



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

TECHNICAL MANUAL

Washington State Bridge Inspection Manual

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Foreword

The Washington State *Bridge Inspection Manual* is the result of a team effort by the Bridge Inspection Committee, a team represented by WSDOT Bridge and TransAid, the cities and counties of Washington, and FHWA. This manual is the second edition written to guide inspectors through inspection and inventory coding of bridges. It replaces the Local Agency Bridge Inspection Manual.

This manual represents several years of effort to bring consistency to our bridge condition inspection techniques and to reporting the results of those inspections. Washington State has always been a leader in the condition inspection of bridges and management of bridge replacement/rehabilitation programs.

This manual will assist us in improving our management of bridges by defining elements requiring maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, or replacement. This will help place our resources into programs that can extend the life of our bridges until replacement is dictated by economics. This is the goal of a good bridge management system and is the direction Washington State wants to proceed.

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