

## **WSDOT Construction Manual**

### **6-1 Structures, General Requirements**

#### **6-1.1 Bridge Construction De-Briefing Session**

In an attempt to continually improve the quality of bridge contract plans, specifications and estimates and to obtain feedback on engineering and construction practices, the Bridge and Structures Office is available to assist in conducting post construction De-Briefing Sessions for “Capturing Lessons Learned”. The purpose of these De-Briefing Sessions is to provide designers with feedback on positive things that worked well and things that could be improved.

The Project Engineer, Bridge Technical Advisor, or Bridge Design Unit Manager should consider initiating a De-Briefing Session on those projects where they feel feedback to the designers would benefit the quality of future construction plans. Suggested projects include Bridge Rehabilitation Projects, Bridges with complex staging, substructure conditions, or new material applications. Suggested attendees at these sessions should include Region Project Office Staff, Headquarters Construction, Bridge and Structures Office, Design Consultants, and the Contractor involved in the structural work.

The Bridge and Structures Office will assist the Project Engineer in organizing and facilitating the De-Briefing Session once it is agreed to go forward with a De-Briefing Session. The Project Engineer will be responsible for making all contacts with Contractor personnel.

The Project Engineer should determine the timing of the De-Brief session with respect to the contract work, generally between 75% and 100% of project completion is ideal. Scheduling the session too long after the contract work is complete may diminish the Contractor’s willingness to participate or recall of the issues for discussion. Scheduling a session too soon before the contract work is complete could detract from the completion of the contract work, and may cloud issues currently under discussion. The Project Engineer should exercise caution in selecting the proper timeframe for this session.

More information on these sessions, including De-Brief Meeting guidelines, typical agenda, and De-Brief report outline, are available on the Bridge and Structures Office’s homepage at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/eesc/bridge/cecw/index.cfm>

---

#### **6-1.1A General Inspection Procedures**

Because of the wide variety of types and designs of structures, the Inspector should be thoroughly familiar with all of the contract documents as they provide the specific materials requirements, dimensions, and other details that make each structure unique. The inspector should examine the contract documents extensively by:  
Thoroughly reviewing all contract documents, including:

The plans and special provisions for the project.

The appropriate Standard Specifications, supplemental specifications, and standard drawings that apply.

Any contractor-provided documents, such as traffic control plans, falsework and forming plans, shoring plans and shop drawings for prefabricated items.

Check with the Region's Environmental Section to verify that all necessary environmental documentation has been obtained for the project and is current.

Special care needs to be taken over streams that are subject to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as the requirements and the regulations are constantly changing and may change during the life of the contract.

Checking and verifying all:

Plan dimensions,

Elevations, and

Materials quantities.

List any discrepancies that are discovered and report them to a supervisor (along with any items that may require clarification).

Set up part of the inspection documentation records in advance so that the actual dates, dimensions, quantities, and other values can be more easily filled in as the work progresses.

When inspectors cannot participate directly in a pre-construction meeting, they should check with the Project Engineer after the meeting to identify any areas of special concern.