantial review of the preliminary plans package submitted. Submit requests for a waiver to bridgeoffice@dot.ga.gov no sooner than 30 calendar days after making plan submission for Bridge Office review and only if PFPR baseline request is in jeopardy.

1.4.3.5 Changes After Preliminary Plan Approval

Once the preliminary plans are approved, it is typical to make minor revisions in the final plans without formally revising the preliminary plans. However, in cases where significant changes are required, it is necessary to make formal revisions to the preliminary plans and coordinate the changes with the Bridge Office. Examples requiring such action would be changes in span configuration, significant changes to width, or other items effecting the footprint of the structure. Also, revisions to the preliminary plans may be necessary when railroad coordination or FHWA oversight is part of the project, as both parties are providing formal approval of preliminary plans.
Once changes deemed necessary to the preliminary plans are completed and reviewed by the Bridge Office, the liaison will transmit the revised preliminary plans as outlined for the initial approval.

1.4.4 Bridge Office Reviews of Final Plans

1.4.4.1 Initial Submittal

Consultants shall submit Final Plans electronically to the GDOT Project Manager who will prepare a review request and send it to the Bridge Office via the Bridge Office email (bridgeoffice@dot.ga.gov). This request for review may either include attachments encompassing the items necessary, in portable document format (.pdf), or a ProjectWise link to the same.

The final bridge drawings must be stamped by the consultant when submitting for review, even though the plans are not for construction.

Include in the Final Plans submission:

- Transmittal letter (for consultants)
- Up to date Preconstruction Status Report (PSR)
- Final bridge and wall plans, formatted 11” x 17”, unless the entire project is a legacy 24” x 36” project.
  (Name file using PI_Section_Status_date: Ex. 0123456_35_Final_03-15-21)
- Bridge Foundation Investigation reports, including acceptance letters from the GDOT Geotechnical Bureau
- Wall Foundation Investigation reports (if special designed walls are part of the project), including acceptance letters from the GDOT Geotechnical Bureau
- Approved Preliminary layouts
- FHWA approval of the Preliminary Layout for Projects of Division Interest (PoDI)
- Railroad approval of the Preliminary Layout for any bridge over a railroad
- Design notes, program runs, and other calculations used to develop the Final Plans
- Complete roadway plan set
- Correspondence from the Bridge Design Office regarding the need for cofferdams (BDM 4.2.6.1)
- Correspondence from the Bridge Maintenance Unit regarding salvageable materials (BDM 2.7)
- Correspondence from the Bridge Design Office regarding delivery routes for beams (BDM 1.6.8)
- Correspondence from District personnel verifying the stakeout of the bridge (Automated Survey Manual 4.4)
- Existing bridge plans (for structure(s) being replaced or widened)
- Latest bridge inspection report (for existing structure(s) being widened)
- Bridge Condition Survey results and recommendations from BMU (for widenings or existing bridge modifications)

Any corrections to the design notes, post Bridge Office review, shall be re-submitted for inclusion in the bridge record.
1.4.4.2 Bridge Office Review

Final Bridge and/or Wall Plans from consultants will be assigned to a structural design group to establish the liaison for the project.

The liaison will begin the plan review process by establishing a Bluebeam Studio Session (BBSS) to include all the submitted items and then perform the first level of review on the package. From there the session will be provided to the Front Office for additional review, comment, and scoring. Once the Front Office review process is completed the liaison will make the session available to the design consultant for correction. The session will be made available using an email invite outside of BBSS that is carbon copied to the GDOT Project Manager.

If the initial review by the liaison yields extensive comments, the liaison may return the plans, with its evaluation score, to the consultant for corrections before the Front Office review has been conducted.

1.4.4.3 Subsequent Submittals

Prior to subsequent submissions, each review comment shall be addressed with concurrence or response in the Bluebeam Studio Session for documentation.

Corrected final plans, updated design calculations, and any additional documentation necessary for the changes will be uploaded into the session by the consultant for review and approval by the Bridge Office Liaison. Once the corrected plans are uploaded to the session the consultant shall notify the liaison via email that the plans are ready for review, and carbon copy the GDOT Project Manager.

If corrected plans and documents cannot be uploaded to the session, submit them to the GDOT Project Manager in a manner similar to that presented in BDM 1.4.4.1.

1.4.4.4 Final Bridge Plan Approval

The plans have not been approved by the Bridge Office for FFPR* or construction until all markups are addressed and an e-mail and/or letter accepting the plans is issued to the GDOT Project Manager. The final acceptance letter to the Project Manager will include, as an attachment or ProjectWise link, the structural special provisions checklist and a copy of all structural related special provisions. The Project Manager will need to include these in their submission of final plans to the Office of Bidding Administration.

Upon approval of final plans, electronic CAD drawings shall be submitted to the Bridge Office.

*Projects are only allowed to proceed to FFPR once the Bridge Office has approved final plans, or issued a waiver based on substantial review of the final plans package submitted. Submit requests for a waiver to bridgeoffice@dot.ga.gov no sooner than 30 calendar days after making plan submission for Bridge Office review.

1.4.4.5 Changes after Final Bridge Plan Approval

Once the final bridge plans are approved, any subsequent changes must be coordinated with the Bridge Office. BDM 8.1.1 addresses several potential scenarios related to revising plans.

Approval of changed sheets will follow the same basic flow as the Final Bridge Plan Approval with an e-mail and/or letter being issued to the GDOT Project Manager. This correspondence shall specifically state changes, if any, have been made to contract quantities.
1.5 Schedules for Bridge Design

All GDOT projects follow the Plan Development Process (PDP), which outlines project phases and activities during each phase. It is available on the GDOT website. Bridge designers should be aware of the process and their part in it to assure that project schedules are achieved. In general, the following activities are of particular importance:

1.5.1 Concept Phase

1.5.1.1 Initial Reports

Bridge designers should ensure that SIA’s (Bridge Maintenance reports), Bridge and Deck Condition Surveys (if needed) have been requested by the Project Manager. The decision to widen or replace a bridge is determined during the concept phase.

1.5.1.2 Concept Structures

Bridge designers may be asked to provide conceptual bridge and/ or wall lengths, widths, and costs. Timely responses to these requests are needed in this phase. A bridge type study may be appropriate at this time. See Section 2.9.5.

1.5.1.3 Bridge Attendance at Concept Meetings

A bridge designer should attend the Concept Meeting at the Project Manager’s request.

1.5.2 Preliminary Design Phase

1.5.2.1 Begin Preliminary Plans

The Project Manager will send a request to the Bridge Office for bridge or wall plans which should include preliminary roadway alignment and profile. However, the final roadway profile may depend on structure depths and clearances relating to the bridge, so some collaboration can be expected.

Consultants should begin work on preliminary plans after Notice to Proceed (NTP) has been issued by the Project Manager.

1.5.2.2 Bridge Attendance at PFPR

In general, a bridge designer should attend the PFPR.

1.5.3 Final Design Phase

1.5.3.1 Begin Final Plans

Bridge designers should begin working on final plans after PFPR responses have been provided.

Consultants should begin work on final plans after Notice to Proceed (NTP) has been issued by the Project Manager.

1.5.3.2 Bridge Attendance at FFPR

In general, a bridge designer should attend the FFPR.
1.5.3.3 Final Plans to Office of Bidding Administration

At 10 weeks prior to the let date, final plans are due to the Office of Bidding Administration. Plans need to be stamped and signed. After this submission, any changes to the plans must be handled by formal revision.

At 5 weeks prior to the let date, one stamped and signed set of the final plans or revised final plans is sent to the GDOT print office to be scanned, printed, and sold to contractors. After this submittal, any changes to the plans must be handled by amendment.

1.5.4 Shop Drawings

It is important that shop drawings are reviewed and returned in a timely manner. Two weeks is considered the outside limit of time to review drawings. See Section 8.2 for more information on shop drawings.

1.6 Correspondence

1.6.1 Correspondence Involving Consultants

Any Interdepartment Correspondence or letters on GDOT letterhead must go through the Bridge Office liaison. All transmittals from consultants shall have the PI number, county, description (e.g. “SR 1 over Altamaha River”), and project number. Coordination letters with local governments, agencies, and officials shall go through GDOT.

1.6.2 Phone Number on Correspondence

All correspondence with members of the public shall have printed or typed thereon one or more telephone numbers to which responses or questions concerning such correspondence may be directed. Within the Bridge Office, all correspondence related to projects shall have a name of a contact person and that person’s phone number (including area code) included in the body of the letter.

1.6.3 P.I. Number on Correspondence

On all correspondence related to a project, include the Project P.I. Number along with the Project Number in the heading of the letter.

1.6.4 State Bridge Engineer Signature on Correspondence

The State Bridge Engineer’s signature should be included on all correspondence with federal agencies, state agencies, local governments, members of Congress, members of the Georgia General Assembly, GDOT board members, and private citizens.

The State Bridge Engineer’s signature should also be included on escalation letters and letters related to poor consultant performance.

Correspondence needing the State Bridge Engineer’s signature should be emailed to their administrative assistant to prepare it for signature and filing.
1.6.5 Correspondence with Legislators and Citizens

When preparing correspondence concerning particular projects with members of Congress, state representatives and senators, and members of the public, send a copy of the letter to the GDOT Board member representing that district.

1.6.6 Correspondence with Contractors

1.6.6.1 Prior to Project Being Awarded

Once a project has been advertised for letting, it is under the control of the Office of Bidding Administration. If any contractor calls with questions on the project, they should be referred to the Office of Bidding Administration. The Office of Bidding Administration will contact the Bridge Office for the proper reply to any questions concerning a structure. The Office of Bidding Administration will then provide that information to all contractors who have purchased plans.

1.6.6.2 During Construction

Send a copy of all correspondence with the contractor to the proper District Office when the correspondence concerns the Contractor's plans and/or design notes. This procedure is an effort to help the District personnel evaluate the need for time extensions on projects where the Contractor proposes changes to the contract plans. When responding to questions from the Contractor, the response should be given to the Project Manager for transmittal to the Contractor.

1.6.6.3 Contractor Cranes on Bridges

Requests from Contractors to place cranes on bridges will be reviewed by the Assistant State Bridge Engineer.

1.6.7 Bridge Condition and Bridge Deck Condition Surveys

When beginning work in the concept phase of bridge widening projects, the designer shall request the bridge condition survey of the existing bridge. It is important to request the survey early on because it can take up to 6 months to be completed. The request for a bridge condition survey should go to the Bridge Maintenance Unit (BMUSubmittals@dot.ga.gov) and should include:

a) The Project Number, County and P.I. Number.
b) A description of the bridge (e.g., SR 16 over Flint River)
c) The Bridge Location ID and Serial numbers.
d) The proposed Management Letting Date for the project.
e) A description of any anticipated work beyond widening, such as placing an overlay or jacking of the existing bridge.

If deemed necessary by the Bridge Maintenance Unit, they will request a Bridge Deck Condition Survey from the Office of Materials and Testing as part of their investigation.

Request an updated bridge condition survey if the date the letter was issued is older than 3 years. Additional deterioration may have occurred during this time that needs to be addressed.
1.6.8 Routes for Hauling

1.6.8.1 Gross Hauling Weight

When developing plans for bridges requiring long PSC beams or other precast elements, determine the gross haul weight of the element, including the trucking apparatus that will carry the element to the job site. If the gross haul weight is 135,000 lbs. or greater (allowing 45,000 lbs. for the trucking apparatus), investigate whether the element can be satisfactorily trucked to the job site with the assistance of truck routing personnel from the Bridge Design Office.

1.6.8.2 Beam Length

If the beams are over 90 feet in length, provide the length and job site location to Bridge Design Office truck routing personnel and request that a route for beam delivery be determined.

1.6.9 Plan Distribution Requirements

The following subsections are drafted with a focus on bridge plans. However, much of the guidance can also be applied to special designed wall plans.

1.6.9.1 Preliminary Layouts

Upon approval of the preliminary layout, whether produced by in-house personnel or consultant, the Bridge Office liaison will submit an interoffice correspondence letter to the State Program Delivery Administrator or TIA Administrator (attn: Project Manager) informing them of the approval and instructing their request of a site inspection and a foundation investigation. This correspondence shall include a link to a folder containing the approved Preliminary Layout in ProjectWise. In the case of hydraulic bridges, the link should also lead to the approved Hydraulic Study. In the case of bridges over a railroad, the link should also lead to the completed overhead data sheet and its existence should be explained in the letter. (see below for more direction)

This interoffice correspondence should be copied to each member of the Front Office staff, the District Engineer of the district where the bridge is located, and the State Environmental Administrator (Attn: Assistant State Environmental Administrator - Ecology) in cases where the bridge is over water.

An example of this correspondence can be found in Appendix 1A and on the BrSupport drive for internal staff.

FHWA Projects of Division Interest - If the approved preliminary layout is for a project that has been designated as a Project of Division Interest (PoDI) by FHWA a separate transmittal, requesting their approval, will need to be prepared for FHWA and signed by the State Bridge Engineer. Include in the transmittal the Hydraulic Study, Preliminary Layout, and pertinent Roadway plans, to include the project cover and relevant portions of sections 5, 13, and 15.

Projects over a railroad - If the preliminary layout is for a bridge that is crossing over a railroad, an overhead data sheet for the railroad company's review will need to be completed, if required.

The “Norfolk Southern Corporation Overhead Grade Separation Data Sheet” should be completed for bridges over the following lines (includes subsidiary companies): Norfolk Southern Railway; Central of Georgia Railroad; Georgia Southern & Florida Railway;
Tennessee, Alabama & Georgia Railroad; Georgia Northern Railway; and Alabama Great Southern Railroad. A copy of the "Norfolk Southern Corporation Overhead Grade Separation Data Sheet" can be found in Appendix 1A and on the BrSupport drive for internal staff.

The “CSX Overhead Bridge Crossing Data Sheet” should be completed for bridges over CSX Transportation lines. While CSX does not have subsidiaries, former railroads identified as Seaboard Coast Line Railroad; Louisville and Nashville Railroad; Georgia Railroad; Atlanta and West Point Railroad; Gainesville Midland Railroad; Atlantic Coast Line Railroad; and Seaboard System Railroad are now part of CSX Transportation, Inc. and should be identified as CSX Transportation, Inc. for future work. A copy of the “CSX Overhead Bridge Crossing Data Sheet” can be found in Appendix 1A and on the BrSupport drive for internal staff.

There are also approximately 20 “short line” railroads operating in Georgia as well. No overhead datasheet is specifically required in coordination with these organizations.

1.6.9.2 Lockdown Plans

Certain accelerated project schedules require that “lockdown” plans be provided for environmental permitting, prior to being completed for submission to the Bridge Office for review. In such a case, provide “lockdown” plans to the Project Manager only after a determinate footprint, foundation, and construction access approach has been established for the structure and coordinated with the Bridge Office. Include a noticeable text block that says "LOCKDOWN PLANS" near the title block of each sheet provided for this purpose, to indicate that design work is not complete. “LOCKDOWN PLANS” should be included in the MicroStation version of the drawings, and not added as an overlay using a .pdf editor. This notation is required until Bridge Office approval has been formally issued for the plan set to the Project Manager. Transmit the plan sheets to the Project Manager in the portable document format using an email with carbon copies going to the Assistant State Bridge Engineers and Bridge Office liaison.

1.6.9.3 Final Plans

1.6.9.3.1 Final Plans Approved by the Bridge Office

Upon approval of the final plans, whether produced by in-house personnel or consultant, the Bridge Office liaison will submit an interoffice correspondence letter to the State Program Delivery Administrator or TIA Administrator (attn: Project Manager) informing them of the approval. This correspondence shall include a ProjectWise link to the folder containing structures related special provisions and special provision checklist. In the case of in-house bridges, the link should also lead to the approved final plans. For consultant projects, this letter will provide the date of the approved plans and directive for the consultant to include them in the final plans set.

This interoffice correspondence should be copied to each member of the Front Office staff, and the District Engineer of the district where the bridge is located.

An example of this correspondence can be found in Appendix 1A and on the BrSupport drive for internal staff.
1.6.9.3.2 Final Plans Changed after FFPR

After the FFPR report has been issued, coordinate responses to the structures related comments with the Bridge Office liaison and the Bridge Design Group Manager as described in BDM 1.6.14. Once responses have been submitted, change the bridge plans accordingly. Changes at this state of plan production do not require use of the revision triangles, unless plans have already been submitted to Bidding Administration. The Bridge Office liaison should provide final concurrence to all corrections prior to any distribution. Concurrence can be made in the form of an email.

Following concurrence, submit the changed plans to the Project Manager, with a carbon copy going to the Bridge Office liaison for consultant projects. Any necessary changes or additions to the design notes as well as the CAD files for the plans should be transmitted to the Bridge Office liaison at this time as well.

Projects over a railroad - If changes to the FFPR plans include any changes to the horizontal or vertical railroad clearances, or modifications in drainage effecting the railroad, contact the State Railroad Liaison to assure that railroad coordination is updated, as submission to the railroads happens when FFPR is requested.

FHWA Projects of Division Interest - If the project has been designated as a Project of Division Interest (PoDI) by FHWA, submit the changed final plans to FHWA for approval using a transmittal signed by the State Bridge Engineer. This package will need to include the bridge plans and the approved Bridge Foundation Investigation report.

1.6.9.3.3 Final Plan Changed after Submission to Bidding Administration

Guidance on making changes to final plans that have been submitted to the Office of Bidding Administration and through construction is presented in BDM 8.1.

1.6.9.4 Shop Drawings and Contractor Designed Items

After a project has been let, the contractor is required by the contract document to submit a number of engineering or fabrication drawings for specific elements of the work. Most bridge projects will include contractor submitted bearing drawings, beam drawings, and stay in place form drawings. Depending on the details of the project they may also submit psc pile drawings, steel diaphragms, contractor designed wall plans, contractor designed sign support drawings, and bridge deck drainage drawings. Each of these submitted items are reviewed for approval or correction.

Shop drawings should be submitted by the contractor to the Construction Project Manager (CPM), who will forward the submission to the Bridge Office at bridgeoffice@dot.ga.gov or using ProjectWise Deliverables Management. If shop drawings are received by the Bridge Office without clear inclusion of the CPM (at least by carbon copy), an email informing the sender of the above should be returned instructing them to resubmit to the CPM and that review will not begin until drawings are received through proper channels.

If the project was designed by a consultant who is under contract for construction services, the Bridge Office liaison will forward the drawings electronically to the consultant for review. The consultant should review the documents and stamp them as approved or in need of correction, with comments and corrections noted on the drawings. The liaison will review the comments.
made by the consultant, make additional comments as necessary, and add a Bridge Office stamp to the plans. This process may need to repeat until drawings are deemed acceptable.

**Drawings Requiring Correction**

When the drawings require correction, the liaison will return the marked drawings, with a rejection letter, to the contractor who made the submission (not the supplier), unless otherwise requested by the GDOT construction staff. If email is used to return the drawings, carbon copies should be provided to the CPM, the Area Engineer, the District Engineer, the State Program Delivery Administrator or TIA Administrator, and the Assistant State Bridge Engineer.

**Approved Drawings**

When drawings are deemed acceptable for construction, the liaison will return the approved drawings, with an approval letter, to the contractor who made the submission (not the supplier), unless otherwise requested by the GDOT construction staff. If email is used to return the drawings, carbon copies should be provided to the CPM, the Area Engineer, the District Engineer, the State Program Delivery Administrator or TIA Administrator, the Assistant State Bridge Engineer, and the appropriate branch chief at the Office of Materials and Testing (if applicable).

More guidance on shop drawing review and distribution to the Office of Materials and Testing can be found in BDM 8.2.

Copies of all submitted and returned drawings and associated items shall be maintained, by the liaison, in the Shop Drawing folder of ProjectWise. Items received through ProjectWise Deliverables Management should have a copy saved in the Shop Drawing folder as well.

For shop drawings containing significant differences when compared to the contract drawings, it is necessary to transmit a copy of the drawing(s) to the Office of Design Policy’s electronic document management staff (EDM) so that they can add it to the official plan set. A ProjectWise workflow for this transmission is available on the GDOT website, but specifics are also included in the BrSupport folder. The ProjectWise workflow is called “Bridge Revision Workflows”. Making this submission to EDM is necessary for PSC beams with modified designs, steel beams, steel diaphragms, contractor designed retaining walls, and other structural drawings submitted for approval. This does not apply to bearing pads, metal deck forms, or PSC beams that match the contract drawings.

**1.6.9.5 As-Built Foundation Information Sheet(s)**

The documentation of As-Built Foundation Information (As-Built), especially for hydraulic structures susceptible to scour, is a critical record keeping activity. A note should be included on the As-Built sheet of all bridge plans directing the Engineer to submit the complete record to the Bridge Office email address once foundations are installed. However, this is not always executed perfectly. The Bridge Office liaison for the project might need to reach out to the Construction Project Manager and request it, once pile installation is believed to be complete, or even once notification of project completion is received.

Once a copy of the completed As-Built plan sheet has been acquired or created with submitted data, it needs to be distributed to several offices for review and records.

a) For all bridges:
• The Bridge Office liaison will transmit the sheet using an interoffice correspondence letter addressed to the Geotechnical Bureau Chief, c/o Geotechnical_Reports@dot.ga.gov. The letter should include a link to the folder containing the completed As-Built sheet in ProjectWise. An example of this correspondence can be found in Appendix 1A and on the BrSupport drive for internal staff. There is also a more detailed description of the processes in the BrSupport folder.

• The Bridge Office liaison will notify the Office of Design Policy’s electronic document management staff (EDM) so that they can add the As-Built to the official plan set. A ProjectWise workflow for this process is available on the GDOT website, but specifics are also included in the BrSupport folder. The ProjectWise workflow is called “Bridge Revision Workflows”.

b) For bridges over water, in addition to the above, a carbon copy of the transmittal to the Geotechnical Bureau should be made to the State Hydraulics Engineer, and to the Bridge Maintenance Engineer. For the bridges over water, the ProjectWise folder containing the As-Built also needs to include a copy of the Plan and Elevation sheet, the substructure sheets, and the BFI report.

1.6.10 In-House Mailing Requirements

1.6.10.1 General

Plans may be transmitted to the Office of Roadway Design or to the District Offices using “green sheets” or computerized transmittal forms. If the item to be transmitted can be folded to approximately letter size, it can be placed directly in the Bridge Office out-box with the transmittal form. Copies of all transmittal forms should be placed in the in-box of the Assistant State Bridge Engineer.

1.6.10.2 Rolled Plans

1.6.10.2.1 No Mailing Label Required

Rolled plans being sent to the Office of Roadway Design, other offices within the General Office, the Office of Materials or the Office of Environment/Location can be sent using a “green sheet” or computerized transmittal form and can be placed directly in the Bridge Office out-box. Mail for Districts 6 and 7 is picked up by couriers, so rolled plans do not require a mailing label and can be placed directly in the Bridge Office out-box with the transmittal form.

1.6.10.2.2 Mailing Label Required

Rolled plans being transmitted to the other Districts require mailing labels before they will be picked up for mailing, so they should be put in the secretary’s in-box with the transmittal letter for a mailing label to be prepared.

1.6.11 Public Access to Project Records

All project records and correspondence are to be made available to the public when requested. The only exceptions are documents within which the Department and the Attorney General’s Office
communicate on an attorney-client basis; all such documentation should be kept in a separate file from other project records. See MOG 3A-3 for additional requirements and forms to be used.

1.6.12 Construction Time Estimates

Do not send bridge plans to the District or to the Office of Construction for preparation of a construction time estimate. The District Construction Engineer should obtain a complete set of plans from the Project Manager to use in preparing the construction time estimate so that he can account for items not in the bridge plans which can affect the bridge construction time.

1.6.13 FHWA Review Requirements

Any project may be designated as a Project of Division Interest (PoDI) by FHWA. As long as a project is identified with this designation, the preliminary layouts, final plans and/or plan revisions shall be submitted to the FHWA Division Administrator for review and approval. See Section 1.6.9 for transmittal requirements.

1.6.14 Response to Field Plan Review Reports

Following the issuance of the final PFPR or FFPR report, it is the Design Group Leader's responsibility to provide response to any bridge related items in the report, as well as to address any additional items that might be relevant. This response can be made in the form of an e-mail with a copy being sent to the Assistant State Bridge Engineer. For more complicated issues it may be appropriate to route the response through the State Bridge Engineer for signature.

The e-mail or letter should be addressed to the Project Manager with a copy to the Office of Engineering Services. The response should be prepared promptly as the Project Manager is required to respond to PFPR comments within 4 weeks and to FFPR comments within 2 weeks. It is not necessary to concur or comply with recommendations in the PFPR or FFPR report, but a response is necessary for each. If the response is negative, provide an explanation. Consultants may be asked by the liaison to write responses to the comments.

1.7 Special Provisions and Plan Files

1.7.1 Special Provisions

Project Special Provisions dealing with special construction features or construction sequences are prepared by the Assistant State Bridge Engineer. The Group Leader will provide advice and information to the Assistant State Bridge Engineer. Consultants will be responsible for preparing Special Provisions to be reviewed by the Bridge Office for their projects when a specification is not available.

1.7.2 Files for Completed Projects

Once a bridge project has been constructed and accepted by the Department, the design file is condensed and transmitted to the Bridge Maintenance Unit. Additional guidance on this process is available on BrSupport for internal staff.
Appendix 1A - Sample Letters

The following pages contain copies of sample letter that are typically used on bridge projects.
FILE: P.I. NO. 0014907 RICHMOND CO.
SR 4 (US 1) over North Fork Spirit Creek SBL
DATE: March 8, 2021
FROM: Susan T. Beck, Bridge Hydraulics Group Leader
TO: Kimberly Nesbitt, State Program Delivery Administrator
     Attn: Jeff Henry, Project Manager
SUBJECT: APPROVED PRELIMINARY LAYOUT AND HYDRAULIC STUDY

The Preliminary Bridge Layout and Hydraulic Study for the above listed project are now
approved and are located in the following location on ProjectWise.

0014907\PE\Bridge Design\Hydraulics\Correspondence\0014907_Bridge Hydraulics Transmittal
Package

Please use this information to begin the Bridge Foundation Investigation (BFI) request
process and to arrange for a bridge stake out to be completed. If these activities are
being completed by GDOT personnel, the necessary steps to initiate each are described
below. However, if either or both of these elements are included in a consultant contract,
provide notification of this approval to the consultant team as appropriate. Note that
regardless of who performs the physical stake out of a given structure, a site inspection
must be performed by a designated representative of the District Preconstruction
Engineer. It is the responsibility of the party performing the staking to contact the District
Preconstruction Engineer promptly after staking work is complete. The site inspection,
to be submitted in writing to BridgeOffice@dot.ga.gov, shall confirm if the bridge will fit
the site, as well as note the provided clearances from key bridge elements to the stream
bank and/or traveled way limits. Guidance on staking and inspection can be found in
section 4.4 of the GDOT Automated Survey Manual.

BFI by GDOT Office of Materials and Testing, Geotechnical Bureau:
Please prepare a Bridge Foundation Investigation submittal package for the
Geotechnical Bureau in accordance with the Office of Materials and Testing
Geotechnical & Environmental Submittal Checklist. Submit a request letter to
accompany the package to Geotechnical_Report@dot.ga.gov. If the project is part of
the LIBP or SFBP programs, please confirm that the BFI has already been requested.
Bridge Stake Out by GDOT Office of Design Policy and Support, Location Bureau:
Please provide the Approved Preliminary Bridge Layout, related roadway plans, and
copy of the control package to the Office of Design Policy and Support, Location Bureau
and request that the bridge(s) be staked out. This request should be sent to Benny
Walden (bewalden@dot.ga.gov).

In addition, by copy of this letter, the Office of Environmental Services and the Roadway
Designer are being notified of this Preliminary Bridge Layout approval.

SR 4 (US 1) will remain open to traffic during the proposed construction, with one lane
of traffic in each direction maintained on the existing northbound bridge during
construction.

If you have any questions please contact Susan Beck of the Office of Bridges and
Structures at (404) 631-1862 or at email address sbeck@dot.ga.gov.

STB:

cc (by E-mail):
   Donn Digamon, State Bridge Engineer
   Lyn Clements, Assistant State Bridge Engineer
   Steve Gaston, Assistant State Bridge Engineer
   Corbett Reynolds, District Engineer - Tennille
   Eric Duff, State Environmental Administrator
   Attn: Gail D'Avino
NORFOLK SOUTHERN CORPORATION
OVERHEAD GRADE SEPARATION DATA SHEET

1. Location: ________________________________
   City ____________________________ County ____________________________ Georgia State

2. Distance from nearest Milepost to Centerline of Bridge: _______________________

3. State Project Number: ________________________________________________________

4. Description of Project: ________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________

5. Utilities on Railroad Property:
   Name ____________________________ Any Adjustments required? ____________________________ Contact Person ____________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________

6. List all the at-grade crossings that will be eliminated by the construction of this grade separation.
   DOT# ____________________________ Milepost ____________________________ Signalized? ____________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________

7. Minimum Horizontal Clearance from Centerline of Nearest Track to Face of Pier?
   A. Proposed: _________________ B. Existing (if applicable): _________________

8. Minimum Vertical Clearance above top of high rail:
   A. Proposed: _________________ B. Existing (if applicable): _________________
9. List piers where crashwalls are provided:
   Pier: ___________________________ Distance from centerline of track:
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

10. Describe how drainage from approach roadway is handled:
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________

11. Describe how drainage from bridge is handled:
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________

12. List piers where shoring is required to protect track:
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________

13. Scheduled letting Date: ________________________________

NOTE: Design Criteria for Overhead bridges apply to Items 7 through 12.

All information on this Data Sheet to be furnished by Submitting Agency and should be sent with initial transmittal of project notification.
CSX OVERHEAD BRIDGE CROSSING DATA

1. Location: ____________________________ County ___________________________
   City ____________________________ State ____________________________

2. Railroad Division: _______________________________________________________

3. Railroad Valuation Station at Centerline of Bridge: ___________________________

4. Distance from nearest Milepost to Centerline of Bridge: _______________________

5. DOT Crossing Number: ___________________________________________________

6. State Project Number: ___________________________________________________

7. Description of Project:
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

8. Minimum Horizontal Clearance from Centerline of Nearest Track:
   A. Proposed: ____________________ B. Existing (if applicable): __________________

9. Minimum Vertical Clearance above top of low rail:
   A. Proposed: ____________________ B. Existing (if applicable): __________________

10. List piers where crashwalls are provided:
    Pier: ___________________________ Distance from centerline of track:
         ____________________________ ____________________________
         ____________________________ ____________________________

11. Describe how drainage from bridge is handled:
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________

12. List piers where shoring is required to protect track:
    _______________________________________________________________________

13. Plan Submittal: Preliminary _______________ Final _______________________

NOTE: CSX Criteria for Overhead bridges apply to Items 8 through 13.
FILE: P.I. NO. 0013997 MADISON CO.
SR 281 over Broad River

DATE: February 19, 2019

FROM: Douglas Franks, Bridge Design Group Leader

TO: Kimberly Nesbitt, State Program Delivery Administrator
   Attn: Sara Jessica Parker, Project Manager

SUBJECT: APPROVED FINAL BRIDGE PLANS

The Office of Bridges and Structures has completed a design review on the revised final bridge plans submitted for the above referenced project. These plans are approved as submitted on February 2, 2019. Please notify the design consultant to include these approved drawings in the final plan set. A copy of the structures related special provisions and associated checklist can be found on ProjectWise at:

00013997\PE\Bridge Design\Plans\Final Plans

In addition please direct the consultant to provide this office with electronic copies of the final plan drawings, both .dgn and .pdf, as well the final design calculations package for the project.

If you have any questions please contact Nathan Wilson of the Office of Bridges and Structures at (404) 631-1890 or at email address nwilson@dot.ga.gov.

DDF:naw

cc (by E-mail):
   Donn Digamon, State Bridge Engineer
   Lyn Clements, Assistant State Bridge Engineer
   Steve Gaston, Assistant State Bridge Engineer
   Bob Jones, District Engineer – Gainesville
FILE: P.I. NO. 0015316 HARRIS CO.
SR 281 over Broad River
DATE: April 18, 2019
FROM: Douglas Franks, Bridge Design Group Leader
TO: Glen Foster, Assistant State Materials Engineer, Geotechnical Bureau
c/o Geotechnical_Reports@dot.ga.gov
SUBJECT: AS-BUILT FOUNDATION INFORMATION

A Use on Construction revision of the As-Built Foundation Information sheet for the above listed project has been prepared for inclusion into the record plan set. This sheet now reflects actual as-built foundation information as recorded by field personnel during the construction process. For your consideration and records, a copy of the revised sheet, the Bridge Plan and Elevation sheet, related Substructure sheet(s), and a link to the BFI have been placed on ProjectWise at the following location:

0015316\PE\Bridge\Plans\As-Built Foundation Package

If you have any questions please contact Nathan Wilson of the Office of Bridges and Structures at (404) 631-1890 or at email address nwilson@dot.ga.gov.

DDF:naw

cc (via E-mail):
Susan Beck, State Bridge Hydraulics Engineer
Rabi Koirala, State Bridge Maintenance Engineer
Appendix 1B – Quality Evaluation Forms

The following pages contain blank copies of the Quality Evaluation Forms.
## HYDRAULIC STUDY QUALITY EVALUATION FORM

**SCORE:** #DIV/0!

### Notes

- Major Error = could cause safety/construct/construction/bidding issues. EK: Missing Cell, Pay Item or General Note, incorrect design detailing, incorrect design programs, or Construction issues.
- Minor Error = can cause confusion when interpreting plans. EK: Typo, minor visual errors, Util coordination
- NOTE: Excessive minor errors on a sheet may count as a Major Error.

### Sections

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**RESERVED FOR POST PRELIMINARY PLANS ACTIVITIES**
# LAYOUT QUALITY EVALUATION FORM

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**Notes**

**Complexity: Difficult | Medium | Easy**

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**Major Error - could cause safety/Construction/Bidding issues; ER: Missing Cell; Pay Item or General Note, Incorrect design, detailing, Incorrect design programs, or Construction issues**

**Minor Error - can cause confusion when interpreting plans; FK: Typos, minor visual errors, 3D/2D coordination**

**Note:** Excessive minor errors on a sheet may result as a Major Error.
# BRIDGE PLAN QUALITY EVALUATION FORM

## Score:

## Notes

### Major Error:
- Causes safety/construction/design issues: EX: Missing Cell, Pay item or General Note, Insufficient design details, Incorrect design parameters, or Construction issues

### Minor Error:
- Causes confusion when interpreting plans: EX: Typo, minor visual errors, Unit coordinator

**NOTE:** Review minor errors on a sheet may count as a Major Error.

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2.1 Design Specification/Method

The following design and method requirements apply to geotechnical investigations and final design work on all projects with a Management Directed ROW date on or after May 26, 2020. Projects without a ROW phase shall meet the same requirements if the project’s baseline start date for Final Construction Plans is on or after the above referenced date. In addition, any work previously negotiated to include the requirements of this section should also adhere to the following.

2.1.1 Bridges, Culverts and Retaining Walls

All bridges, culverts and retaining walls are to be designed in accordance with the following:

- The contract documents
- GDOT Bridge and Structures Design Manual (BDM)
- AASHTO Bridge Design Specifications as designated below

In the event of conflicting information or guidance, the GDOT Bridge and Structures Design Manual supersedes the AASHTO Bridge Design Specifications.

All new or full replacement bridges and culverts on projects that include Federal Funds for any phase and with a PE authorization date on or after October 1, 2007, shall be designed using the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, 8th Edition -2017. (AASHTO LRFD Specifications)

The AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, 8th Edition- 2017, Chapter 5: Concrete Structures requires that D-regions be designed using the strut-and-tie method for the Strength and Extreme Event limit states. Traditionally the Georgia Department of Transportation has used the sectional method in both B-regions and D-regions. Until such time that a full consideration of the strut-and-tie method and its design impacts can be examined, this sectional approach will be considered acceptable. A strut-and-tie method may be considered for hammer head caps, dapped beam ends, corbels, and girders defined as deep beams.

New and full replacement bridges and culverts on projects developed and constructed with 100% State and Local funds shall be designed according to the following:

- National Highway System (NHS) Bridges:
  - AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, 8th Edition -2017

- On-System Bridges:
  - AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, 8th Edition -2017

- Off-System Bridges (Not on NHS):
  - AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, 8th Edition -2017, preferred
Definitions:

**On-System** – Work on a roadway designated as a State route, Interstate route, or locally owned roadway that traverses over or under a State or Interstate route which is designated to be designed to On-System criteria by the Chief Engineer.

**Off-System** – Work on a Local road system that does not meet the definition of an On-System route.

All retaining wall structures on projects with a Management Directed ROW date on or after January 1, 2019 shall be designed using the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, unless otherwise specified on the plans or contract documents. The exceptions will include Soldier Pile, Soil Nail, and Permanently Anchored (Tie Back) Walls until such time that the department develops an adequate understanding of application of LRFD concepts on such designs.

All bridges shall be classified as “typical” as related to LRFD 1.3.5, unless specified otherwise by the Bridge Office.

### 2.1.2 Pedestrian Structures

All pedestrian overpass structures should be designed in accordance with the AASHTO LRFD Guide Specifications for Design of Pedestrian Bridges, 2nd Edition, 2009.

### 2.1.3 Sign and Light Supports

All sign and light support structures shall be designed in accordance with the AASHTO LRFD Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires, and Traffic Signals, 1st Edition, 2015, with interims.

### 2.1.4 Noise Barriers

All noise barriers shall be designed in accordance with the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, 8th Edition, 2017.

### 2.2 Loads

#### 2.2.1 Dead Loads

##### 2.2.1.1 Non-Composite Dead Loads

The non-composite dead load consists of:

- Slab
- Coping
- Diaphragms
- Metal Stay-In-Place (SIP) forms: 16 lbs./ft² – Do not include weight for Reinforced Concrete Deck Girders (T-beam bridges)

##### 2.2.1.2 Composite Dead Loads

The composite dead load consists of:
• Sidewalks
• Barriers and parapets
• Medians
• Future Wearing Surface: .030 ksf – All Bridges
• Utilities

For bridges meeting the conditions of LRFD 4.6.2.2.1, these loads will be summed and distributed equally to all beams except in the case of very wide bridges (over 70 feet out-to-out). For very wide bridges, the sidewalk, barrier, and parapet loads should be distributed to the four exterior beams on each side, and the median load distributed to the beams under the median. The future paving allowance will be distributed to all beams.

2.2.2 Live Loads

2.2.2.1 Design Vehicular Load

For LRFD projects, the design vehicular load shall be AASHTO HL-93. The Dynamic Load Allowance (IM) shall be included as specified in LRFD 3.6.2. Extreme force effects shall be taken as specified in LRFD 3.6.1.3, including the two design trucks plus design lane load for intermediate bents.

For Standard Specification projects, the design vehicular load shall be AASHTO HS-20 and/or Alt. Military Loading.

2.2.2.2 Bridge Widening

When an existing bridge is to be widened, its structural capacity will be accepted if the live load capacity is HS-15 or greater and the bridge does not require posting for any of the State’s legal loads. It is desirable to have at least 10% reserve capacity for each of the State’s legal loads. For bridges that are to be widened on the Interstate system and State Grip System, the structural capacity will be accepted if the live load capacity is HS-20 or greater. The Bridge Maintenance Unit will make recommendations for replacement or widening of a bridge in the bridge condition report.

When widening an existing bridge designed under the AASHTO Standard Specifications, the widened portion may be designed using the AASHTO Standard Specifications, unless the Bridge Office requires it to be designed in accordance with the AASHTO LRFD Specifications.

2.2.2.3 Sidewalk Live Load

The sidewalk live load will be calculated according to LRFD 3.6.1.6 and distributed the same as the sidewalk dead load.

