

**IBT/ABC-UTC November 2023 Monthly Webinar USDOT's Vision for the Future of Transportation Infrastructure, with Emphasis on Bridges**

#	Questions	Responses
<b>*Please note that these responses are those of the Presenter and are not endorsed by the IBT/ABC-UTC.*</b>		
1	Considering that the majority of small bridges are designed with code, do you still see Bridge Design as a growing industry?	<a href="https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877">https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877</a>
2	Given our transition from highways to transit, do you anticipate less bridge construction in the long term here in the USA?	<a href="https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877">https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877</a>
3	Construction cost increases are an issue. Does USDOT have strategies for advancing their vision without decreasing scope despite cost increases?	TDOT understands that cost increases will only continue with time. Our strategy is to accelerate our project delivery timeline to get projects out to construction faster to limit the impacts of inflation. We also do not have to encumber funds to cover debt payments which also provides for cost efficiencies. The cost of debt financing generally outpaces inflation.
4	Follow-up question: Do you have recommendations or can you provide resource references to help the states maximize federal matching funds.	TDOT is a "pay as you go" state with no debt. We prioritize addressing state of good repair and setting aside matching funds for our federal dollars before allocating funds for other uses. We are also selective on pursuing federal grants for only those projects with a reasonable return on investment.
5	How might Structural Health Monitoring of bridges fit into the future?	<a href="https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877">https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877</a>
6	Can you recommend training resources for bridge construction tradespeople?	<a href="https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877">https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877</a>
7	What are some typical strategies with minimal impact to rehabilitate or replace structures that have reached the end of service life?	<a href="https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877">https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877</a>
8	Can you comment on the need for more preventative maintenance in the highway bridge inventory?	<a href="https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877">https://abc-utc.fiu.edu/mc-events/usdots-vision-for-the-future-of-transportation-infrastructure-with-emphasis-on-bridges/?mc_id=877</a>