

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** All Bridge Inspection Staff  
Structural Evaluation and Bridge Management

**FROM:** *GTR* Gregory Renman, Manager  
Structural Evaluation and Bridge Management

**DATE:** **May 15, 2018**

**PHONE:** 530-3572

**SUBJECT:** New Definition of Structurally Deficient & Functionally Obsolete Status, and Interim Inspection Criteria.

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**This memorandum supersedes previous NJDOT memorandum dated June 5, 2009.**

As per 23 CFR Part 490 (which became Final on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017), the new Structurally Deficient (**SD<sub>2018</sub>** or **SD** or **POOR**) definition is **effective as of January 1, 2018**, which require us to report all inspections done after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 with new Structurally Deficient, **SD<sub>2018</sub>** criteria. In order to meet this requirement, we have adopted this new definition for all NBIS and Minor bridge inspection program.

The following provide the new Structurally Deficient definition as well as clarify the Functionally Obsolete and Interim Inspection criteria.

**1. Classification of Deficient Bridges:**

***Structurally Deficient, SD<sub>2018</sub> or SD\* or POOR:***

A condition rating of  $\leq 4$  for one or more of the following:

- SI&A Item 58 – Deck
- SI&A Item 59 – Superstructure
- SI&A Item 60 – Substructure
- SI&A Item 62 – Culvert

***Functionally Obsolete, FO\*\*:***

An appraisal rating of  $\leq 3$  for one or more of the following:

- SI&A Item 68 – Deck Geometry
- SI&A Item 69 – Underclearances
- SI&A Item 72 – Approach Roadway Alignment

**OR**

An appraisal rating of  $\leq 3$  for one or more of the following:

- SI&A Item 67 – Structural Evaluation
- SI&A Item 71 – Waterway Adequacy

**NOTE:**

\* The new 2018 definition of a Structurally Deficient bridge no longer includes SI&A Item 67 (Structural Evaluation) & SI&A Item 71 (Waterway Adequacy). This typically results in the number of **SD<sub>2018</sub>** bridges being lower and the number of Functionally Obsolete bridges increasing by the same number.

\*\* The Functionally Obsolete (FO) category has been dropped by the FHWA - they will no longer report this category. We are continuing to use this term for internal reporting only as it is a familiar way of talking about the number of bridges that, although not SD, are not supporting the corridor as well as a new structure would. Bridges that dropped out of SD due to the new definition would still be FO.

## **2. Criteria for interim inspection at < 2 years Inspection:**

Any structure that falls in one or more of the categories below will require interim inspection.

1. Poor Superstructure (SI&A Item 59  $\leq$  3)
2. Poor Substructure (SI&A Item 60  $\leq$  3 OR SI&A Item 62  $\leq$  3)
3. Posted Structure (SI&A Item 70 < 5 for Operating Rating)

For the above three categories, generally the interim inspection frequency is 12 Months, but may be less.

4. Interim inspection may be required at reduced interval for FCM members where the defects exists and may be mitigated (Frequency is determined by the inspectors based on the severity of the defect).
5. Interim inspection recommended by inspector based on observed conditions that warrant more frequent inspections than 24 months (Frequency is determined by the inspectors).