2.3 Horizontal and Vertical Clearances

2.3.1 Clearance Calculation

All vertical and lateral clearances for bridge sites shall be determined by mathematical calculation and checked with an independent calculation.
2.3.2 Stream Crossing
See the GDOT Drainage Manual chapter 12.

2.3.3 Grade Separations

2.3.3.1 Vertical Clearances
Vertical clearances shall be determined using Table 2.3.3.1-1. Ensure that vertical clearance is provided for the entire width of the travelway under the bridge, including any future lanes programmed to be added beneath the structure.

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<td>Bridges Not Easily Raised*</td>
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</table>

*Structures that cannot be easily raised include concrete box bridges or bridges with integral piers.

** Needs prior approval from the Bridge Office.

Where bridges pass over mixed use trail systems, a minimum of 8 ft of vertical clearance should be provided over the trail. In locations where there is a high probability that emergency or service vehicles may pass under the bridge the clearance should be increased to 10 ft.

Where falsework is necessary, a minimum temporary vertical clearance of 15’-9” shall be provided. Coordinate with the Bridge Office if this clearance is not attainable.

2.3.3.2 Horizontal Clearances
Intermediate bents shall be located so as to provide the desirable clear zone as specified in the AASHTO Roadside Design Guide whenever practical. Where this is not practical, the designer shall coordinate with the Project Manager to determine how to protect the columns from traffic.

For new bridges over interstates, if future lanes for the interstate are not included in the concept report and/or future typical section, provide a bridge to accommodate a minimum of one future lane in each direction outside existing or proposed lanes.

2.3.4 Railroad Crossings

2.3.4.1 CSX Transportation, Inc.
The following requirements should be met when dealing with CSX Transportation, Inc.:

a) Provide a minimum vertical clearance of 23’-0” from top of high rail to bottom of beam. This clearance is measured along lines concentric with the centerline of the track and 10’-0” on either side.

b) The desirable horizontal clearance from center of track to the face of the column is 25’-0” on each side, and this should be provided whenever possible. Where multiple tracks are
present, measurements are from the outermost tracks. This allows the intermediate bents adjacent to the railroad to be built without crash walls. The minimum clearance is 18'-0" for tangent tracks. Add 3½" of clearance for each inch of track superelevation on curved tracks.

c) Crash walls are to be provided where horizontal clearance is less than 25 feet. The top of the crash wall should be 6'-0" above the top of the high rail. The crash wall should be 2'-6" in thickness and extend 2'-6" beyond the outside faces of the exterior columns. The face of the crash wall on the track side should extend 6" beyond the face of the column.

d) Provide a chain link fence for all bridges over CSX Transportation facilities.

e) Existing drainage facilities parallel to the track(s) must be maintained through the structure.

f) Endrolls shall have slope paving.

g) Overpass drainage must be directed away from the railroad right-of-way.

h) See Figure 2.3.4.1-1 for railroad cross-section data for use in calculating bridge end locations. Allow 4'-9" for the depth of the ditch from top of rail to bottom of ditch. It should be noted that this work may never actually be done depending on the existing conditions, but the proposed bridge length shall be determined using Figure 2.3.4.1-1. When these items cannot be achieved due to conditions, some items may be changed on a negotiated basis.

![Endfill Control Diagram](image)

Figure 2.3.4.1-1   Endfill Control Diagram

2.3.4.2 Norfolk Southern Corporation

Subsidiaries of Norfolk Southern Corporation include:

- Norfolk Southern Railway Company
- Central of Georgia Railroad Company
- Georgia Southern & Florida Railway Company
- Tennessee, Alabama & Georgia Railroad Company
- Georgia Northern Railway Company
- Alabama Great Southern Railroad Company

The following requirements shall be met when dealing with Norfolk Southern Corporation and its subsidiaries:
a) Provide a minimum vertical clearance of 23'-0" from top of high rail to bottom of beam. This clearance is measured along lines concentric with the centerline of the track and 10'-0" on either side.

b) The desirable horizontal clearance from center of track to the face of the column is 25'-0", whenever possible, to avoid the use of crash walls. For a single track, minimum horizontal clearance is 18 feet on one side and 14 feet on the other side of the track for locations where the span adjacent to the span over the railroad is not the end span. If the span adjacent to the railroad is the end span, provide 22'-0". The railroad will advise which side requires the 18 feet based on the location and the direction of mechanized maintenance machinery. For double tracks, provide 18 feet on each side.

c) Crash walls shall be provided if the horizontal clearance is less than 25'-0". Crash walls should be 2'-6" in thickness and extend 2'-6" beyond the outside edge of the exterior column. The face of the crash wall on the track side should extend 6" beyond the face of the column. The top of the crash wall should be 10'-0" above the top of the high rail.

d) Endrolls shall have slope paving.

e) Overpass drainage must be directed away from the railroad right-of-way.

f) See Figure 2.3.4.1-1 for railroad cross-section data for use in calculating bridge end locations. Allow 4'-9" for the depth of the ditch from top of rail to bottom of ditch. It should be noted that this work may never actually be done depending on the existing conditions, but the proposed bridge length shall be determined using Figure 2.3.4.1-1.

See GDOT Policy 6865-7: Vertical Clearance of Bridges over RR Tracks, concerning procedures for determining accurate vertical clearances over railroad tracks during construction.

2.4 Survey for Bridge Design

Designers should assure that the survey includes all the information necessary. Surveyors should be directed to the GDOT survey manual available from the Office of Design Policy and Support for more detailed information.

2.4.1 Stream Crossing – Hydraulic Studies

2.4.1.1 Property Survey

A Property Survey covers the extents of the topographic corridor and stream traverse. As a minimum, this will include property owner’s names and addresses, deeds, plats, and tax maps. The right-of-way should always be verified by deeds.

2.4.1.2 Existing Roadway Data

2.4.1.2.1 Alignment

The alignment of the existing roadway and bridge should be surveyed to the extents of the project limits. The beginning and ending centerline station should be established on the ground or pavement along with the beginning and ending centerline stations of the bridge and any PC’s or PT’s.
2.4.1.2.2 Profile

The profile of the existing roadway and bridge shall be determined for the same extents as the alignment. This profile shall include shots along the centerline, edges of pavement, outside edges of the roadway shoulder, and toe of the roadway embankment.

2.4.1.2.3 Intersecting Roads

Profiles are required for all intersecting roads that are located within the limits of the floodplain. These profiles shall extend 500 feet upstream and/or downstream of the intersection with the project road.

This data is also required for roadway and railroad embankments located along the stream and within the floodplain that are no further than 2000 feet upstream and/or downstream of the project site.

2.4.1.3 Existing Bridge Data

Top of deck elevations are required at several locations along the existing bridge. See Figure 2.4.1.3-1 for specific shot locations for replacement/paralleling projects and widening projects.

For all existing bridges within a project, elevation shots are required where centerline of bridge and gutter lines intersect each BFPR.

For Bridge widening project, additional elevation shots are required where the centerline of bridge and gutter lines intersect each centerline of bent and each mid-span line along the structure. Bottom of beam elevations for the outside beams at each bent shall be obtained.

The above data shall be provided for all bridges or culverts located within the floodplain that are no further than 2000 feet upstream and/or downstream of the project site.

For bridge widening projects where the existing bridge plans are not available, a more detailed survey that gives a complete description of the superstructure and substructure will be required. Surveyor shall check with Project Engineer to determine availability of bridge plans.
2.4.1.4  Topographic Coverage

Topographic coverage shall extend at least 150 ft. each side of the centerline. These coverage limits shall apply to both the existing centerline and proposed centerline, if different.

It is preferred that the hydraulic survey data be taken in DTM format. The coverage shall be detailed enough to cover all required areas specified in the field report. These survey points should be included in the InRoads file that is provided to the roadway designer. All survey points should be labeled consistently and clearly identified. All survey data shall be referenced to NAVD88.
2.4.1.5 Benchmarks

A minimum of three benchmarks are required: One at the beginning of the survey, one at the end of the survey, and one for each bridge or stream site near the right-of-way. Benchmarks should be described with a sketch, which also shows the X, Y, and Z coordinates. Benchmarks shall be referenced to the project stations with a complete physical description and elevation. All elevations should be established with a spirit level, referenced to NAVD88. Benchmarks for bridge or stream site shall be located within a distance of 300 feet from the site.

2.4.1.6 Stream Traverse

The stream traverse should begin at 500 feet upstream from the bridge centerline with Station 1+00.00 and then continue downstream to a station 500 feet below the bridge centerline. Cross sections of the stream channel are required at the following locations:

- Every 100 feet along the traverse
- Centerline of the existing bridge
- Centerline of the proposed bridge
- 50 feet and 100 feet upstream of the proposed bridge centerline
- 50 feet and 100 feet downstream of the proposed bridge centerline

These cross sections shall be detailed enough to accurately define the profile of the terrain, which usually includes end rolls, stream channel banks, streambed elevations, scoured areas, and any other breaks in the terrain (see Figure 2.4.1.6-1). A sufficient number of streambed shots shall be taken to ensure an accurate stream channel model can be created. Traverses and stream cross sections shall be provided for all stream channels in the floodplain. As stated above, the DTM method is preferred, as long as it is detailed enough to accurately define the location and cross section profile of the stream channel along the entire stream traverse.

- REQUIRED BRIDGE OPENING SHOTS, SEE SECTION II.E OF THE HYDRAULIC ENGINEERING FIELD REPORT.

A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF STREAMBED SHOTS SHALL BE TAKEN TO INSURE AN ACCURATE STREAM CHANNEL CROSS SECTION.

Figure 2.4.1.6-1 Bridge Survey Shot Locations for Streambed
2.4.1.7 Floodplain Cross Sections

2.4.1.7.1 General

Two floodplain cross sections are required, one at 100 feet on each side of the roadway. Each cross section should extend to a point 2 feet above the high water mark that has been established for the stream at the bridge site. The floodplain elevations should be taken at all breakpoints in the terrain within the Bridge Survey alignment and 500 foot intervals outside the alignment.

This data is also required for bridge and roadway sites located within 2000 feet upstream and/or downstream of the project site.

2.4.1.7.2 Parallel Bridges or Small Alignment Shifts

Parallel bridge projects and/or projects with the proposed alignment shifted a relatively small distance require a floodplain cross section be taken along the new and/or parallel alignment.

2.4.1.7.3 New Locations

New location projects require that a floodplain cross-section be taken along the new alignment.

2.4.1.7.4 Abnormal Flood Conditions

For projects with abnormal flood conditions (creeks that flow into one of the state’s major rivers), a floodplain cross section is required of the major river below the confluence with the creek. Since this would be an extremely costly section to have surveyed, the cross section may be approximated from USGS maps.

2.4.1.8 Bridge Sketch

Bridge sketches shall be drawn showing the elevation and centerline plus the bottom of the bridge beam at each cap. This sketch also shows the centerline station plus an elevation on all terrain breaks beneath the bridges. The stationing used to show elevations on the bottom of the beam and the profile of the ground beneath the lowest bridge beam shall be the same as the stationing for the alignment of the bridge deck. On mapping surveys, which have no alignment, the stationing for the bridge sketch shall begin with station 0+00.

For structures located upstream or downstream that could have an adverse effect of the bridge at the survey site, a sketch is required. This distance could be as much as 2000 feet. For upstream drainage structures beyond this limit, the size and type should be plotted on a quadrangle map or county map.

The surveyor shall provide, on the bridge sketch, any overflow bridge or culvert within the floodplain with the distance to the project bridge, deck elevation or culvert size, and the flow line elevation.

2.4.1.9 Hydraulic Engineering Field Report

The surveyor shall provide a Hydraulic Field Report in accordance with GDOT Standards. See Hydraulic Engineering Field Report Form in Appendix 2A.
2.4.1.9.1 Normal Water Surface Data

Water surface elevations are required at the survey centerline and at 500 feet upstream and downstream of the survey centerline. These shots shall be taken in the same time period. For tidal sites, the normal high and low tide elevations are required.

2.4.1.9.2 Historical Flood Data

The extreme high water elevation (flood of record) shall be obtained along with the date of occurrence, location (distance upstream or downstream), and the source for this information. If the site is tidal, the highest observed tide elevation is needed.

The surveyor shall record the floor elevations and locations of any houses, buildings or other structures that have been flooded, or have floor elevations within 2 feet of the flood of record. For structures that have been flooded, the surveyor shall provide the flood information, including the number of times the structure has been flooded, the date(s), and the high water elevations.

Note: The high water elevations should be obtained from longtime local residents and/or city/county officials.

2.4.1.10 Miscellaneous Survey Data

2.4.1.10.1 Dams and Spillways

For sites affected by an upstream or downstream dam, survey shots are required that describe the location, length, width and elevation of the dam embankment and spillway opening. The water surface elevation of the impounded water shall be provided.

2.4.1.10.2 Guide Banks (Spur Dikes)

Shots shall be taken that will reflect the location, length and elevation of the guide bank.

2.4.1.10.3 Longitudinal Roadway Encroachments on Floodplains

Additional floodplain cross sections will be required to determine the effects of the longitudinal encroachment. The surveyor can contact the Project Engineer for guidance on the extent of additional survey data that will be required.

2.4.1.10.4 Upstream and Downstream Crossings

For all bridges and culverts that lie between 2000 feet and 1 mile upstream and downstream from the project bridge, the surveyor shall identify basic information for each structure, such as distance from proposed structure, type of structure, route location, and structure sizes in the Hydraulic Engineering Field Report.

2.4.1.10.5 Additional Cross Sections

If the hydraulics at the project site is affected by other factors such as confluence with other streams or narrow floodplain cross sections, additional floodplain cross sections may be required. The surveyor should contact the roadway designer if a question arises during the field survey of the project.
2.4.2 Grade Separations

The following items are needed for a bridge survey over an existing road:

2.4.2.1 Property Survey

A Property Survey that covers extents of all the roadway alignments’ corridors. As a minimum, this will include property owner’s names and addresses, deeds, plats, and tax maps. The right-of-way should always be verified by deeds.

2.4.2.2 Existing Roadway Data

2.4.2.2.1 Alignment

The alignment of the existing roadway and bridge should be surveyed to the extents of the project limits. The beginning and ending centerline station should be established on the ground or pavement along with the beginning and ending centerline stations of the bridge and any PC’s or PT’s.

2.4.2.2.2 Profile

The profile of the existing roadway and bridge shall be determined for the same extents as the alignment. This profile shall include shots along the centerline, edges of pavement, outside edges of the roadway shoulder, and toe of the roadway embankment.

2.4.2.2.3 Intersection Roads

Profiles are required for all intersecting roads that are located within the limits of the survey. These profiles shall extend at least 300 feet from the intersection with the project road. These profiles shall include shots along the centerline, edges of pavement, outside edges of the roadway shoulder, and toe of the roadway embankment.

2.4.2.3 Existing Bridge Data

Top of deck elevations are required at several locations along the existing bridge. See Figure 2.4.1.3-1 for specific shot locations for replacement/paralleling projects and widening projects.

For all existing bridges within a project, elevation shots are required where centerline of bridge and gutter lines intersect each BFPR. For Bridge widening project, additional elevation shots are required where the centerline of bridge and gutter lines intersect each centerline of bent and each mid-span line along the structure. Bottom of beam elevations for the outside beams at each bent shall be obtained.

For bridge widening projects where the existing bridge plans are not available, a more detailed survey that gives a complete description of the superstructure and substructure will be required. Surveyor shall check with Project Engineer to determine availability of bridge plans.

2.4.2.4 Topographic Coverage

Topographic coverage shall extend at least 150 ft. each side of the centerline. These coverage limits shall apply to both the existing centerline and proposed centerline, if different.
2.4.2.5  **Benchmarks**

A minimum of three benchmarks are required: One at the beginning of the survey, one at the end of the survey, and one for each bridge site near the right-of-way. Benchmarks should be described with a sketch, which also shows the X, Y, and Z coordinates. Benchmarks shall be referenced to the project stations with a complete physical description and elevation. All elevations should be established with a spirit level, referenced to NAVD88. Benchmarks for bridge or stream site shall be located within a distance of 300 feet from the site.

2.4.2.6  **Profile and Cross Sections**

Profile and Cross Sections or DTM coverage should have the same limits as the Topographic limits.

2.4.2.7  **Roadway beneath Bridge**

The road beneath a bridge for 300 ft left and right of the bridge requires a complete survey which includes: Alignment, property, topographic, profile levels and cross sections or DTM survey data.

2.4.2.8  **Bridge Sketch**

A bridge sketch is required. On this sketch, show the vertical clearance from the bottom of the outside bridge beams to the roadway pavement at the centerline of the road and at each edge of pavement of the road.

2.4.3  **Railroad Crossings**

The following items are needed for a bridge survey over an existing railroad:

2.4.3.1  **Property Survey**

A Property Survey that covers extents of the roadway alignment and railroad corridors. As a minimum, this will include property owner’s names and addresses, deeds, plats, and tax maps. The right-of-way should always be verified by deeds.

2.4.3.2  **Existing Roadway Data**

2.4.3.2.1  **Alignment**

The alignment of the existing roadway and bridge should be surveyed to the extents of the project limits. The beginning and ending centerline station should be established on the ground or pavement along with the beginning and ending centerline stations of the bridge and any PC’s or PT’s.

2.4.3.2.2  **Profile**

The profile of the existing roadway and bridge shall be determined for the same extents as the alignment. This profile shall include shots along the centerline, edges of pavement, outside edges of the roadway shoulder, and toe of the roadway embankment.

2.4.3.2.3  **Intersecting Roads**

Profiles are required for all intersecting roads that are located within the limits of the survey. These profiles shall extend at least 300 feet from the intersection with the project road.
These profiles shall include shots along the centerline, edges of pavement, outside edges of the roadway shoulder, and toe of the roadway embankment.

2.4.3.3 Existing Bridge Data

Top of deck elevations are required at several locations along the existing bridge. See Figure 2.4.1.3-1 for specific shot locations for replacement/paralleling projects and widening projects.

For all existing bridges within a project, elevation shots are required where centerline of bridge and gutter lines intersect each BFPR.

For Bridge widening project, additional elevation shots are required where the centerline of bridge and gutter lines intersect each centerline of bent and each mid-span line along the structure. Bottom of beam elevations for the outside beams at each bent shall be obtained.

For bridge widening projects where the existing bridge plans are not available, a more detailed survey that gives a complete description of the superstructure and substructure will be required. Surveyor shall check with Project Engineer to determine availability of bridge plans.

2.4.3.4 Topographic

Topographic coverage shall extend at least 150 ft each side of the centerline. These coverage limits shall apply to both the existing centerline and proposed centerline, if different.

2.4.3.5 Benchmarks

A minimum of three benchmarks are required: One at the beginning of the survey, one at the end of the survey, and one for each bridge or stream site near the right-of-way. Benchmarks should be described with a sketch, which also shows the X, Y, and Z coordinates. Benchmarks shall be referenced to the project stations with a complete physical description and elevation. All elevations should be established with a spirit level, referenced to NAVD88. Benchmarks for bridge or stream site shall be located within a distance of 300 ft from the site.

2.4.3.6 Profile and Cross Sections

Profile and Cross Sections or DTM coverage should have the same limits as the topographic limits.

2.4.3.7 Railroad beneath Bridge

The railroad beneath the bridge for 500 ft left and right of the bridge requires a complete survey that includes:

Alignment – The alignment of the centerline on the main railroad tracks for 500 ft left and right of the bridge shall be surveyed. The intersection of the bridge alignment and the railroad alignment shall be tied to a railroad milepost.

Property survey – As described in section 2.4.3.1.

Topographic – The topographic coverage limit shall be 100 ft left and right on each side of the track. If the location has multiple tracks, coverage should be 100 ft beyond the centerline of the outermost track. The location of the existing bridge pilings should be located from the survey centerline.
Profile Levels and Cross Sections or DTM Survey Data – The profile and cross sections or DTM survey data shall be taken a minimum of 100 ft each side of the track. If the location has multiple tracks, coverage shall extend for 100 ft beyond the centerline of the outermost track. Elevations are to be taken on the top of each rail. If collecting elevations in the cross section format, a minimum of five (5) cross sections shall be taken between the proposed right-of-way limits. One at the proposed right-of-way, one halfway between the proposed right-of-way and the bridge centerline, one at the bridge centerline, and the same for the other side of the bridge. These cross-sections will be taken perpendicular to the railroad track centerline and extend for 100 ft beyond the centerline of the outermost track.

Drainage – All drainage structures and features within the 1000 ft Railroad Survey corridor shall be provided.

2.4.3.8 Bridge Sketch

A bridge sketch is required. On this sketch, show the vertical clearance from the bottom of the outermost bridge beams to the top of the railroad rail for each rail beneath the bridge.

2.5 Staged Construction

Staged construction may be required when widening bridges or circumstances require constructing the new bridge in nearly the same footprint as existing.

2.5.1 Temporary Shoring

Since it is difficult for designers to anticipate a contractor’s exact method of construction, temporary shoring shall be shown wherever it is considered necessary. Show the temporary shoring with break lines at the ends to indicate indefinite limits. For layout purposes, shoring should be assumed to be 3 feet wide. This width should accommodate most sheet piling shapes or post and lagging configurations, while allowing minimal clearance for installation and removal.

If shoring is shown on the plans, include a general note addressing the shoring or include temporary shoring in the list of incidental items. Do not use the temporary shoring pay item unless shoring is required based on a specified construction approach.

2.5.2 Pour Strips

Pour strips shall be considered for staged construction. See Section 3.13.1.1 for details.

2.5.3 Temporary Barrier

Temporary barrier shall be considered for staged construction. See Section 3.3.6 for details.

2.5.4 Overhang Brackets

When bridges are constructed in stages overhang brackets are typically used to support the slab pour at the stage line. A minimum of 5 ft of clearance is needed between the top flange of the girder nearest the stage line and the existing bridge to provide for the installation and removal of these brackets.
2.5.5 Minimum Number of Beams Per Stage

For construction stages that will carry vehicular traffic, provide a minimum of 4 beams in each span. Subsequent stages should contain a minimum of 2 beams.

2.5.6 Pedestrian Traffic

If the existing structure includes sidewalks, the proposed construction staging plan must include accommodation for pedestrians. At a minimum, pedestrians can be accommodated on a temporary 4ft wide section of bridge deck. Accommodating pedestrians in this manner will require shielding the pedestrian path with Method 1 barrier according to BDM 3.3.6.1.

2.5.7 Sequential Staging

Staging plans should avoid nonsequential bridge construction, wherein a final stage is cast between two previous stages. These configurations create difficult erection challenges, particularly as it pertains to crane usage.

2.6 Bridge Jacking

2.6.1 General

Where bridges are to be raised, the designer shall provide jacking details in final construction plans. These details should provide 16’-9” minimum vertical clearance over the travel way and paved shoulders.

2.6.2 Utility Consideration

During the preliminary design phase, the designer should inform the District Utilities Engineer that the bridge is to be raised and that a field site inspection is needed to identify and locate the utilities in place. The findings should be reported to the Bridge Office. The District Utilities Engineer shall alert the impacted utility companies and remind them of their responsibilities for coordinating satisfactory utility realignment.

2.6.3 Additional Work

A request should be made to the Bridge Maintenance Unit for a Bridge Condition Survey. Items reported in need of repair or replacement should be incorporated into the contract documents if practical.

2.6.4 Plans

Each set of bridge jacking plans should include a Plan and Elevation sheet and Jacking Details sheets sufficient to describe the overall scope of work and show the required Bridge Office details along with other pertinent data necessary to obtain accurate and competitive bids. These sheets are in addition to applicable roadway plans which would include the Cover, Index, Revision Summary, Summary of Quantities, Detailed Estimate, Typical Sections, and Plan & Profile sheets.
2.6.4.1 Plan and Elevation Sheet

The Plan and Elevation (P&E) sheet should clearly show a plan view that includes beginning and ending bridge stations, bent arrangements, deck widths, and the point of minimum vertical clearance. It should also clearly show an elevation view that includes the length of bridge, span lengths, locations of expansion and fixed bearings, bent numbers, and the minimum vertical clearance at completion. The P&E sheet should also contain the existing grade data for the bridge and any underpass roadways as well as the existing bridge Serial, I.D., and P.I. numbers.

The P&E sheet may also contain the following in accordance with the Bridge Office’s standard General Notes formatting:

- An “EXISTING BRIDGE CONSISTS OF” tabulation describing the existing bridge
- A “UTILITIES” tabulation listing all existing utilities
- A “WORK CONSISTS OF” tabulation outlining the basic items of the work
- A “DESIGN DATA FOR DESIGN OF PEDESTALS” tabulation indicating the design specifications used, the typical loading, and the future paving allowance assumed
- A “CONSTRUCTION SEQUENCE” tabulation enumerating proposed steps necessary to complete the work. A note should be included immediately following these steps stating “The aforementioned sequence shall be coordinated with the roadway operations, see roadway plans. In lieu of the above sequence, the contractor may submit a proposed sequence for approval.”
- A “TRAFFIC DATA” tabulation displaying traffic data for the existing bridge
- A “SUMMARY OF QUANTITIES” tabulation including a lump sum pay item for raising the existing bridge, pay items for joint re-sealing, and any other pay items for requested bridge rehabilitation work
- A “GENERAL NOTES” tabulation stating all applicable standard Bridge Office notes pertinent to bridge jacking operations as well as notes addressing protection of existing slope paving, removal and replacement of existing bridge joints and/or other rehabilitative work, amount of jacking and vertical clearance to be obtained with reference to special provisions, and responsibility for utility disconnects/reconnects/adjustments

The above tabulations may be included on a separate General Notes sheet if necessary or may be included on the Jacking Details sheets.

2.6.4.2 Jacking Details Sheet

Jacking Details sheets should include the following:

- Section views at endwalls/backwalls detailing required modifications including pedestals, new concrete and reinforcement, and approach slab modifications
- Schematics of utility adjustments
- Schematic plan and elevation views of bearing assemblies and pedestals
• Details of elastomeric bearings if required (may be shown on separate sheet if necessary)
• Details of wingwall modifications
• Details of expansion joints
• Steel specifications and finish requirements
• Details/requirements for anchor bolt replacement

2.6.4.3 Maintenance of Traffic

The engineer shall consider maintenance of traffic in the design and ensure adequate coordination with the roadway plans. The sequence of operations should limit elevation differences at lift points to 1-inch or less at any given time or as indicated in the Special Provision for this work.

2.6.4.4 Jacking Method

It is generally not necessary or desirable to specify a jacking method in the plans. The Special Provision for this work should contain the basic jacking requirements and the engineer should make sure that is the case. It is the intent that the contractor retains responsibility for the jacking method/details and damage to the structure. However, the engineer should fully consider all jacking loads to be placed on the structure. Members should be analyzed as necessary to ensure that the strength is adequate for jacking by conventional methods. If not, special notes or details should be developed so a method is clearly available for bidding.

2.6.4.5 Approach Slab

Detailing for bridge jacking should include provisions for retaining existing approach slabs with modifications for re-supporting on the paving rest after jacking is complete. The existing approach slabs should normally be overlaid with permanent asphalt as the bridge is jacked thereby maintaining a consistent traffic surface that will remain in place at the completion of the project. A note should be included in the plans to require the contractor to check for voids beneath the approach slab by sounding and coring prior to cutting it free of the paving rest. If voids are detected, they should be grouted with flowable fill in accordance with GDOT Standard Specification Section 600 and a nominal quantity should be set up for this purpose to be used as directed by the engineer.

2.6.4.6 Concrete Pedestals

Concrete pedestals shall be specified when the pedestal height is over 1'-9". For bridges being jacked and widened on each side, so the existing portion of the bridge will be laterally restrained, concrete pedestals are required only when the pedestal height is over 2'-3". Steel pedestals may be used for heights equal to or lower than these limits.

2.7 Bridge Salvage

In the Preliminary Design Phase, the designer shall write a letter to the Bridge Maintenance Unit asking for a list of materials to be salvaged from the existing structure. The Bridge Maintenance Unit will respond by letter either stating that nothing will be salvaged, or with a list of items to be salvaged. The designer shall place a note on the Plans indicating either the existing bridge...
materials to be salvaged from the site or that no materials will be salvaged. Use Bridge Notes G072 through G075 as applicable.

### 2.8 Software

#### 2.8.1 General

The following software must be used during the production of final bridge plans:

- **Geometry (BRGEOM)** – All bridges shall have a geometry program run showing the profile grade line, centerline construction, beam lines, gutter lines and edge of bridge. Transverse lines shall include end of bridge, centerline bents, centerline of bearing, and (for T-beams only) face of cap. This requirement may be waived for simple bridges.

- **General Notes (BridgeNotes)** – Run this program to have the correct notes and pay items in the uniform format.

- **Reinforcing Steel (BRRBAR)** – Run this program to have the correct steel quantities and formatted rebar sheets.

#### 2.8.2 LRFD Projects

All interior slabs shall be designed using the most current version of RCSlab.xmcd. This program is available on the Department’s website for download as a zip file.

Prior to beginning final bridge design, consultants shall submit, in writing, the LRFD design software they will be using for approval by the Bridge Office.

#### 2.8.3 Standard Specification Projects

The Bridge Design Office has a variety of programs available for design using Standard Specifications that fall into the following categories:

##### 2.8.3.1 Required Software

Required software must be used to at least check the final design of the appropriate items unless analysis of the structure is beyond the capacity of DOT programs:

1. Prestressed Beam (BRPSBM1) – All beams must analyze without overstress in the prestressed beam program. A run will be required for every different length or load condition.

2. Pier Program (BRPIER) – Each bent must have a pier program run. Seismic Performance Category B bridges are to be analyzed by BRNCPIER which provides input for seismic loads. There is no software required for pile bents.

3. Simple Span Beam (BRSPAN) – Required for simple span steel bridges. Note that the t-beam part of the program uses allowable stress and therefore is not required but can be helpful in generating loads.

4. Continuous Beam (BRCTBM) – Required for continuous steel beams.

5. Slab Design (BRSLAB07) – You can either run this or use the latest slab charts. The design of the slab uses allowable stress design.
2.8.3.2 Recommended Software
1. Bearing Pad (BRPAD1) – Provide a run for each size of pad and for each load case or expansion case. No design is required for half-inch unreinforced bearing pads
2. SEISAB – For bridges in the seismic zone B. Use in conjunction with NCPIER.
3. DESCUS (BRDESC) – For curved steel girders

2.8.3.3 Optional Software
- BRLLCA – Live load case program. Comes up with live load input for the pier program.
- BRPCAC – PCA Column Analysis
- BRCPFT – Continuous footing program
- BRSIGN – Sign base
- BRSPAN – GDOT simple span beam program
- Merlin-Dash – Proprietary simple span or continuous beam program

2.9 Preliminary Design

The Preliminary Design Phase is when the template for the Final Bridge Plans is set. Therefore, it is critical for the designer to consider all the known aspects that may affect the bridge design and plan for them during this phase. In addition to the design elements listed in this section, consideration should be given to construction staging as addressed in section 2.5.

2.9.1 Roadway Geometry

Early in the design process the designer may need to collaborate with the roadway designers to simplify the design and construction of the bridge. Some of the parameters that should be considered during this phase are discussed in the following subsections.

2.9.1.1 Low Points

When possible, low points should be kept off of the bridge spans and approach slabs. If a low point must be located on the bridge, the following locations should be avoided:
- Near a bridge joint due to long term maintenance issues
- On end spans so drainage won’t fall onto unprotected slopes
- Near intermediate bents so drainage won’t fall onto substructure elements

See Section 3.15 for details of deck drainage.

2.9.1.2 Superelevation Transition

Superelevation transitions on bridges should be avoided when practical. Particularly, transitions between normal crown and reverse crown should be avoided as this requires a more complex construction sequence and a longitudinal construction joint. If the roadway plans present a superelevation transition that falls within the limits of the bridge, request that the Project Manager consider the following alternatives:
• Move the entire superelevation transition completely off the bridge.
• Make a transition to a certain cross-slope, maintain it across the bridge, and then continue the transition.
• Complete the transition between normal crown and reverse crown off the bridge, then increase or decrease the superelevation on the bridge as necessary.

2.9.1.3 Skew Angle

The minimum skew angle for any hydraulic bridge shall be 45 degrees.

2.9.2 Bridge Widths

Determine the necessary bridge width based on the functional classification of the roadway being carried and other parameters as specified in the following sub-sections, where TW is the traveled way (minimum of 2 lanes is presumed and lanes are 10 ft minimum).

The functional classification of the roadway is stated in the project concept report and should be in agreement with the Georgia State Functional Classification Map. Resolve any conflicts or questions about the functional classification prior to developing preliminary plans.

2.9.2.1 Bridges Carrying Local Roads

a) Rural section (2 lanes):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design Year ADT</th>
<th>Bridge Clear Width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-399</td>
<td>2' + TW + 2'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-2000*</td>
<td>3' + TW + 3'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 2000</td>
<td>6'-6&quot; + TW + 6'-6&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*On designated bike routes with 1000-2000 ADT increase the shoulder width to 5 ft.

Determine the necessary bridge width for bridges that are part of the Low Impact Bridge Program per the Low Impact Bridge Program Manual, Attachment E.

b) Urban sections (with curb):

The clear width for all new or reconstructed bridges shall be the curb to curb width of the approach roadway. Provide sidewalks on all bridges where curb and gutter is provided on the approach roadway. Minimum sidewalk width on bridges shall be 6.5 ft. (see Section 3.3.3 - Sidewalks and Medians). When the roadway curb and gutter section is 2'-6", 2 ft. is considered gutter for calculation of the bridge width.

2.9.2.2 Bridges Carrying Collectors

a) Rural section (Undivided):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design Year ADT</th>
<th>Bridge Clear Width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-399</td>
<td>2' + TW + 2'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-2000*</td>
<td>4' + TW + 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 2000</td>
<td>6'-6&quot; + TW + 6'-6&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 2000 &amp; ≥50mph</td>
<td>10' + TW + 10'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* On designated bike routes with 1000-2000 ADT increase the shoulder width to 5 ft.

b) Rural section (Divided): 6' (inside shoulder) + TW + 10' (outside shoulder)
c) Urban section (with curb):

The clear width for all new or reconstructed bridges shall be the curb to curb width of the approach roadway. Provide sidewalks on bridges where curb and gutter is provided on the approach roadway. Minimum sidewalk width on bridges shall be 6.5 ft. (see Section 3.3.3 - Sidewalks and Medians). When the roadway curb and gutter section is 2'-6", 2 ft is considered gutter for calculation of the bridge width.

2.9.2.3 Bridges Carrying Arterials

a) Rural Section (Undivided):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design Year ADT</th>
<th>Bridge Clear Width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-399</td>
<td>4’ + TW + 4’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-2000</td>
<td>6’ + TW + 6’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 2000</td>
<td>8’ + TW + 8’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b) Rural Section (Divided):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traveled Way Configuration</th>
<th>Bridge Clear Width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 lanes each direction</td>
<td>6’ (inside shoulder) + TW + 10’ (outside shoulder)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 or more lanes each direction</td>
<td>8’ (inside shoulder) + TW + 10’ (outside shoulder)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c) Urban Section (with curb):

The clear width for all new or reconstructed bridges shall be the curb to curb width of the approach roadway. Provide sidewalks on bridges where curb and gutter is provided on the approach roadway. Minimum sidewalk width on bridges shall be 6.5 ft. (see Section 3.3.3 - Sidewalks and Medians). When the roadway curb and gutter section is 2'-6", 2 ft is considered gutter for calculation of the bridge width.

2.9.2.4 Bridges Carrying Freeways

The Freeway functional classification will include not only the Interstate Highway system, but also State routes designated as such.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lanes in One Direction</th>
<th>Bridge Width Clear Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-3 Lanes</td>
<td>10’ (inside shoulder) + TW + 12’ (outside shoulder)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 or More lanes with Truck Traffic &gt;250 DDHV</td>
<td>12’ (inside shoulder) + TW + 12’ (outside shoulder)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All configurations with concrete barriers on the adjacent approach roadway</td>
<td>12’ (inside shoulder) + TW + 12’ (outside shoulder)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the shoulder widths shown above are different than the paved shoulders on the roadway plans, this should be addressed as early in the process as possible since these should generally match.
2.9.2.5 Alternative Bridge Use

2.9.2.5.1 Diverging Diamond Interchanges

Bridges that carry traffic through a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) for any route type should be wide enough to accommodate the full width of the approach roadway with the inside and outside shoulders reversed from the roadway typical section. A design variance is required when full width shoulder values given below cannot be accommodated. When accommodation of the full section is not possible the following shoulder requirements shall be used in conjunction with traveled way width and pedestrian accommodations to determine the overall width of the bridge section.

**Outside Shoulders:**
- 4 ft minimum required.
- 2 ft minimum considered for reconfiguration projects with approval of design variance.

**Inside Shoulders:**
- 8 ft minimum required.
- 4 ft minimum considered for reconfiguration projects with approval of design variance.

Shoulders on bridge may need to be wider than the above required minimums to account for proper interchange design practice, including site distance and vehicle tracking considerations.

2.9.2.6 Design Exceptions

When a project is implemented using federal funds and the width characteristics do not meet the above criteria, a request for design exception shall be submitted to the Chief Engineer for approval, unless 23 CFR 625 – Design Standards for Highways applies. The following situations would require consideration for design exceptions.

2.9.2.6.1 Staging Considerations

In certain staging situations it might be more economical to build the bridge wider as opposed to building a temporary structure to hold the traffic.

2.9.2.6.2 Future Construction Considerations

When designing a replacement bridge that has a future parallel bridge programmed, it could be appropriate to apply multi-lane divided traffic criteria instead of the 2-way traffic criteria specified above.

2.9.2.6.3 Sharp Curves

The bridge width on roads with sharp curves and low traffic can be increased due to tracking requirements. See Section 4.2.3 - Pavement Widening on Curves of the GDOT Design Policy Manual.
2.9.3 Bridge Lengths

The bridge length is mostly determined by the obstacle that the bridge must span. For nearly all road projects the obstacle falls within two general categories – Bodies of Water (Stream Crossings) or Traveled Ways (Grade Separations).

2.9.3.1 Stream Crossings

The guidelines for setting the span lengths for Stream Crossings are outlined in the GDOT Drainage Manual. Designers should be aware that the use of Mechanically Stabilized Embankment (MSE) walls at the hydraulic opening, either as abutment walls or supporting endrolls, is discouraged due to the added structural risks associated with scour and inundation for such structures. When possible, the use of walls at the hydraulic opening should be avoided by lengthening the structure sufficiently to incorporate an endroll. When walls are unavoidable, cast in place concrete walls are preferred to MSE walls. Either wall type must be evaluated for scour in accordance with HEC 18 “Evaluating Scour at Bridges” (NCHRP 24-20 Abutment Scour Approach).

2.9.3.2 Grade Separations

Bridge spans over roads or railroads shall be long enough to span the traveled way, drainage ditches, shoulders, sidewalks, clear zone for the traveled way, and the offset distance from the toe of slope paving or face of abutment wall (See Sections 2.3.3 and 2.3.4).

The option to use abutment walls, specifically MSE abutment walls, to reduce the length of a grade separation bridge or reduce right of way should not be automatically implemented. Even if a cost analysis of comparing the longer bridges and right of way purchase appears to be more economical, consideration must be given to long term issues with an MSE structure. Installation and long-term maintenance of drainage and utilities should be weighed in the decision. When the potential purchase of right of way is included in the project, the use of an MSE wall is discouraged. In addition, if there are settlement concerns in the approach roadway then the use of MSE abutments is discouraged.

2.9.4 Guidelines for Selecting Bridge Type

Use the following sections to determine bridge type unless a Bridge Type Study (See Section 2.9.5) is required by the Bridge Office.

