

Bridge Technical Committee

Structures Design & Construction Subcommittee

Subcommittee Purpose

The Bridge Technical Committee (BTC) is a statewide industry meeting held between various WisDOT business areas including Bureau of Structures (BOS) staff; FHWA; WTBA personnel and industry representatives; materials and products fabricators; and consultant structural engineers. While the BTC serves its role in addressing large scale policy issues, there is a need to hold in depth discussions related to structures design and detailing issues, and how they affect the constructability of structures in the field. The main purpose of the BTC Structures Design & Construction Subcommittee is to be able to have a standing meeting at which industry can provide insight to improve the constructability of the designs that are produced by WisDOT BOS staff.

Scope and Intended Subcommittee Outcomes

The BTC Structures Design & Construction Subcommittee will initially meet annually in conjunction with the summer BTC meeting. The summer meeting time has been chosen to allow a portion of the given construction year to occur, allowing industry to be able to assemble current issues to bring to the subcommittee to be discussed. While the initial scope will involve one meeting per year, adjustments can be made as the subcommittee deems necessary.

Issues addressed by this subcommittee are intended to be directly related to structures designs and plans. The intent is to get industry's feedback pertaining to specific details routinely encountered within structures plans that cause issues or are regularly adjusted in the field. As these topics are discussed and addressed by the subcommittee, the objective is to be able to rapidly adjust designs and policies to meet the needs of industry while maintaining the structural integrity of the design. It is anticipated that adjustments will be made to Bridge Manual policies and BOS Standard Detailing guidance, in addition to specifications as necessary.

Meeting minutes will be taken by WisDOT BOS personnel and will be available for viewing through the WisDOT BOS webpage.

Intended Attendees / Subcommittee Members

The intended subcommittee members are primarily WisDOT BOS structures design engineers and WTBA bridge contractors. Aaron Bonk, BOS Design Unit Supervisor, will act as the subcommittee chair and WisDOT BOS will provide 5-7 other staff at each annual meeting. It is the goal of the subcommittee to get representatives, both field project managers and contractor management, to partake in this subcommittee as well. In order to keep the meeting productive and targeted, the target industry representation is 7-10 persons.

Please note that the intent is to not include consultant structural design engineers in this subcommittee initially in order to keep the group size reasonable to remain effective in meeting the intended goals. BOS will transmit information gained through these subcommittee meetings through updates to design policies and memorandums sent to all of WisDOT's consultant engineering partners.