

 Office of Structures Guidelines and Procedures Memorandum	INSPECTION
	Number: OOS-GPM-SI-118
	Date: 08-06-2026
Defects	Approval: 

All defects shall have a picture and be clearly identified in the verbiage of each element. If there are a number of similar defects, a representative picture may be used. Also, if the defect has not changed since the last inspection, a new photo is not needed. But, the verbiage must clearly state the defect has not changed since the last inspection.

MDOT SHA Bridges

In addition to including the defects in the report, certain types of defects require further reporting methods. The following types of reporting methods shall be performed for the respective types of defects within each category:

Engineer Request (ER): These types of defects are significant enough to warrant an engineer's evaluation to determine if any future repair, maintenance, load rating, etc. should be performed. Any inspection that uncovers at least one element with defects that warrant an ER, shall be submitted to the Senior Project Team Leader, SIRE within 10 days of the date of the inspection. In addition, certain types of defects require a phone call to the appropriate Remedial Design Team Leader (RDTL) the day of the inspection. The RDTL may have previously evaluated the condition, determined the appropriate action, and issued a note to not ER report the defect again. An ER report does not have to be submitted in this case unless the condition has changed. The following are some examples of typical defects that require an ER along with those noted that require a phone call by the inspector to the RDTL.

- Loss of bearing area of 10% or more.
- Loss of bearing area of 25% or more shall be reported to the District to install temporary blocking (requires a phone call to the RDTL)
- Cracks in weld or steel members (requires a phone call to the RDTL)
- Concrete deterioration whenever reinforcing steel is exposed to a significant extent, potentially affecting the structural integrity of the member
- Severe corrosion or section loss in steel members
- Traffic damage in steel members with deformations or gouges of 1/8" depth or more
- Any elements with quantities in Condition State 3 or less.
- Significant undermining of foundation elements or significant change in scour condition (requires phone call to the RDTL when first discovered)
- Countermeasures intended to remediate undermining have failed or become ineffective due to washing away, becoming significantly undermined, or shifted to an extent which compromises their effectiveness. (Requires phone call to the RDTL)
- Any other issues the inspector believes should be evaluated by an engineer

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For Your Information (FYI): These types of reports are not for defects but are for informational purposes. The Lead Inspector should send in an FYI report whenever there is an issue that the RDTL should be aware of but is does not an evaluation. These reports may be included with the submission of the inspection report. The following are some examples of this type of report:

- New bridge has been completed
- Minor or major rehabilitation/repair work has been completed(photos)
- Scour protection installed
- Bridge clearance changes
- Changes to non-condition based SIA items
- HOI is not possible
- Debris in channel

District Maintenance: These types of reports are to notify the District maintenance forces of work to be performed. This work is not repair or rehabilitation but more maintenance in nature. The following are examples of this type of work:

- Debris removal
- Tree removal and trimming
- Silt removal from culverts
- Bridge approach issues such as pavement, traffic barrier treatment, etc.
- Deck patching requirements
- Deck planking installation

LA Bridges

In addition to the requirements of reporting all defects, recommendations for repair, maintenance or monitoring shall be included in the report. These recommendations shall include cost estimates and be categorized into the following priorities: Immediate, Priority, Routine and Monitor.