2.9.4.1 Typical Bridge Cost

The following square foot costs for particular bridge types may be used in preparation of preliminary cost estimates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Square foot cost (out-to-out width)</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>RC/PSC beams on pile bents</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Cored Slab/Next Beam on pile bents*</td>
<td>$160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSC beams on concrete bents</td>
<td>$140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel beams on concrete bents</td>
<td>$175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Due to time savings on these type of structures, no net increase in total project costs are usually seen.
2.9.4.2 Reinforced Concrete Deck Girders (RCDGs)

Historically, reinforced concrete deck girders (RCDG or T-Beam) on pile bents are some of the most economical bridges that GDOT has built. When economy governs, the designer should consider RCDG as the first choice. Typical spans are either 30 feet long (2’-3” deep) or preferably 40 feet long (2’-9” deep). When running Hydraulics, uniform span lengths should be added until an acceptable hydraulic opening is found.

2.9.4.3 Contractor PSC Beam Substitution

GDOT Standard Specifications allows contractors to substitute PSC girder spans for RCDG spans as long as minimum bottom of beam elevations are met. A note should be placed on the plans if other conditions limit the contractor’s option for the substitution.

Since many RCDG spans are being redesigned by the contractors to PSC girders, designers may now opt to utilize Type I Mod PSC girders. RCDG may still be more economical than Type I Mod PSC girders on low-lying bridges where the cost of falsework will be less.

2.9.4.4 PSC Beams on Pile Bents

When establishing span configurations for the preliminary layout, limit any spans supported on intermediate pile bents in accordance with table 2.9.4.4-1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beam Type</th>
<th>Maximum Span Length by Pile Type</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steel H-Pile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASHTO PSC Beam Shapes, Bulb T Shapes, and All Similar Concepts</td>
<td>50 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cored Slab or Box Beam Units</td>
<td>55 ft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2.9.4.4-1 Pile Bent Span Limits**

Pile type can be initially assumed by referencing Appendix 4A and/or reviewing plans and foundation investigations for the existing structure or structures in the area of the project. A final determination of pile type will be based on the geotechnical investigation.

Longer span lengths may be approved by the Bridge Office during the preliminary design phase of design-bid-build projects. Coordinate use of longer span lengths prior to layout submission for review.

Design-build projects must adhere to table 2.9.4.4-1.

2.9.4.5 Concrete Bents

Concrete bents should be used instead of pile bents for the following situations:

- Bridge requires longer spans
- Bridge height exceeds twenty feet where pile bents will not work

If the BFI recommends spread footings, drilled shafts or pilot holes at bent locations due to rock or hard layers close to the surface, the bridge layout should be re-examined utilizing longer span lengths on concrete bents for cost savings.
2.9.4.6 Prestressed Concrete Beams

Prestressed concrete beams are the most economical superstructure type when spans longer than 40 feet are required. Span length, beam type and beam spacing shall be considered together for the most economic design. PSC beam charts are provided in Appendix 3B for guidance. Beam spacing limits are specified in Section 3.4.2.7, and beam length limits are specified in Section 3.4.2.8. For bridges in visible areas, such as grade separations or stream crossings with significant adjacent development, same beam depths for adjacent spans should be considered (see Section 3.4.3.2).

2.9.4.7 Single Span Hydraulic Bridges

When the hydraulic opening requires a bridge that spans the stream with end spans of less than 30 feet, a single span bridge using longer beams could be the best alternative. However, it is difficult to set long beams across a stream, so a beam setting process needs to be provided in the hydraulic study. It may be possible to set them from the detour bridge or the adjacent bridge.

2.9.4.8 Steel Beams

Steel beam bridges should be considered for the following situations:

- Span lengths exceeding 150’ (Bridge Type Study may be appropriate)
- Bridges requiring a shallow superstructure depth for vertical clearance
- Widening existing steel bridges

2.9.4.9 Box Girders

Another option for long spans is steel or concrete box girder bridges. GDOT prefers not to use concrete box girders due to the extensive falsework required. However, cast-in-place box girders or segmental box girders should be considered in the Bridge Type Study for appropriate situations.

2.9.4.10 Beams in Curved Bridges

When the width of the bridge is constant, make the beams parallel within each span as practical. Also, the centerlines of exterior beams should meet at the centerlines of the intermediate bents. Use the following practice for placing beams on curved bridges as feasible:

- Place beams parallel to the chord of the bridge centerline from BFPR/centerline bent to centerline bent.
- Place exterior beams on chords of concentric circles, then parallel interior beams towards the centerline. For this case, ensure that the non-parallel beam spacing that occurs in the middle is smaller than the parallel spacing on either side, so it doesn’t control the deck design.

Placing all beams on their own chords usually makes no beam parallel and leads to complicated deck formwork.

2.9.4.11 Scissor Bridges

On bridges with very sharp skews, known as “scissor bridges”, it may be appropriate to use transverse girders rather than longitudinal beams. This results in many girders that only partially
support the roadway. There is no definitive policy on whether to include a deck on the portion outside the roadway limits or leave the beams with an uncovered top flange. A Bridge Type Study may be necessary for cost comparison between many short transverse girders and a few long longitudinal beams.

### 2.9.4.12 MSE Wall Abutments

An MSE wall abutment should be considered as an alternative to an end roll on grade separations. It could be a more economical solution, especially for wide bridges.

### 2.9.5 Bridge Type Study

A Bridge Type Study should be performed whenever the estimated construction cost of a single bridge is expected to exceed $10,000,000, or as directed by the Bridge Office. The study report serves as a reference supporting the choice of the structure type for a project.

#### 2.9.5.1 Purpose

The Bridge Type Study establishes what alternative(s) will be carried forward in the Preliminary and Final Design phases. When alternate designs are considered, uniform design criteria, material requirements and unit costs should be applied.

#### 2.9.5.2 Format

The report shall use 8 ½” by 11” pages with drawings on larger sheets, if necessary, folded to fit the report. The report shall be neatly written and the contents shall be presented in a logical sequence with narratives as necessary. An Executive Summary shall be included comparing the relative features and costs of the alternatives considered and recommending which alternative(s) to be carried forward into the Preliminary Phase.

The Bridge Type Study should be as self-contained as possible by including all arguments that establish, justify, support, or prove the conclusions. It is acceptable to make reference to other documents that will be included in the final submittal package. Any documentation, such as drawings, clear and concise views, or other illustrated information that assists in presenting design intent and solutions should be included in the package.

#### 2.9.5.3 Contents

Provide cost data and other information that affects the selection of an alternative, including geotechnical survey data (if available), life cycle maintenance costs, construction time and staging assumptions, constructability, maintenance of traffic, aesthetics, etc. Various methods of handling traffic during construction should be thoroughly investigated. Data provided by others should be thoroughly reviewed and if deemed insufficient or in error should be brought to the attention of the provider. The major items that should be included are described in the following subsections.

##### 2.9.5.3.1 Bridge Description

The Bridge Type Study should include a detailed description of each proposed alternate structure. This description should consider the following in its development:

a) Span length: Span lengths are governed by column/pier locations that provide the required vertical and horizontal clearances, then economic and aesthetic considerations.
b) Superstructure depth: Superstructure depths, particular for grade separation structures, shall be kept to the minimum as allowed by good engineering practice.

c) Span continuity: The economic and engineering advantage of simple span vs. continuous spans should be addressed.

d) Superstructure type: Consider prestressed concrete girders, steel rolled sections, steel plate girders, steel or concrete box girders, and other sections approved by the Bridge Office.

e) Pier protection: Piers located in a divided highway median must be protected from traffic, typically by guardrail or concrete barrier, when located within the clear zone.

f) Foundation: For piles and drilled shafts, assume size, length, and capacities from geotechnical information, if available. For spread footings, allowable bearing pressure should also be assumed from geotechnical information, if available.

2.9.5.3.2 Costs

The Bridge Type Study should include a cost estimate for each proposed alternate structure. This estimate should include the following:

a) Quantity estimates: Quantities should be estimated to the accuracy necessary for comparing the alternatives. For minor bridges rough quantities, such as the amount of reinforcing steel estimated from historic steel-to-concrete ratios, may be sufficient. For major and complex bridges more detailed quantity calculations may be required.

b) Unit costs: Unit costs should be derived using data available from GDOT or contractors/suppliers. The sources of all price data should be recorded for later reference. For major and complex structures, it may be necessary to develop unit costs from an analysis of fabrication, storage, delivery and erection costs.

c) Cost matrix: A cost matrix should be established for each alternative to reveal the most economic span arrangement.

2.9.5.3.3 Aesthetics

The Bridge Type Study should include a narrative explaining how aesthetics affected the design of each proposed alternate structure. This narrative should address the following considerations:

a) Totality of structure: A bridge should be made aesthetically pleasing in and of itself by giving proper attention to shapes, proportions and continuity of forms and lines. The basic structure of the bridge itself should be the main focus in bridge aesthetics, not enhancements, additions, or other superficial touches.

b) Compatibility with site: A bridge should be made aesthetically pleasing in context of its surroundings. Additional emphasis should be placed on the surroundings at interchanges where landscaping or unique features need to be considered.

c) Conformity of theme: Conformity of theme and unifying appearance should be created or maintained in locations with multiple bridges, such as interchanges, where aesthetics are important because of high visibility to a large number of motorists.
d) Inherently pleasing substructure shapes: Consideration should be given to structural systems that are inherently more pleasing, such as hammerhead or "T" shaped piers, oval or polygonal shaped columns, piers in lieu of bents, etc.

2.9.5.3.4 Constructability and Maintainability

All construction and maintenance requirements should be identified and appropriately reflected in any concept that is to be recommended for design.

a) Constructability: Items such as member sizes/handling/fabrication, maintenance of traffic, construction staging, equipment requirements, etc. should be considered.

b) Transportation: Special evaluation shall be made to insure against potential problems that may occur in obtaining permits and equipment to transport long and/or heavy members from point of manufacture to the project site.

c) Maintenance: Considerations for future maintenance inspection shall be taken into account in the structure's design. Such considerations may include the need for 6 feet minimum headroom inside steel or concrete box girder superstructures.

2.10 Quantities

Quantities are required on all structural plans submitted to the Bridge Office for review, including design-build projects. This includes a Summary of Quantities, quantities tables on superstructure and substructure sheets, and a reinforcing bar schedule.

2.10.1 Quantities on General Notes

For Lump Superstructure Pay Items on the General Notes sheet, present the quantities in the brackets as shown in the following examples:

- LUMP SUPERSTR CONC, CLASS AA - BR NO 1 (465)
- LUMP STR STEEL - BR NO 1 (1465450)
- LUMP SUPERSTR REINF STEEL - BR NO 1 (265430)

All quantities shall be shown as whole number. Do not include decimals or commas.

Piling quantities shall be rounded up to the next even 5 feet.

2.10.2 Quantities on Detail Sheets

All superstructure quantities shall be itemized on the superstructure detail sheet as shown in Table 2.10.2-1. Do not include a TOTAL column in this table unless all of the spans in the bridge are shown in the table and the total includes all of the spans in the bridge. All substructure quantities shall be itemized on the substructure detail sheet as shown in Table 2.10.2-2. Show concrete quantities to one decimal place. Reinforcing steel and structural steel quantities should be integers.
2.10.3 Quantities for Staged Construction and Continuous Units

Bar schedules for continuous span units supported by structural steel shall be tabulated by pour. In this case, the quantity on the superstructure detail sheet shall be shown by continuous unit.

Bar schedules for stage constructed bridges shall be tabulated by stage and span. In the case of stage constructed simple spans, the quantity on the superstructure detail sheet shall be shown by stage and span.

When a continuous span unit is stage constructed, the bar schedule shall be tabulated by pour and stage, i.e. Pour 1, Stage 1; Pour 1, Stage 2; etc. In the case of stage constructed continuous spans, the quantity on the superstructure detail sheet shall be shown by stage and continuous unit.
Appendix 2A - Hydraulic Engineering Field Report

I. HYDRAULIC AND HYDROLOGICAL DATA REQUIRED FOR ALL EXISTING OR PROPOSED BRIDGE STREAM CROSSING PROJECTS

A. Project Location

District ____________ County ____________ Project No. __________________________
P.I. No. _______________ Route ___________ Stream Name _______________________
Surveyed By __________________________ Date ____________________________

B. Site Information

Floodplain and Stream Channel description:

1. Flat, rolling, mountainous, etc. ___________________________________________
2. Wooded, heavily vegetated, pasture, swampy, etc. __________________________
   ____________________________________________________
3. Stream channel description: well-defined banks, meandering, debris, etc.
   ____________________________________________________
4. Is there any fill in the upstream or downstream floodplain, which will affect the natural
   drainage or limit the floodplain width at this site? __________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

C. Required Existing Bridge Information at Project Site

Bridge Identification No. __________________________
Date Built __________________________
Skew angle of bridge bents __________________________

Substructure Information:

Column type (concrete, steel, etc.) __________________________
Size of column __________________________
Number of columns per bent __________________________
Height of curb, parapet or barrier __________________________
Guide Bank (Spur Dike) length, elevation and location (if applicable) _______________
________________________________________________________________________
Note any scour problems at intermediate bents or abutments: __________________________
________________________________________________________________________
D. Normal Water Surface Data

WS ELEV

500 feet upstream of the survey centerline ___________________________
At the survey centerline ___________________________
500 feet downstream of the survey centerline ___________________________
Normal high tide ___________________________
Normal low tide ___________________________

E. Historical Flood Data

Extreme high water elevation at site _________ Date ___________________________
Highest observed tide elevation _________ Date ___________________________
Location where extreme high water elevation was taken (upstream or downstream face of bridge, distance upstream or downstream, centerline)

Source of high water information ________________________________________

Location and floor elevation of any houses/buildings/structures that have been flooded.

________________________________________

Information about flood (number of times house/building/structure has been flooded, water surface elevation(s) and date(s) of flood ___________________________

Location and floor elevation of any houses/buildings/structures that have floor elevations within 2 feet of the extreme high water elevation ___________________________

F. Benchmark Information

Benchmark number ________________________________________________
Location (InRoads pt. no. or project station/offset) ___________________________
Physical description ________________________________________________

Benchmark number ________________________________________________
Location (InRoads pt. no. or project station/offset) ___________________________
Physical description ________________________________________________

Benchmark number ________________________________________________
Location (InRoads pt. no. or project station/offset) ______________________________
Physical description __________________________________________________________

G. UPSTREAM AND DOWNSTREAM STRUCTURES

Structure type (railroad or highway bridge, culvert) ________________________________
Route number (if applicable) ____________________________________________________
Distance from proposed structure _____________________________________________
Length of bridge or culvert size ________________________________________________
Substructure information: ______________________________________________________
Column type (concrete, steel, etc.) ______________________________________________
Size of column _______________________________________________________________
Number of columns per bent ___________________________________________________

Note: The above information is required for all bridges or culverts, which lie between
2000 ft and 1 mile upstream or downstream of the project bridge.

H. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Are there water surfaces affected by other factors (high water from other streams,
reservoirs, etc.)? ____________________________________________________________
Give location, length, width, and elevation of dam and spillway, if applicable __________

_____________________________________________________________________________
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Chapter 3. Superstructure

3.1 General Design Considerations

3.1.1 Minimum Number of Beams

For bridges that will carry vehicular traffic, provide a minimum of 4 beams in each span. When multi-stem girders are used, a minimum of 3 units shall be provided.

3.1.2 Connections

Each connection between the superstructure and substructure shall be indicated on the Plan and Elevation sheet as fixed (FIX) or expansion (EXP).

At least one bent cap to superstructure connection within a continuous deck unit (between expansion joints) shall be “fixed” to prevent any differential longitudinal movement between the superstructure and substructure. This fixed condition should be achieved by the dowel bars/anchor bolts connecting the superstructure and substructure through the bearing holes.

All other substructure/superstructure interfaces shall be “expansion” to allow for thermal movement and/or shrinkage of the superstructure. At these expansion connections, slotted holes or chase in the beam should be provided for free longitudinal movement of the superstructure.

For PSC beams a 1 ½" smooth dowel (ASTM A709 Grade 50) shall be grouted into the substructure cap to provide connection. Similarly, a No. 10 reinforcing bar shall be used as a dowel for RCDG connection. These dowels shall be sized to ensure 2” nominal vertical clearance between top of pin and recess in the girder.

3.1.3 Use of Chemical Anchors

The use of epoxy in structural connections is generally prohibited by the Department. However, epoxy use is acceptable for the installation of bridge joints and sidewalk dowel bars. It is also appropriate for use on staged construction joints as defined by the “EPOXY RESIN ADHESIVE” general note.

3.2 Deck Design

3.2.1 Materials

3.2.1.1 Concrete

For LRFD projects, use Class D concrete, as specified in Special Provision 500 – Concrete Structures, which has a 28-day design strength of 4.0 ksi as required by LRFD 5.4.2.1.

For Standard Specification projects, use Class AA concrete that has a 28-day design strength of 3.5 ksi.
3.2.1.2 Reinforcement

3.2.1.2.1 Materials

Use Grade 60 reinforcement. The use of higher grade reinforcement is not permitted.

3.2.1.2.2 Splice Lengths

Use the following table to detail reinforcement splice lengths in the superstructure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Splice Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#4 or #5 uncoated</td>
<td>2'-0&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4 or #5 epoxy coated</td>
<td>2'-6&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#8 in edge beam</td>
<td>3'-3&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#9 in endwall</td>
<td>4'-0&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For all applications of splices in the superstructure not specified in the table above, calculate the splice length according to LRFD 5.10.8.

For Standard Specification projects, calculate the splice length per Standard Specification 8.32.3.

3.2.1.3 PSC Deck Panels

PSC deck panels are no longer used and should not be accommodated in the bridge design.

3.2.2 Interior Slab

3.2.2.1 Standard Specification Projects

For simplicity and consistency, use the required slab charts located in Appendix C3 (output from GDOT program, BRSLAB07). When using the slab charts, the effective span length is measured between the stem faces for T-beams, the top flange edges for AASHTO Types I-IV beams and the top flange quarter points for steel beams, AASHTO Type V beams, and Bulb Tee beams. The slab charts use a continuity factor of 0.8 that assumes the slab is continuous over 3 or more supports.

For top concrete cover of slab, see Table 3.2.2.2-1 Slab Thickness and Concrete Cover.

3.2.2.2 LRFD Projects

3.2.2.2.1 Design Method

All interior slabs shall be designed using the most current version of RCSlab.xmcd. This program is available on the Department’s website for download as a zip file. RCSlab.xmcd uses the Traditional Design Method (LRFD 9.7.3) and the approximate method of analysis (LRFD 4.6.2.1.1) to design the slab. The program uses a Class 2 exposure condition for LRFD equation 5.6.7-1.

Empirical Design (LRFD 9.7.2) will not be allowed for deck designs on bridges in the state of Georgia.

3.2.2.2.2 Loads

Use a future paving allowance of .030 ksf on all bridges.
3.2.2.2.3 Minimum Slab Thickness and Concrete Covers

Use Table 3.2.2.2-1 to determine the minimum slab thickness, the top concrete cover and the grinding/wearing thickness. Minimum slab thickness and Top cover values include the grinding/wearing thickness.

Table 3.2.2.2-1 Slab Thickness and Concrete Cover

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case No.</th>
<th>Bridge Location</th>
<th>Minimum Deck Thickness</th>
<th>Top Cover</th>
<th>Grinding/Wearing Thickness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Below Fall Line*</td>
<td>7 ¾”</td>
<td>2 ¼”</td>
<td>¼”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All Routes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Above Fall Line*</td>
<td>8 ¼”</td>
<td>2 ¾”</td>
<td>¼”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All Routes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* See Appendix 3A for location of Fall Line.

Use 1” for the bottom cover on all deck slabs.

3.2.2.3 Detailing

3.2.2.3.1 Main Reinforcements

Place # 5 bars transversely in the top and bottom of the deck as main reinforcement. The maximum spacing allowed for these bars is 7”. The minimum spacing is 5” to aid in the placement of the deck concrete.

Detail the top and bottom main reinforcement with the same spacing so that the bottom and top bars align.

For Standard Specification projects, the maximum spacing for main reinforcement bars is 9”. The minimum spacing is 5”.

3.2.2.3.2 Distribution Reinforcements

For LRFD projects, use #4 bars set longitudinally above the bottom main bars as distribution reinforcement. Place these bars at equal spaces in each bay with 3” offsets from the centerlines of beams. Space #4 bottom distribution reinforcement no tighter than 5” on center.

For Standard Specification projects, use the middle half and outer-quarter information from the slab chart.

Use # 4 bars set longitudinally below the top main bars for temperature/shrinkage control. Place one bar over the centerline of each beam and then place additional bars at equal spaces between the beams and to the edges of the deck with a maximum spacing of 18”.

3.2.2.3.3 Continuous Deck Reinforcement

In simple span bridges with decks made continuous at intermediate bents, provide #6 bars across the bent in the top mat of the deck. Place two #6 bars between each #4 bars. Only these #6 bars should be continuous through the construction joint at the bent. The length of
these bars should be 10'-0" total, 5'-0" on each side of the bent. The #4 bars should end 2" from the construction joint.

### 3.2.2.3.4 Maximum Reinforcement Lengths

A single bar of reinforcement shall not exceed 60 feet in length. When a rebar in the deck exceeds 60 feet, use a lap splice in accordance with Bridge and Structures Design Manual section 3.2.1.2.2, as appropriate. Provide detailing and notes on the plans that correspond with the lap splice.

### 3.2.2.3.5 Additional Reinforcement in Acute Corners

Provide 5 - #5 bars in a fan arrangement in the top of the deck just below the top mat in acute corners when the enclosed angle is 75 degrees or less. These bars, typically 5 to 10 feet long, are required at the following locations:

- Intermediate bents in simple span bridges
- Ends of continuous span units
- Construction joints in continuous span units
- Temporary acute corners adjacent to staged construction joints

The designer should ensure that these bars are shown at the corners and placed adjacent to the edges of the slab in the plans.

### 3.2.2.3.6 Placement of Transverse Reinforcement

On bridges with skew angles less than 85 degrees, place the transverse reinforcement normal to the centerline of the bridge then clip and bend near the joints. Detail an additional #5 bar on either side of the joint, running parallel to the joint. A cell is provided in the GDOT Bridge Cell Library to detail this condition and should be included on the superstructure plan sheets when applicable.

For quantity calculations, detail the clipped bars as continuous across the joint, ignoring the increased length from clipping and bending.

When bridges skew angles are greater than or equal to 85 degrees, the transverse reinforcement can be placed parallel to the joints to avoid clipping.

### 3.2.3 Overhang Slab

#### 3.2.3.1 Standard Specification Projects

Design the overhang in accordance with the AASHTO Standard Specifications.

When MASH Bridge Rails, as discussed in section 3.3.2, are required on a structure otherwise being designed using the AASHTO Standard Specifications use load values derived from MASH testing as described here. Using the information provided in Table 3.3.2.1-1, detail an overhang that satisfies a design moment, Ms coincident with tensile force T at the gutter line due to rail collision with Ms and T calculated as follows:

\[
    M_s = F_t \times H_e/L_c
\]

\[
    T = F_c/L_c
\]
Further reduction of the moment and tensile load at sections of analysis away from the gutter line should be reduced by increasing the distribution length in both directions by the tangent of 30 degrees multiplied by the distance from the gutter line to the point of analysis, X.

\[ Lc_2 = Lc + 2X \times \tan 30^\circ \]

Note that Ft load should have a factor of 1.0.

When MASH Bridge Rails, as discussed in section 3.3.2, are not required. Overhangs can be designed in accordance with the loadings and distributions presented in the AASHTO Standard Specifications.

### 3.2.3.2 LRFD Projects

#### 3.2.3.2.1 Design Method

The overhang design shall be evaluated for Design Case 1 and Design Case 3 as defined in LRFD A13.4.

#### 3.2.3.2.2 Loads

Use the load transfer variables \((M_c, L_c, \text{ and } R_w)\) for the GDOT Self-Certified Bridge Railings, as presented in Table 3.3.2.1-1. For overhangs carrying a parapet taller than shown in the table, use LRFD A13.2 and A13.3, with the exception noted in section 3.3.2.1.2, to verify the parapet design and to determine the necessary parameters for overhang design.

### 3.2.3.3 Detailing

#### 3.2.3.3.1 Additional Overhang Reinforcement

Reinforcement required in addition to the interior slab design to support the overhang and barrier loads shall consist of #4 and #5 bars spaced with every or alternating interior main reinforcement. Reinforcing bars larger than #5 will not be allowed. After increasing the overhang thickness to the maximum difference of 1” greater than the interior slab, there may remain a need to tighten the spacing on the interior slab reinforcement to satisfy design moments. Do not revise the distribution reinforcement spacing determined from the interior main steel demand, even though the main steel is tightened to aid in overhang design.

Extend additional overhang reinforcement steel (#4 or #5 bars) 3’-0” beyond the centerline of the exterior beam.

#### 3.2.3.3.2 Overhang Width

Overhang Width is defined as the distance from the centerline of the exterior girder to the outside edge of the concrete deck.

Slab overhangs shall extend a minimum of 6” beyond the exterior beam flange to provide room for the typical drip notch detail.

Maximum overhang width for PSC beam superstructures with beams larger than the AASHTO Mod-1 shall be the lesser of:

- 4’-7 ½”
- 50% of the beam spacing

The maximum overhang width for an AASHTO Mod-1 beam shall be 3’-0”.
The maximum overhang width for rolled beams and steel girders shall be 3’-6”.

For steel beams and girders where the ratio of the overhang width to the exterior beam/girder depth is greater than 0.6, include the following general notes on the plans:

“CONCRETE DECK OVERHANGS – PROVIDE ADEQUATE TEMPORARY SUPPORT AND BRACING TO PREVENT THE EXTERIOR BEAM/GRIDER FROM TWISTING OR EXCESSIVELY DEFLECTING UNDER THE CONCRETE DEAD LOAD AND THE CONSTRUCTION LOADS. SUBMIT OVERHANG FORMING DESIGN CALCULATIONS AND DETAILS STAMPED BY A LICENSED AND REGISTERED GEORGIA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER TO THE ENGINEER’S REVIEW AND APPROVAL 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DECK FORM INSTALLATION. INCLUDE ALL COST FOR DESIGNING, PROVIDING, INSTALLING AND REMOVING BRACING IN PRICE BID FOR ‘LUMP - SUPERSTR CONCRETE.’”

3.2.3.3 Overhang Thickness and Concrete Cover

The thickness of the overhang slab shall be:

- Equal to or greater than the thickness of the interior slab
- A minimum of 8” thick for projects designed using LRFD (LRFD 13.7.3.1.2)
- No more than 1” thicker than the interior slab thickness

Use the same top and bottom cover for reinforcement in the overhang slab as was designated for the interior slab.

3.2.4 Epoxy Coated Reinforcement

Use epoxy coated bars for the following bridges located north of the fall line (see the map in Appendix 3A):

- Mainline interstate bridges
- Post-tensioned concrete box girder bridges
- Interstate ramp bridges
- Bridges over the interstate with direct interstate access

Epoxy coated bars in these structures shall be used in the top mat of the deck, the entirety of the barrier/parapet and endposts, and anywhere else where reinforcements have less than 4” cover from a surface facing traffic. Epoxy coated bars are not required in sidewalks and medians.

3.2.5 Grooving

All bridge decks will be grooved to within one foot of the barrier or curb face, as specified in Section 500 of the GDOT Standard Specifications. Grooving is a pay item. Grooving is not required under medians or sidewalks. However, if stage construction calls for traffic to run on sections of the deck that will ultimately be located under medians and sidewalks, those areas should be grooved and included in the quantities measured for grooving.
3.2.6 Overlays

When it is necessary to overlay a cast-in-place concrete deck, use a Portland Cement concrete overlay. The minimum thickness should be 2" and this should be shown on the Plans. If the overlay covers only part of the deck and the remaining part of the deck is grooved, the overlay should be grooved. Coordination with the Project Manager will be necessary to ensure that the approach slab elevations match the bridge deck.

Place a mat of #4 bars at 18 inches each way in the top of an overlay with thickness of 6 inches or greater to control cracking due to temperature effects. Measure the overlay thickness from the top of the existing deck reinforcing. Provide the same cover on the overlay steel as for deck steel (See Section 3.2.2.2.3).

3.2.7 Ride Quality

There is a discrepancy between GDOT Standard Specifications and the Bridge Office policy on bridges subject to profilograph testing. GDOT Standard Specification 500.3.06.E requires profilograph testing on the following bridges:

- 4 or more lane bridges on state routes
- 2 lane bridges on state routes with 2000 or more ADT in current year

Bridge Office policy requires profilograph testing on the following bridges:

- All bridges on state routes
- All bridges with 2000 or more ADT in design year

Therefore, the following general note shall be placed on the plans for bridges that are included in the Bridge Office requirements but not in the GDOT Standard Specifications requirements.

RIDING QUALITY - THE FINISHED BRIDGE DECK AND APPROACH SLABS SHALL MEET THE RIDE QUALITY REQUIREMENTS AS SPECIFIED IN SUB-SECTION 500.3.06.E OF THE GEORGIA DOT SPECIFICATIONS FOR STATE ROUTES WITH FOUR LANES OR MORE.

3.2.8 Deck Cross Slope

The cross-slope of the deck should match the roadway plans. Typically, the cross-slope is 2% on a normal crown, but is sometimes shown as ¼ inch per foot.

3.3 Barriers, Railings, Sidewalks and Medians

3.3.1 Materials

3.3.1.1 Concrete

For LRFD projects, use Class D concrete that has a 28-day specified design strength of 4.0 ksi in accordance with LRFD 5.4.2.1. See Special Provision 500 – Concrete Structures.

For Standard Specification projects, use Class AA concrete that has a 28-day design strength of 3.5 ksi.
3.3.1.2 Reinforcement

Use Grade 60 reinforcement.

3.3.2 Bridge Railings

On October 15, 2018 the Chief Engineer posted the most recent amendment to the Department’s policy titled “Implementation of AASHTO- MASH criteria for Roadside Safety Hardware”. In that document the Department committed to use bridge railings certified to meet the requirements of the AASHTO Manual for the Assessment of Safety Hardware, 2016 (MASH) on all State Route and National Highway System (NHS) bridges let to construction after December 31, 2019. Subsequently the Bridge Office filed self-certification documents with FHWA for all the barriers presented in Table 3.3.2.1-1. The bridge railings presented in that table shall be used on the following:

- Bridges carrying any state route or NHS route, regardless of governing the AASHTO Design Specifications
- Bridges under design using AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications
- Bridges being widened using the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications

Bridges being designed using the AASHTO Standard Specifications for Bridge Design in accordance with Article 2.1.1. of this manual or presented to the Department as part of an encroachment permit application are encouraged to utilize using these bridge railings but are not required to do so.

A design deviation of the above requirements shall be requested from the Bridge Office, as soon as possible after noting the deviation, for any project that received formal final plans review comments or approval from the Bridge Office prior to April 19, 2019.

3.3.2.1 Design Method

3.3.2.1.1 Standard Specification Projects

Bridge railings for projects designed using the AASHTO Standard Specifications shall comply with the guidance of 3.3.2.

Where permitted by 3.3.2, design bridge railings in accordance with the AASHTO Standard Specifications. Detail stirrups to a maximum spacing of 12”.

For guidance on incorporating the bridge railings from Table 3.3.2.1-1 into an overhang design governed by the AASHTO Standard Specifications, see section 3.2.3.

When using the bridge railings from Table 3.3.2.1-1 on projects otherwise designed using the AASHTO Standard Specifications, Class AA Concrete ($f'_c$ =3500psi) shall be used to cast the bridge rails.

3.3.2.1.2 LRFD Projects

Use the appropriate bridge railing from Table 3.3.2.1-1 based on the guidance of section 3.3.2.2. All bridge railings presented in Table 3.3.2.1-1 have been self-certified as MASH TL-4 by the Department, using representative crash testing and yield line analysis based on LRFD A13.2 and A13.3. Analysis for these bridge railings use updated $F_t$, $L_t$, and $H_e$ values.
derived from NCHRP 20-07(395). The GDOT accepted values for these variables are presented in Table 3.3.2.1-1. The $F_t$, $L_t$, and $H_e$ values listed for the 36" S-Barrier apply for barriers of that height. The values shown for the 42" S-Barrier apply for all cases greater than 36" tall.

Table 3.3.2.1-1  
GDOT Self-Certified Bridge Railings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barrier</th>
<th>36&quot; S-Barrier</th>
<th>42&quot; S-Barrier</th>
<th>36&quot; S-Barrier for Fence</th>
<th>42&quot; S-Barrier for Fence</th>
<th>42&quot; Parapet*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$f_c'$ (28-day concrete strength)</td>
<td>4000 psi</td>
<td>4000 psi</td>
<td>4000 psi</td>
<td>4000 psi</td>
<td>4000 psi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test Level</td>
<td>TL-4</td>
<td>TL-4</td>
<td>TL-4</td>
<td>TL-4</td>
<td>TL-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$F_t^{**}$</td>
<td>68.0 kips</td>
<td>80.0 kips</td>
<td>68.0 kips</td>
<td>80.0 kips</td>
<td>80.0 kips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$L_t^{**}$</td>
<td>4 ft</td>
<td>5 ft</td>
<td>4 ft</td>
<td>5 ft</td>
<td>5 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$H_e^{**}$</td>
<td>25 in.</td>
<td>30 in.</td>
<td>25 in.</td>
<td>30 in.</td>
<td>30 in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typical Stirrup Spacing</td>
<td># 5 at 12”</td>
<td># 5 at 11”</td>
<td># 5 at 16”</td>
<td># 5 at 14”</td>
<td>#5 at 8”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design $M_c$ at Base</td>
<td>21.67 kip-ft / ft</td>
<td>25.38 kip-ft / ft</td>
<td>18.64 kip-ft / ft</td>
<td>22.67 kip-ft / ft</td>
<td>24.01 kip-ft / ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design $L_c$</td>
<td>12.76 ft</td>
<td>14.72 ft</td>
<td>14.41 ft</td>
<td>16.27 ft</td>
<td>13.98 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design $R_w$</td>
<td>145.66 kips</td>
<td>164.91 kips</td>
<td>146.36 kips</td>
<td>168.60 kips</td>
<td>161.41 kips</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Numbers based on assumed 6'-6" sidewalk with 1% cross-slope and normal crown on deck. See section 3.3.2.2.1 for guidance on parapets of different heights.

** $F_t$, $L_t$, and $H_e$ values are based on NCHRP 20-07(395).

Details for the all the bridge railings in Table 3.3.2.1-1 are available in the GDOT Bridge Cell Library and are presented in Appendix 3E.

3.3.2.2 Applications

3.3.2.2.1 Bridges with sidewalks

Use a parapet that rises 42” above the top of the sidewalk for on all bridges carrying a sidewalk. A detail for one specific sidewalk configuration has been provided in Table 3.3.2.1-1. Taller parapets will require an independent yield line analysis based on LRFD A13.2 and A13.3, with the exception noted in section 3.3.2.1.2.

Detail a chain link fence on top of the parapet for bridges in an urban area (Metro Atlanta, Macon, Columbus, Savannah and Augusta) over an interstate or other limited access
highway, for all bridges over railroads or as directed by the Bridge Office. See Section 3.3.5 for fence details. Chain link fence details can be found in the GDOT Bridge Cell Library.

### 3.3.2.2 Bridges without sidewalks

Use a 42" S-Barrier on the following:

- Bridges that carry an Interstate or other Limited access highway
- Bridges with a 42" S-Barrier on the adjacent approach roadway
- Bridges carrying designated bicycle routes

When a 42" S-barrier is not required by the above criteria, use the 36" S-Barrier.

If the bridge is over an interstate highway in Atlanta, coordinate with the Bridge Office to determine if a fence is needed. If the bridge is over a railroad, a curved chain link fence will be required.

When a fence is required on top of a barrier, use the 36" S-Barrier for Fence detail or 42" S-Barrier for Fence detail, as appropriate.

### 3.3.2.3 Architectural rails

In historic areas, an architectural rail may be required. The Texas C411 rail may be used when sidewalks are present and the speed limit is 45 mph or less. The Kansas Corral rail is no longer acceptable for use on GDOT projects. Any other bridge rail system proposed for use must have been successfully evaluated using the AASHTO Manual for the Assessment of Safety Hardware, 2016 Edition. Because of the expense of architectural rails, use them only with permission of the Bridge Office.

### 3.3.2.3 Detailing

#### 3.3.2.3.1 End Posts

A vertical faced concrete end post is needed as a transition element between roadway guardrail and bridge railings. This concept is detailed in Georgia Standard 3054.

When the end post is mounted to the superstructure the end post begins in line with the intersection of the abutment and the inside wing wall face and extends beyond the paving rest that will support the approach. When the standard 12” paving rest is present, use a minimum end post length of 4’-3”. When the end post is on the superstructure and the end bent is skewed, the end post must be lengthened to extend beyond the limit of the paving rest. The length of the end post should be increased in 3” increments. If the length of the end post exceeds 6’-6”, additional P701 and P401 bars should be added so that the spacing of these bars does not exceed 12”. In this case, include the Standard Plan Modification (Endpost) note on the General Notes sheet using the BridgeNotes program.

An end post on the superstructure does not require that details for the reinforcement be shown, but the weight of the bar reinforcement must be included in the lump sum superstructure bar reinforcement quantity. The concrete for an end post on the bridge superstructure shall be included in the lump sum superstructure concrete quantity.
When the end post is an integral part of the substructure its length will be 4’-0” regardless of skew. Detail the reinforcement in the bar reinforcement schedule and include the weight of the reinforcement and volume of the concrete needed in the substructure quantities.

Include reference to Georgia Standard 3054 on the superstructure or substructure details sheets, as appropriate. Also, specify the length, width and height of the end post under “Bridge Consists Of” on the General Notes sheet.

3.3.2.3.2 Expansion Joints in Barriers

Expansion joints shall be placed in parapets and barriers at all deck joints including construction joints, dummy joints and expansion joints. Additional expansion joints shall be added to maintain a maximum spacing of 20 feet and a minimum spacing of 10 feet.

3.3.2.3.3 Barrier Width Modifications

The top dimension should be changed to 12” when necessary to accommodate a fence, railing or glare screen.

3.3.2.3.4 Barrier Stirrup Details

Include the following note on the bridge plan sheet that includes details for the barrier or parapet:

“Provide 2’-2” minimum lap for 5XX and 5XY bars in barrier [parapet].”

3.3.3 Sidewalks and Medians

3.3.3.1 General Requirements

Sidewalks shall be used on all bridges where the approaching roadway section has curb and gutter. Except for special cases, all sidewalks shall be 6’-6” wide, measured from the gutter line to the inside face of the parapet. Special cases could include sidewalks where there is an excessive amount of pedestrian traffic, overbuild to accommodate staging or sidewalks where bicycle traffic is allowed on the sidewalk, known as shared use paths.

The designer shall receive approval from the Bridge Office before proceeding with design of a sidewalk that is wider than 6’-6”.

When separation for a shared use path is provided by buffer, the sidewalk of the bridge will be a minimum of 6’-0” wider than path shown in the roadway typical. This provides for the required 1 ft shy distance against any bridge rail and the required 5 ft offset from the curb line. When separation for a shared use path is provided by barrier, the sidewalk will be 2’-0” wider than the path shown in the roadway typical. This provides for the required 1 ft shy distance against the bridge rail on each side.

3.3.3.2 Cross-slope

Sidewalks shall be sloped towards traffic at 1% cross-slope. However, on the high side of a superelevated bridge, the designer may need to increase the cross-slope on the sidewalk to provide a minimum sidewalk thickness of 3½” at the face of the parapet.
3.3.3.3 Detailing

3.3.3.3.1 Joints

Construction joints shall be provided in sidewalks and medians at deck construction joints and dummy joints. Expansion joints shall be provided in sidewalks and medians at deck expansion joints.

