

CHAPTER 2 – BRIDGE DESIGN COMMITTEES

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2.1—BRIDGE DESIGN AND EVALUATION MANUAL (BDEM) COMMITTEE

The BDEM Committee has been established to oversee all updates to the BDEM. The committee members are appointed by the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator and the member roster is posted on the Bridge Design website. The Assistant Bridge Design Administrator in charge of the BDEM serves as the Chair and a senior engineer who is a direct report to the Chair serves as the Vice Chair. Other committee members include the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator and senior engineers from various in-house design groups with expertise in bridge/structural design, bridge evaluation/rating, mechanical design, and electrical design. The responsibilities of the committee members entail reviewing the updates, gathering feedback from their respective design groups, and providing comments and recommendations to the Committee Chair. When the BDEM needs to be revised, the following procedure shall be followed:

- The user shall complete an online *BDEM Proposed Revision Request Form* posted on the bridge section website. The request will be submitted to the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator and the BDEM Committee Chair.
- The Bridge Design Engineer Administrator will review the recommended modification and transmit it to the BDEM Committee Chair (Chair) for processing.
- The Chair will review the recommended modification and send it to the BDEM Committee for review and discussion. The committee will provide the final recommendation for acceptance or rejection to the LADOTD Bridge Design Engineer Administrator for final approval.
- If the proposed modification is accepted, revised and/or additional pages will be distributed through Bridge Design Technical Memorandum (BDTM), with an assigned revision date in the bottom left-hand corner of the page.
- If the proposed modification is not accepted, the LADOTD Bridge Design Engineer Administrator will notify the originator for the reasons of rejection.
- When any AASHTO code is revised, the Chair is responsible for reviewing the AASHTO revisions and recommending required modifications of the BDEM. The same course of action as noted above shall be followed.

2.2—BRIDGE DESIGN SPECIFICATION COMMITTEE

The Bridge Design Specification Committee has been established to oversee all structure-related specifications in Part VIII - Structures of *the Louisiana Standard Specifications for Roads and Bridges* including supplemental specifications, special provisions, standard items, and non-standard items. The committee members are appointed by the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator and the member roster is posted on the Bridge Design website. The Assistant Bridge Design Administrator in charge of the Bridge Program serves as the Chair and a senior engineer who is a direct report to the Chair serves as the Vice Chair. Other committee members include the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator and the Assistant Bridge Design Administrator in charge of the BDEM.

When a need arises for new specifications, such as implementing new material or new products, etc., and/or modifications to the existing specifications in Part VIII – Structures of *the Louisiana Standard Specifications for Roads and Bridges*, the following procedure shall be followed by all designers, including in-house staff from bridge design section, districts, or other sections, and consultants.

Step 1: The requestor shall complete the online *Specification Revision Request Form*, which is posted on the Bridge Design website. The request will be submitted to the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator and the Specification Committee Chair (Chair).

Step 2: The Chair reviews the request and sends it to the Committee for comments.

Step 3: The Chair works with the requestor to address all comments and finalize the specification.

Step 4: The Chair provides the final recommendation to the Bridge Design Engineer Administrator for approval and then submits the request to the Contracts and Specifications Section.

Step 5: The Contracts and Specifications Section prepares the final version and returns it to the Chair for concurrence prior to submitting it to FHWA for review and approval.

Step 6: If necessary, the Contracts and Specifications Section returns the specification to the Chair to incorporate FHWA comments.

Step 7: Once FHWA approval is received, the Contracts and Specifications Section publishes the specification.