

Questions and Answers
NHDOT Design-Build Project Harts Location 16396A
May 4, 2012

Question:

1) Request was made for clarification on the following:

Bridge Rail & Approach Rail Requirements: The 1/27/12 Conceptual Plans, Sheet 3 - Typical Deck Section, indicates "Bridge Rail T3" to be used, with a brush curb reveal of 7". Total curb/rail height from pavement is therefore 44". The 4/25/12 RFP, Section 3.3.1 , Paragraph 9, requires a bridge railing to "be of the proper height for the designated bike route per the Bridge Design Manual", which would be a total height of 54".

- Is Route 302 in this area to be designated as a bike route?
- Is the Bridge Rail T3 total height of 44" acceptable for the bike route designation?
- If the total height of 54" is required, can the Department provide an acceptable rail type to meet this height with a 7" curb reveal?

Response:

Currently, Section 642.4.7 of the NHDOT Bridge Design Manual states "*the railing height used to protect a bicyclist shall be 54", measured from the top of the surface on which the bicycle rides to the top of the rail*". However, subsequently AASHTO has revised section 13.9.2 of the LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, in which the minimum height of a bicycle railing was reduced to 42". Therefore, the use of Bridge Rail T3 with a total height of 44", as shown on Conceptual Plan Sheet 3, is considered acceptable.

Note this change in bikeway rail height will also be reflected in the forthcoming revision of NHDOT's Bridge Design Manual.