3.3.3.3.2 Removable Sidewalk and Median Details

All sidewalks and raised medians shall be detailed as removable.

3.3.4 Handrailing

3.3.4.1 Aluminum Handrail Post Spacing

Post spacing for aluminum handrail shall comply with Georgia Standards 3626 (one pipe aluminum handrail) or 3632 (two pipe aluminum handrail). Georgia Standard 3632 railing is rarely used, and only with permission of the Bridge Office. While satisfying the post spacing requirements on the Standards, the following characteristics are desirable:

a) Other than end spaces adjacent to the “Y” segment (see Standards), the maximum change from one space to the next should be 1'-0".

b) End spaces adjacent to the “Y” segment should be approximately one-half of the length of the first full space.

c) The minimum post spacing for full spaces should be 6'-0".

d) The “Y” segment should be between 0'-9" and 2'-3".

Arrange the post spacing and the parapet joint spacing at the same time, rather than selecting the parapet joint spacing and then trying to fit the post spacing to it. Sidewalk joints have no effect on the post spacing.

3.3.4.2 Modification of Existing Aluminum Handrail

When preparing plans for an existing bridge with aluminum handrail that is to remain, the handrail shall be modified to achieve the following essential elements of the current Standards:

a) The railing should be anchored to the endpost.

b) The spacing of the posts in the first two spaces adjacent to the endpost should not exceed 4'-0".

Details for handrail modifications shall be included in the plans.

3.3.5 Chain Link Fence

Chain link fence on bridge parapets/barriers shall be galvanized fence fabric with 2” square openings. Galvanized fence post locations shall be shown on the plans with a maximum spacing of 10'-0" and a minimum spacing of 7'-0". No post shall be placed with its center within 1'-0" of a parapet/barrier joint. Epoxy coated chain link fence is not allowed.
3.3.6 Temporary Bridge Barrier

Temporary barriers are required on projects with staged construction. Temporary barriers will be designated as Method 1 or Method 2. Method 1 shall be used when there is 6'-0” or more distance from the centerline of the temporary barrier to an unprotected edge of the deck. Method 2 shall be used when this distance is less than 6'-0”. Method 2 shall not be used on newly constructed bridge decks. Use a 2'-6” wide barrier in examining staging options.

When preparing bridge plans where temporary barrier is to be used, the following procedure shall be followed:

   a) Estimate the quantity needed. Refer to Georgia Standard 4960 for allowable taper rates.
   b) Request that the roadway designer include that quantity in the roadway plans and quantities.
   c) In the event that quantities cannot be shown on the roadway plans, the quantity required should be shown in the Bridge Plans Summary of Quantities under Pay Item 620-0100 Temp Barrier Method No 1 or Pay Item 620-0200 Temp Barrier Method No 2.

3.3.6.1 Method 1

This method requires the contractor to provide, use, relocate and remove the temporary barrier according to the plans and in accordance with GDOT Standard Specification 620. The barrier remains the property of the contractor.

When using Method 1 be sure to add the following note to the General Notes:

“TEMPORARY BARRIERS, METHOD 1 – PLACE TEMPORARY BARRIERS AS SHOWN ON THE PLANS AND GEORGIA STANDARD NO. 4960 TO PROVIDE FOR TWO 12'-0” TRAFFIC LANES. SUPPLY AND USE THE BARRIER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 620 OF THE GEORGIA DOT SPECIFICATIONS.”

3.3.6.2 Method 2

This method requires the contractor to furnish barrier that is certified to meet NCHRP 350 standards for impact testing. This method includes positive connectivity of the barrier to the deck, which typically involves anchoring the barrier to the deck using through bolts. Therefore, locate the traffic face of the barrier at least 9 inches from the edge of the beam flange. Also locate the barrier so the outside barrier face is at least 12 inches from the temporary edge of deck. This should be identified early in the design since it could affect staging or beam spacing.

This method also requires the contractor to use, relocate and remove the temporary barrier according to the plans and in accordance with GDOT Standard Specification 620. The barrier remains the property of the contractor.

When using Method 2 be sure to add the following note to the General Notes:

“TEMPORARY BARRIERS, METHOD 2 – PLACE TEMPORARY BARRIERS AS SHOWN ON THE PLANS AND GEORGIA STANDARD NO. 4960 TO PROVIDE FOR TWO 12'-0” TRAFFIC LANES. SUPPLY AND USE THE BARRIER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 620 OF THE GEORGIA DOT SPECIFICATIONS.”
3.4 Prestressed Concrete (PSC) Beams

3.4.1 Materials

3.4.1.1 Concrete

3.4.1.1.1 Concrete Final Strength (Design Strength = $f'_c$)

The minimum 28-day concrete strength for PSC beams is 5.0 ksi. The maximum 28-day concrete strength for PSC beams is 10.0 ksi.

Concrete strengths of 9.0 ksi and above require a High Performance Concrete special provision.

Final concrete strengths shall be specified in 0.5 ksi increments.

Final concrete strength shall be a minimum of 0.5 ksi greater than the designed release strength.

3.4.1.1.2 Concrete Release Strength (Initial Strength = $f'_{ci}$)

The minimum concrete release strength for PSC beams is 4.5 ksi.

The concrete release strength should be limited to 7.5 ksi to facilitate typical fabrication schedules. However, PSC beams using final design strengths over 8.0 ksi may require higher release strengths.

Release strengths shall be specified in 0.1 ksi increments.

3.4.1.1.3 Concrete Stress Limits

For LRFD projects, concrete stress limits in PSC beams shall be calculated in accordance with LRFD 5.9.4 and are summarized in Table 3.4.1.1.3-1.

For Standard Specification projects, concrete stress limits in PSC beams shall be calculated in accordance with Standard Specification 9.15.2 and are summarized in Table 3.4.1.1.3-2.
Table 3.4.1.1.3-1  Concrete Stress Limits for PSC Beams for LRFD Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stress/Limit State</th>
<th>LRFD Reference</th>
<th>Limit Stress Formula</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Compression before Losses</td>
<td>5.9.2.3.1a</td>
<td>(= 0.65 f'_{ci} ) (ksi)</td>
<td>At Release</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial Tension before Losses</td>
<td>Table 5.9.2.3.1b-1</td>
<td>(= 0.0948 \sqrt{f'_{ci}} ) (ksi) (\leq 0.200 ) ksi</td>
<td>At Release</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Compression, Service I</td>
<td>Table 5.9.2.3.2a-1</td>
<td>(= 0.45 f'<em>{c} ) (ksi) (= 0.60 f'</em>{c} ) (ksi)</td>
<td>Without Transient Load With Transient Load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Tension, Service III</td>
<td>Table 5.9.2.3.2b-1</td>
<td>(= 0.19 \sqrt{f'<em>{c}} \leq 0.6 ) (ksi) (= 0.0948 \sqrt{f'</em>{c}} \leq 0.3 ) (ksi)</td>
<td>Normal Exposure Severe Exposure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES:

a) \(f'_{c}\) and \(f'_{ci}\) shall be in the units of ksi for the above equations.

b) Severe-exposure criteria shall apply to any bridge over waterways located partially or completely within a coastal county. The coastal counties are Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn, and Camden. Normal-Exposure criteria shall be used for all other bridges.

Table 3.4.1.1.3-2  Concrete Stress Limits for PSC Beams for Standard Specification Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stress Limit</th>
<th>Standard Spec. Reference</th>
<th>Limit Stress Formula</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Compression before Losses</td>
<td>9.15.2.1</td>
<td>(= 0.60 f'_{ci} ) (psi)</td>
<td>At Release</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial Tension before Losses</td>
<td>9.15.2.1</td>
<td>(= 3 \sqrt{f'_{ci}} ) (psi) (\leq 200 ) psi</td>
<td>At Release</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Compression*</td>
<td>9.15.2.2</td>
<td>(= 0.60 f'<em>{c} ) (psi) (= 0.40 f'</em>{c} ) (psi) (= 0.40 f'_{c} ) (psi)</td>
<td>Prestress+DL+LL Prestress+DL LL+1/2 * (Prestress+DL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Tension</td>
<td>9.15.2.2</td>
<td>(= 6 \sqrt{f'<em>{c}} ) (psi) (= 3 \sqrt{f'</em>{c}} ) (psi)</td>
<td>Normal Exposure Severe Exposure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*BRPSBM1 uses 0.4\(f'_{c}\) for all final compression stress checks. Engineer is responsible for justifying any overstress shown in the program but is within the AASHTO Specification limits presented above.

NOTES:

a) \(f'_{c}\) and \(f'_{ci}\) shall be in the units of psi for the above equations.

b) Severe-exposure criteria shall apply to any bridge over waterways located partially or completely within a coastal county. The coastal counties are Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn, and Camden. Normal-Exposure criteria shall be used for all other bridges.
3.4.1.1.4 Unit Weight and Elastic Modulus

a) For LRFD projects, the unit weight of plain concrete shall be calculated according to the formula presented in LRFD 3.5.1-1 and will be used in the calculation of elastic modulus as specified in LRFD 5.4.2.4. This unit weight shall be increased by .005 kcf to account for reinforcement and strands in determining the self-weight of the beam.

b) For Standard Specification projects, the unit weight of plain concrete shall be 145 pcf for use in the calculation of elastic modulus as specified in Standard Specification 8.7.1. This unit weight shall be increased by 5 pcf to account for reinforcement and strands in determining the self-weight of the beam.

3.4.1.2 Prestressing Strands

3.4.1.2.1 Selecting Proper Strand Type

Use 0.6-inch diameter low-relaxation strands in Bulb Tee PSC beams. 0.5-inch diameter special low-relaxation strands or 0.6-inch diameter low-relaxation strands may be used in AASHTO PSC beams.

All prestressing strands shall be the same size within any one PSC beam shape for a bridge site.

3.4.1.2.2 Strand Properties

For LRFD projects, use \( E_p = 28,500 \text{ ksi} \) for the strand Modulus of Elasticity in accordance with LRFD 5.4.4.2.

For Standard Specification projects, use \( E_p = 28,000 \text{ ksi} \) for the strand Modulus of Elasticity.

Data for prestressing strands for use on PSC beam sheets are shown in Table 3.4.1.2.2-1.

Table 3.4.1.2.2-1 Properties of Prestressing Strands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>DIAMETER (in.)</th>
<th>AREA ( A_{ps} ) (in(^2))</th>
<th>JACKING FORCE* ( P_{jack} ) (kip)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.5” Regular</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.153</td>
<td>30.983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5” Special</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.167</td>
<td>33.818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.6”</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.217</td>
<td>43.943</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* \( P_{jack} = 0.75 \times A_{ps} \times f_{pu} \) for low-relaxation strands, where \( f_{pu} = 270 \text{ ksi} \)

3.4.1.2.3 Strand Arrangement

Detail all straight strands in a 2-inch center-to-center grid, beginning 1” on each side of the centerline of the beam.

Strands shall be added starting at the bottom of the beam such that each row is filled before adding strands to the next row.

The bottom flange strand capacity for each girder shape is illustrated in the GDOT PSC Beam Sheets. Place 2 strands per row in the web portion of the girder.
Do not use straight strands in the bottom 3 rows of the beam in the two center strand lines (1” on either side of the centerline of the beam) in order to provide space for the 7-inch high dowel bar chase at each end of the beam.

### 3.4.1.2.4 Draped Strands

The two center strand lines may be draped to control eccentricities along the beam length. A hold down point for draping is typically located at the mid-point of the beam. However, dual hold down points may be used if a single point will not work. Raise draped strands high enough to clear the dowel bar chase at the ends of the beam. Do not place draped strands within the top 8” of a PSC beam.

Do not use draped strands in Type I Mod PSC beams.

### 3.4.1.2.5 Top Strands

AASHTO Type I through IV beams shall be designed with the top two strands fully stressed. The prestressing force in the top strands may be reduced only if necessary to make the beam work, not to save strands in the bottom.

AASHTO Type V beams and Bulb Tee beams may be designed with a reduced prestressing force in the four top strands of 10 kips each.

### 3.4.1.3 Reinforcement

Use Grade 60 for all reinforcing bars.

### 3.4.2 Design Method

#### 3.4.2.1 Loads

Use a future paving allowance of 0.030 ksf on all bridges.

For LRFD projects, HL-93 vehicular live loads (LRFD 3.6.1.2.1) shall be applied in accordance with LRFD 3.6.1.3, including all applicable modifications for Dynamic Load Allowance (IM: LRFD 3.6.2), Multiple Presence Factor (m: LRFD 3.6.1.1.2) and Live Load Distribution Factors (LRFD 4.6.2.2).

Distribution factors for deflection shall be the number of whole 12-foot lanes that will fit on the bridge divided by the number of beams.

For Standard Specification projects, HS-20 vehicular live loads, lane loads and military loads shall be applied in accordance with Standard Specifications 3.7.4 and 3.7.6, including all applicable modifications for Impact (Standard Specification 3.8), Reduction in Load Intensity (Standard Specification 3.12) and Live Load Distribution Factors (Standard Specification 3.23).

Distribution factors for deflection shall be calculated by multiplying the number of whole 12-foot lanes that will fit on the bridge by 2 and dividing by the number of beams. The distribution factor should not be less than 1.

All beams must analyze without overstress in the BRPSBM1. See Section 2.8.3.1.
3.4.2.2 Transformed Section
Do not use transformed section properties for PSC beam design.

3.4.2.3 Prestress Losses
For LRFD projects, prestress losses shall be calculated in accordance with LRFD 5.9.5 but elastic gains shall be ignored.

For Standard Specifications, prestress losses shall be calculated in accordance with Standard Specification 9.16.

3.4.2.4 Shear Design
For LRFD projects, PSC beam shear design shall comply with one of the following methods:
• General Procedure using \( \beta - \theta \) table as specified in LRFD 5.8.3.4.2 and LRFD Appendix B5
• General Procedure using equations as specified in LRFD 5.8.3.4.2
• Simplified Procedure as specified in LRFD 5.8.3.4.3

For Standard Specification projects, PSC beam shear design shall be performed in accordance with Standard Specification 9.20.

3.4.2.5 Anchorage Zone Reinforcement
For LRFD projects, provide the minimum amount of reinforcement at girder ends as required by LRFD 5.10.10. The minimum stirrup clear spacing in the anchorage zone shall be no less than 1.5 inches.

For Standard Specification projects, provide the minimum amount of reinforcement at girder ends as required by Standard Specification 9.22. The minimum stirrup clear spacing in the anchorage zone shall be no less than 1.5 inches.

3.4.2.6 Composite Section Considerations
3.4.2.6.1 Composite Slab
The thickness of the composite slab for strength calculation shall be decreased by 1/4” from plan thickness to accommodate the section loss from grooving and grinding of deck surface. However, the weight of the 1/4” shall be included in the design loads.

Commentary: Although not all decks are required to meet Ride Quality Control, grooving and the general deck smoothness requirements of GDOT Standard Specification 500.3.06.D could reduce the total deck thickness available for composite action. Therefore, removing 1/4” from the deck thickness shall be used for all cases.

3.4.2.6.2 Composite Coping
The coping thickness considered in composite section property calculations (i.e., “DF” in BRPSBM1) should be conservatively set as 0 inches. A maximum value of 1” may be used with adequate justification.
3.4.2.7 Beam Spacing

For LRFD projects, the maximum beam spacing is 10'-6". PSC Beam Charts for LRFD projects are provided in Appendix 3B to assist the designer in selecting preliminary PSC beam spacing.

For Standard Specification projects, the maximum beam spacing is 9'-0". PSC Beam Charts for Standard Specification projects are provided in Appendix 3D to assist the designer in selecting preliminary PSC beam spacing.

3.4.2.8 Span Lengths

The maximum span lengths for the PSC beams are:

- 40 feet for AASHTO Type I Mod. beams
- 65 feet for AASHTO Type II beams
- 85 feet for AASHTO Type III beams
- 125 feet for 54" Bulb Tee beams
- 130 feet for 56" Bulb Tee beams
- 135 feet for 63" Bulb Tee beams
- 140 feet for 65" Bulb Tee beams
- 150 feet for 72" and 74" Bulb Tee beams

If the above maximum beam lengths are exceeded under an alternate bidding process, the engineer of record is responsible for performing a beam stability analysis.

3.4.2.9 Longitudinal Reinforcement

Design checks in accordance with LRFD 5.7.3.5 may show that additional longitudinal reinforcing bars are necessary for design of a PSC beam. In lieu of adding reinforcement bars, increase the number of prestressed strands in the beam until the design check is satisfied.

3.4.2.10 Positive Beam Camber

All PSC beams shall be designed so that there is a net positive camber in the beam after the consideration of all prestressing force, and dead load deflections.

3.4.3 Detailing

3.4.3.1 Concrete Clearances

All strands must be contained within stirrups. Provide reinforcement cover as detailed on the GDOT PSC Beam Sheets. A minimum concrete cover of 1" is only acceptable in the web portion of the Bulb Tee Beam shapes.

3.4.3.2 Fascia Beams

A fascia beam is an exterior beam that is selected for uniform appearance rather than structural efficiency. When a multi-span bridge is in a visible area and beams of different spans have different depths, a fascia beam shall be used on the exterior of the shorter spans to match the
deeper beams of the longer span. Fascia beams are not required on bridges crossing water or railroads.

3.4.3.3 Longitudinal Beam Dimensions

Do not account for vertical grades when detailing longitudinal dimensions of beams on bridge plans. Effects of vertical grades are to be included in the beam shop drawings provided by the contractor.

3.4.3.4 PSC Beam Characteristics

Use the design values presented in table 3.4.3.4-1 when performing PSC beam design or analysis.

**Table 3.4.3.4-1 PSC Beam Data for Design**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beam Type</th>
<th>Area (in²)</th>
<th>I_{yy} (in⁴)</th>
<th>I_{xx} (in⁴)</th>
<th>Y_{bn} (in)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AASHTO Mod 1</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>5,222</td>
<td>26,495</td>
<td>12.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASHTO Type 2</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>5,333</td>
<td>50,979</td>
<td>15.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASHTO Type 3</td>
<td>559.5</td>
<td>12,217</td>
<td>125,390</td>
<td>20.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASHTO Type 4</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>24,374</td>
<td>260,741</td>
<td>24.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54&quot; Bulb Tee</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>37,310</td>
<td>268,051</td>
<td>27.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56&quot; Bulb Tee</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>40,240</td>
<td>307,586</td>
<td>27.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63&quot; Bulb Tee</td>
<td>713</td>
<td>37,472</td>
<td>392,516</td>
<td>32.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65&quot; Bulb Tee</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>40,402</td>
<td>445,689</td>
<td>31.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72&quot; Bulb Tee</td>
<td>767</td>
<td>37,634</td>
<td>545,857</td>
<td>36.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74&quot; Bulb Tee</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>40,564</td>
<td>614,736</td>
<td>36.22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4.3.5 Stay-In-Place Deck Forms

Stay-in-place metal deck forms are used regularly and therefore the beam design shall include an additional 0.016 ksf load to account for the weight of the forms including the concrete in the corrugations.

3.4.3.6 Deflections on Beam Sheets

On the beam sheet, do not include the diaphragm weight in the non-composite deflection since that deflection will have already occurred prior to pouring the deck. Also, do not include deflection due to future paving in the composite dead-load deflection since it might never occur.
3.4.3.7 Strand Forces on Beam Sheets

Make sure that the total jacking force is the actual sum of the jacking force per strand, including the top strands that are specified on the beam sheets.

3.4.3.8 End Slots and Holes

Provide a 1.75" wide, 4" long and 7" deep slot at the expansion ends of AASHTO PSC beams. Provide a 1.75" diameter, 6" long and 7" deep slot at the expansion end of all Bulb Tee PSC beams. Provide a 1.75" diameter, 7" deep hole at the fixed ends. Strands in the web near the bottom of the beam will conflict with these locations. Therefore, remove the 3 bottom rows of undraped strands in the web area to avoid conflict or raise draped strands high enough to clear the conflict area.

3.4.3.9 Diaphragm Holes

When diaphragms are necessary as specified in Section 3.9.1.1, provide holes for the diaphragm bars and 5" diameter block-outs for the nut and washer as shown on the GDOT PSC Beam Sheets. The designer shall ensure that the stands do not conflict with the diaphragm holes or block-outs. Diaphragm bars shall be located to avoid interference with strands and utilities.

3.4.3.10 Beveling Top Flange

For skewed bridges, only the top flange of PSC beams shall be beveled to match the skew of the bent. See the GDOT PSC Beam Sheets.

3.4.3.11 Beam Dimensions

Detail girders to 1/16" increments and state on the plans that the lengths given are horizontal dimensions for in-place girders and that the fabricator shall adjust those lengths for grade and fabrication effects such as shrinkage and elastic shortening.

The dimensions from centerline of bent or BFPR to centerline of bearing should be calculated along the beam centerline first. The bearing-to-bearing length is calculated by subtracting these dimensions from the span length. The beam length is calculated by adding the dimensions between centerlines of bearing and beam ends.

If the beam length contains a sixteenth of an inch, the half-length shown should be rounded to a sixteenth or an eighth of an inch.

3.4.3.12 Exterior Beam Bracing

To avoid rotations of exterior beams during deck pours, the following note shall be placed on the deck section sheet or on the general notes sheet for bridges with Type I, Type I Mod, or Fascia beams where no diaphragms are present:

*The Contractor shall provide bracing between the exterior beam and the first interior beam until the deck has been poured and the overhang forms removed. All costs for designing, providing, installing and removing bracing shall be included in price bid for Lump – Superstructure Concrete.*
3.4.3.13 Bearing Pad Clearance

Provide a minimum of 2" for all PSC beams from the end of the beam to the edge of the bearing pad. This is to accommodate the chamfer at the end of the beam (up to 3/4" for AASHTO beams and 1" for Bulb Tee beams) and a 3/4" tolerance on the length of the beam.

3.4.3.14 “D” Dimension and Coping

3.4.3.14.1 “D” Dimension

The “D” dimension is the distance measured from top of slab to top of beam at the centerline of bearing and is the sum of the slab thickness, minimum coping and additional coping. The “D” dimension should be provided on the plans for the contractor’s use.

The “D” dimension should be calculated separately for exterior and interior beams in each span and rounded to the nearest 1/8 inch. For a group of “D” dimension values that are within 1/4 inch, it is acceptable to use the largest value for the entire group. However, it should be noted that this could increase concrete quantities and loads significantly on wide-flanged PSC beams.

3.4.3.14.2 Minimum Coping

Use a 3/4 inch minimum coping on AASHTO Type-I Mod, Type-II and Type-III PSC beams and 1½ inches on AASHTO Type-IV and Type-V PSC beams and Bulb Tee PSC beams to accommodate potential elevation or deflection variations during construction.

3.4.3.14.3 Additional Coping

The designer shall consider additional coping due to vertical curve, cross-slope, beam throw, beam camber and beam deflection by dead load. The dead load deflections include non-composite dead loads and composite deadloads, such as barrier, sidewalks and utilities. Do not include a future wearing surface in this calculation.

3.4.3.14.4 Maximum Coping

Total coping (minimum plus additional) at any point along a beam centerline shall not exceed 6”. Modifying the PSC beam design or adding an additional beam to the cross-section are acceptable methods for controlling the coping.

3.4.3.14.5 Coping Reinforcement

Where coping exceeds 4 inches, provide additional reinforcement as shown in the COPING cell of the GDOT Bridge Cell Library.

3.5 Reinforced Concrete Deck Girders (RCDGs or T-BEAMS)

3.5.1 Materials

3.5.1.1 Concrete

For LRFD projects, use Class D concrete that has a 28-day specified design strength of 4.0 ksi in accordance with LRFD 5.4.2.1. See Special Provision 500 – Concrete Structures.
For Standard Specification projects, use Class AA concrete that has a 28-day design strength of 3.5 ksi.

3.5.1.2 Reinforcement

Use Grade 60 reinforcement.

3.5.2 Design Method

3.5.2.1 Loads

Use a future paving allowance of 0.030 ksf on all bridges.

For LRFD projects, HL-93 vehicular live loads (LRFD 3.6.1.2.1) shall be applied in accordance with LRFD 3.6.1.3, including all applicable modifications for Dynamic Load Allowance (IM: LRFD 3.6.2), Multiple Presence Factor (m: LRFD 3.6.1.1.2) and Live Load Distribution Factors (LRFD 4.6.2.2).

For Standard Specification projects, HS-20 vehicular live loads, lane loads and military loads shall be applied in accordance with Standard Specifications 3.7.4 and 3.7.6, including all applicable modifications for Impact (Standard Specification 3.8), Reduction in Load Intensity (Standard Specification 3.12) and Live Load Distribution Factors (Standard Specification 3.23).

3.5.2.2 Beam Spacing

The maximum beam spacing is 9'-0".

Standard beam spacing for typical bridge widths are as follows:

a) 38-foot wide (gutter to gutter): 5 beams spaced at 8'-6"
b) 40-foot wide (gutter to gutter): 5 beams spaced at 9'-0"
c) 44-foot wide (gutter to gutter): 6 beams spaced at 8'-0"

3.5.2.3 Beam Depths

A standard beam depth of 2'-3" from top of deck to the bottom of beam is used on spans of 30' while 2'-9" is used on 40' spans.

3.5.3 Detailing

3.5.3.1 Diaphragms

Diaphragms will not be required on RCDG bridges with spans equal or less than 40 feet.

3.5.3.2 Bearings

There are special rules for bearing pads under RCDG (see section 3.12).

3.5.3.3 Stirrups

Use No. 4 stirrups placed perpendicular to the beam centerline along the length of the RCDG. At the end of RCDGs on skewed bridges, place 3 stirrups at varying angles to transition from perpendicular to the beam centerline to parallel to the skewed end.
3.5.3.4 “T” Dimension

“T” dimension is the distance measured from the bottom of the beam to the top of the cap at the cap faces and is used to maintain the design beam depth for the full beam length. The minimum “T” dimension is the bearing pad thickness plus an additional 1/2 inch thickness for construction tolerance. When bridge deck elevations are different from one cap face to the other, the “T” dimension on the higher side shall be the minimum plus elevation difference.

The “T” dimension is detailed to the nearest 1/8 inch on the plans.

3.6 Steel Beams

3.6.1 General
Steel superstructures are generally not preferred due to the high cost of fabrication and long-term maintenance in comparison to concrete bridges of similar span lengths. However, long span lengths or the widening of existing bridges may require the use of steel beams. The use of steel superstructures shall be approved by the Bridge Office prior to development of the preliminary layout. A higher level of scrutiny will be placed on projects in Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn and Camden counties due to their coastal environment.

3.6.2 Materials

3.6.2.1 Main Members
Use ASTM A709, Grade 50 (Fy=50 ksi) or ASTM A709, Grade 70 (Fy=70 ksi) steel for the design and fabrication of main steel members. The use of Grade 100 or higher HPS is prohibited.

The use of unpainted “weathering steel” on highway bridges is acceptable with the following requirements:

- Potential staining of substructure elements will not detract from the aesthetics of the bridge. Pier cap and abutment wall protection maybe use used to mitigate where required.
- The Bottom of Beam elevation for "weathering steel" must be a minimum of 10 ft above the 2 year flood elevation.
- Weathering steel should not be used for a grade separation structure that exceeds 80 feet in width.
- All superstructure steel within a distance of 1.5 times the depth of girder from bridge joints shall be painted Federal Standard Color 30045 with Paint System VII per Section 535 of the Construction Specifications
- Bridge deck drainage scuppers shall freefall only if extended below the superstructure.
- Weathering steel should not be used in coastal counties. The coastal counties are Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn, and Camden.

3.6.2.2 Bearing Assemblies and Non-Structural Components
Use ASTM A709, Grade 36 (Fy=36 ksi) or better for the design and fabrication of bearing assemblies and other non-structural components.
3.6.3 Design Method

For LRFD projects, steel superstructure shall be designed in accordance with LRFD Section 6, Steel Structures.

For Standard Specification projects, steel superstructure shall be designed in accordance with Standard Specification Section 10, Structural Steel.

The strength contribution of negative moment reinforcement in the slab is generally ignored.

3.6.4 Fatigue

For LRFD projects, steel beams shall be designed for fatigue based on Detail Categories and Average Daily Truck Traffic in a single lane (ADTTSL) in accordance with LRFD 6.6.1. The design life for the structure for fatigue calculations shall be 75 years. ADTTSL shall be calculated by extrapolating the traffic data and modifying in accordance with LRFD 3.6.1.4.2, as shown in the example below.

For Standard Specification projects, steel beams shall be designed for fatigue in accordance with Standard Specification 10.58. The design life for the structure for fatigue calculations shall be 60 years. ADTT shall be calculated as shown in the example below, excluding steps 5 and 6.

GIVEN:

- ADT(2013) = 20000
- ADT(2033) = 30000
- % Trucks = 5%
- Directional = 60%
- Number of Traffic Lanes in Direction of Interest = 2

FIND: ADTTSL to be used for fatigue design life of 75 years (60 years for Standard Specification)

SOLUTION:

1. ADT(2088) = ADT(2013) + 75 / 20 x [ADT(2033) - ADT(2013)] = 20000 + 75 / 20 x [30000 - 20000] = 57500
2. Average ADT in Design Life = [ADT(2013) + ADT(2088)] / 2 = 38750
3. ADT in Single Direction = 38750 x 60% = 23250
4. ADTT in Single Direction = 23250 x 5% = 1162.5
5. Fraction of Truck Traffic in Single Lane, P = 0.85 (LRFD 3.6.1.4.2 for 2 lanes)
6. ADTTSL = 1162.5 x 0.85 = 988

For LRFD projects, the fatigue limit state, either Fatigue I or Fatigue II, shall be selected based on ADTTSL and the Detail Category, as specified in LRFD 6.6.1.2.3.
3.6.5 Detailing

3.6.5.1 Plate Sizing

3.6.5.1.1 Flanges:
The following plate dimension limits shall be applied:

- Minimum thickness: 1"
- Maximum thickness: 3"
- Minimum width: 18"
- Maximum width: 36"

Designers should minimize the number of changes to flange dimensions along a beam to reduce the cost of labor during construction. A minimum length of flange plate is recommended to be 12 feet. It is also recommended to make changes to flange thicknesses rather than flange widths. The larger flange thickness at any transition should be limited to 1.5 times the thinner flange thickness.

Due to welding and fatigue considerations, designers should avoid a thick tension plate by decreasing beam spacing and/or increasing plate width.

3.6.5.1.2 Webs:
The following plate dimension limits shall be applied:

- Minimum thickness: 3/8"
- Maximum thickness: 1 ¼"
- Minimum height: 36"
- No maximum height (120" may be a practical limit)

Changes to web thickness are discouraged due to high cost. The designer should evaluate increasing the web thickness versus using transverse stiffeners for economy. Thickened webs are generally more economical for web depths of 72 inches and less, while stiffened webs are generally more economical for web depths greater than 72 inches.

Use of longitudinal stiffeners is prohibited.

3.6.5.2 “D” Dimension and Coping

3.6.5.2.1.a D” Dimension for Steel Beams (Rolled Sections)
The “D” dimension for steel beams is the distance measured from top of slab to top of beam at the centerline of bearing and is the sum of the slab thickness, minimum coping and additional coping. The “D” dimension should be provided on the plans for the contractor’s use.

The “D” dimension should be calculated separately for exterior and interior beams in each span and rounded to the nearest 1/8 inch. For a group of “D” dimension values that are within 1/4 inch, it is acceptable to use the largest value for the entire group.

3.6.5.2.1.b “D” Dimension for Steel Girders (Built-up Sections)
The “D” dimension for steel girders is the distance measured from the top of slab to the top of the girder web and is the sum of the slab thickness, the top flange thickness and the
minimum coping. This value is constant over the entire length of the girder since the girder is fabricated to include the variables that comprise “additional coping” in PSC beams and rolled steel beams.

3.6.5.2.2 Minimum Coping

Use a 3/8 inch minimum coping on steel beams to accommodate potential elevation or deflection variations during construction.

3.6.5.2.3 Additional Coping

The designer shall consider additional coping due to vertical curve, cross-slope, beam throw, beam camber and beam deflection by dead load except for future paving load.

3.6.5.3 Members Subject to Tensile Stresses

The following note shall be included on the General Notes sheet for steel beam or girder bridges:

"CHARPY V-NOTCH TEST - ALL W-BEAMS AND ALL COMPONENTS OF ALL PLATE GIRDERS ARE MAINLOAD CARRYING MEMBERS SUBJECT TO TENSILE STRESS AND SHALL MEET THE CHARPY V NOTCH TEST REQUIREMENTS AS SPECIFIED BY SECTION 851 OF THE GEORGIA DOT SPECIFICATIONS."

The beam details sheets should also have a symbol (CVN) indicating which components require Charpy V-Notch testing.

3.6.5.4 Shear Connectors

Use 3/4 inch diameter end-welded studs for shear connectors. Shear connectors shall penetrate into the slab at least 2 inches, but the top of the stud head shall be 3 inches below the top of the deck. Use of the same height stud throughout the bridge is recommended. Shear studs shall not be located in negative moment regions.

When replacing the deck on existing steel beams that are non-composite, add shear connectors in pairs 18 inches apart in the positive moment regions of continuous beams and throughout simple span beams.

3.6.5.5 Stiffeners and Gusset Plates

Stiffeners shall be sized and attached to the girders in accordance with LRFD 6.10.11 or Standard Specifications 10.33.2, 10.34.4, 10.34.5 and 10.34.6, as appropriate.

Gusset plates for diaphragms shall be welded to the web, top flange and bottom flange. Web stiffeners shall be welded to the web and tight fit to the compression flange. Bearing stiffeners shall be welded to the web and milled to bear against the load bearing flange.

3.6.5.6 Beam Camber

Camber diagrams are only required for continuous spans. The following note should be included with camber diagrams:

"CAMBER ORDINATE SHOWN INCLUDES DEAD LOAD DEFLECTION DUE TO THE BEAM, SLAB, COPING, RAILING, SIDEWALK AND MEDIAN, AND INCLUDES THE VERTICAL CURVE ORDINATE."
3.6.5.7 Splices

On long-span bridges, the designer shall consider how the beams will be transported to the project site. The maximum length of beam that may be transported on state routes is limited to about 170 ft. The maximum legal load is 180,000 lbs., including 45,000 lbs. for the truck. Therefore, most long-span bridges will require field splices.

All field splices shall be welded with full-penetration butt welds. Bolted splices are not recommended, except for box girders.

Field splices shall be located near points of contra-flexure for dead loads.

All built-up girders shall be designed with stiffeners adjacent to the splice point. To provide room for welding, grinding and testing, stiffeners shall be located 12 inches from the splice. Studs should not be placed within 12 inches of a splice.

3.6.5.8 Fascia Girders

A fascia beam is an exterior beam that is selected for uniform appearance rather than structural efficiency. When a multi-span bridge is in a visible area and beams of different spans have different depths, a fascia beam shall be used on the exterior of the shorter spans to match the deeper beams of the longer span. Fascia beams are not required on bridges crossing water or railroads.

When fascia beams are used in short end spans, the dead load deflections may vary considerably, with the fascia beams having much less deflection than the interior beams. Construction problems may occur when these spans are poured, such as thin cover on slab steel if interior beams do not deflect as noted.

The designer shall examine if the use of equal-depth beams is economically viable. In cases where equal-depth beams are not feasible, the designer shall detail increased cover over the slab steel to ensure that adequate cover is obtained during construction.

3.6.5.9 Existing Extension Tabs and Back-Up Strips

For widening projects including structural steel members, Bridge Maintenance Unit may request that any old extension tabs and/or back-up strips be removed. The designer shall ensure that this work is included in the plans.

3.6.5.10 Cover Plates for Rolled Steel Beams

The use of cover plated members is prohibited. When widening a bridge that has cover plated members, the use of a larger member is suggested.

3.6.6 Welding

The designer shall indicate on the plans if the diaphragms and cross frames shall be welded before or after the placement of the deck. Diaphragms or cross frames that are not placed parallel to the centerline of bent shall be welded after pouring the deck.

Do not use groove welding for connection between a gusset plate and diaphragm/cross frame because of the need for back-up plates and special welding procedures. Use a bent plate for the attachment of skewed diaphragms or cross frames to the gusset plates.
In order to prevent cracks in the groove weld from developing where backing strips are discontinuous, the designer shall note that all backing strips are continuous for the length of the weld or that any joints in the backing strip are connected by full penetration butt welds on structural steel shop drawings.

No intersecting welds will be allowed on structural steel bridge plans or shop drawings to prevent crack propagation from welds in that area. Base metal in the intersection area of welds shall be coped 4 times the thickness of the web or 2 inches, whichever is greater.

Electro-slag welding is not permitted on bridge members.

When designing for fatigue, all welds shall be classified as Category C or better as defined in LRFD 6.6.1.2.3 or Standard Specification Table 10.3.1B, as appropriate.

3.6.7 Paint

All new structural steel shall be painted with System VII regardless of the bridge location in the state. Existing structural steel outside the non-attainment areas shall be painted with System VII and existing structural steel inside non-attainment areas shall be painted with System VI. For painting of H-piles, see Section 4.4.2.3.

3.6.8 Salvage of Structural Steel

Structural steel from plate girders will not be salvaged.

When the Bridge Maintenance Unit recommends salvaging structural steel from a rolled beam continuous unit, the designer shall ensure that directions for disassembly are included with the recommendation. See Section 2.7.

In cases where existing structural steel is to be reused on the project, the following note shall be placed on the General Notes Sheet:

“EXISTING STRUCTURAL STEEL - ALL EXISTING STRUCTURAL STEEL WHICH IS DISTURBED OR DAMAGED IN ANY WAY DURING CONSTRUCTION SHALL BE STRAIGHTENED AND/OR REPAIRED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE INSPECTION SECTION OF THE OFFICE OF MATERIALS AND CLEANED AND REPAINTED PER THE GEORGIA DOT SPECIFICATIONS.”

3.6.9 Beam Corrections

When structural steel fabricators place holes at the wrong location in bridge members, the fabricators will be required to fill the misplaced holes with high-strength bolts (A-325 or A-325 weathering) tightened in accordance with the GDOT Standard Specifications.

All corrective work utilizing heat procedures to obtain acceptable tolerances pertaining to sweep and camber, or to repair damaged structural steel beams shall be documented and filed in the appropriate project file. These documents shall contain a sketch showing the locations, temperature and duration of the heat applied. The amount of sweep, camber or damage shall be documented both before and after the heat corrective work. If possible, photographs of the beams should be taken before and after all corrective work utilizing heat procedures.
3.7 Post-Tensioned Box Girders

3.7.1 General
Post-tensioned box girders shall be designed in accordance with LRFD Specification Section 5 – Concrete.

3.7.2 Dimensions
The maximum cantilever overhang beyond the exterior web shall be 9’-6”. The designer shall consider providing adequate vertical and horizontal clearance for required falsework for construction.

3.7.3 Materials

3.7.3.1 Concrete
Post-tensioned concrete boxes should be designed with Class AA-1 concrete as a minimum, but Class AAA concrete may be necessary if higher 28-day strength is required.

3.7.3.2 Epoxy Coated Reinforcement
Epoxy coated reinforcing steel shall be used as specified in Section 3.2.4.

3.7.4 Use of Stay-In-Place Deck Forms
Do not use stay-in-place concrete or steel deck forms or panels for the top slab of the box girder.

3.7.5 Cell Drains
4” diameter cell drains shall be provided at the low point of all closed cell boxes.

3.7.6 Post Tensioned Ducts Detailing
Clearances, duct spacing and duct support saddles shall be fully detailed on the bridge plans as shown in Section 509, Figures 1 & 3 of the GDOT Standard Specifications, except that the clear spacing between ducts shall not be less than 1.5 inches in accordance with LRFD 5.10.3.3.2.

