



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

July 20, 2017

CIRCULAR LETTER 2017-15

UPDATED STRUCTURAL SERVICES MANUAL

COUNTY ENGINEERS / SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS / DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS / MAYORS
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS – DIRECTORS
TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

The purpose of this Circular Letter is to ensure awareness of an updated manual used by Local Public Agencies, Consultants, and other users.

The Bureau of Bridges and Structures (BBS) notified bridge inspection personnel of the updated Structural Services Manual, dated June, 2017, via the BBS' National Bridge Inventory System (NBIS) subscription service on June 30, 2017. The new version may be found at the link below.

<http://www.idot.illinois.gov/Assets/uploads/files/Doing-Business/Manuals-Guides-&-Handbooks/Highways/Bridges/Inspection/Structural%20Services%20Manual.pdf>

REVISIONS INCLUDE:

This Structural Services Manual revision includes several minor and editorial changes throughout the manual and some major changes as well. The following is a brief summary of some of the major changes:

Section 1 – “Introduction”

- a) Section 1 is now the introduction section to the manual.

Section 2 – “Repairs”

- a) The previous Section 1 – “Repairs” has been moved to Section 2.

Section 3 – “Bridge Inspection”

All IDOT approved Team Leaders and Program Managers are required to read and be familiar with Section 3 – “Bridge Inspection.”

- a) Section 3 has been renamed “Bridge Inspection.”
- b) Section 3.1.3 “Illinois Bridge Inspection Organization.” This section clarifies the responsibilities of a consultant program manager for a local public agency.
- c) Section 3.2.1 “Reporting Inventory Information.” This section was revised to modify the number of days allowed to submit changes in inventory data. The policy is now 90 days for all structures.
- d) Section 3.3.3 “Routine Inspection.” A requirement was added to this section for hardwood blocking to be installed when certain conditions are met.
- e) Section 3.3.5.1 “Identifying Bridges with Fracture Critical Members.” This section was re-written.
- f) Section 3.3.12 “Critical Findings.” This section was re-written to clarify IDOT’s policy for identifying and reporting critical findings.
- g) Section 3.4.2.1 “Routine Inspection 48-Month Interval Criteria.” This section revised the criteria for the 48-month inspection interval.

Section 4 – “Load Rating”

- a) This section has been renamed “Load Rating”.
- b) The entire section has been re-written.
- c) This section provides new notional loads to encompass the statutory and AASHTO legal vehicles, as well as routine permit vehicles.

Section 5 – “Tunnel Inspection”

- a) This section has been added to outline the IDOT policy for the National Tunnel Inspection Standards.

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:

For users of these manuals, we recommend signing up for the BBS subscription service and the NBIS subscription service.

To subscribe to the BBS subscription service, click on the link below and send the blank email that appears. (Do not add anything to the subject line or to the body of the email).

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CIRCULAR LETTER 2017-15

Page 3

July 20, 2017

Questions regarding this circular letter may be directed to the Local Policy and Technology Unit by telephone at (217) 785 - 5048 or by email at DOT.LocalPolicy@illinois.gov.

Sincerely,



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and Streets



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Engineer of Bridges
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JK/tw

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