

FOREWORD

The *Alaska Bridges and Structures Manual* presents the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities' (DOT&PF's) typical structural design policies and practices. All bridge engineers should meet the criteria presented in the *Manual* and must request exceptions to the *Manual* criteria when conditions warrant. Engineers should consider economic impacts, aesthetics, and the social and cultural resources of the project area and fulfill DOT&PF's mission of providing a safe and efficient transportation system. Because it is impossible to address every issue that bridge engineers will encounter, exercise sound engineering judgment when conditions arise that are not specifically covered in the *Manual*.

The term "bridge engineer" and "bridge designer" are used interchangeably throughout the *Manual*. If needed, any distinction between these two terms should be based on context.

The *Alaska Bridges and Structures Manual* was initially prepared based on the 6th Edition of the AASHTO *LRFD Bridge Design Specifications* and has been updated to conform with the 9th Edition.

REVISION PROCESS

The *Alaska Bridges and Structures Manual* is intended to provide current structural design policies and practices for use in developing DOT&PF projects. Revisions to this Manual will be released on an annual basis as needed and after approval by FHWA. The format of the revisions will be in the form of replacement or insert pages to the existing Manual. The updated pages will include the date of the release in the bottom footer of the page. The revisions will be handled as interims and the Manual will be republished as deemed necessary.

It is the responsibility of the *Manual* holder to keep the *Manual* updated.

The DOT&PF Bridge Section will evaluate changes in the structural design literature (e.g., updates to the *LRFD Specifications*, the issuance of new research publications, revisions to federal regulations) and will ensure that those changes are appropriately addressed through the issuance of revisions to the *Manual*. Bridge engineers have a responsibility to remain current with the AASHTO *LRFD Bridge Design Specifications* revisions until the *Manual* is updated. It is important that users of the *Manual* inform DOT&PF of any inconsistencies, errors, need for clarification, or new ideas to support the goal of providing the best and most up-to-date information practical. Comments and proposed revisions may be forwarded to the Chief Bridge Engineer using the Revision Proposal Form.

Alaska Bridges and Structures Manual

Revision Proposal Form

To propose a revision to the *Alaska Bridges and Structures Manual*, complete and return this Revision Proposal Form to:

Chief Bridge Engineer
Bridge Section
Alaska DOT&PF
P. O. Box 112500
Juneau, Alaska 99811-2500

Identification

Date Submitted: _____

Submitted By (name, agency/firm): _____

Contact Information (phone #, e-mail): _____

Description of Proposed Revision (attach additional sheets as necessary)

Applicable *Manual* Section Number(s): _____

Proposed Revision: _____

Justification for Revision: _____

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