3.7.7 Detailing of Anchorage Blisters
The dimensions, clearances, and reinforcing steel shall be fully detailed on the bridge plans as shown in Section 509, Figure 2 of the GDOT Standard Specifications.

3.7.8 Open Grate Access Doors
Concrete box girders carrying water mains shall have open grate access doors in every bay at each end of the bridge to provide emergency water run out if the water main leaks or breaks.

3.7.9 Gas Lines on Post-Tensioned Box Girders
The designer shall not detail gas lines inside the closed cell of box girders unless specifically instructed by the Bridge Office. In this case, the designer should be aware of the following criteria and should consider accommodating them in the plans where applicable:
a) Increase the wall thickness of the present pipe being used on bridge structures.
b) Ensure all welded lines are completed by certified welders.
c) Require a hydrostatic test of the pipe.
d) Detail a 6” vent in each end cell.
e) Detail a malleable iron test insert with replaceable rubber plug in each cell.
f) Provide access to allow for gas leak detection, pipe inspection and repair.
g) Verify that all lines are low pressure.

3.7.10 Segmental Construction Alternate for PT Boxes

When a segmental construction alternate is to be allowed on post-tensioned box girder bridges, the following note shall be included in the Bridge Plans:

“SEGMENTAL CONSTRUCTION – PROPOSALS FOR CONSTRUCTION BY SEGMENTAL METHODS MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE METHOD SHOWN IN THE PLANS. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL INCLUDE A SET OF CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS AND COMPLETE DESIGN CALCULATIONS. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL CONFORM TO THE LATEST AASHTO LRFD BRIDGE DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS AND NO TENSION STRESS IN THE CONCRETE AFTER LOSSES SHALL BE ALLOWED. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL ALSO CONFORM TO THE GEORGIA DOT SPECIFICATIONS AND WILL BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE STATE BRIDGE ENGINEER. IF APPROVED FOR USE, THE ALTERNATE SEGMENTAL CONSTRUCTION METHODS SHALL BE AT NO EXTRA COST TO THE DEPARTMENT AND WITH NO INCREASE IN CONTRACT TIME.”

3.8 Other Precast Concrete Beams

3.8.1 General

In addition to the AASHTO girder shapes, three other precast beam types are being utilized by the Bridge Office to provide options for rapid delivery and rapid construction for select bridges in the state. These beam types are the cored slab beam, box beam, and NExT-F beam. The use of these beam types is limited to structures with very little to no horizontal curvature and a maximum of 4% super elevation. The department developed details for these beams are also limited to structures with no skew at the end or intermediate bents.

The cored slab beams and box beams require either a concrete or asphalt over. A minimum 3 1/2” thickness is required when asphalt overlay is used.

Table 3.8.1-1 shows additional guidance for appropriate use of these beam types.

Drawing files and a guidance document for both the cored slab beams and box beams can be found on the Bridge Office web page. If NExT-F beams are the selected choice for a project, contact the Bridge Office for current standard details and drawings.
Table 3.8.1-1 Guidance for Use of Other Precast Beam Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Cored Slab</th>
<th>Box Beam</th>
<th>NExT F Beam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Span Lengths</td>
<td>25 ft to 50 ft</td>
<td>30 ft to 70 ft</td>
<td>40 ft to 70 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADT</td>
<td>&lt;= 3000 vpd</td>
<td>&lt;= 3000 vpd</td>
<td>Not limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck Volume</td>
<td>&lt;= 100 vpd</td>
<td>&lt;= 100 vpd</td>
<td>Not limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Width</td>
<td>26’ gutter to gutter</td>
<td>26’ gutter to gutter</td>
<td>30’ gutter to gutter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asphalt/Concrete Overlay</td>
<td>Use concrete for NHS</td>
<td>Use concrete for NHS</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.8.2 Box Beams
Designate span lengths in 1-foot increments. Do not use more than 2 different span lengths for any single bridge location. Use the same beam depth for all spans at any single bridge location.

3.8.3 Next-F Beams
Designate span lengths in 5-foot increments. Do not use more than 2 different span lengths for any single bridge location.

3.8.4 Cored Slab Beams
Designate span lengths in 1-foot increments. Do not use more than 2 different span lengths for any single bridge location. Use the same beam depth for all spans at any single bridge location.

3.9 Diaphragms and Cross Frames

3.9.1 Concrete Girders

3.9.1.1 Diaphragm Requirements
One line of diaphragms shall be provided on or near beam mid-points for spans over 40 feet long.

3.9.1.2 Location of Diaphragms on Skewed Bridges
On skewed bridges, diaphragms shall be placed perpendicular to the beam and located so that a line through the beam mid-points crosses the diaphragm at mid-bay. This results in a beam that has two sets of diaphragm holes equally spaced on each side of the beam mid-point. In cases when the skew angle approaches 90 degrees, these diaphragm holes will be too close together to fabricate independently and the diaphragm may be cast on a skew to intersect each beam mid-point.

Show the distance from B.F.P.R. or centerline of bent to the diaphragm on the deck plan sheet or beam layout as appropriate.

3.9.1.3 Diaphragms Materials
Diaphragms shall be detailed using reinforced concrete in accordance with the GDOT Bridge Cell Library.
Steel diaphragms may be considered when the following conditions exist:

- Structures over roadways with substantial vertical clearance (20 ft or greater)
- Structures over a railroad with a minimum of 23 ft of vertical clearance
- Structures over waterways not located in the coastal counties designated in 4.1.1(c)

Steel diaphragms shall not be allowed when the following conditions exist:

- Structures carrying utilities supported on members bolted to adjacent beams
- Structures carrying utilities greater than 8” in height or diameter and suspended from the slab
- Structures carrying a deck drainage system
- Structures that include Florida I Beam (FIB) sections shorter than the FIB-54

If the steel diaphragm option is appropriate, the following note shall be placed on the General Notes Sheet:

“STEEL DIAPHRAGMS – AT CONTRACTOR’S OPTION, STEEL DIAPHRAGMS MAY BE USED IN LEIU OF THE CONCRETE DIAPHRAGMS SHOWN IN THE PLANS. AT A MINIMUM, STEEL DIAPHRAGMS ARE TO BE DESIGNED FOR APPLIED WIND LOAD. STABILITY OF THE BEAMS AND STRUCTURE DURING ALL PHASES OF CONSTRUCTION ARE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR. SUBMIT SHOP DRAWINGS AND CALCULATIONS FOR THE STEEL DIAPHRAGMS TO THE ENGINEER FOR REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE. THE USE OF STEEL DIAPHRAGMS SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE PRICE BID FOR “LUMP - SUPERSTR CONCRETE”.”

Steel diaphragms shall be designed for a minimum load equal to the force generated by a 140mph wind applied to one half of the vertical surface area of the exposed beam being braced. The designer shall assume that the structure is located in exposure category D unless otherwise noted. Cross Frame members shall be evaluated as secondary members according to the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications. For the consideration of slenderness, gusset plates at the center of the frame will not be considered as a point of support, to reduce the member length. Slenderness should be checked about all three axes for angle shapes.

If the steel diaphragm option is not appropriate, the following note shall be placed on the General Notes Sheet:

“STEEL DIAPHRAGMS – SUBSTITUTION FOR STEEL DIAPHRAGMS IS NOT ALLOWED FOR THIS BRIDGE.”

Steel diaphragms shall be galvanized and not painted.

The diaphragm material selection shall be consistent throughout all spans of a bridge.

For projects where steel diaphragms are at contractor’s option, payment for use of steel diaphragms shall be included in the price bid for “LUMP – SUPERSTR CONCRETE”. When steel diaphragms are included as part of the contract bridge plans, include the pay item “501-2001 LB STR STEEL” in the SUMMARY OF QUANTITIES on the GENERAL NOTES sheet with the calculated weight in pounds.
3.9.2 Steel Girders

3.9.2.1 Diaphragm and Cross Frame Requirements

Diaphragms or Cross Frames for steel girder bridges shall be designed in accordance with LRFD 6.7.4 or Standard Specification 10.20, as appropriate, and detailed in accordance with the GDOT Bridge Cell Library. Where necessary, K-type cross frames are preferred.

3.9.2.2 Bracing for Exterior Steel Beams

To prevent buckling of exterior beams during deck pours, the following note shall be placed on the deck section sheet for bridges with steel beams or girders:

“The Contractor shall provide bracing between the exterior beam (girder) and the first interior beam (girder) until the deck has been poured, the overhang forms have been removed and the diaphragms (cross-frames) have been welded. All costs for designing, providing, installing and removing bracing shall be included in price bid for Lump – Structural Steel.”

3.10 Edge Beams

3.10.1 General

Detail edge beams at the discontinuous edges of the interior slab using reinforced concrete with stirrups that extend into the deck. Standard edge beam dimensions and reinforcing can be found in the GDOT Bridge Cell Library. Use the standard edge beam dimensions unless modification is needed to accommodate utilities, avoid conflicts with cap risers supporting the adjacent span or ensure embedment of the beam web as specified in 3.10.2. Ensure a minimum depth of 18 inches measured from top of beam in all cases. There is no specific reason to match edge beam depths on adjacent spans. Extending edge beams to the cap will not be allowed.

Detail shear stirrups in the edge beam perpendicular to the centerline of the bent.

When utilities pass through edge beams, provide additional reinforcement (typically No. 4 bars) around the opening.

In staged construction, conflicts may occur between the existing structure and exposed edge beam reinforcement required for lapping. In this case the designer shall detail bar couplers at the stage line. Couplers are not paid for separately but require a special provision.

When the bottom of the edge beam does not extend to the bottom of web (e.g. when matching an adjacent span’s edge beam) or when the bridge skew is less than 75 degrees, include the following note on the Deck Section Sheet of all multispan bridge plans:

“Do not remove edge beam forms until 72 hours after the deck pour is completed or deck reaches 28-day concrete strength”

Detail shear stirrups in the edge beam perpendicular to the centerline of the bent.
3.10.2 Detailing for PSC Beam Bridge

PSC beams shall penetrate into the edge beam such that the shallowest face of the PSC beam web is embedded a minimum of 4". Uniformly increase the thickness of the edge beam when necessary to achieve this requirement.

For reinforcement of an edge beam at an exterior Bulb Tee beam, add a 5-foot long horizontal No. 3 bar just below the top of the beam and a vertical No. 4 L-shaped bar along the beam centerline with the 90-degree bend over the top of the beam. See Figure 3.10.2-1 for details.

![Figure 3.10.2-1 Additional Reinforcement for Edge Beam](image)

In visible areas, such as bridges over roadways, highly traveled waterways, and recreational areas, the designer shall ensure the edge beam is flush with the entire exterior beam face to the bottom of the beam for a smooth continuous look to the beams. In the exterior bay, detail a 1:1 sloped fillet from the bottom of the edge beam to the top of the bottom flange of the exterior beam. This allows the concrete to flow into the bottom flange area of the beam. Add a No. 4 slanted U-shaped bar along the sloped fillet into the area behind the bottom beam flange. See also Figure 3.10.2-1 for details.

3.10.3 Detailing for Steel Beam Bridge

When replacing edge beams on existing rolled steel beam/plate girder bridges that require new holes be provided in the existing beams for edge beam bars, place a note on the plans that the contractor shall drill 3" holes at each bar location.
3.10.4 Detailing for RCDG Bridge

Because RCDGs are constructed span-by-span, it may be difficult to install transverse 800 bars in the edge beam with the 600 continuity bars in place from the previous span. In this case, place the following note on the deck section sheet:

“At contractor’s option, 800 bar in edge beam may be spliced. One 5’-0” lap splice will be allowed at CL bridge. No additional payment will be made for optional splices.”

If there is a beam at the bridge centerline, modify the note above to locate the splice between beams.

When contractors replace RCDGs with precast stems/beams, the designer shall ensure that edge beams comply with the details from the GDOT Bridge Cell Library.

3.11 Endwalls

3.11.1 General

Endwalls shall be provided at end bents to retain the fill below the approach slab and between the wingwalls.

Endwall length is typically the same as the length of the end bent cap. Endwall width is typically one-half the width of the end bent cap between beams (18” minimum) and the full width of the end bent cap between the exterior beam and wingwall. PSC beams shall penetrate into the endwall such that the centerline of the PSC beam is embedded a minimum of 4”.

3.11.2 Detailing

Typical endwall reinforcing is provided in the GDOT Bridge Cell Library.

Detail steel extending into the paving rest, through the fillet, or into the deck perpendicular to the centerline of the bent.

In staged construction, conflicts may occur between the existing structure and exposed endwall reinforcement required for lapping. In this case the designer shall detail bar couplers at the stage line. Couplers are not paid for separately but require a special provision.

Two feet of waterproofing shall be placed on the joint between the endwall and cap, in accordance with GDOT Standard Specification 530. This detail is shown on the endwall cells in the GDOT Bridge Cell Library.
3.12 Bearings

3.12.1 Bearing Selection

The general preference for bearing selection is shown in Table 3.12.1-1.

Table 3.12.1-1 Bearing Selection by Bridge Type and Span

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bridge Type</th>
<th>Distance, d, from point of fixity to bearing</th>
<th>Recommended Bearings</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RCDG</td>
<td>d ≤ 40'</td>
<td>U</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40' &lt; d ≤ 160'</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>For d in excess of 160’ bearings typically become unstable in sliding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASHTO Type and Bulb Tee beams</td>
<td>d ≤ 200'</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Limited by length of chase, seismic shear on dowel, and beam stability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel Beams or Plate Girders</td>
<td>d ≤ 50'</td>
<td>R, SB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50' &lt; d ≤ 160'</td>
<td>R, SBL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d &gt; 160’</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel Beam Widening</td>
<td></td>
<td>Match existing bearings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Glossary:
- U: Plain elastomeric pad
- R: Steel reinforced elastomeric bearing
- SB: Plate bearings with sole and bearing plates only
- SBL: Plate bearings with sole, bearing, and lube plates at expansion ends
- P: Pot Bearing

Use of different bearings from those shown in Table 3.12.1-1 shall be approved by the Bridge Office at the start of final design phase. The Bridge Office has no standard details for reinforced elastomeric pads under steel beams.

3.12.2 Plain Elastomeric Pads and Steel Reinforced Elastomeric Bearings

3.12.2.1 Materials

3.12.2.1.1 Neoprene

Use 60 Durometer Shore A hardness neoprene, grade 2 or higher as specified in AASHTO M251, with a shear modulus between 130 psi and 200 psi.

3.12.2.1.2 Reinforced Plates (For Steel Reinforced Elastomeric Bearings)

  a) Load Plates: Use 3/16” thick load plates meeting ASTM A 709 Grade 36 or ASTM A 1011 Grade 36.
b) Internal Plates: Use 10-gage, 12-gage or 14-gage internal plates, if necessary, meeting ASTM A 709 Grade 36 or ASTM A 1011 Grade 36.

3.12.2.2 Dimensions and Clearances

Detailing of elastomeric pads can be found on the GDOT Elastomeric Bearing sheets.

3.12.2.2.1 Basic Shape

Elastomeric pads should be rectangular and should be placed flat with the pad length parallel to the beam centerline. Length and width are incremented by whole inches and thickness is incremented by 1/8". The use of tapered pads is prohibited.

3.12.2.2.2 Width and Length

The width of the pad shall be 2” narrower on each side than the nominal width of the bottom flange of AASHTO type III and larger PSC beams and 1” narrower with smaller PSC beams, RCDGs and steel beams. This will allow for beam chamfers, tolerance in fabrication of the beam, and the use of a shim plate if necessary.

The minimum pad length shall be 9 inches unless matching an existing bearing.

3.12.2.2.3 Sealing Ribs

A 3/16” sealing rib shall be used on the top and bottom of pads for precast beams and shall not be used for cast-in-place beams.

3.12.2.3 Plain Elastomeric Pad (U)

3.12.2.3.1 Application

Plain elastomeric pads shall be provided for RCDGs where the distance from the bearing to the point of fixity is 40 feet or less.

3.12.2.3.2 Dimensions

The pads shall be 9”x16”x ½” and no further analysis is required.

3.12.2.3.3 Contractor Redesign of RCDG Bridge

A note shall be placed on the bearing sheet stating that if the Contractor redesigns a RCDG bridge to use precast beams, plain elastomeric bearing pads shall remain as shown on the plans.

3.12.2.3.4 Use on Existing Bridges

When widening or paralleling a T-beam bridge, the designer shall review the existing bridge condition survey for recommendations on installing plain elastomeric pads under the existing beams. If this recommendation is agreed to by the State Bridge Engineer, then 9”x 14” x ½” unreinforced pads with slots to pass around the dowel bar shall be specified. Pay item 518-1000 – Raise Existing Bridge, Sta. – should be included in the Summary of Quantities to cover all costs for supplying and installing these pads. This requires a special provision.
3.12.2.4 Steel Reinforced Elastomeric Bearings (R)

3.12.2.4.1 Application

Steel Reinforced Elastomeric bearings are preferred for use with prestressed concrete beams, rolled steel beams, and RCDG bridges where the distance to point of fixity is greater than 40 feet.

3.12.2.4.2 Contractor Redesign of T-Beam Bridges

A note shall be placed on the bearing sheet stating that if the Contractor redesigns a RCDG bridge to use precast beams, the steel reinforced elastomeric bearings shall be redesigned accounting for the new loads and rotations in accordance with this section.

3.12.2.4.3 Design Method

For LRFD projects, bearing pads shall be designed in accordance with LRFD 14.7.6, Elastomeric Pads and Steel Reinforced Elastomeric Bearings – Method A.

Bearing pads shall also be designed to allow no slippage with service limit state loads using the following equation:

\[ 0.2Pu \geq GA\left(\frac{\Delta_u}{H_{rt}}\right) \]

Pu = dead load from the superstructure
G = shear modulus of the elastomer
A = area of the pad
\( \Delta_u \) = Shear deflection under service loads
H_{rt} = Total Elastomer thickness

For Standard Specification projects, bearing pads shall be designed in accordance with Standard Specification 14.6.6, Elastomeric Pads and Steel Reinforced Elastomeric Bearings – Method A, except as follows:

**Thermal Movement**

Bearing shall be designed for thermal movements based on temperature rise of 30° F and temperature fall of 40°F above or below nominal setting temperature. No adjustment shall be made for actual or anticipated setting temperature. By default BRPAD1 uses a 70° temperature range so the distance to fixity in that program should be reduced to 4/7 of the actual.

**Combined Compression and Rotation**

Bearings shall be sized such that the total rotation in the bearing as given by the sum of:

- Rotation due to superimposed dead load deflection
- Rotation due to live load deflection
- Rotation due to beam camber (self weight + prestress + time)
- Bridge grade (unless shims are used)
3.12.2.5 Detailing

3.12.2.5.1 Anchorage Holes

A 3” diameter hole shall be provided at the center of the bearing to allow for a 1 ½” smooth dowel (ASTM A709 Grade 50) for PSC beams or No. 10 bar for RCDGs connecting the superstructure and substructure.

3.12.2.5.2 Uniform Design

In order to reduce construction errors and the number of test pads required for a project, the engineer should minimize the number of pad designs. This requirement does not relieve the engineer from performing analysis to ensure the design adequacy of each pad.

3.12.2.5.3 Shim Plates for PSC Beams and Steel Beams

If a steep longitudinal grade produces an elevation change of 1/8” or greater across the length of a pad, a galvanized steel shim plate shall be used. Steel shim plates shall have 1/4” minimum thickness on the thin edge with the thick edge detailed to the nearest 1/8” thickness. Shim plates shall be 2” larger than the pad in each plan dimension with holes fabricated to match the holes in the pad and shall be placed on top of the pad.

Calculate the elevation change across the length of the pad by dividing the vertical delta between the determined cap step elevations on each end of the beam by the horizontal distance between them and then multiplying that value by the length of the bearing pad in the longitudinal direction. Do not use beam camber, beam deflection, or roadway profile in this calculation.

3.12.2.5.4 Anchor Bolts

Anchor bolts shall be stainless steel, ASTM A 276 Type 304. Specify the yield strength required by design on the contract drawings. On bridge widening or jacking projects, any new or replacement anchor bolts shall also be stainless steel. Seismic requirements shall be applied as appropriate.

3.12.3 Pot Bearings

3.12.3.1 Application

Pot bearings are preferred for use with steel plate girders, large rolled steel beams or box girders.

3.12.3.2 Design Method

Pot bearings are to be designed by the Contractor in accordance with AASHTO LRFD Specifications or AASHTO Standard Specifications, as appropriate. A note shall be provided requiring the Contractor to provide shop drawings for the bearings. The following note shall be provided on the substructure sheets to allow for cap elevation adjustments:

“Elevations shown for the top and bottom of the cap are based on the “X” dimension shown on the Pot Bearing Details sheet. These elevations shall be adjusted by the Contractor to account for the actual height of the pot bearing to be used. Bent cap
concrete shall not be poured until the pot bearing shop drawings have been approved and necessary adjustments have been made.”

3.12.3.3 Loads

The designer shall provide the required capacity, translation and rotation for bearings on the GDOT Pot Bearing Details Sheet.

3.12.3.4 Detailing

3.12.3.4.1 Bearing Seat Elevations

Bearing seat elevations shall be calculated and provided based on the assumed height of the bearing assembly (“X” dimension) shown on the plans.

3.12.3.4.2 Elastomeric Pad under Pot Bearing

A 1/8” elastomeric pad shall be used under the bearing in lieu of the cotton duck called for in the GDOT Standard Specifications. The pad shall be 50 to 60 Durometer Shore A hardness neoprene and be 1” larger than the base plate in each plan dimension.

A note should be added to the plans that all costs for supplying and installing this elastomeric pad should be included in the price bid for Lump – Structural Steel.

3.12.3.4.3 Anchor Rods

Anchor rods shall be stainless steel, ASTM A 276 Type 304. On bridge widening or jacking projects, any new or replacement anchor bolts shall also be stainless steel. Seismic requirements shall be applied as appropriate.

3.12.4 Self Lubricating Bearings

3.12.4.1 Application

Self-lubricating bearings are preferred for use with steel plate girders and large rolled steel beams.

Limitations: Sliding plate type bearings shall not be used where the anticipated total movement (expansion plus contraction) exceeds 3 inches for assemblies without anchor bolts through the flange and 2 inches for assemblies with anchor bolts through the flange.

3.12.4.2 Materials

Bronze plates shall conform to AASHTO M 107 (ASTM B22), Alloy C91100 and shall have an allowable unit stress of 2.0 ksi in compression.

For design purposes, a value of 0.1 shall be used for the coefficient of friction.

3.12.4.3 Bronze Plate Size Selection

Use Table 3.12.4.3-1 for the sizing of self-lubricating bronze plates.
Table 3.12.4.3-1  Plate Size Selection by Load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size (in)</th>
<th>Maximum Load in Service Limit States (kips)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>Width</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10½</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10½</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10½</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.12.4.4  Detailing

3.12.4.4.1  Beveling Sole Plate

When the gradient of the girder at the bearing exceeds 4.0%, the top of the upper plate (sole plate) shall be beveled to match the girder gradient.

3.12.4.4.2  Anchor Bolts

Anchor bolts shall be stainless steel, ASTM A 276 Type 304. On bridge widening or jacking projects, any new or replacement anchor bolts shall also be stainless steel. Seismic requirements shall be applied as appropriate.

3.13  Deck Joints

3.13.1  Construction Joints

3.13.1.1  Pour Strips

A pour strip is a longitudinal deck segment cast between two previously cured bridge deck portions to avoid stresses caused by differential deflection. Pour strips are required on all stage constructed bridges where traffic is present on the previous stage prior to the concrete reaching design strength on a subsequent stage. Additional guidance for specific superstructure types is as follows:

a)  RCDG: All falsework must be removed before casting the pour strip.

b)  Continuous steel beam: If the concrete amount for widening the deck is less than 100 CY and the maximum dead load deflection is less than 1", the deck over the entire continuous unit can be placed in one pour and a pour strip is not required.
c) Post-tensioned cast-in-place concrete box girder: The pour strip shall be placed after post-tensioning the box, removing the falsework, and waiting approximately one month to allow for creep.

Try to locate pour strips out of the wheel path of traffic to avoid inferior ride quality.

When detailing the transverse lap in a pour strip, include the following note on the deck section sheet:

“DO NOT TIE THE TRANSVERSE REINFORCEMENT LAP IN THE POUR STRIP”

3.13.1.2 Transverse Construction Joints

A transverse construction joint is required in the deck at each bent where the deck is continuous in a simple span bridge, as well as between deck pours for a continuous steel unit. A shallow saw cut is required to control cracking at the joint. Detail “A” of the GDOT Bridge Cell Library shows this detail and shall be included on the plans as applicable.

3.13.1.3 Longitudinal Construction Joints

When a longitudinal construction joint is required for staging, place the joint along the edge of the top flange of the beam or the stem face for RCDGs, as practical. Do not place the joint within the limits of the beam top flange since water could be trapped in the joint and freeze.

3.13.2 Expansion Joints

3.13.2.1 General

The designer should minimize the number of expansion joints in a bridge deck to reduce maintenance problems such as leaking. However, expansion joints may be unavoidable on bridges longer than approximately 400 feet.

3.13.2.2 Silicone Joint Seals

A silicone joint seal is detailed on the approach slab standard (Georgia Standard 9017) to be used for the 3/4 inch joint at the end of the bridge between the bridge deck and the approach slab.

If the joint width at the end of the bridge is calculated to require more than 3/4 inch, then the bridge plans shall detail an Evazote joint to replace the silicone joint seal shown on the Standard.

3.13.2.3 Evazote Joint Seals

An Evazote joint seal is the preferred type of expansion joint for bridge decks. Evazote is the brand name for a closed-cell polyethylene seal as described in GDOT Standard Specification 449.2.D. It is preformed but can be compressed and stretched easily. It is glued in place into a clean joint between two concrete decks. No pay item is necessary for an Evazote joint seal except when it is used as a joint replacement on an existing bridge.

The size of the Evazote joint should be selected based on the expansion range at the joint. Use Equation 3.13.2.3-1 to calculate the expansion range, R.

\[ R = \alpha \times L \times \Delta T \] (3.13.2.3-1)
Where:

\( \alpha = \text{coefficient of thermal expansion} = 0.000006 \text{ in/in/oF for concrete} \)

\( \Delta T = \text{maximum variation in temperature} = 70 = \text{F} \)

\( L = \text{summation of distances from the last fixed joint back and the next fixed joint ahead (ft)} \)

Once \( R \) is determined, select a joint from Table 3.13.2.3-1 that has a range value equal to or greater than \( R \). For instance, when \( L \) equals 350 feet, \( R \) equals 1.764 inches, so use the E 2.1875 joint.

**Table 3.13.2.3-1  Evazote Joint Selection**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Opening at 68° (in)</th>
<th>Material width at 60% compression (in)</th>
<th>Material width at 30% tension (in)</th>
<th>Range (in)</th>
<th>Seal Size WxH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E 1.00</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>0.90</td>
<td>1&quot; x 1&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E 1.25</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>1.63</td>
<td>1.13</td>
<td>1.25&quot; x 2&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E 1.875</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>2.43</td>
<td>1.68</td>
<td>1.875&quot; x 2&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E 2.1875</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>0.88</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>2.1875&quot; x 2&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E 2.50</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>2.25</td>
<td>2.5&quot; x 2&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When the expansion range exceeds 2.25 inches, the designer should use a Preformed Silicone Joint seal, as described in Section 3.13.2.5, in lieu of an Evazote joint.

Except for joints at the approach slab, the plans should show joint openings for 40, 70 and 100 degrees to allow for varying ambient temperatures at the time of joint construction. Use the 68 degree joint opening from Table 3.13.2.3-1 for the 70 degree opening. The 40 and 100 degree openings should be calculated by adjusting the 70 degree joint opening for the corresponding temperature differences. Using the same example from above, the adjustment in joint opening for 100 degree is calculated as .756 inches (350’ x 0.000006 x 30°F x 12 in/ft = .756”). Subtracting this number from the 70 degree opening yields 1 inch, as shown in Table 3.13.2.3-2.

**Table 3.13.2.3-2  Example Joint Opening Table for Plans**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JOINT OPENING</th>
<th>TEMPERATURE (°F)</th>
<th>W (in)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2 ½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>70</td>
<td>1 ¾</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The joint at the end of the bridge is shown for an opening of 60 degrees without a temperature table. A general note must be added modifying the GDOT Approach Slab Standard and the plans should include a detail with a cross-section of the joint including opening size and the...
material size. Joint sizes of up to 1.75 inches (distance to fixity of 380 feet) can be used at the end of the bridge with permission of the Bridge Office.

The designer shall use cell EXJTBT from the GDOT Bridge Cell Library and edit the seal size in the cell (seal size from Table 3.13.2.3-1) to notify the contractor of the product size to order.

3.13.2.4 Preformed Silicon Joint Seals

For joints on steel bridges and for any joint where the Evazote size would be 2 inches or greater at 70 degrees, use a preformed silicone joint. These can be sized using design criteria for the Silicoflex joint, and there is a cell available. Show opening sizes for 40, 70, and 100 degrees as with Evazote joints.

3.13.2.5 Strip Seals

A strip seal is a preformed elastomeric profile seal that can be used when expansion range exceeds the limit allowed for an Evazote joint. The designer shall use cell JENEJT from the GDOT Bridge Cell Library for detailing and pay item 449-1800 - ELASTOMERIC PROFILE BRIDGE JOINT SEALS for payment of this joint. Due to the high cost of this joint seal, it may be more economical to provide additional expansion joint locations so that Evazote joint seals can be utilized. When the expansion range exceeds 3 7/8 inches, the designer should use a modular joint system.

3.13.2.6 Modular Joint Systems

A modular joint system is a manufactured joint that can accommodate large expansion ranges. The use of a modular joint system requires Special Provision 447 – Modular Expansion Joints. A modular joint system is preferred over a finger joint because the finger joint is not “sealed” and allows water and debris into the joint area and onto the substructure.

3.13.2.7 Longitudinal Expansion Joints

Expansion joints in the longitudinal direction of the bridge should be used on bridges wider than 150 feet. Do not detail an open longitudinal joint where bicycle traffic is expected since it can catch narrow bicycle wheels.

On steel beam bridges in urban areas carrying high-volume routes where traffic will stand on the bridge, such as a bridge with traffic signals near the ends, a 1-inch longitudinal joint shall be used at the high point of the crown so that vibration caused by traffic moving on one side of the bridge will not be felt by traffic sitting on the other side.

Longitudinal joints shall not be placed in locations where water will run across the joint. The joint shall be sealed with an Evazote joint seal. Do not include a pay item for the seal.

3.14 Utilities on Bridges

3.14.1 General

3.14.1.1 Utility Information Request

When utilities are to be placed on a bridge, the designer shall request that the Office of Utilities obtain the following information from the utility companies:
• Descriptions (i.e. 10" water main, four 6-inch diameter telephone conduits)
• Owner (i.e. Early County Water System, AT&T)
• Weight of the utility per foot including contents
• Opening size required through endwalls, backwalls, edge beams and diaphragms
• Maximum diameter of the pipe bell or flanges for water and sewer mains
• Hanger spacing (actual or maximum)
• Hanger details if a particular hanger system is desired
• Location on the bridge (right side, left side)

3.14.1.2 Utility Conflicts

When a utility conflict occurs, it must be resolved by bridge design modification or by utility relocation. It is not acceptable to notify the contractor that a conflict exists by a note in the plans.

3.14.1.3 Utility Attachments

Gas lines, electrical conduits, ATMS conduits, and telecommunication conduits can be supported using cast-in-place deck inserts. Water/sewer mains up to 8 inches in diameter can be supported in the same manner. Larger water/sewer mains shall be supported by channels bolted to the adjacent beams, as shown in the GDOT Bridge Cell Library. When possible, the water/sewer main shall be placed above the support channels. These utilities should not be located in exterior bays where the supporting hardware will be visible outside the exterior beam.

When this support method is used for water/sewer mains, include the pay item "501-2000 LS STR STEEL, BR NO -" in the SUMMARY OF QUANTITIES on the GENERAL NOTES sheet. Supports for water mains are usually located 2 feet on each side of a joint. Hangers should be spaced to accommodate standard 18-foot or 20-foot pipes and to avoid locating a bell at the diaphragm, edge beam, or endwall.

Water mains usually require casing under the approach slab. Casing is available in diameters of 6-inch increments and must be large enough to accommodate the water pipe bell. When any utility is to be installed through the reinforced backfill of an MSE abutment wall, see Section 5.5.3.2.7 for guidance.

3.14.1.4 Estimated Utility Weights

In lieu of more accurate weights provided by the utility company, the typical utility weights in Table 3.14.1.4-1 can be used.
Table 3.14.1.4-1 Utility Weights (from BIMS manual)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diameter (in.)</th>
<th>Water Sewer Mains</th>
<th>Gas Mains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weight (lbs/ft)</td>
<td>Diameter (in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6&quot;</td>
<td>41.0</td>
<td>2&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8&quot;</td>
<td>60.1</td>
<td>4&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10&quot;</td>
<td>87.1</td>
<td>6&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12&quot;</td>
<td>118.8</td>
<td>8&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16&quot;</td>
<td>194.4</td>
<td>10&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30&quot;</td>
<td>472.3</td>
<td>12&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weight of communication conduit can be estimated at 9 lbs/ft per duct.

Figure 3.14.1.4-1 and Figure 3.14.1.4-2 show typical details for City of Atlanta Bureau of Water requirements.

Figure 3.14.1.4-1 Water main saddle details
3.14.1.5 Placement of Utilities

Utilities must be fully enclosed within a bay and must not hang below the bottom of the lowest beam.

In locating the utility and openings, the designer must ensure that conflicts with the endwall, edge beam, and diaphragms have been addressed, including possible conflicts with the diaphragm bar.

The designer must ensure there are no conflicts with cap risers on the substructure.

3.14.1.6 Pipe Diameter Limitations

When utility pipes are proposed to be attached to a structure, the size of the pipes and/or their required encasements shall be limited based on Table 3.14.1.6-1.
### Table 3.14.1.6-1 Utility Pipe Diameter Limitations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Smallest Beam Section Used in the Structure</th>
<th>Maximum Pipe Diameter Allowed Outside Diameter – (Nominal Size)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type I Mod</td>
<td>6”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type II</td>
<td>7”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type III</td>
<td>13”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54” or 56” Bulb Tee</td>
<td>21” – (18” DIP / 20” PVC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63” or 65” Bulb Tee</td>
<td>30” – (24” DIP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72” or 74” Bulb Tee</td>
<td>39” – (36” DIP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rolled Steel Sections and Plate Girders</td>
<td>Coordinate with the Bridge Office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.14.2 Designation of Utility Owners on Bridge Plans

All bridge plans shall have the caption, **UTILITIES**, added to the Preliminary Layout or General Notes sheet and list underneath the names of all owners of utilities that are located on the bridge. Do not list utilities which are in the vicinity of the bridge but are not located on the bridge.

If a future installation is proposed, the designer shall indicate this by placing “(FUTURE)” after the name of the owner. If there are no utilities, it shall be indicated by placing “NO UTILITIES ON BRIDGE” below the caption **UTILITIES**.

These requirements are in addition to all details, dimensions, etc., necessary to locate and support the utility on the bridge.

### 3.14.3 Hangers for Electrical Conduits

Hangers for electrical conduits on bridges shall be specified at a maximum spacing of 10'-0”.

### 3.14.4 Revisions to Utilities

The designer shall send any revisions of the plans dealing with utilities through the normal revision channels and to the District Utilities Engineer. The designer shall also ensure that the utility company is made aware of the changes.

### 3.14.5 Gas Lines on Post-Tensioned Box Girders

See Section 3.7.9.

### 3.14.6 Permits for Bridge Attachments

See MOG 6850-11. Contact the Office of Utilities.
3.15 Deck Drainage

3.15.1 General
The designer shall ensure that the bridge deck will freely drain water to minimize gutter spread or ponding. This is normally accomplished by some combination of the bridge cross-slope, bridge profile and openings in either the deck or the barrier that allows the water to flow off the bridge.

For more details on deck drains and drainage, see Chapter 13 - Bridge Deck Drainage Systems of the GDOT Drainage Manual.

3.15.2 Bridge Profile
Location of the low-point of a vertical curve on a bridge or approach slab is strongly discouraged and should only be considered when there is no feasible alternative. Before proceeding with a design that has a low point on a bridge or approach slab, the designer should consult with the roadway designer and then the Bridge Office to confirm that no other feasible option exists.

When a low-point is located on a bridge, it shall not be located within 10 feet of the BFPR or centerline of bent, and scupper spacing shall be reduced to 2'-6" within 10 feet of the low point.

If the bridge grade is less than 0.5%, the designer should consult with the roadway designer about increasing the grade to provide more efficient drainage.

3.15.3 Open Deck Drainage

3.15.3.1 Deck Drains
For bridges over water detail a 4” diameter hole through the bridge deck spaced at 10 feet along each gutterline. It is permissible to reduce deck drain spacing to a minimum of 5 feet to ensure adequate drainage.

When the top flange of the exterior beam interferes with the placement of deck drains, use a 3" x 6" open slot in the bottom of the barrier, spaced at 10 feet along each gutterline, in lieu of deck drains. It is permissible to reduce barrier slot spacing to a minimum of 8 feet to ensure adequate drainage.

Deck drain and barrier slot details can be found in the GDOT Bridge Cell Library.

When a bridge is superelevated modify the cell in the library to indicate that drains shall be placed only on either the left or right side of the travelway, as necessary.

Do not locate deck drains or barrier slots within 5 feet of the centerline of an intermediate bent. Do not locate deck drains or barrier slots over end fills. Do not locate deck drains within 5 feet of steel diaphragms for concrete beams.

Do not detail deck drains or barrier slots on grade separation structures or when otherwise restricted by environmental regulations. Consider a deck drainage system when gutter spread calculations deem it necessary.
3.15.4 Deck Drainage System

3.15.4.1 General

When drainage of the deck is required and cannot be accommodated by conventional scuppers or barrier openings, a deck drainage system is required. The deck drain system shall be made of PVC pipe Schedule 40 and consist of scuppers, drain pipes, clean-outs, and downspouts.

3.15.4.2 Bridge Deck Hydraulic Study

The Hydraulics Section of the Bridge Office will perform a bridge deck hydraulic study when requested by the designer. The request should include the bridge Plan and Elevation, Deck Plan, Deck Section, roadway plan and profile sheets, and details of any preferred drainage structures.

3.15.4.3 Scuppers

Scuppers should be spaced along the bridge as per the deck hydraulic study. Scuppers should have a steep sloped bottom because it is self-cleaning. Outlet should be 5 inches minimum but preferably 6 inches in diameter. The drainage grate must be bicycle safe. See Neenah product number R-3921-V1 for an example of an acceptable bridge scupper. Increase the depth of the deck to get reinforcement under the drain and around the outlet. Additional reinforcement may be required to distribute forces around the drain.

3.15.4.4 Drain Pipe

When scuppers are used to collect water from the bridge deck, connect all scuppers to a drain pipe of a size and slope calculated in the deck hydraulic study. Extend drain pipes to the longitudinal drainage system for the supported roadway, or to a downspout leading to the longitudinal drainage system of the roadway below. Drain pipes will not be allowed to pass below bridge abutments. Downspouts should not empty onto railroad right of way, or into water.

Placement of drain pipe shall adhere to the guidance of Section 3.14.1.5 with the exception that pipes may be attached to the overhang in cases where the bridge is not visible to the public and detailing is practical. PVC drainage pipes up to 12 inches in diameter may be supported using cast in place deck inserts with a maximum spacing of 8 feet. Drain pipe block outs through concrete should be detailed with 1 inch of clearance around the pipe.

