




Office of Engineering
Project Development Division
Bridge Design Section
PO Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

John Bel Edwards, Governor
Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D., Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL SECTION 25 BRIDGE DESIGNERS AND PROJECT MANAGERS

FROM: ZHENGZHENG “JENNY” FU, P.E. 
BRIDGE DESIGN ENGINEER ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT: BRIDGE DESIGN TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM NO. 99 (BDTM.99) -
BDEM REVISION - BRIDGE DESIGN SPECIFICATION COMMITTEE

DATE: January 21, 2021

Effective immediately, BDEM, Part I, Chapter 2, Section 2.2 is replaced with the following:

2.2 - BRIDGE DESIGN SPECIFICATION COMMITTEE

The Bridge Design Specification Committee (BDSC) has been established to oversee all bridge and structure related specifications, which include but are not limited to the following:

- Louisiana Standard Specifications for Roads and Bridges (LSSRB)
- Supplemental Specifications
- Special Provisions
- Standard Pay Items
- Non-standard Pay Item Specifications
- Developmental Specifications
- Technical Specifications
- Performance Specifications

The BDSC members are appointed by the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator and the member roster is posted on the Bridge Design Section website. The Assistant Bridge Design Administrator in charge of the Bridge Design and Evaluation Manual serves as the BDSC Chair, and a senior engineer who directly reports to the Chair serves as the Vice Chair.

When the need arises for creating new or revising existing bridge or structure related specifications, the following process shall be used by Section 25 designers and Project Managers.

Step 1: The Section 25 requestor completes the on-line internal bridge or structure related Specification Request Form that can be found on the Bridge Design Section website under “DOTD Access Only.” The request will be submitted to the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator and the BDSC Chair.

Step 2: The Bridge Design Engineer Administrator will review the request, decide whether or not the request requires further processing, and will either notify the BDSC Chair to process the request, or will notify the requestor that the request will not be processed including explanations.

Step 3: Upon notification from the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator, the Chair prepares a DRAFT specification in accordance with EDSM I.3.1.1 and sends it to the BDSC for review and comment.

Step 4: The Chair works with the BDSC and the requestor to address all comments and finalize the DRAFT specification.

Step 5: The BDSC Chair provides a final DRAFT to the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator and recommends approval. Upon approval, the Chair submits a request to the specifications unit with DRAFT specification through the specification unit website, and notifies the requestor.

Step 6: After the specification is approved and published by the specification unit, the BDSC Chair prepares a BDTM to notify Section 25 designers and Project Managers of the published specification and any needed explanations regarding its usage.

This technical memorandum is posted on the LA DOTD Website under *Inside La DOTD > Divisions - Engineering > Bridge Design > Technical Memoranda – BDTMs.*

Please contact Kelly Kemp (225-379-1809, kelly.kemp@la.gov) if you have questions or comments.

ZZF/kmk

c: Christopher P. Knotts (Chief Engineer)
Edward Wedge (Deputy Engineer Administrator)
Chad Winchester (Chief, Project Development Division)
Vince Latino (Assistant Secretary of Operations)
David Miller (Chief Maintenance Administrator)
Nick Fagerburg (Bridge Maintenance Administrator)
Michael Vosburg (Chief Construction Division Engineer)
Brian Owens (Construction Engineer Administrator)
Vacant (Project Management Director)
Chris Nickel (Pavement and Geotechnical Engineer Administrator)
David Smith (Road Design Engineer Administrator)
Jacques Deville (Contracts and Specifications)
Art Aguirre (FHWA)
District Administrators and ADAs of Engineering and Operations
District Bridge Engineers and Area Engineers