

Date: October 22, 1993

To: All Bridge Designers

From: A. J. Siccardi

Subject: Technical Memorandum #15
Top Longitudinal Bridge Deck Reinforcing Steel

The minimum longitudinal reinforcing steel in the top of concrete bridge decks will now be #4 bars spaced at 6". This is effective for all projects where the final structure plans have not been submitted as of the date of this memorandum.

Our policy has been to use #5's at 18" spacing. To help control cracking in bridge decks the decision to obtain better distribution of this reinforcing was made. The 6" spacing will be used to obtain negative moment reinforcing at no less and no greater than 6" spacing, and to coordinate the negative and positive moment reinforcing.

Where additional negative moment reinforcing is required, it will be made continuous with the #4's by discontinuing, and splicing the negative moment steel to, the #4's. The plans should show these splices staggered between adjacent lines of reinforcing steel.

When precast concrete deck panels are either required or optional all of the negative moment reinforcing steel required by Article 10.50.2.3 of the AASHTO Standard Specifications shall be placed in the top mat.

The CDOT Bridge Design Manual will be revised as necessary to conform with this memorandum. Until that time, this memorandum shall govern over the contents of the manual as stipulated in Article 1.1.4.A of the CDOT Bridge Design Manual.

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