Detail drainage system to include cleanouts at each scupper location and near each bent including end bents. Consider accessibility of the cleanouts in the detailing provided on final plans and when reviewing shop drawings submitted from the Contractor.

Downspouts may be placed at intermediate bents and either cast into the substructure or attached to the outside. Do not attach downspouts to the traffic face of a column. The system must accommodate any differential movement between the pipes attached to the superstructure and the downspouts attached to the substructure.
Appendix 3A - Fall Line Map
### Appendix 3B – LRFD Beam Charts

#### Assumptions

- **a)** Beam location: Interior beam
- **b)** Skew angle: 90° (no skew)
- **c)** Design length (CL bearing to CL bearing): Span length – 24 in.
- **d)** Slab width: 43'-3" (roadway width: 40'-0")
- **e)** Number of lanes: 3
- **f)** 28-day strength of slab concrete: 4.0 ksi
- **g)** Slab thickness for non-composite loading calculation: Determined using GDOT slab design program with 2 ¾" top concrete cover (Case 4)
- **h)** Slab thickness for composite section property: ¼" less non-composite slab thickness
- **i)** Diaphragm: 10-in. thick diaphragm at mid-span when span length is greater than 40 ft, no diaphragm otherwise
- **j)** Average coping thickness: 2" for AASHTO type beams and 3" for Bulb Tees
- **k)** Coping thickness is included in non-composite loading calculation, but not in composite section property calculation.
- **l)** Release strength is 1.0 ksi less than 28-day strength for PSC beam concrete with a minimum of 4.5ksi.
- **m)** Strands (low relaxation type): 0.5" diameter (0.167 in² area) for AASHTO type beams and 0.6" diameter (0.217 in² area) for Bulb Tees
- **n)** Prestressing forces: (0.75 x 270 ksi) to bottom and top strands for AASHTO type beams and (0.75 x 270 ksi) to bottom strands and (0.17 x 270 ksi) to top strands for Bulb Tees
- **o)** Draping of strands: No draping for AASHTO type I-MOD beam and two middle strands draped as necessary for other AASHTO type beams and Bulb Tees
- **p)** Exposure condition is set as normal for allowable stress calculation.
Appendix 3C – Standard Specification Deck Design Charts

SERVICE LOAD DESIGN OF BRIDGE SLAB
Minimum slab thickness is 7"
Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

Georgia Department of Transportation 19-OCT-07
Office of Bridge and Structural Design 16:53:08
May 2007

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DISTRIBUTION EFFECTIVE SIZE AND REINFORCEMENT

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### SERVICE LOAD DESIGN OF BRIDGE SLAB

Minimum slab thickness is 7"

Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

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**Georgia Department of Transportation**  
19-OCT-07  
Office of Bridge and Structural Design  
16:53:08  
May 2007

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**3. Superstructure**

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**Wheel and Slab Future Continuity**

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Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

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SERVICE LOAD DESIGN OF BRIDGE SLAB

Minimum slab thickness is 7"
Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

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SERVICE LOAD DESIGN OF BRIDGE SLAB

Minimum slab thickness is 7"
Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

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### DISTRIBUTION EFFECTIVE SIZE AND REINFORCEMENT

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SERVICE LOAD DESIGN OF BRIDGE SLAB

Minimum slab thickness is 7"
Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

Georgia Department of Transportation  19-OCT-07
Office of Bridge and Structural Design   16:53:08
May 2007

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Page 3 of 3
## SERVICE LOAD DESIGN OF BRIDGE SLAB

Minimum slab thickness is 7"

Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

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### WHEEL LOAD DISTRIBUTION

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SERVICE LOAD DESIGN OF BRIDGE SLAB

Minimum slab thickness is 7"
Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

Georgia Department of Transportation    19-OCT-07
Office of Bridge and Structural Design    16:53:08
May 2007

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Minimum slab thickness is 7"

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### Service Load Design of Bridge Slab

Minimum slab thickness is 7"

Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

---

**Georgia Department of Transportation**  
19-OCT-07  
Office of Bridge and Structural Design  
16:53:08  
May 2007

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### SERVICE LOAD DESIGN OF BRIDGE SLAB

Minimum slab thickness is 7"
Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

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**Georgia Department of Transportation**
19-OCT-07
Office of Bridge and Structural Design 16:53:08
May 2007

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**WHEEL SLAB FUTURE CONTINUITY LOAD**

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SERVICE LOAD DESIGN OF BRIDGE SLAB
Minimum slab thickness is 7"
Maximum main reinforcement spacing is 9"

Georgia Department of Transportation 19-0CT-07
Office of Bridge and Structural Design 16:53:08
May 2007

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DISTRIBUTION EFFECTIVE SIZE AND REINFORCEMENT
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Appendix 3D – Standard Specification Beam Charts

Beam Spacing (X-Axis) versus Maximum Design Span (Y-Axis)

Assumptions

1. Beam Spacing – 4.0’ to 10.0’ in .25’ increments
2. Number of Lanes = 3, constant
3. Number of Beams = 6, constant
4. Slab was design using BRSLAB99 with 2½” cover
5. Maximum Design Span was determined using BRPSBM1
   a. Live Load: HS20 with Impact
   b. Concrete Properties
      i. \( Ec = [(145)1.5(33)][(f'c).5] \)
      ii. Dead Load = 150 pcf
      iii. Initial Tension in the Beam (SIT) = 6(f'ci).5
      iv. Final Tension in the Beam (SIF) = 6(f'c).5
   c. Distribution Factor for Deflection = 1.000
   d. Composite Slab Properties – Depth of Coping (DF)
      i. 0.000, Type I MOD through Type IV PSC Beams
      ii. 1.000, Bulb Tees
   e. Non-composite Dead Loads (NCDL) – Coping
      i. \( [(1.5)(Top \text{ Flange Width})/144](.150) \), Type I through Type IV PSC Beams
      ii. \( [(3)(Top \text{ Flange Width})/144](.150) \), Bulb Tees
   f. One Diaphragm at Midpoint for all spans greater than 40'-0"
All strands are ½” diameter low relaxation strands each stressed to 33,818 pounds.
Type II PSC Beam (Standard Spec)

All strands are ½" diameter low relaxation strands each stressed to 33,818 pounds.
All strands are ½" diameter low relaxation strands each stressed to 33,818 pounds.
All strands are ½” diameter low relaxation strands each stressed to 33,818 pounds.
All strands are .6" diameter low relaxation strands. The 4 top flange strands are stressed to 10,000 pounds each and all remaining strands are stressed to 43,943 pounds each.
All strands are .6” diameter low relaxation strands. The 4 top flange strands are stressed to 10,000 pounds each and all remaining strands are stressed to 43,943 pounds each.
72" Bulb Tee Beam (Standard Spec)

All strands are .6" diameter low relaxation strands. The 4 top flange strands are stressed to 10,000 pounds each and all remaining strands are stressed to 43,943 pounds each.
All strands are .6” diameter low relaxation strands. The 4 top flange strands are stressed to 10,000 pounds each and all remaining strands are stressed to 43,943 pounds each.
Appendix 3E – GDOT Self-Certified Bridge Railings

NOTE: LAP 503A AND 503B BARS A MINIMUM OF 2'-2"

* TAPERS TO 0" AT END POST

1'-6½"

7"

1½"

3" CL.

503B AT EACH 503A

2" CL., TWO SIDES

Ø ¾" TRIANGULAR DRIP BEAD, FULL LENGTH OF BRIDGE BOTH SIDES

3" 36" S-TYPE BARRIER DETAIL

SCALE: ¾" = 1'-0"
NOTE: LAP 503A AND 503B BARS A MINIMUM OF 2’-2”

*TAPERS TO 0” AT END POST

503B AT EACH 503A

2” CL., TWO SIDES

12-502 IN BARRIER, SEE DECK PLAN FOR LETTER DESIGNATION

\( \frac{3}{4} \)” TRIANGULAR DRIP BEAD, FULL LENGTH OF BRIDGE BOTH SIDES

42” S-TYPE BARRIER DETAIL

SCALE: \( \frac{3}{4}” = 1’-0” \)
NOTE: LAP 503A AND 503B BARS A MINIMUM OF 2'-2"

* TAPERS TO 0" AT END POST

1'-8½"
7"
1'-0"
1½"
3" CL.

503B AT EACH 503A
2" CL., TWO SIDES

10-502 IN BARRIER, SEE DECK PLAN FOR LETTER DESIGNATION

Φ ¾" TRIANGULAR DRIP BEAD, FULL LENGTH OF BRIDGE BOTH SIDES

36" S-TYPE BARRIER FOR FENCE DETAIL

SCALE: ¾" = 1'-0"
NOTE: LAP 503A AND 503B BARS A MINIMUM OF 2'-2"

*TAPERS TO 0" AT END POST

1'-9½"
8"* 1'-0"
1½" CL.
3" CL.

503B AT EACH 503A

2" CL., TWO SIDES

I2-502 IN BARRIER, SEE DECK PLAN FOR LETTER DESIGNATION

503A AT 14"

¾" TRIANGULAR DRIP BEAD, FULL LENGTH OF BRIDGE BOTH SIDES

3"

42" S-TYPE BARRIER FOR FENCE DETAIL

SCALE: ¾" = 1'-0"
NOTE: LAP 503A AND 503B BARS A MINIMUM OF 2'-2"

SCREED FINISH DECK TO INSIDE OF PARAPET

1'-2½"

1'-1"

3" CL.

5'-6"

1½" CL., TYP.

6" 7-400

3½"-6"

6"

407 AT 12"

12-502

503B AT EACH 503A

503A AT 8"

2" CL.

2 SIDES

2-408, 8" LONG AT 4'-0" MAX SP.

PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF 6 MIL. POLYETHYLENE BOND BREAKER WITH 3" CL. FROM GUTTERLINE, PARAPET, OR JOINTS.

DRILL ¾" DIA. HOLES, 4" DEEP FOR DOWEL BARS. FILL ½" DIA. HOLES WITH EPOXY ADHESIVE AFTER BARS ARE INSERTED.

* 3" X 3" WATERPROOFING, SEE SECTION 530 OF THE GEORGIA DOT SPECIFICATIONS.

42" PARAPET AND SIDEWALK DETAILS

SCALE: ⅛" = 1'-0"
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Chapter 4. Substructure

4.1 General

4.1.1 Materials

4.1.1.1 Concrete

General requirements for concrete are as follows:

a) Use 3.5 ksi concrete for all substructure elements when the bridge is supported by one or more concrete column piers.

b) Use 3.0 ksi concrete for all substructure elements if there are no concrete column piers supporting the bridge.

c) For LRFD projects, use Class 2 exposure condition in accordance with LRFD 5.6.7 for any bridges over waterways located fully or partially in the following coastal counties: Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn, and Camden. Use Class 1 exposure condition for all other bridges.

d) Use 3.0 inch cover in accordance with LRFD 5.12.3 for any bridges over waterways located fully or partially in the coastal counties listed above. This requirement applies to Standard Specification bridges as well.

e) When the least dimension of a concrete bridge component is greater than 5’-0” or the diameter of a drilled shaft is greater than 6’-0”, Special Provision 500 – Concrete Structures for mass concrete will be required. Include the following note on the General Notes sheet:

"MASS CONCRETE – BRIDGE CONTAINS COMPONENTS SUBJECT TO MASS CONCRETE REQUIREMENTS, SEE SPECIAL PROVISION SECTION 500 – CONCRETE STRUCTURES. NO SEPARATE MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT WILL BE MADE FOR MASS CONCRETE. INCLUDE ALL COSTS, INCLUDING INCIDENTALS, IN THE PRICE BID SUBMITTED FOR ________ CONCRETE."

4.1.1.2 Reinforcement

a) Use Grade 60 steel for reinforcement. Use of higher grade reinforcement is prohibited.

b) The length of detailed reinforcing bars, before bending, should not exceed 60 feet.

c) Use the following table to detail reinforcement splice lengths in the substructure:

| #10 in pile cap when loads are transferred directly into the piles without inducing moment in the cap | 3’-3” |
| #11 in the top of a pier cap | 12’-0” |
| #11 in the bottom of a pier cap | 9’-3” |
| #11 in a column | 9’-3” |

For all applications of splices in the substructure not covered above, calculate the splice length according to LRFD 5.10.8.
4.1.2 Design Method

The Bridge Office uses a bent stiffness approach for distributing longitudinal and transverse loads. The loads are distributed proportionally based on the relative stiffness of the bent to the entire substructure supporting the superstructure between expansion joints.

The design of columns, footings, and foundations shall not be controlled by the Service Limit State. Service Limit State should be used as applicable for settlement, stability, serviceability and deflection as denoted in the LRFD Specifications.

Stream pressure calculations for substructure and foundation design shall be based on 100yr flood data for all hydraulic bridges, unless otherwise specified.

4.2 Foundations

4.2.1 General

Foundations for bridges shall be designed based on the Bridge Foundation Investigation (BFI) report approved by the Office of Materials.

All loads and resistances presented on the plans shall be in kips, kips per linear foot (klf) or kips per square foot (ksf).

4.2.1.1 500-Year Scour for Stream Crossings

Foundation depths shall be determined based on the 500-year storm event and the associated 500-year scour line. This scour line shall be shown on the Preliminary Layout but may be adjusted in the BFI based on detailed geotechnical exploration.

When piles are used, they should penetrate a minimum of 10 feet below the 500-year scour line. Spread footings should be keyed in below the 500-year scour line. Deep foundations shall be examined for the 500 year storm event.

For Standard Specification projects, deep foundations shall be designed for a Safety Factor = 1.0 for the 500 year storm event.

Scour information shall not be included in the final bridge plans.

4.2.1.2 Foundation Types

Foundations shall be designed for existing conditions. The foundations for highway bridges consist of the following types necessary to support the superstructure:

- Driven piles for pile bents
- Caissons (drilled shafts)
- Spread footings
- Pile footings

For general guidelines for foundation types in Georgia, see Appendix 4A.
4.2.2 Driven Piles

4.2.2.1 Pile Type and Size Selection

GDOT uses the following pile types:

- Steel H piles
- Prestressed concrete (PSC) piles
- Metal shell piles

Driven piles shall be designed in accordance with LRFD 10.7 or Standard Specification 4.5, as appropriate.

4.2.2.2 General

All substructure sheets illustrating the use of driven piles shall include a Plan Driving Objective (PDO) for the piles. The PDO shall defines the required driving resistance in kips for LRFD projects or Tons for Standard Specification projects, and the minimum tip elevation stated in the BFI, to the nearest foot. This information shall be presented as shown in the following example:

**PLAN DRIVING OBJECTIVE**

“ALL PILES SHALL BE DRIVEN TO A DRIVING RESISTANCE OF XX KIPS AFTER A MINIMUM TIP ELEVATION OF XXX IS ACHIEVED.”

Directly above the PDO the pile type and size shall be identified.

“ALL PILES SHALL BE (PSC, 18 IN SQ) (STEEL H, HP 14 X 73) (METAL SHELL, 18 IN OD).”

For future reference of pile design loads and for verification of loads used in preparing the LRFD BFI, include the following note just above the pile identification on all LRFD projects:

“Piles are designed for a maximum factored axial load of ____ kips.”

The LRFD BFI will specify the method to measure driving resistance in the field. The two methods commonly used by GDOT are Dynamic Testing and FHWA-Modified Gates Formula. If Dynamic Testing is required, place the following General Note in the plans:

“Driving resistance - determine pile driving resistance using dynamic pile testing in accordance with special provision 520. Dynamic pile testing shall be required for one pile at each of bents **, ** and **.”

When Special Provision 523 specifies Pile Driving Analyzer (PDA) test to be performed by GDOT personnel, include the following General Note in the plans:

“Dynamic pile testing - Pile Driving Analyzer (PDA) will be utilized by the Georgia DOT during the pile driving operation in accordance with special provision 523. Notify the Geotechnical Bureau of the Georgia DOT office of materials and testing at 404-608-4720 two weeks prior to driving piles.”

When Special Provision 523 indicates PDA test to be performed by the Contractor, include the following General Note in the plans:
“Dynamic pile testing - perform pile testing using the Pile Driving Analyzer (PDA) in accordance with special provision section 523. Notify the Geotechnical Bureau of the Georgia DOT office of materials and testing at 404-608-4720 two weeks prior to driving piles.”

Include the following pay item when Dynamic Testing is specified. The number of tests is indicated in the LRFD BFI by designating test locations.

523-1100 **** EA dynamic pile test

If FHWA-Modified Gates Formula is specified, place the following General Note in the plans:

“Driving resistance - determine driving resistance for piles using FHWA-modified gates formula in accordance with special provision 520.”

For all LRFD projects, WAVE equation analysis should be performed by the contractor and submitted to the Geotechnical Bureau for review and approval. Place the following General Note in the plans for all LRFD projects (except for Design-Build projects):

“Wave equation - Perform Wave Equation Analysis (WEAP) in accordance with special provision 520. Provide results of the WEAP to the Geotechnical Bureau of the Georgia DOT office of materials and testing for review and approval two weeks prior to driving piles.”

Once the LRFD BFI report has been completed and accepted, a variation of up to 5% between the final calculated pile load and the value in the LRFD BFI report does not require a revision of the LRFD BFI report or driving resistance. Use the driving resistance from the LRFD BFI report and the final calculated maximum factored axial load on the plans.

Batter piles, where required, are typically battered at a rate of 1½ inches horizontal on 12 inches vertical. The batter shall not exceed 4:12.

The designer shall include driving data piles on bridges at the rate of about one for every four bents. Driving data pile locations shall be designated on the General Notes sheet using the Driving Data Piles note from the BridgeNotes program. On bridges with PSC piles, the test piles can be counted as driving data piles.

Total pay quantity for piling is rounded off to the nearest 5 feet. Length of each pile can be calculated as the difference between top of pile elevation and the estimated tip elevation (or average estimated tip if a range is given) from the BFI. The designer shall include the additional length of piles caused by batter piling.

The designer shall always include a pay item for a load test for each different pile (type and size) used on the project.

4.2.2.3 Steel H Piles

Steel H piles specified for use in the Bridge Foundation Investigation (BFI) report will be one or several of the following sizes:

- HP 10x42
- HP 12x53
• HP 14x73
• HP 14x89
• HP 14x102
• HP 14x117

One large pile may require a higher capacity pile hammer but this may still be more economical than driving two smaller piles per beam in an end bent.

When H-pile intermediate bents are recommended in the Foundation Recommendation Letter, 36 ksi H-piles should be used for all H-piles at the bridge site. Use 50 ksi H-piles only when all the H-piles are fully embedded for the entire bridge. Do not use 36 ksi and 50 ksi piles for the same bridge.

If 50 ksi piles are used, indicate this in the Design Data section of the General Notes sheet and include the following note on the General Notes sheet:

“STEEL H-PILES - use steel for H-piles that meets the requirements of ASTM a 709 gr 50.”

The following stresses and maximum factored structural resistance values for steel H-Piles should be used in preparation of all LRFD BFI reports and is incorporated in the GDOT LRFD BFI report template. The piles are assumed to be continuously supported during driving operations. A resistance factor of 0.5 from LRFD 6.5.4.2 was used assuming piles subject to damage with axial loading only.

Table 4.2.2.3-1 Properties for Grade 36 Steel H-Piles (LRFD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pile Size</th>
<th>Stress Limits</th>
<th>Max. Factored Structural Resistance, $P_R$ (kips)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Compression (ksi)</td>
<td>Tension (ksi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 10x42</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 12x53</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 14x73</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 14x89</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 14x102</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 14x117</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 4.2.2.3-2
Properties for Grade 50 Steel H-Piles (LRFD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pile Size</th>
<th>Stress Limits</th>
<th>Max. Factored Structural Resistance, $P_R$ (kips)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Compression (ksi)</td>
<td>Tension (ksi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 10x42</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>45.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 12x53</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>45.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 14x73</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>45.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 14x89</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>45.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 14x102</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>45.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 14x117</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>45.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 12x53 and 14x73 H-pile sections are slender elements for Grade 50 steel and a reduction has been applied in accordance with LRFD 6.9.4.2.

For LRFD projects, when steel H-piles are driven to hard rock, verify the maximum factored structural resistance from the above tables is greater than the driving resistance for the respective pile to mitigate potential damage to the pile.

#### 4.2.2.4 Prestressed Concrete (PSC) Piles

Prestressed concrete (PSC) piles specified for use in the Bridge Foundation Investigation (BFI) report will be one or several of the following sizes:

- 14" x 14"
- 16" x 16"
- 18" x 18"
- 20" x 20"
- 24" x 24"
- 30" x 30"
- 36" x 36"

The details of the PSC piles listed above are specified in the GDOT Standard 3215. The designer shall receive approval from the Bridge Office prior to using a PSC pile size greater than 20".

The following stresses and maximum factored structural resistance values for PSC piles should be used in preparation of all LRFD BFI reports and is incorporated in the GDOT LRFD BFI report template. The piles are assumed to be continuously supported during driving operations. A resistance factor of 0.75 from LRFD 5.5.4.2 was used for compression controlled sections. The 28-day concrete strength is 5.0 ksi and pile detailing is in accordance with Georgia Standard 3215.
Table 4.2.2.4-1  Properties for PSC piles (LRFD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pile Size</th>
<th>Stress Limits</th>
<th>Max. Factored Structural Resistance, $P_R$ (kips)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Compression (ksi)</td>
<td>Tension (ksi)  Normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14” SQ PSC</td>
<td>3.214</td>
<td>1.248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16” SQ PSC</td>
<td>3.457</td>
<td>1.005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18” SQ PSC</td>
<td>3.623</td>
<td>0.839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20” SQ PSC</td>
<td>3.573</td>
<td>0.889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24” SQ PSC, VOID</td>
<td>3.519</td>
<td>0.943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24” SQ PSC</td>
<td>3.662</td>
<td>0.800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30” SQ PSC, VOID</td>
<td>3.553</td>
<td>0.909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30” SQ PSC</td>
<td>3.561</td>
<td>0.901</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following reference shall be included on the General Notes sheet under Bridge consists of:

“SQUARE PRESTRESSED CONCRETE PILES -------------- GA. STD. 3215 (2-22-84)”

When the BFI recommends PSC piles, it will also call for test piles with locations. The contractor uses test piles, longer than estimated pile lengths, to determine final order lengths of the remaining piles. The length of test pile shall be 5 feet plus the top of pile elevation minus the estimated tip elevation. Round test pile lengths up to the nearest foot. Because test piles are part of permanent construction, the engineer must deduct the calculated in-place length, not the test pile length, from the total piling quantity.

When detailing PSC Piling in the coastal counties of Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn, and Camden, or when detailing piling for which the BFI has identified corrosive soils, specify the use of High-Performance Concrete (HPC) by including the associated general note.

When detailing PSC piling in the coastal counties listed above that will be routinely exposed to water, such as piles used to directly support intermediate bent caps or pedestal footings, stainless steel reinforcement should be specified in addition to the HPC by including the associated general note.

Due to the high cost of stainless-steel reinforcing, piles supporting end bents and other substructure elements not expected to experience exposure to water should not automatically be detailed with stainless-steel. If alternate pile sizes can be utilized at such locations to prevent potential on site mix ups and reduce costs, this should be considered.

Freeze bearing for piles may be required in the BFI for certain conditions. In this case, the Pile Driving (Freeze Bearing- Table) note shall be included on the General Notes sheet.
Do not use the words "estimated tip" in the plans since these words are a reflection of the BFI, which is not a part of the contract.

4.2.2.5 Metal Shell (MS) Piles

Metal shell (MS) piles specified for use in the Bridge Foundation Investigation (BFI) report will be one or several of the following sizes:

- 14" O.D.
- 16" O.D.
- 18" O.D.
- 20" O.D.
- 24" O.D.

MS piles shall be driven and then filled with concrete at all locations as specified in the GDOT Standard Specifications.

Freeze bearing for piles may be required in the BFI for certain conditions. In this case, the Pile Driving (Freeze Bearing - Table) note shall be included on the General Notes sheet.

Do not use the words "estimated tip" in the plans since these words are a reflection of the BFI, which is not a part of the contract.

For piles installed to directly support intermediate bent caps or pedestal footings, do not include any metal shell thickness when analyzing for capacity. The GDOT Bridge Cell Library contains details illustrating the reinforcement requirements for each metal shell pile diameter. The reinforcing in these details provides the maximum area of steel for the section while maintaining a minimum 5" clear spacing between vertical reinforcement, in lieu of requirements stated in LRFD 5.12.9.5.2.

For piles installed to support end bent caps, do not include reinforcement details. The metal shell thickness, reduced by 1/8 of an inch for corrosion, shall be used when analyzing the end bent for capacity.

Develop stiffness models for the distribution of lateral forces based on the presence of the entire metal shell thickness, without section loss, at all bent locations.

The following stresses and maximum factored structural resistance values for Metal Shell piles should be used in preparation of all BFI reports and is incorporated in the GDOT BFI report template. The piles are assumed to be continuously supported during driving operations. Grade 3 steel as specified in ASTM A252 (steel yield strength = 45 ksi) is used for the calculations. No factored axial structural resistances were provided since the load will be controlled by the drivability limits of the metal shell.
### Table 4.2.2.5-1 Properties for Metal Shell Piles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pile Size</th>
<th>Shell Thickness (in)</th>
<th>Stress Limits</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Compression (ksi)</td>
<td>Tension (ksi)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14&quot; Diameter</td>
<td>0.2500</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14&quot; Diameter</td>
<td>0.3125</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16&quot; Diameter</td>
<td>0.2500</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16&quot; Diameter</td>
<td>0.3125</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18&quot; Diameter</td>
<td>0.3125</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20&quot; Diameter</td>
<td>0.3125</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24&quot; Diameter</td>
<td>0.5000</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Metal shell thickness shall be modified based on the outer diameter by including the Metal Shell Pile note on the General Notes sheet using the BridgeNotes program.

GDOT Standard Specification 520 includes two detailing options (Option 1 and Option 2) for metal shell pile closure plates. Option 1 is specified as the default option; however, if the BFI recommends Option 2, the following note shall be added to the General Notes sheet:

**“PILE CLOSURE PLATE DETAIL - USE CLOSURE PLATE OPTION 2 AT THIS SITE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUB-SECTION 520.3.05.M OF THE GEORGIA DOT SPECIFICATIONS.”**

### 4.2.2.6 Timber Piles

Timber piles shall not be used on any GDOT bridge project. They are sometimes used to support culverts in poor soils.

### 4.2.2.7 Pile Driving Aids

#### 4.2.2.7.1 Jetting and Spudding

The BFI often recommends jetting and/or spudding to assist penetration for PSC or MS piles. Jetting consists of using water at the tip of the pile to loosen the soil and aid driving. Spudding consists of using a "spud" (usually a heavy H-pile) to break up hard layers before driving the permanent pile. The designer shall include the Piling (Jetting and Spudding) note from the BridgeNotes program on the General Notes sheet when jetting and/or spudding are recommended in the BFI. No pay item is required for jetting and/or spudding.

#### 4.2.2.7.2 Predrilling

The BFI may recommend predrilling be allowed at the contractor's option in lieu of jetting or spudding. Predrilling consists of loosening the soil with an auger to aid driving. The BFI will include an elevation for the limit of predrilling, which will usually be referenced to the estimated or minimum pile tip. When the BFI mentions predrilling, the designer shall include the Piling (Predrilling in lieu of Jetting and Spudding) note from the BridgeNotes program on the General Notes sheet instead of the jetting and spudding note. No pay item is required for predrilling.
4.2.2.7.3 Pilot Holes

The BFI sometimes recommends pilot holes for piles in order to assure adequate penetration below the scour line. Pilot holes are created by using an auger to remove the soil. This process is more costly than predrilling. The designer shall include the Pilot Hole note from the BridgeNotes program on the General Notes sheet and specify the required diameter and bottom elevation of the pilot hole in the note. Pay item 520-5000 PILOT HOLES shall be in the plans to cover the required quantity of pilot holes.

4.2.2.7.4 Pile Points

When the BFI calls for pile points to ensure adequate penetration into weathered rock, the designer shall include the Pile Points note on the General Notes sheet using the BridgeNotes program.

In special cases where it is anticipated piles will have to be driven through boulders, rock layers, or hard buried objects, such as concrete, extremely hard stumps or wooden piles, the BFI may recommend the use of special driving points, other than those called for in the GDOT Standard Specifications. In this case, the designer shall include the following note on the General Notes sheet:

“PILE POINTS – REINFORCE ALL PILE TIPS AT BENTS ** WITH PRUYN POINT NO. 75750 OR APPROVED EQUAL.”

4.2.3 Caissons

4.2.3.1 General

When caissons are recommended in the BFI, foundation bearing strength and bottom elevations for caissons will be included. Details and requirements for caisson construction are covered under Special Provision 524 which is usually included with the BFI. Special provision 524 also includes important information such as whether the hole is dry or wet (uses slurry) and whether a demonstration shaft is required.

4.2.3.2 Dimensions

The diameter of a caisson shall be designed in 6” increments with a minimum diameter of 36”. All caissons shall have a minimum concrete cover of 6”.

4.2.3.3 Elevations

Caisson tip elevations should be given to one decimal place and a plus/minus sign to indicate possible variations.

For caissons in the water, detail the top of the caisson 1 foot above the normal pool elevation for quantity calculations. The assumed normal pool elevation shall be included in a note on the plans. Include a note directing the contractor to set the top of caisson 1 foot above the water surface at the time of construction. For caissons in the ground, the top shall be 1 foot below final ground elevation.
4.2.3.4 Reinforcement

Reinforcement in the caisson is specified by size only (#11 instead of 1110) because payment for it is included in linear feet of caisson. However, when using a transition bar that laps with the steel in the caisson and the steel in the column, that steel can be detailed and included in the bar schedule. Do not use hooked bars in the top of a caisson.

Use hoop stirrups for caissons. Spiral reinforcement is not allowed in caissons. Stirrups shall not be larger than #6 bars. The clear spacing between caisson stirrups shall be limited to a minimum of 5” to allow for effective movement of concrete. Similarly, vertical caisson reinforcement should have a minimum of 5” clear spacing.

No seismic detailing for a plastic hinge is required near the theoretical fixity location.

4.2.4 Spread Footings

4.2.4.1 Dimensions and Elevations

Use a square spread footing whenever possible. Plan footing dimensions shall be detailed in 3 inch increments in each direction. Spread footings shall be a minimum of 2’-3” thick to allow for the development of the hooks of No. 11 bars from the column.

Bottom of spread footing elevation should be given to one decimal place and a plus/minus sign to indicate possible variations. Bottom of footing elevations should be set to provide a 2 foot minimum soil cover over the footing.

4.2.4.2 Reinforcement

When using a square footing, use the same reinforcement in both the transverse and longitudinal directions to avoid incorrect installations in the field.

In addition to the mat of reinforcement at the bottom of the footing for design, detail a mat of reinforcement at the top of the footing comprised of #4 bars spaced at a maximum of 12” in each direction.

Stirrups shall not be employed as a method of shear resistance in footings.

4.2.4.3 Design and Additional Considerations

To allow for field variations in rock elevation, intermediate bents shall be designed for the case where the bottom of footing elevation is 3 feet lower than that indicated in the BFI. The designer shall include the Footing Elevations note from the BridgeNotes program on the General Notes sheet.

When recommended in the BFI, spread footings and the seals beneath spread footings should be keyed into the underlying material. A minimum key of 1 foot into sound rock shall be provided. For spread footings on other materials the designer shall ensure that the footing is sufficiently embedded to resist lateral loads. A note shall be placed on the plans requiring the entire footing or seal be keyed in, not just the area under the column as indicated in the GDOT Standard Specifications.

Design spread footings to limit settlement to a maximum of 1 inch. Spread footings will not be allowed on rock embankments.
4.2.5 Pile Footings

4.2.5.1 Footing Dimensions and Elevations

Use a square pile footing whenever possible. Plan footing dimensions shall be detailed in 1” increments in each direction. Pile footings shall be a minimum of 3’-3” thick when steel H-piles are used and 3’-6” when PSC piles or metal shell piles are used to allow for the development of the hooks of No. 11 bars from the column.

Bottom of pile footing elevations should be detailed to two decimal places.

4.2.5.2 Footing Reinforcement

Detail 180 degree hooks for the bottom reinforcement mat in pile footings. The bottom reinforcement mat can be placed directly on top of H-Piles. However, the designer shall detail 3 inches of clearance on top of metal shell and PSC piles to allow the footing concrete to properly bond with the footing reinforcement. When using a square footing, use the same reinforcement in both the transverse and longitudinal directions to avoid incorrect installations in the field.

When seismic detailing is required for the bridge, detail a mat of reinforcement at the top of the footing comprised of #4 bars spaced at a maximum of 12” in each direction.

Stirrups shall not be employed as a method of shear resistance in footings.

4.2.5.3 Pile Layouts

Use one of the GDOT pile layouts that are presented in Appendix 4B to design pile footings.

Minimum pile spacing and edge distances shall be determined in accordance with LRFD 10.7.1.2 and detailed in 1 inch increments.

4.2.5.4 Design and Additional Considerations

Pile footings shall be designed for zero tension (no uplift) in the piling for the strength limit state only.

The top of the pile footings should be a minimum of 2 feet below ground, with the following exceptions for the bridges over the streams:

a) If the bridge is located in one of the coastal counties and the waterway has very low flow velocity and low debris potential (such as in a coastal swamp), then the bottom of the footing will be located 1 foot above mean water level. This is known as a “pedestal bent”.

b) If the bridge requires a large number of cofferdams for pile footing construction, pedestal bents could be used to eliminate the high cost cofferdams. However, use of this option must be approved by the Bridge Office.

When the BFI or the Office of Construction recommends setting up Type II backfill material under a footing, do not increase the bridge excavation quantity for this material since the GDOT Standard Specification covers additional excavation up to three feet below the plan elevation of the bottom of footing.
4.2.6 Cofferdams and Seals

4.2.6.1 General

When a bridge with concrete footings crosses a stream or its footings are located close to the water table, cofferdams and/or seal concrete may be necessary for intermediate bent construction. Before finalizing the design, the designer shall send a request to the Bridge Office for a cofferdam recommendation. The Bridge Office will coordinate with the Office of Construction to determine the need for cofferdams and seals.

Submit a request for cofferdam recommendations via email to BridgeOffice@dot.ga.gov. The message should include the Bridge Plan and Elevation Sheet, the substructure sheet for all intermediate bents under consideration (including elevations and dimensions), a copy of the Bridge Foundation Investigation and boring logs for each bent under consideration, 2 year flood elevation and water surface elevation at time of survey. The latter two items can be found in the Hydraulic Study.

Seals should not be used except as recommended by the Bridge Office due to the possibility of future voids under the seal. Contractors should not be allowed to substitute a concrete seal in lieu of dewatering cofferdams.

4.2.6.2 Dimensions and Elevations

For calculation of Seal Concrete quantity use the dimensions of the footing plus 1’-6” wider on each side multiplied by the thickness of the seal. Use the following seal concrete thickness and strength that have been determined to resist the buoyant force from the hydraulic head (H).

- Seal concrete thickness for pile footings = 0.25 x H ≥ 2 feet
- Seal concrete thickness for spread footings = 0.4 x H ≥ 2 feet
- Seal concrete strength = 2.0 ksi

The hydraulic head (H) is the difference between the water elevation on the outside of the cofferdam and the proposed bottom of seal elevation inside the cofferdam. The water elevation used to determine the footing height should be shown on the intermediate bent sheet.

The Plan and Elevation sheet should show the elevation of the bottom of the seal for spread footings, but the bottom of the footing for pile footings.

4.2.6.3 Seal Concrete Payment

If the plans do not include seal concrete but field conditions require it, the seal concrete price is based on the cost of Class A concrete according to the GDOT Standard Specifications. When the plans include cofferdams but do not include either seal concrete or Class A concrete, a special provision is required to address payment for seal concrete.

4.2.7 Alternate Foundation Types

When concrete intermediate bents are anticipated as part of a bridge, practical alternative foundation types shall be considered. This effort should be collaborative between the bridge engineer, the geotechnical engineer, and environmental personnel and should result in a presentation of bidding alternatives whenever feasible.
Foundation alternatives shall be presented on separate substructure detail sheets in the bridge plans. Quantities for the alternates shall be broken out on the Summary of Quantities section of the General Notes sheet such that all the quantities for the superstructure and bents that are common to all alternates are shown under one heading and the quantities for bents with alternates are shown under headings for alternate 1 and alternate 2. Reinforcement Schedules should clearly reflect the reinforcement for the alternates under separate headings. Bar marks may be duplicated between alternates as necessary.

Environmental permitting and documentation shall consider the impacts of both alternates presented in the plans.

### 4.3 End Bents

#### 4.3.1 General

The following note shall be added to all end bent sheets that references Georgia Standard 9037 for drainage details required at end bents:

"SEE GA. STD. 9037 FOR DRAINAGE DETAILS AT END BENTS."

The GDOT Standard Specifications state that no separate measurement will be made under the item of Bridge Excavation for any excavation necessary for end bent construction. Unusual situations, such as spread footing abutments, may require the following note on the General Note sheet for clarity:

"END BENT EXCAVATION – ALL COSTS FOR END BENT EXCAVATION SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE OVERALL BID SUBMITTED"

#### 4.3.2 End Bent Caps

##### 4.3.2.1 Cap Dimensions

Use 3ft wide and 2 ft deep as the minimum end bent cap dimensions. Increase the cap width in 3-inch increments when required by the following:

- Maintain 9 inches of cover on all piles
- Provide a minimum of 3-inch clearance from the edge of bearing pad to the edge of cap or riser. On skews sharper than 75 degrees, this clearance can be reduced to 2 inches.

Increase the cap depth to 3ft minimum when piles are greater than 20” in width or diameter. Embed piles up to 20” in width or diameter 12 inches into the end bent cap. Embed piles larger than 20” in width or diameter 18” into the end bent cap.

The typical reinforcement approach for pile caps with piles under each point load can be found in the bridge cell library and includes #10 bars at each corner and two #4 bars equally spaced in the top as the default detailing. When point loads are offset from the piles, detail reinforcement as appropriate for design, maintaining the #10 bars at each corner as the minimum.

The provisions for temperature and shrinkage reinforcement in LRFD 5.10.6 can be waived for the bottom of the pile cap for end bents 3.5 feet wide or less.
4.3.2.2 Cap Risers and Steps

Cap step lengths do not need to match the calculated skewed beam distance so detail the cap steps to the nearest 1”.

If the elevation difference between adjacent cap steps is less than 3/4 inch, detail both steps to the lower elevation. No change to the D-dimension is necessary for this adjustment.

When different beam sizes or severe cross-slopes cause the top of cap step to be more than 6” above the main reinforcing, additional reinforcement will be required for that step. In this case, detail two No. 4 bars in the same direction of the main reinforcement at the top of the cap step with 2-inch clearance. Detail stirrups with approximately 1-foot spacing and with the legs extended down into the main cage a minimum of one foot.

For a skew of 75 degrees or less, skew the cap steps to align with the centerline of girder.

4.3.2.3 Detailing

Detail a 3-inch diameter by 12-inch deep hole at each dowel bar or anchor bolt location. A deeper hole may be required for steel spans longer than 100 feet. For RCDGs, detail a No. 10 dowel bar to be cast in place.

The provisions for temperature and shrinkage reinforcement in LRFD 5.10.6 can be waived for side faces of bent caps with a minimum height of 2 feet or less. LRFD 5.10.6 can also be waived for the bottom of the pile cap for bents 3.5 feet wide or less.

A minimum of 4-#4 stirrups shall be detailed over each pile in a typical pile cap.

