

TO: All Design Section Staff
FROM: Bijan Khaleghi
DATE: September 22, 2017
SUBJECT: Bridge Design Minimum Requirements

This memorandum defines WSDOT policy for all bridge designs regardless of the contracting methods (DBB, DB, GCCM, etc.). The following items are required for all WSDOT bridges and structures and cannot be negotiated or compromised for Practical Design purposes or alternative technical concepts (ATC) used in Design-Build projects:

1. In general, black rebar cannot be substituted for epoxy coated rebar in structures. In specific, black rebar cannot be substituted for epoxy rebar in bridge decks.
2. Prestressed girder bridges must be designed for zero tension at service limit state, and continuous prestressed girders must be designed as simple spans for both dead and live loads. The same girder depth must be used for multiple spans.
3. Deletion of bridge approach slabs is not allowed.
4. Deletion of intermediate diaphragms is not allowed for prestressed girder bridges.
5. Stay-In-Place metal forms (SIP) are not allowed for bridges.

Background:

The above requirements are to ensure longevity and safe operation of bridges based on the experiences gained over the years of successful bridge designs and constructions in the State of Washington. The local practice in bridge designs and constructions in some cases may be different than the ones required by WSDOT, but may not be suited for Washington State climate, seismic requirements, and soils conditions

If you have any questions regarding this policy memorandum, please contact Bijan.Khaleghi@wsdot.wa.gov at 360-.705-7181.

cc: Mark Gaines, Construction Office – 47354
Craig Boone, Bridge and Structures – 47340