

2016 Work Plan

Bridge TWG

Focus Areas – Research

- Provide a collaborative environment that encourages new research problem statement ideas.
- Encourage implementation of research recommendations.
- Review and consider for endorsement research problem statements from other committees.
- Support Bridge related NCHRP projects and submit research problem statements.
- Support the work of the TRB Bridge Preservation Committee (AHD37).
- Support the work of the TRB Structures Maintenance Committee (AHD30).
- Support the work of the TRB Bridge Management Committee (AHD35).
- Support the update of the TSP2 Research Roadmap.
- Support FHWA’s Long Term Bridge Performance Program.
- Provide implementation recommendations for NCHRP Projects that are scheduled to be completed in 2016.
- Re-submit the research problem statement titled “Synthesis for Bridge Maintenance and Preservation Practices that Minimize Environmental Impact” – Project was submitted in 2014 and was not selected. The objective of this project is to identify effective practices and provide the information needed to develop guidelines to assist bridge owners in selecting the most appropriate strategies and procedures for bridge maintenance and preservation activities which minimize environmental impacts. The strategic plan for SCOM includes a Focus Area for Environment and this project will be an important component of supporting this Focus Area.

Focus Areas - Workforce Development and Retention

- Continue working with TSP.2, FHWA BPETG, and industry on collection of maintenance training material and make available for practitioners.
- Continue supporting the AASHTO TC3 program.
- Continue serving as a liaison and facilitator between the TSP.2 regional bridge preservation partnerships and AASHTO SCOM Leadership.
- Continue working with TSP.2, FHWA BPETG, and industry on collection and dissemination of information concerning bridge preservation materials and products.
- Coordinate with FHWA Lead to ensure that the Long Term Bridge Performance Program considers the appropriate bridge maintenance and preservation activities.
- Continue supporting FHWA’s Bridge Preservation Expert Task Group efforts.
- Conduct teleconferences and email exchanges with the Bridge TWG members.
- Continue supporting the efforts of the SCOM leadership to update the AASHTO Maintenance Manual for Roadways and Bridges (NCHRP Project 20-07/Task 380).
- Update the Strategic Plan for the BTWG.
- Continue to coordinate with other committees through Bridge TWG liaisons.

Focus Areas - Asset Management

- Monitor the FHWA Rule Making for bridge and pavement condition and for asset management systems.
- Continue to collaborate with FHWA BPETG, and other stakeholders on defining “State of Good Repairs” as it applies to the bridge assets.
- Promote Bridge Preservation activities by owners.
- Promote accountability and transparency through performance management and asset management of bridges and structures in conjunction with the other technical working groups with a focus on an accurate and efficient bridge inventory system, appropriate performance measures, clear measurable goals which can be attained, and innovative reporting techniques using common terminology.

Focus Areas - Environment

- Promote sustainability of the highway bridge environment with a special focus on climate change, mitigation strategies and pollution prevention.

- Promote the proposed research project titled “Synthesis for Bridge Maintenance and Preservation Practices that Minimize Environmental Impact”.

Focus Areas - Safety

- Promote the reliability and safety of bridges by focusing on innovative maintenance practices, early intervention techniques, timely inspections and repair, and worker safety.
- Work through the Bridge TWG representative on the Fall Protection Resolution Team to ensure a practical outcome for the states that are affected.

Focus Areas - Communication

- Continue supporting implementation recommendations for NCHRP 14-24, Report 742 “Communicating the value of preservation”.
- Continue supporting the implementation of SHRP2 Project R19A (Designing Bridges for 100 years’ service life).
- Support members in communicating the value of maintenance and system preservation to elected officials, the general public and state DOT executives.
- Promote communications concerning bridge maintenance and preservation with local agencies.
- Encourage regional bridge preservation partnerships to submit proposed research needs statements through the SCOM Bridge Technical Working Group.