4.3.2.4 Cheek Walls

In situations where wing walls are replaced by approaching retaining wall, end bent caps should be detailed to include cheek walls at the end of the cap. End bent cheek walls shall be a minimum of 12 inches in width and be reinforced with two mats of #5 reinforcement steel embedded into the cap. This reinforcement should be detailed at a maximum spacing of 12 inches.

4.3.3 End Bent Piling

End bent piles should support all loads including loads from the approach slab. A typical 30-foot GDOT standard approach slab is designed based on the assumption that up to 10 feet of the subgrade could be lost, transferring the load to the paving rest and remaining soil. Therefore, it is assumed that the paving rest supports one end of the approach slab, which is modeled as a 10-foot simple beam, and transfers the dead and live loads to the piles.

If the end bent fill height is greater than 20 feet, add battered piles between beams at a rate of 1 per 4 or 5 vertical piles. If the pile spacing is very close, some of the load-bearing vertical piles can be battered instead of adding piles.

4.3.4 Wingwalls

The end of wingwall is determined by projecting the slope of the end roll up until it meets the shoulder grade at the inside face of the wing, as shown in Figure 4.3.4-1. The length of the wingwall is the distance from this end to the front face of cap, accounting for the effect of the skew.
Generally, use the same length for both wingwalls at an end bent. The minimum wingwall length shall be 8 ft. Wingwall length shall be detailed to the nearest 6 inches.

**Figure 4.3.4-1 Wingwall Dimensions**

The top of wingwall is determined by adding 4 to 10 inches to the shoulder grade at the beginning and end of the wingwall. Use 6 inches as a minimum to match the transition curb of the approach slab when present. The top of the wingwall should be leveled to the higher elevation if the difference is less than 6 inches. The bottom of the wingwall should be level.

On curved alignments, do not curve wingwalls. Skew the wingwall to prevent its encroachment on the shoulder.

Use of piling under wingwalls is governed by wingwall length (L) as follows:

a) When $L \leq 12$ ft, no piles are needed.

b) When $12 < L \leq 16.5$ ft, add one pile at the end.

c) When $16.5 < L \leq 20$ ft, add one pile each at the mid-point and at the end

d) When $L > 20$ ft, add one pile each at the end and at third points along the wingwall length.

A 2'-6" square by 2'-0" deep pile box should be placed at each pile location in the wingwall. Increase the size of the box to 3'-0" square when using 18-inch or larger piles to maintain minimum clearance.

### 4.3.5 Rip Rap

At stream crossings, indicate rip rap on the endrolls as specified on the preliminary layout and in the hydraulic study. Extend the rip rap limit 20 feet beyond the end of the wingwall. The calculated rip rap quantity should also be used for the quantity of filter fabric.

If the BFI report recommends a different type and/or depth of rip rap, the designer shall consult with the hydraulic engineer and the geotechnical engineer to determine the appropriate rip rap requirements.

When the Hydraulic Data indicates abnormal flows, the elevation for the top of rip rap shall be 2 feet above the abnormal 100-year flood elevation.
4.3.6 Slope Paving

Slope paving shall be used on all grade separation and railroad crossing bridges. The footprint of the slope paving extends beyond the edge of the deck by 2 feet on each side of the bridge. For skewed bridges, the slope paving parallels the edge of the bridge on one side and is normal to the bottom of the slope on the other side, so that runoff water from bridge stay on paved slope all the way to the bottom (see Figure 4.3.6-1). However, on railroads in cut sections limit the slope paving to 2 feet outside the edge of deck on both sides to minimize additional cut in the endroll (see Figure 4.3.6-2).

![Figure 4.3.6-1 Typical Slope Paving at End of Bridge](image1)

![Figure 4.3.6-2 Slope Paving at Railroad Cut Section](image2)

4.4 Intermediate Bents

4.4.1 Concrete Column Bents

4.4.1.1 Preliminary Design Considerations

A two-column bent is recommended when the cap length is 60 feet long or less. The columns should be arranged to balance the dead load moments on either side of the column to avoid long-term bowing due to creep. Experience has shown that setting the cantilever lengths at...
approximately 20% of the cap length can accomplish this. For cap lengths greater than 60 feet, use a three-column bent or divide into 2 two-column bents.

When possible, use one column size for the entire bridge. For 90-degree bridges, set the column width equal to the cap width. However, it is acceptable and generally preferred to use a smaller column in skewed bridges that have wider caps to accommodate the bearings. The minimum column width should be 75% of the cap width.

Short column bents may have an issue with accommodating the forces generated by the shrinkage of the cap. These forces may be reduced by detailing a construction joint in the cap or by the use of a wall pier with a strip footing. The minimum width of a wall pier is 2 feet. Use of a wall pier shall be approved by the Bridge Office.

4.4.1.2 Concrete Column Bent Caps

4.4.1.2.1 Cap Dimensions

The width of an intermediate bent cap should be a minimum of 3 feet and increased in 3-inch increments to account for skew, bearing size and edge distances. The depth and length of a cap should be detailed in 3-inch increments. For bent caps at grade separations, use a minimum depth to width ratio of 0.75, with a ratio of 1.0 preferred at road underpasses, in order to provide a more aesthetic appearance.

Size the pier cap to provide a minimum of 3-inch clearance from the edge of bearing pad to the edge of cap or riser. On skews sharper than 75 degrees, this clearance can be reduced to 2 inches since only the corner of the bearing pad would be too close to an edge and most of the pad would still be beyond the 3 inch limit.

4.4.1.2.2 Cap Risers and Steps

When the back and ahead beams have different depths, a riser will be required on the cap to compensate for the difference. When the height of the riser is more than 4 inches, two continuous No. 5 bars should be detailed in the top of the riser in the direction of the main reinforcement. If the riser height is more than 18 inches, additional No. 4 bars should be distributed along each face of the riser to control cracking. Detail stirrups with approximately 1-foot spacing and with the legs extended down into the main cage a minimum of one foot. Do not attempt to control cracking by putting a joint in the riser between steps. This detail concentrates stresses at that point and can cause cracking in the main body of the cap.

When a cross-slope or fascia beam causes the top of cap step to be more than 6" above the main or riser reinforcing, additional reinforcement will be required for that step. In this case, detail two No. 5 bars in the same direction of the main reinforcement at the top of the cap step with 2-inch clearance. Detail stirrups with approximately 1-foot spacing and with the legs extended down into the main cage a minimum of one foot.

If the elevation difference between adjacent cap steps is less than 3/4 inch, detail both steps to the lower elevation. No change to the D-dimension is necessary for this adjustment.
4.4.1.2.3 Maximum Cap Moment and Shear at the Columns

When designing the negative moment reinforcement over the columns, the designer should consider the moment at the quarter point as maximum. The shear at the face of column should be considered as maximum in the design for stirrups.

4.4.1.2.4 Detailing

A minimum concrete cover of 2 inches is required in the cap.

When positive moment reinforcement between the columns is terminated in lieu of continuing it to the end of the cap, the bars should be detailed to terminate at the side of the column closest to the cantilever.

Minimum spacing for stirrups in the cap shall be 5 inches. Use double stirrups in high shear areas as necessary. The use of single-legged cross ties is prohibited. Using ‘open top’ stirrups to miss anchor bolt hole block outs is permitted but usually not necessary. The contractor is able to shift stirrups in order to miss block outs for the anchor bolt holes.

Cap step lengths do not need to match the calculated skewed beam distance so detail the cap steps to the nearest 1”.

4.4.1.2.5 Cheek Wall

A cheek wall is typically a 4” thick concrete wall built up on the end of a bent cap to hide a joint in the superstructure for improving the appearance of the bridge. The cheek wall length shall extend from cap face to cap face. The gap between the face of the bottom flange of the beam and the cheek wall shall be 6” or less. In a skewed bridge, the end of the cap shall be skewed so the cheek wall can be parallel to the beam face.

4.4.1.3 Columns

All columns that have less than 30'-0" horizontal clearance from the edge of roadway shall be designed for the vehicular collision force in accordance with LRFD 3.6.5. Protection by barrier or embankment will not negate this requirement. Only design the column to withstand the vehicular collision force in shear, not flexure. Don’t consider the transfer of this force to other elements such as caps, footings, piles, or drilled shafts.

Where bridge columns are within 25'-0" of the centerline of a railway, design columns to provide structural resistance for the same vehicular collision force as specified in LRFD 3.6.5.

The shear force created by the vehicular collision load shall be analyzed with the assumption of a single shear plane.

Columns should be dimensioned in 6-inch increments beginning at 3 feet. Columns narrower than 3 feet should not be used unless it is necessary to match the existing column size and to maintain horizontal clearance. In general, columns should be square with a square reinforcing pattern consisting of the same number of bars in each face. Round columns should be used on drilled shaft foundation.

Use Table 4.4.1.3-1 to determine the number and location of required construction joints in columns. Column height, x, is measured from top of footing to bottom of cap.
Table 4.4.1.3-1  Construction joints in columns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column Height, x</th>
<th>Construction Joints</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$X \leq 30$ ft</td>
<td>No construction joint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30 &lt; x \leq 40$ ft</td>
<td>1 construction joint at mid-height</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40 &lt; x \leq 60$ ft</td>
<td>2 construction joints at one-third points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$X &gt; 60$ ft</td>
<td>Construction joints at $20$ ft max. spacing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reinforcement should be detailed to take the construction joint into account.

For drilled caissons, it is recommended to use a column that is 6 inches smaller in diameter than the caisson to line up the reinforcements and meet the different requirements in concrete cover.

Use a minimum concrete cover of 2 inches in the column. However, if the cap has the same width as the column, then the main column bars have to be shifted in to miss the main cap bars. This adds to the minimum concrete cover required.

Do not hook column bars in the top of the cap.

Column cross-ties shall be arranged to accommodate at least a 6-inch tremie to facilitate concrete placement.

Detail column reinforcement to provide at least a 6” center-to-center spacing between stirrups.

4.4.1.4  Footings

See Sections 4.2.4 and 4.2.5 for information about spread footings and pile footings.

4.4.1.5  Substructure Finish for Bridges over Navigable Waters

When a bridge crosses a highly traveled waterway the designer shall include the following general note providing for a higher level surface treatment.

"SPECIAL SURFACE COATING FINISH - APPLY TYPE III FINISH TO ALL SURFACES AS REQUIRED FOR 'SINGLE BRIDGE OVER TRAFFIC ARTERY' IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION 500.3.05.AB.3 OF THE GEORGIA DOT SPECIFICATIONS."

4.4.2  Pile Bents

Pile bent consists of a concrete cap formed directly on top of piles. Typically, a pile is placed under each beam. Exterior piles are generally battered outwards at a 1.5:12 ratio for lateral stability.

A tower bent is a pile bent with two piles under each beam battered at a 1.5:12 ratio in the longitudinal direction for additional stability. Tower bents should be considered at fixed bent locations when the bridge length requires an intermediate expansion joint. The preliminary layout sometimes precludes tower bents at certain locations.

In lieu of the specifications in LRFD 2.6.4.4 and LRFD 3.7.5 defining the design flood, design pile bents at the Strength and Service limit states assuming pile fixity a depth of 10ft below a conservatively selected existing groundline, based on the topographical survey and BFI report. This approach, based on confidence in the current bridge inspection and load rating practices of the Bridge Maintenance Unit, as well as the Department’s flood response inspection approach,
minimizes unnecessary overdesign of these substructure elements. Directives in LRFD 2.6.4.4 and LRFD 3.7.5 regarding the check flood is to be followed as written.

### 4.4.2.1 Pile Bent Caps

Use 3ft wide and 2 ft deep as the minimum pile bent cap dimensions.

Increase the cap width in 3-inch increments when required by the following:

- Maintain 9 inches minimum cover on all piles
- Provide a minimum of 3-inch clearance from the edge of bearing pad to the edge of cap or riser. On skews sharper than 75 degrees, this clearance can be reduced to 2 inches.

Increase the cap depth to 3ft minimum when piles are greater than 20” in width or diameter.

Embed piles up to 20” in width or diameter 12 inches into the pile bent cap. Embed piles larger than 20” in width or diameter 18” into the pile bent cap.

The typical reinforcement approach for pile caps with piles under each point load can be found in the Bridge Cell Library and includes #10 bars at each corner and two #4 bars equally spaced in the top as the default detailing. When point loads are offset from the piles, detail reinforcement as appropriate for design, maintaining the #10 bars at each corner as the minimum.

For guidance on cap step and riser details see BDM 4.3.2.2.

The provisions for temperature and shrinkage reinforcement in LRFD 5.10.6 can be waived for side faces of bent caps with a minimum height of 2 feet or less. LRFD 5.10.6 can also be waived for the bottom of the pile cap for bents 3.5 feet wide or less.

### 4.4.2.2 Sway Bracing

Sway bracing may be used to reduce unsupported H-pile length in the transverse direction when necessary by design. If utilized, sway bracing is normally comprised of L4x4x3/8 angles arranged in an “X” fashion. Include details for the placement of sway bracing, according to the design requirements, on the intermediate bent substructure sheet.

### 4.4.2.3 Pile Protection

#### 4.4.2.3.1 Painting

When steel piling is used to support intermediate bent caps, pedestal footings, or end bents (excluding MSE abutments), include the “Special Protective Coating for Piles” note on the General Notes Sheet. This note is needed to augment Sections 520 and 535 of the GDOT Standard Specification and specify 2P coating.

#### 4.4.2.3.2 Encasement

When H-piling is used to support intermediate bent caps at stream crossings, detail a square pile encasement that extends from 2ft below the ground to the bottom of the concrete cap. A pile encasement cell is available in the GDOT Bridge Cell Library.

Encased piling shall also receive 2P coating as noted in BDM 4.4.2.3.1, so inclusion of the “Special Protective Coating for Piles” note remains necessary when piles are encased.
Appendix 4B - Preset Pile Layouts

Figure 4B-1  GDOT Pile Layout (4 to 12 Piles)
Figure 4B-2  GDOT Pile Layout (13 to 21 Piles)
Figure 4B-3  GDOT Pile Layout (22 to 25 Piles).
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Chapter 5. Retaining Walls

5.1 General

All retaining walls shall be designed in accordance with Chapter 11 of the AASHTO LRFD Specifications and as noted in this section.

5.1.1 Wall Types

The type of wall should be determined based on economy, constructability and geotechnical conditions. Coordination between the roadway designer and Bridge Office shall take place during the preliminary design phase, before Right-of-Way plans are finalized. Typical wall types utilized on GDOT projects are presented in Table 5.1.1-1 with their corresponding design options.

Table 5.1.1-1 Current GDOT Wall Types and Design Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wall Type</th>
<th>Design Option</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gravity Wall</td>
<td>GDOT Standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reinforced Concrete Cantilever</td>
<td>GDOT Standards or In-House Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSE Wall</td>
<td>Contractor Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefabricated Modular Wall</td>
<td>Contractor Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modular Block Wall</td>
<td>Contractor Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldier Pile</td>
<td>In-House Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie-Back</td>
<td>Contractor Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil Nail</td>
<td>Contractor Design</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.1.2 Wall Design

5.1.2.1 GDOT Standard Design

Whenever possible, the roadway designer should use a pre-designed concrete wall found in the GDOT Standards or Construction Details, as listed in Table 5.1.2.1-1. In this case, the roadway designer will include the appropriate standard in the contract plans and a retaining wall envelope for the structure under section 31 of the contract plans.
Table 5.1.2.1-1  GDOT Standard Retaining Walls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Application</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4949B</td>
<td>Concrete Side Barrier Types 2-S, 2-AA, 2-SB, and 2-SC</td>
<td>RC cantilever fill wall adjacent to roadway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4949C</td>
<td>Concrete Side Barrier Types 6-S, 6-SA, 6-SB, and 6-SC</td>
<td>RC cantilever cut wall adjacent to roadway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4949D</td>
<td>Parapet Retaining Wall, Types P1, P2, and P3</td>
<td>RD cantilever fill wall adjacent to sidewalk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9031L</td>
<td>Retaining Wall Typical Sections, Raising Headwall, And Typical Pipe Plug</td>
<td>Gravity wall with or without barrier face</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.1.2.2  Special Design

When the GDOT Standards or Construction Details are not applicable, the roadway designer will submit a request to the Bridge Office for a special designed retaining wall. If the wall is to be designed by the Bridge Office or a consultant, a complete set of final wall plans, including all geometry and structural details, will be produced and submitted to the roadway designer for inclusion in section 32 of the contract plans.

5.1.2.3  Contractor Design

In cases where a special design wall is requested by the roadway designer, the contractor may be tasked with completing the final wall design due to the proprietary and technical nature of some wall types such as MSE, Soil Nail, Tie Back, Modular and Modular Block. The Bridge Office or consultant will provide a P&E sheet, a typical section, design criteria and quantities for inclusion in section 32 of the contract plans. The contractor shall provide the final design to the Bridge Office for review as shop drawings.

5.1.3  Design Requirements

5.1.3.1  Design Life

MSE walls within 100 feet of a bridge shall be designed for a 100 year design life. All other retaining walls, including MSE walls not within 100 feet of a bridge, shall be designed with a 75 year design life.

5.1.3.2  Live Load Surcharge

A surcharge of 0.250 ksf shall be applied to all retaining walls whose pressure surface is within a horizontal distance H/2 from traffic loads, where H is the design height of the retaining wall. Traffic loading should be assumed present on the travel way and the shoulder. The pressure surface is at the back of the reinforced mass for MSE systems or a vertical line extended up from the heel for cast-in-place cantilevered gravity walls.

5.1.3.3  Horizontal Forces from Structures

Retaining walls that support or are directly adjacent to bridge abutments shall be designed with consideration of the horizontal loads transmitted from the bridge superstructure. If there is no specific load information, the wall designer should account for an unfactored horizontal load.
equal to 5 percent of the dead load presented on the bearing pad detail sheet in the bridge plans divided by the beam spacing at the abutment.

5.1.3.4 External Stability for MSE Retaining Walls

In preparation of the contract drawings for MSE retaining walls it is necessary to calculate the bearing pressure as well as the minimum and effective strap lengths for representative sections of a wall envelope so that a geotechnical evaluation of the site can be completed.

Typically soil borings are taken at the site with reference to the proposed wall envelope and basic soil parameters established for the foundation and backfill soils. This information is then used, along with applied load information, to determine the necessary reinforcement length that satisfies the required sliding, eccentricity, and bearing pressure checks. The results of this effort are then used to complete the foundation investigation report and develop recommendations for the plans.

When conducting the above stated external stability checks, the engineer should assume that the reinforced soil mass has a unit weight of 135 pcf when the project is located north of the Fall Line (see Appendix 3A), and 120 pcf for projects south of the Fall Line, unless more specific project information is known.

Representative sections of the MSE wall should be determined by the designer and consider variations in load conditions, wall height, and effective foundation widths.

5.1.3.5 Rail Loading

Retaining walls with a barrier at the top, such that impact to the rail causes an overturning load, shall be evaluated for stability using a static design load of 15kips, applied over 5ft at the top of the barrier shape used.

For cast in place cantilever walls this load can be dispersed at a 1:1 slope in one direction, assuming impact happens near a joint. Use the resulting moments for evaluating overturning, sliding, and bearing pressure, as well as designing the stem and footing elements of the wall. Barrier or parapet sections should be detailed to satisfy the yield line analyses of LRFD A13, with the exception noted in section 3.3.2.1.2, assuming fixity at the base of the barrier.

See section 5.5.3.1.9 for application of rail road on MSE walls.

5.2 Preliminary Wall Design

5.2.1 Initial Design Request from Roadway Designer

When a special design retaining wall is required on a project, the roadway designer shall submit the following information to the Bridge Office:

a) An elevation view (profile) of the wall showing the following:
   o Beginning and ending wall stations
   o Elevations on top of the wall at the beginning, end, and at profile break points
   o The original ground profile
   o The proposed ground profile
b) Roadway cross-sections in the vicinity of the wall that show the existing and final slope behind the wall

c) Project Cover Sheet
d) Project typical sections associated with the wall
e) Project plan-and-profile sheets showing the following:
   o Limits of right-of-way
   o Superelevation data
   o Horizontal and vertical alignment data
   o Horizontal offsets to the face of the wall, gutterline at barrier or face of parapet on the wall as applicable
   o Location and height of any sound barriers on the wall
   o Location of any overhead signs near the wall
   o Location of any roadway lighting near the wall
   o Location of any drainage structures that will affect the wall

f) Any construction sequence requirements for the wall construction
g) Any architectural treatment required for the wall

5.2.2 Items to Coordinate with the Roadway Designer

Once the initial request for a special design wall has been received, the following items should be considered during coordination between the Bridge Office and roadway designer:

a) Right-of-Way: Right-of-Way and easement limits may be affected by the selected wall type.

b) Existing Structures: Surcharges from existing adjacent structures should be considered as well as the impact of the wall on those structures.

c) Wall Termination Points: Termini for the wall should be selected to avoid construction and right-of-way issues. A situation to consider is when there is an elevation difference between the proposed top of wall and ground line at an end of the wall. In this case, the subsequent slope wrapping around the front face of the wall may interfere with obstacles or boundaries.

d) Top of Wall Profile: The top of wall should be designed to present a smooth profile with no sharp breaks, peaks or valleys. See DM 5.5.3.2.1 for guidance in establishing top of wall profiles for any type abutment wall.

e) Drainage: Run-off water from behind the wall is typically collected in a paved ditch at the top of the wall. An appropriate top of wall slope and ditch should be provided to allow the water to drain to the ends of the wall. Consideration should also be given to where the water outfalls and the volume of water that will be present.

f) Utilities: All utility locations near the proposed wall should be verified as both buried and overhead utilities may conflict with wall construction. The wall footing should be set so that it will not be influenced by any adjacent water line that may fail in the future.
5.2.3 Preliminary Wall Plans and Wall Foundation Investigation

The Bridge Office or consultant will use the information outlined in Section 5.2.1 to select the wall type and prepare preliminary wall plans that consist of a plan view, elevation view and a typical section. After the preliminary wall plans are approved by the Bridge Office, the Wall Foundation Investigation (WFI) shall be requested.

5.3 Final Wall Plans

Final wall plans shall be developed based upon the recommendations previously approved and the Wall Foundation Investigation. If the WFI reveals unexpected geotechnical conditions, the designer shall submit a second wall recommendation, as necessary, to the Bridge Office for concurrence prior to proceeding with final wall plans.

Based on the design option selected, the final wall plans shall be developed as described in the following subsections.

Final wall plans presented in Section 32 of the plans shall be drawn at equal horizontal and vertical scales.

5.3.1 Final Plans for In-House Design

The final wall plans developed using the in-house design option shall include the following:

- Plan view including all relevant geometric data
- Elevation view
- General notes
- Pile locations, if wall is associated with bridge
- A list of pay items and quantities
- Section view
- Weep hole/drain details for the relief of water pressure behind the wall
- Drainage details for adequate treatment of surface water behind the wall
- Waterproofing details
- Barrier details on top of wall and at face of wall
- Lighting details
- Overhead sign details
- Reinforcement schedule

5.3.2 Final Plans for Contractor Design

Final plans to be provided to the Contractor under the contractor design option shall include the following:

- Plan view including all relevant geometric data
- Elevation view
- Location of vertical construction joints
- Pile locations, if wall is associated with bridge
- Typical sections
- Geotechnical design criteria including wall design parameters
- Barrier requirements
- Special loading, such as vertical loads from foundations adjacent to the walls
- Requirements for lighting, overhead sign structures and drainage structures.
- A list of pay items and quantities, as applicable

### 5.4 Staking for Retaining Walls on Construction

GDOT Standard Specification 149.3.03.D addresses the construction requirements in regards to staking for retaining walls. Prior to approving the calculations and plans for contractor designed walls, the reviewer shall have a letter from the contractor stating that the wall has been staked out and that the field conditions match design assumptions.

### 5.5 Special Considerations for Individual Wall Types

#### 5.5.1 Gravity Wall

GDOT Standard 9031L outlines the use of a gravity wall under various front face and retained slope conditions. The maximum height of a gravity wall in any case is limited to 10 feet.

It is not recommended to use a gravity wall adjacent to roadways or parking lots where it creates a potential vertical drop for a vehicle. In this case, use a Type 2-S side barrier wall as specified in GDOT Standard 4949B or a parapet wall as specified in GDOT Standard 4949D.

#### 5.5.2 RC Cantilever Wall

Standards 4949B and 4949C, and 4949D present three types of RC cantilever walls that can be applied appropriately without design or review by the Bridge Office. The maximum heights for these walls are presented in Table 5.5.2-1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wall Type</th>
<th>Maximum Height</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type 2-S Side Barrier</td>
<td>13'-0&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 6-S Side Barrier</td>
<td>10'-6&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parapet Retaining Wall</td>
<td>14'-0&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When the in-house design option is used for an RC cantilever wall, it shall be designed and detailed in accordance with AASHTO LRFD Specifications. The basic soil properties for design, such as unit weight, angle of internal friction, coefficient of friction and bearing capacity should be provided in the WFI report. The GDOT Bridge Cell Library may be used for final detailing.
Use of counter forts is allowed when it results in the most cost-effective design. RC cantilever wall footings shall be embedded a minimum of 2 feet below the proposed ground line. In calculating the passive resistance force at the face of the wall, this 2-foot soil layer shall be neglected to account for potential disturbance in the future.

5.5.3 MSE Walls

Contractor-designed MSE walls are governed by Section 627 of the GDOT Standard Specifications. This specification covers the design and construction of MSE walls, and refers to Section 626 for additional construction requirements. Contract drawings for MSE walls should be prepared in accordance with these specifications.

5.5.3.1 MSE Walls Detailing (General)

5.5.3.1.1 Wall Embedment

The minimum cover from the proposed ground line to the bottom of the wall (top of leveling pad) shall be two feet. Increase the cover when required as follows:

- The top of leveling pad elevation shall be at least 2’ below the bottom of an adjacent ditch. (see Figure 5.5.3.2.4-1)

- Where the proposed ground line slopes downward from the front face of the wall, the top of leveling pad elevation shall be set to maintain a minimum 10’ berm in front of the wall (see Figure 5.5.3.1.1-1).

- The top of leveling pad elevation shall be set at or below the level of adjacent utilities such as water lines that may fail and scour the foundation in the future.

- The top of leveling pad elevation for abutment walls shall be a minimum of 3 feet below the 100yr scour depth as determined by HEC 18 “Evaluating Scour at Bridges” (NCHRP 24-20 Abutment Scour Approach). Confirm that embedment is below the 500yr check flood. Provide a rip rap apron with a width of twice the predicted scour depth at the face of the wall or a minimum of 5 feet. Design rip rap in accordance with HEC 23 “Bridge Scour and Stream Instability Countermeasures”.

![Berm in Front of Wall](image-url)
5.5.3.1.2 Soil Characteristics

For LRFD project it is necessary to list the soil characteristics of both the foundation soils and retained backfill material. List each separately on the contract drawings, even if they are the same.

5.5.3.1.3 Maximum Back Slope

The maximum slope behind any retaining wall shall be 2 horizontal to 1 vertical.

5.5.3.1.4 Top of Wall Elevations

The top of wall elevation of all walls which retain sloping backfills shall be set to accommodate a drainage ditch, such as the one presented in Construction Detail D-49 or a larger ditch as drainage area requires. The V-shaped ditch intended for gravity walls shall not be used. Ditch paving behind the wall is a roadway item, so it should be confirmed with the roadway designer that this quantity is included on the roadway plans.

5.5.3.1.5 Avoiding Underground Utilities

Before using MSE walls on urban streets, the designer shall investigate to see if underground utilities will interfere with the wall system and its modules or straps. In general, MSE walls shall not be used in situations in which maintenance crews of the underground utilities will dig into the straps, mesh or modules. RC cantilever walls shall be used in these instances.

5.5.3.1.6 Aesthetic Finishes

A note specifying a “plain finish” on MSE panels should be included in the General Notes for the wall unless a specific architectural finish has been designated as an environmental commitment or requested in writing by the Project Manager. The prescribed concrete finish should be verified during the shop drawing review to assure compliance.

5.5.3.1.7 Graffiti Proof Coating

A note requiring that a graffiti proof coating be applied to the MSE panels shall be included in the General Notes whenever the wall face will be visible to the traveling public.

5.5.3.1.8 Overhead Sign Foundations

Overhead sign foundations shall not be placed on the reinforced backfill of MSE walls.

5.5.3.1.9 MSE Wall Coping

There are 3 types of MSE wall copings available as follows (See Figure 5.5.3.1.9-1):

- Coping A: Basic coping without barrier
- Coping B: Coping with parapet and moment slab to be used adjacent to sidewalk
- Traffic Barrier, Type H: Coping with S-Type barrier and moment slab to be used adjacent to traffic

For Coping B and Traffic Barrier H the overturning and sliding of the coping and external stability of the wall system shall be evaluated using a 15kip load, applied at the top of the barrier shape and distributed to an assumed continuous moment slab length of 30ft.
5.5.3.2 MSE Wall Detailing (Bridge Abutments)

5.5.3.2.1 Top of Wall Elevations Under Bridges

The top of wall elevation for walls directly in front of bridge abutments should be approximately 1 foot above the bottom of the adjacent abutment.

5.5.3.2.2 Wall Profile Breaks

In cases where the abutment wall is a single plane placed parallel to the abutment, detail the location of break points in the top of wall in such a way as to accommodate the wrap around slopes above the wall. Break points at the top of the wall shall be located a minimum of 10' beyond the wingwalls, measured perpendicular to the centerline of the bridge (see Figure 5.5.3.2.2-1).
Figure 5.5.3.2-1  Shoulder Points of MSE Wall at Abutments

5.5.3.2.3 Offset from Back Face of Paving Rest

The minimum distance from the Back Face of Paving Rest to the front face of an abutment wall shall be 6'-0", measured normal to the wall.

5.5.3.2.4 Abutment Walls for Staged Bridge Construction

If an abutment wall will be constructed beneath a bridge being constructed in stages, a vertical joint shall be detailed on the construction drawings at the stage line. This will require the contractor’s wall design to provide a similar joint to accommodate differential settlement between stages.

5.5.3.2.5 Additional MSE Backfill

At abutment walls the contractor is required to use MSE backfill material from the bottom of the abutment cap to the base of the approach slab. This volume is bound in the horizontal plain by the wingwalls, the abutment, and the back edge of the reinforced soil mass and shall be quantified on the contract drawings as “Additional MSE Backfill”. Since the exact width of the reinforced mass is determined by the contractor, the contract drawings should assume that the distance from the back of abutment to back edge of reinforced soil is equal to the design height of the abutment wall minus 6ft, or 11ft, whichever is greater. (see Figure 5.5.3.2.5-1).

In situations where abutments are placed above three sided wall structures, most of the “Additional MSE Backfill” is negated by the volumes included in the panel area of walls running parallel to the centerline of the bridge.

The “Additional MSE Backfill” quantity on the contract drawings shall also include material required for undercut prescribed by the WFI.
5.5.3.2.6 Erosion Protection for End Bents

When an MSE wall is used at the abutment, the area between the front face of the end bent cap and the back face of the wall shall be detailed with 4-inch concrete slope paving. This detail is used to prevent erosion or loss of fines due to concentrated water flowing in this area. The plans should note that cost for this slope paving should be included in overall bid submitted for the contract.

5.5.3.2.7 Pressurized Utility Line Encasement

When the installation of pressurized utility lines through MSE retaining walls is approved by the Bridge Office, the designer shall include the following note on the General Notes sheet of both the bridge or retaining wall plans.

UTILITY CASING - ENCASE EACH UTILITY WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE WALL BACKFILL IN A NON-METALLIC PIPE EXTENDING TO 2'-0" BEYOND THE LIMIT OF THE MSE WALL BACKFILL MATERIAL. THE PIPE SHALL BE SUPPLIED AND PLACED BY THE UTILITY OWNER DURING CONSTRUCTION OF THE WALL; TAKE CARE NOT TO DAMAGE WALL MESH OR STRAPS.

The requirement for concrete casing in the above note shall not be overturned by the engineer.

5.5.3.3 Calculation of Quantities

Walls constructed according to GDOT Standard Specification 627 are paid for per square foot of wall face area. Wall face area shall be measured in vertical bands and paid for according to the height range of that band, as shown in Figure 5.5.3.3-1. The height shall be measured from the top of the leveling pad to the top of coping, gutter line, or top of side walk, depending on
application. Additional payment for location of steps in the leveling pad is not allowed. Instead, payment is restricted to the wall envelope area in the contract plans unless the envelope changes due to field conditions.

![Diagram of retaining wall](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PAY ITEM NUMBER</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>PAY ITEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>627-1000</td>
<td>&quot;A&quot;</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>MSE WALL FACE, 0-10FT HT, WALL NO-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>627-1010</td>
<td>&quot;B&quot;</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>MSE WALL FACE, 10-20FT HT, WALL NO-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>627-1020</td>
<td>&quot;C&quot;</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>MSE WALL FACE, 20-30FT HT, WALL NO-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>627-1030</td>
<td>&quot;D&quot;</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>MSE WALL FACE, GTR THAN 30FT HT, WALL NO-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 5.5.3.3-1 Calculation of Wall Face Pay Item Quantities

5.5.4 Prefabricated Modular Wall

Prefabricated modular walls, such as Doublewal™ shall be procured using the contractor design option as described in 5.1.2.3. GDOT Standard Specification 602 covers the use of Doublewal™, meanwhile a Special Provision shall be required in the contract documents for other suppliers.

5.5.5 Modular Block Wall

Modular block walls, such as Keystone™ shall be procured using the contractor design option as described in 5.3.2, and will require Special Provision 630 to be included with the contract documents. Modular block walls should not be used to support roadway or in other situations requiring a barrier at the top of the wall.

Modular block wall design height shall be limited to a maximum of 20 feet.

5.5.6 Soldier Pile Wall

Soldier pile walls up to 15 feet in height may be used when temporary shoring is undesirable due to cost or right of way restrictions. These walls can be built from the top and wood lagging acts as the necessary shoring prior to the installation of a concrete facing.

Soldier Pile walls shall be designed using the Coulomb’s method to determine active earth pressure. A minimum of 2 feet of soil in front of the wall shall be neglected in the calculation of passive resistance against the discrete support elements. This depth may need to be increased if the ground line in front of the wall slopes down from the face.

Discrete support elements consist of rolled steel W or HP sections embedded in pilot holes filled with concrete. Pilot hole section to be embedded under the proposed ground line (from the bottom...
of the hole to the bottom of the facing) shall be filled with class A concrete and reinforced with 8-#6 longitudinal bars confined by #4 stirrups spaced at 12”. The remainder of the pilot hole (from the bottom of facing to the existing ground line) shall be filled with flowable fill without reinforcement.

A 12 inch thick cast in place concrete facing shall be attached to the rolled steel sections with shear studs. The amount of front and back face reinforcement in the facing shall be determined neglecting any support resistance provided by the temporary wood lagging. Wall facing shall extend 2 feet below the proposed ground line at the face of the wall.

If a soldier pile wall is used as temporary shoring, the contractor is responsible for the design and detailing.

Soldier pile walls are measured for payment by the component parts. Individual quantities for “CLASS A CONCRETE, RETAINING WALL”, “BAR REINF STEEL”, “PILOT HOLES”, “FLOWABLE FILL”, and the appropriate HP or W sections pay item(s) are the typical elements, but additional items may be necessary. Shear studs, timber lagging, and water stop should be noted as incidental in the Incidental Items note on the plans.

5.5.7 Tie-Back Wall

Tie-back walls shall be procured using the contractor design option as described in 5.1.2.3. GDOT Standard Specification 617 covers the use of tie-back walls. Permanent facing for tie-back walls shall be cast-in-place concrete. Pneumatically applied concrete (shotcrete) will not be permitted.

Provide a minimum of 25ft of right of way behind a tie back wall face to accommodate anchor placement. Actual anchor lengths are determined by the contractor’s engineer.

5.5.8 Soil Nail Walls

Soil nail walls shall be procured using the contractor design option as described in 5.1.2.3 and will require Special Provision 628 to be included in the contract documents.

Soil nail walls are subject to settlement, so they should not be used to support pavements or structures. The final exposed face of a soil nail wall shall be cast in place, reinforced concrete, designed to resist all design loads. Pneumatically applied concrete will not be allowed as a permanent wall facing, nor will precast wall panels attached using mechanical connections. Any additional surface treatment shall be specified on the final plans.

Soil Nails lengths should be assumed to be equal to the height of the wall plus 10ft for the purpose of setting right of way limits. Actual nail lengths are determined by the contractor’s engineer.
# Chapter 6. Culverts - Contents

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</table>
6.1 General

Culverts for GDOT projects are normally sized by roadway/hydraulic designers and selected from the GDOT Roadway Standards, so they are considered roadway items. When unusual circumstances preclude the use of a standard culvert as listed in Section 6.3, a culvert shall be designed in accordance with LRFD 12.11 or Standard Specification Section 6.

6.2 Culvert Sizing

Culvert sizes shall be determined following the methods as specified in the GDOT Drainage Manual.

6.3 Standard Culvert Design

Whenever possible, the designer should use the pre-designed concrete culvert sections found in the GDOT Roadway Standards, as listed in Table 6.3-1.

Table 6.3-1  GDOT Standard Culverts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2312</td>
<td>Details For Extending Culverts (Raising Parapets or Lengthening Culverts 2’ or less)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2317</td>
<td>Details for Extending Concrete Box Culverts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2318</td>
<td>Details for Extending Concrete Box Culverts With Skews below 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2319A</td>
<td>Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts Quadruple 10’ x 10’ for Depths of Fill Up to 50 Feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2319B</td>
<td>Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts Quadruple 10’ x 10’ for Depths of Fill Up to 50 Feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2320A</td>
<td>Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts Double 10’ x 8’, 10’ x 9’, and 10’ x 10’ for Depths of Fill Up to 50 Feet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2320B</td>
<td>Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts Double 10’ x 8’, 10’ x 9’, and 10’ x 10’ for Depths of Fill Up to 50 Feet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2320C</td>
<td>Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts Double 10’ x 8’, 10’ x 9’, 10’ x 10’ for 45, 60 and 75 Deg Skews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2320D</td>
<td>Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts Double 10’ x 8’, 10’ x 9’, 10’ x 10’ for 45, 60 and 75 Deg Skews</td>
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<tr>
<td>2321</td>
<td>Standard Reinforced Concrete Box Culvert Single 3FT x 2FT to Single 6FT x 6FT For Depths of Fill Up To 20 FT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2321</td>
<td>Standard Reinforced Concrete Box Culvert Single 3FT x 2FT to Single 6FT x 6FT For Depths of Fill Up To 20 FT (Sheet 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2322</td>
<td>Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts Single 4’ x 6’, Single 5’ x 6’ for Depths of Fill Up to 20 Feet.</td>
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<td>Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts Single 7’ x 4’ To Single 9’ x 10’ for Depths of</td>
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<td>2324</td>
<td>Fill Up to 20 Feet. (2 sheets)</td>
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<td>2325</td>
<td>Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts Double 3’x 2’6&quot; To Triple 6’ x 6’ for Depths of Fill Up to 20 Feet. (2 sheets)</td>
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<td>Concrete Box Culvert Aprons, Baffles and Inlet Beveling Detail and Adjacent Box Culvert Joint Detail (2 sheets)</td>
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<td>2530P</td>
<td>Precast Box Culvert Barrels 4 x 3 Thru 10 x 10 Single and Multiple Lines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2535P</td>
<td>Precast Box Culvert Ends - Wingwalls, Parapets Toewalls and Aprons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.4 Required Notes for Culvert Plans

The notes presented below shall be included in all project plans containing culverts in order to minimize concrete cracking that tends to occur when culverts settle. The minimum earth cover and location of construction joints presented in these notes are not specified uniformly in the GDOT Standard Specifications or pre-designed concrete culvert sections found in the GDOT Roadway Standards.

