



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

*Driving Indiana's Economic Growth*

## Design Memorandum No. 20-06

May 7, 2020

**TO:** All Design, Operations, and District Personnel, and Consultants

**FROM:** /s/ Stephanie J. Wagner  
Stephanie J. Wagner  
Director, Bridge Design Division  
Engineering Department

**SUBJECT:** Bridge Load Rating Requests

**REVISES:** IDM Sections 14-2.04(09), 14-2.05, and 14-2.05(04)

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately

Effective immediately, load rating requests should be submitted through ITAP - Load Rating Request Application (LRRRA). LRRRA instructions are attached and also available on the [Bridge Design and Load Rating webpage](#), under Bridge Load Rating. Please note that the maximum file size limit is 20 Mb.

Questions regarding the LRRRA should be directed to the INDOT Bridge Design Division at [LoadRating@indot.IN.gov](mailto:LoadRating@indot.IN.gov).

The referenced *Indiana Design Manual* sections and [Editable Documents webpage](#) have been updated to reflect the new procedure. IDM revisions are included for reference below.

### IDM Revisions

**14-2.04(09) Stage 3 Review Submission [Rev. Feb 2012, May 2013, Apr 2017, May 2017, Nov. 2017, May 2020]**

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10. Bridge Load Rating. Bridge load rating requests should be submitted through the Load Rating Request Application (LRRRA), available through ITAP. Instructions for use are available for download from the [Bridge Design and Load Rating webpage](#), under Bridge Load Rating.

- a. Department-Owned Bridge. For both tradition design-bid-build and alternate procurement methods such as design-build, the Bridge Design Division Load Rating Engineer completes the load rating for a Department-owned bridge.

Traditional Project Development. Bridge load rating requests should be submitted through LRRA. A separate set of bridge plans (excluding cross sections) should also be uploaded through the LRRA.

If the analysis shows an unacceptable rating, a notification will be sent from the LRRA denying the request. When a request is denied, design and plan revisions are required. A new request should be submitted with revised plans.

Alternate Procurement Project Development. Bridge load rating should be included as a hold point in the technical provisions. The bridge load rating should be requested through the LRRA upon completion of the design plans. The load rating must be completed prior to the approval of structural member working drawings. Where working drawings are not required, the load rating must be complete prior to work being performed on bridge elements.

#### **14-2.05 Bridge Plans, Preservation Project [Rev. Jan. 2013, Mar. 2016, Apr. 2017, Nov. 2017, May 2020]**

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##### Load Rating

For a Preventative Maintenance project, the need for a load rating should be determined at the field inspection. Utilizing an LMC or other rigid overlay requires a load rating, but a polymeric or thin overlay does not. Other treatments that add significant deadload, e.g. replacing an aluminum railing with a concrete railing also require a load rating. For a Rehabilitation project a load rating is required regardless of the preservation treatment proposed.

For bridge preservation work included as part of a design-build or other alternate procurement method, bridge load Rating must be included as a hold point in the technical provisions. The bridge load rating should be requested through the Load Rating Request Application (LRRA) upon completion of the design plans. The load rating must be completed prior to the approval of structural member working drawings. Where working drawings are not required, the load rating must be complete prior to work being performed on bridge elements.

**14-2.05(04) Final Plans Submission [Rev. Mar. 2016, Apr. 2017, Nov. 2017, May 2020]**

The following should be reviewed in accordance with quality assurance procedures and included in this submission. Information required for the Preliminary Plans Submission should be included in this submission, if not previously submitted.

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17. Bridge Load Rating. See Section 14-2.04(09)

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