

**ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2006**

**Bridge (Room #205):**

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Connecticut Department of Transportation

1. Are other states using federal dollars to perform preventive bridge maintenance? (CT)  
CT and NY have received blanket approval for a defined list of preventive maintenance tasks, all by contract, low bid only. If use state forces by force account, have to show value and public interest. ME and others are going by a case by case level. Dave Hall said the FHWA "prefers" contract work, but should try to show cost effectiveness of using state forces.  
MA does not get federal dollars for preventive maintenance. Have fit some bridge work under federal resurfacing projects.
2. Are other states using force account funds for rapid response issues? (CT)  
Yes
3. What problems are encountered in high-traffic work zones? (CT)  
Protect workers. NY now using more signs, attenuators and using police officers.  
Limited work hour widows  
Time, labor and equipment increases due to TC
4. What are your main concerns about bridge-related night work? (CT)  
NY not doing preventive maint. work at night but doing more weekend work (not shift change but on case by case basis).  
CT has to put together "volunteer" crews for night work (shift change, not OT)  
MA has workers on permanent, regular night crews (shift differential). Sections of the interstate, cannot work during daytime.
5. What structure types are utilized for short-span structures - galvanized steel or weathering steel or prestressed concrete? Contact sensitive? What are the other states policy? (CT)  
NY: Decisions made by a preliminary group based on initial cost, Bridge Maintenance would prefer steel stringers on short spans by this and concrete beams are similar costs. Same in NH.  
CT, MA and NY had problems with butted box beams versus rigid concrete decks.
6. What methods and/or materials are being used for the rehabilitation of bridge joints? What have other states had the most success with? (MA)  
MA has had a push to retrofit existing joints with plug joints. CT and NH feel installation practice and quality make a big difference. MA asked what supplies or installers have worked out well.  
Plug joints have to be used on proper bridges.  
MA has been using a variation of a sliding plate joint with rubber gland beneath.  
Design generated in house.  
Elastomeric joints very common in NY. Also trying (from North West group) a urethane and aggregate joint, in first full season (two part mix, 20 minute cure).
7. What kind of joint problems are other states encountering, particularly any problems with strip seals with elastomeric concrete headers? (CT)  
Elastomeric concrete header not holding the extrusion (not a good anchor). NH using regular concrete to protect the strip seal. NY is using elastomeric joints but without the strip seal.