With concurrence between the Office of Construction and the Bridge Office, these notes should be placed in a prominent position on plan sheets containing box culvert details. The recommended location for the following notes is on each drainage cross section sheet where a box culvert is included:

**BOX CULVERT REQUIREMENTS:**

**MINIMUM FILL HEIGHT FROM TOP OF CULVERT TO BOTTOM OF BASE WITHIN TRAVELWAY SHALL BE 12 INCHES.**

**MAXIMUM POUR LENGTH SHALL NOT EXCEED 30 FEET ALONG THE LENGTH OF THE CULVERT.**

**TRANSVERSE CONSTRUCTION JOINTS SHALL BE PLACED IN THE BARREL, NORMAL TO THE CENTERLINE OF CULVERT, AT THE OUTSIDE SHOULDER BREAK POINTS. LONGITUDINAL BARREL REINFORCING STEEL SHALL NOT BE CONTINUOUS**
THROUGH THESE JOINTS, PROVIDED THAT THE JOINTS ARE MORE THAN 15 FEET FROM THE BARREL ENDS.


TRANSVERSE CONSTRUCTION JOINTS PLACED AT ANY OTHER LOCATION NOT SPECIFIED ABOVE SHALL BE FORMED WITH NO LONGITUDINAL REINFORCING STEEL PASSING THROUGH THE JOINTS.

6.5 Three-Sided or Bottomless Culverts

A bottomless culvert is allowed only when no other practical solution, such as a bridge or standard box, will satisfy the project requirements. This may occur when the only way to obtain an environmental clearance is through the use of a bottomless culvert. In this case, the detailed plans for the bottomless culvert must be included in the contract documents. The provisions for the sizing of bottomless culverts are outlined in the GDOT drainage manual.

The foundation design for the bottomless culvert must be included in culvert details and stamped by a registered Georgia Professional Engineer. In addition, the foundation design must detail how the bottomless culvert foundation will be protected from scour. Rip-rap is not considered satisfactory for protecting a spread footing from scour. Footings must be keyed into solid rock or founded on piling embedded well below the scour line.
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Chapter 7. Miscellaneous Structures - Contents

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   7.3.2 Strain Poles on Bridges

7.4 Noise Barriers
Chapter 7. Miscellaneous Structures

7.1 Temporary Detour Bridges

Temporary detour bridges are used to facilitate the construction of a project and are intended to be removed upon either completion of the entire project or at a particular project stage. Temporary detour bridges are generally used for stream crossings, but they might be utilized for grade separations or railroad crossings. GDOT Standard Specification 541 addresses the materials, design, construction, maintenance, removal and payment for detour bridges.

Site specific hydraulic studies play an important role in design of detour bridges at stream crossings. See GDOT Drainage Manual Chapter 12 for design criteria governing detour bridges.

7.1.1 Temporary Detour Bridge Length

1) Compare the stream velocities between the natural (unconstricted) stream and the existing bridge opening. If the existing bridge velocities are less than approximately 2.0 times the natural (unconstricted) velocities and there are no visible signs of scour at the existing bridge, then consideration can be given to having a temporary detour bridge length less than the existing bridge. The detour bridge length should be minimized. A temporary detour bridge length approximately 2/3 the length of the existing bridge length (typically a good first iteration) should be considered – though this must be analyzed, verified and refined if necessary. A temporary detour bridge length less than the existing bridge will act as a constriction and will tend to increase backwater upstream of the bridge. The temporary detour bridge length should remain large enough so that it will not induce:

   a) Design-year velocities through the temporary detour bridge opening which are more than approximately 2.0 times the natural (unconstricted) stream velocities unless:

      i. The temporary detour bridge length matches the existing bridge length, or

      ii. The streambed is comprised of a scour-resistant material

   b) An increase in the design-year backwater more than 1.0 ft. above the existing bridge conditions

2) If the existing bridge velocities are greater than approximately 2.0 times the natural (unconstricted) stream velocities or there are visible signs of contraction or local scour at the existing bridge, then the temporary detour bridge shall be the same length* as the existing bridge. *See note 5 below.

3) The length of the temporary detour bridge shall be long enough to ensure that the toe of slopes of the bridge be a minimum 10 ft from the top of banks of the main channel. This buffer zone is needed for erosion control measures.

4) Temporary bridges should be studied in incremental lengths divisible evenly by 20 ft

5) While unlikely, it is possible that a temporary detour bridge can be longer than the existing bridge. This scenario could arise as a result of extreme or unusual hydraulic circumstances. The designer and the Department should be in agreement before specifying a detour bridge longer than the existing bridge.
7.1.2 Temporary Detour Bridge Elevations

1) The design storm used for the detour bridge shall be the 10 year storm. For off-system roads with a design year ADT of 400 vpd or less, the design storm used shall be the 2 year storm.

2) The low member of the temporary detour bridge shall be set to clear the design year floodstage elevation by 1.0 ft.

3) The temporary detour bridge shall be sized to limit backwater to an acceptable increase above the natural condition, in accordance with the GDOT Drainage Manual. Impacts of increased backwater to any development in the upstream floodplain shall be considered for all sites.

4) The profile of the temporary detour bridge shall be set so that the maximum distance from top of deck to groundline shall be no greater than 20 ft.

7.1.3 Temporary Detour Bridge Location

1) It is recommended that unless other considerations exist (environmental, right-of-way, buildings (or other structures), utilities, roadway geometry, channel geometry, etc.), the temporary detour bridge be located downstream of the existing bridge. This should ensure that, in the event that the temporary detour bridge is breached during a design flood, its failure will not result in the loss of the existing bridge or the proposed bridge.

2) For 2-lane bridges, the centerline to centerline distance of the temporary detour bridge to the existing bridge should be a minimum of 50 ft. This offset should ensure the constructability of the temporary and permanent bridge as well as the temporary and permanent roadway. At the engineer’s discretion in spatially-constrained situations, this offset distance can be reduced to as little as 42 ft.

3) It should be assumed that the temporary detour bridge be centered about the stream channel and/or aligned with the existing bridge.

7.1.4 Temporary Detour Bridge Width

The detour bridge width shall accommodate the number and width of lanes shown in the roadway detour plans. The minimum lane widths for detour bridges are typically 11 feet for interstate detours and 10 feet for non-interstate detours. The minimum clearance from edge of travelway to traffic barrier is 2 feet.

7.2 Pedestrian Bridges

Pedestrian bridges are structures which primarily carry pedestrian and/or bicycle traffic. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that no grade be steeper than 1:12 (8.33%) for structures that carry pedestrian traffic.

For LRFD projects, the design of these structures shall be in accordance with the following:

- AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specification, 6th Edition, and
For Standard Specification projects, the design of these structures shall be in accordance with the following:

- AASHTO Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges, 17th Edition, and

Projects containing pedestrian bridges may have very specific architectural requirements. Coordination with the GDOT Project Manager is necessary prior to commencing work on this structure type.

### 7.3 Support Structures for Signs, Signals and Lights

#### 7.3.1 Standard Supports

Use GDOT standard supports as listed in Table 7.3.1-1. Structures not addressed by these standards shall be designed by the contractor in accordance with Section 638 of the GDOT Specifications and as specified in Section 2.1.3. The contractor is required to submit shop drawings for approval by the Bridge Office.

**Table 7.3.1-1 GDOT Standard Supports**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard/Detail Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4030</td>
<td>Details of Galvanized Metal Circular Guardrail for Protection of R.R. Signs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9023A</td>
<td>Railroad Grade Crossing Signs and Markings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9024A</td>
<td>Railroad Grade Crossing – Railroad Signing and Marking at Crossing with RR Signals and/or Gates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9041</td>
<td>Assembly Details on Aluminum Bolted Extruded Panels for Special Roadside Signs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9042</td>
<td>Aluminum Bolted Extruded Panels Assembly Component Details (For Special Roadside Signs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9054A</td>
<td>Erection and Foundation Details for Special Roadside Signs - Breakaway Type Posts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9054B</td>
<td>Erection and Foundation Details for Special Roadside Signs - Breakaway Type Posts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9054C</td>
<td>Erection and Foundation Details for Special Roadside Signs - Breakaway Type Posts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9055</td>
<td>Erection and Foundation Details for Special Roadside Signs - Breakaway Type Posts (Wood) (To be used only where specified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T03c</td>
<td>Details of Strain Pole Erection for Overhead Signs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T03d</td>
<td>Details of Timber Pole Erection for Overhead Signs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TS-04</td>
<td>Details of Metal Traffic Signal Support Structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TS-05</td>
<td>Details of Concrete Traffic Signal Strain Poles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TS-06</td>
<td>Details of Strain Poles and Mast Arm Pole Foundations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TS-07</td>
<td>Grounding Details for Overhead Span Wire Signs and Traffic Signals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.3.2 Strain Poles on Bridges

Overhead lane signs are sometimes needed over bridges with turn lanes. These signs are attached to tensioned wires supported by Type I, II or III strain poles, as specified in the GDOT Standard Specification 639. Whenever possible, these strain poles shall be stand-alone structures with their own foundation. However, in some urban areas there is not an appropriate place to locate a strain pole on the ground and therefore a strain pole must be mounted on the bridge. When this situation occurs, only steel strain poles shall be used and supported on the bridge substructure, not the superstructure. Both of the poles in the pair shall be located at the same bent and the cables attached to the poles shall be parallel to the bent, in order to keep all loads in the plane of the bent. Since anchor bolts for strain poles are typically 54 inches long, through-bolts are necessary on caps less than 57 inches deep.

Type IV strain poles supporting cable or mast-arm mounted traffic signals are generally not allowed on bridges.

7.4 Noise Barriers

A sound barrier is a structure erected to attenuate noise created by traffic. It consists of rolled steel section posts supporting wall panels made of various materials. The posts are embedded in a concrete shaft or mounted with bolted base plates to footings, traffic barriers or retaining walls.

Whenever possible, the roadway designer should use GDOT standard sound barriers as listed in Table 7.4-1. Structures not addressed by these standards are designed by the contractor in accordance with Chapter 15 of the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications. Vehicular collision forces shall be accounted for in the design of noise barrier systems as outlined in Section 15.8.4 of the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications. In lieu of the vehicular collision forces defined in LRFD Chapter 13, a vehicular collision load of 80 kips distributed over 5 feet shall be applied perpendicularly to the alignment of the sound wall. The contractor is required to submit shop drawings for approval by the Bridge Office.
Table 7.4-1  GDOT Standard Sound Barrier Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detail Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N-1A</td>
<td>Foundation and Post Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-1B</td>
<td>Foundation and Post Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-2</td>
<td>Details at Concrete Side Barrier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-3</td>
<td>Spread Footing Alternate for Sound Barrier Wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-4</td>
<td>Sound Barrier, Type B, Interlocking Steel Panels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-5</td>
<td>Sound Barrier, Type C, Precast Concrete Panels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-6</td>
<td>Sound Barrier, Type F, Glass Reinforced Thermo Composite Panels Filled with Recycled Tire Rubber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-7</td>
<td>Sound Barrier, Type G, Precast Autoclaved Aerated Concrete Panels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Chapter 8. Final Plan Revisions, Shop Drawings, and As-Builts - Contents

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  8.1.1 Revisions and Amendments ........................................................................... 8-1
  8.1.2 Plan Changes and Revisions during Construction .......................................... 8-2
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8.1 Final Plan Revisions and Re-Designs

8.1.1 Revisions and Amendments

8.1.1.1 Revisions Prior To Letting

Use the following procedure when revising plans after they have been signed by the Chief Engineer:

a) Check with the Project Manager to find out whether the plans can be revised. If they can, revise the plans and transmit them to the Project Manager.

b) If the plans cannot be revised, the designer, in consultation with the Assistant State Bridge Engineer shall prepare an amendment listing the required changes. This amendment will be provided to the Office of Bidding Administration by the Assistant State Bridge Engineer.

Revised quantities can be changed prior to the advertisement (4 weeks prior to the letting), but after the plans are in the hands of the public, the original quantity can only be lined through with the new quantity written in adjacently.

8.1.1.2 Amendments

8.1.1.2.1 General

Once a project has been let, amendments to the contract must be posted to the plans. Amendments should not be posted until the project has been awarded or rejected.

8.1.1.2.2 For Rejected Projects

If the project is rejected, the amendments should be made as soon as possible so that they will be in the plans when the project is re-bid. The amendments should be marked as revisions, and any other revisions should be made at this time. The Group Leader should make sure that the revisions are posted before the plans are re-advertised.

8.1.1.2.3 For Awarded Projects

If the project is awarded, all changes to the plans which are included in the amendments should be made when a copy of the amendments is received from the Office of Bidding Administration. Changes should be made exactly as shown in the amendment. These changes should be marked as revisions, with the notation “Per amendment” in the Revision box. No other changes should be transmitted with these revisions. If any other changes to the plans are needed, the changes due to the amendments should be transmitted, then, at a later date, any other revisions should be processed. In the transmittal letter for the amendments, include the comment “As per amendments” and attach a copy of the corresponding amendments to the transmittal. This is to ensure that everyone understands that the changes to plans are actually already part of the contract since they were issued as an amendment.

When transmitting contract drawings, the designer should fill in the sheet number and total number of sheets located in the top right hand corner of each revised sheet.
8.1.1.3 Revisions after Letting (“Use on Construction” Revisions)

Use the following procedure when revising plans on projects let to contract:

a) Revise quantities in the Summary of Quantities or detail sheets by lining through the previous quantity and placing the new quantity adjacent to that.

b) Identify the revision by a symbol, typically a triangle with the revision number inside.

c) Denote the revision date and comment in the revision box.

d) Fill in the sheet number and total number of sheets located in the top right hand corner of each revised sheet.

e) Revisions on projects indicated as Full Oversight or PoDI (Project of Division Interest) must be cleared by the FHWA before being finalized. It should be noted in the transmittal letter that the revision has been discussed with the FHWA.

f) Do not change the character of the work without consulting with the Office of Construction concerning a Supplemental Agreement.

g) The transmittal letter should contain brief statements of the changes. The transmittal should indicate any pay items for which the quantities changed.

h) Revisions made to agree with shop drawings should be stated as such on the transmittal letter.

8.1.2 Plan Changes and Revisions during Construction

8.1.2.1 General

Once a Contract has been awarded, any bridge plan changes or revisions shall be coordinated with the Office of Construction or the GDOT field engineer in charge of the project. This policy must be carefully followed to minimize conflicts among material suppliers, contractors, GDOT personnel and other interested parties. Since the Districts are responsible for administering construction contracts, any revisions or changes affecting the contract must be coordinated with the District Construction Office.

When the Contractor’s redesign is approved, full-size prints shall be obtained. The Contractor should put a title block in the upper right corner of the plans and use sheet numbers as shown in the roadway plans, when practical. If the Plan and Elevation (P&E) sheet for the bridge was roadway sheet 64 of 135, then the redesign sheets would be 64A, 64B, etc. If only the beam design is changing, then use the sheet number of the beams. The revised sheets shall be sent to the Office of Design Policy and Support for inclusion in the record set of plans.

8.1.2.2 Contractor Redesign by Specifications

Contractor redesigns in accordance with the GDOT Standard Specifications, as described in the following sections, do not require the approval of the Office of Construction.

8.1.2.2.1 Reinforced Concrete Deck Girders

When the contract plans feature RCDGs, contractors may submit a re-design utilizing either pre-stressed concrete stems or Type I Mod beams in accordance with GDOT Standard Specification 542. The GDOT engineer shall verify the structural adequacy of the re-design.
and that all hydraulic requirements of the initial design are met before approving the submittal.

8.1.2.2 Welded Wire Fabric

GDOT Standard Specification 865 allows the substitution of welded wire fabric (WWF) for rebar in PSC beams, but does not address substitutions in other structural elements. It is the policy of the Bridge Office to allow such substitutions as long as the WWF will provide an area of steel equal to the plan value in each direction. No reduction in area will be allowed based on higher strength of WWF.

Lap and development lengths for such substitutions shall comply with AASTHO Standard Specifications 8.32.5.1 and 8.32.5.2 or LRFD 5.11.6.2, as applicable. In either case, the design yield strength of WWF should be assumed to be 60 ksi, regardless of the yield strength of the material to be substituted.

8.1.2.3 Other Contractor Redesigns

Proposals by the Contractor to revise the project for efficiency, cost savings or other considerations are subject to approval by the Office of Construction with a review performed by the Bridge Office as necessary. In all communications with the Contractor during the review process, the designer shall keep the GDOT field engineers informed and coordinate with the liaisons of the Office of Construction. All proposed changes originating with material suppliers or fabricators must be submitted by the Contractor.

8.1.2.4 Revisions for Errors and Field Conditions

When the contract plans need to be modified, the following actions shall be taken depending on the cause of the error:

a) Construction Errors: When the Contractor makes an error during construction, the Contractor shall propose a solution to be approved by the Department. Department personnel should not offer solutions to the Contractor. Any damages or reduction in payment are negotiated by the Office of Construction.

b) Design Errors: When there is an error on the plans, the Department will typically propose corrections.

c) Field Conditions: When unexpected conditions are encountered that force a change to the design, the solution should be found through cooperation with all parties.

Any revisions made for the above conditions shall be coordinated with the State Bridge Construction Engineer or the GDOT field engineer in charge of the project. The revision of the plans shall be made as specified in Section 8.1.1.3. The revised sheets shall be sent to the Project Manager for distribution as a “Use On Construction” revision.

8.2 Shop Drawings

Shop drawings are required as specified in GDOT Standard Specification 105.02. Items requiring shop drawings include metal deck forms, bearing pads, PSC beams, steel beams, detour bridges, cofferdams, fencing, handrail, other types of bearings, etc. The shop drawings should be submitted by the Contractor, not directly from the fabricator and submissions shall be made to, or at least
carbon copied to, the Construction Project Manager (CPM). If shop drawings are received by the Bridge Office without clear inclusion of the CPM, an email informing the sender of the above should be returned instructing them to resubmit to the CPM and that review will not begin until drawings are received through proper channels.

8.2.1 Shop Drawing Review

8.2.1.1 Timeliness of Review

Because the fabricator must have the plans approved before starting fabrication, shop drawing approvals are time critical, so reviews should be prompt (typically within two weeks).

8.2.1.2 Professional Engineer’s Stamp for Design Changes

Shop drawings shall be stamped and signed by a Georgia Professional Engineer when a design change is made from the contract plans.

8.2.1.3 Shop Drawing Compatibility

In addition to evaluating the compliance of each shop drawing submittal, the designer should ensure that no conflicts occur with other shop drawings or the contract drawings. Potential areas of conflict include the following:

- beams and deck forms
- beams and diaphragm holes
- handrail post spacing on the shop drawings and the insets for post on the bridge plans

8.2.1.4 Conditional Approval

The reviewer shall not provide conditional approval for shop drawings or mark them “Approved as Noted”. If changes are minor the reviewer may allow corrected sheets to be substituted so that the entire set can then be approved.

8.2.1.5 Stamping of Drawings

The reviewer shall stamp every page of each copy of approved shop drawings. When shop drawings are to be revised, the reviewer may stamp only those sheets requiring revision. Only the first sheet of design calculations needs to be stamped.

8.2.1.6 Distribution

See BDM 1.6.9.2.5 and subsequent sections of BDM 8.2 for guidance on distribution of corrected and approved shop drawings.

8.2.1.7 Shop Drawing Log

The designer shall keep a shop drawing log showing the date of the submittal to the Bridge Office, date of return to the Contractor and an indication of approval or rejection.

8.2.1.8 Record Keeping

Copies of all submitted and returned drawings and associated items shall be maintained, by the Bridge Office liaison, in the Shop Drawing folder of ProjectWise. Items received through
ProjectWise Deliverables Management should have a copy saved in the Shop Drawing folder as well.

8.2.1.9 Consultant Review

Shop drawings reviewed by consultants must be sent through the Bridge Office which will also stamp them after the consultant's review. Fabrication is not allowed to proceed without a Bridge Office approval stamp.

8.2.2 Metal Deck Forms

8.2.2.1 Professional Engineer's Stamp

Metal deck form shop drawings must include the stamp of the registered Georgia P.E. responsible for the design.

8.2.2.2 Key Review Items

Metal deck form shop drawings indicating intermediate supports between beams shall not be approved.

Metal deck forms shall have a minimum of 1” of bearing on the support angle at each end, as specified in GDOT Standard Specification 500.08.E.10.

The reviewer shall ensure that the gauge of steel shown on the shop drawings matches the design calculations and that the calculated deflection does not exceed the allowable limits.

For continuous steel beams, there shall be no welding between the hangers and the flange at the locations where the top flange is in tension under any loading condition. Therefore, the shop drawing shall indicate that straps connecting these hangers across the top flange are provided at these locations which should be clearly indicated on the plans.

8.2.2.3 Submittal to the Office of Materials and Testing

Approved shop drawings for metal deck forms are not required to be forwarded to the Office of Materials and Testing.

8.2.3 Bearing Pads

Bearing pads located farther than 40 feet from a fixed bent shall be redesigned when the contractor replaces RCDGs with Type I Mod PSC beams. The reviewer shall ensure the shop drawings match with the bearings in the redesigned bridge plans.

Approved shop drawings for bearing pads shall be forwarded to the Inspection Branch Chief at the Office of Materials and Testing.

8.2.4 PSC Beams

8.2.4.1 PE’s Stamp on Modified Beam Drawings

PSC beam shop drawings may contain slight modifications from the contract drawings to aid in the fabrication process. As long as these modifications do not change the stress distribution in the PSC beam from the original design, the Contractor does not need to submit calculations and no PE stamp is required.
Sometimes PSC beams in shop drawings are modified from one hold-down to two to reduce the hold-down force. If there are no other changes in the beam design, the Contractor will not be required to submit redesign calculations provided that the new hold-downs are no more than 3’-0” from the mid-point of the beam.

When the modifications change the stress distribution from the original design, the Contractor shall submit design calculations along with a set of beam drawings, stamped by a registered Georgia PE, to be included in the record set of plans.

8.2.4.2 Fabrication Length

The reviewer shall verify the fabrication lengths which may be slightly different from the plan lengths. The fabrication length accommodates elastic shortening, grade adjustments, concrete shrinkage, epoxy coating end treatments, etc.

8.2.4.3 Strands and Stirrups

The arrangement of straight and draped strands shall be verified to ensure no conflict with either diaphragm holes or dowel bar chases. The middle strands in the top flange may be shifted to be located between the stirrups.

Stirrups shall be detailed outside the strands in the web.

8.2.4.4 Embedded Elements

PSC beam shop drawings shall correspond with the metal deck form shop drawings since the clips must be located correctly on the beams in order for the deck forms to be installed. Inclusion of overhang brackets shall be verified on exterior beams.

For safety rail supports, it is acceptable to use a reinforcing bar embedded in the beam at the rail post locations. This bar should be cut off or bent into the deck steel after the safety rail is no longer needed. It is not acceptable to detail pipes in the top of a PSC beam to support safety railing posts. This is not acceptable since these pipes may hold water which freezes and causes splits in the beam.

Lifting loops shall be adequately embedded near the girder ends. The lifting loops shall extend through the girder to within 4” of the bottom so that the weight of the girder will not cause tension stresses at the junction of web and top flange. The location of the lifting loops shall comply with the contract drawings.

8.2.4.5 Minimum Release Time

PSC beam shop drawings shall specify a strand release time of no less than 18 hours to comply with the GDOT Standard Specifications.

8.2.4.6 Submittal to the Office of Materials and Testing

Approved shop drawings for PSC beams should be forwarded to the Concrete Branch Chief at the Office of Materials and Testing.

8.2.5 Detour Bridges

The detour bridge shall be designed by the Contractor and the shop drawings shall be stamped by a registered Georgia Professional Engineer. When the Contractor submits a new detour bridge
design, the Bridge Office encourages that the design be in accordance with AASHTO LRFD Specifications to ensure its long term viability. However, the current GDOT policy allows for designs in accordance with the AASHTO Standard Specifications.

The reviewer shall verify the design of the detour bridge including compliance with the plans for length, width and minimum bottom of beam elevation.

There are pre-approved detour bridge designs owned by some bridge contractors. Since the shop drawings for these bridges have been previously reviewed and accepted by the Bridge Office, the Contractor is not required to submit the shop drawings but the reviewer may request them. The reviewer shall still verify whether the overall size of the bridge matches the contract plans and if the pile types and sway bracing comply with the height requirements on the pre-approved drawings.

Approved detour bridge shop drawings are not required to be forwarded to the Office of Materials and Testing.

8.2.6 Steel Beams

When a steel beam design is modified by the Contractor from the original design, the Contractor shall submit design calculations along with a set of beam drawings, stamped by a registered Georgia Professional Engineer.

Approved shop drawings for all steel structures including plate girders, welded continuous rolled beams and pot bearings shall be forwarded to the Inspection Branch Chief at the Office of Materials and Testing and to the Office of Design Policy and Support for inclusion in the record set of plans.

8.2.7 Post Tensioned Members

Approved shop drawings for post-tensioned members shall be forwarded to the Office of Design Policy and Support for inclusion in the record set of plans. Design calculations for the post-tensioning operation shall be retained in the bridge design files.

8.2.8 Contractor-Designed Walls

Contractor-designed wall shop drawings shall be stamped by a registered Georgia Professional Engineer. The reviewer shall ensure the shop drawings comply with plan requirements including finish and graffiti proof coating. Prior to approving the calculations and plans, the reviewer should have sketches or other data submitted by the contractor verifying either that the wall will fit the final field conditions or indicating where revisions are necessary. See Section 149.3.03.D and 149.1.03.E of the Standard Specifications.

Approved shop drawings shall be forwarded to the Office of Design Policy and Support for inclusion in the record set of plans. A copy of approved shop drawings for MSE retaining walls shall be forwarded to the Concrete Branch Chief at the Office of Materials and Testing.

8.2.9 Contractor-Designed Sign Supports

Contractor-designed sign support shop drawings shall be stamped by a registered Georgia Professional Engineer. The reviewer shall ensure the shop drawings comply with plan requirements.
Approved shop drawings shall be forwarded to the Office of Design Policy and Support for inclusion in the record set of plans. It is required to forward approved sign support shop drawings to the Inspection Branch of the Office of Materials and Testing.

8.2.10 Prestressed Concrete Piling

PSC piling shop drawings are not required for projects using an approved GDOT Standard for the item. However, when a contract includes special designed piles or the manufacturer proposed an alternate to the Standard, shop drawings shall be submitted for approval.

PSC piling shop drawings may contain slight modifications from the contract drawings or Standard to aid in the fabrication process. As long as these modifications do not change the stress distribution in the PSC pile from the original design, the Contractor does not need to submit calculations and no PE stamp is required. If pile details differ significantly from the Standards or Plans, the manufacturer shall provide calculations and drawings signed and stamped by a Professional Engineer, licensed in the state of Georgia.

Approved shop drawings for PSC piling should be forwarded to the Concrete Branch Chief at the Office of Materials and Testing.

8.2.11 Miscellaneous Shop Drawings

Shop drawings for miscellaneous items such as fencing, shoring, and cofferdams are not required, but will be reviewed if submitted.

Shoring plans requiring railroad approval shall be submitted directly to the railroad once they have been approved by the Bridge Office.

8.3 As-Built Foundation Information Sheet

Each set of bridge plans shall include an As-Built Foundation Information sheet. This sheet will include spaces for field personnel to record the tip elevations of all piles, top and tip of caisson elevations, the bottom of footing elevations and the bottom of seal elevations. For pile footings, a schematic should be included, with the piles numbered left to right, then back to ahead.

As-Built Foundation Information sheets shall be completed by the GDOT Project Engineer and returned to the Bridge Office. This information shall be incorporated in the design files and a revised sheet will be transmitted as specified in Section 1.6.9.2.4. This information is important for long-term evaluation of the structure.

Information collected during data pile driving may be sent to the Bridge Office by mistake. It should be forwarded to the Geotechnical Bureau of the Office of Materials and Testing.
## Chapter 9. Seismic Design Guidelines - Contents

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### Chapter 9. Seismic Design Guidelines

#### 9.1 Standard Specification Design

Bridges shall be designed for Seismic Category A except for bridges in the portion of Georgia where the Acceleration Coefficient is greater than 0.09, where bridges shall be designed for Seismic Category B (Figure 9A-1 in Appendix 9A). A typical design for Category B bridges would use the analysis program SEISAB and then run North Carolina’s version of BRPIER to consider the seismic forces.

Support length requirements for Categories A or B can be fulfilled using the cap dimensions, not just the bearing pad dimensions.

When a project calls for widening a bridge in a Category B region where the existing structure was originally designed for Category A, the widened portion shall be designed for Category B.

#### 9.2 LRFD Specification Design

##### 9.2.1 General

Seismic design of bridges shall be performed in accordance with the LRFD 3.10, LRFD 4.7.4 and LRFD 5.11. Based on the design earthquake and subsurface soil condition at the bridge site, the seismic performance zone and subsequently the design procedure shall be determined.

Seismic hazard at a bridge site could be characterized by the design response spectrum that is established using the general procedure or site-specific procedure, as specified in LRFD 3.10.2.

The seismic performance zone and the long-period acceleration coefficient, \( S_{D1} \), shall both be indicated in the Design Data section of the General Notes sheet.

##### 9.2.1.1 Site Class

Site class, from A to F, at the bridge location shall be determined based on the soil type and properties of the upper 100 feet of the soil profile, as specified in LRFD 3.10.3.1. It will be determined by the Geotechnical Bureau and provided on the Bridge Foundation Investigation (BFI) report.

For site class A through E, the seismic performance zone and design response spectrum can be determined using the general procedure as specified in LRFD 3.10.2.1. Site class F requires the site-specific procedure, as specified in LRFD 3.10.2.2, to determine seismic performance zone and to establish design response spectrum.

##### 9.2.1.2 Design Earthquake Parameters

The LRFD Specifications provide the design earthquake parameters in the maps in LRFD 3.10.2.1, which will be used to determine the seismic performance zone and the design response spectrum of the bridge site. Using the geographical information of the bridge location, the following three acceleration coefficients should be read from the maps:

- Horizontal peak ground acceleration coefficient, PGA
- Horizontal response spectral acceleration coefficient at period of 0.2 second, \( S_S \)
9.2.1.3 **Seismic Performance Zone**

Seismic performance zone, from 1 to 4, of the bridge site shall be determined using the long-period acceleration coefficient, $S_{D1}$, in accordance with LRFD 3.10.6, except for the bridges in the site class F. $S_{D1}$ shall be calculated by multiplying $S_1$ and the corresponding site factor for long-period spectrum range, $F_v$, as determined in accordance with LRFD 3.10.3.2. Seismic performance zone for the site class F shall be determined using the value of $S_{D1}$ from the site-specific response analysis.

The state of Georgia is located in a relatively low seismic hazard zone and the general guidelines regarding the seismic performance zones in Georgia are presented as follows:

a) If the site class is determined as class A, B or C, all bridge sites in Georgia will be classified as seismic performance zone 1.

b) If the site class is determined as class D, the bridge sites in northern and eastern Georgia with $S_1$ of 0.0625 or above will be classified as seismic zone 2 and other sites will be classified as seismic zone 1.

c) If the site class is determined as class E, only the bridge sites in southern Georgia with $S_1$ below 0.0429 will be classified as seismic zone 1 and other sites will be classified as seismic zone 2.

d) If the site class is determined as class F, the seismic performance zone will be determined by a site-specific response analysis.

9.2.1.4 **Design Response Spectrum**

For the bridges in site class A through E, design response spectrum shall be established as specified in LRFD 3.10.4.1, using the acceleration coefficients read from the maps in LRFD 3.10.2.1 and the site factors specified in LRFD 3.10.3.2.

For the bridges in site class F, the design response spectrum shall be established from a site response analysis in accordance with LRFD 3.10.2.2 and provided in the Bridge Foundation Investigation (BFI) report. The long-period acceleration coefficient, $S_{D1}$, shall be determined from the site response analysis and used to determine the seismic performance zone in accordance with LRFD 3.10.6.

This spectrum should be used to determine the lateral force by the design earthquake. This lateral force will be applied to the substructure and connections as specified in Section 9.2.2.

9.2.2 **Seismic Design Procedures**

Seismic analysis methods to determine the design earthquake loads on the substructure shall be selected as specified in LRFD 4.7.4, unless specified otherwise by the Bridge Office. The analysis method is selected based on the seismic zone, operational class and regularity of the bridge. All bridges are designated as “Other Bridges” for the operational class as defined in LRFD 3.10.5, unless designated otherwise by the Bridge Office.

The requirement for minimum support length at expansion bearings, as specified in LRFD 4.7.4.4, shall be satisfied for all bridges.
The seismic design flowchart presented in LRFD APPENDIX A3 may be used as an aid for design of bridges in different seismic zones.

9.2.2.1 Single Span Bridges

Single span bridges do not require a seismic analysis regardless of the seismic zone, as specified in LRFD 4.7.4.2. The connection design forces in restrained directions shall be determined in accordance with LRFD 3.10.9.1.

9.2.2.2 Multi-Span Bridges in Seismic Performance Zone 1

Multi-span bridges in seismic zone 1 do not require a seismic analysis, as specified in LRFD 4.7.4.3. The connection design forces in restrained directions shall be determined in accordance with LRFD 3.10.9.2, using the load factor for live loads of 0.5.

9.2.2.3 Multi-Span Bridges in Seismic Performance Zone 2

Multi-span bridges in seismic zone 2 require a seismic analysis, as specified in LRFD 4.7.4.3. One of three elastic analysis methods, i.e., uniform load method, single-mode method, or multimode method, should be used for the seismic analysis.

Horizontal static earthquake loadings in longitudinal and transverse directions should be calculated from one of the analysis methods specified in LRFD 4.7.4.3.1, then combined and modified to determine the seismic design load cases as specified in LRFD 3.10.9.3. These load cases shall be combined with other loads for the Extreme Event I Limit State, as specified in LRFD 3.4.1.

For the Extreme Event I Limit State, the load factors for dead loads, $\gamma_p$, shall be 1.0 for steel pile bents in accordance with LRFD 6.5.5. For all other substructure types, the load factors for dead loads shall be in accordance with LRFD 3.4.1.

The load factor for live loads in the Extreme Event I Limit State, $\gamma_{EQ}$, shall be 0.5 for all substructure types, unless specified otherwise by the Bridge Office.

The resistance factors in the Extreme Event I Limit State shall be 1.0 for steel pile bents in accordance with LRFD 6.5.5 and 0.9 for other substructure types in accordance with LRFD 5.11.4.1.2.

9.2.2.4 Multi-Span Bridges in Seismic Performance Zones 3 and 4

Multi-span bridges in seismic zones 3 and 4 require a seismic analysis, as specified in LRFD 4.7.4.3. An elastic method or time history method should be used for the seismic analysis.

Horizontal loadings should be taken as the lesser of the modified design forces calculated in accordance with LRFD 3.10.9.4.2 or the inelastic hinging forces determined in accordance with LRFD 3.10.9.4.3. These horizontal loadings should be combined and modified to determine the seismic design load cases as specified in LRFD 3.10.9.4. These load cases shall be combined with other loads for the Extreme Event I Limit State, as specified in LRFD 3.4.1.

For the Extreme Event I Limit State, the load factors for dead loads, $\gamma_p$, shall be 1.0 for steel pile bents in accordance with LRFD 6.5.5. For all other substructure types, the load factors for dead loads shall be in accordance with LRFD 3.4.1.
The load factor for live loads in the Extreme Event I Limit State, \( \gamma_{EQ} \), shall be 0.5 for all substructure types, unless specified otherwise by the Bridge Office.

The resistance factors in the Extreme Event I Limit State shall be 1.0 for steel pile bents in accordance with LRFD 6.5.5 and 0.9 for other substructure types in accordance with LRFD 5.11.4.1.2.

9.2.3 Sesimic Detailing Requirements

Bridge substructures shall be detailed as required in LRFD 5.11. The seismic detailing requirements for the amount and spacing of reinforcement shall always be checked after the general detailing requirements are met, and more reinforcement shall be added as necessary.

Seismic hooks of lateral reinforcement, as specified in LRFD 5.10.2.2, shall be used in the plastic hinge regions, typically located at top and bottom of columns and pile bents.

9.2.3.1 Bridges in Seismic Performance Zone 1

The bridges in seismic zone 1 with the long-period acceleration coefficient, \( S_{D1} \), of 0.10 or greater shall meet the seismic detailing requirements, as specified in LRFD 5.11.2. In the plastic hinge regions of columns and pile bents, the minimum amount and the maximum spacing of transverse reinforcement shall meet the requirements specified in LRFD 5.11.4.1.4 and LRFD 5.11.4.1.5, respectively.

9.2.3.2 Bridges in Seismic Performance Zone 2

The bridges in seismic zone 2 shall meet the seismic detailing requirements specified in LRFD 5.11.3. Columns/pile bents and wall-type piers shall be detailed in accordance with LRFD 5.11.4.1 and LRFD 5.11.4.2, respectively.

The amount of longitudinal reinforcement in a column shall be determined in accordance with LRFD 5.11.4.1.1 with an exception for the maximum amount being specified in LRFD 5.11.3. This requirement for longitudinal reinforcement shall apply to the entire height of the column.

The amount of transverse reinforcement in a column or pile shall not be less than that required in LRFD 5.11.4.1.3 or LRFD 5.11.4.1.4. The spacing of transverse reinforcement shall not be larger than that required in 5.11.4.1.5. These requirements for transverse reinforcement shall apply to the plastic hinge regions. The transverse reinforcement shall extend into the adjoining members in accordance with LRFD 5.11.4.3.

Splicing of longitudinal reinforcement shall conform to the provisions in LRFD 5.11.4.1.6.

Longitudinal and transverse reinforcements in concrete piles shall conform to the provisions in LRFD 5.11.3.2.

9.2.3.3 Bridges in Seismic Performance Zones 3 and 4

The bridges in seismic zone 3 or 4 shall meet the seismic detailing requirements specified in LRFD 5.11.4. Columns/pile bents and wall-type piers shall be detailed in accordance with LRFD 5.11.4.1 and LRFD 5.11.4.2, respectively.
The amount of longitudinal reinforcement in a column shall be determined in accordance with LRFD 5.11.4.1.1. This requirement for longitudinal reinforcement shall apply to the entire height of the column.

The amount of transverse reinforcement in a column or pile shall not be less than that required in LRFD 5.11.4.1.3 or LRFD 5.11.4.1.4. The spacing of transverse reinforcement shall not be larger than that required in 5.11.4.1.5. These requirements for transverse reinforcement shall apply to the plastic hinge regions. The transverse reinforcement shall extend into the adjoining members in accordance with LRFD 5.11.4.3.

Splicing of longitudinal reinforcement shall conform to the provisions in LRFD 5.11.4.1.6.

Longitudinal and transverse reinforcements in concrete piles shall conform to the provisions in LRFD 5.11.4.3.
Appendix 9A – Seismic Category B for Standard Specification

Figure 9A-1  Map of Seismic Category B Counties
Appendix 9B - Typical Seismic Detailings

Figure 9B-1 Typical Section of Column in Plastic Hinge Regions for Seismic Zones 2, 3 and 4
Figure 9B-2 Column Detailing Guidance for Seismic Zones 2, 3, and 4

**MINIMUM DISTANCE**

"A" - MAXIMUM OF D/2 AND 15"

"B" - MAXIMUM OF D, L/6, AND 18"

**MAXIMUM SPACING**

"X" - MINIMUM OF D/4 AND 6"

"Y" - MINIMUM OF D AND 12"

"Z" - MINIMUM OF D/4 AND 6"
Figure 9B-3 H-Pile Connection Detail for Seismic Zones 2, 3, and 4
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